

Pleasanton Weekly

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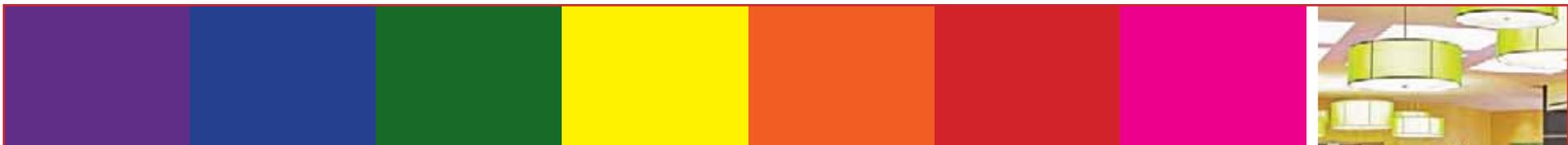
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In good hands

What parents should know when selecting a child care provider **PAGE 14**





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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

McKeehan chairs community's own ValleyCare

Former Pleasanton City Manager Deborah McKeehan has been elected chairwoman of the ValleyCare Health System board of directors, a move that puts her at the helm of the nonprofit's board at a time when health care and costs are part of the national agenda. McKeehan is well-suited for this unpaid leadership position. As city manager from 1990 to 2004, she rebuilt Main Street and restructured the city's financial system to place emphasis on salting away funds for a "rainy day." The effort started after the recession in the early part of the 1990s suddenly cut into the city's rapidly rising revenue during the building boom of the previous decade. It continues today with the result that Pleasanton, with a reserve of well over \$10 million, is financially well-positioned for the declining property and sales tax revenues we're seeing now as well as handling the seizure of \$5 million or more in local property tax revenue by the state. A city manager during a time of unprecedented growth in Pleasanton, she also worked with Livermore to merge the two cities' fire departments. Her only disappointment, she told me later, was that Dublin, which contracts out its fire protection services, wouldn't join the new partnership. On her watch, we saw the construction of the Pleasanton Senior Center, the development of the Callippe Preserve golf course and the agreement with Greenbriar Homes to give the city 318 acres of the Bernal property free of charge when the developer bought the 510-acre parcel from San Francisco. It was no surprise when McKeehan received the coveted Mayor's Award in 2004 and also was named that year as the Pleasanton Weekly's Woman of the Year.

McKeehan also served as this newspaper's president for about two years, and then took "early retirement," as she called it, to spend more time with her husband Jim, a Signature Properties executive, and their two daughters. Kelly, almost 20, is now a junior at Cal Poly, and Jessica, 15, will be starting her sophomore year at Amador. Although McKeehan left the workforce, she hardly retired. Even while at the Pleasanton Weekly, she volunteered as a board member at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, which she plans to leave at the end of the

year, and with the Livermore Winegrowers Association Foundation, which raised millions of dollars for children's charities and where she is now president. She'll give that up, too, in September, concentrating her volunteer efforts at ValleyCare and with Lady Hustler, a premier, traveling girls softball league with four teams that she co-founded. She's passionate about both, spending long hours at strategic planning sessions at ValleyCare and also traveling as her schedule permits throughout the West for tournament and showcase play with the Lady Hustler girls, including many games where college baseball coaches are scouting with scholarships in hand for top players.

Over the years, ValleyCare, which was founded in the 1950s to serve a Livermore population that lacked nearby medical facilities, has had its financial challenges. At one time, it was targeted for takeover by John Muir and at another time a corporate health care giant was looking at the medical facility. But a strong board of local residents and new CEO Marcy Feit prevailed and ValleyCare has become more independent and financially strong ever since. It's this appeal McKeehan plans to build even further, pointing out that she's proud to represent one of the few hospitals in the country that truly serves the communities it's in. Board members must be from Pleasanton or Livermore. Most of the physicians accredited to serve at ValleyCare have offices locally. It offers numerous personal services for patients and families that the "big guys," as McKeehan puts it, can only dream about.

McKeehan points to ValleyCare's new partnership with UC San Francisco's children's services center which will now provide specialized pediatric care at the Pleasanton medical center. She knows many here who had to travel with their infants and young children to Oakland, San Francisco or Stanford University for the consultations, treatments and other care they needed. That service is now only a short distance away thanks to ValleyCare's continued expansion into medically-focused fields usually not found in community hospitals. She recognizes that these are challenging times for health care but contends, that when the public listens carefully to the proposals for improvements in a system some say is broken, it should look at the vibrant, thriving community hospital we have right here at home serving the Tri-Valley. ■

About the Cover

Nancy Mullins, seen here with three of her kids, Sasha, 2, Kaylee, 2, and Dara, 3, has been operating Mullins Day Care at her home for more than three decades. She jokes that she loves it so much, she won't quit until she's being pushed in a wheelchair. Mullins takes classes and workshops at Child Care Links, which educates child care providers and links them with families seeking their services. Photo by Janet Pelletier.

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Streetwise

ASKED AT THE ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

What should California do to solve its budget problems?

Judy Lloyd

California should start living within its means. It has to stop growing government and relying on small businesses and communities to make ends meet. It's time to take a top-to-bottom look at our state budget and have performance-based results.



Mert Van Dreser

The only way for the state to balance its budget is to very thoroughly analyze where spending can be cut and then take that action. We simply have to reduce spending if the state's going to survive.



Jennifer Hosterman

I'm hoping that we'll have a Constitutional Convention measure on the 2010 ballot for voters to approve so that we can get that under way by 2012 to make the changes necessary in the way government works at the state level. We need to start talking about this now.



Russ Giuntini

I think we have to reform the whole budget process. There's already a move afoot to have a bipartisan committee that looks at the way we change our spending habits so we don't just spend everything we have every year and we create a rainy day fund for the bad times. That's one of the things that government hasn't done in the past.



Tom Pico

We have to elect officials who have some idea of finance. We don't need more lawyers.

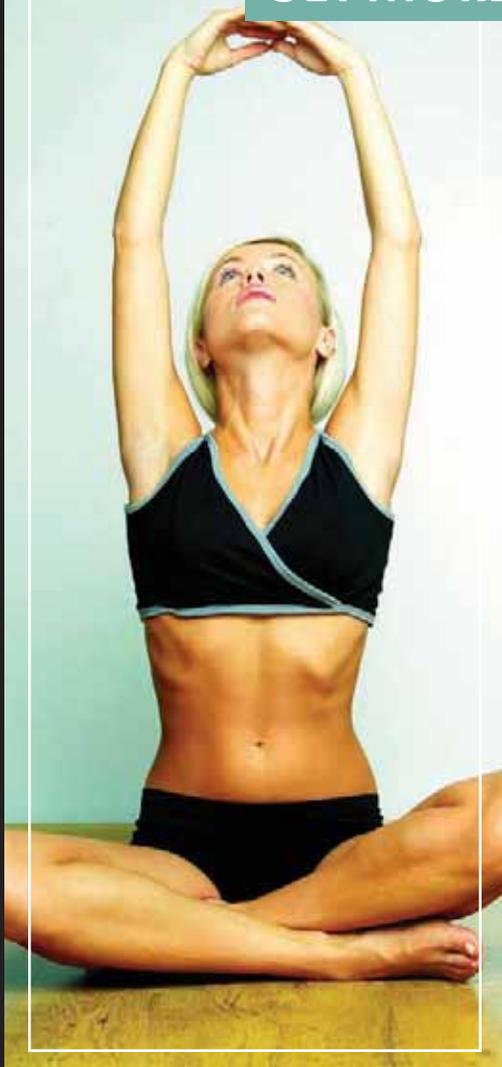


—Compiled by Jeb Bing

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

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Publishing Co., 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to www.PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566. © 2009 by Embarcadero Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

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DIGEST

A bath for Rover

The Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St., is back with the Wiggle Waggle Dog Wash from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday. The dog wash is free and donations are appreciated. Another dog wash will be held Sept. 5. For details, call 426-8586 or visit www.valleyhumane.org.

EXPO LPC

New and returning students are invited to EXPO LPC, a half-unit orientation at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore. From 8:30 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. Aug. 12, the college will provide a campus tour, a preview to college life and success strategies as well as an opportunity to meet faculty, staff and students. For more information, call Linda Pflaster, 424-1421 or 424-1400. To learn more about the school, visit www.laspositascollege.edu.

Vacancies need filling

There are several open positions on Pleasanton commissions and committees, including the Civic Arts, Library and Youth commissions, to name a few. Those interested can pick up an application at the city clerk's office, located at 123 Main St., or by visiting www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/newcommapp.pdf. Applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. Aug. 21. For more information, call 931-5027.

Nominate a hero

The American Red Cross, Bay Area chapter, is looking for nominations for its annual heroes award program in Alameda County. The categories include lifesaving hero, act of courage hero, act of kindness and philanthropy hero, community service hero as an individual, community service hero as an organization, and animal rescue hero. Visit www.redcrossbayarea.org/heroes or call 415-427-8086.

Aid for cancer patients

The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation is granting funds to Tri-Valley cancer patients to use toward complementary therapies. It is now accepting applications that may fund up to \$1,000 per patient. To apply and to learn more about eligibility requirements, visit www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org or call 866-862-7270.

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

Oak Grove developers ask appellate court to reconsider

By JEB BING

Attorneys for developers Jennifer Lin and her brother Frederic have asked the state Court of Appeal to rehear the arguments made with regard to the court's decision July 16 that in effect could force a voter referendum on the Lins' plans to build at 51-luxury home community in Pleasanton's southeast hills.

The court ruled against the Lins and granted the appeal of former Councilwoman Kay Ayala and a citizens' group she organized to reverse an earlier Superior Court ruling that favored the Lins. The Lins had argued the Ayala's group failed to follow proper procedures in circulating petitions in late 2007 seeking to block the development, called Oak Grove. More than 3,700 registered Pleasanton voters signed the petitions,

Court overruled lower court decision to quash protest petitions

enough to qualify the measure for a referendum to overturn the City Council's approval of the Oak Grove project.

In the Lins' petition for a rehearing, Attorney Andrew Sabey of the San Francisco law firm of Cox, Castle & Nicholson questions the ruling by the three appellate court justices who heard the appeal "that a referendum petition against a city zoning ordinance that expressly adopts a development plan need not attach that plan."

The main argument by the Lins in their successful challenge of the petitions in the lower court, which was accepted by Superior Court

Judge Frank Roesch, had been that Ayala and the citizens group had failed to carry the documents deemed necessary in soliciting prospective signers.

"The Lins ask this court to grant a rehearing with respect to the issue of whether the development plan was incorporated by reference" which would mean that the citizens group did not need to carry the actual development plan nor, for that matter, some of the other voluminous documents that the Lins said they should have made available to signers.

The petition for a rehearing by the same three justices who just 15 days earlier had ruled against the Lins will now await a decision by the court if it wants to go through another hearing.

See **OAK GROVE** on Page 7



JEB BING

Pleasanton celebrates National Night Out

Celebrating Pleasanton's National Night Out Tuesday on Runnymede Court are (from left) Michele Mar-Jose, holding 6-month-old Camille; Dwight and Laurie Caldwell, and Police Capt. Dave Spiller. Scores of officers and volunteers from the Pleasanton Police Department, which co-sponsors the National Night Out crime and drug prevention event here, went from neighborhood to neighborhood to join in the gatherings. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, Councilman Jerry Thorne and City Manager Nelson Fialho also were at many of the neighborhood events. The annual, nationwide event is held the first Tuesday in August to increase crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support and participation in local anti-crime activities, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships and to inform criminals neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. Firefighters and staff from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department also participated.

Haggerty presents police, fire awards

Hundreds attend supervisor's 13th annual barbecue

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty recognized a retired firefighter from the Fremont Fire Department and an officer from the Livermore Police Department as the recipients of the 2009 Firefighter and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Awards at Haggerty's 13th annual barbecue held at the Fairgrounds in Pleasanton last Friday.

Officer Dave Blake, who won the police award, joined the Livermore police force in November 2002. Before that, he worked in

the protective forces services division at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and for the BART police department.

At Livermore, Blake has worked as a field training officer, as a member of the special operations unit, the SWAT team, assistant range master and as a reality based training instructor, a new program which he is credited with developing.

"Dave has a strong commitment to officer safety, identifying and developing training that address criti-

cal needs relating to patrol responses with violent offenders; officer safety topics using personal insight, identifying critical tactical errors, and improved planning for officer safety dilemmas," Haggerty said.

Retired Fremont firefighter John Cerruti received the Firefighter of the Year award. Cerruti was hired by the Fremont Fire Department in August 1970, and retired as a battalion chief in June 2004.

During his service with the department, Cerruti served as man-

See **HAGGERTY** on Page 7

Carnival to help boost school fundraiser

Group garners just over \$300K with a week left to meet \$2.8M goal

By EMILY WEST

Organizers for the I Love Pleasanton Schools fundraising campaign are counting on a carnival to help close the \$2.5-million gap before the Aug. 14 deadline.

From 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, people of all ages can enjoy typical carnival fare, including a dunk tank, face painting, balloon animals and puppet shows. There are even some more technology-related activities such as a "text-off" and video games.

Each game requires tickets to play, and they will be on sale for \$1 or \$20 for unlimited play wristbands. These may be purchased in advance at the following stores: Clover Creek, Sincerely Yours Cards and Gifts, Towne Center Books, Savvy Seconds, Gourmet Works, Murphy's Paw, Your Stage Toys, Stork's Nest and Pans on Fire.

The Pleasanton Downtown Association is joining the effort by sponsoring the event, and several merchants are also offering to donate a portion of the profits made during the carnival to the ILPS campaign.

The effort to maintain educational programs in Pleasanton despite California's budget cuts started June 15 with a goal of raising \$2.8 million. Through the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) and Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment (PSEE) foundations, money raised would continue the following programs for the 2009-10 school year: class-size reduction at a 20 students to 1 teacher ratio, readings specialists and counselors, elementary strings and band programs.

To learn more about the carnival and the campaign, visit www.ilovepleasantonschools.com. ■

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Valley Humane's ex-director has new job

David Stegman takes post as interim director at Contra Costa Humane Society

By JEB BING

David Stegman, former director of the Valley Humane Society in Pleasanton, has been named the new interim executive director of the Contra Costa Humane Society with offices in Pleasant Hill.

Stegman, a longtime animal welfare advocate, has more than 35 years of nonprofit and government agency experience, including as executive director of Tony LaRussa's Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF).

At ARF he created the organization's first strategic plan that expanded its growth from a local to a national level. He also was responsible for the overall policy and direction and fund development of what has become a multi-million-

dollar organization.

At the Valley Humane Society, Stegman implemented an agency-wide reorganization providing direction and leadership for half a dozen staff members and more than 300 volunteers. He was responsible for introducing social services programs that increased the organization's effectiveness while saving countless animals from euthanasia.

As director of the Pleasanton-based nonprofit from 2003 until early last month, Stegman also completed Valley Humane Society's property purchase for a future permanent shelter as well as a building project design. He helped raise more than \$2.4 million towards the \$4 million goal to build a shelter.

In his new position at the Contra Costa Humane Society, Stegman will be responsible for managing the organization's successful Adopt-a-Friend, spay/neuter (SNAP) and emergency medical programs. He also will have charge of promotion and fund raising efforts on behalf of the organization.

Stegman has been a resident of Danville and San Ramon for 38 years and with his wife Jeri has six grown children, four grandchildren and two rescued dogs.

"The board is excited to have Dave join our organization. I know that together we can build a better, stronger organization with his leadership," said Ruth Rosenberg, a member of the CCHS board of directors. ■

Pleasanton court to close one day a month

All-courts closures expected to save \$85 million

Superior Court in Pleasanton will be among courts scheduled to close the third Wednesday of each month starting in September in response to the state's budget crisis.

A state judicial agency voted in San Francisco July 29 to close all California courts for one day per month. The plan was unanimously approved by the 21 voting members of the state Judicial Council, the governing body of the California court system, at a meeting on court budgets.

Chief Justice Ronald George, who chairs the council, said, "It is with the greatest regret that we have to be at this point, where we're considering court closure as a last resort."

The closures will occur on the third Wednesday of each month and will apply to all state courts, including the trial-level superior courts of 58 counties, six appeals courts and the California Supreme Court.

The council was given authority to select a once-per-month clo-

sure day in the budget law passed by the Legislature last week.

The group's staff report said the closure will save \$85 million out of \$190 million in budget cuts that must be absorbed by the state court system. The shut-downs will begin in September and continue until the end of the fiscal year in June, but will be reconsidered by the council in January.

The report said that no one day is convenient for all courts and a number of options were considered, including closing Southern California courts on one Wednesday per month and Northern California courts on a Friday. But the report said closing all courts on the same day each month would be the least disruptive approach and would provide "consistency among all state courts and a higher level of predictability for the benefit of court users."

As on holidays and weekends, one judge in each court would be available on closure days to sign emergency orders.

—Bay City News; Jeb Bing

Appeals court will reconsider challenge to ban on guns at fair

A federal appeals court in San Francisco announced that it will reconsider whether Alameda County's ban on gun shows at the county fair in Pleasanton is constitutional.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said an 11-judge panel will review a decision in which a three-judge panel upheld the ban in April. The expanded panel will hear arguments in San Francisco in September and will issue a ruling at a later date.

The case before the court is a long-running lawsuit filed in 1999 by gun show promoters Russell and Sallie Nordyke of Willows in Glenn County.

They claim the rule against gun shows at the county fair violates their constitutional First Amendment right of free speech and Second Amendment right to bear arms.

The Alameda County ordinance prohibits most gun possessions on county property, and the Nordykes claim it has the effect of banning gun shows at the fair. The county Board of Supervisors enacted the ordinance in 1999 after a 1998 fair shooting in which eight people were injured.

The earlier 9th Circuit ruling in April came in the wake of a 2008 U.S. Supreme Court decision that said the Second Amendment right to bear arms provides an individual right to possess guns for self-defense and that citizens could challenge gun laws. But the court also said the Alameda County rule was justified as a public safety measure.

After the court asked both sides in May to submit briefs on whether it should rehear the case, Alameda County lawyers urged the court to continue to uphold the ban but to reconsider whether citizens can challenge state and local laws.

On the other side, the Nordykes asked the court to strike down the ban but to keep in place the conclusion that lawsuits against state and local laws should be allowed.

—Julia Cheever, Bay City News



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JEB BING

Supervisor Scott Haggerty (black shirt) presents awards to David Blake (left) for Officer of the Year and to John Cerruti (right) for Firefighter of the Year.

HAGGERTY

Continued from Page 5

ager of its Complex Card Program; was responsible for the city's addressing program playing a key role in streamlining the process. He was one of six fire captains selected for the first-time-ever assignment of Captain II in January 1997 and he participated in the development of the operation guidelines for that new position.

After training for one year, John captured the World Title in the "50-Year Old and Older" category of the 1996 Firefighter Combat Challenge competition in Las Vegas, beating the previous world record by a little

over 3.5 seconds.

"He continues to compete in firefighter combat challenge competitions," Haggerty noted. "He is considered a role model by his peers in consistently meeting the operational, managerial, and physical demands of the firefighting profession."

Several hundred from throughout the area attended the awards ceremony at the fairgrounds.

Haggerty represents the county's First District communities of Dublin, Fremont, Livermore, Pleasanton and the east unincorporated areas on the five-member Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

—Jeb Bing



Spark dancers get kicks from Rockettes

The performing company at Spark Dance Studio placed very well for a first-year studio. In recognition for overall studio excellence they earned an invitation to attend the KAR All Star Kid dance convention in New York City from July 22-27. Dancers included Elizabeth Arrigali, Lauren Cabral, Jordynn Craft, Kate Edsinger, Jessica McFall and Bailey Yang, as well as Tamara Taves, owner and studio director of Spark.

OAK GROVE

Continued from Page 5

ing by Sabey and the attorney representing Ayala and her organization, and Atty. Benjamin G. Shatz of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips of Los Angeles and Palo Alto.

If the Lins' petition is turned down by the Court of Appeal, they will still have only 40 days to seek a review by the California Supreme Court, with that deadline Aug. 26. The high court can then take a number of actions: summarily turn down the review request, a decision that could come almost immediately or up to 90 days after the Lins' request is submitted, or it could decide to review the case. That could take another year of briefings and court dates before a final decision is rendered.

Most likely, given the statistics in which the Court of Appeal seldom rehears its own decisions and the Supreme Court also rarely reviews a state Court of Appeal decision, the Ayala group's petition will be certified by the Alameda County Registrar and go back to the Pleasanton council for handling.

Since the City Council voted 4-1 to approve the Oak Grove development, which includes a grant free of charge by the Lins of 500 acres of open space adjacent to their hilltop development, it's likely that the council will schedule a vote on the measure.

The referendum on Oak Grove would likely be placed on the ballot at the time of the California primary next spring. ■

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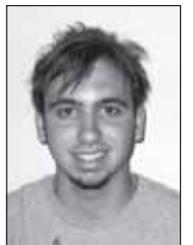
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The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Publishing Co., 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840.

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Community support of the Pleasanton Weekly is welcomed and encouraged through memberships at levels of \$5, \$8 or \$10 per month through automatic credit card charges. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to www.PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Rebuilding California: Finally, a coalition is taking charge

What part of the \$24-million-and-growing state budget deficit and public agony over harsh cutbacks in services to the needy does our dysfunctional California state government not understand? As unemployment rises in the private sector and cities and counties freeze hiring and start furloughing some of their employees, the state payroll keeps growing. Except for a civil engineer needed for specialty work on several projects in the pipeline and a new city attorney to succeed Michael Roush, who will retire next month, the city of Pleasanton hasn't hired any new employees since last year. We all know the situation in our school district, where several hundred positions have been eliminated and programs cut due to shortfalls in state appropriations to education. Yet the state government keeps adding people and positions—by one report nearly 4,000 new jobs for a gain of just under 1 percent while private industry cut nearly 800,000 jobs.

It's no wonder that a coalition of some 8,000 elected representatives of municipal, county and school district governments assembled in Sacramento last month under the umbrella name of Rebuilding California. The summit on July 17-18 was an extraordinary event with 545 local leaders creating the energy for taking charge of making change. This partnership is now moving forward with planning sessions to determine how best to address the state government dilemma, with many opting for a Constitutional Convention to reform the way California is governed. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, Councilman Jerry Thorne and City Manager Nelson Fialho represented Pleasanton in this new coalition and, after two days of break-out sessions to hear in detail the financial and governance problems facing our state, came away with their heads shaking and determined to campaign for change.

Hosterman expressed her outrage at a barbecue last Friday sponsored by Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty. Hosterman believes the state of California "is broken" and that only by pressing the reset button at a Constitutional Convention can it be made whole again. Thorne has taken his concerns to Facebook where he is posting regular commentaries on his views. He left the Sacramento meeting convinced that the state can't continue on its present path but also believing that a quick fix isn't possible—the problems are too sweeping and difficult to grasp. Term limits, he thinks, have produced a quagmire with legislators barely able to find the restrooms at the state capital before they're termed out. Nobody wants to go back to the powerhouse days of Willie Brown, but the term limits law that seemed so desirable to voters a few years back is now making it impossible to provide seasoned, experienced leaders. His suggestion: perhaps allow an elected legislator to stay in the Assembly or the Senate—or a combination of both—for 12 years, instead of the current limit of six and eight. He'd also like to see the Brown Act requirements, which limit local officials to no more than two speaking together on issues affecting their council or board, extended to include legislators. As it is now, the top four or five can wine, dine, talk and plot, with these power brokers making decisions that they will then work to adopt before the full Legislature. Fialho, who has the job of chief administrator for the Pleasanton government, left with an understanding that the governor and legislature's failure to adopt budgets is the most obvious outcome of what he terms a "dysfunctional state government." California, once the model state for good government, transportation, schools and innovation, has lost its way. We're glad to see the Rebuilding California coalition with strong Pleasanton representation leading the way to make us a showplace state once again. ■

LETTERS

Superintendent, school board bungled Measure G

Dear Editor,

In response to Cathy Ritter's letter "Where are all the Measure G supporters?" (July 24, page 9), I am one.

I'm very angry at the superintendent, John Casey, and the school board in general for not handling this whole thing correctly from the start. I emailed Casey last November and asked where the measure was on the ballot during the presidential election...response: several excuses. I emailed again asking where it was in the May election...response: several excuses. So, we spent \$300,000 of PUSD funds to get it on a ballot in June all by itself and very few came out to vote.

I'm also angry at Pleasanton residents for being so narrow-minded and selfish that they can't vote for something that improves the community as a whole.

As much as I applaud PPIE and PSEE and even my Girl Scout is doing what she came to help them raise money, I plan to respond to the selfish residents of Pleasanton by being selfish back and giving my \$233 annual contribution directly to the school my children attend.

Until this whole community can rise to the call of self betterment, I will not voluntarily bail out everyone else by donating to a general fund.

Karen Bilbrey Zengel

Let the professionals do their job

Dear Editor,

Regarding Ms. Linfoot's comments "Give solutions instead of criticism on recycling" in the July 31 issue (Letters, page 9) regarding the changes to the trash pick-up, we believe that the most effective system for recycling is to have the professionals at the recycling center do the job. We believe that the changes to the trash system have everything to do with Alameda

County Measure D and nothing to do with recycling efficiency.

According to Measure D, SUBSECTION 64.030, E. "Each person discards materials and should therefore be involved in solving the problems caused by the disposal of such materials; this involvement must include changes in individual behavior resulting from each person's awareness of her or his role in creating or finding solutions to environmental problems; only through such changes can sustainable consumption and disposal patterns be established and the biosphere restored."

We believe that this change to trash pick-up in Pleasanton is a result of "conscience raising" and has nothing to do with effectiveness.

Don't get us wrong, we will do our best to sort our trash.

Having said that, we think it is safe to assume that the effectiveness will actually decrease.

Dave and Lisa Osterman

City is smart not to buy into red-light cameras

Dear Editor,

I am very glad that the city has opted out of the red-light camera scam ("Red Regulation," Cover Story, July 31, pages 14-15).

The only way they are cost-effective is to shorten yellow light times to increase the number of citations to pay for them. Plus, they cause a big increase in the number of rear-end accidents, as people slam on their brakes to avoid a ticket. I would much rather talk to one of our fine police officers than get a ticket in the mail.

I am proud to be a Pleasanton resident. This is a great place to live. Good city planning, plus the best in police, fire, paramedics and health care. I support the Pleasanton Police Officers Foundation. I think everybody should. We should all be very grateful to live here. People are friendly, polite, and helpful. It's like a time-warp back to the '50s. I love it.

Mike Moreno



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Workbench TrueValue Hardware 1807 Santa Rita Road, Ste. N, Pleasanton, 846-0660, www.truevalue.com	Best Hardware Store
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Transitions

WEDDINGS ● ENGAGEMENTS ● OBITUARIES ● BIRTHS

OBITUARIES

Cpl. Shane Weisbrod

Friends and family of Marine Corporal Shane Tyler Weisbrod are invited to join together in a celebration of his life at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Amador Valley Community Park pavilion at 4301 Black Ave.

Cpl. Weisbrod, who graduated from Amador Valley High School in 2004, served a four-year enlistment in the Marine Corps. After his training, he served in Korea and then in Iraq. He returned to civilian life less than a year ago. He was 23 when he died Sunday, July 26.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that care packages be sent in Cpl. Weisbrod's memory to a deployed service member. Contact operationsam@comcast.net or Penny Redman, 443-7620, for more information.



son of Betty S. Rose and the late Jack W. Rose of Pleasanton. He attended schools in Pleasanton and graduated from Valley High School in 1980. After graduation, he joined in the U. S. Coast Guard and served four years mainly on the USS Taney as an electronic technician.

After attending Las Positas College, he attended San Francisco State University, where he earned the degree of Bachelor of Arts in clinical psychology in 1994, graduating Cum Laude. In 1997 he was awarded the degree of Master of Social Work by San Jose State University.

For five years he was a counselor at Santa Clara County Juvenile Center, where it became clear to him that helping troubled juveniles and their families was his life's work. He then pursued that goal in private practice in Pleasanton. That was what he was doing until his death.

He is survived by his mother; brother, Kenneth; sister-in-law, Mishell; niece Coral; and nephews, Nicholas and Nathaniel, all of Fallbrook, Calif.

Michael Rose

Private services will be held for Michael Edward Rose, who died July 25.

Mr. Rose helped troubled youths through his private counseling practice he operated in Pleasanton.

Born in 1962, Mr. Rose was the



Larry Callahan

Larry Callahan died July 29 after a 14-year brave struggle with Vent Dependent Quadriplegia at the age of 37.

Mr. Callahan is survived by his mother, Lorraine Callahan; brother, Gerard Callahan and fiancée, Nicole; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A service was scheduled to be held Aug. 4 at St. Augustine Catholic Church.

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG

POLICE BULLETIN

Suspected car burglar arrested Monday

Horacio Gutierrez, 29-year-old Newark resident, was arrested Monday on suspicion of burglarizing cars in the Bay Area, including four burglaries in Pleasanton, according to police.

Sgt. Jim Knox with the Pleasanton Police Department said a resident on Highland Oaks Drive woke up around 5:30 a.m. Monday to sounds of someone tampering with his vehicle. The resident confronted two men who were allegedly burglarizing his vehicle. The two men fled to a maroon Toyota, but not before the resident wrote down

the license plate number, police said.

Newark police conducted a probation check, which led to Gutierrez's arrest Monday. He was charged with possession of stolen property, possession of methamphetamine and possession of a smoking pipe. The property, including three laptops and work tools found in the trunk of the Toyota, and was returned to the owners.

Knox said he encourages residents to not leave valuables in the car.

"Anything left visible presents an opportunity," he said.

—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.

July 28

Theft

- 7:21 a.m. in the 5300 block of Case Avenue; grand theft
- 2:56 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 3:25 p.m. in the 2500 block of Skimmer Court; identity theft
- 5:13 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; possession stolen property

Vehicular burglary

- 12:18 a.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road
- 6:43 a.m. in the 7700 block of Oak Tree Court
- 7:36 a.m. in the 3300 block of Medallion Court
- 7:57 p.m. in the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 8:43 p.m. in the 4900 block of Hopyard Road
- 8:52 p.m. at the intersection of West Lagoon Road and Bernal Avenue

Burglary

- 9:00 a.m. in the 8100 block of Regency Drive

July 29

Theft

- 2:26 p.m. in the 4400 block of Willow Road; grand theft
- 3:31 p.m. in the 800 block of Concord Street; identity theft

Burglary

- 9:40 a.m. in the 8200 block of Regency Drive
- 10:06 a.m. in the 2900 block of Takens Court; vehicular

Drug/alcohol violations

- 10:06 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Valley Avenue; driving with marijuana, non-narcotic controlled substance possession, transporting controlled substance

July 30

Vandalism

- 7:52 p.m. in the 400 block of West Angela Street
- 10:02 p.m. in the 400 block of Main Street
- 10:03 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Kottinger Drive
- 10:04 p.m. at the intersection of Concord Street and Palomino Drive

- 10:06 p.m. in the 4600 block of First Street

Burglary

- 8:00 a.m. in the 7800 block of Foothill Knolls Drive; vehicular
- 9:09 a.m. in the 7800 block of Foothill Knolls Drive; vehicular
- 9:36 a.m. in the 400 block of Vineyard Avenue; vehicular
- 2:57 p.m. in the 4200 block of Dorman Road

Battery

- 12:12 p.m. in the 6300 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Found property

- 6:00 p.m. in the 30 block of West Neal Street

July 31

Theft

- 2:59 a.m. at the intersection of Dublin Canyon Road and Canyon Meadows Drive; petty theft

Vehicular burglary

- 6:01 p.m. in the 5000 block of Hopyard Road

DUI

- 7:50 p.m. in the 6100 block of Kavala Court
- 10:46 p.m. in the 300 block of Kottinger Drive

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

• 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.

• PDAM 2, Ken and Pamela Chrisman

Application to extend the Development Agreement for five years for the property located at 1944 Three Oaks Drive (formerly 1944 Vineyard Avenue), in the Vineyard Avenue Corridor Specific Plan Area.

• PCUP-249, Joseph and Maricela Barone

Application to modify the approved Conditional Use Permit (UP 88 25) for the operation of Barone's Restaurant located at 475 St. John Street to allow outdoor music and entertainment.

Library Commission

Thursday, August 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Library Conference Room, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

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

The August 13th Parks and Recreation Commission meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will be held in September.

General Information

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

- Civic Arts Commission—1 alternate
- Housing Commission—No current vacancies
- Human Services Commission—1 member, 1 alternate
- Library Commission—1 alternate
- Parks & Recreation Commission—No current vacancies
- Planning Commission—No current vacancies
- Youth Commission—1 youth alternate
- Committee on Energy & the Environment—1 adult member
- Economic Vitality Committee—1 representative from each of the following categories:
 - Commercial Services Firm
 - Environmental Industry
 - Infrastructure
 - Medical Services
 - Medical Technology
 - Residential Real Estate Broker
 - Retail Center

Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee—1 high-school or middle school member; 1 young adult member (18-22); 1 middle school parent member

- Alameda County Paratransit Advisory Committee—1 Pleasanton representative
- Alameda County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee—1 Pleasanton representative
- Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority Citizens Advisory Committee—3 Pleasanton representatives

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

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 21, 2009. Postmarks are not accepted.

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

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

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

Author Visits

MORNING COFFEE CHAT WITH NYT BESTSELLING AUTHOR GARTH STEIN Garth Stein will be reading excerpts and discussing his award-winning novel, "The Art of Racing in the Rain," which is currently sitting at #8 on the NYT bestseller list for trade paperbacks. The event is being hosted by Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. at 11 a.m. Aug. 13. There will be a book signing by the author following the discussion.

Book Clubs

BRAIN BOOK CLUB Annual Anything (Brain) Goes is at 7 p.m., Aug. 19 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. We'll discuss a website, <http://bfc.positscience.com/news> and anything you've been reading about brain research or education. Tea's on the house. Call 249-0000.

Events

ARTIST RECEPTION Little Valley Winery presents Sunol artist Conover Smith and his "Art on the Wild Side," a collection of wildlife lost wax bronze sculpture, ceramic relief wall plaque collections with a wine and cheese reception. It is from 7 to 9 p.m. Aug. 7 at 739 J Main St. Call 862-9006.

PLEASANTON/TULANCINGO SISTER CITY BBQ Fun community BBQ, with KGO's Gary Hansen as the emcee, is from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Aug. 8 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce or the Pleasanton Downtown Association. Call 600-8414.

Fundraisers

NATIONAL SENTINELS OF FREEDOM GALA The Sentinels of Freedom

Scholarship Foundation hosts its second annual Golf Classic & Gala event to help those severely injured from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. It will be held Aug. 10 at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville, with a wine pairing and cooking demonstration at 4 p.m. and the gala dinner and auction at 5:30 p.m. The golf tournament is \$275 and the dinner is \$50. Call 353.7100 or visit www.sentinelsoffreedom.org.

RAIDERS' GAME FUNDRAISER The Oakland Raiders have invited fans to participate in the opening day festivities at 7:15 p.m., Monday, Sept. 14, while the Raiders play the San Diego Chargers. Tickets are \$50-\$80, including a ticket, hat and food voucher. A portion of the tickets proceeds benefit Amador Valley High's Athletics. Visit www.amadorsports.com and click on the Raiders' link.

UCC LIVERMORE ANNUAL YARD SALE The annual yard sale will be

from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 8 at UCC Livermore, 1886 College Ave., Livermore. All proceeds to benefit Miracle Day and other ministries. A raffle drawing will be at noon. Call 449-6820 or visit uccliv.org.

Kids & Teens

KICK UP YOUR HEELS AT THE LIBRARY Celebrate the end of the summer reading program with a family hoedown at 7 p.m. Aug. 7 at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Professional caller Scott Byars will guide a lively evening of western square, circle and line dancing. Western clothes encouraged. Call 931-3400 ext. 8.

Lectures/ Workshops

PROFITABLE EXPORTING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES Learn to export at a

workshop at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 12 at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Seventy percent of goods and services are exported by small business to 95 percent of the world's markets outside of the U.S. Cost is \$39. Call 424-1467 or visit www.laspositascollege.edu.

Live Music

RAVENSWOOD ICE CREAM SOCIAL From noon to 4 p.m., Aug. 9 the Pleasanton Community Concert Band will perform a free concert at the Ravenswood Historic Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore. The band will play a variety of music celebrating the 200th anniversary of composer Felix Mendelssohn's birth.

Spiritual

CROCODILE DOCK VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Faith Chapel, 6656 Alisal St., presents Crocodile Dock from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Aug. 17 to 21, the annual VBS for kids in first to sixth grade. Register by calling the church office. Space is limited. The cost is \$10. Call 846-8650 or visit www.fcpleasanton.org.

YOUTH EXPLOSION 2009 The Well Church, 6533 Sierra Lane, Dublin, presents Youth Explosion 2009 from 7 to 10 p.m. Aug. 21. Young people from all over the East Bay will congregate and enjoy preaching as well as youth-led worship, dancing, drama, Praise DDR, fellowship, food, fun and more. Call 452-1421 or visit www.thewellchurch.net.

Sports

14U A & B SOFTBALL PRESENTATION AND TRYOUTS Phantom 14U A and B presents a free presentation on traveling teams at 7 p.m. Aug. 11 at TPC Softball, 7070 Commerce Circle, Ste. D. All players are welcome for A and PGSL players are welcome for B. Tryouts are at 7 p.m. Aug. 13 and Aug. 17. Call Kim Eppard at 510-919-5459 or 485-9191 or email kim@thepitchingcenter.com.

LADY HUSTLE TRYOUTS Try-outs for 18 Gold, 18s, 16s and 14s Lady Hustle 2009-10 fall and summer teams are Aug. 15-16 and, if needed, Aug. 22 at various times and locations depending on position. Private tryouts also available. Register in advance at www.ladyhustlefastpitch.com. Call 785-0846 or email ronbo4@pacbell.net.

RENEGADES VOLLEYBALL CLUB TRYOUTS The Renegades Volleyball Club is holding tryouts for boys aged 14-18 Aug. 15 to 16 at LARPD in Livermore. The season runs September through early February, with practices twice a week in Livermore and Pleasanton. New players are encouraged to attend open gyms at Trinity Church in Livermore on Tuesday evenings throughout the summer. Visit www.renegadesvolleyball.com or email kris@renegadesvolleyball.com.

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Parent photographers

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

SPORTS DIGEST

PFL 10-year-old All Stars defeat Canyon Creek

The Pleasanton Foothill Little League 10-year-old All Stars defeated the Canyon Creek Little League 10-year-old All Stars 6-2 July 18 in the first round of San Ramon 10-year-old tournament.

The Foothill offensive attack was led by Jadon Gonzaga and Timmy Wu who singled and scored a run, Conor Isozaki and Brett Derham had singles, and Raymond Abels, William Hammer, Matt Villena and Tommy Serrano scored runs. Defensively for Foothill, Joshua Ott, William Hammer, Giovanni Caponigro, Jadon Gonzaga and Joey Richardson made great plays. Brett Derham, Raymond Abels and Joshua Ott pitched excellent for Foothill only giving up two hits, no earned runs, while striking out 10 Canyon Creek batters.

Top Offensive Players: Jadon Gonzaga, Timmy Wu and Conor Isozaki. Top Defensive Players: Joshua Ott, William Hammer, Raymond Abels.

LifeStyleRx Tiger Sharks win at championships

The LifeStyleRx Tiger Sharks were fierce competitors at the Valley Swim League Championships recently.

The 7-8 girls swam into team history with the first ever Tiger Sharks Valley Swim League Record. Courtney Lau, Sydney Magann, Emma Quan and Miranda Heckman took over the league record in the 7-8 Girls 100 Yard Medley Relay with the winning time of 1:16.40.

Miranda Heckman also took a

league record for the 7-8 girls 25 Yard Backstroke with a winning time of 19.38. The 7-8 girls proudly took first place in all individual events.

Pleasanton Meadows Sharks top Del Prado

The undefeated Del Prado Stingrays closed out their dual meet season recently with a win over the Pleasanton Meadows Sharks 647-344. The Sharks girls had some great performances from Talia Florio, (10), Amelia Kelly, (6), Meredith Kelly, (8), Sidney Vaeth, (9), and Peyton Pozzi, (6). The boys for Pleasanton Meadows, were led by Gill Noor, (10), Luke Scanlon, (6), Perry Cheney, (12), Cody Vaeth, (7) and Tyler Rhoads, (10).

Stingray top performers for the girls were Sara Cohen, (14), Alyssa Goard, (16), Meghan Hogue, (9), Lindsey DeWilde, (14), and Molly Griston, (8). Tops for the Stingray boys were Cameron Kurotori, (13), Eric Crispell, (14), Eric Gates, (16), Jack Payan, (17) and Steven Reimer, (8).

Pleasanton Seahawks soar at SRVLA meet

The Pleasanton Seahawks soared to new heights on July 25-26 at the San Ramon C/B/A+ Meet.

Many Life Time Best (LTB) swims along with new cuts were accomplished. The following swimmers achieved 100 percent LTB swims: Sruthi Mukkamala, Resha Panda, Kyle Kenny, Alex Luo, Justin Tsai, Serena Sammons, Michael Mendez, Alexandra Jones, Jasmine Lin, Lekya Mukkamala, Nadia Nguyen, Parth Subramanian, Ryan Vicencio, Naomi Chan and Perry Jia. Bridget Booe took LTB in the 200/400 free. Olivier Rooney gained a new Pacific Recognition Time (PRT) in the 50 fly and R J Scott made a new Junior Olympic (JO) cut in the 400 free. The following swimmers reached new A cuts: Alexandra Jones (100 breast), Resha Panda (50 breast/50 fly), Alex Luo (50 free/50 breast), Emma Kauffeld (50 fly), Wolfgang LaChance (400 free), Michael Martin (50 breast/100 fly), Rishab Nair (100 back/100 breast), Stephanie Aronson (100 back), Analese Chinn (50 fly), Nadia Nguyen (100 fly), Arnold Chan (50 free), Robert Shi (50/200 free) and Ryan Vicencio (100 breast).

ivier Rooney gained a new Pacific Recognition Time (PRT) in the 50 fly and R J Scott made a new Junior Olympic (JO) cut in the 400 free. The following swimmers reached new A cuts: Alexandra Jones (100 breast), Resha Panda (50 breast/50 fly), Alex Luo (50 free/50 breast), Emma Kauffeld (50 fly), Wolfgang LaChance (400 free), Michael Martin (50 breast/100 fly), Rishab Nair (100 back/100 breast), Stephanie Aronson (100 back), Analese Chinn (50 fly), Nadia Nguyen (100 fly), Arnold Chan (50 free), Robert Shi (50/200 free) and Ryan Vicencio (100 breast).

Barracudas pull off upset against Tidal Waves

In another down-to-the-wire dual meet at the Club Sport Pleasanton pool recently, the Briarhill Barracudas pulled off an upset and defeated the Club Sport Pleasanton Tidal Waves 504-490. Halfway through the July 18 meet, the Tidal Waves held a slim seven-point lead. The Barracudas, though, sensed blood in the water and slowly built up a commanding 14-point lead going into the last stroke of the day, the free relays. The 6&U and 7-8 girls and boys all got the job done for the Tidal Wave and gave Club Sport a two-point lead. The 'Cuda 9-10 and 11-12 girls and boys came roaring back, getting back Briarhill's 14-point lead that would hold for the rest of the meet.

The top female swimmers for the Tidal Waves were Saige Aronson 6 (15pts), Elle Surber 14 (13pt), Isabella Hernandez 8 (10), Cayla Ketter 14 (10pt), Alison Hernbroth 16 (8pt), Meagan Tang 11 (7), Mackenzie Lee 6 (6pt), Olivia Aquino 8 (6), Emily Barrett 12 (6pt) and Lexi Venema 11 (6pt).

The top male swimmers for the

Tidal Waves were Austin Wei 12 (10pt), Kyle Surber 16 (10pt), William Rose 9 (8pt), Robert Torres 8 (8pt), Jayden Payne 6 (7pt), Jeff Horne 14 (7pt), Joseph Louderback 8 (6pt), TJ Meagher 6 (10pt), Scotty Arellano 18 (6pt), Rocky Anderson 6 (5pt), Justin Lee 11 (5pt) and Camden Murtagh 12 (5pt).

The top female swimmers for the Barracudas were Easton Plummer 10 (15pt), Brittney Achziger 12 (15pt), Callan Jackman 9 (13pt), Savannah Wieser 12 (11pt), Kristin

Horrolo 13 (10pt), Vanessa Wieser 8 (7pt), Ladan Khandel 14 (5pt), Camille Perich 12 (4pt), Bella Mairs 9 (3pt) and Isabelle Coburn 6 (2pt).

The top male swimmers for the Gators were Joey Grywczynski 8 (15pt), Brian Standart 14 (13pt), David Groves 6 (13pt), Brandon Lind 17 (13pt), Christopher Malek 12 (13pt), Brent Reed 17 (13pt), Jacob Allman 6 (11pt), Matthew Grywczynski 10 (10pt), Brett Melloch 14 (10pt) and Alexei Pacholuk 10 (9pt).

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PHOTOS BY JANE

Above: Teachers Shubra Gupta (at front table) and Celina Leal (table at top left) lead children in activities at Kindercare, a child care center located on Brockton Drive, including watercolor, handwriting and molding Play-Doh.

Below: Valley Trails resident Nancy Mullins pushes her signature stroller to the park, which is convenient when she's watching six children at a time.

Right: Kaylee, 2, and Dara, 3, play at Valley Trails Park on a recent weekday.



In good hands

What parents should know when selecting a child care provider

By JANET PELLETIER

Nancy Mullins is passionate about running her in-home day care.

"I'll keep doing it until they're pushing me in the wheelchair," the Valley Trails resident said as she watched three of her tots play with a train set in a playroom in her home.

Mullins' typical day starts at the 6 o'clock hour as parents drop off their children before they head off to work. She cares for up to eight children at a time, ranging in age from infants to grade school age. It's a labor of love she's cultivated for the past three decades. Her two children are grown, a son in his early 30s and a daughter in college.

"I have had the greatest kids over the years, and that's why I've done this for so long," she said.

The business found her. When she was living in a condo complex, she used to baby-sit neighbors' kids. Soon enough, she knew three families all having children at the same time who needed someone to care for them while they were at work. Thus, Mullins Day Care was born.

Each year, she keeps up to date with her child care license, getting CPR training, fingerprinting and partaking in the numerous workshops and classes offered by Child Care Links, a local nonprofit agency that acts as a link between the government and families looking for child care.

Finding child care can be a daunting and emotional experience. With so many options and price points, parents may have a challenging time choosing a provider. Child Care Links has an office in Pleasanton and its role is to give parents a guide to local providers, give training and support to providers and families and offer financial assistance to those who need it.

The average costs of full-time child care in the Tri-Valley area for a single infant is \$215 per week, according to Child Care Links, which can break down average costs by neighborhood. Services range from family child care, such as Mullins'; public and private child care centers, full and part-time programs; and infant, preschool and extended care programs.

Child care centers such as Kindercare, Early Years and Kidango provide care in a large group setting where the children are grouped by their age or development level. Family home care, in contrast, can include children of various ages in a smaller home setting.

In Pleasanton alone, there are 102 child care providers, according to Sara Gonzalez, a resource and referral specialist at Child Care Links.

Because of the economic recession, Gonzalez said there has been a steep drop in the number of calls from people interested in child care.

"Our child care referrals have dropped tremendously," she said. "There are a lot more families

Child Care Links

1020 Serpentine Lane, Ste. 102, Pleasanton

Phone: 417-8733

Referral Line is open from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Parents can call the agency's toll free number at 800-540-9585 or request referrals by accessing the agency's website at www.childcarelinks.org.

Community Care Licensing

Parents can access information about any licensed provider by contacting the state Community Care Licensing Division at 510-622-2602.

Visit www.cclcd.ca.gov.

that are working different hours or different shifts so parents can stay home with the children during the day and then swing shift or even graveyard (shift) for the other parent."

Child Care Links was founded in the Tri-Valley in 1976 and specializes in providing subsidies for those who are eligible for financial assistance.

Gonzalez said it's important for parents to do their homework--and that means contacting the state's Community Care Licensing division, which approves child care licenses and handles complaints made against a provider.

"A lot of times, the parents will get a referral list from us and just go out and look at the facility and make a decision," she said. "We always refer them to contact Community Care Licensing and do a background check on the provider. The Community Care Licensing is only a phone call away and they will give you a background check on any incidents that have happened in the facility or child care home."

Mullins herself has been told by her clients of their experiences with bad child care providers.

"You really have to check them out before you decide," she said of in-home day care providers. "I recommend coming to the home at different times of the day to see what they are doing. You should be able to come over any time you want to see your child. Just because they have a license doesn't mean they're good."

Mullins is a member of the Valley Family Child Care Association, which also offers referrals of providers who are members of the organization in the Tri-Valley area.

While supply is meeting the demand in Pleasanton for child care, Gonzalez said there is a need for more child care providers who offer transportation to and from school. She said there are a couple of areas in town where there isn't much offered, such as the Lydiksen Elementary School area. ■

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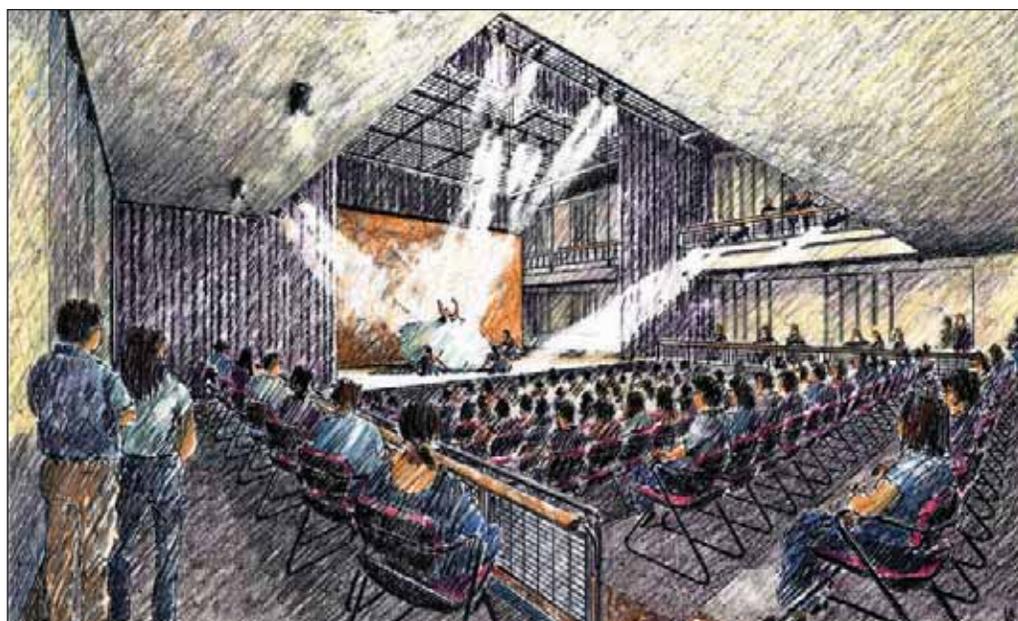
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PLEASANTON CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION

An artist rendering shows how the completed black box theater portion of the Firehouse Arts Center would look.

SETTING THE STAGE



EMILY WEST

Campaign Director Debbie Look leads a group through what the black box theater currently looks like as the Firehouse Arts Center undergoes construction.

Firehouse Arts Center on course for completion next spring

By Emily West

About a year after officially breaking ground, the Firehouse Arts Center is rounding the corner into the final phase of construction. There is much anticipation and excitement as the frame of the long-awaited future arts facility takes shape.

Once a home for firefighters and their fleet on Railroad Avenue, between the Meadowlark Dairy and Lions Wayside Park, it will soon be home to a black-box theater, art classrooms and gallery space.

It was about 15 years ago that firefighters vacated the property. Civic Arts Manager Andy Jorgensen said around the same time a survey about city arts programs and facilities showed residents were looking for more than what was currently offered.

"There were several amenities needed," he said. "It mentioned an art gallery, classrooms, a small theater to complement the Amador Theater, and an outdoor amphitheater. There was also a list of possible locations and the firehouse floated up to the top."

Construction is expected to wrap up in the spring, and Jorgensen said he is looking forward to seeing the project come to fruition.

"As a person who loves the arts and whose family has a longstanding attachment to downtown, I think it's the right facility, the right size and in the right location to do some really grand things," he said.

Now, instead of meeting monthly on the arts center, Jorgensen is meeting weekly to prepare for the first season of performances, exhibits and classes. While no act has been booked yet, the plan is to continue some standing productions in addition to adding new offerings.

For the younger art lovers, the SaturYAY! matinee performances will be coming back and featuring musical artists, storytellers and performance artists. Teens can look forward to having a stage for everything from improv shows to age-appropriate stand-up comedy and open mic nights to performances from local musical prodigies.

In addition to theater productions, the adult fare will likely feature performing arts experiences, jazz, chamber music, comedy, lecturers, storytelling and a film series.

Debbie Look, campaign coordinator for the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation, said she is excited for the Firehouse Arts Center to be nearing completion.

"We're encouraging the public now that they can see it's here and it's coming," she said. "We hope they will step up and realize it's their facility and help us support it. It's going to be a wonderful amenity for children, senior citizens and everyone in between."

The foundation had hoped to raise about \$2 million and although it was able to give the city \$500,000 last year, Look said the goal has not been reached.

"It's been a struggle," she said. "Economic conditions have hit us just like every other nonprofit."

While donations are always welcome, there are also opportunities to leave a

lasting impression. Donors may "buy" a 4 inch by 8 inch brick for \$150 or a seat in the theater for \$500.

Last September, the group put together the Firehouse Fling, a carnival that was well-attended. For logistical reasons, they decided not to do the same this year, but are in the midst of planning a benefit event before the center is completed.

Details for a grand opening aren't final, but it is likely to be unveiled with a bang.

"We anticipate a dedication and a two-week series of celebratory kinds of programming," Jorgensen said. "It would include art shows and performances as well as a gala by the foundation and a commemorative evening to the building's history."

Recognizing the building's past is an important aspect of the project, and Look said it has been that way since the beginning.

"The firehouse means an incredible amount to the firefighters and members of the community," she said. "So many people remember walking by with their children and visiting the station."

Memorabilia and even the brass fire pole will be included in the finished building, the brick façade—with bricks made in Pleasanton—was restored and will be a prominent feature in the art gallery.

"The historical building has been exposed even more because of the removal of the additions made in the '60s and '70s," Jorgensen said. "The [newer portion] was designed purposefully to contrast the old building, which is very prominent as opposed to being gobbled up so you don't know what's new and what's old."

Another portion of purposeful design is to have the two entrances feel at home in their surroundings.

"The building is very much meant to reflect the downtown community and our heritage," Look said. "The front is meant to be in line with the downtown and the other side is very different because of the outdoor component. There is wood and blue and green lighting for the nature aspect."

"I'm really excited because I think the building is designed to fit in that space," she added. "It's not cookie-cutter, it has meaning for Pleasanton and it reflects the community's strong values."

As the building's interior and exterior are finished, the outdoor plaza area facing Lions Wayside Park will be landscaped. Sprucing up the adjacent park is also being discussed, as the city is preparing to develop a master plan for the area.

In an effort to unify the space with the rest of downtown, there is talk of joining with local merchants to offer packaged deals and discounts for firehouse patrons. For example, Jorgensen detailed the idea saying people could pay once for an evening downtown that included sampling hors d'oeuvres, enjoying a show and then stopping by a restaurant for dinner.

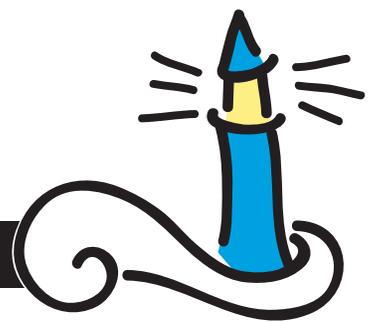
"We very much see the firehouse as an arts center, but also as a place that will enliven the downtown and we want to do that in mutually beneficial ways," he said. ■

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Weekly adventures: The Norlander family: Pete, Katie, Therese, Colleen and Matthew took the Weekly to Peru. Some activities on the trip included horseback riding, whitewater rafting, tandem paragliding and a four-day trek on the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, where they are pictured.



Ancient Weekly: Bob and Kathy Russman read their copy of the Weekly from back home before shopping at the marketplace in old Town Hall Square in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia. The Town Hall, according to Bob, is the oldest surviving Gothic town hall in Northern Europe, built in the 1400s.

PET OF THE WEEK



CATHERINE HANSEN RUSH

Out of this world

Meet Cosmos. He appears to be looking skyward in hopes the stars are aligned in his favor and he finds a new home soon. Cosmos is a 4-year-old, neutered male Tabby with a big beautiful white chest, white paws, and a handsome face. He has a pink nose and beautiful green eyes. Cosmos is a big boy, probably weighing close to 18 pounds. Cosmos is very friendly and he loves attention. According to his previous owner Cosmos gets along fine with other cats and dogs and he is well-mannered inside the home. Visit Cosmos (pet # 86080) 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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Coldwell Banker launches Habitat for Humanity campaign

Organizers set \$341,000 goal for 11th annual effort

By JEB BING

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Community Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, the Bay Area's largest real estate services company, announced the launch of its 11th annual Habitat for Humanity fundraising campaign.

The major event of this year's fundraising effort will once again be a Habitat for Humanity raffle, which kicks off today. Last year's fundraising campaign raised \$167,000, enough to help build 77 homes for low income families. Organizers of this year's campaign, dubbed "Building Hope for Humanity," have set a goal of raising \$341,400 and sales associates are encouraged to sell 50 tickets at \$2 a piece. Funds will also be raised by fundraisers held by individual Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices throughout Northern California.

Over the past 10 years, the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Community Foundation has been the leading corporate sponsor of Habitat for Humanity, raising \$1.9 million through the efforts of its sales associates, managers, staff and clients in Northern California.

The Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage team has also participated in the construction of 95 Habitat for Humanity homes built over more than volunteer 41,700 hours.

"Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is entering its eleventh year helping to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity," said Rick Turley, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in the San Francisco Bay Area. "Looking back at all we have accomplished over the past decade, I'm proud to see how our agents, staff and clients have come together to help so many families accomplish their dream of homeownership. It couldn't have been done without the hard work and generosity of our team."

Turley said Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage agents and staff believe deeply in the mission of Habitat for Humanity. "We've seen a difficult couple years for individuals in the communities in which we live and work," he said. "Using our strong network to help an organization like Habitat for Humanity, not only helps our neighbors now, but gives them the opportunity to build a better future."

The raffle runs today through September

See **COLDWELL** on Page **22**

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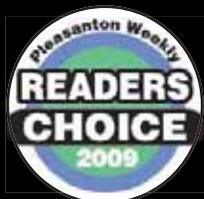
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PLEASANTON



CUSTOM KOTTINGER RANCH Panoramic views of both Mt. Diablo and Tri-Valley area. Dramatic pillars line the formal entry to this stunning & elegant executive home. **\$2,099,900**

925.785.8239 Steve Fast
 925.200.1909 Karla Brown

PLEASANTON



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

925.989.6500 Delores Gragg

PLEASANTON



EXPANDED LAGUNA MODEL 6BR/3 1/2 BA with approx. 4,592 sq. ft. w\2 bedrooms and full bath downstairs. Dramatic entry w\sweeping staircase and expanded family rm. **\$1,350,000**

925.352.7307 Tracey Buescher

PLEASANTON



SOUTH SIDE BEAUTY Every room is updated in this 3BR/2BA Mission Park home. Bay window in living room highlights lush garden with used brick walkways and beautiful arbors. **\$697,000**

925.426.3833 Pat Burns

PLEASANTON



BELVEDERE NEIGHBORHOOD 3BD/2 1/2 BA, 1,614 sq.ft. home on 4,280 sq. ft. lot with hardwood floors, newer carpet and paint, private yard with brick patio. **\$650,000**

925.998.9692 Danielle Peel

CASTRO VALLEY



OVER 21 GORGEOUS ACRES OF LAND with a quaint 2 bedroom cottage and a large brick fireplace. Surrounding areas are heavily wooded and very private. **\$649,000**

925.200.1909 Karla Brown

LIVERMORE



BEST VALUE IN NEIGHBORHOOD! Beautiful home, approx. 1,932 sq. ft., 4BR, 2.5BA, spacious private backyard with no rear neighbors. Almost 7,000 sq.ft. Lot. **\$485,000**

925.858.5400 Sheri Platter

PLEASANTON



ONE STORY TOWNHOME Private end unit. 2BD/1BA with gorgeous kitchen, remodeled bath, inside laundry and private patio. Walk to restaurants, bike to BART. **\$339,500**

925.426.3844 Pat Griffin

Hometown GMAC Real Estate is an Independently Owned and Operated Firm

J. Rockcliff



REALTORS

THE EAST BAY'S PREMIER
REAL ESTATE COMPANY.

GATED ESTATE



PLEASANTON

9745 SANTOS RANCH RD \$4,800,000
Fabulous 70A gated estate on the Westside, less than 10 min from downtown. Large house and 5 car garage and views forever! Truly a one-of-a-kind property.
DIANA PARKER 925.216.9117

SANTA BARBARA ARCHITECTURE



LIVERMORE

655 EAST VINEYARD AVENUE \$4,695,000
Fabulous 20+ acre parcel with 8090 +/- sqft custom home. 14.8 acres of income producing Chardonnay grapes. Gorgeous views, peaceful. Part of Ruby Hill Vineyard Estates. Guest apartment, pool, spa, wine room. This property has it all.
CAROLE CLINE, CRS 925.648.5415

GOLDEN EAGLE ESTATES



PLEASANTON

8044 GOLDEN EAGLE WAY \$3,187,000
Beautiful custom home in gated Golden Eagle Estates. Designer features throughout w/ extensive use of cherry wood, stone & more. Wine cellar, exercise room, workshop, main flr master, Heritage Oak trees, large rooms. Truly elegant. Level park-like backyard with pool, spa, lrg grass area, too much to list!
PEGGY CORTEZ 925.648.5454

GORGEOUS GATED HILLTOP ESTATE



PLEASANTON

2801 GRAY FOX COURT \$2,795,000
Panoramic views on 1.91 acres of privacy. Custom Mediterranean single level home with quality and character. Resort-like backyard with pool, spa, swim up bar, barbecue, palm trees. Room for vineyard, tennis court, olive grove, so much more! See www.2801GrayFox.com
PHYLLIS & CAROLYN WEINER 925.251.2585
WWW.PHYLLISANDCAROLYN.COM

REMARKABLE HOME



PLEASANTON

3737 NICOLE AVE \$1,550,000
One of the most remarkable homes you will see in this area and price range, everything top of the line. Rare and exotic woods, granite, marble, etc. Gorgeous private 1/2 acre lot with gated pool, spa, basketball, gazebos, and your own vineyard w/well.
PHYLLIS & CAROLYN WEINER 925.251.2585
WWW.PHYLLISANDCAROLYN.COM OPEN SUN 1-4

GREAT 24+/- ACRE PROPERTY



CASTRO VALLEY

22322 EDEN CANYON \$1,499,000
One story home, updated kitchen and bath, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, step down living room, office, two car garage, great deck to look out over the creek and beautiful nature of Eden Canyon, Nice outside Patio and Bar area, wine cellar, Plus Huge Shop/Carport, Barn.
KRISTY PEIXOTO 925.251.2536
WWW.ESTATESANDRANCHES.COM OPEN SUN 1-3

CLASSIC RANCH STYLE



LIVERMORE

1441 CALVARY LN \$1,300,000
Located on 1 acre of land with 6 horse stalls, is uniquely located near the heart of Livermore. Just minutes away from Shopping, fine dining, schools, and the newly renovated Downtown with all the local activities, the location is the perfect place to call home.
STACI ARMARIO 925.251.2526
WWW.STACIARMARIO.COM

PREMIUM LOCATION ABOVE PARK



PLEASANTON

3249 ARBOR DRIVE \$984,850
Rarely available! Custom 4 bed, 2.5 bath home on a huge lot of almost 13,000 sq ft! Updated with granite counters, designer lighting, 2 stone fireplaces, hardwood floors and much more. Professionally landscaped with several outdoor patios great for entertaining or relaxing.
TONNI CHANDLER 925.788.7788
WWW.TONNICHANDLER.COM

GORGEOUS VINTAGE HILLS



PLEASANTON

850 CONCORD ST \$759,000
Entertain Pool-Side at this CUSTOM Home situated on almost 1/4 acre. Park-like yard with beautiful pool and spa. Granite kitchen, new windows throughout, meticulous landscape designed by local nursery. Walk to school and park. Don't miss this one, priced just right!
EMILY HUNTER 925.785.3795
WWW.EMILYHUNTER.NET

ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL



PLEASANTON

3484 PARK PLACE \$779,950
Absolutely beautiful home located across from Pleasanton Meadows Park. Three spacious bedrooms plus large loft/office space, with 2272 square feet of living space. Remodeled kitchen, Master Bath, hardwood floors, park like backyard, so much more!
PHYLLIS & CAROLYN WEINER 925.251.2585
WWW.PHYLLISANDCAROLYN.COM

COTTAGE LIVING IN DOWNTOWN



PLEASANTON

4075 NEVIS STREET \$689,950
Approximately 2000 square feet, 3 full bedrooms with 2 master suites, 3 full baths, hardwood floors, updated throughout, close to downtown and schools.
SUSETTE CLARK-WALKER 925.251.2547
WWW.SUSETTECLARKWALKER.COM

WONDERFUL PROPERTY



DUBLIN

3708 SILVERA RANCH DR \$672,000
Great property in small neighborhood in Dublin. Open space behind, interior has granite tile counters, cherry cabinets and upgraded appliances. This is a very nice home. Don't miss it.
MICHAEL DELEHANTY 925.251.2516
OPEN SUN 12:30-3

LOADED WITH UPDATES



LIVERMORE

140 LEE AVE \$499,000
This amazing home has been lovingly cared for... updates throughout including kitchen & baths. Separate living quarters above garage with own entry. Close to schools, shopping, parks & freeway access.
TOM CHANCE 925.487.6360
WWW.TOMCHANCE.COM

BEAUTIFUL 3/4+ ACRE LOT



PLEASANTON

2538 VINEYARD AVE \$449,950
Fabulous Mt Diablo Views! Located across the street from Clara Lane. Lot is generally level with good utility. Private well, electricity, public water and sewer. Located in the Vineyard Avenue corridor specific plan. Build your dream home!
KELLY PATTERSON 925.251.2535
OR MICHAEL DUFFY 925.251.2523

PENDING



LIVERMORE

635 TRAVISO CIR \$878,000
South Livermore Beauty in Perfect Condition! 6 Beds, 5.5 Baths and over 4000+ sq ft. Spiral Staircase, Slate Flrs, SS Appliances and much more!
COREY GREEN 925.899.6011
WWW.COREYGREEN4U.COM

PENDING!



PLEASANTON

833 INDEPENDENCE COURT \$1,181,250
Approximately 3200 square feet, 11,000+ square foot lot, backs to open space, former Ventana Hills model, hardwood floors, 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths, spectacular backyard with pool, spa, waterfall and fountain.
SUSETTE CLARK-WALKER 925.251.2547
WWW.SUSETTECLARKWALKER.COM

Blackhawk 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300	Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd. Danville, CA 94506 925.736.6000	Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000	Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Ste. 100 Lafayette, CA 94549 925.253.7001	Livermore 1983 Second Street Livermore, CA 94550 925.667.2100	Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100 Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000	Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd., #110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500	Walnut Creek 100 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500
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www.rockcliff.com

COLDWELL

Continued from Page 22

25 in all 61 Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices throughout Northern California. Tickets are \$2 each and the public is invited to participate. Checks should be made payable to Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Community Foundation. All monies raised through the raffle will be donated

to local Habitat for Humanity chapters for homes to be built in 2010.

Prizes for the raffle include \$5,000 donated by Princeton Capital, two round trip tickets provided by Southwest Airlines, hotel stays at the Sanctuary Camelback Mountain Resort & Spa in Arizona, Monterey Plaza Hotel, and much more. For a list of prizes or Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices, visit CaliforniaMoves.com or call 275-3085. ■

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Dublin

- 3 BEDROOMS**
- 3708 Silvera Ranch Drive \$672,000**
Sun 12:30-1 Cambridge Real Estate 426-7469
- 8057 Crossridge Road \$689,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2502

Pleasanton

- 2 BEDROOMS**
- 4181 Georgis Place \$359,500**
1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 323-6735
- 7730 Canyon Meadow #B \$369,000**
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff 872-9679

- 3 BEDROOMS**
- 7276 Valley View Court \$549,950**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3800
- 5625 San Jose Drive \$697,000**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3833

- 4 BEDROOMS**
- 9146 Longview Drive \$1,089,000**
Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 462-7653
- 1608 Cindy Way \$1,119,000**
Sun 1-5 Alain Pinel 621-4045
- 1624 Cindy Way \$1,249,000**
Sun 1-5 Alain Pinel 621-4045
- 2886 Calle Reynoso \$1,550,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 583-2168

- 4162 Remillard \$1,595,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 577-1944
- 2635 Ingrid Court \$1,799,500**
Sun 1-4 Allied Brokers 846-3755
- 1748 Magnolia Circle \$639,950**
Sat 1-4 Henderson Properties 918-0481
- 5703 San Antonio Street \$675,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Sasville Properties 548-8641
- 5839 Welch Lane \$699,750**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 583-1104

- 5 BEDROOMS**
- 1632 Cindy Way \$1,349,000**
Sun 1-5 Alain Pinel 621-4045
- 1867 Sannita Court \$3,200,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 202-6898

- 6 BEDROOMS**
- 8280 Regency Drive \$1,350,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3828
- 5745 Hanifen Way \$1,469,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 621-4045
- 7193 Rosecliff Court \$1,699,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 621-4064

- San Ramon**
- 4 BEDROOMS**
- 2713 Derby Drive \$995,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff 998-0862

4105 Parma Court v Pleasanton



Ruby Hill

Offered at \$2,899,000

Style throughout—7,000 sq. ft., 7 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, 6.5 car garage, movie theatre to die for and a 1,600 bottle wine cellar... This spectacular custom estate is located on a 26,000 sq. ft. corner lot with terrific curb appeal and has it all. The residence was completed in early 2006.



Uwe Maercz
www.apr.com/uwe
DRE LIC# 01390383
Cell: 925.360.8758
E-Fax: 925.215.2278
uwe@apr.com

ALAIN PINEL REALTORS
900 Main Street v PLEASANTON v CA 94566

COLDWELL BANKER
presents

californiamoves.com



DUBLIN
11373 RAMPART DRIVE
DESIRABLE WEST SIDE \$699,900
4 BR 3 BA Aprx. 2262 sf on almost 14000 sf lot! Beautiful & remodeled/upgraded, lrg/priv bckryd 925.847.2200



LIVERMORE
Open OPEN SUN 1-4 980 CROMWELL STREET
BEAUTIFUL & UPDATED \$485,000
3 BR 2 BA Dual pane windows, cherry wd kitchen cabs, granite counters/island, remodeled guest bath 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
2442 CRESTLINE RD
BIRDLAND RANCHER W/POOL \$695,000
3 BR 2 BA lovely tree lined street, home is being sold completely furnished. www.2442crestline.com 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

ALAMEDA
1713 THIRD STREET
GREAT LOCATION \$318,000
3 BR 1 BA Walk to schools/downtown, hrdwd flrs in liv/din/kitchen, updated kitchen w/granite counters 925.847.2200

HAYWARD
20919 LOCUST STREET, UNIT G
GREAT HOME! \$209,000
2 BR 1.5 BA Crown moulding, built in speaker system, views from balconies, att garage w/interior access 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

21 CASTLEDOWN ROAD
MUST SEE INSIDE! \$1,090,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Castlewood! Beautiful open & spacious home! View of MT. Diablo! Gorgeous kit! Must See Inside 925.847.2200

DUBLIN
6512 KING WAY
BEAUTIFUL & MAINTAINED \$485,000
3 BR 2 BA Hrdwd flrs, separate fam rm w/tile flrs, stone frplc/built-in speakers, six panel doors 925.847.2200

27917 PUEBLO CALLE, UNIT 7
GREAT HOME! \$77,000
2 BR 2 BA Aprx. 1440 sf, Double oven, stove, fridge, microwave, washer, dryer stay! Space rent \$491 a mo 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

2927 LETHBRIDGE COURT
FABULOUS IN PLEASANTON! \$739,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Aprx. 2165 sf, w/huge private bckryd, lot apx 7150 sf, lrg deck! Great school district, gr8 loc 925.847.2200

FREMONT/ARDENWOOD
34648 WINSLOW TER
GREAT HOME! \$739,000
4 BR 3 BA One of Most Desirable Models. Bed/Bath Down. Kit w/newer granite cntrs. Newer Int/Ext Paint 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE
1221 ECHO SUMMIT ST
MUST SEE! \$524,950
4 BR 2.5 BA beautiful hrdwd flrs, many upgrades, very clean, inground pl, across from park, excellent loc 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

1561 TRIMINGHAM DR
BEAUTIFUL DANBURY PARK \$539,900
3 BR 2.5 BA New rf, Updtd kit/hrdwd flrs, vaulted ceilings, Dual pane wndws, bckryd w/dck/mural/fountain 925.847.2200



Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122

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The latest from The 680 Blog

Pleasanton Market Update - Rolling Along

The Pleasanton real estate market continued its ride in July, with sales activity up and inventory shrinking. Most of the strength is in the lower price ranges, where at times the market resembled the fabled days of 2004, with multiple offers and frantic buyers missing out on houses. The big difference, of course, is that there is no wild over-bidding, even when there are multiple offers. The reason is that banks must still appraise the property for the sales price, and appraisers are extremely conservative in their valuations.

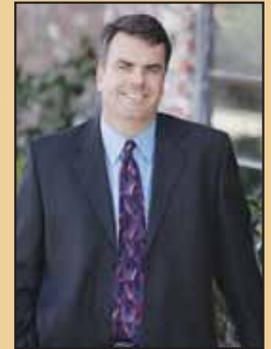
But activity is indeed up, with 78 pending sales of single family homes in July, up from 61 pending sales in June and 71 in May. In fact, this is the highest number of pending sales since July of 2005, when there were 84 pending sales. Inventory further constricted as well, with 185 single family homes on the market at the end of July, down from 207 at the end of June.

>>Go to www.680Homes.com to read the rest of this article.



Doug Buenz

Office
925.251.1111
Direct
925.463.2000
680Homes.com



Expert real estate services

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

OPEN SUN 1-4



Bridle Creek Area. 5 BR + Office, 5 1/2 BTH, gourmet granite/cherry/stainless kitchen, .47 acre lot, luxurious master suite, & more!
\$1,469,000
5745 Hanifen Wy

OPEN SUN 1-5



Gorgeous New Home! 5 BR, 3 1/2 BTH, granite/stainless kitchen, front & back porch, luxurious master suite, extensive upgrades, flat 10k lot!
\$1,349,000
1632 Cindy Way

OPEN SUN 1-5



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

PENDING SALE!



Fabulous Country Fair home with granite & cherry kitchen, hardwood floors, 3 fireplaces, and private almost 1/4 acre lot w/ pool & spa.
\$999,900

Recent Pending & Sold Homes

5769 San Carlos Way	\$699,900
2824 Foothill Oaks Ter	\$1,789,000
5682 Sunset Creek Ct	\$1,600,000
2608 Daylily Ct	\$605,000
9459 Blessing Dr.....	\$1,549,500
5179 Muirwood Dr.....	\$875,000
315 Golden Grass Dr	\$1,645,000
3776 Newton Way	\$1,175,000

*I can sell your home too!
Call me today!*

apr.com | PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



BLAISE LOFLAND



925.846.6500
www.blaiselofland.com
blaise@blaiselofland.com

apricorn

LAGUNA OAKS

COMING SOON



2505 ARLOTTA PLACE, PLEASANTON

Best location in Laguna Oaks! Desirable Newport model on premium .40 acre lot. Quiet court location. Four bedrooms, bonus room, plus formal office. Private guest/ in law quarters (4th). Three and a half bathrooms. Approximately 3,830 square feet. Beautifully landscaped private rear yard. Expansive lawn area (pool site). Large gourmet kitchen, tile flooring and large eating area. Spacious master suite with views of Pleasanton Ridge, and large walk in closet. A short walk to the community pool, park, and tennis courts. **OFFERED AT \$1,429,000**

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 \$865,000**

SAN LEANDRO



1307 WAYNE AVENUE, SAN LEANDRO

Five bedroom, three bath home. Approximately 1,795 square feet. Great for larger family! Separate living and family rooms. Central heat. New carpet. Newer dual pane windows. Private rear yard with fruit trees, newer perimeter fencing and new rear deck. Two car garage. **OFFERED AT \$449,000**

CASTLEWOOD HEIGHTS

SALE PENDING



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 \$1,299,000**

GREY EAGLE ESTATES



4 EAGLET COURT, PLEASANTON

Experience breathtaking panoramic views from this secluded hilltop home, located in the gated community of Grey Eagle Estates. This beautiful private estate (1.36 acre lot), features 5,460 square feet of living space with five bedrooms, AuPair/ Guest Room (4th) and four and a half baths. Large downstairs bonus room and private office (5th). The remodeled gourmet kitchen and master bath. Extensive basement storage area and separate wine cellar. Marble and hardwood flooring. Separate pool house with pool/spa/waterfall/kitchen/bathroom. Tile roof. Four car garage. Don't miss this one! **OFFERED AT \$1,995,000**

SHADOW CLIFF



3039 BADGER DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Adorable three bedroom, two and a half bath home in Shadow Cliff. Approximately 1,383 square feet. Great starter home or investment property! Excellent condition! Newer stainless steel kitchen appliances. Vaulted Ceilings, security alarm system and central heating/air conditioning. Tile Roof. Private rear yard with spa. Two car garage. Neighborhood park. **OFFERED AT \$559,000**

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



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



ANNI HAGFELDT BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,749,000
Stunning views from this custom home in desirable Kottinger Ranch. 5bd/4.5ba, on over 1/2 acre. Pool, bonus room – there is no other home like this one!

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON \$1,699,000
6bd/6ba, 5096+/-sf home, .33 acres, 2 minutes from 680 and 5 minutes from downtown. Office and bedroom downstairs. Salt water pool with views of Ridge. 3 car garage. Upgrades! 7193 Rosecliff Ct

DOUG BUENZ BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,469,000
Bridle Creek area. 5bd + office, 5.5/ba. Gourmet kitchen, w/granite/stainless/cherry. Luxurious master suite, .47+/- acre lot & more.

MARK JAMES BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,189,000
Absolutely Gorgeous! 5bd/3ba/3car. Over 3000+/-sf home. Extensively remodeled. Sunset Magazine rear yard. Pool, spa, palapa. Just 2 blocks from downtown. 18,000+/-sf lot.

TIM MCGUIRE OPEN SAT 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,089,000
2006 remodeled with granite kitchen/built-in stainless appliances/maple floors/new carpet/paint/baths/furnace and sparkling pool – absolutely must see! 9146 Longview Dr

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$999,000
Cpmpetely remodeled home in Rosepointe with sparkling pool and spa. 4bd/3ba with over 3000+/-sf. Must See!

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.

BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$865,000
4bd+bonus/private office/3ba. 3680+/-sf. Upgraded kitchen with granite/stainless/crown molding/plantation shutters. Bamboo and custom tile floors. 1312 Carlton Pl

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$699,000
3bd/2ba, 1240+/-sf on 21,000+/-sf lot. Possible 2nd home or subdivide. Close to freeway and downtown. Too much to list!

JENNIFER MALAKOFF OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$699,750
Wonderful Welch! Sparkling salt-water pebble-tech pool 4bd/3ba on a 9407+/-sf lot. Numerous upgrades/lush green lawns. 5839 Welch Ln

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON \$680,000
4bd/2ba, 9128+/-sf lot. Open floor plan with new Kitchen/granite, tile/pantry/double ovens/5burner gas stove. Built-in cabinets in dining, window seat in LR. 3158 Randick Ct

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$679,000
"Colony" model in Birdland. 4bd/2ba, 1923 +/-sf on .22+/-acre lot water heater and dual pane windows.with gazebo and vegetable garden. New paint, newer roof, AC, furnace.

GINA HUGGINS BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$519,000
Beautiful 3bd/2ba, has sparkling pool with outdoor kitchen, huge indoor remodeled kitchen, remodeled baths. Close to schools.

JEFF REPINE BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$635,000
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.

ESTHER BECKER BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$475,000
Great location. 3bd/2ba private balcony overlooking greenbelt and creek. Formal dining, large FR and kitchen with eat in bar. 2 car garage.

ROBIN YOUNG BY APPOINTMENT



PATTERSON \$194,900
Beautiful 5bd/3ba, 2600+/-sf, home offering spacious open floor plan, bedroom and full bath on main level/formal LR/DR/huge family room/spacious kitchen with granite counter tops/loft.



THIS SUMMER, SAN RAMON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER WANTS TO HELP PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN AND TEACH THEM SAFETY. SUMMER IS THE PEAK ACCIDENT AND INJURY SEASON FOR CHILDREN. THE MOST FREQUENT INJURIES ARE DROWNINGS, FALLS, AND BICYCLE, CAR AND PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS.



Summer Safety FOR YOUR KIDS.

WATER SAFETY

- Never leave children unattended around a pool or water – not even for one minute. Accidents occur fast.
- Flotation devices are not drown-proof.
- Children should always wear a life vest while boating and near open water.
- Always close your pool gate. Double-check the gate after people have been in the pool area.
- Review your pool rules and safety with family, friends and babysitters.
- Learn CPR. You could save a life.

SUN SAFETY

- Always use sunscreen and wear protective clothing.
- Make sure youngsters drink enough water.
- Watch for signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke: dizziness, nausea, rapid heart beat.

PREVENT BURNS

- Watch toddlers closely near barbecues, campfires or outdoor fireplaces. Burns are common injuries.
- Install screens or some type of barrier where appropriate.
- Metal playground equipment can get hot enough to cause burns on hot days.

PREVENT FALLS

- Move beds and chairs away from windows. Children may jump and play, and could fall through open windows.
- Make sure low windows are closed to prevent young children from falling out.
- Install gates at the top of stairs or decks to prevent falls.

ROAD SAFETY

- Always wear helmets and protective gear while biking, skating or skateboarding.
- Discuss bicycle and road safety with your children.
- Review pedestrian safety with children as well as adolescents.
- Never leave a child alone in a car. Temperatures quickly reach over 100 degrees.
- Drive cautiously. Children move quickly and may be difficult to see, especially when backing up. You may not see toddlers and older children playing behind a car.
- Always put your children in car seats or seat belts.

Safety tips are brought to you by the Pediatrics Department at San Ramon Regional Medical Center:

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The Pediatric Program at San Ramon Regional Medical Center has a pediatrician in the hospital 24 hours of every day from Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland.



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