

Pleasanton Weekly

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"Unsung hero"



Ken Mano
"Top volunteer"



Jerri Long
"School booster"

COMPASSION WORDS DISCIPLINE TO HONESTY LIVE INTEGRITY BY

**Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative
awards three for their positive influence**

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RESPECT

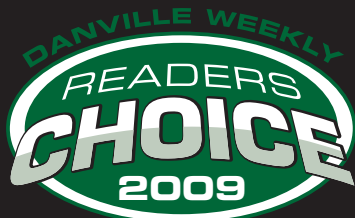
Woman hijacks highway patrol car

A woman hijacked a California Highway Patrol car in Sunol at 3:40 this afternoon, leading sheriff's deputies on a high speed chase on northbound Interstate 680...

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Bob Athenour: Our sister city champ turns 80

Having just turned 80, Bob Athenour won't be skydiving out of a plane as former President George H. W. Bush did—and again two weeks ago on his 85th—but he will keep making those frequent trips to Mexico and Latin America to deliver wheelchairs to the needy and build ever-better relation with our sister city of Tulancingo. Athenour, who was the Pleasanton Weekly's Man of the Year for 2001, has become a household name for thousands of Mexicans in Tulancingo where he has led delegations of Pleasanton supporters for the last 26 years.

It was Athenour who "discovered" Tulancingo, a city nestled high in the mountains that is still steeped in old Mexico traditions. When he proposed establishing a sister city association, then Mayor Bob Butler agreed and formed a committee to find one. Athenour, fluent in Spanish, was tapped to head to Mexico in search of a city with the cultural influences and interested local residents who wanted to share a partnership with Pleasanton. Athenour had gone to school in Mexico City in the 1950s and started his pursuit with the Fuentes family, where he had boarded. They suggested three cities, with Tulancingo first on his list. He never went farther. It's a city then and still today that is immersed in a culture fast-disappearing from contemporary Mexico. Tulancingo with its traditional downtown square and slow-pace lifestyle, despite a growing population, is old Mexico at its best.

Athenour's efforts also focused on building a program that would interest youths in both cities, to tear down the stereotypes on both sides of the border. The result has been a highly successful exchange program where five students from each city are chosen to visit the other for two weeks in the summer, staying with host families. These have produced lifelong friendships. Five Tulancingo students just arrived this week with Athenour, as always, greeting them at the airport and helping them settle in their host family homes here in Pleasanton. Athenour also was part of the Pleasanton sister city delegation that went to Tulancingo in April, staying at the historic Hotel Colonial where long-time owners keep the place just as it's been for the last 100 years (although Athenour found that it now has Wi-Fi). On Sept.

23, Tulancingo will send a sister city delegation here to keep the tradition going.

Every trip involves tours, receptions and visits to local sites—and gifts. Many brought to Pleasanton by the Tulancingo delegations over the years are on display in special room in the Civic Center, and Tulancingo displays gifts from Pleasanton. Among the most cherished gifts, however, are the wheelchairs, now numbering in the hundreds, which Athenour has personally delivered to Tulancingo Rotarians on behalf of his Rotary Club here in Pleasanton, which donates them. Athenour has seen firsthand many times how the gift of a wheelchair can transform the lives of those immobilized by illness or injury. He has also delivered hundreds of used eyeglasses to the Tulancingo Lions Club, again a gift of local Lions Club members.

I've known Athenour and his wife Marilyn for at least 20 years, both as a Spanish teacher at Amador Valley High School, where he chaired the language department, and when he worked with Marilyn at her downtown Athenour Travel Agency. Born in Sunol June 8, 1929, he graduated from Amador in 1947 and went on to earn his undergraduate degrees in French and Spanish at San Jose State University, followed by a graduate degree in Education. After four years in the Air Force, he returned to Amador as a teacher in 1956, when Amador had just 165 students. He retired in 1984 to devote all his time to the fast growing travel agency, although Amador called him back twice to fill Spanish teaching vacancies. Later the Athenours closed the agency to do some traveling on their own. They've lived in their home on Silver Street across from Amador for 52 years and have three children, Ann, Eric and Carl, and now six grandchildren.

Still, when it comes to Tulancingo and the sister city association which Athenour has headed three different times, there's little rest. With the five Tulancingo students in town, he'll be with them for many receptions, and then involved in planning for the fall delegation visit. Healthy and active at 80, he plans on more trips to Mexico and possibly other Latin American countries to deliver wheelchairs. He even goes there occasionally as a guest of honor at a local wedding for someone he's helped or for the bride or groom of his many friends in Tulancingo. If you're interested in getting involved in the sister city program, call Bob Athenour as 846-2966 or meet with him any morning at 8:15 when he joins a group at the Rising Loafer for breakfast on Main Street. ■

About the Cover

Compassion, discipline, honesty, integrity, responsibility and respect are Community of Character traits three recipients of the Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Award embody to the fullest.

Vol. X, Number 23

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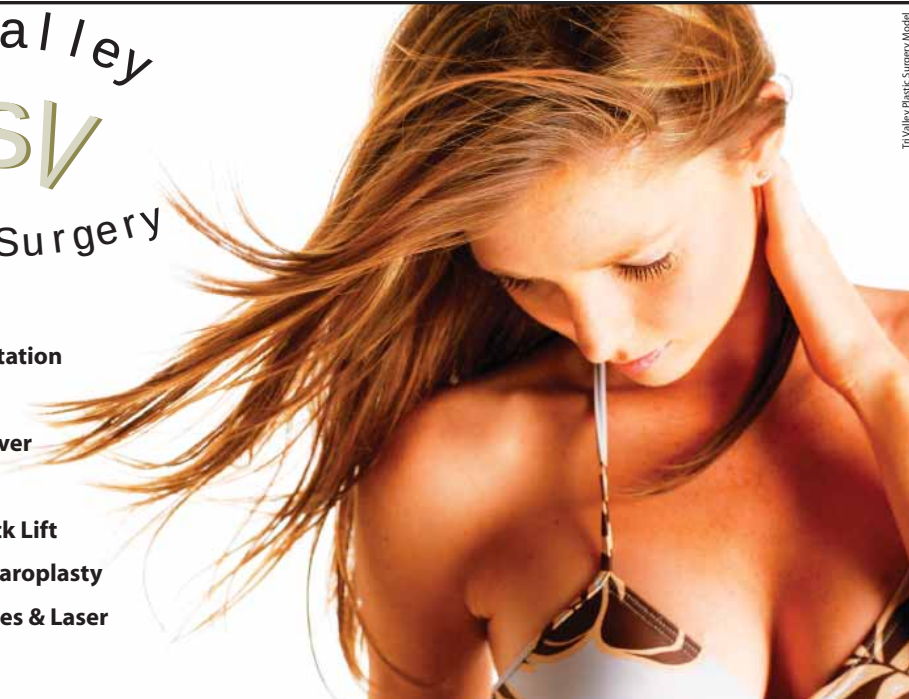
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Streetwise

ASKED AT THE DEL PRADO CABANA CLUB

What do you think of President Obama's performance?



Colleen Mayes

I don't think he's living up to his promises yet. He could be electing better people than he has been to run our country. I don't think the stimulus package will work because of our country's history. He's talking about cutting Medicare and Medicaid and that concerns me because the people who have those plans don't have a lot of money to begin with.

Stefan Hall

I think he's spending a lot more money than what he originally intended by trying to create new jobs in this poor economy. Unfortunately we won't be able to tell what's right or wrong now because of how bad things are and I think it will take years before the country recovers again. I'm just concerned that we're going deeper into debt by spending more money which doesn't improve the problem.



Becca Jorgenson

I think he's doing very well. He's bringing a new diplomacy to the world and the U.S. that we haven't had in many years. Not only is he a charismatic leader, but his wife is charismatic as well and I think she will also bring great change to the White House.

Will Proud

I think he's doing pretty good and he's working at it really hard. He's visiting a lot of places trying to make friendships with them so we don't have to continue fighting wars.



Don Hogue

I think he's done pretty well considering he was going to be on the hot seat for the first several months in office given the circumstances he's had to work with. One thing that stands out is that he's done reasonably well in creating a calming effect and reaching out to different countries to improve international relationships so we can try to end this war and focus on the bigger problems at home.

—Compiled by Hillary Bessiere

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

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DIGEST

Run with dad downtown on Sunday

More than 1,200 runners are expected to race around downtown Pleasanton on Father's Day for the 16th annual Rotary Club Spirit Run. The tradition has runners, families and kid participate in a 10K or 5K run, or the kids' challenge. Race-day registration starts at 7 a.m., with the 10K run starting at 8 a.m., followed by the 5K run at 8:20. Main street will be closed from 5 a.m. to 11 a.m. that day between Del Valle Parkway and Neal Street. Funds raised go towards the club's scholarship program, which has raised more than \$300,000 in the last 11 years. For details, visit www.spiritrun.com.

Autism outreach fair takes place Saturday

The School of Imagination will hold the second part of the Happy Talkers Community Outreach Fair from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. in Dublin. It is a follow-up to 246 free autism and other developmental screenings performed May 30 by SOI and Child Care Links. This Saturday, experts in child development, behavior and kindergarten readiness will again share practical tips and information. To register, call 877-KIDS TLC or visit www.schoolofimagination.org/outreach.

Help animals by playing casino games

Valley Humane Society hosts "The Great Catsby Casino Night," held at 6 p.m. July 18 at a private home in Pleasanton. Attendees are encouraged to dress in 1920s-themed cocktail attire. Tickets are \$75 and include dinner, drink tickets, valet parking and gambling chips. There will also be a poker tournament for an additional \$75 buy-in. Buy tickets at VHS, 3670 Nevada St. For more information, call 426-8656.

Wheels, BART tickets sold at senior center

Beginning July 1, Wheels and BART tickets will be sold at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., instead of at the city Utility Billing Office. Hours are 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Corrections

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

Staples Ranch developments go to city planners

By JEB BING

Despite a recession, lawsuit and a developer's pullback, plans for building two multi-million-dollar projects on Staples Ranch will go before the Pleasanton Planning Commission Wednesday.

Staples Ranch is an undeveloped, unincorporated 124-acre parcel currently owned by Alameda County at the southwest corner of I-580 and El Charro Road. Late last year, after several years of public hearings, the council agreed to develop the land in concert with an agreement with the county and at the same time to allow the extension of Stoneridge Drive through Staples to connect to El Charro and Livermore.

On Wednesday, planners will review final plans by:

New environmental report also under way for 124-acre site

■Hendrick Automotive Group, which wants to build a new auto mall on its 37-acre portion of Staples, next to the junction of I-580 and El Charro Road, directly across El Charro from a 160-plus store outlet mall that Livermore has approved.

■Stoneridge Creek Pleasanton, a 45-acre senior continuing care community to be developed by Continuing Life Communities (CLC), with up to 800 units for assisted living, skilled nursing and independent living residents.

Not yet ready for planners is a proposed Sharks Ice Center, a two-story, four rink facility to be built

by San Jose Arena Management, a subsidiary of the San Jose Sharks, with the facility to occupy about 10 acres of a 17-acre public park that the Sharks would also develop for the city. A land use agreement is still being negotiated that would require the Sharks organization to contribute to the cost of building more sports fields elsewhere in the city to compensate for those that otherwise would have been built on the ice rink site.

Also not before planners is an 11-acre retail development that was proposed by Fremont Land, an investment firm that had obtained preliminary approvals for various shops, including a food market, bank and restaurant. Fremont gave no reason for canceling the project and Pat Cushman, who

See **STAPLES RANCH** on Page 9



Buried treasure?

You won't have to travel far to find the treasure. Identify the location of these photos and be entered in a drawing for two tickets to the Alameda County Fair, July 1-19. Five winners will be named online June 30. All the photos were taken within the downtown area. To enter, in an email, list the name of the photo as shown in the caption and the location. Put your name, address, and daytime phone number at the bottom. Send to contest@PleasantonWeekly.com by 5 p.m. June 29. Look to see if you won beginning at noon June 30 at PleasantonWeekly.com. (Only one entry per household; employees of Embarcadero Media and their immediate family members are not eligible.)

Amador senior seriously injured in off-roading accident

Breanna Furphy in critical condition after being hit by a truck that ejected her

Breanna Furphy, a senior who was set to graduate in a ceremony held last Friday at Amador Valley High School, suffered major injuries a day before in an off-roading accident on private property near Sunol.

Furphy, 17, and an unidentified young man were riding in a late model Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck with no doors on a private ranch off of Niles Canyon Road around 1:30 p.m., said California Highway Patrol Officer Jeff Piccinini.

Piccinini said the truck was on a somewhat paved

road going down a hill when it hit a rock or a bump in the road. The male driver lost control, he added, and the vehicle rolled.

Furphy was reportedly ejected from the truck and was hit by the truck as it rolled, according to Piccinini, who said she was not wearing a seatbelt.

Furphy was airlifted to Stanford Medical Center where at last report she continues to be in critical condition.

—Emily West, Jeb Bing

2-year downsized budgets approved

Hefty reserves should keep
city fiscally solvent for now

The Pleasanton City Council approved a downsized two-year budget plan Tuesday totaling \$87.3 million for the fiscal year starting July 1 and \$89.4 million for fiscal 2010-11 but acknowledged that possible state takeaways of local funds and a continued recessionary economy could make it difficult to keep those budgets balanced.

"The good news is that our operating budgets for the next two years are balanced," City Manager Nelson Fialho told the council. "But the bad news is that the economy is in such a fragile state that it will probably be a challenge to keep the budgets balanced over those two years."

Actually, the total city operating budget for the coming years is \$186.1 million for fiscal 2009-10 and \$190.3 million for fiscal 2010-11. More than half of those totals are dedicated to Enterprise Funds (36.5 percent and 38.5 percent, respectively); Internal Service Funds (30.5 percent in both budget years); Special Revenue Funds (30.4 percent and 30.8 percent) and Debt Service & Trust Funds (2.4 percent in both budget years).

Revenue and expenditure allocations in those funds, such as park district programs and activities at the Callippe Preserve golf course, balance out as separate revenue generating programs.

It's the General Fund that accounts for 46.4 percent and 46.3 percent for the two budget years that determines the financial stability of the city.

Fialho and City Finance Director Dave Culver told the council that they built the fiscal year budgets with six strategies. They included:

See **COUNCIL** on Page 8

Buchanan kicks off her campaign for 10th congressional district seat

State Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan, whose 15th District includes a part of Pleasanton, kicked-off her campaign for Congress on Sunday, holding a rally in her new 10th Congressional District campaign office and online in a YouTube video that is featured prominently in her revamped website at JoanBuchanan.com.

Online and offline, Buchanan pledged to put her financial expertise to work to create jobs and improve the country's economy.

Buchanan is running in a special election for the 10th Congressional District seat being vacated by current U.S. Representative Ellen Tauscher. Tauscher has been appointed to become undersecretary for arms control and international security in the State Department.

Buchanan said she honed her financial skills as a top female execu-

tive during her time at Delta Dental and put those skills to work again as president of the San Ramon Valley School District to close a nearly \$7-million deficit and turn the district into one of California's top school systems.

"In Congress, I pledge to invest responsibly in our country again by creating world class educational institutions so our kids can compete in a global economy," Buchanan said.

She said that congress should also pass comprehensive health care coverage, "not only because health care should be a right of every American (but also) because it is the right thing to do to make sure America's workers are able to compete with the rest of the world."

The daughter of a waitress and bartender, Buchanan helped count the pennies, dimes and quarters of her mom's waitressing tips so that

they could eventually afford the down payment on their home.

"I think with adversity and challenges also come opportunities, and it is up to us to identify those opportunities, and move forward," said Buchanan in a video on YouTube.com entitled "A Practical Problem Solver," which is also posted at www.JoanBuchanan.com.

"Let's go to work today, and I'll do all I can to see that the country is even stronger for your kids and mine," she said.

Joan Buchanan's campaign office is located at 2085 N. Broadway in Walnut Creek and has volunteer hours every day. Those interested in helping in her campaign should contact Morgan Callahan at Joan.Buchanan for Congress, 617-448-4289 or by email at Morgan.Callahan@gmail.com.

—Jeb Bing

22,000 pot plants seized

Suspect seen working fields near Sunol drops loaded handgun during chase

Alameda County sheriff's deputies have found more than 22,000 marijuana plants at the biggest outdoor growing operation the sheriff's office has ever encountered.

About two weeks ago, a motorist on Calaveras Road, east of Sunol, reported seeing a teenager wearing camouflage clothes run up a creek bed from the road, Sgt. Shawn Peterson said.

The sheriff's office launched an investigation, and June 11, a marijuana eradication team found 24 inter-linked pot gardens, three campsites and three makeshift kitchens in the Calaveras Road area, on land that is owned by the San Francisco Water District and feeds the Calaveras Reservoir, Peterson said.

The team found 22,838 seedlings about 20 inches tall that were fed with a fresh water supply di-

rectly from two creeks on a ridge.

Two men in their late 20s were seen working in the garden and wearing woodland camouflage, and deputies attempted to take them into custody.

The two suspects ran, one dropping a loaded semi-automatic handgun during the chase, Peterson said. The suspects managed to evade capture by escaping through heavy brush and steep ravines, Peterson said.

Anyone with information regarding the pot farms or any other grow operations is asked to call Peterson at 510-667-3633.

Peterson said last year, deputies found about 7,000 plants during probably the second-largest eradication they had encountered.

The average street value of a mature pot plant is about \$3,000, according to the DEA website.

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OF NOTE

50th anniversary for medical school graduate

Dr. Gerald L. Severin, a dermatologist from Pleasanton, was honored by the American Medical Association for his 50-year anniversary of graduating from Stanford University Medical School.

Severin graduated from Stanford in 1959, the last year it was located in San Francisco. Following a three-year residency at Stanford University Hospital, he held a private dermatology practice in Livermore for 32 years and served as the Chief of Dermatology at the Livermore branch of the Veterans' Administration for an additional six years. After retiring in 2004, he volunteers at Axis Community Health in Pleasanton and Livermore, and as a Rotarian, he is a supporter of the COANIQUEM Children's Burn Center in Santiago Chile.



Gerald Severin

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Tri-For-Funs begin June 20 at Shadow Cliffs

Popular triathlons for all ages, abilities, run through September

The Tri-For-Fun triathlon summer series kicks off next weekend, where more than 1,000 athletes will dive into the waters at Shadow Cliffs, hop on a bike and traverse the trails on foot.

The longest-running triathlon in the East Bay, the Tri-For-Funs have been around more than two decades, beginning with just 28 participants the first year in 1988.

The Tri-For-Fun series is for all skill levels—from beginners to pros. Throughout the season series, at least 40 percent of all the participants will be beginners, according to event organizers.

The triathlons feature a course distance of 400-yard swim, 11-mile bike (loop course, flat streets) and 3.1-mile run (rolling fire trail). Aside from ability levels, the races also attract a variety of ages—from 6 to 78.

The triathlons are more about the fun than the finish. A digital timing clock tracks participants' achievements, but that's as competitive as they get.

After the first three Tri-For-Funs, which will be held June 20, July 18 and Aug. 15, the summer series will culminate with a Tri-For-Real Sept. 20, where the distances are increased to a 700-yard swim, 20-mile bike ride and 4-mile run. That race will be timed for official



ON YOUR MARK EVENTS
The Popular Tri-For-Fun series, held at Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area, starts June 20.

results.

Races begin at 7 a.m. at Shadow Cliffs, 2500 Stanley Blvd. There is a 1,000-participant maximum for each triathlon and the events usually sell out. Entry fee for the three Tri-For-Funs is \$55 in advance, and

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—Janet Pelletier

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COUNCIL

Continued from Page 5

1. The elimination of 10 vacant positions, with no line managers and other salaried personnel hired since last September. The vacancies came from every department, ranging from public safety to the public library to parks and recreation.

2. Non-personnel costs have been reduced 5 percent in the same period, including no new office equipment, vehicles and other materials.

3. General Fund transfers to the city's capital improvement program have been suspended for the next two years. Those transfers historically have totaled about \$5 million and have gone to support funding needed for such projects as the Alviso Adobe Community Park, new tennis courts, park expansion, the Bernal lighted baseball fields and the Fire House Arts Center. Those projects have all been fully funded by previous General Fund transfers.

4. A temporary reduction in General Fund transfers to specific reserves, such as major equipment replacement, medical retiree reserves and the city's self-insurance fund.

5. A lock has been placed on the recessionary reserve funds that now total over \$10 million and will be used only if needed to accommodate state property tax and gasoline tax takeaways.

6. No salary adjustments for any of the city's 60 staff managers, including Fialho and Culver, for the next 12 months and no salary adjustments for unionized employees for the same period when their current contracts expire.

"Collectively these strategies provide a good short-term approach to balancing the budget without causing any layoffs or

"My sense is that if the economic impact that we are experiencing goes beyond the next 24 months, we'll have to revisit our assumptions and probably look at our baseline expenditures, which might include not only staffing but also programs."

Dave Culver,
City Finance Director

cutbacks in programs or services," Fialho said. "However they are only short-term solutions."

"My sense is that if the economic impact that we are experiencing goes beyond the next 24 months, we'll have to revisit our assumptions and probably look at our baseline expenditures, which might include not only staffing but also programs," he added.

Culver said the statewide decline in sales tax revenue is affecting both the state and local governments. In the 1970s when there was rampant inflation, he said, sales tax revenue reached close to the 20 percent mark. Even though it dropped precipitously after that due to tight money policies by the Feds, the aerospace layoffs in the 1990s and

the tech bubble in 2000, "the 6.2 percent decline in sales tax revenue in calendar year was unprecedented."

And it's not over.

"Sales tax is very important to our General Fund operating budget," Culver explained. "It is cyclical, it really follows the economy. Sales tax will turn on a dime whereas property tax kind of operates in slow motion."

"Sales tax revenue is already down 10 percent this year and will fall by an estimated 13 percent in the coming fiscal year. Besides that there will be a zero percent projected increase in next year's property tax revenue compared to +3.5 percent this current fiscal year and fees from development will be at a record low."

Fialho said that he and Culver are closely monitoring the state's fiscal crisis and its potential impact on the city's budget.

"It changes almost daily but I think the last number we saw was that the state now faces a \$24.3 billion deficit that it is struggling with," Fialho said. "Some of the proposals that have been bandied about include not only shifting local tax dollars to help balance the state budget, such as property tax dollars, but also a potential grab of local highway dollars, such as local gas tax dollars that we utilize quite extensively to maintain and improve our streets."

Culver pointed out that for the state to take local property and other taxes from cities and counties is nothing new, that it started in the early 1990s.

"These takeaways reduce Pleasanton's property tax revenue that the city should have by about \$9 million every year," he said. "That's more than \$90 million so far and it has nothing to do with what the governor and state legislature are now proposing, which will be on top of all that."

—Jeb Bing

Groups begin forming for Relay for Life cancer walk

In a few short weeks, the fourth annual Relay for Life Walk will be held at Pleasanton Middle School, drawing hundreds of cancer survivors and their family and friends in an effort to raise money for research.

The event, held over a 24-hour period, starts at 9 a.m. July 25 with opening ceremonies, when cancer survivors and their caregivers walk the inaugural laps. Already, teams are being formed, typically made up of eight to 15 members who will join forces to raise money through bake sales, car washes and personal donations.

The event will include live entertainment, a silent auction, themed laps and commemorative ceremonies, including the Luminaria Ceremony, dedicated in honor of cancer victims, whose names will be read as glow sticks are turned on at dusk.

The opening ceremony will also include the Pledge of Allegiance with the Boy Scout Color Guard, a special rendition of the Star Spangled Banner by a local youth singer, opening remarks by local dignitaries, and guest speaker Terry Healey, a cancer survivor who will share his motivational experience with the crowd.

For details on Relay For Life or to form your own team, visit www.relayforlife.org/pleasantonca. Online donations can be made by visiting the website and clicking on "donate" on the left hand side. For more information, call event chair Kathi Vermont at 460-3700 or email her at kvermont@comcast.net.

—Janet Pelletier

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School fundraising efforts taking off

Kickoff rally to be held Thursday at Amador Valley High School

By Emily West

While the Pleasanton Unified School District may be strapped for cash along with other school districts across the state, it seems to have an abundance of people willing to donate to the schools.

Pleasanton's two educational foundations has joined the district to put together the I Love Pleasanton Schools campaign to raise money for programs that could have been supported if a parcel tax had passed.

The effort began June 15 and will kickoff publicly with a rally from 6 to 7:30 p.m. June 25 at Amador Valley High School's quad, located at 1155 Santa Rita Road. The event will include music, food, local dignitaries and an opportunity for residents to donate to either Pleasanton Partners in Education (PPIE) or Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment (PSEE).

Debi Covello, executive director of PPIE, said the donations keep

rising by the hour, with both foundations receiving "over \$100,000 thus far." PPSE President and chairwoman Denise Watkins said that in addition to the PSEE base donation of \$35,000, people have also donated about \$20,000 since the effort began.

"[Music is] one of the core standards for No Child Left Behind and California," Watkins said. "It's not an optional program any more and needs to be treated as a core program."

Donations of about \$8,000 have been dropped off to the school district offices. Carol Fernandez, administrative assistant for the PUSD superintendent, said people can drop off checks at the district offices and staff there can help people differentiate their donation to support the programs of choice. The offices, located at 4665 Bernal Ave., are open between 8 a.m. and

4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except in July when the offices will be closed Fridays.

Funds designated for PPIE is said to support class-size reduction, reading specialist and counselors, with donations to PSEE going towards the elementary strings and band programs. The goal of the I Love Pleasanton Schools campaign is to raise \$2.8 million, which would bring class sizes in kindergarten through third grade and ninth grade English and math to a ratio of 20 students per teacher (currently 25:1), as well as improving counseling ratios to 2008-09 levels. Meters tracking the fundraising are said to be set up around the city as well as on organizations.

Ron Hyde, retired superior court judge and PPIE board member, said at a recent board meeting that every penny donated to the fundraising effort would go towards Pleasanton schools.

TAKE US ALONG



The Weekly—peaking your curiosity: Frank, Michael, John and Danny Guthrie stand atop Rose Peak with the Weekly. Rose Peak is the highest peak in the Tri-Valley at 3,817 feet, bested only by Mount Diablo at 3,849 feet. These intrepid adventurers through-hiked 20 miles from Sunol to Del Valle on a 12-hour journey covering 4,600 feet of elevation.



Which way to the beach? Dash and Olivienne Kamriani Beard, 4 and 2, took the paper to the beach in Honolulu, Hawaii.

1,200 students graduate from Pleasanton schools

Last week, the Pleasanton Unified School District celebrated the 1,200 students graduating from Amador Valley and Foothill high schools. Commencement ceremonies were held in the evening at each high school, with hundreds of family members and friends cheering on.

Receiving special recognition were six students whose outstanding academic achievements earned them honorable titles. Valedictorians at Foothill High School were Swetha Akella, Asher Bantock, Jonathan Hwang and Jenny Mei. Amador Valley High School's valedictorian was Seunguk (Uggi) Lee and its salutatorian was Michael Chen.

—Emily West

STAPLES RANCH

Continued from Page 5

is handling the development plan for Alameda County, is looking for another retail developer.

At the same time, the City Council has ordered that a supplemental environmental impact report be prepared for the master plan the council approved that included extending Stoneridge Drive. Two environmental groups and a citizens' coalition called "Safe Streets Pleasanton" have asked the Alameda County Superior Court to halt the Staples Ranch project until a study shows the consequences of developing Staples and extending the roadway.

The supplemental environmental report is expected to be completed in mid-summer and will recommend mitigations if it finds the development could endanger endangered plant or living species. If approved by the Planning Commission, it's likely the auto mall and CLC plans would move forward with the completed supplemental EIR the council for final consideration in September. ■

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

County fair boosts Pleasanton

With retailers and restaurants across the city asking local government for financial and marketing help in these tough economic times, the 97th annual Alameda County Fair that opens July 1 may be one of the best regional stimulus plans to come our way with no government strings attached. An economic impact study found that the fairgrounds generates more than \$300 million to the region, much of it generated during the annual fair, which runs for 17 days through Sunday, July 19 (closed on Mondays). This year's fair is expected to draw roughly 400,000.

Although the fair, itself, produces only about \$40,000 in race-track taxes for Pleasanton, its impact goes well beyond the Pleasanton Avenue entrance. This year, thousands of fair-goers will stop at local stores, restaurants and gasoline stations. Pedestrian traffic downtown is considered the best ever as families take a respite from the games and rides to walk the few blocks. Christine Saldivar, executive director of the Pleasanton Downtown Association, told her members that "with the thousands of people that come from all over to experience the fair, it provides a tremendous opportunity to showcase our beautiful downtown and all it has to offer. With its historic buildings nestled in tree-lined streets, filled with unique shops and outdoor dining, people of all ages can enjoy the Norman Rockwell charm and uniqueness of downtown Pleasanton just as the fair provides a family experience of days gone by."

Amy Blaschka, president and CEO of the Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau, adds that the fair attracts attendees from far and wide, which translates into direct spending in our community. A large, multi-day event such as the fair greatly benefits both the city of Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley region with its economic impact potential.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman calls the fair "a spectacular hybrid of the best of California's urban and rural fairs. It draws thousands of visitors and local residents to its stellar entertainment lineup, colorful fairway, traditional exhibits of farm animals and so much more. It's a wonderful kick-off to the summer season in the San Francisco East Bay. The Alameda County Fair has distinguished itself as a top venue for tourists and local businesses and as such has a profound effect on the local economy."

Just as important, of course, is the fair's historic tradition of offering cost-effective family fun. Designed to offer "something for everyone," the fair boasts a number of amenities and attractions, including: animal husbandry education, livestock shows and judging, horse racing, food-eating contests, a petting zoo and roller derby, cultural activities and more. Music A-listers such as the Charlie Daniels Band, En Vogue, Night Ranger, Bowling for Soup, BJ Thomas, Solange Knowles and others will also be performing as part of the fair's ever-popular free concert-series. Fair enthusiasts will enjoy a cornucopia of culinary delights, from on-the-go favorites, such as corn dogs, cheese and sausage on a stick, funnel cakes and deep-fried Twinkies, to international fare celebrating the traditions of India, New Orleans and Mexico.

We agree with Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty who considers the annual fair one of the most exciting times of the year in the county. "Each year, the fair provides numerous activities and one-of-a-kind programs that families can enjoy while spending quality time together at the beautiful fairgrounds in Pleasanton. In light of the economic challenges facing our economy, it is encouraging to know that the fair provides not only food, fun and excitement, but also contributes to our local economy through jobs and support of community based organizations." ■

Code of ethics

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

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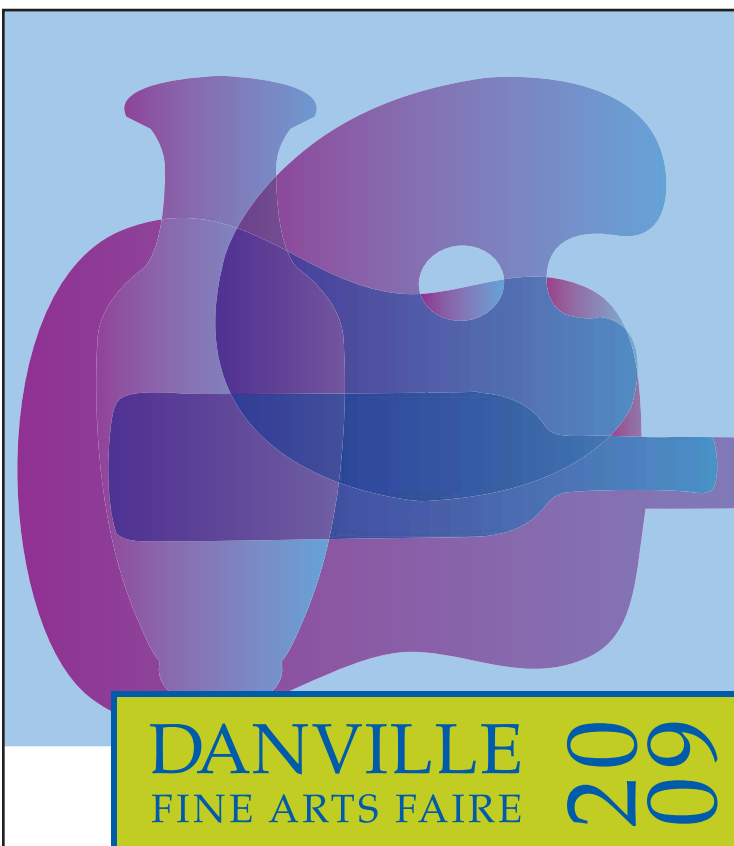
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LETTERS

Measure G opposition not anonymous

Dear Editor,

Your editorial about the defeat of Measure G got some things right, and many things wrong ("Voters tough love: No school parcel tax so make the cuts," Editorial, June 5, page 10).

Those of us who were part of an organized opposition were not anonymous. We signed election papers that contained our names and our reasons for opposing the measure. Your paper interviewed some of us and used our quotes. We blogged on your website continuously using our real names. As a result, several of us were personally and publicly attacked for our opposition to this measure. Those personal attacks continue to this day.

And to say that "it will be difficult for board members in the aftermath of the defeat to ever determine what they did wrong" is a statement that flies in the face of reality. Our website and your own blogs contain everything one needs to know about our opposition to the measure. The problem was that the board was not interested in our position or our recommendations, at least not until June 3.

Had you studied our position, you would not have concluded that Pleasanton voters wanted to go ahead with deep cuts to the teaching staff and cuts to important programs. That conclusion was the school board's position if the measure didn't pass. In a nutshell, we support schools and teachers, not perks and raises. Herein lies a feasible solution.

Doug Miller

3 ways to donate money to schools

Dear Editor,

Elections reveal a great deal about a democracy. We have seen a president seated and yet lose the popular vote. We have witnessed an historic win of an African American president given virtually no chance to be elected. Now in Pleasanton we have seen how a vote of overwhelming support

for Measure G (62.68 percent) has failed to meet the absurd criteria of two-thirds majority.

So where do we go from here? A total of 10,995 people voted to pay \$233 on an annual basis. Given that people were willing, and presumably still willing to pay this amount, what are the most efficient ways to help our schools? There are at least three different paths we can donate our money. We can donate the money to the district, which would enable the administration to utilize the monies in a more systemic nature. We could donate our contribution to the school sites to alleviate specific site needs. As a member of the Amador School Site Council, I know there are real needs to be met. Lastly, PPIE sponsors grants and they are looking into an increased fundraising campaign.

Measure G is history. It is time we move forward as a community and show we are truly a Community of Character. I encourage people to contact your school site, the district and PPIE to determine what would be the best use of your donation. For those folks who voted against Measure G, you may find that direct contribution better fits your views and principles.

Al Cohen

You missed the boat on editorial

Dear Editor,

Your last editorial ("Voters tough love: No school parcel tax so make

the cuts," Editorial, June 5, page 10) completely missed the boat.

Californians do want the best but we are already paying sufficiently for the services. The real problem is how the government spends the money that we already give in taxes.

The problem with Measure G was that many do not feel that the tax dollars are being put to best use. For some time the district leadership has heard what many are looking for before they would pay an additional tax but the district chose not to take appropriate actions. Those who were in the opposition of the parcel tax are supporters of our schools but did not feel the tax would have been appropriately spent.

If the district took the appropriate actions, they would not have needed an expensive special election. The \$300,000 spent on this election, plus the campaign costs of \$60,000, would have been better spent on teachers and reading programs for our kids. This election ended up costing \$33 per "yes" vote.

If the district intends to bring another parcel tax forward to address shortfalls, they need to take real actions first. Actions that many have been asking for include: 1) freeze salary increases, 2) eliminate management perks (car allowances and cell phones), 3) create a fiscal policy that requires sufficient reserves, and 4) don't give out future benefits that you cannot pay for now (e.g., full-paid medical at retirement).

Steve Brozosky

Please donate to schools fund

Dear Editor,

The Pleasanton Partnerships In Education Foundation (PPIE) is working in conjunction with the Pleasanton Unified School District and the Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment (PSEE) Foundation to raise funds for programs that would have been supported by Measure G and have been cut.

The goal for the campaign is to raise \$2.8 million. This would fully fund four areas: class size

reduction for grades K-3 and grade 9 to 20:1 (currently at 25:1); reading specialists; counselors to 2008/2009 levels, and the elementary band and strings program. PSEE will focus on the elementary band and strings program. This is in line with their mission, and their part of the campaign goal is \$120,000. PPIE will focus on the other three areas.

Please, donate now. The campaign will end on Aug. 15. At that time, the foundations and the District will look at how much money has been raised and determine to what degree each of the areas could be supported. 100 percent of donations made through either foundation will go the campaign, and either foundation can accept donations for any of the programs. Donations processed with no bank fees! Any amount is welcome. Let's all do our part in supporting our schools and keeping them at the level of excellence that they deserve. For information, visit www.ppie.org/index.html.

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OBITUARIES

Jack Camacho

Jack Camacho died May 21 at the age of 71.

A 35-year Pleasanton resident, Mr. Camacho was the youngest of two children, born in Redwood City, Calif. to parents Christopher and Isabel, direct descendents from Madrid, Spain.

He graduated from Sequoia High School and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1956. His initial duty was at Camp Pendleton, Calif. with the H&S Company, 2nd Infantry Division. He completed his military service as a Reservist, and was honorably discharged eight years later, on Aug. 24, 1964. After that, he went to work for San Francisco French Bread Company as a route sales

driver. He ran a route in San Jose for 29 years and retired in 1997.

Mr. Camacho was an avid '49ers fan and season ticket holder since the days of Kezar Stadium. He even named his lovable Bichon Frise dogs, affectionately, "Montanta" and "Frisco." His family received a condolence letter on behalf of the '49ers organization, thanking him for his years of dedication as a "49er Faithful." In addition to football, he was also a NASCAR fan and liked No. 3, Dale Earnhardt, especially for his nickname, "The Intimidator." He especially got a kick out of watching his youngest granddaughters entertain him by singing and dancing. He enjoyed vacations on the California coast and summers on the South Shore of Lake Tahoe.

He was a beloved husband to his wife of 27 years, Farolene "Micki," who preceded him in death in 1991. He was a devoted father to his daughters, Christine Ahrens and Jacqueline Camacho, and stepsons, Kenneth and Michael Farr. He was father-in-law to Jim Ahrens, husband of Christine, Karen Farr, wife of Kenneth, and Cheryl Farr, wife of Michael. He was a grandfather of eight and great grandfather of nine.

Services were held May 28 at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, with burial following at St. Augustine Catholic Cemetery on 5780 Sunol Blvd.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to the local Valley Humane Society or your local S.P.C.A.

Althea Mae McGill

Althea Mae (Jolley) McGill died May 22 after a two-year battle with cancer at the age of 83.

Mrs. McGill was born Feb. 12, 1926 in Boise, Idaho to Rollin Joseph and Emilie Jane (Powell) Jolley.

She joined a sister Arlene. She lived in Boise until 1937, when her parents purchased a small farm and moved to Meridian, Idaho, where she graduated from Meridian High School in 1944. After graduating, she was employed at the Idaho Daily Statesman and then the Bureau of Reclamation.



She met and married Kenneth H. McGill in 1947. Three children were born to the couple—a boy and two girls. The family resided in Boise until 1952, when Kenneth returned to active duty military service. The family lived in many locations across the United States and had a couple of tours of duty in France. They moved to Chula Vista, Calif. when Kenneth retired in 1967 and moved to Pleasanton in 1984.

Mrs. McGill is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Kenneth; two daughters and sons-in-law, Marsha and RJ Grimes of Pleasanton and Donna and Bill Gordon of Sonora, Calif.; a grandson, granddaughter and great-grandson, Ken, Katie and Kole Grimes of Pleasanton; granddaughter, Emmy Grimes; and Curtis Milioti of Imperial Beach, Calif. She was preceded in death by her parents and an infant son.

Services were held May 29 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton. She was laid to rest at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, Calif.

Donations may be made to Hope Hospice in Dublin or the American Cancer Society.

BREAST CANCER An Overview of the Latest Advances in Detection and Treatment FREE EDUCATION SEMINAR



Presented by: Rishi Sawhney, MD
Rakesh Patel, MD
Rakhee Shah, MD

Date: June 25, 2009

Time: 6:30PM

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

Please join us for this free education seminar where Drs. Sawhney, Patel and Shah will discuss the latest information on breast cancer. Topics will include risk factors, screening and development, and available treatment options. The physicians will also discuss different diagnosis options and biopsy techniques. Information on the most recent advances in surgical, radiation and chemotherapy treatments will also be provided.

We invite you to register for this free education seminar by calling the ValleyCare Health Information and Physician Network at **1-800-719-9111** or visit valleycare.com and click on the classes link.



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POLICE BULLETIN & LOG

POLICE BULLETIN

Masked gunman robs 7-Eleven on Valley Avenue

Pleasanton police are searching for a man and woman said to have robbed the 7-Eleven convenience store on Valley Avenue early Monday morning.

Around 1:07 a.m., man with a mask covering his face stole cash and two cartons of cigarettes with the help of a woman who acted as a lookout, police said.

Lt. Darrin Davis said the amount of cash stolen was less than \$100. He also said there was video footage of the incident that investigators are using in the investigation.

No one was injured and the 7-Eleven employee was the only witness, according to police.

The man and woman were described as being black between 5-foot, 5-inches tall and 6-feet tall and

weighing 160 to 180 pounds. The woman was said to have black hair and brown eyes.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call police at 931-5100.

Student doing well after nearly drowning

A student at Harvest Park Middle School was said to have nearly drowned June 10 during a school trip to the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center.

In an email sent by the school, principal Jim Hansen said the boy was released from ValleyCare Medical Center and doing well.

Hansen said the boy reportedly ingested water after jumping in the pool and began convulsing. Lifeguards performed CPR and paramedics responded, he said, adding that the boy was breathing on his own and was taken to the hospital.

—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.

June 6

Vehicular burglary

- 8:49 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Vandalism

- 11:34 a.m. in the 3500 block of Bernal Avenue

DUI

- 1:57 a.m. at the intersection of West Las Positas Boulevard and Hopyard Road
- 1:57 p.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Goldcrest Circle

Battery

- 1:13 a.m. in the 2500 block of Palomino Way

June 7

Theft

- 7:24 a.m. in the 5800 block of Stonecliff Vista Lane; stolen vehicle
- 2:46 p.m. in the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; petty theft, shoplifting
- 3:19 p.m. in the 3300 block of Arbor Drive; petty theft
- 4:25 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft

Vehicular burglary

- 7:16 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

Vandalism

- 11:32 a.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive
- 4:19 p.m. in the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Public drunkenness

- 1:26 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

June 8

Grand theft

- 9:01 a.m. in the 8000 block of Canyon Creek Circle

Burglary

- 10:56 a.m. in the 2900 block of Lethbridge Court

Possession of marijuana for sale

- 9:33 p.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

June 9

Theft

- 7:40 a.m. in the 5300 block of Case

- Avenue; stolen vehicle
- 9:33 a.m. in the 6900 block of Corte Mercado; grand theft, forgery

DUI

- 11:42 p.m. at the intersection of Driftwood Way and Highland Oaks Drive

Battery

- 9:52 a.m. in the 2500 block of Santa Rita Road

June 10

Vandalism

- 9:23 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:21 a.m. at the intersection of Foreza Court and West Ruby Hill Drive; DUI
- 5:09 p.m. in the 3700 block of Vineyard Avenue; public drunkenness

Battery

- 1:55 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

June 11

Theft

- 8:32 a.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 2:40 p.m. in the 200 block of Trenton Circle; identity theft
- 6:51 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; identity theft

Vehicular burglary

- 3:08 p.m. in 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

- 8:22 a.m. in the 6400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 10:44 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Del Valle Parkway

- 2:19 p.m. in the 4400 block of First Street

- 3:08 p.m. in the 7900 block of Limewood Court

Public drunkenness

- 10:44 p.m. at the intersection of Main and West Angela streets

June 12

Theft

- 11:39 a.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road; grand theft
- 11:41 a.m. in the 500 block of Peters Avenue; grand theft
- 2:44 p.m. in the 1100 block of Blanc Court; stolen vehicle
- 7:35 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen vehicle

Vehicular burglary

- 6:51 a.m. in the 1200 block of Bordeaux Street

Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:11 p.m. at the intersection of Vineyard Avenue and Birch Creek Drive; driving with marijuana
- 8:50 p.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road; DUI

Truant

- 9:17 a.m. in the 100 block of Ray Street

Public lewdness

- 7:38 p.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, June 24, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **Staples Ranch Project Development Agreement** for the proposed 124-acre Staples Ranch development located southwest of I 580 at El Charro Road.
- **PUD-57, Hendrick Automotive Group** – PUD Development Plan to establish allowed uses and the construction of six buildings (for auto sales, service, rental, etc.) and three car wash buildings totaling ± 291,750 square feet and related site improvements on ± 37 acres located at the southwest intersection of I-580 and El Charro Road (Staples Ranch)
- **PUD-68, Continuing Life Communities** – PUD Development Plan to establish allowed uses and the construction of a senior continuing care community totaling ± 1,079,150 square feet and related site improvements on ± 46 acres located at the south west intersection of I-580 and El Charro Road (Staples Ranch)
- **PRZ 27, City of Pleasanton**

Review and consideration of amendments to Sections 18.20.010 and 18.84.090, and various related sections of the Pleasanton Municipal Code regarding fencing.

- **PRZ 41, City of Pleasanton**

Review and consideration of amendments to Section 18.68 and various related sections of the Pleasanton Municipal Code regarding the PUD Planned Unit Development District.

- **PRZ 43, City of Pleasanton**

Review and consideration of amendments to Section 18.44 and various related sections of the Pleasanton Municipal Code regarding massage establishment.

Trails Ad-Hoc Committee

Monday, June 22, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.
Council Chamber Conference Room, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Trails Projects Status Report
- Updates from the Parks and Recreation Commission

**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



Jerri Long
"School booster"



Sue Evans
"Unsung hero"



Ken Mano
"Top volunteer"

WORDS TO LIVE BY

Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative awards three for their positive influence

By JANET PELLETIER

Responsibility, self-discipline, compassion, honesty, respect and integrity are what many would agree are traits to live by.

They are embodied by Jerri Long, a former school district spokeswoman and avid volunteer; Ken Mano, who works with the Amador Boosters and the Special Olympics; and Sue Evans, a local photographer. The trio was awarded the Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Award May 28 at a Community of Character Collaborative luncheon. The recognition honors the late Juanita Haugen, a longtime school board trustee and president, who died of cancer in 2007.

Haugen involved herself immensely in the community, receiving the 2005 Community Service Award from the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce. She was the founder of the Pleasanton Youth Collaborative; a charter member of the board of directors for Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation; and founded the Pleasanton Community of Character Coalition.

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative involves everyone—from city government to schools to the chamber of commerce to nonprofits to faith-based groups to service clubs to businesses and general members of the local community. Forty groups are recognized Organizations of Character from a chiropractor to banks to a hotelier, real estate firm and window store. To become an Organization of Character, groups explain how they demonstrate one or more of the six character traits, attend a Community of Character activity and advertise the Community of Character logo to spread the word.

The mission began nearly two decades ago when the six traits were developed for the school district. Seven years ago, Haugen, then the president of the Board of Education, said she wanted to take the message further by expanding the program, forming the Community of Character Coalition. Three years ago, the collaborative and a board of directors were created,



PHOTOS BY JANET PELLETIER

Students and faculty walk through the halls of Pleasanton Middle School, under character trait banners that rotate throughout the year.

connecting a number of community groups. The six traits are spotlighted around town throughout the year. Banners with each trait are displayed on schools, the senior center and city buildings such as city hall, rotating traits.

But the Community of Character Collaborative's mission aims to go a step further, according to Ellen Pensky, who is the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce representative on the board.

"People know the words Community of Character, and it started in the schools, and they know that, but we're trying to take it beyond banners and streets and signs," she said. "We're trying to take it and really apply these character traits in everyday life whether you're a parent, a business, a community member."

"Our goal is to start to have workshops on what this means and how you can apply it to your organization," Pensky added. "The Organizations of Character are going to help us do this. Now we have a



Juanita Haugen

nucleus between our board and our key supporters and our organizations of character. We have about 100 people who are focused on community of character."

The next goal, Pensky said, is to offer workshops educating organizations on how they can adopt the traits and use them in their everyday operations.

This is the third year of the Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Award. Last year, longtime school volunteer Lori Rice and Diana and Howard Mendenhall, who have been on a number of charitable trips for Centreponte Presbyterian Church, were

honored for their work.

Julie Dwyer, a former national director of Character Counts, was the keynote speaker at this year's awards luncheon. In the past, Dwyer said character education used to stem from children's up-bringsings, neighbors and teachers, but times have changed.

Sue Evans, a local photographer, was nominated for this year's award, described as an unsung, quiet hero.

Her community involvement has spanned a broad cross-section: she's spent 15 years serving food for the Pleasanton Senior Center, is contracted with the city of Pleasanton and East Bay Regional Park District to conduct nature hikes, was a former PTA board member and is a fitness professional, teaching aerobics for the city for the past 18 years. She is also a member of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and the local chapter of the American Business Women Association, which named her 2009's Woman of the Year.

Evans said she gained her volun-

teer spirit from her upbringing.

"A lot of it came from my parents," she said. "I was taught growing up in Michigan that you give back. My fitness business is all about giving back to my clients, helping them be healthy."

While she acknowledges she's done a lot of the community, a lot of it couldn't be done without help.

"I'm just deeply honored to be included in this award named after Juanita Haugen," she said.

Ken Mano, another award recipient, served as a missionary in Japan with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He has also been heavily involved in Boy Scouts for the past 35 years; Amador Boosters, volunteering as its treasurer and raising more than \$1 million for Amador Valley High School with eScrip, leading other schools to start the program. He was also instrumental in saving Emeryville High Schools athletic program. For the past six years, he has worked with the Special Olympics.

Mano is a bit bashful about his recognition, saying he doesn't necessarily think he exemplifies all the traits, but stressed that helping others should be a way of life.

"Service is such a great way to forget self and receive joy by seeing the effect it has on others," he said. "It helps us to forget our own problems and see the blessings that we have ourselves."

Jerri Long, the third recipient of the award, is a retired teacher, a journalist, former Pleasanton Unified School District spokeswoman and has volunteered for the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation, the Amador-Livermore Historical Society and on Foothill High School faculty reunions.

She also served on the PUSD History Committee where she dedicated three years interviewing former students and writing the book "Echoes of School Bells." One of her best-known efforts is forming the 4th of July community celebration after Alameda County cancelled its celebration, an event that is now in its 11th year.

To learn more about the Community of Character Collaborative, visit www.communityofcharacter.org. ■



JANET PELLETIER

This month’s character trait, integrity, adorns a banner at the Pleasanton Senior Center and other community buildings.

Community of Character traits

Integrity (May-June)

- Being reliable: doing what I say I’ll do
- Having the courage to do the right thing
- Building a good reputation

Responsibility (August-October)

- Doing what I am supposed to do
- Always doing my best
- Being accountable for my actions

Compassion (November-December)

- Being kind to myself, others and the environment
- Helping others in need
- Being forgiving

Self-discipline (January)

- Practicing self-control
- Setting goals and working toward them
- Striving for personal improvement

Honesty (February)

- Telling the truth
- No cheating or stealing
- Being trustworthy

Respect (March-April)

- Using good manners, not bad language
- Being considerate, honoring the feelings of others
- Dealing peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements

Organizations of Character

ACCUSPLIT

- Allegra Print and Imaging
- Axis Community Health
- BumbleBee Marketing
- City of Pleasanton
- David H. DeBonis, D.C.
- Dominguez Team
- Eden Villa
- Growth Development
- Hacienda Business Park
- Harvest Valley Church
- Heritage Bank
- Hope Hospice
- Hyatt Summerfield Suites
- Ireland San Filippo LLP
- Keller Williams Real Estate
- Micro Imaging Applications Group
- Museum On Main
- Ogden Costa Creative Group
- Open Heart Kitchen
- Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce
- Pleasanton Cultural Arts
- Pleasanton Downtown Association
- Pleasanton PTA Council
- Pleasanton Unified School District
- Pleasanton Weekly
- Robert Half International
- TriValley Adult Day Care Program
- Tri-Valley Internet
- Tri-Valley YMCA
- Tucknott Electric
- UNCLE Credit Union
- ValleyCare Health System
- Valley Humane Society
- Vic’s All Star Kitchen
- WiMe Group
- Window-ology
- Zippes

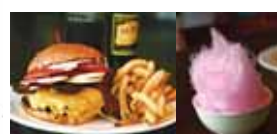
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Pleasanton Weekly
READERS CHOICE
2009

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The Pleasanton Weekly is once again asking you to vote for your favorite places to eat, drink, shop and spend time in Pleasanton.

The online ballot is available between June 5 and June 17, 2009 at www.PleasantonWeekly.com. Winners will be announced online and in print July 17.

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- Best Mediterranean / Middle Eastern Restaurant
- Best Mexican Restaurant
- Best Outdoor Dining
- Best Pizza
- Best Place for a Business Lunch
- Best Romantic Restaurant
- Best Seafood Restaurant
- Best Steakhouse
- Best Sushi / Japanese Restaurant

- Best Take-out Restaurant
- Best Thai Restaurant
- Best Vegetarian Cuisine
- Best Winery

Let's Get Physical

- Best Bike or Walking Trail
- Best Health Club
- Best Martial Arts Studio
- Best Place to Jog
- Best Place to Walk a Dog
- Best Yoga / Pilates

At Home

- Best Antique Store
- Best Carpet Cleaners
- Best Carpet Store
- Best Flooring Store
- Best Hardware Store
- Best Home Consignment Shop
- Best Home Furnishings
- Best Kitchen / Bath Remodeler
- Best Landscaper / Designer
- Best Outdoor Furniture Store
- Best Plumber
- Best Roofer

Stepping Out

- Best Place for a Picnic
- Best Place for an After Work Drink
- Best Place for Dancing
- Best Place for Live Music
- Best Place to Get Together With Friends
- Best Place to Meet New People

SUMMER 2009
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STEPS
Community Prep School
Access to Excellence

Preparing for greater success in the fall

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- SAT Prep

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August 3 - August 7
August 10 - August 14

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- PICTURES
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Friday, June 26th, 6pm-10pm

Bring your "party animal" and join us for drinks and refreshments! It's Yappy Hour!!

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2008

MURPHY'S PAW
EST. 2007

Proceeds benefit the Molly Inspires Foundation

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www.murphypaw.com

Pleasanton Weekly
READERS CHOICE
2008

Author readings, writing classes, bookclubs, summer activities

Stan Goldberg will speak about his book, *Lessons of the Living*, Monday June 22 at noon. **FREE!**

A portion of the proceeds will benefit Hope Hospice

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Brunch

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Sunday, June 21st
10:00 am to 3:30 pm
Adults 35 Seniors 30
Children 12 and under 15
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- BBQ Grilling Station
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- Specialty Hot Entrees
- Breakfast Items
- Seasonal Salads
- Artisan Cheese Tray
- Dessert Display

ON THE TOWN



AMERICAN

Eddie Papa's American Hangout

4889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 469-6266. Winner of The Pleasanton Weekly's Reader Choice Awards for "Best American Food Restaurant" and "Best Meal under \$20", Eddie Papa's American Hangout celebrates the regional food and beverage cultures of America. Bring the whole family

to enjoy iconic dishes from across the United States, Old World Hospitality, and hand crafted artisan cocktails. www.eddiepapas.com

BARBECUE

Red Smoke Grill

4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 734-0307. Home of the Tri Tip and Blue, Red Smoke Grill was Voted Reader's Choice Best 2006, 2007, 2008. Dine in or take out rotisserie

BREW PUB/ALEHOUSE

The Hop Yard American Alehouse and Grill

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

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

CATERING

Pampered Palate Catering/ Girasole Grill

3180 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. 925.484.1001. Pleasanton's pre-

Continued on Page 20

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Pleasanton Weekly
READERS CHOICE
2008



Alameda County Fair

July 1 – 19 (closed Mondays) 2009

Come Out & Play

CONCERT SERIES

FREE CONCERTS
with paid Fair admission

JULY

- 1 The Charlie Daniels Band
- 2 Mandisa
- 3 Night Ranger
- 4 Bay Area Blues Festival
- 5 Carmen Jara
- 6 CLOSED - No Concert
- 7 Skynnyn Lynnyrd (Tribute)
- 8 Gregg Rolie Band
- 9 Salvador
- 10 Bowling For Soup
- 11 En Vogue
- 12 Bucky Covington
- 13 CLOSED - No Concert
- 14 Evolution (Tribute)
- 15 BJ Thomas
- 16 Ozomatli
- 17 Solange Knowles
- 18 Con Funk Shun
- 19 Aaron Tippin

Concerts at 6pm and 8pm nightly (except 4th of July)

FESTIVAL SQUARE Happenings!

"Fiesta Hispana"
Celebrate The Spirit of Mexico
July 3 - July 5

"Jazz, Gators and Gumbo"
New Orleans Style
July 10 - July 12
Seventh Annual Amateur Rib Cook-Off

"Jai Ho": Bollywood Dhamaka
An Indian Celebration of Culture
July 17 - July 19

Live Horse Racing
15 days
Wednesdays thru Sundays
Starts opening day of Fair

Military Appreciation
Opening Weekend
\$2 Tuesdays

Seniors
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Kids
Free Fridays

www.AlamedaCountyFair.com

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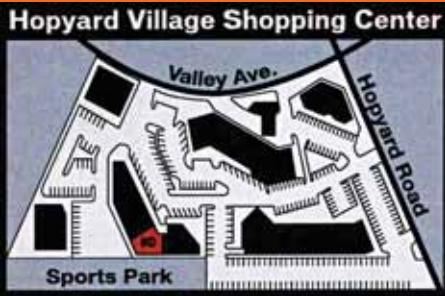
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ON THE TOWN



Continued from Page 18

mier restaurant and catering company for the last 15 years. Family owned. Signature pastas, seafood and steaks. Full bar. Private banquet room. Reservations accepted. www.girasolegrill.com

CHINESE

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Pleasanton, 846-5251. Chinese Szechuan is Pleasanton's best-loved Chinese restaurant. Family owned and run since 1987, it has friendly service, delicious food and great prices, including lunch specials and carry-out. A banquet room is available.

MEDITERRANEAN

Oasis Grill
780 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-8438. Visit downtown Pleasanton's

exotic dining destination. Oasis features kabobs, rice and vegetarian dishes, to name a few. Check out our updated wine and exotic cocktail menus. We also cater! Visit www.OasisGrill.com.

ITALIAN

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680 Main St, Downtown Pleasanton, 270-0500. Cucina Italiana! Freshly prepared authentic Italian specials on a full-course menu that changes often! A special Vegetarian and Vegan menu also. Owner Matteo Pasotto is from Verona and he wanted to name his restaurant after the famous Amarone wines from the Valpolicella region. Amarone is a very peculiar wine, not easy to produce. The final result is a very ripe, big-bodied wine with very little acid. Come and experience unique dining at Amarone Ristorante. Buon Appetito! www.amaronepleasanton.com

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

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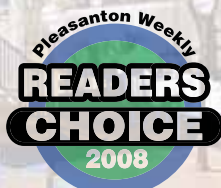
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10am-3pm**

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Family Meals To Go

Meals include four corn muffins and two large sides.

Rotisserie Chicken	\$16.99
Tri-Tip	
1 1/2 pound	\$25.99
2 pound	\$29.99
Slab-and-a-Half of Ribs	\$28.99
One Pound Tri-Tip and Whole Chicken	\$32.99
Full Slab of Ribs & Whole Chicken	\$32.99
One Pound Tri-Tip and Whole Slab	\$36.99

Sides

Small Side Salad
French Fries
Roasted Corn Salad
Potato Salad
Creamy Cole Slaw
Santa Maria Style Beans
Chicken Tortilla Soup
Mashed Potatoes

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info Pleasanton



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Calendar

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

Author Visits

BOOK SIGNING AND BUMP PARTY

Towne Center Books will host a book signing and Bump Party with Ame Beanland, author of "Postcards From The Bump," at 7 p.m., Thursday, June 25, at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Proceeds benefit the Bundles of Joy Program with Axis Community Health Center. Visit www.townecenterbooks.com.

BOOK SIGNING BY CANCER

SURVIVOR BENEFITS HOPE HOSPICE Cancer survivor and author, Stan Goldberg, will sign copies of his book "Lessons of Living," from noon-2 p.m., Monday, June 22, at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. A portion of the proceeds benefit Hope Hospice. Call 829-8770.

Book Clubs

GREAT BOOKS OF PLEASANTON The Great Books of Pleasanton book club meets at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Monday monthly at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call Sadie at 846-1658.

Class Reunions

AMADOR VALLEY CLASS OF 1979

The Class of 1979 from Amador Valley is hosting its 30-year reunion from 6-11 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 3, at Palm Pavilion at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Cost is \$50 per person or \$100 per couple. For information, e-mail Bonnie Shamblin at sbshamblin@comcast.net or visit www.amador79.org.

FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL 30 YEAR

CLASS REUNION The Class of 1979 from Foothill High School will host its 30 year class reunion on Saturday, Nov. 7. For information, visit www.foothill79.com.

Clubs

BUSINESS BUILDER NETWORKING A breakfast meeting is held at 7 a.m., on the first and third Wednesday of every month, at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin.

This group of business persons are dedicated to enhancing careers through exchange of social/professional contacts. Each occupation is represented once. The First two meetings free. Call 829-5620.

CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB TRI-

VALLEY BRANCH This club will host guest speaker Mark Curtis who will discuss his new book from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, June 20, at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St., Pleasanton. Cost is \$21 for members; \$27 for non-members. For reservations, call 462-7495.

LIVERMORE LIONESS CLUB

The Livermore Lioness Club welcomes new members at their regular monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday monthly. The Lioness Club is a service club, sponsored by the Livermore Lions Club, that helps many worthy causes in our community. Lioness main focus areas are women, children and family issues, in addition to helping the blind. Call 443-4543 for more information.

PLEASANTON JOB'S DAUGHTERS

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

ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton since 1965 has been a leader in the community in helping make Pleasanton a great place to live. They meet for a luncheon meeting from 12:15-1:30 p.m., every Thursday,

at Hap's Restaurant, 122 W. Neal St., Pleasanton. Cost for lunch is \$17. For information, visit www.PleasantonRotary.org.

SOCRATES CAFE This club has an open discussion group following a Socratic format meeting from 7-9 p.m., on the first and third Tuesday of every month, at Peets Coffee, 5765 Valley Ave. Bring any subject, but do not bring agendas or causes. Visit www.digjassist.com/main/SocratesCafePleasanton.

Concerts

'HURRICANE' The next Concert in the Park will feature Hurricane, a Blues, Classic Rock, Contemporary Rock band from 7-8:30 p.m., Friday, June 19, at Wayside Park, at the corner of First and Neal streets. The Crisis will perform at the next concert on Friday, June 26. Visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

Events

'SUNDAY STROLL' Pleasanton Kiwanis Club presents "Sunday Stroll" at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, June 28, meeting at Gay 90's Pizza, 288 Main St. Cost is \$35, including wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres at seven restaurants. For tickets, call Dawn Wilson at 846-5858 or Vic Malatesta at 484-0789.

DONALD DUCK'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

PARTY Enjoy an afternoon of fun in honor of Donald Duck's 75th anniversary from 1-4 p.m., Saturday, June 20, at Disney Art on Main/Alexander's Fine Art, 608-G Main St., Pleasanton. Meet a special guest, see new Disney originals, win prizes and enjoy refreshments. This event is free. Call 846-6015 or visit www.disneyartonmain.com.

HOPYARD GOLF SCRAMBLE The Hopyard Golf Scramble will start at noon, Monday, June 29, on the Hill Course at Castlewood Country Club, 707 Country Club Dr. Cost is \$150. Proceeds benefit the Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center and the ValleyCare Health Library. Lunch at the course by McNamara's Steakhouse in Dublin and dinner at the Hopyard Alehouse and Grill. Call 373-4567.

INNOVATION FORUM This one day event is designed to showcase the Tri-Valley as a science and technology center from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday, June 30, at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. Cost is \$65 for members; \$75 for non-members. Call 447-1606.

LANDSCAPE IN ART: FROM

IMPRESSIONISM TO THE PRESENT

M.B. Freedman, artist and historian, will discuss the evolution of modern landscape painting using masterpieces at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 21, at the Livermore Public Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. This event is free. Call 373-5500, ext. 5577.

PLEASANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ADULT

SUMMER READING PROGRAM Adults are invited to join the Pleasanton Public Library "Reading Out West" summer reading program from June 13-July 25. Earn points to win a prize. For details, visit the Reading Out West blog on the [www](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library).

THANK YOU VETERANS

PERFORMANCE Enjoy free entertainment featuring Nilam Patel, Sandra Kay, Debra Knox and the Knoxability Band from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, July 4, at the Livermore Veterans Hospital, 4951 Arroyo Rd. This event is free. Visit www.writeous-mom.com.

VIP NINTH ANNUAL COUNTRY

WESTERN BARBECUE Enjoy a country western BBQ from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Monday, June 22, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, Main Hall, 5353 Sunol Blvd. There will be live entertainment, great food and dancing. Tickets are \$8 and must be purchased before June 18. Call 931-5370.

Exhibits

ABSTRACT EXHIBIT AT LIVERMORE

CIVIC LIBRARY 'Abstract Point of View' is the theme of the June art exhibit at the Livermore Library and 22 local artists have gathered a collection of 36 pieces, which will display from June 1-30. The library is open from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Call 606-1088 or visit www.livermoreartassociation.org.

Film

RIVER OF RENEWAL Stephen Most, author/filmmaker of the book/film, "River of Renewal," will show his film and answer questions from 7-9 p.m., Saturday, June 27, at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. This event is free, but \$3 donations will be accepted. Refreshments will be served and there is wheelchair access. Call 462-3459.

Fundraisers

A VISION OF INDIA Megha Jain and Swathi Narahari are undertaking a "Gold Award" project with the Girl Scouts and will host "A Vision of India" which will feature Indian classical and Bollywood dances from 2-5 p.m., Sunday, June 28, at Foothill High School, Multipurpose Room, 4375 Foothill Rd. Cost is \$10. Proceeds will be used

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Hurricane
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Next Friday, June 26
The Crisis
(Classic & Americana Rock/Rock/Honky Tonk/Blues)
Sponsored by the Alameda County Fair

www.pleasantondowntown.net

Weekly Concerts in the Park Drawing

NAME: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Bring this entry form to this week's concert for a chance to win great prizes

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Susan Cirves
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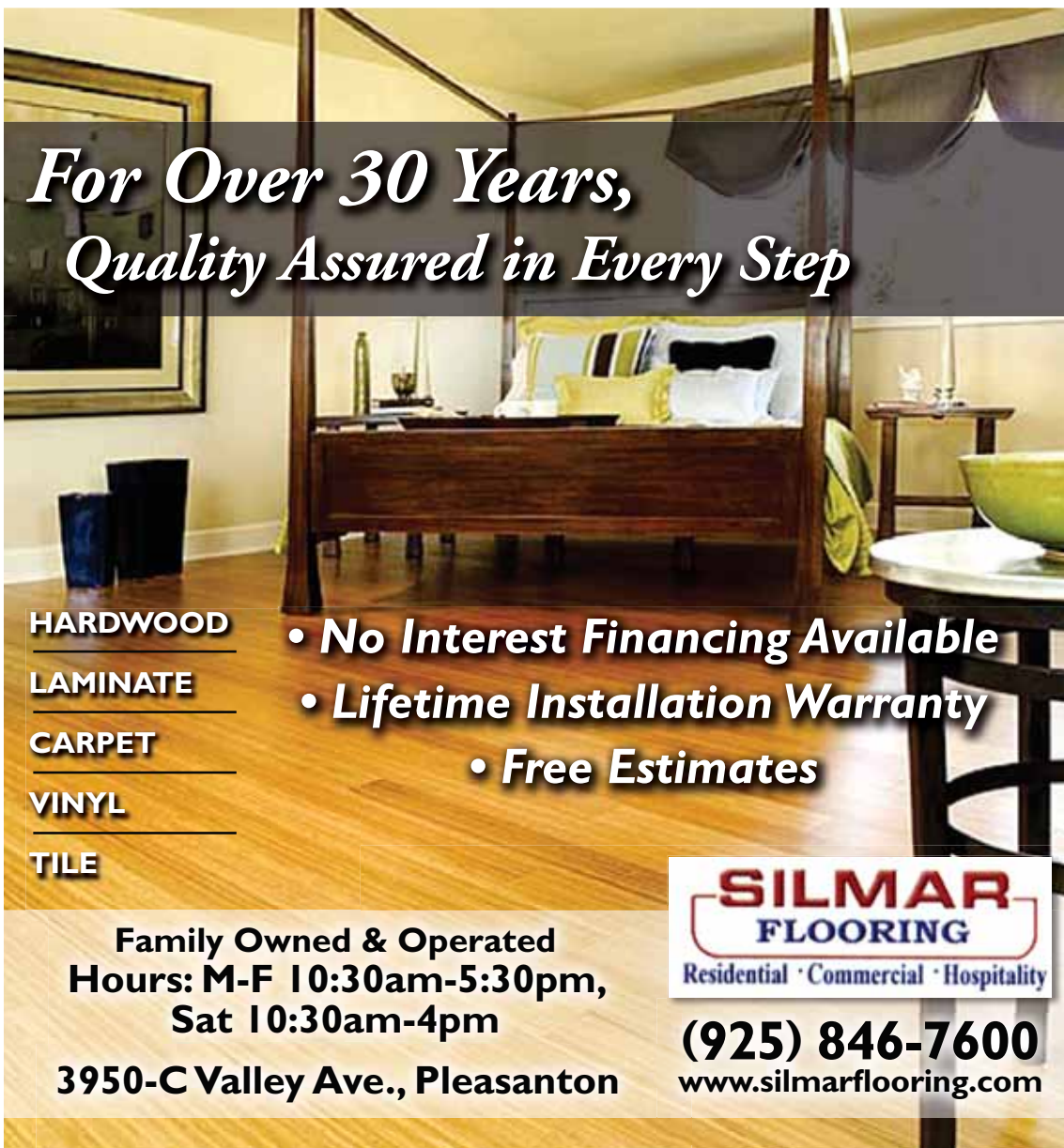
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BINGO NIGHT Pleasanton Seahawks will host Bingo at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, June 27, at Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Receive a free treasure hunt game with every Bingo buy in and two pull tabs drawings for \$50 and one for \$75 or buy in for as little as \$17. Proceeds benefit the Seahawks. Call 606-7777.

CHICKS WITH STICKS Hit the links at Poppy Ridge Golf Course to support Shepherd's Gate Tuesday, July 14, at the golf course located at 4280 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Cost is \$99 per player, including a cart, range balls, green fees, box lunch and buffet dinner. To sign-up, visit www.poppyridgegolf.com.

COMEDY WITH WILL DURST Will Durst, Michael Mancini, Larry Bubbles Brown, David VanAvermaete and Bob Johnston will perform to raise money for the MDUSD movie project at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 24, at Tommy T's Comedy Steakhouse, 5104 Hopyard Rd. Tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$30. Visit www.concordmovie.com.

PLEASANTON ROTARY SPIRIT RUN Pleasanton Rotary Spirit Run 5K and 10K races along with a kids race will be held from 8-10:30 a.m., Sunday, June 21, in downtown Pleasanton. Cost is \$5-\$30. Proceeds benefit scholarships for local students. Visit www.spiritrn.com.

SAVE THE TATA'S—ROCKIN' RACKFEST 2009 This free community event will promote breast cancer awareness and will raise funds to find a cure from noon-5 p.m., Saturday, June 20, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Admission is free. Proceeds go to support cancer research. Call 580-2777.

TVC RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE Support Tri-Valley CAREs and discover bargains and nosh on home-made baked goods at the TVC Rummage and Bake Sale from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, June 20, at 2582 Old First St., Livermore. Call 443-7148 or visit www.trivallecares.org.

Health

FREE DIABETES CLASS Alameda County Diabetes Program will host a free diabetes self-management class for all adults with Type 2 Diabetes

or Pre Diabetes June 16-July 28 from 5-7 p.m., every Tuesday, at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd; or from 9:30-11:30 a.m., every Wednesday, at the LARPD Carnegie Building, 2155 Third Ave., Livermore. E-mail Marisa at marisa.castaldini@acgov.org.

Kids & Teens

CAMP CROCODILE ROCK Camp Crocodile Rock will take kids romping through the swamp and will offer god-centered lessons as children discover the wonder of who God is and how much he cares. The class meets from 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday, June 22-Aug. 7, at Valley Christian Elementary School, 7500 Inspiration Dr., Dublin. Cost is \$300 per week, including field trips, snacks and supplies. Call 560-6276.

CARDEN WEST SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP This camp is open to children 18 months-beginning sixth graders and is from 8:45 a.m.-3 p.m., June 22-Aug. 14, with extended care available 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Cost is \$350 for students entering Kindergarten through sixth grade. Call 463-6060.

FREE MOVIE PARTY PartyBees will host a free movie party from 4-7 p.m., Saturday, June 13, at PartyBees inside Spark Dance Studio, 3550 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Other movie parties are held on the second Saturday of every month and are free for first time attendees. Call 202-9077 or visit www.partybees.com.

FREE TEEN WORKSHOP Pleasanton Community Counseling Center is offering a free teen workshop on "This is Not the Outcome I Expected!": How to Handle Loss & Disappointment" from 2-4 p.m., Saturday, June 20, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Participants will receive a free \$10 Jamba Juice gift card. Call 600-9762, ext. 7.

PLEASANTON POLICE TEEN ACADEMY The seventh annual Academy will be held from 2-5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning June 23 and ending with graduation on July 14, at the Pleasanton Police Department, 4833 Bernal Ave. This academy is free and is open to high school students ages 14-18. Call 931-5240.

Lectures/ Workshops

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS SEMINAR Learn about the Top Ten Myths of College Admissions from 7-8:30 p.m., Monday, June 29, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Hear about how colleges really evaluate applicants. This event is free. For information, contact Diane Keller at 963-2932 or drkellercc@yahoo.com.

SECOND WEDNESDAYS Centerpointe's Life Education series will host a variety of free exciting, enlightening, and entertaining workshops and lectures from 7-8:30 p.m., on the second Wednesday of each month, at Centerpointe Community Room, 3410 Cornerstone Court. These events are free. Call 461-9324.

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Live Music

BALLROOM DANCE Dance the night away to the sounds of live band "JB Smooth Sounds" from 7:30-9:30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), Friday, June 26, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$7 for residents; \$8 for non-residents, including dessert. Advance reservations are recommended; call 931-5365.

CHRIS BRADLEY'S JAZZ BAND Listen and dance to live music from 7:30-9:30 p.m., on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, at Sunol Jazz Cafe, 11986 Main St. Enjoy Traditional Jazz of the 20's, 30's and 40's. Admission is \$5. Call (510) 881-5750 or visit www.sunol.net/jazzcafe.

THIRSTY THURSDAYS AT BLUE AGAVE The Blue Agave Club in downtown Pleasanton hosts a cooperative "happy hour" from 6-10 p.m., every Thursday, at the restaurant, 625 Main St. Local businesses are on-hand to interact with their clientele. There is no cover charge. Call 417-1225.

Miscellaneous

BEAUTIFUL DONATION OF JADE American Cancer Society Discovery Shop will feature a wonderful donation of Jade jewelry on July 1, at the shop in Pleasanton. The shop is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Proceeds benefit cancer patient services, research and advocacy. Call 462-7374.

BLOOD DRIVE American Red Cross will host a blood drive from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Tuesday, July 7, at Harvest Park Middle School, Multipurpose Room, 4900 Valley Ave. For an appointment, call (800) GIVE-LIFE (800-448-3543) or visit www.helpsavealife.org (code: WARPEDVIP).

CARDEN WEST SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP These camps are open to all children, 18 months-beginning sixth grade from Monday-Friday, June 22-Aug. 14, at Carden West School Campus, 4576 Willow Rd. Extended care will be available. Cost is \$350. Call 463-6060 or visit www.cardenwest.org.

Seniors

'SOULCOLLAGE' SoulCollage is a creative and satisfying collage process. Make your own deck of cards with each representing one aspect of your personality or soul and use them to answer life's questions from 10-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, June 23, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$1.50 for residents; \$2 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

CARMEL AND 17-MILE DRIVE TRIP Pleasanton Senior Center VIP Club will host a trip to Carmel and the 17-Mile Drive meeting at the Senior Center at 7:45 a.m., Wednesday, July 8, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$44 for members; \$46 for non-members and registration is due by June 20. Call 931-5370.

Spiritual

'SPIRITUAL TOOLS FOR DAILY LIVING' Tri-Valley Unity Church now

meets at 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon, for 10 a.m. Sunday services. Guest speaker Dr. Richard Southern will speak June 14 and 21 and will speak on the topic of "Spiritual Tools for Daily Living: Experiencing the Presence in our day-to-day lives." Ongoing classes and groups available. Call 829-2733 or www.trivalleyunity.com.

Sports

25TH TCAAT TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT Tri-Valley Table Tennis Club will host the 25th annual Taiwanese Chinese American Athletic Tournament on Saturday, June 20, at Pleasanton Middle School Gym, 5001 Case Ave. Visit <http://tvttc.com>. Open to public. Register by June 10, 2009.

INTERMEDIATE NO-DROP ROAD RIDE This is a moderate paced group road ride (15 - 18 mph) where riders warm up together and split into two distances from 8:30 a.m.-noon, every Saturday, meeting at Cyclepath, 337B Main St. Routes change weekly. Call 485-3218.

Support Groups

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP The Wellness Community hosts a weekly support group for people actively fighting cancer and their loved ones from 2-4 p.m., every Tuesday, at the Valley Care Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270. This group is free. Call 933-0107 or visit www.twcba.org.

ESSENTIAL TREMOR Essential Tremor is the most common movement disorder causing tremors of the head, hands, voice and sometimes legs. If you experience this, have been recently diagnosed or just want to learn more, join this group that meets from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, June 20, at the Blackhawk A and B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Rd. Call 487-5706 or email gaexplor@comcast.net.

FAMILY MEMBERS OF FRAIL ELDER This group is to support family members as they experience the many emotions involved in supporting, caring for and loving the frail elders in their family. It meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at Eden Villa Assisted Living, 4115 Mohr Ave. Call 872-8721.

FIBROMYALGIA "PLUS" This group meets from 6:30-8 p.m., on the first Thursday of every month, at ValleyCare Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270. Please come fragrance free. Call Teresa at 443-5707 or JoAnna at (510) 276-0530.

NAMI TRI-VALLEY PARENT RESOURCE This support group is for parents of children diagnosed with, or suspected of having, bipolar or other mood disorders and meets from 7-9 p.m., on the first and third Tuesdays of every month, at Pathways to Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Suite #116. Upcoming dates are June 2 and 16; July 7 and 21; Aug 4 and 18; and Sept 1 and 15. Call 443-1797.

WIDOW/WIDOWERS GRIEF RECOVERY Have you or someone you know experienced the death of a spouse recently or within the last couple years? Share your experiences during this 10-week class from 7-9 p.m., every Wednesday, July 7-Sept. 9, at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy. Cost is \$5 for workbook and pre-registration is required. Call 833-9013.

Volunteering

AMERICAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION Tour the Pleasanton Blood Donor Center and learn about ways to greet, inform and thank our community's blood donors or help post flyers at key locations from 4-6 p.m., Thursday, July 9, at American Red Cross Pleasanton Blood Donor Center, 5556-B Springdale Ave. Advanced sign-up is required; call (510) 594-5165.

EAGLE PROJECT/BLOOD DRIVE Tyler Lomas will host a blood drive for his Eagle Project from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday, July 7, at Harvest Park Middle School, 4900 Valley Ave.

Receive a free "VIP voucher" for the August 20 Vans Warped Tour. Call 640-6381 or visit www.givelife.org.

TRI VALLEY YOUTH COURT Adult and teen volunteers needed this summer for the Tri Valley Youth Court (TVYC). Teens can serve as

Advocates (youth attorneys), or as Court Clerks and Jurors which would work from 5:30-8 p.m., on the first Tuesday of each month, at the Gale/Schenone courthouse. For more information, visit www.trivalleyyouthcourt.com or call Tonya at 337-7175.

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July 20-24 10:30-12:30: Solve This (Problem Solving) / Grades 4-7

Please call for a complete list.

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‘A breath of fresh air’

New Castlewood tennis pro aims to change up program as club looks at possible expansion

BY DENNIS MILLER



EMILY WEST

Tennis Director March Riggs came to the Castlewood Country Club in February and already has a bolstered program in full swing.

For Marsh Riggs, life has been pretty good in his 22 years as a director of tennis at various facilities throughout California and Oregon.

Along the way, Riggs and his wife Kathy have been blessed with a pair of sons, and have enjoyed life in some wonderful cities in the two states. But Riggs has always been searching for what he considers the perfect spot to run a tennis program—a spot where the members and the staff work together to build a sensational tennis experience.

And come February of this year, Riggs may just have found such a place when he started as the director of tennis at the Castlewood Country Club.

“This is a breath of fresh air,” Riggs said of landing at Castlewood, after spending the last couple of years at the Millennium Sports Club El Dorado in Shingle Springs. “(Castlewood) recognizes how important tennis can be. As for the members, this is the pinnacle for me. They have been so supportive—the members are an unbelievable group.”

Certainly Castlewood is long overdue for positive vibes. Over the last two years, the club has been in the news a lot, but the sexual abuse case against former tennis pro of the club, Henry Germain, and the killings of a husband and wife in their Castlewood Drive home, has not been the kind of buzz the club had hoped to create.

Riggs is at the forefront, at least in the tennis program, of making things different.

“As bad as things have been, it’s time to turn the page and have a new beginning,” he said. “It’s a new dawn and it’s time we turn things into a positive situation.”

As far as Castlewood General Manager Jerry Olson is concerned, Riggs is the perfect fit.

“I think the one thing which stood out is his experience and maturity,” Olson said. “We needed someone to come in and start over with our program. Basically, Marsh is just a nice guy and the first time you meet him, I think that resonates.”

Riggs was a former multi-sport prep sports standout at South Pasadena High, who later played college tennis at Canada College in Redwood City, then UC Santa Barbara.

At Santa Barbara, he was the on the top doubles team and was the No. 3 singles player, winning the PCAA Doubles title for the Gauchos.

After leaving college, Riggs spent a couple of years playing professional events before turning his talents to teaching, where he’s also excelled.

Along the way, Riggs has picked up awards such as the Nike P.L.A.Y. Coach of the Game Award, as sponsored by the Portland Trailblazers; the NJTL Scholarship Award, which was presented at the U.S. Open; and the USTA/USPTA Partnership Award for Junior Development.

His drive to be successful as a player carried over to teaching and it was evident the moment he arrived at Castlewood, as he wasted no time getting the courts resurfaced and the pro shop remodeled.

Throw in a new, positive attitude around the courts, tennis stands on par with the golf program, which boasts two championship caliber courses.

“Now the facility is not the second cousin to the rest,” Riggs said. “It’s up to the standards of Castlewood.”

Castlewood also represented a change for Riggs in the way he runs his program. After stints at several public clubs, where complete overhauls were needed, once he started Super Bowl weekend at Castlewood, Riggs saw a different picture.

“We had all the tools already at our disposal,” Riggs said of himself and staff professionals Alan Alvistur and Adriana Ciarnuto. “I came in with a vision of what (Castlewood) could be, then little by little, recognized how special Castlewood has been. I didn’t make changes like I had in the past. We retained what has made it special. We became indoctrinated in how beautiful and special Castlewood is.”

With the membership energized about tennis, Riggs sees even bigger things coming for the current, four-court facility.

“Changes are possible—I think we have options for growth,” said Riggs, who mentioned either an expansion next to the current facility, or perhaps a second facility down by the Valley golf course as possibilities. “We look to overwhelm the facility and let our business determine our future.”

Olson agreed.

“We’re in the process of re-developing our strategic plan,” he said. “As tennis grows, I think it’s only natural for the club to look at (expansion).” ■

READY TO RENT

REVIEWS OF NEW DVD RELEASES

By JOE RAMIREZ

Revolutionary Road

Paramount DVD
1 hour, 59 minutes
Director: Sam Mendes

It's hard to imagine anyone being happy in the 1950s universe that director Sam Mendes "Revolutionary Road" portrays. The movie begins with an awkward, painful portrayal of a creative last gasp and ends with a harrowing rejection of another type. Its main characters Frank (Leonardo DiCaprio) and April Wheeler (Kate Winslet) enact a marriage that is doomed by the atomic age fates of conformity and materialism, with America's post-war insular, paranoid rationale a blueprint for their self-destruction. It's old stuff, the idealistic American couple squashed by the mechanisms of lingering Victorianisms (see "All That Heaven Allows" and "The Long, Long Trailer" for '50s film notables), but "Revolutionary Road"'s impact comes from its dated, psychoanalytic primal scream against the system, which is now both quaint and disturbing.

This type of jab against the American cultural pecking order is something that "Revolutionary Road"'s author Richard Yates, and many other talented satirists, had been writing for decades even before the '50s. The best includes Sinclair Lewis' "Babbitt" in which philistine George Babbitt of Zenith winds himself deeper and deeper into the wastelands of 1920s suburban America. Suburbia itself (satirized to death by now) is the vessel of shallow, conventional values, where creativity is channeled into making money, and efforts to break away are either arrested or embraced only to be homogenized. It's a place where you understand why beatniks, hippies, and "Mad" magazine could emerge en masse as a tool to give a generation some breathing room.

As we watch April acting in a local production, we know we're witnessing a requiem for a lost dream. Driving home after the play, the couple sits in silence and through this we can measure the rot in their

marriage. When Frank eventually tries to comfort her, April can only become accusatory and lash out, giving an excruciatingly honest speech about their motivations for marrying and having children: she was pregnant, they got married and he now works in the office where his dad had been employed for 40 years, with more children and suburbia as the exclamation point. Desperate to stop the cycle of indifference, April has an epiphany: move to Paris, teach English and let Frank practice his long-forgotten painting. It sounds great (if only to relieve the tension) and she begins to make plans, telling their neighbors the Campbells the good news. However, Frank earns a promotion, making their move more remote, and unhappiness even more imminent.

"Revolutionary Road" almost gets it right. Director Mendes, whose clichéd "American Beauty" explored similar themes 10 years ago, has toned down the satire in order to find his characters. The good is DiCaprio who plays Frank as a frustrated jerk, rationalizing his ventures with such animalism he comes across like a cultured Stanley Kowalski. The bad is Winslet's April, portrayed as a manic, spoiled WASP, and whom I can accuse both Mendes and screenwriter Justin Haythe of irresponsible misogyny if only because of forgetting to flesh out her character to equal the dramatic requirements. Who really triumphs here is Michael Shannon as their Realtor's fragile son, but who is really the Wheeler's bastardized child of the id, dishing out volumes of candor, checking the futility in their games of self-deception.



NOW SHOWING

REVIEWS OF NEW MOVIES

By SUSAN TAVERNETTI

The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3

★★★
Rated: R for violence and pervasive language
1 hour, 44 minutes

Denzel Washington and John Travolta face off in Tony Scott's taut, ticking-clock reboot of the 1974 subway thriller set in New York City. Their star power adds human interest to the adaptation of John Godey's novel about hijackers holding passengers hostage for a huge sum of money that must be delivered within an hour. The "late fee" is pricey: one hostage executed per minute. Scott's edgy direction relentlessly ramps up the tension to Code Red.

Unlike his role in "Inside Man," Washington's character is subway dispatcher Walter Garber, a regular guy with no training in hostage negotiation. He has worked his way through the ranks of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, including years spent as a motorman, only to end up demoted at a desk job while under investigation for accepting a bribe. His ordinary day at the Midtown Rail Control Center gets derailed when criminal mastermind Ryder (Travolta)—armed with machine guns, a hair-trigger temper and a three-thug team—takes over the 6

Lexington Avenue train filled with terrified commuters.

When one is dealing with a formula film, the challenge is in the details. Screenwriter Brian Koppelman ("L.A. Confidential" and "Mystic River") created main characters that are flip sides of the same coin. Garber is a laid-back family man, while the manic Ryder spits out expletives and violence with equal abandon. But the two men have a tenuous kinship: differing degrees of alleged criminality and the resentment of being treated unfairly by Gotham City authorities. The personal tie adds a twist to the

usual criminal-negotiator relationship—one that intensifies when a professional negotiator (John Turturro) enters the picture. As in "Phone Booth," claustrophobic spaces serve as confessionals where Garber and Ryder admit their guilt. The religious subtext also raises questions about one's debt to God and whether events occur due to coincidence or fate, adding another layer to the suspense-film framework.

Thirty-five years have passed since director Joseph Sargent's version. The current release reflects the post-9/11 world. Scott ("Top Gun" and "Crimson Tide") wallpapers his *mise-en-scene* with iconic American flags, a high-tech command center and ubiquitous computer and television screens. Repeatedly the mayor (James Gandolfini) reinforces the importance of heroic service, of fighting for New York City—a city that "does not have acceptable casualty rates."

And an African-American hostage wearing an "Airborne" military ring puts himself in harm's way to protect a mother and child. "Pelham" functions as a flag-waving recruitment film for New Yorkers, urging individuals to take action against all types of terrorism and find the hero within.

Typical of most action movies, Travolta sometimes slips into a cartoonish, over-the-top villain, and Washington's attempt to save the day strains credulity. Regardless "Pelham" satisfies as a summer popcorn movie.



Spend the summer with Shakespeare

Two youth summer camps take place in July

The San Francisco Shakespeare Festival is setting the stage again with two summer camps being held in July.

A session for youth ages 12 to 18 will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 16 to 17 at Foothill High School, 4275 Foothill Road. The second session is for children ages 7 to 13 and will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 20 to 31 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road.

Experienced and novice actors are welcome to attend the camps, which are taught by well-trained adults, many with degrees in theater arts and acting experience.

Each camp would have a ratio of 10 campers per "teaching artist."

Campers will be introduced to three facets of drama and theater: discovering Shakespeare, voice and movement, and production and design. The culmination of their hard work will be showcased in a performance for family and friends on the final day of camp.

Each session is \$420, with aftercare for ages 7 to 13 for an additional \$135. Register by calling 415-558-0888. Visit www.sf-shakes.org for more information, including a registration form.

—Emily West



ERIC K. WOOD

Who's afraid of Virginia Woolf?

The Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre presents the 1963 Tony Award Best Play winner for Best Play, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" The play follows George and Martha who invite a new professor and his wife to their home after a party. Some drinks and games later, the older couple engage in relentless, scathing verbal and sometimes physical abuse, leaving the younger couple fascinated and embarrassed.

Shows are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through June 28 at the Tri-Valley Repertory Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Ste. 309. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$22 for seniors 60 and older, and \$20 for juniors under 18. Buy tickets at www.trivalleyrep.org or by calling 462-2121. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre warns that the show contains strong adult language and adult content.

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Rage U18 girls start off regionals with two wins

Championships scheduled for Sunday with winners going on to Boston

The U-18 Pleasanton Rage Girls Soccer Club came out shooting this week to begin the 2009 US Youth Soccer Far West Regionals in Lancaster, Calif.

In game one, the Rage opened their first two games of the tournament with an impressive 8-1 victory over New Mexico's State Cup Champion Elite FC Adrenaline. The game was settled within the first 20 minutes as the Rage took a commanding 6-0 lead. The scoring barrage began with a picture perfect

header goal by Olivia Klei on the Rage's first of seven corner kicks. Ahsha Smith quickly followed on a breakaway up the middle. Then came Samantha Cloutier, converting another corner kick delivered perfectly by Amanda Luxford. Megan Jurado and Carlee Payne were the next two scorers, launching equally impressive rockets.

In the second game, the Rage continued their winning ways with a 6-1 rout of Montana's State Cup Champion Bozeman Blitz.

Following her scoring attack from the previous day, Smith made good on a nice cross from Maddie Payne. Nian (Nina) Watkins got in the scoring column with a tough fought header goal. Montana donated two 'own' goals in the first half, which gave the Rage a 4-0 lead at the intermission.

In the second half, Montana got on the scoreboard early, which seemed to ignite top ranked forward Carlee Payne, who scored two goals in succession only a

couple minutes apart. The first of two was a cross to Jurado, who headed it to Carlee Payne, who in turn headed it in for the score.

The Rage was set to play their final match of this preliminary round on Wednesday afternoon, with the quarterfinals to follow today. The winner of Sunday's championship game will qualify for a berth in the U.S. Youth National Championships in Boston in late July.

—Scott Mazur



10B girls Phantom take second place in tourney

Pleasanton's 10B Phantom traveling softball team earned second place in San Mateo's George Feely Classic Tournament June 5-8. The team was challenged by every team as they earned a No. 1 seeding in their bracket by that Saturday evening. On Sunday, the girls won twice to get to the Championship game where Phantom lost to an error free opponent. Taylor Campbell performed brilliantly at second base and made several solid hits. Star catcher Alana Mendez fired missiles to put out several runners attempting to steal second and third bases. Paige Heacox made several outfield catches and threw a bomb from left field to home plate for a put-out.

They also earned second place amongst 12 teams in Danville over the tournament weekend, June 13-14. The girls won all three games on Saturday to earn top seeding. On Sunday, they won twice to get to the championship game where Phantom lost to their emerging arch rival, Belmont Blast. The Belmont based team brilliantly executed a bunt and run strategy against the all-star Phantom team. Leading the Phantom finale with masterful skills and poise was pitcher Jillian Pluschell who also had a 12-hit weekend. Danielle Williams secured her first win as a 10B Pitcher. Madalyn Warren crushed the ball numerous times, and over the weekend several players hit triples.



JIM REYNOLDS

Swimming into summer

The Pleasanton Valley Swim Club hosted Lifestyle Rx of Livermore on June 13 to kick off the first meet of the 2009 summer season. Great efforts were put forth by all swimmers on both teams. Brianna Reynolds, above, swam the 50-yard backstroke in the 11-12 age group from this tournament.



Local golfer going to sectionals in N.C.

Foothill High School sophomore Kortnie Maxoutopoulis shot a 74 at Stockton CC to qualify to advance to the US Woman's Open sectionals. The 15-year-old finished T10 out of a field of 88. The top 19 players advance to the sectionals and she will be playing the sectional in North Carolina on June 11 with the goal of playing in the US Woman's Open the week of July 9-12 in Bethlehem, Penn. Other local qualifiers included Ashley Gomes, futures tour pro and former San Jose State women's golf standout.

SPORTS DIGEST

AA Cubs top Dbacks in end-of-season game

The PFL AA Cubs beat the Dbacks June 6 by showing excellent pitching, hitting and defensive skills during their last week of regular season play. Scott Kienhofer pitched a shut out in the first inning and later, Carter hit a single.

Scott displayed more awesome pitching in the second and Luke delighted Cubs fans with a huge double play at first while Devin drove in an RBI for the team. Luke and Kevin teamed up to tag a runner out at first in the top of the third, and Raymond's SGL drove in an RBI later in the inning. Nick Narciso pitched a solid fourth inning and Raymond caught a fly ball at shortstop and ran down the base runner at third for a dramatic double play.

Cardinals fall to Cubs in PNLL play

In the Majors division of the PNLL, the Cardinals lost to the Cubs 4-11 June 2. The end of the first inning found the Cubs up 4-1 over the Cardinals.

Ryan Sweeney, Bryce Hahn, RJ Perkins (with an RBI), and Zach Cavros all had base hits. Connor Monson (with a single RBI) and Joey Repac (with a double RBI) followed up with doubles. Zach Cavros was on the mound for most of the game, doing an amazing job of striking out six Cardinals. The Cubs added three more runs in the third on a walk by Connor Monson and base hits by Joey Repac, JP Johnson, Peter Balas, and a double by Jeffrey Klei. In the top of the fourth, RJ Perkins, Garrett Wrenn, Jacob Felix, Ryan Sweeney, and Bryce Hahn all had base hits.

Connor Monson had a double, and Joey Repac and Mitchell Walsh had walks. All this activity added another four runs to the tally for the Cubs bringing the total to 11.

Seahawks dominate open water events

The Seahawks Pre-Senior group performed well at three recent swim meets including the Lake Del Valle Open Water Meet on May 30; Lake Berryessa Open Water Mile on June 6; and the San Jose Junior+ Meet June 6-7.

In spite of the chilly conditions, the group turned out many new team records, new cuts, and new best times. Swimming in shivering 70 degree water at Lake Del Valle, the group dominated this meet with everyone placing in the top 13.

The following weekend, a smaller group of swimmers swam the Lake Berryessa Open Water Mile since many attended the San Jose Junior+ Meet the same weekend. Eight competitors braved the cold waters (68) placing in the top 13. Meanwhile, others competed at the San Jose Junior+ Meet the same day. The group continued their assault on the PLS All Time Top Ten list that included over 15 new top Ten times from this meet.

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Danville Community Band Concert
The Danville Community Band announces its season finale concert "Total Request: LIVE", Sunday, June 14 beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Dougherty Valley Performing Art Center in San Ramon. The Concert features pieces requested by band members, including works by Shostakovich, Sousa, Tichell, Holst, and more.

The Dougherty Valley Performing Art Center is located on the Dougherty Valley High School campus, at 10550 Albion Road, San Ramon, 94582. Tickets for the concert are \$12-\$15. Contact the San Ramon Performing Arts box office at: 925/973-ARTS or online at: www.sanramonperformingarts.com.

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Coupe. For sale by owner. 14,884 miles. Mineral Silver with cream beige leather interior. Perfect Condition. Fully loaded- Navigation, Bluetooth, premium sound, 6 disc CD changer, Cold weather package, Sports Package w/premium 19" Wheels & Heads Up Display. \$44,500. Tom Jackson (805) 922-9799, (805) 878-1100. (Cal-SCAN)

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has only 21 miles, like new, mint condition. 925-462-3459.

Mazda 2003 Miata MX5 Shinsen - \$11,500

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PORSCHE 1987 911 TARGA - \$24,999

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210 Garage/Estate Sales

Pleasanton, 1018 Crellin Rd., June 20 8am-1pm

Pleasanton, 3924 Eilene Court, June 20, 9-3

Pleasanton, Malaga Court, 8AM - noon

Block Garage Sale on Saturday!
8:00AM - 12 noon. Malaga Court, off
Crellin in Vintage Heights

sofa, 2-room tent, books, armoire, car
rims, ski boots, guitar, etc. Many items
from many families.

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Royal Doulton figurine - \$45

220 Computers/ Electronics

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Dublin

2 BEDROOMS

10089 Dunstown Court **\$ 399,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 6 2 1 - 4 0 9 7

3 BEDROOMS

11779 Juarez Lane **\$ 559,000**
Sat 2-5 Coldwell Banker 8 4 7 - 2 2 0 0

11779 Juarez Lane **\$ 559,000**
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Livermore

4 BEDROOMS

624 Zermatt Street **\$ 669,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 5 8 3 - 1 1 1 1

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS

5625 San Jose Drive **\$ 697,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 4 2 6 - 3 8 3 3

4 BEDROOMS

1608 Cindy Way **\$ 1,119,000**
Sun 1-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 7 8 5 - 7 7 7 7

5769 San Carlos Way **\$ 734,900**
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5 BEDROOMS

1632 Cindy Way **\$ 1,349,000**
Sun 1-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 7 8 5 - 7 7 7 7

5682 Sunset Creek Court **\$ 1,699,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 7 8 5 - 7 7 7 7

9116 Olson Court **\$ 2,095,000**
Sat 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 6 2 1 - 4 0 6 4

San Ramon

4 BEDROOMS

5400 Canyon Crest Drive **\$ 798,500**
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PET OF THE WEEK



Adopt a Cat in June

June is Adopt-a-Cat month and this beautiful housecat named Lilly wants you to know that she is available for adoption. Lilly is a beautiful 4-year-old spayed female who has always been an indoor pet. Lilly has wonderful house manners and she likes to be the center of attention. She prefers to be in a home without dogs or other cats. Lilly has soft, medium-length white and brown fur and beautiful yellow-green eyes. Lilly has a mellow personality and she will be a loving companion. Visit Lilly (pet #84973) at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin, open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 803-7040.

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HUGE Baby Sale by group of moms
Saturday, June 13, 8am-2pm @ 6256 Roslin Court, Pleasanton

Non-stick stove top grill - \$20

pureology for sale - \$50.00/obo

RED WORMS FOR COMPOSTING - \$25.00

Scrapbooks

So Vasco Livermore Garage Sale

Trash Can-Blue - \$6.00

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Fender Stratocaster Guitar - \$695.00



330 Child Care Offered

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500 Help Wanted

Advertising Sales
We are a publishing company that markets a childrens literacy newspaper called Kid Scoop News. The paper is distributed in Alameda and Contra Costa County and is written to help engage kids in reading and address literacy rates throughout ca. It is the only publication available for distribution in the San Ramon Valley School's. We are looking for someone to sell family friendly ads in the Contra Costa and Alameda County areas as well as solicitate corporations for sponsor dollars to help underwrite the publication. We offer a very generous commission plan and a flexible schedule. This is a great opportunity for someone with ad sales experience who would like to get in on the ground floor of a publication. Must be comfortable with cold calling and being able to "close" the sale. We are working on our back to school issue and need you now. So send us a email as to why this would be a great job for you!

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550 Business Opportunities

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560 Employment Information

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1691 Orvieto Court, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



If you are looking for one of the most prestigious lots in Ruby Hill with views, privacy, a backyard for entertaining, and a quality built home with custom interior...this is it! Featuring 4 BR + executive office & bonus room, 5,806 sq.ft., oversized 4 car garage, cul-de-sac location. It doesn't get much better than this! **Offered at \$2,395,000**

2886 W. Ruby Hill Drive, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



One of Ruby Hill's most exquisite estates! Over 9,400 square feet of luxury, including theater, billiard room, full inside and outside bars, resort like backyard and an attached but separate 940 square ft guest quarters! 6 bed/6.5 ba. **Just Reduced. \$3,600,000**

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836 PIEMONTE DRIVE, PLEASANTON



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Featured Properties



A "French Chateau" nestled among the Ruby Hill vineyards in the fast growing Livermore Wine Country. A custom-built Vineyard Estate with 4 BR (possible 5th BR or "Au-Pair"), 6 full BA, approx. 5,200 sq ft, and an 18.5 acre lot with 11.7 acres of income-producing vineyards. Many quality custom features throughout, a truly tasteful design and a peaceful and private setting.

**777 East Vineyard Avenue,
Livermore
\$3,999,000**



Magnificent new custom home, located on the Golf Course at Ruby Hill! Classic "Italian Villa" with 6 BR, 6 full BA, 3 half BA, approx. 10,000 sq ft of living space, half acre lot, 12 seat true Home Theater with 1080P projector and 145" screen, formal Dining Room, elegant Living Room, impressive Library/Office, Billiard Room, conditioned Wine Cellar, chef's gourmet Kitchen, and "beach-entry" Pool with Spa.

**1181 Germano Way,
Pleasanton
\$4,889,168**



Custom home on the Golf Course! 6 BR, 6 full BA, 2 half BA, approx. 10,000 sq ft, ¾ acre lot, 7 car garage, 12+ seat Theater with "top of the line" components, Wet Bar, formal Dining Room, Living Room, classic Library/Office, Billiard Room, Exercise Room, Craft Room, Wine Cellar, gourmet Kitchen, a built-in pool, spa, waterfall, an outside Kitchen and a separate Guest House.

**3768 West Ruby Hill Drive,
Pleasanton
\$6,900,000**



Elevate your lifestyle to a new level of privacy without isolation.... The ultimate in privacy is paired with inspired design, a magnificent natural setting and unparalleled location. 77+ acre Estate, built in 2000, nestled in the oaks of the West Pleasanton Ridge, 8600 interior sq ft, 5 BR, 6 full BA, 2 Powder Rooms, Guest Suite with Living Room, 10 car museum quality garage plus 2 attached garages.

**4140 Foothill Road,
Pleasanton
\$7,450,000**



**Prudential
California Realty**

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

925.417.2250



COLDWELL BANKER

presents

californiamoves.com



DUBLIN
4511 SPARROW
BEAUTIFUL HOME! **\$649,000**
5 BR 3 BA cul-de-sac location, next to Elem. school, no HOA, 3 car garage, kitchen w/ island & new floors 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



PLEASANTON
5135 BIANCO CT
BEST BUY IN AVILA **\$525,000**
3 BR 2.5 BA neutral colors, open flr plan, great location, nice size bckyard w/garden/deck, 2 car driveway 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

DUBLIN

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

Open SAT 2-5/SUN 1 - 4 11779 JUAREZ LANE
WEST DUBLIN RANCHER **\$559,000**

3 BR 2 BA apx 1883 sf, corner lot, huge family rm addition, updated baths, newly painted kitchen cabs 925.847.2200

6019 HILLBROOK PL
GREAT HOME! **\$489,000**
3 BR 3.5 BA Bright/functional, hrdwd flrs, grnrite cntrs, SS appli, 1BR/1BA down, www.RomarProperties.net 925.847.2200

3360 MAGUIRE WAY
TOWNHOME VIEWS OF PARK **\$390,000**
2 BR 2.5 BA Montefrio Elite flr pln w/upgrds, across

from prk, 2 car attchd garage. Comm pl/fitness cntr 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

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

1221 ECHO SUMMIT ST
MUST SEE! **\$534,950**

4 BR 2.5 BA beautiful hrdwd flrs, many upgrades, very clean, inground pl, across from

park, excellent loc 925.847.2200

2643 BRIARWOOD DR
MUST SEE! **\$455,000**

5 BR 2 BA dual pane windows, built-in pl, open flr plan, approx. 2300 sq. ft., 11434 sq. ft. lot, 2 car gar 925.847.2200

1271 SPRING VALLEY COMMON
BEAUTIFUL HOME! **\$165,000**

2 BR 1 BA American cherry "Mohawk" flooring, shutters, ceiling fan AC, across from communitiy 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

2927 LETHBRIDGE COURT
FABULOUS IN PLEASANTON! **\$799,950**

4 BR 2.5 BA Apx. 2165 sf, w/huge private bckyard, lot apx 7150 sf, lrg deck! Great school district, gr8 loc 925.847.2200

SAN FRANCISCO

10 FLOOD AVE
GREAT LOCATION **\$649,000**

4 BR 2 BA huge garage, separated unit w/1 bd/1 ba located in back yard, convenient off street parking 925.847.2200

"If you are a licensed realtor interested in joining our real estate office please contact Will Butler, Manager at **925.847.2257**. We look forward to welcoming you to Coldwell Banker!"

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122



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680Homes.com Featured Properties



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The latest from The 680 Blog

Keys to the Real Estate Market - Affordability & Liquidity

Now that the real estate market in Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley has seen a dramatic uptick in activity, especially in the lower price segments, it's time to examine two of the most important factors in the health of the local housing market... affordability and liquidity. As is usually the case in economics, markets tend to be self-correcting over time.

For example, when the local housing market saw the extreme run up in prices between 2002 and 2005, the demand for housing was over-heated, and the supply >> **Go to www.680Homes.com to read the rest of this article.**



OPEN SUN 1-4
New custom home with 5 BR + bonus room & office, 5 BTH, almost 1/2 acre lot with views!
5682 Sunset Creek Ct \$1,699,000



OPEN SUN 1-5
Charming 4 BR, 2 BTH single story in quiet location w/ 2 fireplaces, new carpeting, sunny up-graded kitchen, remodeled master bath & more.
5769 San Carlos Way \$734,900



OPEN SUN 1-5
Walk to downtown! 1 story 4 BR, 3 BTH on flat 10k lot. Granite & stainless kitchen, hardwood floors, and more!
1608 Cindy Way \$1,119,000



POOL & SPA!
Fabulous Country Fair home with granite & cherry kitchen, hardwood floors, 3 fireplaces, and private almost 1/4 acre lot w/ pool & spa.
\$1,149,900



ALMOST 1 ACRE!
Stunning West Pleasanton custom home with 4 BR + bonus room & office, 4 BTH, .94 acre lot with pool & spa, and parking for 7+ cars.
\$1,789,000



NEW PRICE!
Bridle Creek Area. 5 BR + Office, 5 1/2 BTH, gourmet granite/cherry/stainless kitchen, .47 acre lot, luxurious master suite, & more!
\$1,595,000



JUST SOLD!
Elegant 4 BR + office & bonus room, 4 1/2 BTH home with 3 fireplaces, granite & stainless kitchen, and resort-like private yard w/ pool and waterfall!
\$1,549,500



JUST SOLD!
Fabulous Walnut Glen Estates home with 4 BR + bonus room, 3 1/2 BTH, 1/3 acre lot with pool & spa, custom kitchen, and more!
\$1,175,000



JUST SOLD!
Fabulous 4 BR, 3 BTH home in quiet location with designer kitchen, new carpeting, new roof, 3 fireplaces, 3 car garage, and more!
\$850,000

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



apr.com | PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



BLAISE LOFLAND



925.846.6500
www.blaiselofland.com
blaise@blaiselofland.com

apr.com

PRIVATE CUSTOM ESTATE

SALE PENDING



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

VENTANA HILLS

SALE PENDING



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

CASTLEWOOD HEIGHTS



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 loft/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

JUST CLOSED



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

CARLTON PLACE



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

JUST CLOSED



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

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



apr.com

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



M. REIDY/S. MCDONOUGH BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$3,995,000
Magnificent Ruby Hill Italian Villa! Exquisite estate with 6 bd/ 6.5 baths, 9,100 +/-sq. ft. Over 1/2+/- acre level lot. Must see to appreciate!

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SAT 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON \$2,095,000
5bd 4.5ba 5,200sf.+/- Guest House. Private home with views of city lights, backs to open space. Custom molding throughout, a perfect 10! 4.5 car garage, pool/spa, bonus room/office downstairs. 9116 Olson Ct

DOUG BUENZ OPEN SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,699,000
Fabulous new Sycamore Heights custom home! Just completed with designer features throughout. 5 bedrooms plus bonus room/game room, 5 baths, stunning foyer. 5682 Sunset Creek Ct

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,699,000
6bd/6ba, 5096+/-sf home, .33 acres, 2 minutes from 680 and 5 minutes from downtown Pleasanton. Office and bedroom downstairs. Salt water pool with views of Ridge. 3 car garage. Upgrades!

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,389,000
Ironwood Estates, 5bd/4.5ba. Nestled within a court, close to the community pool, spacious kitchen w/ breakfast bar & opens to family room, one bd downstairs, bonus room upstairs, 4-car garage.

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,199,000
Extensively remodeled in '08 and all new! 5bd/3ba with office and bonus room. Gourmet kitchen, granite baths, hardwood floors, sparkling pool and spa.

LINDA FUTRAL BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$1,049,000
Live in your own private resort with this magnificent South Livermore estate! Incredible pool/spa + more. Home boasts 5bd/4ba plus den. Sits on large private 17,000+/-sf corner lot.

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$969,000
Stunning single story on a corner lot in the gated golf course community of Ruby Hill. 4bd 2.5 ba 2296+/-sf with professionally landscaped backyard.

LINDA TRAURIG BY APPOINTMENT



SAN RAMON \$797,000
Absolutely gorgeous 3+bd/4ba, 1 story, west side of San Ramon. Hardwood floors, throughout, granite kitchen, large backyard, possible pool site. Must See!

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$795,000
4bd/2.5ba, 2164+/-sf home on a court. Remodeled custom kitchen, 3car garage, maple wood floors, updated baths. 9000+/-sf lot w/pool.

DOUG BUENZ OPEN SUN 1-5



PLEASANTON \$734,900
Charming 4bd/2ba single story in quiet location. 2 fireplaces, new carpet/sunny upgraded kitchen, luxurious remodeled bath/newer roof & more! 5769 San Carlos Way

JEFF REPINE OPEN SUN 1-4



LIVERMORE \$669,000
Gorgeous 4bd/2.5ba. Former model home has custom built-ins/designer tile flooring/tree lined private backyard with custom brick patio on a 10,652+/-sf lot. 624 Zermatt St

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$519,950
Beautiful 4bd/3ba home in Sunset West. Has granite counter tops/dark maple cabinets/hdwd flooring/ dual pane windows/ upgraded flooring/stainless steel appliances/new landscaping front and back.

EMILY BARRACLOUGH BY APPT



FREMONT \$409,900
Light, bright & spacious 3bd/2ba end unit townhome. Warmly painted kitchen with granite counters & garden window. Nice landscaping & well maintained community pool. Must See!!

EMILY BARRACLOUGH OPEN SUN 1-4



DUBLIN \$399,000
Quiet 2bd/2ba open floor plan+loft. Master downstairs with private patio. Recently updated kitchen with granite slab counters. Attached 1 car garage + assigned parking spot. Must See! 11809 Dunstown

ROBIN YOUNG BY APPOINTMENT



MOUNTAIN HOUSE \$199,900
Cambridge Park 3bd/3ba beauty This wonderful Pulte town home offers privacy, 2 car garage/cherry cabinets/tile/Berber flooring/gas fireplace.

PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111

LIVERMORE | 2300 First Street 925.583.1111

