

Pleasanton Weekly

Continuing excellence: School district sees eight-point gain in API scores
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Taking the stage: The Civic Arts season is packed with new shows for both young and old
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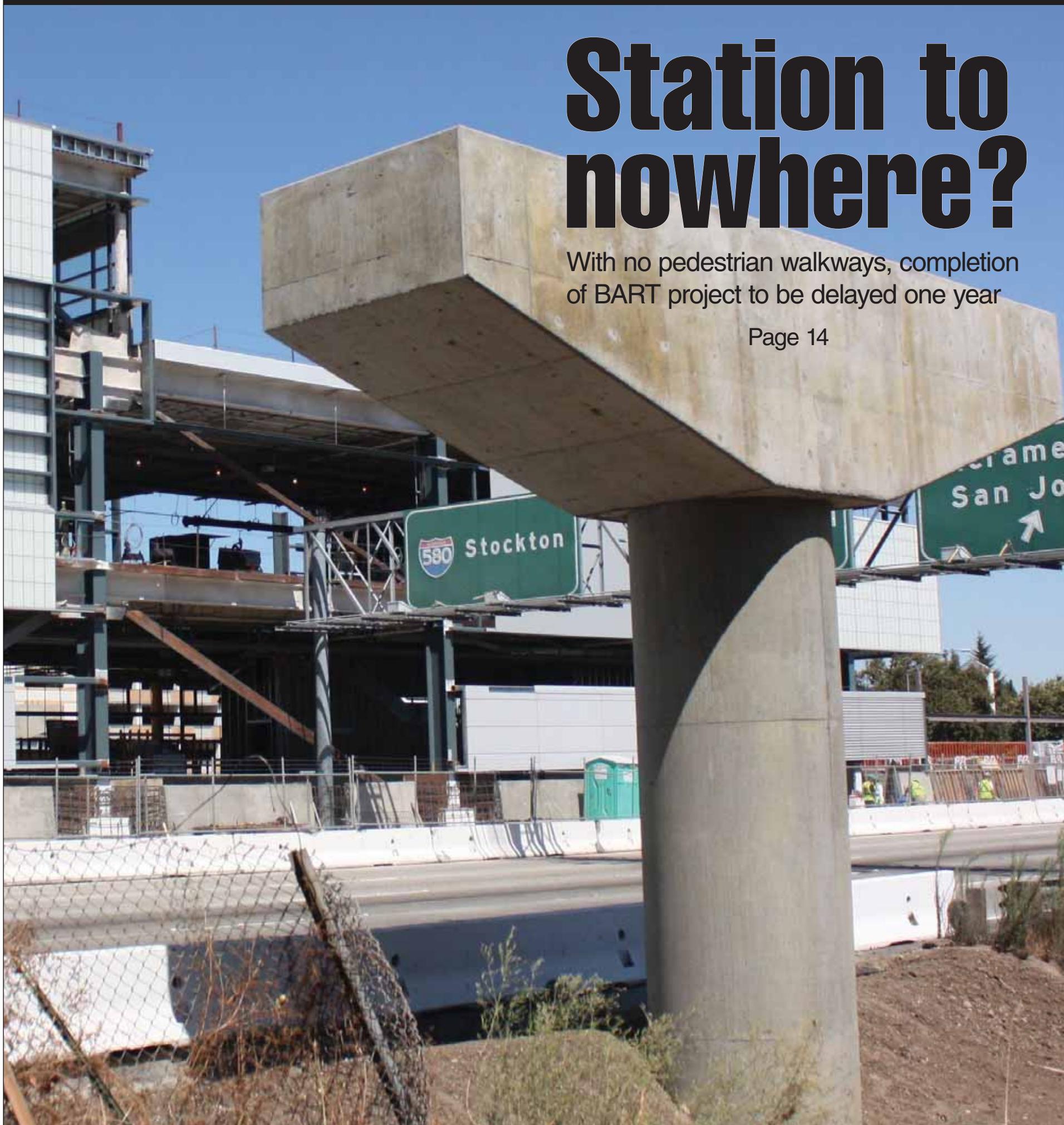
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Station to nowhere?

With no pedestrian walkways, completion of BART project to be delayed one year

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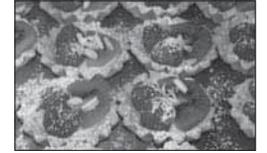


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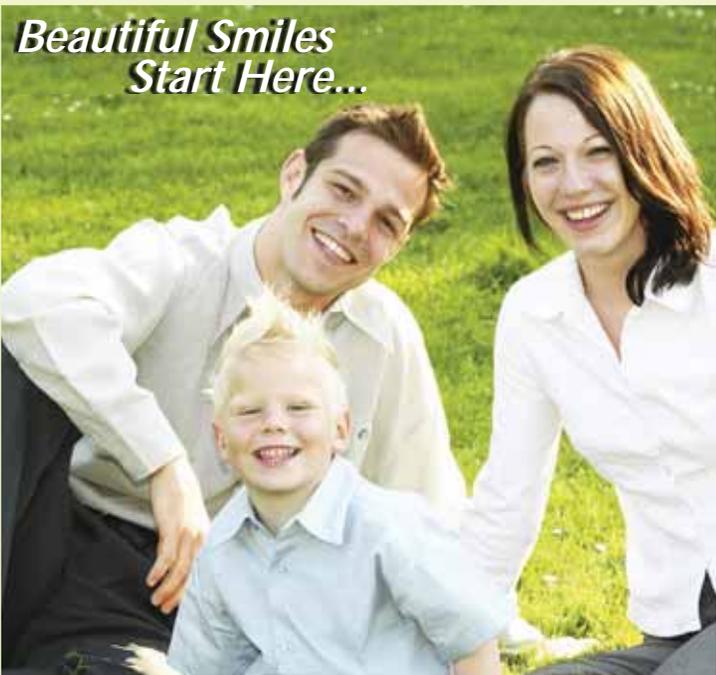
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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Farmers' Market a big contributor to P.S. 183

While out for a walk on the upper East Side of Manhattan last weekend, I stopped at the East 67th Street Market, a weekly antiques, flea and farmers' market held each Saturday since 1979 on the concrete school grounds of P.S. 183, a typical big city, five-story old brick elementary school between York and 1st avenues. Open year-round, rain or shine, from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., the market differs from Pleasanton's in that it incorporates vendors selling collectibles and antiques as well as fruits, vegetables, nuts and baked goods from outlying farms and the Pennsylvania Dutch and Amish communities. It also brings a lot of money to the school, providing P.S. 183 and its PTA with \$75,000 to \$100,000 in space rental fees each year. Operated by Bob Ditroia since 1982, the market attracts hundreds of shoppers from the surrounding high-rises who welcome a chance to buy fresh produce direct from the farms while also navigating their way through 70 booths or more inside the school's gymnasium to sort through the tables of jewelry, bracelets, watches and clothing. Much of it is from estates in the high end residential area, including one vendor who was selling off 100 scarves she had been given by one heiress. Another vendor, John, who's been selling at Ditroia's 67th Street Market for seven years, offered a variety of British collectibles, including a photo of Britain's Queen Elizabeth arriving back in London in 1952 after her father King George IV had died.

Ditroia says the advantage of mixing the farmers' market with the antique and flea markets is that the combination draws more shoppers who stay longer and buy more. All day long, people are seen leaving with bags of groceries while also carrying old clocks or framed artwork to waiting cars on 67th Street. Located near four major medical establishments — New York Presbyterian, Memorial Sloan-Kettering, the Hospital for Special Surgery and New York Hospital — it's the largest market of its kind in New York. Annual receipts have run as high as \$250,000 with vendors taking home several thousand dollars each Saturday. One farmer, who sells everything from

fruits and vegetables to free range chickens and Amish baked goods, earns \$12,000 to \$15,000 on a decent day. With New York just ending one of its rainiest summers in recent memory — only three weekends without rain since April, according to Ditroia — sales are down this year. But he adds that shoppers keep coming because in the recessionary market, they might save on the 67th Street Market's bargains.

Ditroia believes markets like his can bring financial rewards to schools, which is why another school in a high-traffic location has contracted to provide him space for another market. He's also branching out to hospitals, where he's being given space to bring his farmers' market to courtyards and pavilions. The Fiore Medical Center in the Bronx just signed with Ditroia to set up a market at least once a week to serve its thousands of employees during their breaks and he's negotiating with two other hospitals in the Bronx and Queens, where he lives, for more extensive markets. The hospitals, like the schools, Ditroia says, are recouping thousands of dollars in funds from the contracts which are contributing to their fundraising efforts. At P.S. 183 and at I.S. 44, an inter-



Bob Ditroia at P.S. 183

mediate school farther north in the wealthier museum district neighborhoods where Ditroia also has a thriving weekday market, farmers' markets like his are seen in New York as a fresh source of needed funds for a school system faced with ongoing budget shortfalls.

Oh yes, I was in New York, by the way, to greet my newborn grandson Jonathan, who, along with his parents Chris and Mary Bing, was taking a nap as I spent time with Ditroia and perusing his profitable farmers' market at P.S. 183. ■

About the Cover

A new BART station located in the median of Interstate 580 just east of the San Ramon/Foothill Road exit is nearing completion, but it won't open for another year due to welding problems in the pedestrian walkways that will connect riders from both the Pleasanton and Dublin sides of the highway. Residential and commercial developments originally planned to coincide with the station's opening have also been delayed, due to the economic downturn. Photo by Janet Pelletier.

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Saturday, September 19 - 10:00am
Sunday, September 20 - 10:00am
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Yom Kippur Services:

at the Four Points by Sheraton
5115 Hopyard Rd.
Sunday, October 27 - 6:45pm
Monday, October 28 - 10:00am
Yizkor Memorial Service - 11:30am
Neilah, Closing Service - 6:30pm

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What scares you and why?



Jeff Atwood

Failure scares me. It leads to the unknown, and not knowing what is ahead of you can sometimes prevent you from pursuing your goals. You end up taking the cautious route instead of the true route.

Sean Mackle

I'm scared of small spaces that prevent me from moving, especially when I can't escape. Once when I was 10 years old, I crawled inside a trunk, and my brothers locked me in. I was trapped for what seemed like forever.



Josh Pease

I'm really afraid of heights because of a something I saw when I was about 10. I was hiking at Yosemite Falls and saw someone fall off the top, and he died. It was really scary. I still hike, but I never go near the edge now.

Bryan Hilton

Two things terrify me: heights and giant fish swimming next to me in bodies of water. When I was in the Delta at age 13, I saw the huge shadow of a fish swim by me. It was a 300-pound sturgeon. Heights are scary because they are high and if you fall, you'll get hurt.



Travis Chubb

Ever since I saw the movie "Signs," I've been afraid of aliens. I believe in aliens and I think they are going to come and take over the world, and we are all going to die. Many religions and scholars have predicted that the exact day will be Dec. 12, 2012, and that's what I believe, too.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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

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DIGEST

Meat sale to benefit athletics

Foothill Athletic Boosters will be selling a variety of USDA inspected choice meats, such as NY steaks, rib eye, filet mignon, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 19 and 20 at FHS, 4375 Foothill Road.

They will also sell FDA inspected seafood (shrimp, scallops, red snapper). All items are purchased directly from quality wholesale suppliers. Proceeds support all Foothill athletic teams. Call 989-2036 or visit foothillsports.com.

Band to serenade Farmers' Market

The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will be playing at the Pleasanton Farmers' Market at 9:15 a.m. Saturday.

Under the direction of Bob Williams, the band will play a medley of tunes fit for an outdoor shopping experience. Popular selections made famous over the years will be brought together in a robust, full-bodied blend that releases a pure acoustic sound.

Library hosts annual fall book sale

The Friends of the Pleasanton Public Library host the Fall Book Sale 2009 Sept. 25 to 27 in the large meeting room of the library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. More than 40,000 books of all types will be for sale. Paperbacks will be 50 cents and hardbacks will be \$1. Videos and other media will also be on sale. The Friday night sale from 6 to 9 is for members only and memberships can be purchased at the door. The sale is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Call 462-4368.

Pleasanton police help parents

Pleasanton police and Amador Valley Adult and Community Education will partner to offer the Parent Project, starting Sept. 22. The goal of the program is to teach parents skills to help change their adolescent's destructive behavior. The 11-week program meets from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday evenings through Dec. 8 at the police department, 4833 Bernal Ave.

Attendees do not have to live in Pleasanton. The program is \$65, which includes materials. To register, call 426-4280.

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

District's API score up 8 points from last year

District continues trend of above average student achievement

Pleasanton Unified School District schools continue to excel well above the state's standard, according to Academic Performance Index (API) rankings released Tuesday by the California Department of Education.

Out of a possible 1,000 points, with 800 being the state's target, the district score was up eight points this year to 903, with 11 of 15 schools surpassing a score of 900.

These scores include assessment result from the California Standards Tests, in subjects of English, math, history and social science, and science, as well as the California High School Exit Exam.

The state's goal of the API sys-

tem is to monitor and encourage growth. In a statement from the district, they outline the rewards for student advancement: "a student who moves from the far below basic level to the below basic level contributes 300 points toward the school's API score. A student who moves from the proficient level to the advanced level contributes 125 points toward the school's API score."

On the federal level, measured by the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports, all but one Pleasanton school, Hart Middle, met the 2009 criteria in English and math.

State Superintendent Jack O'Connell said API results show

California schools are meeting state standards. AYP results fell slightly, however, with 51 percent of schools meeting federal standards.

In comparing state and federal standards, O'Connell said the API is like a long jump, measuring progress from year to year. The AYP, he said, is more like a high jump, where the bar is raised each year and you either clear it or you don't.

2009 API results

School, 2009 Growth, 2008 Base, 2008-09 Growth
 PUSD: 903, 895, 8
 Alisal Elementary: 886, 893, -7
 Donlon Elementary: 924, 922, 2

Fairlands Elementary: 947, 931, 16
 Mohr Elementary: 961, 956, 5
 Lydiksen Elementary: 902, 871, 31
 Hearst Elementary: 941, 936, 5
 Valley View Elementary: 911, 904, 7
 Vintage Hills Elementary: 922, 920, 2
 Walnut Grove Elementary: 930, 914, 16
 Harvest Park Middle: 926, 924, 2
 Pleasanton Middle: 933, 931, 2
 Hart Middle: 904, 906, -2
 Amador Valley High: 877, 867, 10
 Foothill High: 889, 878, 11
 Village High: 628*, 612*, 16

* This API is calculated for a small school. APIs based on small numbers of students are less reliable and therefore should be carefully interpreted.



DINO VOURNAS

Let the games begin

City leaders and residents gathered Saturday to dedicate the highly-anticipated opening of the first phase of the Bernal Community Park. Above, Mayor Jennifer Hosterman joins with councilmembers Cheryl Cook-Kallio, Jerry Thorne and Cindy McGovern to throw out a ceremonial first pitch. Approximately 400 people turned out to the special event, which included a ribbon-cutting, hot dogs, popcorn and ice cream, and baseball exhibition games by local Little League teams. Phase 1 of the project came in \$1 million under budget and is the beginning of what will eventually become a 50-plus acre sports park that is incorporated within the 318-acre overall park.

Rosh Hashanah celebrations begin

Local Jews mark the spiritual New Year starting tonight

By EMILY WEST

Today is Rosh Hashanah, the beginning of High Holy Days. Jews throughout the Tri-Valley are celebrating with old and new traditions, some of which include yoga and pickles.

Congregation Beth Emek has several activities planned, many of which will incorporate music and have a participatory feel, as they encourage members to read portions of the Torah.

Scott Summerfield, a member of Beth Emek, said High Holy Days are a special time

of year where they hope the community will come together and newcomers can feel welcomed.

Services begin with Erev Rosh Hashanah, at 5:30 and 8 p.m., and continue over the next 10 days leading up to Yom Kippur, including services for children, discussion groups and yoga. Beth Emek High Holy Days events continue into the coming weeks, including the building and decorating the Sukkah and a port and chocolate Havdalah in the Sukkah.

Some events require tickets,

For information, visit www.bethemek.org.

Kosher pickles kicked off the Rosh Hashanah celebration Tuesday with the Chabad of the Tri-Valley.

"In honor of the Jewish New Year we wanted to bring a taste of Jewish heritage to the community, what a better way to do it than through a pickle," Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, Chabad's director, said.

Participants learned about the history of the kosher pickle, as well as how to make

See **ROSH** on Page 6

Pleasanton court begins closures

Budget-cutting plan, affecting 58 counties, started this week

A budget-cutting plan to close all California courts one day per month went into effect for the first time Wednesday. The closures will include Superior Court in Pleasanton.

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

The plan was approved by the California Judicial Council, the governing body of the state court system, in July. The shutdowns will continue until the end of the fiscal year in June 2010, but will be reconsidered by the council in January.

The agency said the closures will save about \$94 million statewide.

Chief Justice Ronald George, who chairs the council, said earlier this month, "The mission of the Judicial Council is to improve access to justice, so it was extremely difficult for us to make any decision that results in closing our courts."

"However, in the face of severe budget reductions, the council approved the closures as a way to partially offset the budget cutbacks while seeking to protect court employees and critical court programs that provide services to the public," George said.

The closure days will be treated as holidays for purposes of calculating court deadlines. As on holidays and weekends, one judge in each court will be available to sign emergency orders.

The council was authorized by the state Legislature to select a method of closing courts one day per month to cut costs during the state's budget crisis.

The group considered several options, including closing Southern California courts on one Wednesday per month and Northern California courts on a Friday, but concluded that closing all courts on the same day each month would be least disruptive.

The remaining closure days in the current fiscal year will be Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 17, April 21, May 19 and June 16.

—Bay City News

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CHABAD OF THE TRI-VALLEY

Wendy Greenberg of Pleasanton learns to make a kosher pickle at the Chabad of the Tri-Valley's Pickle Making Factory event Tuesday night. It was just one of the events held for Rosh Hashanah, which begins tonight.

ROSH

Continued from Page 5

their own. The demonstration also allowed people to learn about kosher foods.

Chabad's Rosh Hashanah events continue with services tonight through Sunday at the Pleasanton Masonic Center, 3370 Hopyard Road, which are open to the community. They will also hold Yom Kippur Services at the Four Points Sheraton in Pleasanton Sept. 27 and 28.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will also be hosting a celebration. Described as kid friendly, but not kid-cen-

tered, the non-religious program will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Bothwell Center, 2466 8th St. in Livermore.

Food also plays a central role in this service, as they are collecting canned and boxed food for the Alameda County Food Bank. They also ask to bring a lunch dish to share, while juice, apples and honey, and honeycake will be provided.

The event is free to members and \$10 for adults over 13 for non-members. Secure a spot by emailing reservations@tri-valleyculturaljews.org or call 485-1049. ■



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Livermore airport hosting open house

The Livermore Municipal Airport will hold its 14th annual open house Sept. 26, offering the public a chance to see a display of locally-based aircraft.

Home to more than 600 aircraft, including general aviation, military warbirds, antique/classic, experimental/homebuilt and aerobatic type aircraft, the airport will hold the open house from 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m. Local Chapter 663 of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) will signing up children ages 8-17 for "Young Eagle" airplane rides, which will take place at a later date. The rides provide an opportunity for kids to experience flight, and learn about aviation from an EAA pilot.

Live entertainment will be provided by Livermore band Sound Chek

and refreshments will also be served. The U.S. Coast Guard Air Rescue team will perform a simulated rescue. Also on hand will be members of "Henry's Model As" and the Tri-Valley Classic Car Club, who will show their restored automobiles.

Parking and admission are free. For information, call John Davelaar at 580-7690.

—Janet Pelletier

TAKE US ALONG



Weekly celebrates 40 years--sort of
Doris and Russ Slater took the Weekly with them to Mykonos, Greece to celebrate their 40th anniversary.



Fort Weekly
Bob and Janet Werner took two copies of the Weekly along for a visit to Fort Langley in British Columbia, the birthplace of British Columbia

The best Mexican in the Tri-Valley is Fiesta Taco. Hands down.

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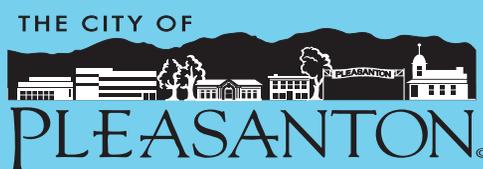
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Danville Councilman Michael Shimansky dies

Was visiting family in San Diego when he fell ill from bacterial meningitis

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI AND
GEOFF GILLETTE

Danville Councilman Michael Shimansky died Tuesday after coming down with bacterial meningitis Aug. 17.

He was visiting his family in San Diego when he began to suffer severe flu symptoms and was hospitalized.

Mr. Shimansky, 65, served on the Danville Town Council for 20 years, first elected in 1989, then re-elected to office in 1993, 1997, 2002 and 2006. He served in the rotating position of mayor in 1993, 2003 and 2007.

Before that he was on the town's first Parks and Leisure Services Commission. He was retired from Pacific Bell.

"Mike was really Mr. Danville in the sense that he's been around so long," Danville Mayor Newell Arnerich said Tuesday.

"We're all just deeply saddened," added Arnerich. "It was a shock. It was five weeks ago that we last saw him. He was happy, he was excited, he was going to see his grandkids."

Besides being a councilman, Mr.

Shimansky was extremely involved in the community as well as helping out at the state and national level. He traveled to New Orleans to join American Red Cross efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and he helped out with the wild-fires in San Diego County in 2007.

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Sue; son Greg and daughter, Lori and Cyndi; daughter-in-law Shannon and son-in-law Mark; and his beloved grandchildren, Morgan, Luke, Paige, Payton and Michael. Memorial services are pending. Condolences may be sent to the Danville Town Offices, 510 La Gonda Way, Danville, CA 94526, and they will be forwarded to the Shimansky family. ■



Michael Shimansky
The Danville councilman died Tuesday in San Diego

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ValleyCare receives accolades

Local hospital honored by American Heart Association, U.S. News and World Report

According to the American Heart Association and U.S. News and World Reports, Pleasanton residents are in good hands at Valley Care Health System.

The hospital, located at 5555 W. Las Positas Blvd., recently received the AHA's Get with the Guidelines Gold and Silver Performance Achievement awards. These honors

are said to recognize ValleyCare's implementation of higher standards of cardiac care.

It is the fourth year the health care facility has received the award, which is given to the top 500 of the 5,000 hospitals nationwide.

"ValleyCare is dedicated to making our cardiac unit among the best in the country, and the American Heart

Association's Get with the Guidelines program is helping us accomplish that by making it easier for our professionals to improve the long-term outcomes of our cardiac patients," said ValleyCare CEO Marcy Feit.

In addition, U.S. News recently also listed ValleyCare among the top hospitals in the nation.

—Emily West

Orloff's top assistant named new DA

Nancy O'Malley will be Alameda County's first woman district attorney

Nancy O'Malley will become Alameda County's first woman district attorney today after the Board of Supervisors voted at a lengthy and contentious hearing Tuesday to appoint her to fill the rest of the term of current top prosecutor Tom Orloff.

Orloff, 66, who has been in the district attorney's office for nearly 40 years and has headed it for the past 15 years, announced last week that he wouldn't seek re-election next June and would retire as soon as a replacement could be found.

Orloff, who grew up in Pleasanton and is the son of the late Ed and May Orloff, made his announcement at last Tuesday's county board meeting. He recommended O'Malley, 55, who has been in the office for 25 years and has been his top assistant the last 10 years.

Three of the five board members voted in favor of O'Malley: Alice Lai-Bitker, Scott Haggerty and Gail Steele. But supervisors Keith Carson and Nate Miley abstained, saying at the three-and-a-half-hour meeting that they thought the board should take more time and get more public

input before making the appointment.

Miley said, "To the public, the process stinks and it looks like the fix is in."

Steele admitted that the appointment of a successor to Orloff "is a political process," but said "it is not a given that as an incumbent you will be re-elected" and O'Malley could still face a tough battle in the election in June.

Steele and other supervisors said San Francisco Chief Assistant District Attorney Russ Giuntini, a former Alameda County prosecutor, contacted them seeking to be appointed as Orloff's successor and it won't surprise them if he runs against O'Malley.

A large contingent of prosecutors, investigators and other staff members in the district attorney's office came to the meeting to speak in favor of having O'Malley appointed.

Lai-Bitker said she was impressed that 148 of the 153 prosecutors in the office signed a petition supporting the appointment of O'Malley. She said she thinks it's important

to appoint a successor to Orloff as soon as possible so the office can continue to function smoothly while the county deals with its difficult fiscal situation.

Orloff said after the meeting that today will be his last day on the job and he expects that O'Malley will be sworn in then.

Known for her work prosecuting sex offenders and working with crime victims, O'Malley said she will run in the election in June, saying she has received "a lot of encouragement" from the community to do so.

O'Malley comes from a prominent legal family. Her father, Bill O'Malley, served as Contra Costa County's district attorney for 15 years and later was a judge there. Her brother, Bill O'Malley, a former prosecutor and judge, is running to be Contra Costa County's next district attorney in the election in June. And Contra Costa County Presiding Judge Mary Ann O'Malley is Bill O'Malley's wife and Nancy O'Malley's sister in law.

—Jeff Shuttleworth, Bay City News; Jeb Bing



JANET PELLETIER

Centennial trees

The Hearst Elementary School science garden was gifted three new trees this week. Workers from the Pleasanton office of The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, upon learning about Hearst's tree planting program, decided the best way to celebrate the company's 100-year anniversary was to give back. Two red bud trees and one valley oak tree are now taking root in the garden, which is located in the rear of the school's playground, bordering the Bernal property. Valley Crest Construction and Whiting-Turner employees as well as Hearst faculty all assisted in the planting.



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Tickets: \$30, \$25, \$20. Available at LVPAC Box Office, 2400 First Street, Livermore. Open Tue-Sat, noon to 6 pm; on performance days, open two hours prior to performance. 925/373-6800. www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Free youth tickets and reduced-price student rush tickets available on day of performance.

Information about Del Valle Fine Arts is available at www.delvallefinearts.org.



LETTERS

Our apologies

Editor's Note: We made an honest mistake. A big one. Our cover and cover story in last Friday's edition of the Pleasanton Weekly referred to the ninth anniversary of 9/11. Of course, it was the eighth anniversary (2009-2001=8). We understand the gravity of the error, as was pointed out in several calls and emails. Please know it was not our intent to disrespect those who lost their lives or detract from the stories and service of those featured in the cover spread. The following are some letters the Weekly received:

Dear Editor,

What incompetence. How careless. How insensitive. Inexcusable. Near unpatriotic.

A total of 2,976 lives deserve their story to be told accurately. You sir should resign. You should apologize to each family. I am hopeful that you are more than mortified.

Andrew Joseph

Dear Editor,

Obviously you and your copy editing staff need to attend a math refresher course. Nine minus one equals eight.

I cannot believe that you would publish a story and put on your front page such a gross error. You really should be embarrassed and owe the community and those who lost loved ones in 2001 a big apology. Hopefully you can get that right.

Jenny Buck

Dear Editor,

The glaring math error indicating it has been "9" years since 9/11 demeans the importance of what the 9/11 event represented.

Evelyn Murphy

Dear Editor,

I'm embarrassed for you. Three times in today's paper you reference that it's been 9 years since 9/11: cover, page 3, and page 14. 2009-2001=8. If you need a proof reader I'd be happy to help. At least I see that someone caught the gross oversight on the front page of your website.

Glenna Eagen

Dear Editor,

Wow. I'm guessing the proofreaders were on vacation this week. It is Sept 11, 2009 (you did get that right). The terrorist attacks were Sept. 11 2001. If you perform the math, 9-1=8. It's "Eight years after 9/11." Probably better to have made this monster mistake this year than to declare next year the 10-year anniversary. This mistake is on the front page and all over the article —

Candyce Roberts

What's your opinion?

Write a Letter to the Editor at Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com or put your opinion on Town Square at www.PleasantonWeekly.com. Letters must be 250 words or less.

EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Bernal: Our field of dreams lives on

With an uninterrupted view of the Pleasanton Ridge from home plate and the bleachers, it's clear that Pleasanton has scored a victory with its new 13 acres of lighted baseball fields and adjoining parkland that were dedicated last Saturday. This may not be the largest complex of baseball fields among cities, but it has to be among the best. The \$8-million project is the first phase of the city's newest sports park. It eventually will be part of a 318-acre Bernal central park to be patterned after Golden Gate Park, though smaller, with a range of diversified landscapes and uses. The baseball park's amenities include parking for about 100 cars, an analemmatic sundial, which gives the date as well as time, fully automated restrooms for men, women and families and a weather station that keeps track of wind, rainfall and even humidity. It "talks" to the irrigation controllers that are in place to take care of the baseball fields. If it's too windy, the sprinklers don't go on because all that water would blow away. Obviously, it senses rain so it keeps the sprinklers off, too. Depending on the humidity, it will automatically dial the irrigation back 10 or 20 percent if it's a humid day or boost it up from the base program if it's a very dry day. So it's a real water saver.

Unlike Pleasanton's main Sports Park off Hopyard Road that caters to a variety of sports each year, the new complex on the Bernal property has only single-use fields for baseball, with plans for at least one more lighted baseball diamond and also lighted fields for soccer, football, lacrosse and rugby. At least one of those fields will include bleachers for tournament play. Maintenance crews especially like the design because the fields will rest between heavy uses, giving crews a chance to regularly aerate and fertilize, which can't be done at Sports Park or the Upper Bernal fields because of heavy, multiple sports use. Unlike most park projects which receive partial or total funding from developers as homes are built nearby, the new sports fields, roadways, parking lots and water and sewer lines have been the city's responsibility, which account for the \$8 million in costs. As the baseball diamonds were the first of three phases in the overall sports park development, all of the utilities needed to support the entire build-out of the project have now been installed, which will make future development less expensive.

Known locally as Pleasanton's "field of dreams," the city of San Francisco acquired the 510-acre Bernal site in the 1930s for its water resources. Then, after much skirmishing during the 1980s and 1990s when San Francisco, short of public funds, sought to develop the land with as many as 3,000 homes, it finally agreed to sell the land to a consortium led by Greenbriar homes in 2000 for \$126 million. The sale included the gift of the 318 acres free of charge to the city of Pleasanton for public uses in exchange for the city's approval of 581 homes and apartments and an office building complex on the rest of the site. The housing development is mostly completed; the office buildings are yet to be built. Thanks to public persistence, the bulk of Bernal remains free of residential and commercial development with the result, as we saw at last Saturday's dedication of the new baseball complex, that we'll have our field of dreams in perpetuity. ■

Code of ethics

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

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG

POLICE BULLETIN

Incident at In-N-Out Burger

A group of people in their 20s entered In-N-Out Burger on Johnson Drive early Saturday morning after two of them had allegedly been shot while traveling on Interstate 580 in Castro Valley.

According to CHP, four men and one woman were riding in a Toyota Corolla on I-580 at Redwood Road around 1 a.m. when a round of gun shots was allegedly fired from a late model Chevrolet Blazer or Yukon.

Officer Steve Creel said a bullet entered through the driver's side window and struck two people in the car, but not the driver. The two passengers were said to suffer only minor injuries.

The Corolla exited at Hopyard Road to safety because it was the busiest intersection where they could likely find help, Creel said. They reportedly found paramedics at In-N-Out and the authorities were called.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information should call CHP at 510-622-4618.

—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.

Sept. 5

Stolen vehicle

■ 8:29 p.m. in the 7300 block of Stonedale Drive

Vehicular burglary

■ 6:52 a.m. in the 5500 block of Johnson Drive

Public drunkenness

■ 12:22 a.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

■ 1:27 a.m. at the intersection of Main and Spring streets

■ 2:19 a.m. in the 4200 block of First Street

■ 2:35 a.m. in the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road

Battery

■ 5:03 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Sept. 6

DUI

■ 1:03 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Owens Drive

■ 11:23 p.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Stoneridge Drive

Public drunkenness

■ 5:50 p.m. in the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Sept. 7

Petty theft

■ 3:50 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vehicular burglary

■ 11:40 p.m. in the 400 block of Vineyard Avenue

Public drunkenness

■ 2:26 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

Sept. 8

Petty theft

■ 3:56 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

■ 9:55 a.m. in the 200 block of Ray Street

Sept. 9

Theft

■ 3:10 a.m. in the 4700 block of Hopyard Road; forgery

■ 9:44 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; forgery

OBITUARIES

Lois Elaine Brunskill

Lois Elaine Brunskill died peacefully Sept. 11. She was 87.

Mrs. Brunskill was born on Feb 21, 1922 to Frank and Etta Anderson in Silver City, Iowa. She graduated in 1939 and went on to college. After moving to California in the 1940s, she started working as a bank teller where she met Dell Brunskill. They were married on March 2, 1943. Dell Brunskill was in the USAF so they moved many times throughout the years to Texas, Washington, Oklahoma, Ohio, Oregon and California.

Together, they had four daughters. She was a wonderful mother and homemaker. Everything was always perfect and the home cooked meals always hot and delicious.

Moving to Pleasanton in 1969, she re-entered the workforce. She began working at the Community 1st National Bank. She retired from the bank after working more than 15 years. In retirement, she enjoyed tending to her flower garden, shopping, some travel and monthly luncheons with the bank ladies. She and her husband moved to Livermore in 2005.

She is survived by her four daughters, Diane Perkins of Arizona, Anita Wintner of Maui, Jean Eaton of Texas and Karen Lotoszynski of Pleasanton; five grandchildren she loved very much, Zach Hillberry, Nicole Hillberry, Amanda Eaton, Jeff Eaton and Ashley Lotoszynski; and her sister, Geneva Myers, of Vancouver, Wash. She was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years, Dellwood Brunskill, in 2008.

A service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 21 at Heritage Estates in Livermore, where Mrs. Brunskill was a resident, 850 E. Stanley Blvd., second floor, in the Health and Fitness Activity Room. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Cancer Society in her name would be appreciated.



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Man stabbed at his house by uninvited guest

A 22-year-old Pleasanton man is recovering, listed in stable condition, after sustaining three stab wounds Saturday at his house party.

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **PPOL-1, City of Pleasanton**
Review and consideration of a Planning Policy regarding the definition and licensing of child care uses.
- **PRZ-48, City of Pleasanton**
Application for rezoning on three sites in Hacienda Business Park from the PUD I/C O (Planned Unit Development – Industrial-Commercial/Office) District to PUD MU (Planned Unit Development – Mixed Use) District; and to change the Hacienda land use designation from Mixed Office, Research and Development/Light Manufacturing Planning District (MOIPD) to Mixed Commercial, Office, Research and Development/Light Manufacturing Residential District (MCOIRPD). The three sites are: (1) The W.P. Carey site (Hacienda Site 7G), at the southeast corner of Owens Drive and Willow Road (Assessor's Parcel No. 941-2778-013-00 and part of APN 941 2778 012 00), approximately 11 acres; (2) The BRE site (Hacienda Site 7E), at the north corner of Hacienda Drive and Gibraltar Drive (APN 941-2778-011-00), approximately 8.2 acres; and (3) The Roche Molecular Systems site (a portion of Hacienda Site 6), south of Gibraltar Drive between Willow Road and Hacienda Drive (a portion of APN 941 2761 003 00), about 12.4 acres (of the approximate 33.4 acre Roche site). Rezoning of the above sites would potentially allow the future development of up to approximately 1,030 residential units, although future residential development would be prohibited until the preparation and adoption of a Major Modification to the Hacienda PUD rezoning.

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

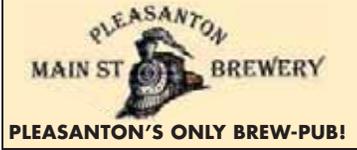
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3015H Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 426-9600. Voted Best Watering Hole in Pleasanton, The Hop Yard offers 30 craft beers on tap as well as great food. The full-service menu includes appetizers, salads and grilled fare that will bring you back time and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

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

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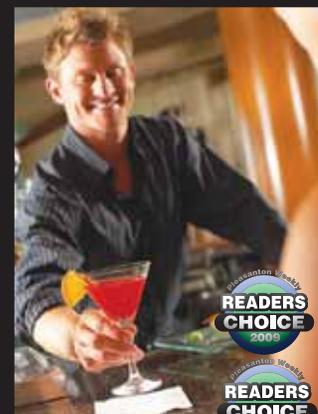
To have your restaurant listed in this dining directory, please call the Pleasanton Weekly Advertising Department at (925) 600-0840

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Book Clubs

ENTERING THE CASTLE STUDY GROUP
A study group is forming to explore the book, "Entering the Castle" by Caroline Myss. An introductory meeting will be held at 2:15 p.m. Sept. 20 in Pleasanton. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Contact Mari Congiglione, 202-1752 or mari_c40@yahoo.com.

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

Class Reunions

AMADOR VALLEY CLASS OF 1979 The Class of 1979 from Amador Valley is hosting its 30-year reunion from 6-11 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Castlewood Country Club. Cost is \$65 per person or \$130 per couple. Email Bonnie Shamblyn at sbshamblyn@comcast.net or visit www.amador79.org.

FOOTHILL HIGH 20 YEAR REUNION Foothill High School Class of 1989 will be holding their 20 year reunion from 6 to 11 p.m. Sept. 19 at the Sheraton Four Points, 5121 Hopyard Road. Visit www.fhscasof89.myevent.com.

Clubs

A HEALTHCARE REFORM FORUM
See CALENDAR on Page 16

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Station to nowh

With no pedestrian walkways,
completion of BART project to be delayed



Construction continues on the West Dublin/Pleasanton BART station, located in the median of Interstate 580 near the San Ramon Road exit, but the station's opening will be delayed a year due to issues with the pedestrian walkways connecting riders from both the Pleasanton and Dublin sides of the freeway.

By JANET PELLETIER

Pleasanton residents who have witnessed the new West Dublin/Pleasanton BART station taking shape in the middle of Interstate 580 will have to wait another year for it to open. Transit officials are now saying the weldings of steel pieces to be used in the pedestrian walkways aren't up to standard.

Initially slated to open later this year, the station is now looking at a late 2010, early 2011 completion and an additional \$2.5 million added to the total cost due to welding problems.

The problems lie in the welding of the metal that will be used in the walkways connecting riders from both the Pleasanton and Dublin sides of the freeway to the station.

It was discovered in June 2008 by Caltrans, which has oversight for the project, according to BART spokeswoman Luna Salaver.

Caltrans determined that the welds didn't meet the proper safety requirements and could not be repaired. The state transportation agency's standards differ from BART's, and it doesn't ap-

pear the weldings were unsafe, but rather they didn't meet the stricter standards.

Two of the steel trusses currently lie near parking structures on the Pleasanton and Dublin sides and another two are located near the I-580-I-680 interchange.

"The delay started in June 2008, so we worked with the contractors, the inspectors, Caltrans and the developers to do a complete analysis of this weld situation, and only after that thorough analysis was done, there was a decision made that the most cost-effective path forward would be to rebuild the trusses," Salaver said.

New steel products will cost up to \$2.5 million. Salaver said BART has hired a contractor to oversee the construction of the walkways to make sure they meet standards.

"They're going to construct new walkways and as the welds are done, BART and BART contractors as well as Caltrans will be monitoring quality control and quality assurance," she said.

It's unclear who is paying for the additional cost to the \$87.5-million project. Salaver said

BART is working with all of the agencies involved to determine who will be held financially responsible.

"It's not settled at this point in time, but we are working diligently so it doesn't affect the taxpayers," she said.

The project was developed as a public-private partnership, with \$57.5 million stemming from bonds BART sold, \$14 million in grants and \$15 million in land-generated revenues, Salaver said.

The city of Pleasanton entered into a funding agreement in 2006 along with the city of Dublin and the Alameda County Surplus Property Authority that allows BART to draw from a reserve fund at the time the transit agency was selling construction bonds, according to Dave Culver, who is Pleasanton's finance director.

"What this agreement calls for is it obligates each entity for providing some reserve funding that BART can access should their operating revenues fall short of their expenses, including debt service," Culver said.

Out of a total commitment of \$8 million between all of those agencies, half has been set aside to BART. The remaining \$4 million will be allotted when the project is completed. Pleasanton's share is a total of \$1 million (\$500,000 of which has already been set aside) that comes from funds the city collects in transportation development fees to be used toward reducing traffic congestion.

"Up to this point, since (the project) didn't open on time, (BART officials) have notified everyone that they will draw down \$1.5 million from that reserve fund for debt service on their bonds," Culver said.

The station is now 75 percent complete. The walkways had been less than 10 percent complete, Salaver said. Two parking structures, one on each side of the freeway in Pleasanton and Dublin, are 95 percent finished.

Once fully built, the new station, located in the median of I-580 between Golden Gate Road in Dublin and Stoneridge Mall Road in Pleasanton, will provide an additional stop in the

ere?



ayed one year



A worker takes a break from work to the new rail station, which is about 75 percent complete.



Parking garages on both the Dublin (seen here) and Pleasanton sides of the highway are 95 percent complete, but will remain fenced off until the station's anticipated opening in late 2010, early 2011.

current 10-mile gap between the East Dublin/Pleasanton and Castro Valley stations.

As part of the station project, a new transit village was planned on the Dublin side to include a 150-room hotel, 210-unit apartment complex and retail/office space. On the Pleasanton side, the City Council approved last September a 350-unit apartment complex described as a transit-oriented development to reduce freeway congestion that was slated to coincide with the opening of the station. Part of that development also included 14,000 square feet of retail space, where developers had hoped to house a grocery store.

But earlier this year, the developer

of those projects, San Diego-based Windstar Communities, said those would be pushed back due to the economic downturn. Windstar Vice President Eric Heffner said the hotel may not be a viable option anymore.

Bob Russell, a principal for Oakland-based Ampelton Development Group, which acted as the master developer on the project, said a portion of land in Dublin that was slated for the apartments has now gone back to a lender, but the parcel's status is unclear.

Windstar still controls the other portions of the project including the hotel and retail space in Dublin and the residential development in Pleasanton, but is holding off for now on

developing it.

"Like anyone, they're waiting for better market conditions to start with new construction," Russell said.

Pamela Ott, Pleasanton's economic development director, said the city understands the station's delay and believes once built, it will spur future economic growth.

"Whenever the new West Dublin/Pleasanton BART station does open it will certainly be a benefit to that area of town, providing a transportation option to the employees and residents located around Stoneridge Shopping Center," Ott said. "We know, too, that the new station will help to alleviate some of the parking impacts at the existing station." ■

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 13

The forum will be from 7 to 9 p.m. Sept. 21 at IBEW 595, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Speakers include Ellen R. Shaffer, co-director of the Center for Policy Analysis; Karl Keener, lawyer involved with volun-

teer community service; Linda Leu of Health Access and Health Care for America Now. Call 451-4303 or visit trivalleydems.com.

AAUW MEMBERSHIP TEA The Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin American Assoc. of University Women membership tea is from

1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Livermore Main Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Room B. It will feature two \$2,500 scholarship winners. Special guests will be 10 junior high women who attended Tech Trek Camp this summer at CSU Sonoma and Stanford University. RSVP to Gwen, 846-9136. Contact Carol, 484-0839 for membership information.

Events

BINGO WITH THE PLEASANTON SEAHAWKS BINGO with the Pleasanton Seahawks at Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore, takes place Saturdays, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, 17 and 31. Regular game pays \$175 to \$500. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., BINGO starts at 6:30 p.m. Buy in as little as \$17. Must be 18 years old to enter and play.

BIRTHDAY DINNER IN PLEASANTON The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California will host a birthday dinner at 5 p.m. Sept. 27 at The Farmer Restaurant, 855 Main St. RSVP by Sept. 24 to Ruby, 462-9636 or hskoog@comcast.net, who will provide dinner choices and cost.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF PLEASANTON ANNUAL PICNIC The picnic is from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 20 at St. Augustine's Church, 3999 Bernal Ave. There will be international food, live music, crafts, and games and activities for all ages. Bring a picnic lunch or purchase food from the booths. Call 846-4489 or visit catholicof-pleasanton.org.

FLEA MARKET Old and new merchandise can be found from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 26 at Ridge View Commons, 5200 Case Ave. Items include jewelry, scarves, honey, flowers, clothes, and more. Hot dogs, ice cream, chips, soda and coffee will also be for sale. Call 462-6298.

HAWAIIAN BEACH PARTY The Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association hosts a Hawaiian Beach Party with the Tulancingo sister city delegates from 7:30 p.m. to midnight Sept. 25 at the Veterans' Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Dress in Hawaiian beach attire and enjoy a traditional Hawaiian feast and dance. Audio Jetz will play rock and dance music throughout the evening. Tickets are \$35. Call Frances Hewitt at 487-4748.

HOLLYWOOD IN PLEASANTON From 1 to 5 p.m. Sept. 20, the Museum On Main presents Hollywood in Pleasanton. The event will pay tribute to Hollywood movies that have been filmed here. Tickets are \$10. Call 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.org.

LOVE IN ANY LANGUAGE Join Harmony Fusion Chorus for an evening of musical entertainment at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. They present "Love in Any Language" with performances by Solstice, Ignite, Moore's School of Irish Dance. Tickets are \$20 or \$15 for seniors and students. Visit www.harmonyfusion.org.

SCRAPBOOK CROP EVENT Organize those piles of photos and get them into albums, hang out with friends

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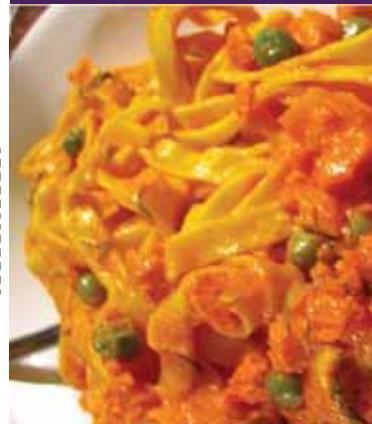
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CALENDAR

old and new from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 19 at Fairlands Elementary, 4151 W. Las Positas Blvd. Cost is \$40 and includes continental breakfast, lunch catered by Sweet Tomatoes, raffles, vendor "make and takes," and demos. Can accommodate first 50 people, must have at least 30 sign ups. Email itoazuma@yahoo.com.

8 weeks next summer in Latin America with Amigos De Las Americas. Live with host families and partner with the local community to carry out service projects. Should be 16 by Sept. 10, 2010 and have completed 2 years of Spanish. Informational meeting Sept. 30 in Walnut Creek. Visit www.eastbayamigos.org.

Film

SICK AROUND THE WORLD "Sick Around the World" is a one-hour film exploring single payer health-care in other civilized nations. It will be shown at 7 p.m. Sept. 19 at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Afterward, Sue Bergman, from "Healthcare for All Californians" will speak. A \$3 donation is suggested. Call 462-3459.

Fundraisers

SUE EVANS' 60TH BIRTHDAY HIKE Sue Evans is turning 60 and wants to stay in shape and raise money for the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation. This level hike is from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Sept. 19 at Sycamore Grove Park, Livermore. Suggested donation is \$25, and includes a digital group photo. Space is limited. To register, call 989-4113 or email fitness-to-photos@comcast.net.

Health

SEASONAL FLU SHOTS Raley's and Nob Hill supermarkets are offering seasonal flu shot clinics to the public starting Sept. 16 through Nov. 7, with operating hours from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., with a few exceptions (noted on the online schedule). For details, visit raleys.com/flu.

Holiday

JEWISH NEW YEAR Tri-Valley Cultural Jews host a Rosh Hashanah celebration from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sept. 19 at the Bothwell Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. The kid-friendly, non-religious program includes readings and music for the Jewish new year. Participants are encouraged to come at 10:15 a.m. Bring canned or boxed food for the food bank and a lunch dish to share. Free for members, \$10 non-member adults. Call 485-1049 or visit www.trivalleyculturaljews.org.

Kids & Teens

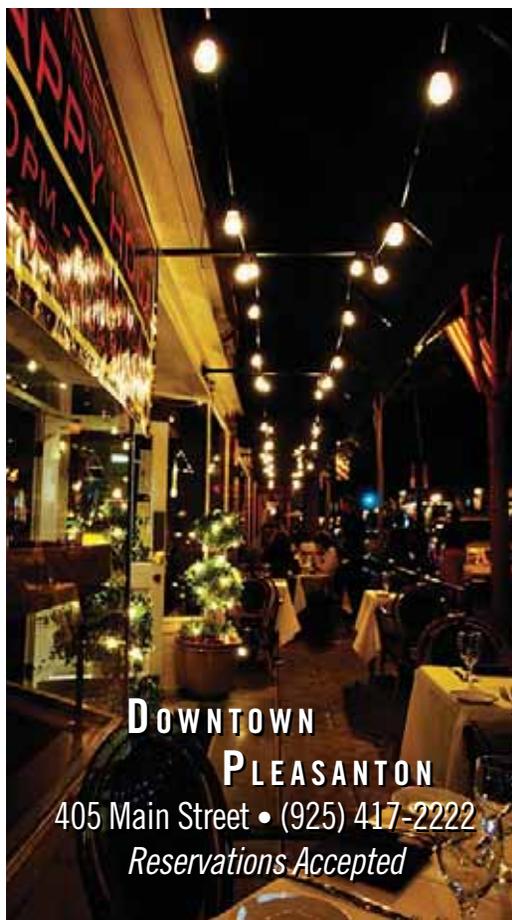
AMADOR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHEER CLINIC Registration is now open for K to 8th grade. The clinic will be taught by the nationally-ranked Amador Valley High School competition cheer squad. It will take place from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sept 26th at the school's small gym. The day will include a special gift, lunch, cheers, motions, jumps and dances. Cost is \$45 for pre-registration or \$50 at the door. Call 484-4805 or email vmahoney@smlinc.com.

AMIGOS VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION High school students can volunteer for 5 to

Lectures/ Workshops

SEWING CLASS A sewing class for beginners with little or no sewing experience is from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturdays Sept. 19 through Oct. 10 at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. Become comfortable with the use of a sewing machine. Cost is \$79. Call 424-1467 or visit www.laspositascollege.edu.

SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP FOR WRITERS At the next meeting of the California Writers Club – Tri-Valley Branch, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 19 at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St., authors Lynn Hazen and Susan



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Taylor Brown will talk to writers about how to use social websites such as blogs, Facebook and Twitter to share and publicize their work. For reservations, call 462-7495.

Seniors

'BEACH BLANKET BABYLON' The Pleasanton VIP Travelers are seeing "Beach Blanket Babylon" Dec. 16 in San Francisco. Cost is \$126 and includes dinner at the Crab House. Call 931-5370. Deadline to register is Oct. 1.

DAY TRIP TO SAUSALITO The Pleasanton VIP Travelers are headed to Sausalito Oct. 13 to walk around, shop and have lunch. Cost is \$43 for members or \$45 for non-members. Call 931-5370. Deadline to register is Sept. 25

Spiritual

"HAVE YOU HAD A SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE" WORKSHOP Attend this free workshop from 2 to 4 p.m. Sept. 19 at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Open to people of all faiths. Call 944-0118 or visit www.haveaspiritualexperience.org. 2-4 p.m. free

TRI-VALLEY UNITY CHURCH Guest speaker Rev. Richard Southern will address the topic of "A New Heaven and a New Earth: Finding Order in a Changing World," at 10:00 a.m. Sept. 20 at Tri-Valley Unity Church, 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon. All are welcome. Call 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Sports

BASKETBALL COACHES CLINIC The second annual basketball coaches clinic will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 20 at the Las Positas College Physical Education Complex, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. All proceeds to benefit Basic Necessities, a non-profit organization which supports local charities here in the Tri-Valley. Call 424-1281 or email tcostello@laspositascollege.edu.

CAL FOOTBALL GAME VIEWING PARTY Tri-Valley Cal Alumni Club invites you to join us for a game viewing party Sept. 26 at Redcoats Pub & Restaurant, 336 St. Mary St. Kickoff is at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$15, which includes all-you-can-eat appetizer buffet with a portion going to the club's Cal scholarship fund. No host bar. Call 463-6615.

PGSL REGISTRATION Registration is now open for all divisions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League. All girls living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play. Register at www.pleasantonsoftball.org or by mail: PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (download a registration form from website). Contact Chris Tanis at chris@tanisfamily.com.

SEE JANE RUN WOMEN'S TRIATHLON See Jane Run Triathlon is a race, milestone and a moment of triumph and will be from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 26, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton. Swim 400 yards, bike 11 miles, then run 3 miles. Cost varies. Call (415) 839-9393 or visit www.seejanerun.com.



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Arts season



Civic Arts sets the stage for entertainment

Jungle Book, Jan. 9

By Emily West

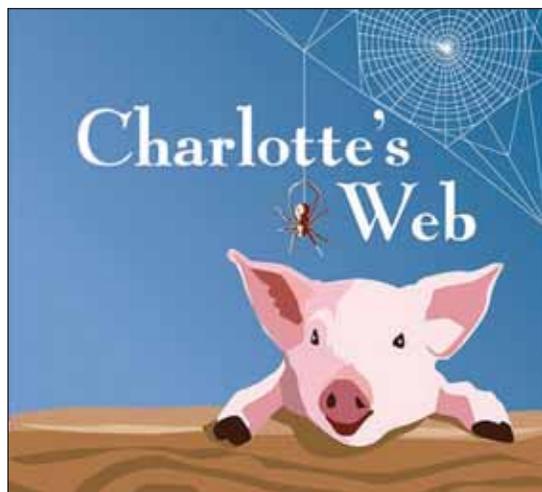
The Amador Theater stage will play host to wild animals dancing ballet, teens acting on comedic impulse and Beethoven's Wig. Prepare to be entertained.

It all begins this Saturday night, with George Winston coming back to Pleasanton after performing here about seven years ago. Opening the Civic Arts season is fitting, as the folk-style modern pianist's music is often based on themes of the seasons. He's known also for his R&B piano, stride piano, Hawaiian slack key guitar and Vince Guaraldi's "Peanuts" pieces.

Still recording, Winston recently put out "Gulf Coast Blues & Impressions – A Hurricane Relief Benefit," and will donate 100 percent of his artist royalties to rebuild New Orleans. This generous spirit continues locally, as proceeds from his CD sales from Saturday night's performance will support the Tri-Valley Haven food pantry in Livermore. Nonperishable food items will also be collected at the performance, which begins at 7 p.m.

The Saturday morning shows for kids, SaturYAY!, have been expanded to include seven performances, including "Charlotte's Web" Oct. 3, musical storyteller Bill Harley Oct. 24, juggling comedians Gizmo Guys Nov. 7, "Cinderella" Dec. 12, a ballet rendition of "Jungle Book" Jan. 9, family band The Sippy Cups Feb. 6, and classical music group Beethoven's Wig March 6.

For the parents, Date Night is back for two performances. In addition to the Winston show, adults can look forward to seeing Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Famer Dave Mason perform Feb. 27. Audiences may remember Mason from his time playing with Traffic, Jimi Hendrix, The Rolling Stones, and Eric Clapton.



Charlotte's Web, Oct. 2-4

The kids won't be missing out, as they can participate in the "Kids Create a Night of Musical Fun" at the nearby Amador Recreation Center.

Teens are taking center stage several times this season. The improv troupe Creatures of Impulse will bring back the popular series "Tri-Valley High" with "Episodes of Terror" Oct. 29 to 31 and "The Impossible Film Project" May 20 to 22. The group will also present holiday shorts Dec. 10 and 11 and battle it out with an improv competition Feb. 11 and 12.

New this year are open mic nights for teens, where young people can share music, comedy and more, which take place Nov. 13, Jan. 22 and March

19. Performers will sign up between 6 and 7 p.m. that evening. Guidelines and packet information can be found at www.ptown411.com.

Pleasanton's new poet laureate Deborah Grossman is kicking off the Century House Poetry Reading series with "boo-etry" Oct. 25. Teens will read spooky poems and distinguished writer and poet Blanche Abrams will perform Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven." An

open mic will follow and Halloween costumes are encouraged.

Poets from around the Bay Area will then descend on Pleasanton April 17 and 18 for the ninth annual Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival.

Looking to the future with the opening of the Firehouse Arts Center fast approaching, several of these performances will be moved to the new facility.

For a full calendar of events this season and to purchase tickets, visit www.pleasantoncivicarts.org. ■



Dave Mason, Feb. 27

PHOTO COURTESY OF CIVIC ARTS

READY TO RENT

REVIEWS OF NEW DVD RELEASES

By JOE RAMIREZ

Che

Che: Part One – The Argentine
2 hours, 17 minutes
Che: Part Two – Guerilla
2 hours, 25 minutes
E1 Entertainment DVD
Director: Steven Soderbergh



Suspiciously apolitical and deftly compelling, director Steven Soderbergh's mammoth biopics "Che Parts One and Two" offers, in equal doses, both frustration from its diffident narrative tempered only by the elation of Benicio Del Toro's fantastic portrayal of the iconic revolutionary (whose image haunts the dorms of political science freshmen worldwide to this day). This duality can only rest, however, in the lap of its creator Soderbergh whose approach is to present Che's journey in the first half as a tale told by someone recalling a History Channel program the night before, with only the second half giving an intimacy in the last days of Guevara's plight in Bolivia. Yet what still makes this experience persuasive is the audacity of its conception that makes the movie's status as a failed epic even more tantalizing.

Soderbergh is another one of our American artists that always seems on the verge of greatness but never quite foots it to the plateau. He made a loud splash 20 years ago at Sundance with his "Sex, Lies and Videotape" which seemed to launch the "independent" movie movement of the '90s, and he has skipped the median between the highway and the road less traveled ever since. For every "Schizopolis" or "Kafka," he has had an "Ocean's" movie (name your sequel), "Erin Brockovich" or "Traffic" to offset his resume. He is the quintessential American commercial artist, who always seems to make a hit in order to fund some other personal work that he feels should be made when given the opportunity. Overall, however, he mixes goofiness (name your "Ocean's") with a forced sense of somberness (everything else) to give a weird feeling of conservative adventurism.

That feeling comes across as well in "Che: Part One – The Argentine" which details the life of Che from about 25 to 40. We meet the two major titans of world politico, Che (Del Toro) and Fidel Castro (Demian Bichir), at a dinner party in Mexico City where they seem to psychically connect. Castro convinces Che to come to Cuba and help with the grassroots revolution that finds Che struggling both with the mechanics of jungle warfare (which plagues his asthma) and the recruitment of soldiers and public opinion. It is the second movie "The Guerilla" that we feel closer to the character of Che as he tries to ignite revolutionary fervor in Bolivia, only to experience apathy and paranoia from the locals, which seems to putrefy his ambitions.

What really wins in both "Che" movies is Del Toro's very low-key and earnest portrayal, which never stoops to hyperbole or romanticism. There are no big speeches, or staged deciding moments, but only Del Toro's eyes which speak volumes when it comes to questions of principle, and he is wise as to not gild his character. I even feel that the criticisms heaped on this movie – it's too slow, meandering or even that its too many side characters – are not distracting. What I feel that Soderbergh is trying to instinctively render are the logistics of setting an ideal into motion, which can only be conceptualized in Del Toro's earnest gaze, which is a real roadblock to expected melodrama – an anti-Dr. Zhivago. ■



'Wait Until Dark' opens tonight

Tri-Valley Rep presents story of con man, ex convicts

A sinister con man and two ex-convicts are about to meet their match in Frederick Knott's "Wait Until Dark." The Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre will open the show tonight and run through Oct. 11.

The three trace the location of a mysterious doll — with several grams of heroin sewn inside — to the Greenwich Village apartment of Sam Hendrix and his blind wife, Susy. The con man and his ex-convicts, through a cleverly constructed plan, convince Susy that the police have implicated Sam in

the woman's murder, and the doll, which she believes is the key to his innocence, is evidence. Yet, she refuses to reveal its location upon figuring out that she is the victim of a bizarre charade. Susy knows the only way to play fair is by her rules, so when darkness falls she turns off all the lights leaving both of them to maneuver in the dark until the game ends.

The cast includes Dean Creighton as Harry Roat Jr. & Sr., Ben Ortega as Mike Talman, Christopher Zuniga as Sgt. Carlino, Jennifer Hughes as Susy Hendrix, Dustin Battaion as Sam Hendrix, Emma Thvedt as Gloria, and Kevin Adkins as The Policeman.

Directed by Matt Davis and produced by Benjamin Krantz, "Wait Until Dark" will be performed at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays at the TVRT Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Ste. 309.

Tickets are \$25 for adults 18 to 60, \$22 for seniors, \$20 for juniors, and \$19 each for groups purchas-

ing 20 or more tickets. Tickets may be purchased online at www.waituntildark.trivalleyrep.com or by phone at 462-2121.

—Emily West

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BUSC U13s dominate SR Spartans

The BUSC U13 Div III Select team opened the Al Caffodio Youth Soccer season with a dominating win over the San Ramon Spartans Saturday morning 6-1. The boys had prepared for the beginning of league play by participating in a number of Div III and Div I tournaments, developing their skills and abilities as well as bonding as a team.

Their dominance on the pitch against San Ramon was evidence the boys are well on their way to repeating a very successful season from last year, making it to the State Association Cup Semi-Finals. The Ballistic boys performed well on both sides of the pitch by out shooting their opponent 36-4 (shots on goal) and allowing only one goal in the second half that resulted from an off side call against San Ramon that was reversed by the center referee. Every member of the team contributed to the win with four boys scoring goals and a total of nine team members taking shots on the opponents' goal. Goals were scored by Mason Picone and Thomas Rozsa with two apiece and Brian Kinnee and Roberto Beard each scoring one. Assists were registered by Brian Kinnee and Mason Picone with two apiece and Joshua Cole and Dylan Tuell each with one.

Rage U16D3 Orange cool

Heat 8-0

After a surprise rainstorm cooled the Val Vista pitch, the Pleasanton Rage U16D3 Orange cooled the Dublin Heat 8-0 last Saturday. The Orange deluge was led by captain Haley Boehmer with three goals, while Delaney Holmes and Danielle Homan found the back of the net twice. Katey Cloonan rounded out the scoring, scoring on a 1-1 breakaway made possible off an excellent through ball from Mary Gruen. Nicole Torquato and Autumn Whitney anchored a strong defense that did not allow a single shot on goal all day.

U12 Premier Division 1 U12 is sending you a publicity form:

Rage U12 Premier start season on right foot

The Rage U12 Premier team began their season with a solid win last Saturday 6-2 against Lamorinda United. Malissa Shadle scored twice with assists by Carly Robertson and Julia Densmore. Julia Densmore scored twice, once with an assist by Christy Jensen. Sami LaBella scored, with an assist by Juliana Leedeman. Carly Robertson scored, with an assist by Malissa Shadle. Julia Densmore had multiple shots on goal, as did Hailey Mann. Individual shots on goal were made by Brookey Villanueva and Sophie Santos. Sophia Brown played strong defense in the goal.

Rage U12 put up a fight, but lose to Crushers

It was a dog fight against the Newark Crushers last Saturday for Rage U12 Grey Division 1 as the team dropped the game 2-1. Avery Jones fired many shots at the goal, Bailey Sanchez also had a shot, but it was Kailyn Coleman's beauty that sailed into the net. Jenna Crawford and Megan Shackley skillfully moved the ball up the field as well as played tough defense. Goalies Sabrina D'Ambrosio and Dalia Shafi did an excellent job protecting the net.

Ballistic United U19 Select 1-0 over Mustang FC Roma

Ballistic striker Alex Caravan's second half goal was all the Pleasanton side needed as the team held off Mustang Roma for a hotly contested well earned Al Caffodio league victory.

In the first half the Ballistic was plagued by unlucky finishing as several golden opportunities slipped away — including Tyler Copeman's free kick that just missed far post. Jered Chimm also had a one-on-one opportunity that the Mustang keeper barely got his mitts to. Adding to the difficulty — Mustang often dropped nine players behind the ball to clog things up while springing several dangerous counter-attacks of their own.

The second half saw some adjustments from Pleasanton that quickly paid off. The most notable was moving Johnny Ramirez from Winger to the Attacking Midfield position. Ramirez's one touch passing, ability to possess the ball and provide service to the forwards had an immediate impact. At the 10-minute mark of the second half Caravan (assisted by Jason Teague) was able to push home a goal after Ballistic created some havoc in the Mustang Penalty area. Brodie Roberts and Jason Scott also had standout games in the midfield as they combined with Ramirez and Brandon Lee to control the middle of the pitch.

Mustang tried desperately to tie the score but the Pleasanton defense anchored by Steven Gilbert, Tyler Copeman, Brian Bui, Jason Teague, and Brian Hu held firm as they turned away several attacks. Teague and Bui did a great job stepping up into the midfield to assist the attack and hold possession. Troy Stetson and Jaymi Van Dam worked hard on the wing using their speed to drop back defensively when needed and then springing penetrating runs on the counter attack.

Rage U15 AC go 1-1 over the weekend

The Rage U15 AC Division 2 team dominated their first game of the season last Saturday, but suf-

fered an unfortunate goal in the second half. In the final 30 seconds of play, Haley Jackson tied the score by drilling in a shot from the top of the 18. Top Offensive Players: Amanda Emery and Haley Jackson. Top Defensive Players: Christina Choing and Kasey Jensen.

Rage Black fall to Grey 8-0

Super goalkeeping was executed by Emily Esparza and solid defense by Emma Tsztoo kept the Rage Black U9 Division 3 in the game early. All around play from Mollie McKay and nice footwork by Abby Smith pushed the ball upfield but it wasn't enough as they fell to Rage Grey 8-0.

Rage U14-AC go 1-1 over weekend play

Rage U14-AC played and won their first game of the season against Diablo FC 95, with the result of 1-0, but dropped their second game Sunday to Mustang Revolution.

In the first game, Rage played the first half of the game in search of establishing ball possession, but physical play by the opponent prevented any serious attacks or shots on the goal. Diablo FC 95 had few chances of scoring after miscommunication within Rage's defensive line and luckily for Rage, shots did not make the target. A moment of panic in Diablo's defense resulted in the scoring and winning goal.

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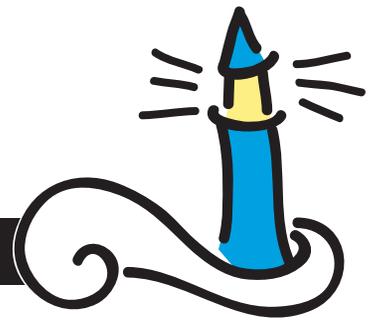
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3950 Stanley Blvd \$1,445,000
Sun 1-4 Donohue Realty 887-392-3336

2303 Fairfield Court \$650,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

5520 Corte Sierra \$618,888
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

383 Christina Court \$699,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 519-8998

4 BEDROOMS

823 Country Club Circle \$799,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 858-1984

5 BEDROOMS

1075 Shadow Hills Court \$1,459,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 463-2000

3314 Arbor Drive \$939,000
Sun 1-4 Valley Brokers 437-5830

San Ramon

2 BEDROOMS

7003 Stagecoach Road \$289,000
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4134

3 BEDROOMS

2069 Echo Place \$589,900
Sun 2-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 683-5165

2017 Wineberry Drive \$799,000
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realty 510-406-4836

4 BEDROOMS

4055 Marblehead Court \$1,079,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3858

1100 Canyon Green Drive \$899,950
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 683-5165

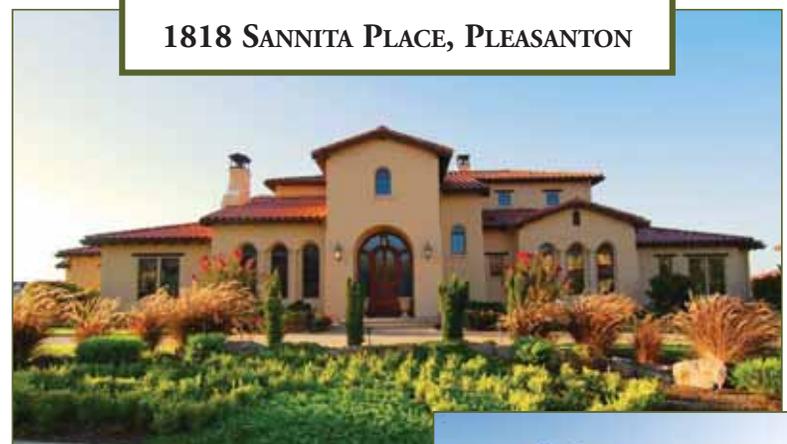
HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

7152 MOSS TREE WY., PLEASANTON, \$999,000



This sunny and bright 5 bedroom, 4 bathroom, 3,265 square foot home is perfectly located across from a park with views of hills. It features granite, travertine, Wolf stove, SubZero, and more. Sold by Susan Schall of Keller Williams. (925) 397-4244

1818 SANNITA PLACE, PLEASANTON



This cosmopolitan home commands expansive public rooms, 12-ft. ceilings, incredible views and an unrivaled Ruby Hill location. This home features 5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, approx. 6,441 sq. ft. of living space on more than a 1/2 acre lot and is expertly constructed by the renowned Steve Bosch. This knoll top property is at the center of what is considered creme-de-la-creme, and features breathtaking vistas. To blend modernism with authentic historicism, extreme care has been taken by architects, designers, and builders in creating this entire residence with the highest quality construction, refined details, and exquisite materials throughout.
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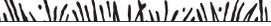
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MILPITAS - Highly updated 4 br--laminat & tile floors, upgraded kitchen & baths, newer heat/air, added family room and garage conversion w/o permits, dramatic paint colors.

1985 ARIZONA AVE **\$399,900**



SAN RAMON - Gorgeous home with 2 master suite set up - full master suite up and down plus two other large bedrooms. Granite kitchen, hardwood floors, soaring ceilings, private yard with no rear neighbors, remodeled baths, dual panes, loaded with upgrades.

3350 ESTERO DRIVE **\$719,500**



SAN RAMON - WOW!! This short sale home is spectacular! Approx \$140k in upgrades. Amazing end unit w/ incredible panoramic views! Faces Watermill Dr with views from almost all windows! Cherry Hdwd, berber, murphy bed, gourmet kitch. Silk Window Treatments NOT included in sale. This home is done to the nines!

2396 MILLSTREAM LN **\$538,888**



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638 SHADOW MIST COURT **\$1,299,000**



PLEASANTON - Well-maintained upper unit in sought after location of complex. This property has the larger floorplan with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths. The kitchen extends into the family room giving it a great room feel. Vaulted ceilings, one car garage and fireplace.

3318 SMOKETREE CMN **\$249,000**



DUBLIN - Incredible upgrades and exquisite architectural detailing. Formal entry foyer with mosaic tile floor medallion. Formal dining room with crown molding and extensive millwork with two way fireplace. Large gourmet kitchen featuring a breakfast bar at the center island. Lovely landscaped rear yard.

3198 MADDEN WAY **\$820,000**



SAN RAMON - Gorgeous lge. one-story home in Henry Ranch. Backs to open space. Open floor plan. Tons of upgrades. Hdwd. flrs, tile flrs, W/W cpt. Loads of granite in kitchen & bathrms. Heated floors in 2 baths. 3-car garage. Ceiling fans. Lge. built-in spa in yd. Extensive exposed aggregate patios.

6025 WESTSIDE DRIVE **\$985,000**



PLEASANTON - Charming newer home in great loc. across fr park & within walking dist. of downtown! Curb appeal galore! Vaulted ceilings w/ arch. interest, hardwood floors, custom paint, downstairs office. Adorable bkyd w/ built-in BBQs,brick planter,lrg grass sideyd,extra storage.Normal sale!

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2 BR 1 BA American cherry "Mohawk" flooring, shutters, ceiling fan AC, across from community pool 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON

558 SANTEL COURT
GORGEOUS SINGLE STORY **\$1,640,000**
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446 SYCAMORE ROAD
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2930 LIBERTY
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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 \$2,598,000
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, barbeque, 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

SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN ARCHITECTURE



PLEASANTON

4328 W. RUBY HILL DRIVE \$1,999,000
5 bed, 4.5 bath, 4 car garage, 5,254 sq ft, 32,549 sq ft lot fully landscaped w/ new salt water pool/spa. Built in 2002. Coming soon new Ruby Hill Spanish Mediterranean beauty.
TODD MARTINEZ 925.251.2571
WWW.TODDMARTINEZ.COM

BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM HOME



PLEASANTON

860 CASTLEWOOD PL \$1,995,000
Beautiful custom home built in 1996 by Sterling Builders! Incredible views & location, above the 18th Green and 10th Fairway of the hill course! Huge gourmet Island kitchen with granite! Large master suite with fireplace & walk in closet, office den, oversized 3 car garage.
BRYAN CRAFT 925.855.4141

108 AC. FENCED RANCH PROPERTY



LIVERMORE

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

FINEST MATERIALS & APPOINTMENTS



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 WEINER 925.251.2585
WWW.PHYLLISANDCAROLYN.COM

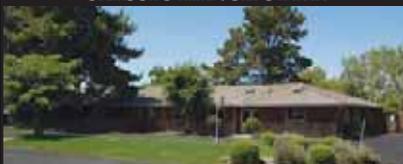
GREAT 7+/- ACRE PROPERTY



CASTRO VALLEY

6000 MOUNT OLYMPUS DRIVE \$1,549,000
Exceptional Dream Home, Private setting not like any other property in Castro Valley, Drive thru your gated entrance to this beautiful manicured circular driveway and your entrance to this Custom Mediterranean Home with over 4200 sq.ft. of Lovely Living and a Pool.
KRISTY AND COMPANY 925.251.2536
WWW.ESTATESANDRANCHES.COM

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

WINE COUNTRY LIVING



LIVERMORE

1231 HANSEN RD \$1,290,000
Wine country living with a resort like bckryd! Featuring designer touches throughout, Travertine & hrdwd floors, granit slab ktchn w/Travertine island, ss appliances, double oven & upgrades galore. Views of the vineyards, close to Sycamore Park, Livermore wineries & golf courses.
TASO TSAKOS 925.855.4121

PREMIUM LOCATION ABOVE PARK



PLEASANTON

3249 ARBOR DRIVE \$964,950
Rarely available! Custom 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on a huge lot of almost 13,000 sq ft! Completely updated with granite counters, designer lighting, 2 stone fireplaces, hardwood floors and more. Professionally landscaped with several outdoor patios great for entertaining.
TONNI CHANDLER 925.788.7788
WWW.TONNICHANDLER.COM

SPACIOUS & UPDATED



DUBLIN

8462 RHODA AVE \$775,000
Freshly painted inside & out. New carpet. Views from front bedrooms. Retractable patio awning for enjoyable patio entertaining. 1 bedroom & 1 bath downstairs. Crown molding in family room. Terraced yard with French Drains and more!
JUDY LYNN MAITOZA 925.648.5352

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

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

REMODELED TOP TO BOTTOM



LIVERMORE

4111 POMONA WAY \$519,000
Tastefully remodeled top to bottom. Beautifully refinished original oak flrs thru-out. Large 4th bedroom-no closet-great for office/guest combination. Neutral colors. New granite/stainless kitchen, roof & fence. Just landscaped front/back w/auto sprinklers. Move right in!
DIANE SASS 925.462.2068
WWW.DIANESASS.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

The latest from The 680 Blog

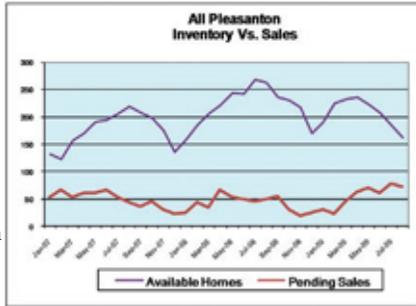
Pleasanton Market Update - Inventory Shrinks Further

The Pleasanton real estate market saw further declines in inventory in August, ending the month with a scant 163 single family homes on the market, down from 185 at the end of July. This is the fewest number of homes for sale since January 2008. Pending sales declined slightly in August, with 72 pending sales of single family homes, down from 78 in July. Some of the decline in sales is likely due to the lack of available homes in certain price segments, generally in the lower price ranges.

The under \$1 million price segment saw declines in both available homes and sales. There were 81 available single family homes at the end of August, down from 87 at the end of July. This is down from 124 at the end of February, just about when the market started to see an increase in activity. There were 52 pending sales of single family homes in August, down from 58 in July. All in all, this price segment remains very active, with some homes seeing multiple offers. There is under a 2 month

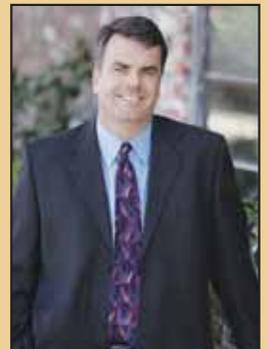
supply of homes on the market in this segment, another indication of the relative strength of this market.

In the \$1 million to \$2 million market segment, inventory declined as well, with 53 homes on the market at the end of August, down from 59 at the end of July and 70 at the end of June. Pending sales slipped some, with 15 pending sales in >>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.



NEW PRICE!
Bridle Creek Area. 5 BR + Office, 5½ BTH, gourmet granite/cherry/stainless kitchen, .47 acre lot, luxurious master suite, & more!
\$1,469,000



OPEN SUN 1-4
Newer luxury 5 BR, 4 BTH single story home on prime .31 Acre cul-de-sac lot with hardwood floors, granite/cherry/stainless kit, and more!
\$1,459,000
1075 Shadow Hills Ct



GREAT VALUE!
Room to grow! 5 BR, 2 BTH detached home, approx 2600 sq ft, with huge family room, private yard, and excellent location close to award winning schools!
\$639,900



JUST SOLD!
Fabulous Country Fair home with granite & cherry kitchen, hardwood floors, 3 fireplaces, and private almost ¼ acre lot w/ pool & spa.
\$1,000,000

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!
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BLAISE LOFLAND



925.846.6500
www.blaiselofland.com
blaise@blaiselofland.com

ap.com

MISSION HILLS



451 JUNIPERO STREET, PLEASANTON

Highly upgraded Mission Hills home with views of Pleasanton Ridge. Private Yard with in-ground pool. Large, open upgraded kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms. Approximately 1,919 square feet. Remodeled bathrooms. Formal living and dining rooms. Laminated flooring, crown molding. Newer dual pane windows. Close to Mission Hills Park, schools, shopping & Downtown!
OFFERED AT \$739,500

CASA DE CAIAFIA



5464 BLACK AVENUE, PLEASANTON

Custom builder meets Casa de Caiafia!!! Three bedrooms, two and a half bathrooms. Remodeled kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Approximately 1,330 square feet. Upgraded bathrooms. Custom tile flooring, crown molding, upgraded baseboards. Large master with walk-in closet and balcony. Two car garage. Great location! Walk to Downtown!
OFFERED AT \$429,500

BRIDLE CREEK



902 SUMMIT CREEK COURT, PLEASANTON

Wow! Highly upgraded Premier Model on premium elevated .34 acre lot. Expansive views of Pleasanton Ridge. Over \$400K in front and rear yard landscaping! Built by Greenbriar Homes. Beautifully landscaped private rear yard with built-in pool, separate built-in spa, travertine/Napa Stone patios and outdoor kitchen. Four bedrooms + bonus room and formal office, three bathrooms. Approx. 3,445 sq. ft. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops. Custom limestone flooring, crown moulding, plantation shutters, and custom built-ins. Close to downtown, Castlewood Country Club, Oak Hills Shopping Center, and Mission Hills Park. **OFFERED AT \$1,495,000**

LAGUNA OAKS



2505 ARLOTTA PLACE, PLEASANTON

JUST REDUCED
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 \$1,399,000**

GREY EAGLE ESTATES



4 EAGLET COURT, PLEASANTON

SALE PENDING!
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**

CASTLEWOOD HEIGHTS



6736 RIDDELL STREET, PLEASANTON

SALE PENDING!
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**

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street

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



MARTA RIEDY BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$3,995,000
Magnificent Ruby Hill Italian Villa! Exquisite estate with 6bd/6.5ba, 9100+/-sf on .50+/-acre lot. Too much to list – Must See!

MARK KOTCH BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$2,999,000
Ruby Hill custom. 6bd/5ba 2 partial 7986+/-sf. 2 master suites/Chefs kitchen/game room/17th fairway. 2 laundry rooms, 5 car garage. Pool/spa/BBO.

UWE MAERCZ BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$2,899,000
Style throughout! 7000+/-sf, 7bd/5ba, 6.5 car garage, movie theatre/game room/wine cellar. This custom estate has it all!

SUSIE STEELE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$2,399,000
Stunning custom home in Golden Eagles Estates nextled on 1+/-acre lot featuring a backyard paradise with pool backing to open space and incredible view of the Tri Valley. Truly a showstopper!

ANNI HAGFELDT BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,704,999
5bd/4.5ba beautiful custom home in Kottinger Ranch. Panoramic views, large backyard, pool and more. This one has it all!

STASIA POISEZ BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,688,888
Beautifully recently remodeled 5+bd/4+ba home on 1+/- acre, 4400+/-ft of living space/4 car garage. Contemporary home secluded by hills close to everything.

DOUG BUENZ BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,469,000
5bd+office/5.5ba, gourmet kitchen, granite counters, cherry cabinets, luxurious master suite situate on .47+/-acre lot. Too much to list!

SUSIE STEELE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,359,000
Absolutely charming in Castlewood! Completely rebuilt from floor to ceiling, this 4bd + office on .50+0acre lot is a dream come true!

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,089,000
2006 remodel with granite kitchen, built-in stainless steel appliances, maple floors, new carpet/paint, new granite baths, furnace, AC & sparkling pool.

SUE MCKINLEY BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$990,000
Custom Single Story 4bd/3.5ba, 3206+/-sf home on quiet court. Two master Bd on main floor; Gourmet Kitchen. Open country views. Master Br on Main Floor!

SUSIE STEELE OPEN SUN 1-4



LIVERMORE \$859,000
Just listed in one of South Livermore's most desired neighborhoods. Prima! Absolutely a charmer, extremely upgraded and well priced. Don't miss this fantastic opportunity! 1524 Aria Ct.

SUSIE STEELE OPEN SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$679,000
Wonderful 3bd/2ba, nicely updated and spacious. 1 story in court location, close to downtown. Must See! 5520 Corte Sierra

DOUG BUENZ BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$639,900
Room to grow in this charming 4bd/2.5ba. Hardwood floors, sunny upgraded kitchen, large master suite with upgraded bath. 9543 Ernwood St

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPOINTMENT



SAN RAMON \$599,950
Fabulous 3bd/2ba top floor penthouse unit. Has granite counters/maple cabinets/new carpets/new interior paint/crown molding/marble entry/marble fireplace in master suite/walk-in closet. Views are incredible.

GINA HUGGINS BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$489,000
Beautiful 3bd/2ba, has sparkling pool with outdoor kitchen, huge indoor remodeled kitchen and baths. Close to schools. 352 Ontario Dr.

LESLIE FAUGHT OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



NEWARK \$618,888
One of the most remarkable homes in Exclusive "Lake" development! 5bd/3ba, 2282+/-sf home on 7650+/-sf lot. Over 30K in upgrades! Close to shopping, freeways and local activities. 4994 Croydon

