

Pleasanton Weekly

Pleasanton sued: Owners of a mobile home park said city overstepped its authority and want \$29 million **PAGE 5**

Prime time: A new program on TV30 spotlights innovative Tri-Valley businesses that are also giving back. **PAGE 14**

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New library, civic center for downtown?
New complex could cost \$70 million **PAGE 16**

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Get those flu shots before it gets you

Early anxiety over the swine flu has waned a bit primarily because the large numbers of flu-like illnesses being reported are just that: typical influenza that we deal with every year. It's early for a flu outbreak, which usually come in the late fall-early winter timeframe. This year's outbreak is catching many before we've gotten our annual flu shots although the lines at Raley's, drug stores and other locations that are providing the shots show that we're lifting our shirtsleeves quickly to gain protection from the disease. Flu is nothing to slough off. A typical flu outbreak kills about 36,000 people each year in the U.S., with most victims already suffering from other health complications. Now, with the weather getting cooler and people spending more time indoors, germs flourish, infections spread more easily and the worst may be yet to come.

That's especially true in our schools, where Pleasanton has seen an increase in the number of students who are absent due to reported flu-like symptoms. So far this week, Alisal, Mohr, and Valley View elementary schools have a higher number of absences due to reported flu-like symptoms. Families with children in individual elementary classrooms with five or more students home with the flu are being notified by their teacher. At middle and high schools, the principal is notifying families if there are more than 20 students with these symptoms at a grade level. No one really knows if any of these cases are the more serious H1N1 virus since most suspected cases of the swine flu have been mild or moderate, hardly indistinguishable from the typical flu, which, as we all know, can be bad enough. That's why everyone should have a regular flu shot as soon as possible and then consider the H1N1 vaccination when it becomes available.

Health experts tell us that viruses are unpredictable and adaptable, and a mild strain can mutate into something that packs a nasty punch. Anyone in the family who travels should be especially vigilant since some countries – India, for one – are shutting down colleges, schools, movie theaters and other places where people congregate to help contain the H1N1 and other flu outbreaks. Last June, the World Health Or-

ganization declared a pandemic, a super-epidemic, although again, it's unclear if it was a typical flu or H1N1 epidemic. Adding to the uncertainty was a report by a presidential advisory group in August of a "plausible scenario" in which a swine flu epidemic could cause up to 90,000 deaths, three times the number felled in a typical flu season. Fortunately, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention countered that the toll would most likely not approach that number.

Clearly, as we are already seeing in our public schools, this could be a worse-than-average flu season, which is why so many of us are rushing to have the shots. It's the second time around for the flu concerns. In the initial outbreaks last spring, several schools closed in neighboring counties, although not in Alameda, and there were two-to-three suspected H1N1 cases in Pleasanton, although those turned out to be typical flu illnesses. In New York, where the outbreak was the biggest, 800,000 New Yorkers, or about 10 percent of the city's population, developed symptoms attributed to the swine flu virus.

Here, students were barely at their desks for the new school year before teachers, school nurses and others started lecturing them on the necessity to wash their hands often, use sanitizers that schools are now providing and cover their mouths when coughing.

At Tuesday's school board meeting, flu was center-stage in the evening's discussion with school and health representatives advising parents to talk to their doctor ahead of time if their child has any chronic health conditions, such as diabetes, asthma, or weakened immunity that puts them at higher risk for flu-related complications. When calling the school attendance line to report a flu-related absence, parents are also asked to be specific in describing the symptoms, such as fever, sore throat or cough. Students who are ill should stay at home and will not be penalized for being sick. Teachers have been asked to allow students to make up any missed classroom work.

Superintendent John Casey said there are no plans to close schools even if several students are at home battling H1N1 or a typical influenza. This is good because, as the Brookline Institution reported last month, closing schools and day care centers because of swine flu could cost between \$10 billion and \$47 billion in lost revenue, salaries and unscheduled time off for parents who also must stay home to care for children who are out of school. ■

About the Cover

Art imitates life as a woman reads to a young girl next to a bronze sculpture showing a girl reading outside of 21-year-old Pleasanton Public Library. The library is part of a proposed \$70-million expansion program that would move it into a new building on Main Street with a new Civic Center taking its place along Bernal, Old Bernal avenues. Photo by Janet Pelletier.

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Streetwise

ASKED DOWNTOWN

What is your reaction to President Obama winning the Nobel Peace Prize?



Victor Wheatman
High-Tech Consultant

Surprised and pleased. I think it's recognition that things have changed on the world stage. It's a way of encouraging those positive changes.

Melanie Bandara-Hess
Marriage and Family Therapy Intern

It's so nice to have a president who is inspiring peace. I feel more peaceful with Obama as president. Bravo Obama!



Michael Greene
Journeyman/ Electrician

A little surprised I guess, only because he hasn't really made any huge changes yet. I didn't vote for him, but still I hoped to see some big changes right away with all the hype. He has changed a lot of perceptions.



Kristina Verdile
Student

It's complicated. I think there are people doing more for peace on a grassroots level. The journalist Amy Goodman for example. Or the journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal who has been in prison for 20 years and writes about peace and injustice. On the other hand, it sets a standard for President Obama that he's going to have to achieve.



Bob Johnston
Director of Operations

Mixed. I think there was a political angle. When he's done with his term, I hope he deserves it. People who are calling him out, belittling him and saying bad things are essentially saying those bad things about the U.S. because it really was an award for the U.S.



—Compiled by Elyssa Thome

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

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Town Square Forum

Newsfront

DIGEST

Volunteer leaders sought

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative presents Pillars of the Tri-Valley from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 21 at Carr America Center, 4400 Rosewood Drive. The event will allow area nonprofits a chance to recruit volunteer board leadership to their organizations. There is no charge to attend, but those interested should preregister at www.trivalleypillars.com.

Parenting aging parents

Learn to communicate positively with elders who suffer with dementia at the October meeting of Parenting Your Aging Parent. The group meets from 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 21 at Amador Valley High School's library, 1155 Santa Rita Road. The fee is \$25 for the series of classes, which is taught by Ruth Gasten and meets in Nov. 18 and Dec. 16. Register by calling Amador Valley Adult School at 426-2680 or at the class.

Recycling drop-off and environmental fair

A free recycling drop-off and environmental awareness fair will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Oct. 25 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Enter at gate 12 off of Valley Avenue. Recyclable items include electronic waste, plastic and glass beverage containers, aluminum cans, ink cartridges, eyeglasses and hotel cosmetics. The fair will have booths from "green" companies, Girl Scouts and district school clubs. For more information, email truax4@comcast.net.

Movie-themed exhibit opens at museum

"Lights, Camera, Pleasanton" is the new exhibit at the Museum On Main, located at 603 Main St. It showcases the history of moviemaking in Pleasanton from the silent era to the digital age. The exhibit runs through Jan. 17. Museum hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays. A \$2 donation is requested. Visit www.museumonmain.org.

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

Mobile park owner sues city for \$29 million

Cites damage to reputation, plan to sell lots to mobile homeowners

By JEB BING

The owner of the Vineyard Villa Mobile Home Park on Vineyard Avenue has filed a \$29-million lawsuit against the city of Pleasanton after both the city's Planning Commission and City Council rejected his bid to convert the park into ownership lots.

The 208-unit mobile home park, with a street address of 3263 Vineyard Ave., extends along Vineyard and a part of Bernal Avenue, back-

ing onto the Arroyo del Valle at its northern border. It abuts the Hacienda Mobile Home Park to the east, which is under different ownership.

In his lawsuit, Attorney Richard Close, representing The Guggenheim Corporation, Vineyard Villa's owner, argues that he and others have worked for more than two years to seek the city's approval to convert the park. Residents now own the mobile and manufactured

homes they occupy in Vineyard Villa and pay a monthly rental fee to Guggenheim for the property on which their homes sit. Guggenheim wants to sell those parcels to the mobile home owners, in effect subdividing the property into condominium parcels.

Although city staff recommended approving the Guggenheim request, both the Planning Commission and City Council voted unanimously to deny the application. Commis-

sioners after a public hearing on Feb. 25 and councilmembers after their hearing on Aug. 18 expressed concerns that many mobile home owners might not be able to afford to purchase the lots, whose price Guggenheim would determine at the time of the purchase offers.

Close said the park's owners followed state guidelines in making their conversion bid and decided

See **KEYWORD** on Page 9



JANET PELLETIER

Motorists drive along Bernal Avenue Tuesday, where flooding occurred after incessant rain.

First storm of winter season soaks Pleasanton

Deluge of rain followed by 3.7-magnitude earthquake made for an eventful day

With the season's first rainfall causing some street flooding, a 3.7-magnitude earthquake near Sunol and a roof leak that caused the city to close its senior center, this week marked a major change — even a wake-up call — after a late summer and early fall of hot and sunny weather for Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley.

Commuters felt the brunt of the storm Tuesday as they found the going rough with flooding on major highways and wind advisories on the San Mateo, Dumbarton and Bay bridges, where gusts reached 60 mph and stronger, toppling trees and causing at least one truck to overturn.

Despite the city's effort in clearing culverts and drains in advance, the storm caused major flooding along Bernal Avenue and the closure of the Pleasanton Senior Center.

Crews from the city's Parks Maintenance and Operations Services Departments got an early start Wednesday on cleaning debris scattered across town. A rain gauge at the city's Operations Service Center calculated the Pleasanton rainfall total at 3.95 inches, Hall said.

Hall said crews responded to 54 calls during the height of the storm, half of which were for area flooding and the other half related to trees or tree limbs down. The areas hardest hit by flooding were the stretch of Bernal at Valley Avenue as well as parts of Sycamore Road. Sandbags were made available throughout the day to residents and businesses.

The senior center, located at 5353 Sunol Blvd.,

See **STORM** on Page 9

Search begins for a new superintendent

School board to advertise for consultant firm

By EMILY WEST

The search for Superintendent John Casey's replacement is in motion as school board trustees announced they will begin to solicit for a consultant firm.

Using a firm to help in the search is common practice these days, according to Bob Kingsley, senior partner at Kingsley Bogard Thompson LLP, who advised the school board at Tuesday night's meeting. While the trustees will have the final say, the firm can provide services such as developing a master plan for the search and communicating with applicants to preparing promotional materials and helping reach a consensus on selection criteria.

The selection of a search firm would need to be in public and could take place during a special meeting.

The process of choosing a new superintendent, Kingsley said, could take anywhere from four to seven months and cost \$20,000 to \$30,000 for the firm to conduct a regional and statewide search. A nationwide search, he added, would cost significantly more.

School board president Chris Grant said they plan to interview potential consultant firms in the next six weeks and that a candidate would ideally be selected in April or May.

"We expect to have a comprehensive process that will include parents, teachers, school-based staff and community leaders in helping us to define the criteria and characteristics of an ideal superintendent that would be utilized in evaluation of the candidates," he said.

This isn't the first time that Kingsley has worked with the district, as he worked with the district as early as the late 1970s.

"It's an exciting time for the district," Grant said. "John Casey has done a fantastic job, but any time you're hiring a new superintendent it creates opportunities for new ideas and vision and a renewed enthusiasm for academic excellence."

Board dips into Sycamore funds again

In times of tight budgets, the school

See **SCHOOL** on Page 9

State Supreme Court rejects Oak Grove developers plea

Bid to reverse council's OK of 51-home project likely to be on June referendum

By JEB BING

The California Supreme Court Wednesday denied without comment a petition by developers Jennifer Lin and her brother Frederic, affecting their plan to build at 51-luxury home community in Pleasanton's southeast hills, a development called Oak Grove.

The decision ends the Lins' legal battle with former Pleasanton Councilwoman Kay Ayala and a citizens group she organized to reverse a City Council decision in late 2007 that approved the controversial hillside development. More than 3,700 registered Pleasanton voters signed the group's petitions, enough to qualify the measure for a referendum to overturn the City Council's 4-1 vote approving the project.

In a lengthy brief, Atty. Andrew B. Sabey of the San Francisco law firm of Cox, Castle & Nicholson, who represent the Lins, claimed that Ayala and the citizens group failed to follow proper procedures in circulating the petitions. The Lins successfully filed a suit before Judge Frank Roesch in Alameda County Superior Court who agreed with their claim and ordered the county Registrar not to certify the petitions. It was

that decision that the Court of Appeal reversed on an appeal by Atty. Benjamin G. Shatz of the law firm of Manatt, Phelps and Phillips, which represent Ayala and the citizens group, and it was the appellate court decision that the Supreme Court refused to review Wednesday.

It's now expected that the Alameda County Registrar will complete the certification of the Ayala petitions, which the Lins' action has delayed, and send them to Pleasanton City Clerk Karen Diaz.

The City Council would then have approximately one month to consider the petitions and decide if it wants to reverse its 2007 ruling and deny the Lins' Oak Grove project, or send the issue to voters in a referendum. If the project goes to voters, it's likely the measure would be a separate issue on the state primary ballot next June.

Besides building 51 custom homes in the hills above Kottinger Ranch, the Lins would also give 496 acres of the land they own there to the city free of charge for public and recreational use under the agreement approved by the City Council. ■

Buck spearheading Pleasanton effort to donate clothing for homeless vets

Event scheduled for Nov. 10 in SF aimed to help military service members who are struggling

Longtime Pleasanton resident Jill Buck is spearheading a local effort to donate clothing items for homeless military veterans.

On Nov. 10, the San Francisco County Veterans Services Office and Project Homeless Connect will hold an event in San Francisco designed to help service members receive clothing and food.

Locally, Buck, who serves on the Veteran's Affairs Commission for San Francisco and is a former naval officer, will be collecting clothing through Nov. 8. Those interested in donating can drop off men's work clothes in good condition (suits, shirts, pants, ties, belts, shoes) to Buck's Pleasanton home, 2529 Via Espada. Items may be left on the porch.

Buck said there are also other ways the community can help. Volunteers are needed for the Nov. 10 event at the San Francisco VA Clinic, located at 3rd and Harrison streets. Help is needed in preparing box lunches, passing out clothing and helping veterans find their way through the clinic. For information on that, call Amy Golsong at 415-503-2190.

Another way to help could be through donating money to buy food, which will be served at the event. Donations can be mailed to Project Homeless Connect, P.O. Box 420404, San Francisco, CA 94142 (Attn: Veterans Connect). Donations will be acknowledged by a letter to the donor along with the tax ID number for the nonprofit.

For more information on the event, visit www.projecthomeless-connect.com/home/events.

—Janet Pelletier

Thinking about making the move to solar energy? Start with the Solar Cities program.

Solar Cities is a joint project of the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin focused on educating consumers with information about residential solar energy. Residents are invited to join us at a free workshop to learn more about solar technology for residential use. An informative presentation by Peter Shoemaker of PG&E will be followed by a Q&A session. Staff from all three cities will also be on hand to discuss the permitting process, along with a number of solar installers ready to answer your questions about the residential solar energy process and requirements.

Free Solar Cities Workshop

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7:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:45 p.m.)

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SOLAR CITIES

Livermore / Pleasanton / Dublin

Making holidays happy for servicemen and women

Operation S.A.M. to collect items at local Wal-Marts

Operation S.A.M. (Supporting All Military) wants residents to help deployed servicemen and women feel at home during the holidays by collecting goods to send in care packages.

Last year, they send out 1,800 holiday care packages, and have sent more than 19,000 packages from January 2004 to January 2008.

Residents may drop off donated items from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 24 at the Livermore Wal-Mart, located at 2700 Las Positas Road, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Pleasanton Wal-Mart, located at 4501 Rosewood Drive.

In addition to holiday items, troops always need items such as thermal socks for winter, nail clippers and tweezers, travel size toothpaste and mouth wash, CDs and DVDs, AA and AAA batteries, small envelopes and pens, individually packaged drink sweeteners and beef jerky, to name a few.

Letters are also a welcomed care package item.

For a full list of suggested items, as well as items not to include, visit www.operationsam.org or call 443-7620.

—Emily West



JEB BING

Another Marine comes home from Iraq

When it comes to Pleasanton military families, probably none is more committed in terms of numbers than Jenetha and Don Partridge, whose youngest son, Marine Lance Cpl. Christopher Partridge, 20, was just welcomed home from service in Iraq. A 2007 graduate of Foothill High School, Partridge was actually serving in Iraq for a time with his two older brothers, Marine 1st Lt. Dustin Partridge, 27, and Jenetha's oldest son, Capt. Matthew Weaver, 29, a Marine CH-53 helicopter pilot.

About 75 from veterans' organizations, friends and neighbors turned out for the early evening ceremony in front of the Partridges' Ginger Court home off Muirwood Drive, an event organized by the Pleasanton Military Families Support Group. Doug Miller, post commander of the VFW's Pleasanton Post 6298 led the welcome home festivities, introducing city and civic officials and a representative from the local office of Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton). City Councilman Jerry Thorne presented Partridge with a letter of commendation for his service "for our community and the nation."

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Portly pumpkin

Foothill High School sophomore Mark Anderson, seen at right with his prized produce, said the desire to grow large pumpkins probably came from within.

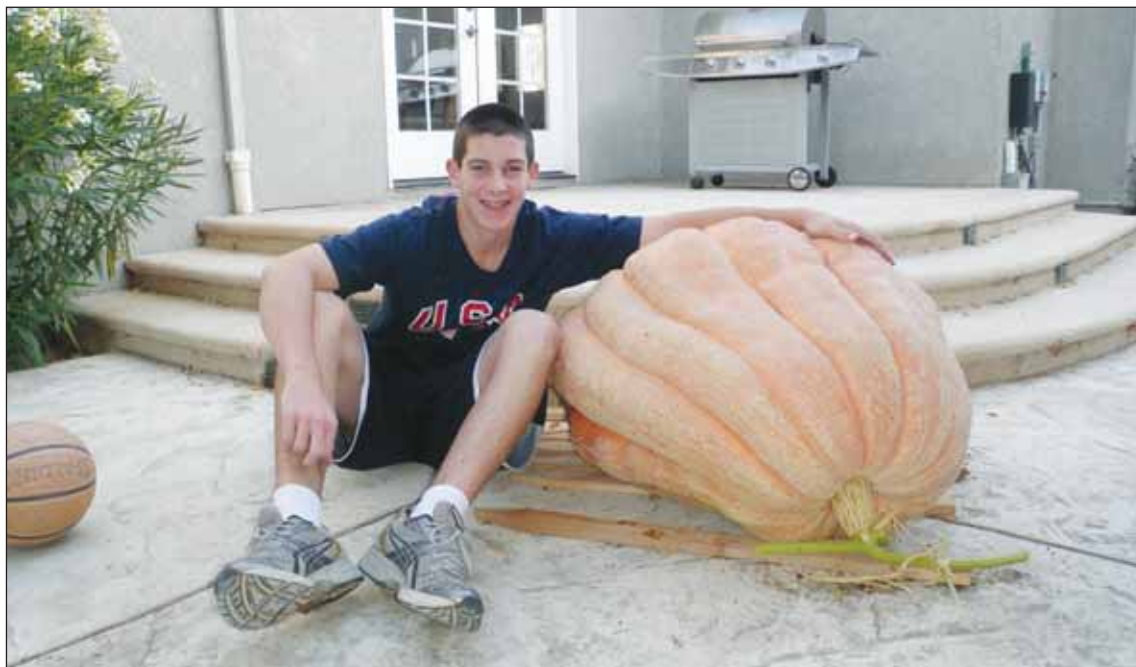
"My dad was a farmer and my grandfather was a farmer," he said, "it was probably just in the gene pool."

With some research and natural abilities, he has managed to grow a 500-pound pumpkin in his family's yard. He planted the Atlantic Giant Pumpkin seed in May and the pumpkin itself has only been growing for about a month and a half.

Anderson put a lot of fertilizer on it and watered it a little bit four times each day. Last year, his pumpkin was about 200 pounds and next year he's hoping the next pumpkin will tip the scales at 1,000 pounds.

After displaying it through Halloween, Anderson said he plans to eat all the seeds.

—Emily West



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OF NOTE



Blue Devils drum, bugle corps take home big Pleasanton win

The Concord Blue Devils Drum and Bugle B Corps is still relishing in their first championship win this past summer when they went undefeated, bringing home some Pleasanton pride from Indiana.

The corps is based in Concord (where practices are also held) and includes members from Amador Valley and Foothill high schools as well as other high school students from across the state and even Texas. Corps member Andrew Worth, who is a senior at Amador and plays the mellophone in the school's band, said the victory was sweet because a year earlier they lost by a narrow margin.

"We went undefeated the whole season and it was just a big jump," the 17-year-old said. "We were all so happy because after the '08 season, the B corps had lost by .05. Our show was based on pursuing the goal of victory and knowing what it is to be the world champions."

Band members practiced long hours beginning in June and lasting through the summer. Their road to victory took them through the state, then to the Midwest, capping off with a finals win in Indiana. Their champion status brought them medals and rings. The bugle corps began in 1957 and also has a C group for 7-14-year-olds and the elite A corps, which features the best of the best up to age 21. All corps feature Pleasanton residents and the A corps also went undefeated this season. The B corps had its largest group this past summer with 125 members who include brass players, percussionists, the pit crew and colorguard.

Pleasanton corps members include: "A" Corps: Rebecca Warren-Amador graduate, Rachel Silva-Amador graduate, John Lee-Foothill graduate, Ben Lewis-Amador graduate, Jacob Zollinger-Amador graduate; "B" Corps: Carmon Azcona-Amador graduate, Andrew Worth-Amador, Vyom Shukla-Amador, Kelsey Thiel-Amador graduate, Alex Richter-Amador, Brian Pratt-Amador, Olivia Arevalo-Foothill graduate, Jordan Rasmussen-Amador, Hugh Huynh-Amador, Whitney Herne-Amador, Chris Opperwall-Amador, Grace Miller-Foothill, Ufkin Erdin-Amador and Tevin Mitchell-Foothill.

Four Pleasanton employers recognized by heart association

Four Pleasanton employers were recently recognized by the American Heart Association as Start! Fit-Friendly Companies for promoting physical activity and health in the workplace.

Pleasanton companies designated as Fit-Friendly include: EMC Corporation (platinum level), Safeway Inc. (platinum level), Thoratec Corp. (gold level) and ValleyCare Health System (gold level).

Start! Fit-Friendly Companies reach gold level status by implementing various activities and programs to encourage physical activity, nutrition and culture enhancements such as on-site walking routes, healthy food choices in cafeterias and vending machines, annual employee health risk assessments and online tracking tools. Companies that achieve platinum recognition — the highest tier — take the program a step further by measuring the outcomes of their wellness efforts.

One East Bay company, 24 Hour Fitness Inc. of San Ramon, received a Community Innovation Award for its Varsity Program, which allows student athletes to train in their gyms during the summer free of charge. During the school year they can train at 24 Hour Fitness gyms at a discounted rate.

Race for Opportunity

Last month, two Pleasanton couples raised \$8,400 for a foundation they created to provide community college educations to young people coming out of the foster care system through a challenging "Race for Opportunity," patterned after the "Amazing Race" TV show.

Twelve teams of two people each (primarily Pleasanton and Livermore residents) participated in the all-day Saturday event following clues and completing challenges both in the Tri-Valley and San Francisco. Among widely known team members were Jim and Pam Ott, and Jerry Pentin and his wife.

The idea for the foundation and event came from the elder organizer's childhood as a foster child and sometimes street person living in San Francisco, and the desire now to help similar youth get a leg up through education.

Organizers Roy and Ann Gillette, and Bryan and Audrey Gillette have already made their first award and everyone participating met him when he dispensed one of the clues as the group traveled on BART. ■



BOOK FLUSH RIGHT

Senior drama troupe to perform

The Pleasanton Senior Players are back on stage with their annual comedy production running today through Sunday at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. "You Can't Get There From Here" is a story of a small town bed and breakfast and the giant pothole that keeps people in town for a night or two. Shows are at 7 p.m. Friday, and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$9 to \$11 and can be purchased at the door. For details, call 931-5365.

VINEYARD VILLA

Continued from Page 5

to delay the parcel purchase offers for residents for 10 years. Although residents could decide against purchasing their parcel and continue to pay rent for the space, Guggenheim would be free to raise rents based on state law.

The cost of mobile homes in the park range as high as \$300,000, although most sell for \$95,000-\$150,000. The estimated cost of the land beneath the homes would be in the \$120,000-\$200,000 range, which Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio said would likely be beyond what owners could afford.

When the park first opened, it was restricted to adults only. Later, it was converted to seniors only and both Vineyard Villa and Hacienda are now restricted to those 55 years old and older, although a spouse can be younger. The parks also have

changed ownership several times, but the city has controlled rents under an affordable housing agreement.

The lawsuit contends that both the Planning Commission and City Council ignored state law allowing mobile home park conversions and instead considered issues wholly outside their scope of authority. These included surveys conducted of residents to see if they supported the conversion, concerns over future affordability, and even the commissioners' and councilmembers' "resentment of the fact that the state has severely limited local authority in the area of mobile homes and mobile home park conversions."

"Additionally, City councilmembers indicted dissatisfaction with the residents' response rate to the survey, despite the fact that the survey had been distributed to all park residents and the fact that 119 out of 208

units (approximately 57 percent) had submitted survey responses," Close states in his legal brief.

"For example," Close continues, "councilmember Matt Sullivan stated: 'Sometimes, believe it or not, the state of California does not make laws that are in the best interest of the greatest number of people. In my opinion, this is yet another example of where the State Legislature has stuck its nose into a local planning issue where it does not belong and I think we need to be willing to stand up and say so. I will not be intimidated by lawsuits.'"

Close states that his client has "suffered and continues to suffer damages," in an amount "believed to be not less than \$29,120,000."

City Manager Nelson Fialho said he and City Attorney Michael Roush plan to meet with the Vineyard Villa park owners to see if a mutually acceptable agreement for ending the dispute can be reached. ■

ing Wednesday was moved to the Veterans Memorial Building downtown as a result. Because of concern over possible flooded yards and homes, the city also offered free sandbags at its Operations Service Center at 3333 Busch Road. Hall said nearly 800 sandbags were filled for residents.

As the wet weather died down Tuesday night, Mother Nature had one last trick up her sleeve, a 3.7-magnitude earthquake which struck just south of Pleasanton. Two smaller temblors followed, disrupting those who thought the

calm had returned at last to the Tri-Valley. Officials from both the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and the Pleasanton Police Department said there were no reports of injuries or damage, just some curious callers.

The quake came just ahead of the 20th anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake, which is on Saturday. To add to the irony, on Thursday, Pleasanton schools and others had planned to participate in the Great California Shakeout, the largest earthquake drill ever staged.

—Jeb Bing, Janet Pelletier

SCHOOL

Continued from Page 5

board voted Tuesday night to borrow \$422,378 from the Sycamore Property Fund to help pay for five portable classrooms, a portable bathroom and mold remediation at Hearst Elementary School. The loan would be paid back with interest over five years.

The fund, which had \$5.6 mil-

lion as of January, came from the sale of a potential high school site near Happy Valley and has typically funded technology for schools.

This year, however, it has been used as a second reserve fund. Last month, the board approved two loans totaling \$1,210,089 to help make up for deficits in the cafeteria and capital facilities funds.

Staff and families requested the portable facilities be installed at

Hearst to help ease the school site congestion after several rooms remain closed since high levels of mold at the start of the school year.

Grant said this fund should be used as a last resort and the board will review the findings by internal and external experts to consider seeking repayment from the construction company for the remediation costs if they were at fault. ■



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Opinion

EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

It's Homecoming: Drive by the rules

Foothill High celebrates its homecoming weekend starting tonight in its game against the Livermore Cowboys, and Amador Valley holds its homecoming next weekend, with a Friday night game against the Cal High Grizzlies. We'll be on the fields at both schools supporting our hometown teams and covering other events that make these annual events so festive, including the all-school dance at each school on the two Saturday nights. These are always the first big dances of the school year and among very few that include everyone in the student body – freshmen to senior classes. Homecoming also comes about the time sophomores start turning 15-1/2 to 16 years old and juniors one year older. This means many already have their provisional driver's license learning permits and first-year provisional licenses. A glance at the student parking lots also shows many have their own cars, sometimes special gifts to those turning "sweet 16."

"Pleasanton police, in a plea to teenagers and their parents this week, urge them to recognize how high the accident rates are for this early-driver group."

We wish this would also be something to celebrate, but all too often it's not. Statistical data compiled by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reveals that 5,000 to 6,000 teens, aged 15 to 19 years, die annually in traffic collisions on U.S. roads. Another 300,000 will be seriously injured. Because of this, California has been placing special regulations on teenage licenses and driving allowances, and these rules could get harsher.

Already in place are rules against cell phone use for drivers under the age of 18 whether "hands free" or hand-held. No texting is allowed. No driving between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. for those under 18 in their first year behind the wheel, and, in most cases, no teen passengers. The curfew and other rules are based on statistics showing teen drivers get into the worst crashes at night and when friends are aboard.

Some call it tough love, but others think California is not tough enough. Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety recently announced it will sponsor federal legislation asking states to comply with uniform national restrictions on teen drivers. Noncompliant states would be denied some federal transportation funds. Should the bill proposed by Judie Stone, the group's president, pass, California would be pressed to increase the minimum age for a beginner's permit from 15-1/2 to 16 and prohibit teens from driving with other teens in the car until they turn 18, rather than for just one year.

Police believe that the provisional driver's license and the "Graduated Drivers Licensing" program, or GDL, work well if the rules are obeyed. Often this takes a firm reminder to parents who, especially at high school homecoming time, give in to pleading teenagers who want to drive a friend to the homecoming game or dance – "just this once" – when they shouldn't be driving late at night or driving with a passenger. Police are finding that this leniency that often starts at homecoming continues and can have serious consequences. Even if there's never an accident, a police ticket for violating the Provisional Drivers License Law can result in the teenager's license being revoked and a financial spike in the family's auto insurance rates. Police urge parents: Just say no. They'll also have extra patrols in the streets and in the parking lots at Foothill and Amador to make sure that you do. ■

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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PRESIDENT

Gina Channell-Allen, Ext. 119

PUBLISHER

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

EDITORIAL

Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

Managing Editor

Janet Pelletier, Ext. 111

Features Editor

Emily West, Ext. 121

Contributors

Dennis Miller

Jerri Pantages Long

Joe Ramirez

Elyssa Thome

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Designers

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HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial e-mail:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales e-mail:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales e-mail:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation e-mail:

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LETTERS

Why isn't Pleasanton banning plastic bags?

Dear Editor,

Floating in the Pacific Ocean, roughly midway between San Francisco and Hawaii is a man-made island known as The Great Garbage Patch. It is roughly the size of Texas and weighs about 3.5 million tons. It is made up mostly of toys, plastic bags, wrappers, toothbrushes, fast food cups and bottles. Not only is this waste not bio-degradable but is also highly toxic.

The debris is problem enough as marine life mistakes the plastic for food. According to The Monterey Bay Aquarium newsletter: "it turns out the plastic decomposes in seawater, leaving behind a soup of toxic chemicals that poses an additional set of problems for marine life."

To quote thegreatgarbagepatch.org, an organization devoted to publicizing this mess: "This waste accumulates in a swirling sea of debris; where birds and mammals are dying of starvation and dehydration with bellies full of plastic; where fish are ingesting toxins at such a rate that soon they will no longer be safe to eat."

I don't think we can afford to destroy a major source of food when people are starving.

We need to do something now. When I emailed the City of Pleasanton to ask if there were any plans to ban plastic bags, I was told by a clerk in the city offices that the city has no plans to ban plastic bags. She recommended using fabric bags.

Cities all over the state are banning plastics. I always thought of Pleasanton as a fairly progressive city, but even Los Angeles is ahead of us.

Thomas Painter



Pleasanton garbage man makes this town a great place

Dear Editor,

I wanted to send a photo to you of my two little girls Siena and Amanda Hunter with the Pleasanton Garbage man, Noel.

My girls run out every Monday to see him and wave.

Even if they are asleep, I must wake them and rush them outside so they can get their weekly visit with their hero. He beeps his horn and waves to them.

It has been a ritual since they were very small. They will not go back in the house until he is out of sight, and continue to wave to him as he stops at each house. I was shocked the week of Christmas when he stopped got out of his truck and gave them each a Christmas present which were handmade by his wife.

Then on Easter, he gave them Easter baskets. To say my girls were thrilled would be an understatement.

We finally got a picture of him with the girls in front of the garbage truck. I want the girls to remember him and their special ritual for when they get older. I have sent a note to Pleasanton Garbage, but this is a home town story to share. This is why Pleasanton is such a great hometown. I love this town.

Maureen Hunter

Nothing unfair about government pensions, benefits

Dear Editor,

I don't know where Mr. Bart Hughes works, what he's paid, or why he doesn't have a Roth IRA or retirement plan ("Government employees should share sacrifice," Letters, Aug. 21, page 10). But, I resent his implication that government employees are sponging off taxpayers and living the high life with "above market salaries" and "golden entitlements" and need to hurt more.

First of all, government employees are taxpayers too. Some of us are childless taxpayers who pay our homeowner and other taxes which benefit the needy in our community through social services and help educate "our children," which Mr. Hughes feels are living impoverished by my retirement pension.

I worked for many years as a government employee for the citizens of Pleasanton - at times worked overtime with no additional compensation because I felt the work was needed and had to be done. Pleasanton has many dedicated city employees. And, I can assure Mr. Hughes that unlike the Silicon Valley millionaires of yesteryear, or the Wall Street and bank CEOs of today, most government employees earn their pay and do not enjoy "golden entitlements," or live on extravagant pensions.

Yes, I have a pension and benefits; I worked long and hard for them. I feel I earned them. I see nothing unfair about it.

Cathleen Cordova

Airport issues won't be a problem

Dear Editor,

As a pilot flying out of Livermore for nearly 20 years and an applicant for Stoneridge Creek, I found this article to be interesting "Livermore Airport back in the news," Around Pleasanton, Sept. 25, page 3), but would like to make the following comments:

Most aircraft out of LVK are light single and twin engine fixed wing. A westerly take off is usually made by requesting a right cross wind (north) departure and then turning east or continuing north.

South departures can be requested - a left cross wind departure. All of these departures, north and south, are made by turning way before passing over the Staples Ranch property. I usually began my turns over the adjacent golf course. Jets making a straight out (west) departure are usually the only aircraft to pass over head and they will usually proceed west over much of Pleasanton. A light aircraft may request a straight out departure but will be high enough crossing El Charro Road to not be a noise factor.

The Continuing Life Communities property will be outside the airport protection zone.

As a pilot, I would not be an applicant if I thought we had a problem.

Mert Van Dreser

Hacienda Business Park is already over-built

Dear Editor,

I am writing you to respond to the article ("City planners OK rezoning 19 more acres in Hacienda Business Park for housing," News, Oct. 2, page 5).


As a local resident of Pleasanton and a concerned parent, I strongly oppose the idea of rezoning before the impact of adding hundreds of new residential units has been studied and researched and before the city has a solid plan to provide basic services to the thousands of new residents and kids that will be added according to the rezoning plan.

The Hacienda area is already over-built with homes and apartments, while on the other hand, there is no school or public park to accommodate the needs. And the city does not have any plan to address these problems.

In the past a few years, the elementary school for kids in that area to attend has been changed multiple times: it changed from Alisal to Mohr to Fairlands to Donlon. Who knows which school the kids will go next year, maybe no where.

Please stop rezoning, stop ruining our neighborhood and stop sacrificing our kids' education for profit.

Dan Chen



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OBITUARIES

Lou Schichnes

Lou Schichnes died Oct. 4 at the age of 86.

Mr. Schichnes was born April 21, 1923 in Newark, N.J. He grew up during the Great Depression and when his country needed him during World War II he enlisted in the Navy and served overseas in the war theatre.

Mr. Schichnes was of the generation that is now known as "The Greatest Generation" and deservedly so. He had a heart as big as they come. He was always willing to help a friend or neighbor, and his family was the center of his life. He was multi-talented and whether it was carpentry, plumbing or electrical, he could tackle any project. The thing that he will always be remembered for was his passion for cooking. Christmas Eve dinners were epic feasts, and his preparation of Peking duck was his signature dish. He loved sports, excelling in all he played, and was a huge New York Yankees and New York Giants fan.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 62 years, Catherine Schichnes; daughters, Janet Schichnes and Martha Campolo; sons, Robert and Louis Schichnes; nine

grandchildren, Jessica and Nicole Schichnes, Alan and Leah Lipka, Julianne and Anthony Campolo, Wally, Cassidy and Ellie Schichnes. Donations may be made in his memory to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

Lawrence Granger

The Cal State East Bay music department will hold a memorial concert for Pleasanton musician Lawrence Granger, who died June 14 of heart failure following surgery for a brain tumor three days earlier.

The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Music Building, Room 1055.

Mr. Granger, 57, was a lecturer and alumnus of the university, graduating with a BA in music in 1975. He won a chair with the San Francisco Symphony in 1979 and continued to perform until his hospitalization. He recorded for several films at George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch, and for many radio and television commercials.

Those wishing to donate can contact mariko.abe@csueastbay.edu. For information on the concert, call 510-885-3167.

WEDDINGS

Megan Loperena & Travis Ratliff

Megan Loperena and Travis Ratliff were married July 25 at Valley Community Church. A reception followed at Castlewood Country Club where Megan's grandparents, Rich and June Hannigan, are members.

Megan is the daughter of Bob and Gail Loperena, who resided in Pleasanton for 17 years and now live in Marina Del Rey. Megan graduated from Amador Valley High School in 2002, where she was drum major of the Amador Marching Band. She is a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Music, and is currently a middle school band director in the Eugene School District. She spends her summers directing camps for the United Spirit Association.

Travis is the son of John and Sandy Ratliff, who reside in Junction City, Ore. Travis graduated from Willamette High School in 2001, and later received his A.A. from Grossmont College in San Diego, where he played on their football team. He is now finishing his degree at the University of Oregon in sports marketing.

The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and now happily reside in Eugene, Ore.



BIRTHS



Joseph Benedict Seech

Joseph Benedict Seech was born at 2:55 a.m. Aug. 25 at Kaiser Medical Center in Walnut Creek. Baby Joseph weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Proud parents are Mark and Sarah, who used to work for the Pleasanton Weekly, and siblings are John (6), Max (5), Ella (4), Luke (3) and Christopher (1). Grandparents are Mike and Sally Lesniak of Pleasanton.

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POLICE BULLETIN & LOG

POLICE REPORT

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

Oct. 3

Theft

- 9:27 a.m. in the 1000 block of Harvest Circle; identity theft
- 11:55 a.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 1:08 p.m. in the 3500 block of South Glacier Court; identity theft
- 2:31 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; petty theft

Burglary

- 2:00 p.m. in the 4400 block of Black Avenue; vehicular
 - 6:10 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting
- ### Drug/alcohol violations
- 9:27 a.m. in the 1000 block of Harvest Circle; non-narcotic controlled substance possession
 - 5:32 p.m. in the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; marijuana possession
 - 9:25 p.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Valley Avenue; under the influence of a controlled substance

Oct. 4

Theft

- 3:37 p.m. in the 4100 block of Vineyard Avenue; grand theft
- 5:28 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen vehicle
- 8:00 p.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive; petty theft

Vehicular burglary

- 4:55 a.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

- 6:33 p.m. in the 4400 block of First Street

DUI

- 1:41 a.m. in the 2300 block of Willet Way

Oct. 5

Petty theft

- 11:08 a.m. in the 5600 block of Rosewood Drive

- 1:52 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

- 6:52 p.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

Stolen vehicle

- 8:38 p.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

Threats

- 12:02 a.m. in the 600 block of St. John Drive

Oct. 6

Theft

- 8:45 a.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 11:30 a.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; stolen property possession
- 12:08 p.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road; petty theft
- 12:25 p.m. in the 1200 block of Pineto Place; petty theft
- 4:55 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; grand theft
- 7:15 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:38 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Valley Avenue; riding bike while intoxicated
- 11:30 a.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; non-narcotic controlled substance
- 8:14 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Sunol Boulevard; DUI

Oct. 7

Theft

- 4:34 p.m. in the 4200 block of First Street; grand theft
- 7:26 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

Burglary

- 8:03 a.m. in the 4700 block of Harrison Street; vehicular
- 8:58 a.m. in the 7600 block of Fair Oaks Drive
- 5:20 p.m. in the 4700 block of Harrison Street; vehicular

Vandalism

- 9:10 a.m. in the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- 11:48 a.m. in the 5500 block of Johnson Drive

- 12:39 p.m. at the intersection of First Street and Stanley Boulevard

Marijuana possession

- 5:57 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Laguna Creek Lane

Robbery

- 12:56 p.m. in the 1 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Oct. 8

Theft

- 8:58 a.m. in the 400 block of Bonita Avenue; grand theft
- 9:12 a.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street; grand theft
- 11:23 a.m. in the 1200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; embezzlement
- 11:28 a.m. in the 3400 block of Old Foothill Road; petty theft
- 12:17 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; embezzlement
- 1:36 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen vehicle
- 9:24 p.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue; petty theft, stolen property possession

Vandalism

- 7:09 a.m. in the 2700 block of Willowren Way

DUI

- 11:57 a.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Koll Center Parkway

Oct. 9

Theft

- 8:52 a.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; stolen vehicle
- 12:43 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 1:49 p.m. in the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 6:05 p.m. in the 200 block of Rose Avenue; petty theft

Marijuana possession

- 9:37 p.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge and Johnson drives



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **Public Hearing:** PRZ-48, City of Pleasanton – Consider an application for rezoning 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. (1) W.P. Carey site 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) BRE site at the north corner of Hacienda Drive and Gibraltar Drive (APN 941-2778-011-00), approximately 8.2 acres; and (3) Roche Molecular Systems site south of Gibraltar Drive between Willow Road and Hacienda Drive (a portion of APN 941 2761 003 00), about 12.4 acres. Also consider a Negative Declaration for the project
- Introduce an ordinance amending the Growth Management Ordinance to allow the city council to override the annual housing allocation in order to meet the City's total regional housing needs, especially for exceptional affordable housing projects

Committee on Energy & Environment

Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.
Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road

- City Progress Updates
- Discussion of Pleasanton's General Plan 2005-2025 presented by Janice Stern, Principal Planner
- Review of the Draft Scope of Work on the City's Climate Action Plan
- Strategic Plan – Subcommittee Report
- Report on the Thoratec Health Fair held on September 18, 2009 and Hines Healthy Planet Fair held on September 23, 2009.

The Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, November 2, 2009.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Employment Opportunities

Recreation Assistant (seasonal, part-time, temporary)
\$11.15 - \$11.71 per hour to start
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The Youth and Teen Services program seeks one (1) part-time Recreation Assistant to work in its After School Recreation Program for grades 1-5. The program is offered at Donlon, Fairlands and Hearst elementary schools. The Assistant could also be assigned to work in support of other Youth and Teen Services activities.

If you are interested in this position please submit a City application to the Youth and Teen Services Office at Gingerbread Preschool, 4333 Black Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Attention: Mark Duncanson, Senior Recreation Program Specialist. If you have questions or would like additional information about this position, you may contact Mark Duncanson at mduncanson@ci.pleasanton.ca.us or (925) 931-3433.

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

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



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DAVID RICE

Moderator Mark Curtis joins Toby Brink, president of Tri-Valley Business Council, and Reena Jadhav, founder and owner of NuAlerts.com, on the set of TV30's new program Tri-Valley Community Focus.

Tuning in to the Tri-Valley

New TV30 program spotlights community leaders giving back

By Emily West

The Tri-Valley's community television station may have experienced some bumps in the road, but new programming and leadership are taking TV30 to a new level.

Its newest feature is "Tri-Valley Community Focus," hosted by Bay Area TV personality Mark Curtis and Tri-Valley Community Foundation President David Rice. The half-hour program, filmed twice a month and airing on Tuesdays and Fridays at 7:30 p.m., will feature local leaders and organizations that are giving back.

"Our community foundation believes that a strong business community benefits not only people who are employed, but people who are very needy in our community,"

Rice said. "Those who are fortunate enough to be employed might find it in their hearts to help their neighbors in need."

It's good community news stories like these, Curtis said, that are important and aren't being shown in larger media outlets.

Many businesses in the foundation's coverage area of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Sunol, San Ramon, Danville and Alamo have been practicing what Rice calls "corporate social responsibility."

"We wanted to shine a spotlight on companies that are doing unusual and innovative things in the Tri-Valley and also that care greatly about the community at large," he added.

In the first show, they interviewed Rick Stulen of Sandia Na-

tional Laboratories in Livermore, where they talked about new technologies and their charitable giving campaign. The second show featured Reena Jadhav, the CEO of a start-up company called nuAlerts, a social media marketing tool, as well as Toby Brink, the president of the Tri-Valley Business Council.

Curtis said he also wants the show to help bring attention to deserving nonprofit service organizations in the area.

"There's a lot of need out there right now and a lot of people hurting," he said.

Some of these spotlights could be on groups such as Open Heart Kitchen, Curtis said, which use donations since it nearly closed its doors last year due to insufficient funds.

TV30 isn't a stranger to finan-

cial hardships, but has recently revamped its programming thanks to the new Executive Director Melissa Tench-Stevens. New shows like "Tri-Valley Community Focus" hope to have great advertiser and viewer response.

The goal with any TV station is to get more people to watch, Curtis said, and the plan is to have featured guests and viewers spread the word. Upcoming shows will feature some of the area's largest employers, such as Kaiser Permanente, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Hacienda Business Park, which will they hope will motivate employees to tune in as well.

Many of these local companies are supporting the show by providing financial backing.

"None of the companies which

might support this program series are supporting their own program," Rice said. "If they happen to be featured, program support would come from many companies."

Rice said they're planning to accept nominations in the near future, and will be doing it through the Tri-Valley Business Council's website, www.trivalley.org, as well as the foundation's site, www.tvc-foundation.org.

In addition to featuring businesses, the Tri-Valley Community Foundation will also highlight "community champions" in 30- and 60-second segments airing on TV30 as well as its other channels, 28 and 29.

To learn more about TV30 and to see a programming schedule, visit www.tri-valleytv.org. ■



Halloween happenings



Halloween Crafts at the Pleasanton Library

The Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., hosts a drop-in craft day from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday. Teens volunteer to help kids make some fun crafts and pick up suggestions and advice for all things Halloween. While supplies last.

Boo-etry

Pleasanton's new poet laureate Deborah Grossman puts a spooky spin on the Century House readings with the "Boo-etry" event from 2 to 4 p.m. Oct. 25. Local teens will read poems and there will be a live performance of Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven," read by distinguished writer and poet Blanche Abrams.

An open mic session will follow, with readers invited to share original poems of a page or less. Admission is \$5 and the Century House is located at 2401 Santa Rita Road. For more information, call 931-5350 or email Grossman at pleasantonpoetry@gmail.com.

Cliff Haunted House

For the third year, the California Independent Film Festival hosts a haunted house from Oct. 21 to 25 and 28 to 31 at Dania Hall, 1783 2nd St., Livermore. The hours of operation are from 7 to 11 p.m. (open an extra hour Oct. 31) and 5 to 7 p.m. during downtown Trick or Treat with the lights on and no monsters. Admission is \$7 and proceeds benefit the International Children's Film Festival. Visit www.caiff.org.

Halloween Fun Camp

Elementary school students can enjoy a day of crafts, games and more at the city-sponsored Halloween Fun Camp. It runs from 12:30 to 6 p.m. Oct. 29 at the Amador Recreation Center, 4455 Black Ave. The cost is \$23 for residents and \$26 for non-residents. Sign up through Parks and Community Services (activity 47247) by calling 931-5340 or visiting www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation.

Alviso Adobe events

Pleasanton's new interpretive park on Foothill Road will play host to a couple of Halloween events for all ages. The third annual pumpkin carving party (activity 47456) will be from 1 to 3 p.m. Oct. 24. There is a \$10 supply fee as pumpkins and carving tools will be provided.

Those interested in a slightly spooky evening should consider attending Halloween at the Alviso

Adobe (activity 47459 to 47472). Tours leave about every 20 minutes from 7 to 9:10 p.m. Oct. 23 and 24, where guides will explore the park and teach about things that go bump in the night. The cost is \$5 for residents or \$8 for non-residents. Pre-registration is required. To register for either event, call 931-5340 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation.

'Tri-Valley High – Episodes of Terror'

This show is for teenagers, by teenagers and about teenagers. Creatures of Impulse perform at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 29 and 30 and 2 p.m. Oct. 31 at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. At each improv show, the audience will be involved in creating stories from start to finish. Tickets are \$5 for students, or \$8 for adults in advance or \$10 at the door. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civicartstickets.org.

Halloween Fun Night

It will be an evening of trick-or-treating, tennis games for adults and children, and a chance to walk down the haunted hallway of terror from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 30 at the Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park, 5801 Valley Ave.

Halloween Spooktacular Breakfast

Families can come join Pleasanton Chapter's Sweetheart Core at a Spooktacular Pancake Breakfast, from 8 a.m. to noon Oct. 31 at the Pleasanton Masonic Lodge, 3370 Hopyard Road. Costumes are welcome, and crafts will be available for children. Tickets are \$8, \$5 for ages 2 to 8, and kids under 2 are free. Visit www.pleasantondemolay.com or call 556-3576.

Howl-o-ween Pawty

Humans and canines are invited to Murphy's Paw, 410 Main St., from 6 to 10 p.m. Oct. 23 for a Howl-o-ween Pawty. Pooches can be entered in the Howl-o-ween costume contest, and humans can enjoy beer or wine while selecting the winners. Visit www.murphyspaw.com.

Trick or Treat at the East Bay SPCA

The East Bay SPCA — Tri-Valley hosts a trick-or-treat event from 3 to 5 p.m. Oct. 25 at 4651 Gleason Drive in Dublin. The free event includes candy, games, crafts and visits with the animals. Costumes are optional. All ages welcome. Call 479-9670 or visit www.eastbay-sPCA.org/events.

—Emily West

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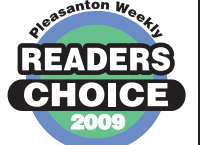
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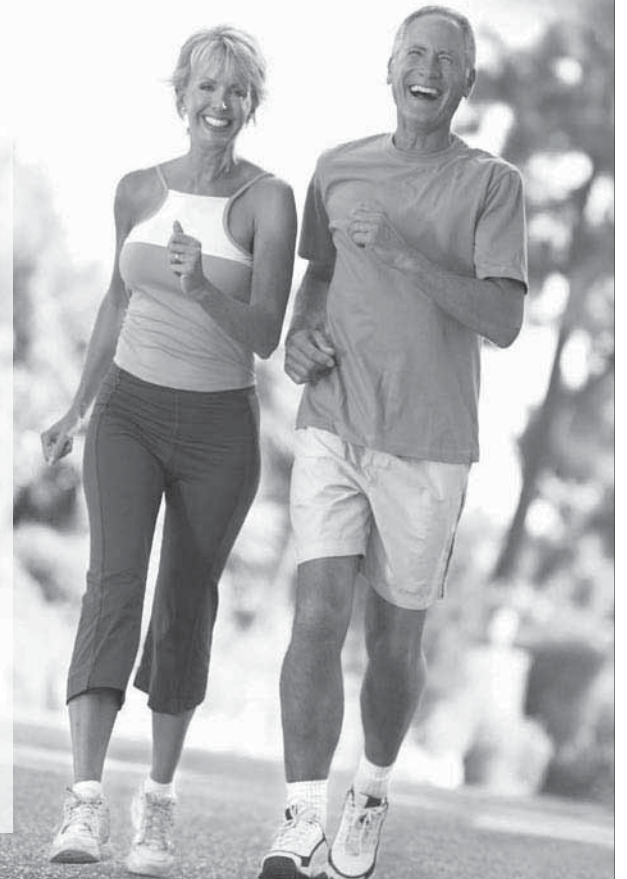
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Physical Therapist
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New library, civic center

New complex could cost \$70 million

BY JEB BING

It could take years before sufficient funds are available and construction actually starts but the City Council has taken a major step towards building a \$70-million new Civic Center complex and public library. Councilmembers indicated that the library would be the first to be rebuilt.

At a joint city council-library commission meeting, a majority of councilmembers said they favored a recommendation by the library commission to move the library from its current location at 400 Old Bernal Ave. to a new 73,000-square-foot public library building that would be built on city-owned property at the south end of Main Street. That would more than double the floor space of today's 21-year-old library, which has 30,178 square feet of space.

"I like the idea of making the library part of the grand entrance to our downtown," Mayor Jennifer Hosterman said. "It would be an opportunity to grab a book and walk downtown for coffee at Tully's or Cafe Main. I also like the idea of taking this opportunity to build a civic center that is more compact and allows us to have an organization under one roof."

As part of the project, most of the civic center facilities, including temporary buildings, would be torn down with a new 56,000-square-foot complex to be built at the north end of the existing library building for use by city administrative offices that are now located in buildings at 400 Old Bernal Ave. and at 123 and 157 Main St. The existing library building also would be converted into office and meeting room spaces for the city government and other public uses.

The plan also calls for constructing parking garages for 171 vehicles for library patrons and another 523 vehicles adjacent to the new civic center.

The police headquarters building on Bernal Avenue would not be affected in the study's recommendation, although several council members have said they would like to see a more architecturally-pleasing facility built eventually, possibly on city-owned land in the Bernal Community Park. The police building was renovated and a 20,000-square-foot addition was built 10 years ago.

The council's action, based on a poll of councilmembers during an informal workshop meeting with members of the library commission, came after a report on three studies that now have been completed on the potential redevelopment of the Civic Center and library buildings on Old Bernal Avenue, Main Street and Bernal Avenue. Although no construction funds have been appropriated, the council did agree to spend \$45,000 to refine the study by the consulting firm of Field Paoli that is recommending that Pleasanton proceed with the project.

Also included in the council's action



JANET PELLETIER

Pleasanton resident Jack Young leaves the library last Friday after checking out a DVD from its large inventory of movies and other digital offerings.

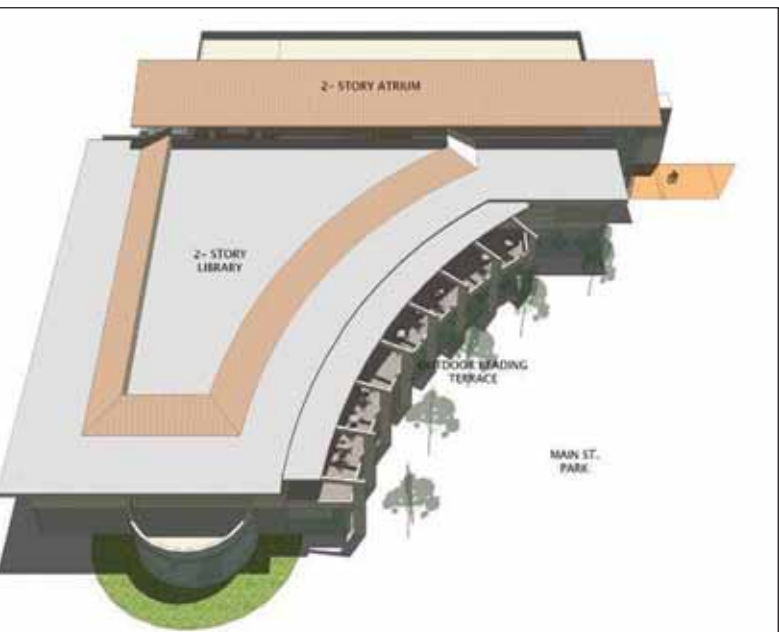
for downtown?

tion



JANET PELLETIER

A familiar library monument sign at corner of Bernal and Old Bernal avenues could someday read Pleasanton Civic Center if the City Council proceeds with preliminary plans to replace both aging facilities.



FIELD PAOLI ARCHITECTS

The artist's rendering shows a new 73,000-square-foot, two-story library that is proposed for site of the old post office building on Main Street near Bernal Avenue that now houses city offices.

The authorization for City Manager Jason Fialho and others to re-start negotiations with the city and county of San Francisco to acquire a vacant 3.3-acre site between Old Bernal Avenue and the Union Pacific railroad tracks that at one time Pleasanton thought it could buy for \$500,000. San Francisco now is asking \$3.5 million for the property.

Pleasanton officials thought they had a "deal" on the land with San Francisco then Mayor Willie Brown as part of an acquisition agreement between Greenbriar Homes and its partners with the city and county of San Francisco for the 510-acre Bernal property that it had owned since the 1930s. As part of the \$126,000 purchase agreement, Greenbriar donated 318 acres of Bernal to the city of Pleasanton in exchange for being allowed to build 100 homes and apartments on the rest of the property. At the time, South Bay Development Company also acquired 100 acres along the I-680 border of

the property and Pleasanton was to pay \$500,000 for the extra 3.3-acre site. Somehow, the 3.3-acre purchase agreement was never included in the final contract.

Expanding the library and rebuilding at least part of the civic center site has long been a priority of the City Council although never at the top of the list. Now that other capital improvement projects have been completed and with the last of the current list -- the \$10-million Firehouse Arts Center -- nearing completion, the council is expected to move these two new projects to the top when it considers priorities in early 2010.

The problem will be that the council, at the recommendation of Fialho and Finance Director Dave Culver, has halted all new capital projects for the duration of the economic downturn. No one is predicting when city revenues will start growing again.

Also, the full development of the Bernal Community Park, another project

that could also cost \$70 million or more and was approved by voters two years ago, would be completed before the library and civic center projects unless the council shifts its pending priorities.

The council considered building a new City Hall and expanding the library in 2001 as part of a Downtown Specific Plan developed that year, but the two projects have never been top priorities. Since then, funding has gone toward building Calippe Preserve Golf Course, the Alviso Adobe Community Park, restoring the Veterans Memorial Building and Kottlinger Creek, and now building the Firehouse Arts Center.

The decision to again move forward on both the civic center and library expansion projects follows a new study by Kathryn Page Associates, a library planning firm, that the public library is woefully short of space in serving Pleasanton, where the population has grown from 44,600 when the library was opened to nearly 70,000 today, more than a 50 percent increase.

Originally a branch of the Alameda County Library, the city took over operation of the library in 1999, increased financial support and raised library service levels at a time when Alameda County was cutting back on hours of operation and inventory.

"In fact, the library built by the county was significantly cut in size late in the process and was under-built at the time," said Julie Farnsworth, library director.

The study found that the library that has served the community since it was built in 1988 has stayed the same since it became a city-owned and operated public library. Before 1988, the public library was located where the Gingerbread School is now operating in Amador Community Park, and was in a trailer before that.

Circulation of materials at the library has increased 78 percent, topping 1.4 million items last year. Shelving capacity at the library has now been reached at 2.7 million volumes, with a 62 percent net increase in the overall collection size needed to meet the projected needs for Pleasanton in 2030.

Programming for children, families and adults also is lagging. Since 1999, annual attendance at library programs has grown from 5,393 to more than 30,000 people. The library's reader seat capacity is now 140 whereas a total of 364 is recommended by the consultants.

"This is the time to build the new library," said Library Commissioner Valerie Arkin. "Federal stimulus dollars might become available for projects like this and these need to be shovel-ready projects. That's why I would like to see city staff directed to get this project shovel-ready now."

"Our downtown is experiencing challenging times right now and this could help," she added. "Making a new library a reality is the right thing to do." ■

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

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 3180 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, 925.484.1001. Pleasanton's premier restaurant and catering company for the last 15 years. Family owned. Signature pastas, seafood and steaks. Full bar. Private banquet room. Reservations accepted. www.girasolegrill.com

MEDITERRANEAN

Oasis Grille
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Author Visits

JOURNALING: GATEWAY TO SELF DISCOVERY This four-week workshop by author B. Lynn Goodwin starts at 6 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Participants will have a chance to write, share and receive feedback in a safe atmosphere. Register by Oct. 16. Fee is \$20. Call 556-4511 or visit www.DublinSeniorCenter.com.

Book Clubs

BRAIN BOOK CLUB Brain Book Club's October selection is "The Philosophical Baby: What Children's Minds Tell Us About

Truth, Love & the Meaning of Life." Meets at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 21 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St.

Classes

DESIGN YOUR OWN JEWELRY Design and create "Say It Forever" pendants from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 21 at the Berry Patch, 350-A Main St. Class includes instructions, a sterling silver necklace and two sterling silver charms for participants to design and stamp. Class is \$35. Call 922-1750 or visit villainaccessories.com.

FREE VOICE LESSONS Pride of the Pacific, a women's a cappella chorus, is offering a program for four Wednesday evenings, starting

Oct. 8, at 6:30 p.m. at Aahmes Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore. Included are vocal education and an opportunity to sing with the chorus in our Christmas Show. Some singing experience is needed. Call 980-0311 or visit www.prideofthepacific.org.

Clubs

KIWANIS CLUB The Kiwanis Club meets at 11:45 a.m. Fridays at Vic's AllStar Kitchen, 201 A Main St. For information, call 1-800-Kiwanis.

TRI-VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB Tri-

Valley Democratic Club presents Web 2.0? "Citizen 2.0" Learn to use "social media" to build community and business. Adriehl Hampton will speak on the culture of collaboration, transparency and immediacy of Web 2.0, and give an overview of blogging and an intro to tools such



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as Facebook, Skype, Yelp, Twitter & Google Alerts from 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 19 at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Call 451-4303 or visit www.trivalleydems.com.

a Game Viewing Party Oct. 17 at Redcoats Pub, 336 St. Mary St. Kickoff is at 12:30 p.m. No host food and bar. Call Audrey Glafkides, 463-6615.

from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 24 and 25 at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 301 Main St. There will be wood carving demos, wood burning demos, soap carving for kids, a raffle and more. Visit www.trivalleycarvers.com.

WINE FOR A CURE A benefit for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation will be from 5 to 9 p.m. Oct. 25 at Zephyr Grill and Bar, 1736 First St., Livermore. It features food, wine, entertainment and an auction. Picazo Vineyards will pour during the VIP reception. Steven Kent and La Rochelle will be featured during the main event. Tickets are \$75 or \$100 for VIP tickets. Call 415-989-6500 or visit <http://nca.cff.org/wineforacure>.

Exhibits

'MUESTRA DE ARTE' AT MURRIETTA'S WELL WINERY Muestra de Arte is a fine arts show from noon to 4 p.m. Oct. 17 at Murietta's Well, 3005 Mines Road, Livermore. The event includes art by Livermore artists and wine tasting. Call 606-1088 or visit www.murrietaswell.com.

DR. SEUSS COLLECTION Studio 7 Fine Arts, 400 Main St., will unveil Dr. Seuss Collections "Wisdom of the Orient Cat," a secret collection, and "Anthony Drexel Goldfarb," an unorthodox taxidermy collection, from 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 17. Event includes wine, appetizers and live music. RSVP to info@studio7finearts.com.

Fundraisers

AMORE GOES HOLLYWOOD! Tri-Valley Animal Rescue's 10th annual dinner and auction will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Goal Line Production Studios, 5959 Coronado Lane. It includes dinner, a no host bar, live and silent auctions, raffle baskets and a grand prize drawing. Tickets are \$50 before Sept. 15 or \$60 after. Visit www.tvar.org.

LIONS CLUB BIG MONEY GIVEAWAY The Amador Valley Lions Club hosts the 23rd annual Big Money Giveaway Oct. 22 at the Alameda County Fairground's Palm Pavilion. The group has raised more than \$260,000 to date. Tickets are \$100 and only 250 are available. For more information, call Chuck Doran at 484-4097 or Buzz Valente at 443-8649.

VALLEYCARE HEALTH SYSTEM AUXILIARY BOOK FAIR ValleyCare Health System Auxiliary is sponsoring a book fair fundraiser with Imagine Nation Books Ltd. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 19 and 20 at LifeStyleRx, 1111 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore; and from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 22 and 23 at the ValleyCare Medical Center lobby, 5555 W. Las Positas Blvd. Books of all types and gifts will be for sale. Money raised by the Auxiliary provides for new medical equipment for the hospital.

Health

FLU SHOTS AT RITE AID Rite Aid, located at 2819 Hopyard Road, will conduct flu shot clinics Oct. 26 and 27. No appointment is necessary.

PTA FLU VACCINATION CLINIC

Concerts

FREE FLUTE & PIANO RECITAL The recital is at 4 p.m. Oct. 18 at the New World Music Academy, 1258 Quarry Lane and features internationally renowned flutist Isabelle Chapius and pianist Mark Anderson. For more information, call 462-5400.

TWO OPERAS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE: CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA AND PAGLIACCI It's two operas for the price of one during Opera Week, Oct. 10 to 18, at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Shows are at 8 p.m. with pre-performance lecture and artist's receptions included with every performance. Tickets are \$39-\$59 for adults or \$29-\$49 for youth. Tickets are \$50. Call 960-9210 or visit <http://livermorevalleyopera.org>.

Events

BINGO WITH THE PLEASANTON SEAHAWKS BINGO with the Pleasanton Seahawks at Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore, takes place Saturdays, Oct. 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.

CAL FOOTBALL GAME VIEWING PARTY Tri-Valley Cal Alumni hosts

Cowboy Culture Extravaganza

This year's Cowboy Culture Extravaganza will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 17 at the EBRPD's Sunol Regional Wilderness, 1895 Geary Road, Sunol. The festival will feature cowboy music and poetry amidst a beautiful outdoor setting, as well as hayrides, pioneer crafts, food for sale, local history information, a program on cattle grazing in the park district and demonstrations with a Western theme. Admission is free, parking is \$5 and dog fee is \$2. Call 510-544-3247.

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE Holiday Boutiques, hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary to Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298, will be from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 16 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Veterans' Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Variety of handcrafted items including holiday decorations, jewelry, knitted items, homemade jams, candles and more.

THE WMWNC ANNUAL PICNIC Join the Widowed Men and Women of Northern California for their annual picnic at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 17, 3649 Chelsea Ct, Pleasanton. Cost is \$10 for members, \$16 for guests. Catered by the Back Forty BBQ. Call 462-9636.

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Pleasanton PTA Council is hosting a seasonal flu vaccination clinic from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 29 at Fairlands Elementary School, 4151 W. Las Positas Blvd. Appointments must be made in advance at www.pleasantonpta.org or by calling 866-782-3014 in order to receive nasal spray. Walk-in's without an appointment will pay \$2 more for shots. Shots are \$25 and nasal spray is \$30. Medicare Part B is accepted.

SEASONAL FLU SHOTS Raley's and Nob Hill supermarkets in Pleasanton are offering seasonal flu shot clinics Oct. 21 to 24 at Raley's. Vaccinations are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are \$25. Patients who have Part B Medicare but no HMO insurance are eligible for free flu shots. For customers who meet the requirements, Flu Mist will be available for \$38 as an alternative to the shot at select pharmacies. Pneumonia shots are also available for \$50. For details, visit raleys.com/flu.

Kids & Teens

BOY SCOUT RECRUITING EVENT Boy Scouts of America is hosting a recruiting event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 24 at the Pleasanton Sports Park, 5800 Parkside Drive. There will be Boy Scout troops and venturing crews from Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin ready to show their Scout spirit. Get information and meet leaders. Call 510-577-9226. Scout groups should

RSVP unit activities to alexisp@sfbac.org by Sept. 30.

Lectures/ Workshops

AN EVENING WITH REAL ESTATE EXPERT BRAD WOZNY Brad Wozny will speak on how to become wealthy with syndication from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Oct. 21 at Hyatt Place, 4950 Hacienda Drive, Dublin. Brad is personally endorsed by Mark Victor Hansen, Robert Allen and others. Event is free, but registration required. Call 230-2352 or visit <http://21october.eventbrite.com>.

CAREER & RESUME WORKSHOP St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, hosts a career and resume workshop from 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 24. Get hands-on help to write or polish a resume, improve interview skills, target job search and learn about online job sites. Volunteers, including HR professionals, will be available to help. Call 462-4802.

CRAFTING CHARACTER: A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION The California Writers Club(CWC) — Tri-Valley Branch will celebrate the CWC's 100th birthday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Oct. 17 at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St., with a presentation by David Corbett, author of three successful thrillers, on how to craft memorable characters. There will be birthday cake. For reservations, call 462-7495. Cost is \$21 for members or \$27 for non-members.

GROWING UP FEMALE WORKSHOP Mothers and their fifth or sixth-grade daughters are invited to attend an uplifting workshop about body changes and the realities of being female at 4 p.m. Oct. 20 at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave. Led by RN specialist Amy Sluss, this two-hour workshop explores the normal changes that occur in girls ages 9 to 16. The session is crafted to build self-esteem, positive body image and a healthy sense of "being a girl." The cost is \$45 and advanced registration is required. Call 858-0702 or register online at www.fab2bfem.com.

Spiritual

ECK WORSHIP SERVICE The public is invited to attend the monthly ECK worship service from 11 a.m. to noon Oct. 18 at the Four Points Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road. (ECK means Holy Spirit.) Each service focuses on an aspect of Eckankar. The title for this month is "The Creative Power of Soul." People of all faiths are welcome. Call 944-0118.

HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE Blazing Fire Church and Revival Cry Ministries present a Holy Spirit Conference with Jason Upton, Sean Smith, Dennis Reanier, and Andrew Phillips Oct. 15 to 18 at Celebration Christian Center in Livermore. Register online at RevivalCry.com or call 406-522-7107 for details.



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Parent photographers

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Amador girl's tennis wins 3rd place at Freedom Tourney

The Amador JV girl's tennis team took third place out of nine area teams at the Freedom Invitational Tournament, played Sept. 25 and 26 at Freedom High School in Oakley.

Amador swept all five courts in their first two matches, and narrowly lost only one court in the third to advance into the championship playoffs with a record of five out of six singles wins and nine out of nine doubles wins. In their next match, they played with determination against a tough Piedmont team, but were unable to get the win to advance into the finals.

The girls returned the next day to sweep both their two singles and three doubles matches.



(Top to bottom, L-R): Haley Howard, Claire Williams, Jackie Kartchner, Alison Kobayashi, Caroline Tanonis, Captain Chelsea Kerrigan, Jonelle Balducci, Justine Chinn, Karly McCloskey, Coach Helen King, Allison Rowe, Sanjana Seth, Meghana Manne and Coach Eileen Sheridan.

BUSC U12 Premier dominate Mission Valley/Fremont 6-0

The BUSC U12 Premier scored a victory over Mission Valley/Fremont Saturday morning.

In the opening minutes of the game, Jeffrey Klei scored from distance with a powerful shot. Nathan Esparza then scored off of a Jackson Still cross. Tylor Silva scored Ballistic's next goal with a nice follow-up, kicking in a rebound off of the keeper's hands. Mitchell Wilson had a beautiful header clearance in the box to preserve the shut out. Amid chaos in the area, Carson Paynter controlled the ball placing it in the corner of the net, making it 4-0 at the half.

Cameron Ritchie began the second half much like the first, with a goal in the opening minute. Bryce Veit capped the Ballistic scoring with a penalty kick winner, to end the game at 6-0.



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PJFL Cowboys take over first place

The PJFL Cowboys and Jaguars took to the field Saturday with one thing in mind — taking over the coveted first place spot in the ultra-competitive junior varsity division. The first quarter was dominated by the defensive units of both teams, but early in the second quarter, the Cowboys struck first with a 25-yard touchdown run by running back Jake Jackson, giving them the early 6-0 lead. Led by the stellar tackling of linebackers Hunter Robinson, Kollin Mass and Jacob Ebel, the Cowboys defense took to the field after the score and shut the Jaguars offense down for the rest of the first half.

But the Jaguars would not back down and came out in the second half on fire, tying the game in the third quarter. With the momentum on their side, the Jaguars defense shut down the Cowboys on their

ensuing offensive possession and again went on attack on offense. But Cowboys free safety made a game-saving tackle on a 25-year TD pass.

The Cowboys defensive line anchored by Robert Boxberger, Nick Brum, Tyler Nunnery, Jacob Wilson and Frankie Esparza came to life and reclaimed possession of the ball. The Cowboys went to work with a hard-nosed rushing attack highlighted by a 47-yard scamper by fullback Sean Maloney and then on their ensuing offensive possession Jackson took it to the house for his second TD of the day with a big 50-yard TD run, putting the Cowboys ahead 13-6. With just a few minutes remaining, the Cowboys defense shut down the last-minute passing attack of the Jaguars with timely defensive plays by cornerbacks Travis Adkinson and Alex Skowron and the Cowboys solidified their spot at the top of the PJFL JV standings.



Sean Haggerty makes a game-saving tackle for the Cowboys.

SPORTS DIGEST

Seahawks excel at the San Jose Aquatics meet

The chill in the air didn't put a damper on the Pleasanton Seahawks (PLS) at the San Jose Aquatics Junior+ Meet Oct. 3 and 4. New Pacific Recorded Times were achieved by Eva Chung, 200 breast. New Far Western cuts: Eva Chung, 100 fly; Katie Woods, 200 and 400 IM; and Nick Johnston, 200 back.

Frank Horpel accomplished a new Junior Olympic cut in the 50 free. New A times: Maya Gilchrist, 200 back; Lindsey DeWilde, 100 back; and Emily Saccullo, 500 free. New B times: Parker Brown, 200 free & 100 back. Best times: Moriah Simonds,

4/5 events; Maxime Rooney, 7/8 events; Nick Johnston 6/9 events; Lindsey DeWilde, 5/6 events; Emily Saccullo, 4/6 events; Frank Horpel, 6/7 events; Urian Lee, 2/4 events; and Jason Yu, 2/4 events.

BUSC U12 Rays top Rapids 2-1

Early last Saturday morning, the BUSC U12 Division 4 Rapids and the Rays, two undefeated teams, met for a test match. Both teams had previously won their games by large margins and were well matched. It wasn't until one-third of the way through the first half before either team was able to put a score on the board. The Rays' Joey Brasil passed the ball to Jordan Singh who fired the ball at Rapids Goalie Nate Gibson, who valiantly tried to stop the ball but the early morning dew made the ball wet and it slipped through

his grip for a Rays lead, 1-0. The ball traveled the length of the field both ways for the remainder of the half both teams unable to score against the other until 30 seconds before the half when Rapids' Jeffrey made a sweet pass to Damian Johnson who tucked it into the net on the right side to tie the game. After the half the battle continued with Shaun Kienhofer, Tyler Wineger and Timmy Wu leading the Rays defense.

The Rapids also had strong defensive efforts. Both goalies Troy Bachand and Nate Gibson acquitted themselves well.

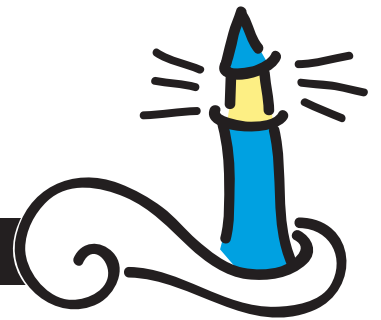
Finally the Ray's Jordan Singh kicked a corner to Kevin Yang who pounded the ball at the Rapid goal where, despite a Rapid defender trying to deflect the shot with a header, the ball found the upper right hand portion of the net. The Rays were fortunate to win the day 2-1. ■

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PET OF THE WEEK



CATHERINE HANSEN RUSH

Huggable Humphrey

Fall weather is approaching and it's time to check your heating systems. Furnace working? Check! Weather-stripping in place? Check! Warm, fuzzy kitty to curl up with? If that is still on your to-do list, visit the East County Animal Shelter where you will find many friendly felines like Humphrey that are available for adoption. Humphrey is a neutered male, flame-point tabby mix. Don't you feel warmer already? Humphrey (pet # 89317) is friendly, has beautiful blue eyes and is waiting for your visit. The East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin, is open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 803-7040.

TAKE US ALONG



Weekly honeymoon
 Brian and Danielle Ritter took a moment out of their honeymoon to snap this photo with the Weekly in Sevilla, Spain.



The Weekly gods

Tom, Melanie, Tammy, Drew Clawges and Cindy Rhoads enjoyed a summer vacation in Colorado Springs, Colo. at the Garden of the Gods. Pike's Peak is in the



Weekly lifestyles of the rich and famous Christine and Jason Bartholomew and Ted and Ginger Klenk pose with the Weekly on the front steps to the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park, Colo. The hotel is a 138-room Georgian hotel that has panoramic views of the Rockies, built by Freelan O. Stanley of Stanley Steamer fame and catered to the rich and famous.

Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

2586 SKIMMER CT., PLEASANTON, \$800,000



This beautifully remodeled "Meadowbrook" model offers 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, with 2,164 square feet of living space on a 9000 square foot lot. The home is located on a court and features a new granite kitchen and bathrooms, maple wood flooring, and a sparkling pebble tech pool/spa. Sold by Tim McGuire of Alain Pinel Realtors. (925) 462-7653

Home staging a necessity for sellers

Report shows 95% of 'staged' homes sell in 35 days or less

By JEB BING

A growing number of sellers in Pleasanton are giving their homes that "ooh" and "ah" model-home ambiance through what's known as staging, an increasingly popular tactic that often helps them sell their homes faster — and for more money.

According to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), "home staging seems to be a more important selling tool than ever." NAR points to a new book, "Staging to Sell: The Secret to Selling Homes in a Down Market," which found that even in today's slower housing market, 95 percent of staged homes sell (on average) in 35 days or less. On the other hand, homes that are not staged take 172 days or more to sell, if they sell at all.

Local real estate professionals have seen the benefits of home staging time and again, and are convinced it can more than pay for itself, according to Hometown GMAC Real Estate.

"In a competitive marketplace, home staging can be a huge, yet subtle, way for sellers to score that all-important great first impression — the kind of feel-good impression that helps get their home sold fast," Mike Peel of Hometown GMAC Real Estate said. "With so much competition today, and with so many choices for buyers out there, it is absolutely essential for sellers to take advantage of every opportunity available to them. And that's where home staging can be a big bonus."

According to Peel, it is often a good idea to bring in an objective, third-party home-staging expert who can provide effective, results-driven home staging advice and guidance. Home staging can offer a variety of

benefits, including:

- Helping sellers view their homes from the perspective of potential buyers.
- Motivating sellers to get their homes ready for showing and selling by removing clutter and making each and every room look its best.
- Minimizing the home's days on market.
- Helping to justify — and in some cases, even increasing — the listing price.

According to Peel, staging should involve as many areas of the home as possible. Two of the most important areas to stage are the family and living rooms, because potential buyers so often focus on these spaces when considering a home.

Hometown GMAC Real Estate offers these home staging suggestions, which local real estate professionals have used with good results:

- Take down any pictures or personal items — the goal is to help buyers imagine what their belongings — not yours — would look like in your house.
- Freshen up rooms with a neutral yet warm wall paint. Your local paint store will have dozens of samples — buy a small amount and come back and test it on your walls to see if works for your purposes.
- Look into renting a few key pieces of furniture to help freshen and stage your home for success. For instance, if your couch is old and shabby, rent one for 90 days or so; ditto for that rickety coffee or end table.
- If renting isn't an option, you can often purchase a slip cover to dress up the appearance of your sofa or chairs. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

Dublin

Total sales reported: 7
Lowest sale reported: \$287,000
Highest sale reported: \$810,000
Average sales reported: \$451,143

Livermore

Total sales reported: 29
Lowest sale reported: \$165,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,037,500
Average sales reported: \$484,569

Pleasanton

Total sales reported: 18
Lowest sale reported: \$260,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,325,000
Average sales reported: \$690,139

San Ramon

Total sales reported: 28
Lowest sale reported: \$90,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,264,500
Average sales reported: \$656,429

Source: California REsource

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3479 Gravina Place, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



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1642 Orvieto Court, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



Quality craftsmanship w/designer details, granite slab counters in the gourmet kitchen, 5,500 sq. ft., 5 spacious bdrms and 5.5 ba, pool/spa, overlooks the 7th fairway & hills. Offered at \$2,275,000 OPEN SUN 1-4

KELLER WILLIAMS

KW Broker DRE License #01395362

Properties for lease: 1867 Sannita Ct. - \$8,000/mo.
Please visit our website for more detailed information.

**Fran & Dave
Cunningham**
925-202-6898

DRE License #01226296 & 00930892

**Donna
Garrison**
925-980-0273

DRE License #01735040

**Debby
Johnson-Abarta**
925-989-6844

DRE License #01361703

**Susan
Schall**
925-397-4244

DRE License #01713497

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Luxury Homes & Estates



Robin Miles, JD | Partner,
Empire Realty Associates
(925) 998-3098
Robin@robinmiles.net
www.robinmiles.net

8519 LUPINE, PLEASANTON

Offered for \$4,299,000

New to Market! Two entry gates, 3 addresses.

This is a rare true estate. Rich high-end appointments on approx. 2 acre level grounds of impressive lawns, gardens, and museum quality sculptures. Resort quality pond and bridge. Charming guest house has its own yard. Newer pool Cabana and kitchen. Gardener's office. Spectacular views in all directions..for the ultimate Trophy property. Call for your private showing!

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during September 2009

Dublin

- 4129 Clarinbridge Circle** E. Curtis to R. & J. Neff for \$287,000
- 7229 Cronin Circle** GMAC Mortgage to C. Hwang for \$299,000
- 3465 Dublin Boulevard #246** Toll Dublin Limited to K. Kyung for \$358,500
- 3360 Maguire Way #106** Toll Dublin Limited to K. Haase for \$384,500
- 5620 North Dublin Ranch Drive** M. Martin to M. Mai for \$687,000
- 3838 Silvera Ranch Drive** H. Park to D. Park for \$810,000
- 8315 Vomac Road** Aurora Loan Services to P. Chung for \$332,000

Livermore

- 2381 Allegro Street** R. & G. Gardner to J. Arruda for \$808,000
- 6307 Almaden Way** B. Sahba to D. Phillippi for \$375,000
- 4267 Amherst Way** Horgan Trust to T. Therres for \$380,000
- 1375 Aster Lane** GMAC Mortgage to M. Moraghebi for \$305,000
- 3830 California Way** Tragni Development to D. Hernandez for \$275,000
- 778 Catalina Drive** Bell Trust to B. Kelsoe for \$420,000
- 2281 Chestnut Street** GMAC Mortgage to Z. Zarnegar for \$470,000
- 1401 Columbus Avenue** Federal National Mortgage to J. & K. Malson for \$465,000
- 982 De Caen Court** Reitter Trust to J. & M. Chase for \$570,000
- 2381 Del Monte Street** HSBC Bank to B. Bezrookove for \$260,000
- 1921 Depot Drive #101** F. Feldman to F. Flynn for \$257,500
- 2478 Detert Street** Aurora Loan Services to K. & R. Vachhani for \$727,500
- 110 El Caminito** Washington Mutual Bank to Z. Zhuang for \$277,500
- 3366 Gardella Plaza** E. Eickmeyer to P. Payne for \$436,000
- 4251 Guilford Avenue** R. Reinhart to G. Goff for \$510,000
- 559 Heligan Lane** Shea Homes to J. & T. Harper for \$457,500
- 456 James Street** Countrywide Bank to C. Koenig for \$242,000
- 461 Leona Drive** L. Laird to L. Lonberg-Pardini for \$415,000
- 1580 Mendocino Road** DMR Asset Services to S. Souza for \$425,000
- 6154 Poinsettia Common** H. Herr to R. Ramachandran for \$385,000
- 1205 Riesling Circle** Schwegler Trust to G. & K. Falcon for \$700,000
- 2787 Rivers Bend Circle** Arroyo Crossing to Dillon Trust for \$759,000
- 2223 Sevillano Court** D. & K. Mooney to D. Liu for \$1,037,500
- 5764 Singing Hills Avenue** O. Ohm to E. Ellis for \$385,000
- 769 South O Street** V. Vargas to B. Boyd for \$675,000
- 1114 Spring Valley Common** Wells Fargo Bank to G. Gazda for \$165,000
- 5589 Susan Lane** C. & J. Martindale to C. & H. Geraci for \$540,000
- 3634 Thornhill Drive** M. Magana to V. Vasquez for \$640,000
- 5839 Welch Lane** K. & J. Glaser to J. Welch for \$690,000

- 1920 Fiorio Circle** D. & M. Wagerman to D. Lucas for \$525,500
- 3326 Hadsell Court** D. Dominici to G. Gong for \$688,000
- 7285 Hickorywood Lane** S. Ching to W. Yeung for \$1,060,000
- 7862 Knollbrook Drive** K. Karpenko to T. Tang for \$725,000
- 1455 Kolln Street** S. Saari to B. Banks for \$518,000
- 1130 Mataro Court** Rava Trust to S. & I. Brand for \$855,000
- 3058 Paseo Granada** J. & C. Langan to C. Hung for \$878,500
- 4430 Pleasanton Avenue** Downey Savings to B. Iverson for \$408,000
- 3615 Portsmouth Court** Ziari Trust to C. Chang for \$767,500
- 8280 Regency Drive** D. Demilio to H. Huang for \$1,325,000
- 4107 Stanley Boulevard** R. & L. Campbell to J. & D. Demaria for \$425,000
- 2064 West Lagoon Road** Washington Mutual Bank to V. Nguyen for \$955,000
- 646 Windmill Lane** J. & L. Ross to A. & C. Hicks for \$970,000
- 3111 Zuni Way** Federal National Mortgage to J. Song for \$260,000

San Ramon

- 6757 Aberdale Circle** K. Kim to P. Pak for \$615,000
- 9085 Alcosta Boulevard #360** Z. Zarrati to R. Ramos for \$160,000
- 2051 Bayporte Way** Harborview Mortgage to W. Peng for \$721,000
- 464 Bridle Court** Davidon Homes to R. Riano for \$1,264,500
- 258 Copper Ridge Road** Legacy Copper Ridge to L. Lukanuski for \$399,000
- 1720 Cutter Court** Deutsche Bank to R. & P. Stewart for \$510,000
- 111 Deerwood Road #368** Deerwood Corporation to Alves Trust for \$90,000
- 630 East Canyon Crest Road** D. Daniel to T. Tanigue for \$680,000
- 225 Forest Creek Lane** Aurora Loan Services to T. Thompson for \$465,000
- 6178 Lakeview Circle** H. Bertagnolli to L. Bradshaw for \$479,500
- 1133 Langton Drive** A. Ahern to S. Shome for \$705,000
- 45 Longwood Court** Gsaa Home Equity Trust to D. & J. Marquis for \$665,000
- 2266 Magnolia Bridge Drive** R. Rufin to P. Pinjala for \$600,000
- 9909 Mangos Drive** Vagenas Trust to S. Gin for \$625,000
- 212 Norris Canyon Place #B** GMAC Mortgage to Y. Yajko for \$271,000
- 2329 Oleaster Drive** Aurora Loan Services to S. & C. Yee for \$935,000
- 431 Pocono Manor Place** B. Sheridan to R. Tam for \$710,000
- 125 Reflections Drive #13** Federal Home Loan Mortgage to F. & M. Limarzi for \$230,000
- 909 Regency Court** E. & J. Jones to C. Cuno for \$1,050,000
- 3327 Sleeping Meadow Way** Centex Homes to S. Shi for \$879,000
- 3339 Sleeping Meadow Way** Centex Homes to L. Lin for \$864,000
- 218 Snowdrop Court** Shapell Industries to M. Shiu for \$1,050,000
- 934 Springview Circle** Integrity Investment Group to S. Alam for \$504,000
- 2940 St. Denis Drive** Hunt Trust to L. Log for \$571,000
- 330 Stanforth Court** A. Ann to P. Pak for \$820,000
- 2600 Watervale Way** C. Chaudhury to H. Hoffman for \$879,000
- 5727 Wells Lane** Nei Global Relocation to Z. Zhang for \$942,000
- 115 Winged Foot Place** C. & M. Cowles to L. Wyzard for \$696,000

Source: California REsource

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Dublin

4 BEDROOMS

11501 Soleado Court **\$725,000**
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

Fremont

3 BEDROOMS

41725 Olympus Avenue **\$748,888**
Sat/Sun 12-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

Hayward

5 BEDROOMS

4023 Oak Manor Court **\$1,690,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

Livermore

4 BEDROOMS

140 Lee Avenue **\$474,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 583-2175

Pleasanton

2 BEDROOMS

129 Ray Street **\$449,500**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 455-7000

753 Sycamore Road **\$890,000**
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

3 BEDROOMS

5464 Black Avenue **\$429,500**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500

6038 Corte Encinas **\$560,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Prudential CA 858-4198

383 Christina Court **\$699,000**
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

7905 Spyglass Court **\$850,000**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3833

1339 Valley Avenue **\$899,888**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2554

4 BEDROOMS

5511 Calico Lane **\$1,099,000**
Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3859

1012 Bartlett Place **\$1,135,000**

Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 426-3833

4374 Cloveood Lane **\$675,000**

Sun 1-4 Hometown GMAC 785-8239

3249 Arbor Drive **\$949,950**

Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2535



8286 Regency Drive
\$1,419,000
4 BD/ 3.5 BA
Open Sun 1-4
Prudential CA Realty
Cindy Gee
963-1984

5 BEDROOMS

2175 Pomezia Court **\$1,299,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 202-6898

3479 Gravina Place **\$1,379,999**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 577-5787

9663 Crosby Drive **\$1,998,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2585

1642 Orvieto Court **\$2,275,000**
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 202-6898

655 East Vineyard Avenue **\$4,695,000**
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 683-0488

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



6229 Detjen Court
\$1,745,000
5 BD/ 4.5 BA
Open Sun 1-4
Premier Real Estate &
Investment Group
Faran Honardoost 922-0822

San Ramon

3 BEDROOMS

3031 Tahoe Place **\$639,000**
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4110

4 BEDROOMS

1100 Canyon Green Drive **\$879,500**
Sun 2-4:30 J. Rockcliff Realtors 683-5465



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925.548.7112

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5075 Hopyard Rd STE 110
Pleasanton, CA 94588
CA DRE #01035881
#01433087



Gorgeous Home Located in the Desirable Community of "Walnut Hills"

Enjoy the views of the "Pleasanton Ridge" from this highly upgraded 4 bd, 2.5 ba home with approx. 2,400 square feet of living space.

Enjoy the backyard oasis professionally landscaped with palm trees, lighting & a new patio trex deck. Upscale living and upscale housing offers a quaint, charming setting.

Walk to the new "Bernal Community Park" just minutes away from Koll Business Park, Hwy 680, Pleasanton Fairgrounds, Ace Train, Pleasanton Middle, Hearst Elem. & Downtown Pleasanton.

Open House Sunday 1-4

1339 Valley Ave \$899,888



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Pleasanton CA 94588
CA DRE #00673849 & 01423772



CUSTOM HOME IN "THE PRESERVE"

PLEASANTON OFFERED AT \$1,998,000

This stunningly beautiful, totally custom home is located on the desirable West side of Pleasanton, in the prestigious "Preserve" neighborhood where only a handful of premium view lots were available to design and build a "one of a kind" dream home.

With 5200 square feet of premium living space, this fine home offers 5 spacious Bedrooms, 3 of which are Suites, 4 full Baths, two half Baths, plus Music Room, an upstairs Loft, and Master Retreat. This home has it all; privacy, exclusivity, quality and convenience.

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 1-4PM



3737 NICOLE AVENUE CHAIN OF LAKES, PLEASANTON

Exquisite, super customized 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with 3210 sq. ft. on 1/2 acre lot, with pool, spa, gazebo and vineyard. This home is a "must see" with the finest upgrades, materials and appointments throughout. \$1,495,000



2801 GRAY FOX COURT FOXBOROUGH ESTATES, PLEASANTON

Private, gated single level Mediterranean style estate home on nearly 2 acres with panoramic views, resort like yard, and wonderful single level floorplan. One of kind custom home. \$2,450,000
WWW.2801GRAYFOX.COM

SANTA BARBARA ARCHITECTURE



PLEASANTON
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.
Carol Cline, CRS 925.648.5415

GOLDEN EAGLE ESTATES



PLEASANTON
8044 GOLDEN EAGLE WAY \$3,187,000
Designer features throughout w/ extensive use of cherry wood, stone & more. Wine cellar, exercise room, workshop, main flr master, large rooms- Truly elegant. Level park-like backyard with pool, spa, lrg grass area.
Peggy Cortez 925.648.5454

RUBY HILL LIVING



PLEASANTON
2156 CANOSA CT \$2,499,000
Gorgeous Mediterranean home; Premium cul-de-sac location with expansive city views from the front and hills in the back. Enjoy the privacy of pool-sized yard with covered patio nestled among sloping hills.
Anju Bhatia 925.251.2568

GORGEOUS GATED HILLTOP ESTATE



PLEASANTON
2801 GRAY FOX COURT \$2,400,000
Panoramic views, 1.91 acres of privacy. Resort-like backyard w/ pool, spa, swim up bar, barbecue, palm trees. Room for vineyard, tennis court, olive grove, so much more! See details: www.2801GrayFox.com
Phyllis & Carolyn Weiner 925.872.1416

SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN



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. Stunning outdoor living space! Built in 2002.
Todd E. Martinez 925.784.7000

18TH GREEN & 10TH FAIRWAY



PLEASANTON
860 CASTLEWOOD PLACE \$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
Bryan Craft 925.855.4141

108 AC. FENCED RANCH



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

GREAT 7+/- ACRE PROPERTY



CASTRO VALLEY
6000 MOUNT OLYMPUS DR \$1,549,000
Private setting not like any other property in Castro Valley, gated entrance, beautiful manicured circular driveway. Custom Mediterranean Home with over 4,200 sq.ft. of Lovely Living and a Beautiful Pool.
Kristy & Company 925.251.2536

REMARKABLE HOME



PLEASANTON
3737 NICOLE AVENUE \$1,495,000
Everything top of the line. Rare & exotic woods, granite, marble, etc. Gorgeous private 1/2 acre lot w/ gated pool, spa, basketball, gazebos, and your own vineyard w/well.
Phyllis & Carolyn Weiner 925.872.1416

EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTY



CASTRO VALLEY
22322 EDEN CANYON RD \$1,387,000
Ranch Style Home on 24 acres. Seasonal Creek. Large Work Shop. Updated Kitchen. 4 Bd/ 2Ba, SqFt Apx: 2215.
Kristy & Company 925.251.2536

OPEN HOUSE SUN 1:30-4P.M.



PLEASANTON
3249 ARBOR DR \$949,950
Custom 4 bd, 2.5 ba home on a huge lot of almost 13,000 sq ft! Completely updated with granite counters, designer lighting, 2 stone fireplaces, hardwood floors. Several outdoor patios great for entertaining or relaxing.
Tonni Chandler 925.788.7788

OPEN HOUSE SUN 1:00-4P.M.



PLEASANTON
1339 VALLEY AVE \$899,888
Walk to new Bernal Pk & schools K-8! Gourmet kit w/ granite, maple, SS appl, 18X18 tile & laminate flrs. Plan shuttes & c.molding throughout. Prof lands priv yd w/ new TreX deck
Cathy Dean & Kari Wahl 925.200.4130

REMARKABLE HOME



PLEASANTON
3737 NICOLE AVENUE \$1,495,000
Everything top of the line. Rare & exotic woods, granite, marble, etc. Gorgeous private 1/2 acre lot w/ gated pool, spa, basketball, gazebos, and your own vineyard w/well.
Phyllis & Carolyn Weiner 925.872.1416

COTTAGE LIVING IN DOWNTOWN



PLEASANTON
4075 NEVIS STREET \$679,900
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

NO FRONT NEIGHBORS



LIVERMORE
6109 FORGET ME NOT \$314,950
Our large, light filled open floor plan features granite slab counters, large open kitchen with refrigerator, an upstairs laundry room, 2 1/2 bathrooms, and lots of tile.
Karen Wilson-Fontaine 925.583.2171

WALK TO BEACH & RESTAURANTS



CAPITOLA
4995 B CLIFF DRIVE \$850,000
Walk to Capitola Village. Spacious & light 2 bed. 2 bath home. Has a peek of the ocean. Two covered parking spaces. All furnishing to stay except a few personal items. Sleeps 8, full kitchen, full baths, extra storage.
Angela Adams 925.580.4513

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

Prudential California Realty / Pleasanton Hopyard



PLEASANTON – This absolutely stunning Laguna Oaks home offers: stainless built in frig., GRANITE, hardwood, maple cab. tile entry, wet bar, four bed,bonus,office, 4 CAR GARAGE,1st floor Master suite w/ fireplace and gorgeous view of private backyard. Sparkling Pool. Much, More!! tennis,parks,com pool, commute!

8286 REGENCY DR \$1,419,000



DUBLIN – Beautiful views from this spacious 4 bed plus large bonus room home. Gleaming hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen with center island and breakfast nook. One bed and bath on main level. Enjoy 180 degree views of the ridge from rear deck or spa.

7688 TOPAZ CIR \$719,000



PLEASANTON – This beauty has it all - park-like backyard, spacious interior, gas stove, updated flooring, tile roof, newer windows, fireplace, close to schools and downtown.

4606 MOHR AVE \$679,500



DUBLIN – Just Move In. Bank Owned Condo In Great Move In Condition. Kitchen Features Granite Counters, Tile Flooring, Gas Stove. Upgraded Carpet In Living Area. Walk To Shopping & Restaurants. Close To BART. Don't Miss Out!

3360 MONAGHAN ST \$374,900



PLEASANTON – Fabulous court location! Great views out front of Hansen Park. Updated baths, kitchen, beautiful mahogany wood floors and newer a/c. 4 bedroom set up with Master on ground floor. Rear yard with pool, fruit trees, patio and lawn. Spacious side yard with raised garden beds. Great opportunity!

2109 CORTE RICARDO \$759,000



LIVERMORE – Upper 2 bed 2 bath unit with views of the pool. Fabulous opportunity for a great condo. Updates include, carpeting, interior doors, hardware etc. Washer/dryer and refrig can stay. Covered parking nearby + one uncovered. HOA includes pool, cabana and tennis courts.

342 CHRIS CMN \$199,900



PLEASANTON – Gorgeous Home w/ Three Bedrooms & Three Full Baths. Large Yard & Side Yard + the Kitchen and all Baths have been Updated with Granite and Marble. Generous size DOWNSTAIRS Bedroom w/ Full Bath. Great location near Tennis Park & Sports Park too. Must See!

6038 CORTE ENCINAS \$560,000



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 DR \$699,500



6111 Johnson Ct., Suite 110

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PLEASANTON 1623 CINDY WAY



4 ACRE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL
3000 SF Custom 3BR/3BA home, large Family room w/valuted ceiling, fireplace & wet bar, pool & patio. \$1,800,000

Roger Manning, Realtor® Lic#00518423
925.426.3818

LIVERMORE 8953 TESLA ROAD



5 ACRES nestled in the heart of the Livermore Valley. Main home has approx. 2300 sq. ft. 3BD/2BA. Guest Cottage has 1BD/1BA, kitchen & living area, +fenced yard. \$1,025,000

Jo Hunter, Realtor® Lic#00692588
925.413.4278

PLEASANTON 4374 CLOVEWOOD LN



HIGHLAND OAKS 4BD plus office or den/2BA. Approx. 1810 sq. ft. 2-story home with spacious backyard. Close to schools and shopping. Walk to Cabana. \$675,000

Steve Fast, Realtor® Lic#01084321
925.785.8239

BRENTWOOD 2500 CADDIE LN



PUTTING GREEN & POOL WITH SPA
4BR/3½BA two-story with approx. 2558 sq. ft. on a 12,350 sq. ft. lot. Granite counters with black appliances. \$350,000

Danielle Peel, Realtor® Lic#011293873
925.998.9692

PLEASANTON 2505 YOLANDA CT



LAKESIDE ESTATES LOT #5 Custom Home Lot. Backs to East Bay Regional Park Lake. Court location with great lake & hill views. All utilities stubbed to lot. \$535,000

Roger Manning, Realtor® Lic#00518423
925.426.3818

CASTRO VALLEY 20025 RAWHIDE WAY



PALOMARES HILLS Lovely Willowood Townhome has 4 spacious BR 2½ BA with formal double door entry and vaulted ceilings in living room. 1875 sq.ft. \$495,000

Donna Zarrillo, Realtor® Lic#00952296
925.998.2363

PLEASANTON 129 RAY STREET



DOWNTOWN COMPLEX Spacious 2 Master Suites + 2 full baths, Remodeled kitchen w/Red Birch cabinetry, slab granite counters & much more. \$449,500

Karla Brown, Realtor® Lic#01349250
925.200.1909

LIVERMORE 173 HELIGAN LANE



MONTAGE TOWNHOME Views, Sunlight, Sophistication & Comfort, 1,180 sq. ft. with 2BR/2BA, 1-car attached garage. Built in 2008 with many upgrades. \$372,500

Louise Davis, Realtor® Lic#00551850
925.426.3834

Hometown GMAC Real Estate is an Independently Owned and Operated Firm

COLDWELL BANKER

presents

californiamoves.com



LIVERMORE
21800 MINES RD
COUNTRY LIVING \$427,000
2 BR 2 BA w/amenities! Bunk house w/1 updated bath/laundry area. Wood stove; 3 generators, 4 water tanks 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
Open SUN 1 - 4 753 SYCAMORE ROAD \$890,000
AN ARTFUL DESIGN
2 BR 2 BA Worthy of your taste! Irresistible 2BR/2BA stucco single-level. Handy workshop. 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
3044 CASADERO COURT \$485,000
ELEGANT VERONA HOME
3 BR 2.5 BA updated granite kitchen, newer tile & wood flooring, custom paint, excellent court location! 925.847.2200



SAN RAMON
Open FRI/SAT/SUN 11 - 5 145 COPPER RIDGE RD. \$2000s
CONDOS/TOWNHOUSES PRICES START IN HIGH \$2000s
1 & 2 bd condos/2 bd townhouses, vaulted ceilings avail, w/garages, gated, renovated/upgraded 925.847.2200

ANTIOCH

4620 FIELDCREST WAY \$218,000
GENEROUS FLOORPLAN
5 BR 3 BA Here is space galore. Smart 5BR/3BA stucco Contempo. Family room. A beautiful buy! 925.847.2200

DUBLIN

Open SUN 1 - 4 11501 SOLEADO CT \$725,000
WESTSIDE LOCATION BEAUTY
4 BR 2.5 BA + huge loft, many upgrades, updated kitchen & parklike large backyard 925.847.2200

5953 HILLBROOK PL \$460,000
GREAT HOME!
3 BR 3.5 BA apx. 1700 sf, 5 yrs old, granite counters, move-in ready. For info, www.Romar-Properties.net. 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

1289 ACCRA COURT \$519,000
AWESOME SINGLE LEVEL
3 BR 2 BA eat-in kit, lrg bdms, covered patio, dual pane vinyl wndws, rf, heat/air cond replaced in '01 925.847.2200

980 CROMWELL STREET \$445,000
BEAUTIFUL & UPDATED
3 BR 2 BA Dual pane windows, cherry wd kitchen cabs, granite counters/island, remodeled guest bath 925.847.2200

1271 SPRING VALLEY COMMON \$165,000
BEAUTIFUL HOME!
2 BR 1 BA American cherry "Mohawk" flooring, shutters, ceiling fan AC, across from communitiy pool 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON

558 SANTEL COURT \$1,640,000
GORGEOUS SINGLE STORY
4 BR 2 BA office + bonus rm, upgrd kit/opens to family room, pl/spa in backyard, court loc, hrdwd flrs 925.847.2200

2924 AMOROSO COURT \$1,100,000
HANDSOME & CONTEMPORARY
4 BR 2.5 BA 1 stry on cul-de-sac w/views, hrdwd flrs, priv yrd w/pl, patio overhang/new rf Sept 2009 925.847.2200

446 SYCAMORE ROAD \$985,000
FABULOUS HOME!
7 BR 4 BA multi-unit, fabulous property for income rental or family living on approx 1/2 acre 925.847.2200

6928 CORTE MONTEREY \$739,000
GREAT HOME!
4 BR 3 BA + bonus, 2422 SF, gorgeous remodeled Ponderosa home in cul-de-sac, granite cntnrs/hrdwd flrs 925.847.2200

5121 BIANCO COURT \$725,000
NICE HOME
3 BR 2.5 BA in disireable Avila! Court location, eat-in-kitchen, large living/family rm w/frplc/built-ins 925.847.2200

2930 LIBERTY \$509,000
REMEDELED HOME!
2 BR 2 BA tile flrs/cntrs in kit w/cozy eat-in area, master w/walk-in closet, liv rm w/brick fireplace 925.847.2200



Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122



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Tim McGuire
925-462-SOLD
WWW.TIMMCGUIRE.NET

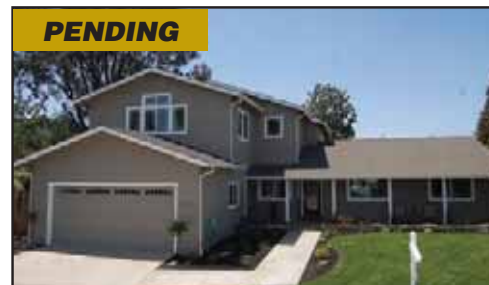


Beyond Full Service—A Concierge Approach to Real Estate



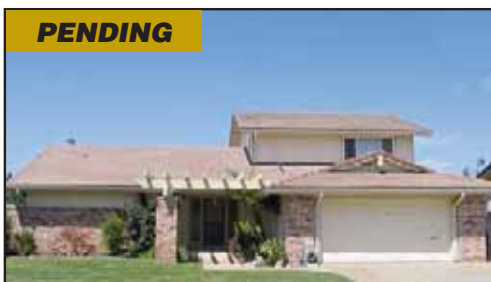
PENDING

9146 Longview Drive, Pleasanton
Custom home 4bd/3.5ba, 3304+/-sq.ft., 1.72+/-sq.ft wooded acre. Newer granite kitchen, hardwood flooring, in-law/au-pair quarters. Offered at 1,089,000



PENDING

6557 Hanover Court, Pleasanton
Extensively renovated and all new! 5bd/3ba. Features gourmet kitchen, granite baths, hardwood floors, quiet court location with views, sparkling pool and spa. Offered at \$999,000



PENDING

656 Alden Lane, Livermore
Beautiful home 4bd/2.5ba in great neighborhood, updated granite kitchen, family room with vaulted ceiling, huge yard with wonderful pool. Offered at \$638,850



SOLD

506 Trebbiano Place, Pleasanton
Stunning single story 4bd/2.5ba, 2296+/-sq.ft home on a corner lot with new carpet, hardwood floors, wine closet, 2 custom fireplaces, built-in office/study. Sold at \$897,000

BUYERS NEEDS

Retired couple needs single story, minimum 2bd/2ba, 1100+/-sq.ft, up to \$520,000

Couple looking for minimum 3bd, 1700+/- sq.ft with some yard, up to \$750,000

apr.com | PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



BLAISE LOFLAND



925.846.6500
www.blaiselofland.com
blaise@blaiselofland.com

apr.com

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**

SAN LEANDRO



1307 WAYNE AVENUE, SAN LEANDRO

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

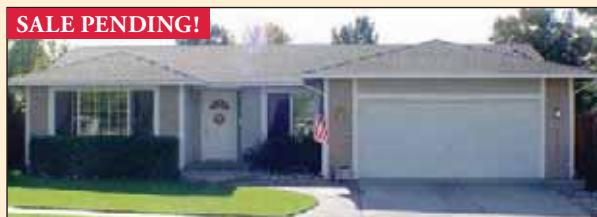
LAGUNA OAKS



2505 ARLOTTA PLACE, PLEASANTON

Best location in Laguna Oaks! Desirable Newport model on premium .40 acre lot. Quiet court location. Four bedrooms, bonus room, plus formal office. Private guest/ in law quarters (4th). Three and a half bathrooms. Approximately 3,830 square feet. Beautifully landscaped private rear yard. Expansive lawn area (pool site). Large gourmet kitchen, granite countertops, 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**

MISSION HILLS



SALE PENDING!

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. Laminate flooring, crown molding. Newer dual pane windows. Close to Mission Hills Park, schools, shopping & Downtown! **OFFERED AT \$739,500**

CASA DE CAIAFIA



OPEN SUN 1-4

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**

GREY EAGLE ESTATES



JUST CLOSED!

4 EAGLET COURT, PLEASANTON

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

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



The latest from The 680 Blog

Time to Move Up to a Larger Home?

What a difference 6 months makes. Beginning in April, the Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon, and Tri-Valley real estate markets began a strong come back which is continuing this Fall. As we have discussed, the new strength in the market is focused predominantly on the lower price ranges. Indeed, homes priced under \$800,000 are have been seeing strong activity and shrinking inventory, which could certainly be an indicator that the market is stabilizing. As you go up in price, however, the market gets softer, and once you get over \$1,200,000 or so, the market starts to soften appreciably. And once you get over \$2 million, the market is soft, with lots of inventory and relatively few sales.

As a result of these dynamics in the market, we have conditions that are perfect for potential move-up buyers looking to upgrade their house or their neighborhood. Indeed, if you own a house in the lower price ranges, you have the best of both worlds... strong market conditions on the selling side, and soft

market conditions on the buying side. How often have we heard the axiom "buy low and sell high?" This is a reality for some move up buyers right now. In fact, you would be hard pressed to find a time in recent memory where the price gap between the house you sell and the move-up house has been smaller. This presents a great opportunity for those who can take advantage of it.

So is it a good time to move up into a larger home? In many situations, the answer is yes, especially if the following are true for you:

- You have excellent credit. Lenders rely on credit now more than anytime in the recent past. The better your credit, the better the rate and terms you are able to get in the market today.
- You have a stable job. If your job is stable and you >>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.

SINGLE STORY!



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**

COMING SOON!



Fabulous 4 BR, 2½ BTH home with remodeled granite kitchen, hardwood floors, and prime cul-de-sac lot with sparkling pool! **\$759,000**

PENDING SALE!



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

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**

Recent Pending & Sold Homes

- 815 Tunbridge Rd..... \$1,195,000
- 560 Rosso Ct..... \$960,000
- 2782 Calle Alegre..... \$1,000,000
- 5769 San Carlos Way..... \$699,900
- 2824 Foothill Oaks Ter..... \$1,640,000
- 5682 Sunset Creek Ct..... \$1,445,000
- 9459 Blessing Dr..... \$1,549,500
- 315 Golden Grass Dr..... \$1,645,000

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



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



SUSIE STEELE BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$2,399,000**
Stunning Custom Home in Golden Eagle Estates nestled on 1 acre+/- featuring a backyard paradise with a pool backing to open space and incredible views of the Tri Valley. Reduced! Truly a showstopper!

ANNI HAGFELDT BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$1,699,999**
5bd/4.5ba beautiful custom home in desirable Kottinger Ranch. Panoramic views, large backyard, pool, and more. A must see.

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



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

MARYJANE DEERING OPEN SUN 1-4



HAYWARD HILLS **\$1,690,000**
Custom home with guest house and pool on one acre private lot. Hardwood, limestone, travertine, granite. 5 bd, 4 ba 5500 sqft +/- Gated Hayward Hills. A special home! 4023 Oak Manor Court

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$1,459,000**
THIS IS IT! Rarely available luxury single story, .32+/- acre lot, 5bd/4ba, granite/cherry/stainless kitchen w/island, designer carpeting. Better than New!

SALLY MARTIN BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$1,399,000**
Immaculate, Expansive - absolutely gorgeous! 5bd/3.5ba, 3991+/-sf Custom home situate on .76+/- acre lot. Numerous upgrades. Go to www.2303Gloria.com

SUSIE STEELE BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$1,299,000**
Absolutely Charming in Castlewood! Completely Rebuilt from Floor to Ceiling, this 1 story 4bdm. Plus an Office on a 1/2 Acre is a dream come true!

SUE MCKINLEY BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$990,000**
Beautiful 4bd, 3.5ba, 3206+/-sf Custom Home, open floor plan, Country Views! Easy access to 680 freeway, Top Rated schools just minutes away.

LINDA FUTRAL BY APPT



LIVERMORE **\$949,000**
Live in your own private resort in this magnificent South Livermore estate! Incredible pool/spa + more. Home boasts 5bd/4ba plus den and sits on large private 17,000+/-sf corner lot.

LESLIE FAUGHT OPEN SAT/SUN 12-4



FREMONT **\$748,888**
Mission Charmer! Single story, 3bd, 2ba, \$50k in upgrades. 1434+/-sf home, on 7540+/-sf lot, close to shopping and freeway. Too much to list! Go to www.Olympus.com 41725 Olympus Ave.

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON **\$699,000**
3bd ,2ba, 1,204+/-sf home on 21,000 +/-sf lot. Possible second home on lot or possibility to sub-divide lot. Close to freeways and downtown Pleasanton. 383 Christina Ct.

SUSIE STEELE BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$679,000**
3bd/2ba, 1630+/-sf home. 8700+/-sf lot. New roof, windows, hardwood floors, open floor plan, pool on corner lot. Great downtown Pleasanton location.

KAREN CROWSON BY APPT



LIVERMORE **\$669,950**
Beautiful 4bd/3ba 2539+/-sf in Murrieta Meadows. Features tile floors/granite counters/stainless steel appliances// newly painted/beautifully landscaped with pond on a 7700+/-sf lot.

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



SAN RAMON **\$639,900**
Room to grow in this charming 4 BR home. Hardwood floors, sunny upgraded kitchen, large master suite with upgraded bath.

KIM OTT/KIM RICHARDS BY APPT



LIVERMORE **\$550,000**
Great 4bd/2ba court location 7520+/-sf lot. Formal LR/eat-in kitchen has granite counter tops/recessed lighting/dual pane windows/coffered ceilings/updated baths. Newly landscaped front yard.

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPT



PLEASANTON **\$509,950**
Beautiful single story home close to Downtown Pleasanton. This property has 3bd/2ba. Upgraded to perfection. www.3634reflections.com

