

Pleasanton Weekly

Bomb scare: Questions linger after odd-looking device found at Safeway **PAGE 5**

Festival of Lights: Area Jewish congregations prepare to celebrate the Hanukkah season **PAGE 12**

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Coming soon

Santa makes brief stop-over to wave to Pleasanton families **PAGE 14**



BART to Livermore Extension Program

Announcement: BART to Livermore Extension Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) Public Review Period extended 30 days and Public Hearing in Pleasanton added

On November 5, 2009, the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District issued a Draft PEIR assessing nine alignment options for extending BART service to Livermore. Upon request of the City of Pleasanton, BART has extended the Public Review Period of the PEIR for 30 days.

BART will now accept written comments on the Draft PEIR until 5:00 pm on January 21, 2010

In addition to two previously-scheduled Public Hearings in the City of Livermore, BART will hold a third Public Hearing to receive comments on the Draft PEIR, on:

Wednesday, January 6 at 6:30 pm @ Pleasanton City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton

Mail written comments to:

BART Planning Department, 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, CA 94612, attn: Malcolm Quint
Email written comments to info@barttolivermore.org

For more information, or to receive a copy of the Draft PEIR, call (888) 441-0434 or visit www.barttolivermore.org

Copies of the Draft PEIR will be made available at Livermore's Library -

Civic Center Branch (1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore),

Pleasanton Public Library (400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton),

Dublin Public Library (200 Civic Plaza, Dublin) and at City offices in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.



Happy Howlidays and Feliz Navidog



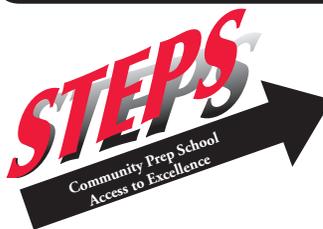
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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Museum director putting history, future together

Few cities our size have their own museum, let alone one with a director like Jim DeMersman with years of experience in making museums come alive as he's now doing with the Museum On Main. Once a college history major whose counselor convinced him that a business degree might lead to a more financially-rewarding career, DeMersman earned both at Houghton College near his family home in upstate New York. He's combined the training to hold executive positions at numerous museums, historical organizations and even as the manager of Community Services while also running the Hi-Desert Museum in southern California's Yucca Valley, organizing youth softball games and swim meets while developing special exhibits only Yucca Valley could host.



Jim DeMersman

DeMersman became executive director of the Museum On Main — officially part of the Livermore-Amador Valley Historical Society — two months ago. Already change is in the air as he and three paid staff members work with more than 200 volunteers to liven up exhibits, plan new ones and prepare an ambitious program of special events in 2010. First out will be The Horse, which will tell visitors all about horses in the Tri-Valley and how they brought progress to the area. This will show DeMersman's determination to make the museum more than, well, a museum. He wants it to be more relevant, not just historical, becoming a place where everyone in Pleasanton will find something new, exciting and appealing.

The Ed Kenney lecture series will continue starting next month, but again with a bit of flair. Real actors portraying Teddy Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln and John Muir will look and speak the part of their characters. Then ranchers, who ride and raise horses, will reflect on different eras of the Valley when horses plowed the fields, brought people to town and more recently became a sport of their own.

DeMersman says he and the staff meet regularly to plan activities, from trips to the Alviso Adobe for school children to special events for the older crowd. He's been in this

business long enough to know what sells, especially in Pleasanton where just as many people are focused on historical preservation as on restaurants and night life in the city's downtown. It's a nice mix for DeMersman whose career started at the Genesee Country Village in western New York where the brewery owner bought old buildings before they were destroyed by interstate highways and commercial developments and moved them to a site near his plant. Today, it's a tourist destination as a village where nobody lives but features buildings dating back into the late 1600s all the way to one just added that was built in the early 1900s. From there, DeMersman worked at the historic Speedwell Museum in Morristown, N.J., where General George Washington spent one of his coldest winters.

After that, DeMersman came west and, as a 28-year-old, became director of the Rosemount Historic Museum, then two years later, followed his dream to work in Washington, D.C. and also for the National Trust, by becoming a director of the Woodrow Wilson House Museum. He polished up this experience by becoming di-

rector of the Molly Brown House Museum in Denver, showing the public that there was a lot more to its owner than the Unsinkable Molly Brown. He also found that Broadway shows and a pit of pizzazz helps attract crowds to museums. He put that to advantage as director of the Hayward Area Historical Society with noted success. When he went there 12 years ago, he was the only paid employee with a budget of \$125,000. When he left, DeMersman was one of six full-time staff members with a budget of \$1.2 million and endowments of more than \$14 million.

With a budget at the Museum On Main of \$128,000, DeMersman has a ways to go to match Hayward, but he's starting. The museum's lobby today is filled with Christmas presents wrapped for the needy, a large decorated tree and a slot where children can place their letters to Santa. Each letter, DeMersman promises, will be answered by jolly St. Nick directly. He's also inviting the rest of us to join in the fun. Memberships in the museum start at \$30 for an individual and include the popular newsletter on Pleasanton's history and, at DeMersman's urging, upcoming stories about the city's future from his well-traveled perspective. ■

About the Cover

Waving from a fire truck, Santa wishes children and their families a Merry Christmas along downtown streets in Pleasanton at the city's annual Holiday Parade last Saturday. A crowd of nearly 10,000 cheered Santa and the 2,500 participants who walked, rode, sang and played in marching bands for two-hour event that included lighting the tree in front of the Museum On Main for the holidays. Photo by Jay Flachsbarth

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Food Allergies?

Food allergies, particularly in children, are clearly on the rise. According to Dr. Hugh Sampson, a food allergy specialist at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in N.Y. "We are certain that in the future the number of food allergies are going to increase."

Many food allergies are classified as "hidden" allergies due to the fact that an individual may be consuming a food, often times on a daily basis that they have no idea they are allergic to. Frequently, symptoms such as stomach aches, irritable bowel syndrome, acid reflux, indigestion, heartburn and bloating are directly related to food allergies.

Additionally, conditions such as migraine headaches, chronic sinusitis, post nasal drip, rashes, eczema, chronic fatigue, ADD/ADHD, mood swings and difficulty losing weight in many cases can be caused by food allergies.

Fortunately, a new, advanced method of allergy elimination is now available in the United States. Developed over a ten year period in Australia, a new technology called Advanced Allergy Therapeutics (AAT) is giving new hope to millions of allergy sufferers.

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AAT is also equally effective in treating airborne allergens such as pollens, grasses, weeds, trees, molds, dust and dust mites as well as pet allergens, chemical sensitivities and physical contactants.

AAT is now available in Pleasanton at Allergy Relief Centers located near Stoneridge Mall. For a limited time, Allergy Relief Centers is offering the initial consultation and complete testing session, normally a fee of \$125, for only \$25 to anyone who would like to eliminate their food allergies. A limited number of appointments are available, so call 925-468-0110 today for your appointment.

For more information please visit www.allergyreliefcenters.com

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ASKED AROUND TOWN

Do you agree with the president's plan to send more troops to Afghanistan?



Wade Kemp
Overhead Lineman

Actually I don't. Absolutely not. Those people have been fighting that war for so many years, why should we fight it for them? Being ex-military, I was called up in the first Gulf War and I didn't agree with it then. I had a job to do and that's what I did. We have issues here we need to deal with.

Hannah Fowler-Kimsey
Student

No. I believe wars are wrong. They should have more peaceful ways to solve their problems.



Sheri Roach
Floor Manager, Club Sport

I do. I'm a big supporter of what they're doing over there. I just feel like people have to understand the bigger picture. We've started this and we need to finish it correctly. It benefits us in the long run.

Barbara Mills
Retired

No. Enough of our babies and boys have already been sent over there. Charity begins at home. Our babies are needed right here.



Justin Clark
Sales

Yes, because it's a situation that's either all in or not. Sending more troops is the right thing to do.

—Compiled by Elyssa Thome

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

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DIGEST

Model trains on display

The Blackhawk Museum in Danville hosts the European Train Enthusiasts model train exhibition again this year. The trains travel through the hand-crafted modular layout of the "old world" countryside. The exhibit is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays through Jan. 10. Special holiday hours include the Monday and Tuesday before Christmas and New Year's Eve. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors, and children 6 and under are free. For more information, visit www.blackhawkmuseum.org.

Festival of Carols

Traditional Christmas music, as well as some unusual arrangements, will be performed at 4 p.m. Sunday at Centerpointe Presbyterian Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court. The church choir and handbell choir will be accompanied by musicians playing stringed instruments, and the event will include candlelight singing and scripture readings for the advent season. A reception will follow. Suggested donations are \$10 with proceeds supporting the church choral music program.

'Ed Sullivan's America'

TV and film critic Gerald Nachman will give a talk on his book "Right Here on Our Stage Tonight!: Ed Sullivan's America" at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Pleasanton Public Library's meeting room, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The free event will include the saga of "The Ed Sullivan Show" found through the voices of 60 stars interviewed for the book.

County puts on H1N1 clinic

The Alameda County Public Health Department will have one of its 5 county-wide H1N1 vaccination clinics Saturday at the fairgrounds' Hall of Commerce. It will operate from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or until the supply depletes. The clinic is open to county residents who are at the highest risk of complications from exposure to the swine flu, including pregnant women, people who live with or care for infants under the age of 6 months, children and young adults, and adults who have chronic medical conditions that put them at higher risk for flu-related complications. Enter the fairgrounds at Gate 12 on Valley Avenue, off of Bernal Avenue.

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

Pleasanton man reportedly missing after solo camping trip

Police said Jay Lafontaine could be anywhere in a 250-mile stretch

A 48-year-old Pleasanton man continues to be missing this week after failing to return home from a solitary camping trip across the eastern part of the state.

Jay Lafontaine was reported missing by his family last Friday after he failed to return home from his annual trip Dec. 2, as expected.

According to police, Lafontaine decided to venture east to Bodie State Park in Mono County, which

is in about 100 miles south of Lake Tahoe, before heading 250 miles south to Death Valley.

Police Lt. Darrin Davis said Lafontaine left Pleasanton Nov. 27 in a 2005 black Jeep Wrangler with no side doors. Davis said Lafontaine last spoke to his family later that day when he called to say he reached Bodie State Park. Cell phone records show no other activity since Nov. 27.

Currently, there is no dedicat-

ed land-based search party looking for Lafontaine, Davis said, as it's such an expansive area to cover.

"He could be anywhere," he said. "Until we can get a better estimate on where



Jay Lafontaine

he may be, there

can't be a search and rescue. For now, they are all looking for him and the Jeep."

Davis said a fixed wing aircraft has covered about 85 percent of the Death Valley area with no sign of the Jeep or Lafontaine.

Mono and Inyo County sheriff's departments are looking for Lafontaine and his vehicle, as well as state and national parks services.

See **MISSING** on Page 8



JAY FLACHSBARTH

Stroke by stroke

Lilian Sun, a member of the Pleasanton Seahawks, swims during last weekend's colossal meet at the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center, which brought in 2,500 competitors and their families and friends.

Police investigating Safeway bomb scare incident

Metal pipe found in employee break room, prompting storewide evacuation last Friday

By JANET PELLETIER

Pleasanton police are still trying to figure out how a suspicious looking pipe wound up in the employee break room at the Santa Rita Safeway last Friday, prompting authorities to evacuate the store for two hours. A robot deployed to check the device discovered no explosive materials.

Police received a call from a manager at the Santa Rita Road store at 11:28 a.m. reporting that they found the pipe in an employee locker, according to Lt. Mike Elerick of the Pleasanton Police Department. Officers who responded were joined by officials from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and members of the Alameda County bomb squad, who coincidentally were training in town at the time.

The store was then evacuated. The bomb squad sent in a robot to retrieve the pipe, brought it outside into the parking lot and detonated one end of the device to neutralize it, Elerick said. Special bomb squad technicians determined that there were no explosive materials inside the pipe and store employees and customers were allowed back inside the store at 1:30 p.m.

Police aren't sure who the pipe belongs to or why it was brought to the employee lounge, which is located in the front of the store on the west side.

"It may have been left there inadvertently," Elerick said. "We just don't know. When you see a piece of pipe with shredded ends on both end caps, the first thing you think about is a

See **BOMB** on Page 8

S&P downgrades school district's credit rating

PUSD's credit-worthiness deemed strong despite lower reserves

By EMILY WEST

Standard and Poor's Rating Services recently announced a drop in the financial ratings of the Pleasanton Unified School District. The report is a reflection of the district's credit-worthiness, which is essentially moved from "very strong" to "strong."

The scale of the obligator's ability to meet financial commitments ranges from AAA (extremely strong) to A (strong). According to the report, the rating and underlying rating went from AA- to A+ on PUSD's outstanding general obligation bonds. The S&P rating for the district's outstanding certificates of participation were also lowered from A+ to A.

"The downgrade was based on the recent fund balance decline, which reduced the financial flexibility of the district during the difficult state funding environment," said Jen Hansen, an analyst for Standard and Poor's Rating Services. "[The district] does rely on state funding, which restricts the revenue growth to a state-equalized per-pupil funding formula."

The report also said that in addition to fund balance declines and reliance on state funding, another offsetting factor for the district is a high per capita debt burden of \$5,110.

On the positive side, S&P reports show the district having a strong residential and commercial economic base as well as a diverse tax base "with very high income and wealth indicators."

Paul Dyson, an analyst for S&P, said not many other school districts have had ratings lowered.

"The rating reflects the fact that the district is operating under lower reserves now than it has historically," he said, adding that they hold those with excellent ratings to a higher standard.

The S&P report for San Ramon Valley Unified School District was raised to AA from AA- for their general obligation bonds, citing a "strong unreserved general fund balance and revenue flexibility in the form of a parcel tax."

Luz Cazares, assistant superintendent of Business Services at PUSD, said the lowered rating is still good, but reflects the drop in reserves, which had been at about 4.5 to 5 percent, instead of

See **RATING** on Page 8



A's players take children shopping at Stoneridge

Oakland A's athletes Rajai Davis and Brad Ziegler (pictured above) made Christmas come a little early for some special children last weekend at Stoneridge Shopping Center.

The players helped fulfill "Santa Wish Lists" Friday at the mall that were filled out by 10 children from the Henry Robinson Multi-Service Center in Oakland. Five boys and five girls from the shelter each received a \$200 gift card to Stoneridge Shopping Center to purchase items of their choice off their wish lists from any store in the mall. In addition, each child received a \$50 Stoneridge gift card to purchase an item (or items) for a family member, friend or person of their choice. The children were then treated to lunch, courtesy of PF Changs, where they received autographs and took pho-

tos with the players. The event was sponsored by the Oakland A's Community Fund and Stoneridge.

The Henry Robinson Multi-Service Center is a transitional housing program that serves 54 homeless families for up to two years. The children from this center were chosen to receive the shopping experience by the Lend A Hand Foundation, a foundation that offers youth in transition (shelters, foster care, and other low income youth) the opportunity to experience educational, sporting, and cultural activities not otherwise available to them. The players spent most of the shopping time in the Apple store and Game Stop as iPods and Nintendo DS were the hot items of the day, according to Carrie Williams, who is marketing manager at Stoneridge.

"It was really fantastic and wonderful to be able to treat these children to a shopping spree like this," she said.

—Janet Pelletier

34-year old cold case solved

Woman whose body discovered on dark road apparently died of drug overdose

By JANET PELLETIER

Alameda County Sheriff's investigators say they can now close the book on a 34-year-old cold case in Pleasanton.

The body of Karen Rose Robinson, 21, of Oakland, was discovered on a dark road in 1975.

Investigators originally classified the case as a homicide after Robinson's boyfriend told officers he had dropped her off near Oakland City Hall on the night she died, according to Sgt. Scott Dudek.

But investigators now believe that Robinson died of a heroin overdose. The boyfriend now says he was selling the drug at the time for the Black Panthers and that she injected too much of it without him knowing, Dudek said.

Dudek, who supervises the cold case unit, said the man told investigators he didn't want to be blamed for Robinson's death, so he moved her lifeless body to the dark road where she was discovered. ■

Christmas bird count to be conducted in area parks

Event promotes avian conservation, assesses population trends

By JANET PELLETIER

Two environmental groups will sponsor a Christmas bird count Dec. 18 in local parks in an effort to promote conservation and assess where the population stands.

The Ohlone Audubon Society and the Alameda Creek Alliance are sponsoring the event where an estimated 50 to 75 volunteer birders of all levels of experience will survey for wintering birds within a 15-mile radius in Pleasanton, Sunol and Livermore.

The Christmas Bird Count is an annual nationwide volunteer-based bird survey effort coordinated by the Audubon Society. Tens of thousands of volunteer birders and scientists armed with binoculars, bird guides and checklists will take part in Christmas bird counts throughout the country from now through early January. Audubon and other organizations use data collected in the longest-running wildlife census to assess the health of bird populations and to help guide conservation actions.

"The bird count is fun and

educational, hones your observational skills, provides friendly competition, contributes to conservation efforts, and gets you outside into some gorgeous areas during the holidays," said Jeff Miller, director of the Alameda Creek Alliance.

The first eastern Alameda County bird count will complement 15 other existing Christmas Bird Counts in the San Francisco Bay Area. The count area is in the vicinity of Sunol, Pleasanton and Livermore, and includes five East Bay Regional Parks, significant San Francisco watershed lands, and birding hotspots such as lower Mines Road, Sunol Wilderness, Del Valle Reservoir and the Springtown area in Livermore. Volunteers will walk, mountain bike, or drive count areas, or monitor backyard feeders during a 24-hour period on Dec. 18, with some additional surveys during the count week of Dec. 15-21 to locate, identify and record rare bird species. The

See **BIRD** on Page 8

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Popular downtown Chinese eatery Panda Restaurant to close

New Mandarin cuisine restaurant to open in January

By EMILY WEST

Panda Restaurant, a popular Chinese restaurant on East Angela Street, will be closing its doors later this month after the owners decided to sell the restaurant.

A server at the restaurant said there have been many sad reactions to the closure of the restaurant.

Johnny Chih, the new owner, said if all goes to plan, the restaurant will close Dec. 20 and reopen as Jiou Yuan around Jan. 5. The new eatery will also serve Mandarin cuisine.

Panda, has previously received the title of "Best Chinese Restaurant" multiple times in the Pleasanton Weekly's Reader's Choice contest. ■



JEB BING

Panda Mandarin Cuisine, a longtime downtown restaurant, is expected to close Dec. 20 and open with a new name in early January.

Public asked to tell BART what it expects of agency's new police chief

Dec. 17 discussion starts search as post becomes open at end of year

By JEB BING

BART Director Carol Ward Allen has scheduled a public hearing for next Thursday to get input from the public on the criteria they think should be used in hiring a new police chief.

Ward Allen, who chairs BART's Police Department Review Committee, said that Bob Murray and Associates of Roseville is helping BART search for a new chief.

The consulting firm also helped in San Francisco's search for a new police chief, a process that resulted in the hiring of George Gascon.

Current BART police Chief Gary Gee, who was criticized for his handling of the transit agency's Police Department in the wake of the fatal shooting of unarmed passenger Oscar Grant III at the hands of former Officer Johannes Mehserle on Jan. 1, announced in August that he would retire at the end of the year. Gee then immediately went on medical leave.

BART's police department is currently headed by Commander Maria White, who is now acting chief.

BART General Manager Dorothy Dugger said at a board meeting last Thursday that "one question very much under discussion is strengthening the role of the board in the selection process."

Current rules call for Dugger to hire the new chief, but several board members have said recently that they think the board should be more involved.

The recruitment process for a new police chief is scheduled to end Feb. 1.

Bob Murray and Associates is to submit its recommended finalists for the job the week of March 1 and BART will conduct interviews later that month.

The selection is scheduled to be made the week of March 29 and the new chief is to start work April 26.

The Dec. 17 public hearing will be at the Joseph Bort MetroCenter at 101 Eighth St. in Oakland at 6 p.m. ■

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BIRD

Continued from Page 6

surveys will be non-intrusive observations of birds, with volunteers following an ethics code to avoid any impacts to birds or habitats.

According to the Alliance, notable birds that could be found within the count circle include: yellow-billed magpies, which are endemic to Central California and have declined due to West Nile Virus and loss of oak woodland habitat; bald eagles, which only recently began breeding in the Bay Area and have just been removed from the endangered species list; golden eagles, which are threatened locally by collisions with

wind turbines at Altamont Pass; western burrowing owls, declining rapidly in the Bay Area due to habitat loss from urban development and also killed in large numbers by Altamont wind turbines; and Lewis' woodpeckers, brightly colored denizens of open-canopy forests that are a state species of special concern.

Birders and volunteers with any level of experience can participate and are assigned to teams based on their bird identification skill level and endurance. The count circle is divided into over two dozen sections, each with a leading birder with specific knowledge of the area. To get involved, visit <http://ohloneaudubon.org> or www.alamedacreek.org. ■

BOMB

Continued from Page 5

possible pipe bomb.”

Elerick said police are interviewing store employees. There are no surveillance cameras in the lounge area and the lockers operate on a first come, first served basis, he said. Employees are responsible for bringing a lock to and from work to lock up their personal belongings.

Myla Grasso, a spokeswoman for the Pleasanton Unified School District, said the incident didn't affect any of the district's schools, including nearby Amador Valley High and Alisal Elementary schools.

The threat also didn't appear to have any effect over a large-scale swim meet that was under way at the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center in Amador Community Park behind Safeway. ■

RATING

Continued from Page 5

the state-required 3 percent, where it now stands. As for the immediate impact, she said the district is not planning to issue any debt.

“I wouldn't be surprised to know if we were in the company of many,” Cazares said. “Most districts had to dip below the reserve limit and we had a board willing to make cuts.”

In updating the state budget situation, Cazares said she is awaiting

news from the state legislature on how it's planning to resolve the Legislative Analyst Office's \$21-billion deficit that was recently released in a multi-year forecast.

The next meeting of the school board is Wednesday, Dec. 16, with a board workshop discussing the search for a new superintendent from 5 to 6 p.m., followed by the regular meeting at 7 p.m. Both portions will be broadcast live on TV30's channel 28 and on the district's webcast. ■

MISSING

Continued from Page 5

“I don't know whether he's an expert [outdoorsman], but he definitely knows more than the average person,” Davis said. “He's an avid camper and likes to go on isolated trips by himself.”

Lafontaine was described as being in good health, both physi-

cally and mentally. He is 6-feet, 1 inch tall and weighs about 190 pounds, with gray hair and brown eyes. He was last seen wearing a green parka and blue jeans, driving a Jeep with a California's license plate number 5PWX466.

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

—Emily West



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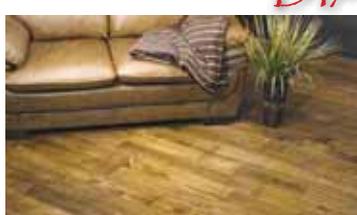
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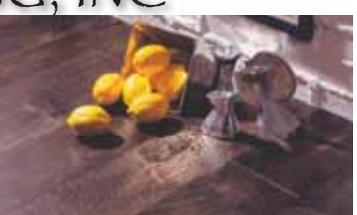
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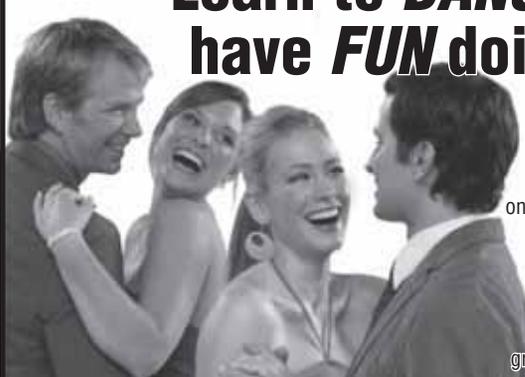
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Gina Channell-Allen, Ext. 119

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

ART & PRODUCTION

Lead Designer

Katrina Cannon, Ext. 130

Designers

Lili Cao, Ext. 120

Kristin Herman, Ext. 114

Manuel Valenzuela, Ext. 120

ADVERTISING

Advertising Sales Manager

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Ad Services

Sandy Lee, Ext. 116

Katrina Cannon, Ext. 130

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 126

Circulation Director

Bob Lampkin, Ext. 141

Front Office Coordinator

Kathleen Martin, Ext. 0

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:

circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

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

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

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

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

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Voices of Pleasanton gaining influence far beyond city

We've written before how the city government of Pleasanton, thanks to a prudent fiscal policy established a couple of recessions ago in the early 1990s, has salted away substantial "rainy day" reserves to tide the city over should a severe downturn come again, as it has this year. Now its elected officials and a few top staff managers are having an opportunity to carry this planning success to other cities as they gain major appointments to key regional, state and national organizations. Besides helping others, these representatives are even more likely to bring back inside information on what's happening to city, county and state budgets and how Pleasanton needs to stay alert.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, who has been active for most of her five years as mayor with the U.S. Conference of Mayors has now been named co-chair of that organization's Council on Water. This group meets regularly with federal and state officials on water quality and supply issues, working with congressional committees and regional organizations on water conservation, flooding issues and access to public waterways. Hosterman is respected for her research capabilities. Water and energy conservation are among her passions. Especially with a looming drought on our horizon and issues related to the quality of water coming here from the Delta, she will have significant influence in public policy discussions about recognizing and solving these concerns.

Newly-hired City Attorney Jonathon Lowell, who takes over for the retiring Michael Roush on Jan. 4, will become first vice president of the City Attorneys Department of the League of California Cities next month, and then its president in January 2011. This will give him an insider's knowledge of the issues facing municipalities on the legal front, how other cities are handling them and which ones could affect Pleasanton. These issues range from protecting local revenue from ever-intrusive state efforts to grab local tax revenue to help pay down deficit spending in Sacramento to tort reform. Especially helpful to Pleasanton will be Lowell's upfront involvement in determining with the League and other city attorneys if a Constitutional Convention is needed to change the way budgets are developed and business conducted by the governor and state legislature.

Also in January, Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho becomes the chairman of the Alameda County City Managers Association, a tightly-knit, nonpolitical group of city chief executives who are concerned about state take-aways, budget shortfalls, pension reform, economic development and a proposed constitutional convention. The group's collective relationship with the county and Congress can influence how transportation improvements are prioritized and funded, with Fialho as chairman able to set the agenda and its objectives. These discussions occur monthly which gives the managers a chance to address more immediate concerns such as pandemic situations such as the H1N1 flu and how cities and the county can coordinate the work of their health officers to expedite protective measures.

Another Pleasanton director, Dave Culver who heads up the city's Finance Department, has been named 1st Vice President of the League of California Cities' Fiscal Officers Department, and will become this influential group's president in January 2011. With state and municipal financial problems the hot-button topic of almost every League meeting, Culver will be involved in top-level discussions on a policy level about how to protect fiscal resources at the municipal level. He will have a chance to hear first-hand the plans being formed in Sacramento to grab more revenue from cities before they're gelled and can work collectively with other finance officers to develop protective policies and program their respective city councils can implement. ■

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.

LETTERS

We need public's help

Dear Editor,

We are writing to ask for help on behalf of our mother, a selfless Pleasanton woman who has raised six children and a grandmother of four who volunteers her time to make her community a better place.

Over a decade ago, she purchased a four-octave set of hand bells and started a hand bell choir to share Christmas music with her community. She volunteers her time and has donated her own money. In addition she also sits on a community affairs committee, voluntarily plays the organ and the piano for her church, and for the past several years, has enjoyed working with the middle school students at Hart Middle School.

This year, she has put together a children's hand bell choir, a youth

hand bell choir and an adult hand bell choir. These groups have been rehearsing since October for the Christmas season, including a performance completely comprised of local teens as well as an interfaith concert. After rehearsing Sunday, she left the bells in her car due to an upcoming performance. When she went to her car on Monday morning, she found her windows smashed and discovered that four of the six bell cases had been stolen.

These bells are not worth anything to the people who stole them but they have significant meaning to our mother. We are asking for public awareness of this senseless act in the hope that anyone might have information. We are calling upon the community that she has served without request for compensation. Please contact two of her daughters, Julie or Jennifer Adams, jma162@gmail.com or jas2jas@mac.com.

Jennifer, Jeff, Julie, Jason, Jordan and Jessica Adams



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Community Pulse

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.

Nov. 28

Theft

■ 7:39 p.m. in the 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vehicular burglary

■ 10:32 a.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Public drunkenness

■ 12:17 a.m. at the intersection of First Street and Vineyard Avenue

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

Battery

■ 2:02 a.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

Assault

■ 10:15 a.m. in the 1500 block of

Mendoza Court

Nov. 29

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 12:33 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Stoneridge Drive; DUI

■ 12:42 p.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road; marijuana possession

Assault with a deadly weapon

■ 1:31 a.m. in the 800 block of Bonde Court

Nov. 30

Identity theft

■ 1:36 p.m. in the 600 block of Windmill Lane

■ 3:22 p.m. in the 5100 block of Oakview Court

Burglary

■ 11:25 a.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; vehicular

■ 6:51 p.m. in the 800 block of Rose Avenue

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 2:19 a.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road; public drunkenness

■ 7:38 a.m. in the 4400 block of Willow Road; paraphernalia possession, non-narcotic controlled substance possession

Dec. 1

Theft

■ 8:42 a.m. in the 5700 block of Valley Avenue; grand theft

■ 9:13 a.m. in the 8000 block of Mountain View Drive; petty theft

■ 3:52 p.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive; grand theft

Burglary

■ 8:22 a.m. in the 7600 block of Canyon Meadows Circle; vehicular

■ 5:53 p.m. in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive

Vandalism

■ 11:02 a.m. in the 1600 block of Holly Circle

■ 1:30 p.m. at the intersection of Vineyard and Bernal avenues

Battery

■ 1:37 p.m. in the 4600 block of Bernal Avenue

Dec. 2

Theft

■ 11:38 a.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Mall and Canyon Way; stolen property possession

■ 12:09 p.m. in the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

■ 3:49 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

■ 5:43 p.m. in the 4700 block of McHenry Gate Way; identity theft

■ 7:34 p.m. in the 5700 block of Valley Avenue; petty theft

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 11:38 a.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Mall and Canyon Way; non-narcotic controlled substance possession, paraphernalia possession

■ 1:44 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; non-narcotic controlled substance possession, paraphernalia possession

■ 8:50 p.m. in the 200 block of Main Street; DUI

Dec. 3

Vandalism

■ 12:06 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

■ 12:08 a.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue

■ 8:39 a.m. at the intersection of Foothill and Dublin Canyon roads

■ 10:22 a.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

■ 2:12 p.m. at the intersection of Reflections Drive and Stanley Boulevard

■ 5:59 p.m. in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue

Public drunkenness

■ 12:06 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

Dec. 4

Embezzlement

■ 4:55 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vehicular burglary

■ 5:28 p.m. in the 7500 block of Canyon Meadows Circle

■ 8:18 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Marijuana possession

■ 2:49 p.m. at the intersection of Junipero and Sonoma Drives

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THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: Adopt a resolution accepting the Pleasanton Downtown Business Improvement District Advisory Board Report and Budget and Levy of the Assessment for 2010
- Presentation by Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) regarding the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed extension of BART from the Dublin/Pleasanton Station to Livermore
- Adopt a resolution accepting the 2008-09 Year-end Financial Report for the Operating Budget and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Operating Budget (unaudited)
- Approve the City Council Committee/Board Assignments and the appointment of Vice Mayor for Calendar Year 2010

Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee (Workshop)

Monday, December 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.
Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

- The YMPIC will meet to review and discuss the draft Youth Master Plan Goals and Values.

Please visit our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us to view the agendas for the following meetings:

Committee on Energy & Environment

Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.
Operation Services, 3333 Busch Road

The Housing Commission meeting scheduled for December 17th has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting for this commission is January 21, 2010.

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

Transitions

WEDDINGS ● ENGAGEMENTS ● OBITUARIES ● BIRTHS

OBITUARIES

Torkil Lynardt Bonde

Former longtime Pleasanton resident Torkil Lynardt Bonde (Duke, Boo) of Modesto, died Dec. 5 at home with his family by his side. He was 80.

Mr. Bonde was born Aug. 15, 1929 in San Jose to the late Duke Bonde Sr. and Roselma Bonde. He grew up in Pleasanton in a very close farming family.



He attended Amador Valley High School where he excelled at numerous sports, but most notably football, where he started three years on the varsity team. After graduating from Amador, he joined the Army for the next four years. While stationed in Panama, he won the middle-weight champion boxing title along with achieving the rank of sergeant first class. He attended Cal Poly, where he completed courses to become a farrier, where he would go on to work in that field for more than 50 years. He became the president of the Horseshoer's Union, a position in which he served eight years. His exceptional work as a farrier led to his induction into the Horseshoer's Hall of Fame in 2005. In spite of all his accomplishments, his greatest achievement in life was that of husband, father and grandfather. His love for the lord made it all possible.

Mr. Bonde is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Ginger Bonde; sons, Jeff Bonde of Pleasanton; Gary Bonde (Terry Ellen) of Byron, Ron Bonde (Maryanne) of Livermore and David Bonde (Gina) of Modesto; 14 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his brother, Wayne Bonde (Jean) of Chincoteague Island, Va. and his sister, Gail Hendricksen of Modesto.

A service will be held at 1 p.m. today at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St. Donations may be made to Modesto Community Hospice Inc.

Daniel Edward Thiel

Daniel Edward Thiel died Dec. 7 at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. He was 46.



As impossible as it might sound for someone who was on the heart-kidney transplant list and was a stone's throw from a new lease on life, his death was sudden and unexpected. Mr. Thiel was born July 30, 1963 in Arcata, Calif. and graduated from Red Bluff High in 1981. An accomplished tuba player, he went to California State University, Chico, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in music in 1987. While taking music-related courses at Chico

State, he discovered a latent interest that was to become his professional passion for the next two decades: computer science. He received his B.S. in computer science in 1989, and with fiancée Beth Miller, moved to the hub of the technical world: Silicon Valley, where he got his dream internship at Apple, Inc. He went on to become a senior software engineer in the biotechnology industry, working at Becton Dickinson and Applied Biosystems before his heart condition forced him to quit working.

Though his energy and mobility were severely limited over the past few years, anyone who knew him knew he had the heart of a lion. He never gave up fighting, and he lived his life with unblinking honesty and quiet courage. He found new joy and a new reason to keep fighting when his son Spencer was born in 2005.

Mr. Thiel is survived by his wife of 18 years, Beth Miller Thiel, and son

Spencer, 4, of Pleasanton; his parents, Jay and Diane Thiel, and brother and sister-in-law, Jay Jr. and Kathy Thiel, of Red Bluff, Calif.; brother and sister-in-law, Mike and Dianna Thiel and grandmother, Gwendolyn Graham of Eureka, Calif.; uncle, Chris Thiel and his wife, Velma of McKinleyville, Calif.; uncle, Ron Frank and wife, Marci of Sacramento; and cousins, Jeanna Doty Thiel, Christina Sanford and husband, Don, and Heather Thiel. He also leaves behind life-long friend and musical collaborator Bryon Birkes and a core group of true friends.

A service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Spencer Thiel's college fund at Fidelity Investments, P.O. Box 770001, Cincinnati, OH 45277-0003 (made out to Fidelity Investments; Account #617888788 in the memo field).



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CHABAD OF THE TRI-VALLEY

By Emily West

It's the time of year for the Jewish community to band together and celebrate goodness conquering darkness.

"Hanukkah is a time where, especially in the Jewish community, there's a public display of joy and life and goodness," said Rabbi Raleigh Resnick of Chabad of the Tri-Valley, located at 784 Palomino Drive.

Resnick said they expect around 800 people to attend this year's activities, and he hopes that the theme of the holiday lives on throughout the year.

"[Hanukkah] instills a message of good over evil and light over darkness," he said.

And as each candle is lit throughout the eight-day holiday, Resnick said it's symbolic of a flame of goodwill inside people.

"You commit to doing more and more," he said. "You can never be happy with yesterday, tomorrow you have to do more."

Chabad of the Tri-Valley will again put together a celebration at Stoneridge Shopping Center, which is now in its fifth year. It will be from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, and the large menorah will be lit in the Grand Court at 6:30 p.m. The family-centered event includes Hanukkah activities, live music, holiday crafts and games.

New this year is the ice skating event from 6 to 8 p.m. Dec. 17 at the recently opened skating rink in the library parking lot downtown. In the center of the rink will be a giant menorah, and there will be hot dogs, hamburgers, latkes and Hanukkah treats sold at the event.

Resnick said that while the rink is reserved for the Jewish community, anyone is welcome. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 at the event. To purchase tickets, or for details on these events, visit www.jewishtrivalley.com.

CELEBRATION of LIGHT

Jewish congregations host several events as Hanukkah starts Saturday

Above: Itshak Rosner of Danville kindles a flame on the Hanukkah menorah at last year's Stoneridge Shopping Center event. **Right:** Rebecca and Sarah Banks of Pleasanton (left) and Brianna and Annalisa Raphael of Pleasanton (white sweaters) and Emma Chang (right) create Hanukkah door hangers.



Congregation Beth Emek, located at 3400 Nevada Ct., started off the festivities this morning with an adult lunch, followed by Shabbat and Hanukkah songs with the Beth Emek preschoolers. The first night service is at 8 p.m. tonight, with a morning young family "Got Shabbot?" service at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

"Congregation Beth Emek Hanukkah events are a wonderful opportunity for Tri-Valley residents to share Hanukkah traditions with others in the community, learn more about the holiday and its role in Judaism, and enjoy the foods and games that make Hanukkah special," said Scott Summerfield, spokesman for Beth Emek.

Families are also invited to the annual party and game night at 7 p.m. Saturday. The evening's activities will include Hanukkah staples, such as latkes and dreidels. Those attending should bring the family, a menorah, games and non-perishable items for the food pantry.

Rounding out the eight-day holiday for Congregation Beth Emek is the community dinner at 6 p.m. Dec. 18. Tickets are \$12, with discounts for seniors and children. To learn more, call 931-1055 or visit www.bethemek.org.

The community is invited to these events, even if they're not of Jewish descent or faith, according to Resnick and Summerfield. ■

READY TO RENT

REVIEWS OF NEW DVD RELEASES

By JOE RAMIREZ

Public Enemies

Universal DVD
2 hours 20 minutes
Director: Michael Mann

Michael Mann's "Public Enemies" is a fractured, mess of a movie. Mann, the prince of gloss, tries to create a type of American folk epic. Shot in glaring, uber sharp HD, however, it feels like a big-budget home movie with familiar faces so pristine their pores seem to dance distractingly before us, neutering any hint of romanticism. This is an odd approach, because the movie's subject, John Dillinger, the "Robin Hood" of the '30s, is such a romantic figure to begin with, that you'd think that the maker of "Miami Vice" would want to "print the legend" as director John Ford once proselytized. Johnny Depp as Dillinger almost pulls it off despite the technical faux-pas: his Kewpie doll looks have matured into a matinee-idol visage so that he know has the maturity to back up some adult parts. Unfortunately, Depp is not enough to combat a meandering script that leaves the viewer deflated and confused.

Mann is a director who has always seemed like a junior version of his more famous contemporaries. His big breakout movie, 1981's "Thief," was a shape of the '80s to come: sleek, timed and commercially gritty, and this carried over into his "Miami Vice" franchise that employed all the same elements for primetime (and which showed that two heterosexual men can wear white linen trousers, pink shirts and still kick butt). His cinematic output, however, has been mixed. His lone masterpiece, in my opinion, is 1999's "The Insider." Here Mann poured all his talent into what could have been a by-the-numbers story of corporate greed. Instead, the

movie is remotely passionate, angry and strangely sensuous, with Russell Crowe and Al Pacino delivering their last great performances. Mann, moreover, made something unique, a social commentary from the inside out, where the personal, solitary effects of injustice are rendered without a trace of sermon. He is interested in how the morphisms of suffering look, not how they feel.

"Public Enemies" does have a feel of Mann's cold sensuousness, but without the passion. The movie traces bank robber John Dillinger's 1933-34 meteoric rise and fall, and the efforts of the FBI and especially agent Melvin Purvis (Christian Bale, woefully underused) to catch Dillinger and his contemporaries Pretty Boy Floyd and Baby Face Nelson. The movie opens with Dillinger escaping from Indiana State Prison, and chronicles his exploits throughout the Midwest. Meanwhile, the ever-pinched J. Edgar Hoover (appropriately pinched-looking Billy Crudup) recruits Melvin Purvis to pursue Dillinger and Nelson in hopes of gaining public confidence in the force.

"Public Enemies" suffers, firstly, from its ugly imagery, which is an aesthetic concern but distracting enough to warrant criticism. The image, when I saw the movie in July, suffered from the limitations of their video camera, which renders the image razor-sharp, one dimensional and weirdly fake looking. The script by Roan Bennett and director Mann is also aloof and somewhat confusing, choosing a barrage of facts over compelling narrative. Depp is really the only one who shines through the gloom, and he delivers such nuanced performance that he finally feels like a grown up, in a cool way of course. ■



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As carolers sing favorite Christmas tunes with the crowds joining in, the lights are turned on Saturday at Pleasanton's downtown tree in front of the Museum On Main.



Councilmembers Cheryl Cook-Kallio and Matt Sullivan wave from the City Council's horse-drawn carriage (but not visible) are Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and councilmembers Cindy McGovern and...

Coming soon

Santa makes brief stop-over to wave to Pleasanton families

Clowns and gaily-dressed children wave to the crowds on their route down Main Street Saturday at the city's Holiday Parade.



Sporting antlers, these four girls are out to find the reindeer as they ride on a float during last Saturday's Holiday Parade in Pleasanton.

A para...
Holid...



...e-drawn carriage as it moves down Main Street in the city's Holiday Parade. Also on board ...d Jerry Thorne.



The folks at Meadowlark Dairy, used to seeing us from our car windows, take their decorated float to Main Street with family and friends aboard a colorful float.

By JEB BING

PHOTOS BY JAY FLACHSBARTH

Santa made a brief stopover in Pleasanton last Saturday to wave to thousands of anxious children and their families in the city's annual holiday parade.

A crowd estimated at near 10,000 filled Main Street, side streets and many stores and restaurants for the two-hour parade that included 73 entries and more than 2,500 participants.

Floats, decorated cars, horse drawn carriages and even an Elvis-impersonator were in the parade. The marching bands of Amador Valley and Foothill high schools, with many musicians decorating their trumpets, tubas and drums with battery-powered lights, played Christmas tunes at a rhythmic marching beat from the Amador Valley parking lot, where the parade kicked off, to Bernal Avenue where it ended.

Jolly Old St. Nick, as always, showed his staying power as the crowds cheered right to the end of the parade where he waved from atop a tall fire truck provided by the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department.

He later took the time before heading back north to join Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and the City Council in lighting the Holiday/Christmas (choose one or both) tree in front of the Museum On Main.

Then ... as Charles Dickens would have noted,

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!" ■



We didn't get their names but we sure heard these girls cheering as their float passed by during last Saturday's Holiday Parade on Main Street.



...de in Pleasanton wouldn't be complete without the famed Balloon Platoon, here doing some of their antics at a ...y Parade reviewing stand on Main Street last Saturday.



Their website reads "bestcubscouts.com" and we believe them as sign carriers lead a large contingent of Scouts in last Saturday's Holiday Parade on Main Street.

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Community fund reaches \$168,110 mark

Since the launch of the 2009 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, 258 donors have contributed \$38,461 to the fund. Forty anonymous contributors have given \$4,839. With the 4-1 match the total is now \$168,110.

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For more information, call us at 600-0840 or email editor@pleasantonweekly.com.

As we launch our 2009-10 Holiday Fund campaign, we want to express that we have a unique opportunity this year to provide assistance to some of the poorest families in the Tri-Valley through the 2009 Tri-Valley Regional Initiative, a collaborative economic recovery initiative sponsored through the Tri-Valley Community Foundation, the Tri-Valley Business Council and Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty. A quadruple match is possible through federal stimulus funds designated for temporary assistance to needy families, including a strong employment development component. The matched funds will be used to identify and evaluate the needs of families hardest hit by the economic downturn and help them directly with housing, job training, medical care and other basic necessities.

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In addition to a wider base of needy recipients, the Weekly's campaign will continue to provide grants to Pleasanton and Tri-Valley nonprofit organizations that provide "wrap around" services for families, including Axis Community Health, Open Heart Kitchen and Tri-Valley Haven. This year, these groups will benefit more than ever by the 4-to-1 match of your contribution to help them provide necessary services to families in need.

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Classes

CANDLELIGHT YOGA Unwind and rejuvenate yourself with yoga by candlelight from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Dec. 21 at Living Vine Fellowship, 4100 First St. The free class is presented by Holistic Mothers Network, as a part of their monthly meetings. Yoga will be designed to suit varied levels. Must provide yoga mat and water. Call 519-3003 or visit www.holisticmoms.org.

WINTER ART WORKSHOPS From 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 21 at the Tri-Valley Monart, 3015-I Hopyard Road, this workshop will be a holiday craft sampler with different craft stations available for students to do beading, clay, painting and other fun projects. On Dec. 22, the Winter Watercolor Workshop is a 3-hour intensive study. Call 484-0126 or visit www.pleasantonart.com.

Concerts

HOLIDAY CONCERTS The Valley Concert Chorale will have holiday concerts at 8 p.m. Dec. 12 at the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L streets, Livermore; and at 3 p.m. Dec. 13 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Call 866-4003 or visit www.valley-concertchorale.org.

Events

FREE PHOTO WITH SANTA FOOD DRIVE Get a free photo with Santa

with the donation of a non-perishable food item to feed the needy from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 12 at 3655 Vineyard Ave. Sponsored by Chris Vick of Coldwell Banker Real Estate.

Exhibits

PORCELAIN PAINTING AT WENTE VINEYARDS Livermore resident Eugenia Zobel will host a reception for the opening of her one-person exhibit of "Porcelain Painting" from 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Tasting, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore. The art will be displayed daily from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in December and January.

WILD ABOUT ART Kids Love Art School of Fine Arts, 1989-G Santa Rita Road, presents its first student and instructor art exhibition and reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Dec. 15. View more than 30 pieces of art in various media by students ages 5 to adult.

Holiday

A FESTIVAL OF CAROLS A Festival of Carols is at 4 p.m. Dec. 13 at Centerpointe Presbyterian Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court. It features traditional Christmas music performed by the Centerpointe choir and the church's hand bell choir, accompanied by musicians playing stringed instruments. A reception will follow. The suggested donation is \$10, with proceeds going to support the church's choral music program.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA Children and their families are invited to

have breakfast with Santa from 9:30 a.m. to noon Dec. 12 at Living Vine Fellowship, 4100 First St. Event includes pancake breakfast, storytime with Santa, a puppet show, face painting, crafts and more. Cost is \$7. Call 727-7094 or visit www.livingvinefellowship.com.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION/MEXICAN POSADA Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Associations hosts a free family holiday event from 7 to 9 p.m. Dec. 18 at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. It features a traditional Mexican posada (local student participation), carols, Mexican desserts, coffee, hot chocolate, cider, and piñatas for the kids.

HOLIDAY SHORTS Join teen improv

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team Creatures of Impulse as they perform Holiday Shorts at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11 at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Audience suggestions will inspire holiday themed games, scenes and audience interactions. Tickets are \$8 or \$5 for students with ID in advance, or \$10 at the door. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civcartstickets.org.

Kids & Teens

CELEBRATIONS OF LIGHT Hacienda School, 3800 Stoneridge Drive, invites you to experience the traditions of Dong Zhi, Winter Solstice, Diwali, Las Posadas, Hanukkah and more through stories, food and activities families. The event is from

5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 16. Call 485-5750 or visit www.headsup.org.

Lectures/ Workshops

MASTERING CREATIVE ANXIETY The California Writers Club — Tri-Valley Branch meets from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 19 at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St. Creativity coach, family therapist and author Dr. Eric Maisel will discuss the anxieties that nag writers and present tools for dealing with these anxieties and managing the creative life. For reservations, call 462-7495. Cost is \$21 members and \$27 nonmembers and includes lunch.

Miscellaneous

CLOTHING DRIVE Tri-Valley Unity Church is collecting men's warm clothing and blankets for veterans and the homeless, as well as business attire for men and women (on wire hangars please) for Wardrobe for Opportunity. Drop off before the 10 a.m. services on Dec. 6 and 13, held at 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon. Contact Michele Day, 829-1239 or michele_day@comcast.net.

FOOD PANTRY AT VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH The Food Pantry at Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Drive, has an open pantry from 6 to 8:30 p.m. It can be reached from Wheels route 3. It will be closed Christmas Eve and New Years Eve, but will be open the Sunday before the holidays

from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Dec. 20 and 27. Donations of food are by Valley Bible Church, Centerpointe Church, Valley Community Church, Boy Scout Troop 941, and Pleasanton Middle School. Call 426-2492.

On Stage

'THE CRUCIBLE' Join Foothill High School's drama program as it presents its fall production, Arthur Miller's "The Crucible." The show runs Fridays and Saturdays Dec. 4-5 and 11-12 in the school's multi-purpose room, 4375 Foothill Road. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5. Call 461-6600.

CINDERELLA Cinderella is a fun-filled version of a "fabulously fractured" fairy tale. The audience will be invited to cheer, clap and shout "Presto!" to transform Cinderella for the ball. Shows are at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11, 12, 18 and 19; and 11 a.m. Dec. 13 and 20. Tickets are \$12-\$20 for adults and \$8-\$16 for children and seniors. Call 931-3444 or visit www.civcartstickets.org.

Spiritual

BLUE CHRISTMAS A service for those for whom Christmas can be a painful reminder of loved ones lost, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, or just plain loneliness. Service is a 5:15 p.m. Dec. 13 at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road. All are welcome. Call 462-4802 or visit www.stclarespleasanton.org.

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MALL OR MANGER; PRESENTS OR PRESENCE The Catholic Community of Pleasanton Marriage Care Ministry invites engaged, newly and not-so-newly married couples to an evening of reflection and prayer during the 2009 Advent Season. It will be held from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Dec. 14 at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Call 485-0867.

WHAT WAS MARY DOING WHEN THE ANGEL CAME? Guest speaker Rev. Margaret Stortz will speak on this topic at 10 a.m. Dec. 13 at Tri-Valley Unity, 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon. Call 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

Sports

AMADOR VALLEY GIRLS BASKETBALL ALUMNI GAME Watch some of the favorite girls basketball players from Pleasanton return to play in the first annual Amador Valley Girls Basketball Alumni Game at 5 p.m. Dec. 22 at the school, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$5 for adults, with proceeds going to the girls basketball program.

HOLIDAY BASEBALL CAMP For players ages 8-16. Camp is Dec. 21-23 and is held indoors and limited to 35 campers per session. Includes camp T-shirt. Cost is \$145. Camp is at NorCal Grizzlies Indoor Training Facility, 1306 Stealth St., Livermore. Call 922-5050 or visit www.norcalgrizzlies.org.

PLEASANTON GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM PLACEMENTS Pleasanton Girls Lacrosse Club Team Placements for U13 and U15 will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 13 at Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Road, rain or shine. Full gear is required: goggles, lacrosse stick, mouthguard and field cleats. Visit www.pleasantongirlslacrosse.com.

Volunteering

PLEASANTON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT The first annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 18. If you're interested in birds or new to birding, consider being a volunteer counter. Contact Rich Cimino at yellowbilledtours@gmail.com. Bird count event is \$5.



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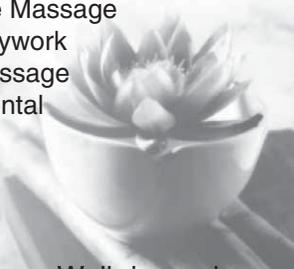
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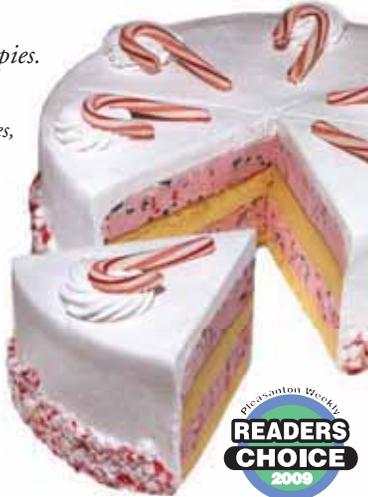
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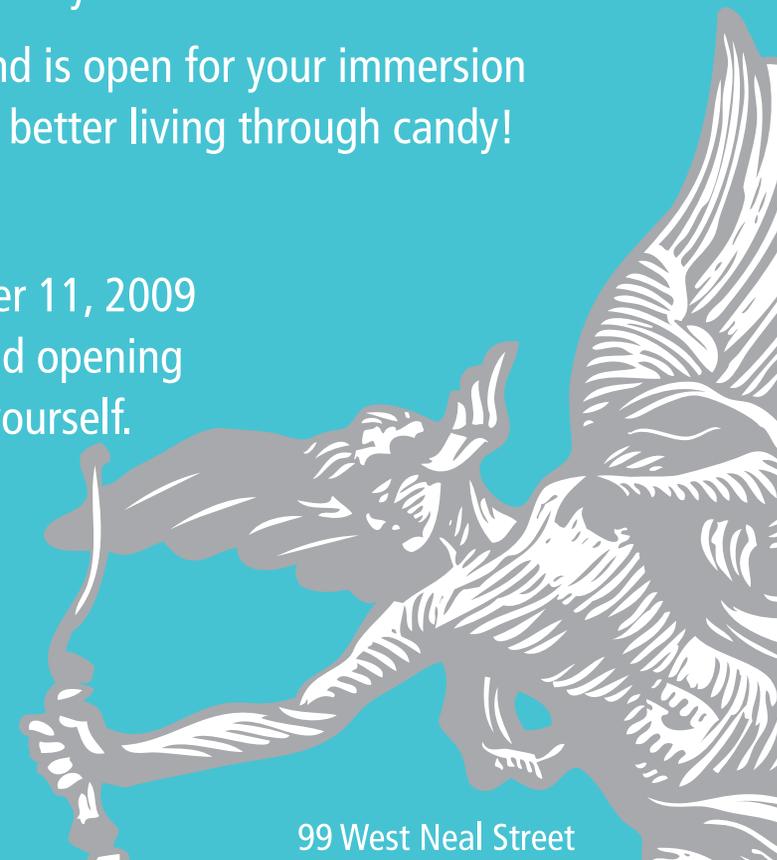
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Sports

Heat qualify for National Championships

The Heat Junior Olympic cross country team, headquartered in Pleasanton, qualified 65 individuals for the U.S. National Championships at the USATF Regional Championships in Reno, Nev.

Team members are 6-16 years old. The youngest is Rachel Gurarie of Walnut Creek, 6, who was a key scorer on the Girls Under 10 team, helping them to a regional championship. The Under 10 Boys team also won the regional title, led up front by Alex Sokol of San Jose and Tim Falls of Dublin. The Under 12 Boys had 15 boys qualify for Nationals. Ben Zaeske and Andy Sartor of Palo Alto and Peter Schlachte of Pleasanton paced the boys. The Under 14 Girls are led by standout Sophie Hartley of Livermore, a three time All American who was fourth in the United States last summer at 3000m. In the Under 14 boys, The Heat had 11 boys finish in the top 15 places. Adler Faulkner of Lafayette, was second overall, followed in close succession by Gabe Arias (Alameda), Nolan Peteresen (Fremont), Tim O'Shea (Sacramento), Aidan

Goltra (Walnut Creek), Brynn Sargent (Sacramento), Caton Avilla (Sacramento), Sean Alyward (Walnut Creek), Connor McCarthy (Pleasanton) and Jacob Schlachte (Pleasanton). Kiley Zeitler of Livermore led the Under 16 girls, followed closely by Natalie Dimits (Livermore) and Montana Baumann (Danville). In the Under 16 Boys, Tyler Sorensen of Lafayette led the way, followed close behind by Parker Deuel of Danville. Deuel was racing the day after his strong 16:05 race at the California state meet where he helped San Ramon Valley High School to a 10th place finish.

The U.S. National Championships will be held Saturday in Reno.

"We have the benefit of having raced on this course once already" said Kevin McCarthy, head coach of the Heat. "The course is hilly and at elevation (4,500 feet) and now our team knows what it takes to race well there."

He expects a couple of the age group teams will finish in the top three and maybe even win the national title. ■

SPORTS DIGEST

BUSC U12 Premier win NorCal State Cup quarterfinal

The BUSC U12 Division 1 Premier team won their NorCal State Cup quarterfinal and semifinal matches last weekend in Santa Rosa to advance to the finals in Woodland, Calif.

In quarterfinal action on Saturday against the Vacaville Atlas, Cameron Ritchie scored the equalizer at the beginning of the second half on a direct free kick from the top of the area. Due to darkness, the game was moved across town to a larger lighted field for two additional 10-minute periods.

The winning goal came off of a Jackson Still pass to Max Gershman who then found Ryan Racer in the area for the goal. Keeper Omeed Ziari and defenders Jeffrey Klei and Mitchell Wilson held the Atlas in check.

On Sunday morning, BUSC faced off against Lodi United in semi-final action with BUSC winning 2-0. Jackson Still and Cameron Owens both scored.

Outstanding defense was provided by Chudi Atuegbu, Bryce Veit and Geoffrey Wiederecht.

Rage U11 White stamp out Stampede

On Sunday, the Rage U11 White girls met up with the Mustang Stampede team in the Norcal State Cup semifinals. With a seesaw battle playing out through the first half, Alyssa Bardakos put a ball on goal that was blocked by the Mustang goalkeeper. It rebounded out to Jenyce Dutcher who nudged the ball out to Belle Henry who put it in the net.

Rage held a 1-0 advantage at the break and 10 minutes into the second half when Jenyce Dutcher knocked the ball onto the left corner off of a great corner kick by Mary Rockwood. Rage won 2-0 to advance to the championship game on Dec. 19 in Woodland, Calif. against the North Valley Lightning.



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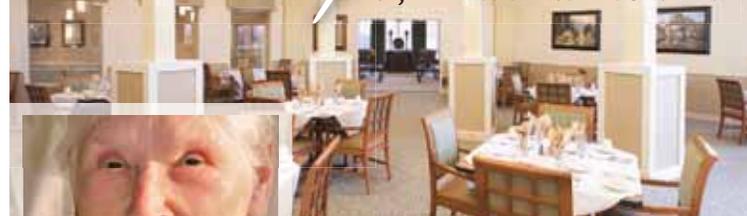
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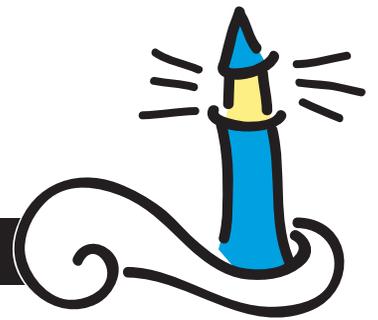
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Lionel Toy Train Set - \$235

Non-stick stove top grill - \$20

Organizer - \$6

RED WORMS FOR COMPOSTING - \$25.00

Staging The Home For Fall - \$14.99

260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

LaCrosse Sticks - \$35. & \$25

Razor scooter - \$100.00



330 Child Care Offered

Au Pairs / Great Childcare

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Retired Scientist enjoying TUTORING High School & College STUDENTS in algebra, geometry, pre-calculus & chemistry. CALL DOUG @ 925-858-5842

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355 Items for Sale

Adjustable booster & step - \$6

Lionel Complete Train Set

RESCUE HEROES - 60+ Set



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560 Employment Information

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Over 18? Earn Above Average \$\$\$ with Fun Successful Business Group! No Experience Necessary. 2wks Paid Training, Lodging, Transportation Provided. 1-877-646-5050. (Cal-SCAN)

Computer Work
Work from anywhere 24/7. Up to \$1,500 Part Time to \$7,500/mo. Full Time. Training provided. www.KTPGlobal.com or call 1-800-330-8446. (Cal-SCAN)

Customer Service
\$15-\$25 hr. 100 year old company. Established customers. Flexible hours. PT/FT. Retirees welcome. No starter fee. FULLER BRUSH 1-800-655-5435. email dfroshaug@aol.com. (Cal-SCAN)

Electricians Need
Great pay & benefits, 30 days vacation/year, retirement & raises. No experience-needed, HS grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (Cal-SCAN)

Firefighter
No experience needed. Training, travel, great pay/benefits/vacation and regular raises. H.S. grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (Cal-SCAN)

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Motivated? Love the Sun? Free to Travel? Call Liz at 888-355-6755. Paid Training and Free Transportation. (Cal-SCAN)

Heavy Equipment Training
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No experience. Get paid to train. California Army National Guard. High School JR/SR & Grads/GED. Up to 100% tuition assistance. Part-time work with full-time benefits. www.NationalGuard.com/Careers or 1-800-GO-GUARD. (Cal-SCAN)

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As part of our expansion program, NorthWest Resources LLC is in need of people to work as part time account managers, payment and sales representatives, it pays a minimum of \$3000 a month plus benefits and takes only little of your time. Please contact us for more details.. Requirements - Should be a computer literate. 2-3 hours access to the internet weekly. Must be Honest and Loyal. Must be Efficient and Dedicated. If you are interested and need more information, contact John H Churchill, Email: nwestresourcesllc@gmail.com



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801 Apartments/ Condos/Studios

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$865

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1250.00

Pleasanton, 1 BR/1 BA - \$975

San Ramon, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1200

805 Homes for Rent

Pleasanton, Canyon Meadows, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1450

809 Shared Housing/ Rooms

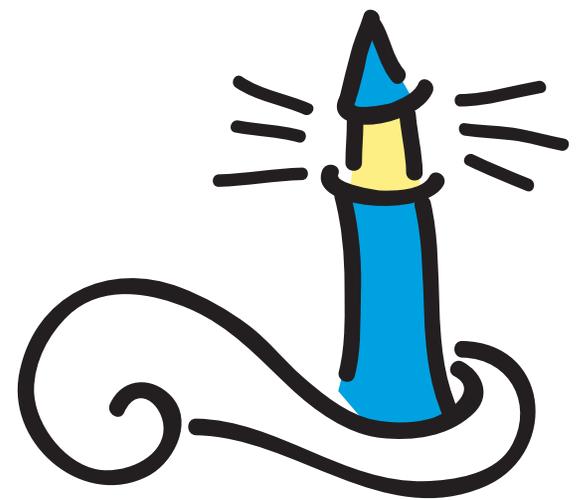
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825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Livermore, 4 BR/3 BA - \$705000

850 Acreage/Lots/ Storage

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20 acres. Near growing El Paso, Texas. No Credit Checks/Owner Financing. \$0 Down, Take over \$159/mo. payment. Was \$16,900, NOW \$12,856. 800-755-8953 www.TexasLandForeclosures.net (Cal-SCAN)



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Pleasanton
express
Today's top stories & hot picks

PET OF THE WEEK

Cozy Carlita

Follow Carlita's lead and sit back, relax and enjoy the season. Carlita is a spayed female Torbie housecat with the most beautiful mix of gold and brown fur. She has little tufts of fur at the top of each ear and beautiful eyes rimmed in black. Carlita loves to be petted and will affectionately bump her head against you and she gives kisses, too. Her calm demeanor makes Carlita the purrr-fect choice if you are looking for a lap cat. Visit Carlita (pet # 90402) at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin, open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call 803-7040.

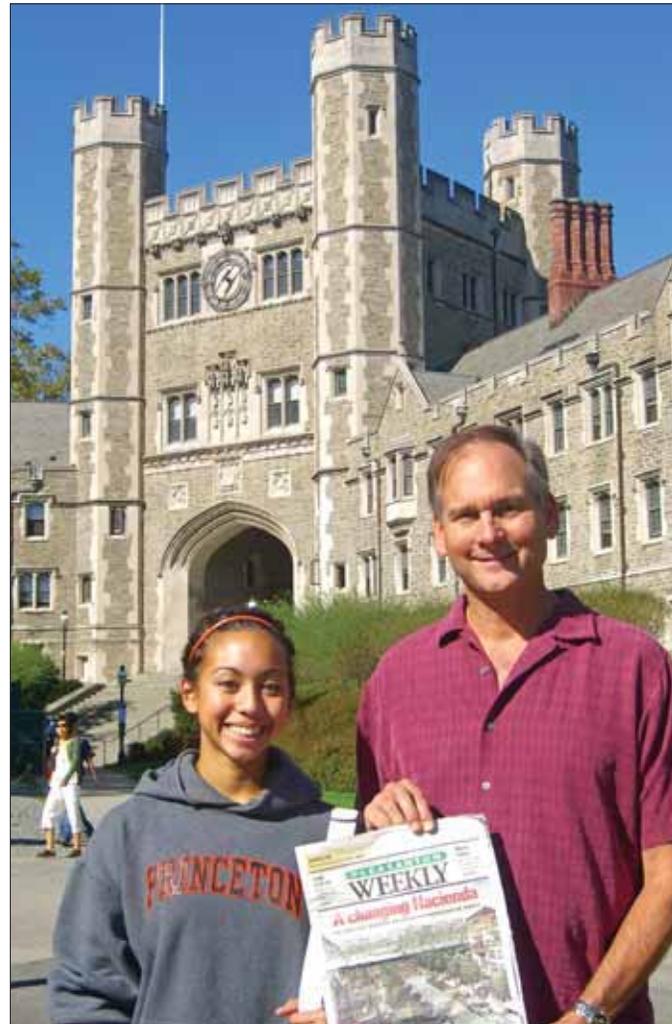


And they're off
 Former Pleasanton residents Rich Bailey and Jerry Di Laura, and current residents Allen Aldrich and Jay Nelson took the Weekly along to the races at Remington Park Racetrack in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Relay the Weekly
 The Catholic Community of Pleasanton KIDS pose with the Weekly at the Relay for Life walk at Pleasanton Middle School. Pictured: Shay Simmons, Ryan McDonald, Emily Gallagher, Michael Gallagher, Patrick and Thomas Gallagher.



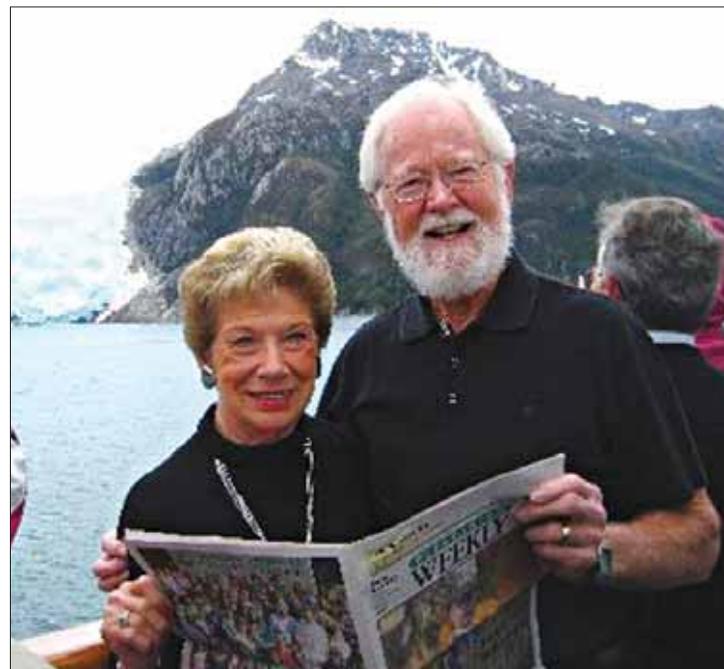
TAKE US ALONG



The Princeton review
 During parents weekend at Princeton University, 2008 Foothill graduate Dani Glaeser poses with the Weekly with proud dad Christopher Glaeser in front of Blair Arch.



Electing to read the Weekly
 Aleksander Twarowski, 10, toted the Weekly with him to Reno, Nevada, where he was working on President Barack Obama's election campaign.



Weekly marriage made in heaven
 Dottie Somersett and Bill Berck enjoyed reading the Weekly while cruising the Beagle Channel on board the Norwegian Sun, where they were married last November. Congratulations!

Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

902 SUMMIT CREEK CT., PLEASANTON, **\$1,475,000**



This highly upgraded Premier Model sits on a premium elevated .34 acre lot with views of the Pleasanton Ridge. It is approximately 3,445 square feet, with four bedrooms, plus bonus room and formal office and three bathrooms. The beautifully landscaped private rear yard features a built-in pool, separate built-in spa, travertine/Napa Stone patios and outdoor kitchen. Sold by Blaise Lofland of Alain Pinel Realtors. (925) 846-6500

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS

3032 Ferndale Court \$670,000
Sun 2-4 Joyce Jones 398-6706

383 Christina Court \$699,000
Sun 1-4 Moxley Team 600-0990

4496 Desertwood Place \$729,000
Sat/Sun Prudential CA 858-4198

4 BEDROOMS

2924 Amoroso Court \$1,100,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

2367 East Ruby Hill Drive \$2,200,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 202-6898

557 East Angela Street \$799,900
Sun 1-4 Prudential CA 463-9500

5 BEDROOMS

2309 Romano Circle \$1,285,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 202-6898

**To list your open home here
please contact Trina Cannon at 600-0840 ext. 130
or e-mail openhomes@pleasantonweekly.com**

SALES AT A GLANCE

Livermore

Total sales reported: 9
Lowest sale reported: \$299,000
Highest sale reported: \$834,000
Average sales reported: \$564,056

Pleasanton

Total sales reported: 4
Lowest sale reported: \$415,000

Highest sale reported: \$1,420,000
Average sales reported: \$812,500

San Ramon

Total sales reported: 12
Lowest sale reported: \$217,000
Highest sale reported: \$961,000
Average sales reported: \$612,167

Source: California REsource

**"Thank You to my Clients"
for a Wonderful 2009**

**Do not forget to stop by Julia's -
Client Appreciation Day
Saturday Dec. 12th**

Free Gift Wrapping 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

3037 Hopyard Rd. In front of Alexandria's Flowers



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The #1 Resale Team in Pleasanton and Ruby Hill
www.FabulousProperties.net • www.RubyHill.net

2367 E. Ruby Hill Dr., Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



Coming soon! Beautiful 5,455 sq. ft. home featuring 4 BR, 3 1/2 BA, executive office, huge gourmet kitchen, backs to golf course and views beyond. Offered at \$2,200,000 **OPEN SUN 1-4**

2309 Romano Circle, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



French Country style home, 3,851 sq. ft. 5 BR, 3 BA, with beautiful pool and hot tub in the backyard. Offered at \$1,285,000 **OPEN SUN 1-4**

1642 Orvieto Court, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton



Quality craftsmanship w/designer details; 5,500 sq. ft., 5 spacious BR and 5 1/2 BA. Gourmet kitchen, executive office, bonus room and pool/spa and gorgeous views overlooking the 7th fairway & hills beyond. **New Price \$2,195,000**



KW Broker DRE License #01395362



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NOW is the time to prepare for the Spring market.**



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Cunningham**
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DRE License #01226296 & 00930892

**Donna
Garrison**
925-980-0273
DRE License #01735040

**Debbly
Johnson-Abarta**
925-989-6844
DRE License #01361703

**Susan
Schall**
925-397-4244
DRE License #01713497



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Home buyers win big with federal tax credit extension

Isn't it nice to get some good news? Well, we have excellent news from CAR (the California Association of Realtors). As it now stands, the federal tax credit will be extended through April 30, 2010. First-time home buyers will continue to be eligible for a tax credit of up to \$8,000, while existing homeowners will be eligible for a reduced credit of up to \$6,500.

DON'T WASTE THIS OPPORTUNITY! CALL US!



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Brian Cullen Natalie Kruger Thomas Lee Ingrid Wetmore
DRE 017611652 DRE 01187582 DRE 01740565 DRE 00923379



Featured Properties



Gorgeous, 3 BR, plus a loft, 2.5 BA home with approx 2233 sq ft of living space, & gourmet kitchen with Granite counter tops, Cherry wood cabinets & pendent lighting over the island. Great floor plan with an open kitchen, nook & family room with a cozy fireplace. Move in condition.

1775 Rose Gate Common, Livermore
\$450,000



Two for one! Unique 4 BR 2 BA home with approx 2256 sq ft and 8700 sq ft lot. 3 BR upstairs, 1 with a sun room, and 1 BR downstairs. 2 attached units in rear yard are great for rental income. Great rear yard with many fruit trees. This is something so different, you must see it.

1844 Elm Street Livermore
\$644,900



Ruby Hill Home with period clay tile roofing, cedar eave lines, through color stucco, divided light windows, architectural stone and ornamental iron. Similar craftsmanship in the interior: terrazzo flooring multi-layer sculpted molding, furniture grade cabinetry, handmade bookcases, hand-set mosaics...and oh yeah FORECLOSURE PRICING!

1796 Zenato Place Pleasanton
\$1,799,000



This Italian Villa blends style, functionality and elegance. Situated on an approx 30,000 sq ft lot backing to magnificent views of the rolling hills. This 5 BR, 5 full BA, 1 half BA Ruby Hill home boasts almost 7000 sq ft of living space as well as a huge bonus room, formal office, and so much more.

4141 West Ruby Hill Drive, Pleasanton
\$2,550,000



Prudential
California Realty

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

925.417.2250



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PLEASANTON
Open SUN 1-4 **2924 AMOROSO COURT**
HANDSOME & CONTEMPORARY \$1,100,000
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



SAN RAMON
2621 FOUNTAINHEAD DRIVE SUPER LOCATION \$324,998
3 BR 1.5 BA New carpet,paint, baseboards,large master,trees/walk-ways.SRV School District.Community pl 925.847.2200



SAN RAMON
6210 BYRON LANE GREAT HOME! \$535,000
4 BR 3 BA 2 cr gar,2347 sf,2 patio areas,3+ stries,upgrded w/hrdwd flr,granite slab in kit/SS appli 925.847.2200



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

BRENTWOOD

360 GLADSTONE DR OVER 55 GATED COMMUNITY \$398,500
2 BR 2 BA cherny flrs,plantation shutters,built-in hrs,surrounded by golf course 925.847.2200

DUBLIN

11501 SOLEADO CT WESTSIDE LOCATION BEAUTY \$705,000
4 BR 2.5 BA + huge loft,many upgrades,updated kitchen & parklike large backyard 925.847.2200

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

LIVERMORE

2643 BRIARWOOD DR MUST SEE! \$517,000
5 BR 2 BA dual pane windows,built-in pl,open flr plan,aprox.2300 sq. ft.,11434 sq. ft. lot,2 car gar 925.847.2200

21800 MINES RD COUNTRY LIVING \$375,000
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

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

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

5121 BIANCO COURT NICE HOME \$700,000
3 BR 2.5 BA in desireable Avila!Court location,eat-in-kitchen,large living/family rm w/frplc/built-ins 925.847.2200

2303 FAIRFIELD CT PRISTINE PLEASANTON \$650,000
3 BR 2 BA kit w/granite cntrs,Wilsonart flrs,dual pane wndws,new crpt thru out,living w/brick frplc 925.847.2200

3044 CASADERO COURT ELEGANT VERONA HOME \$489,995
3 BR 2.5 BA updated granite kitchen,newer tile & wood flooring, custom paint,excellent court location! 925.847.2200

7835 CANYON MEADOWS CIRCLE, UNIT E BEAUTIFUL HOME! \$285,000
2 BR 2 BA top floor w/2 balconies/views!Great location!Fireplace,tile entry,large eating area in kit 925.847.2200

4055 ALVARADO ST GREAT HOME! \$659,000
4 BR 3 BA Private Office.Close To Everything!Walk to Schls,Prk/Dwntwn.Lrg Corner Lot W/Pool/Spa. 925.847.2200

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Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122



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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE MOXLEY TEAM!

3641 HUFF CT. PLEASANTON
LOCATED IN MOHR PARK ESTATES



JUST LISTED
5BD /3 BA 2,913SF. FORMER MODEL
NOT ON MLS!! CALL FOR DETAILS \$890,000

4039 GRAHAM ST. PLEASANTON
LOCATED IN JENSEN ESTATES



JUST SOLD
4BD 2BA 1,822SF. 6,506 SF. LOT
SINGLE STORY UPDATED TOP TO BOTTOM \$685,000

383 CHRISTINA CT. PLEASANTON
LOCATED DOWNTOWN



OPEN SUN 1-4
3BD /2BA 1,204SF. SINGLE STORY
1/2 ACRE LOT \$699,000

3158 RANDICK CT.
LOCATED IN PLEASANTON MEADOWS



JUST SOLD
4BD /2BA 1,912 SF. 9,981 SF. LOT
SINGLE STORY W/ UPDATED KITCHEN \$685,000



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THE PRESERVE



6229 DETJEN COURT, PLEASANTON

Wow! Beautiful and priced to sell. This upgraded home in the desirable Preserve community on a private .68 acre (29,506 square foot) estate lot. This beautifully landscaped property backs to open space. Enjoy the views of the surrounding open land and the quiet court location. Four bedrooms, bonus room, private office, 4.5 baths, approximate total square footage 4,689. Fully integrated home sound system with individual multi-source, multi-zone audio selection key pads. Furniture negotiable. 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*. *May not meet the technical size requirement for a two car garage. OFFERED AT \$429,000

BRIDLE CREEK



SOLD!

902 SUMMIT CREEK COURT, PLEASANTON

Highly upgraded Premier Model on premium elevated .34 acre lot. Expansive views of Pleasanton Ridge. Over \$400,000 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, plus bonus room and formal office, three bathrooms. Approximately 3445 square feet. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops. Custom limestone flooring, crown molding, plantation shutters, and custom built-ins. Close to Downtown, Castlewood Country Club, Oak Hills Shopping Center, and Mission Hills Park. SOLD FOR \$1,475,000

GREY EAGLE ESTATES



SOLD!

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. SOLD FOR \$1,975,000

CARLTON PLACE



SOLD!

1312 CARLTON PLACE, LIVERMORE

Beautiful upgraded Livermore home located on premium .41 acre lot. Views of Mt. Diablo. Beautifully landscaped grounds, private rear yard with built in pool and spa. Four bedrooms, bonus area, private office, three bathrooms. Approximately 3,680 square feet. Upgraded kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Crown molding and plantation shutters. Bamboo wood floors and 20" custom tile flooring. Three car garage. Concrete tile roof. Minutes from Livermore Valley wineries. SOLD FOR \$825,000

MISSION HILLS



SOLD!

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! SOLD FOR \$739,500



GOLDEN EAGLE ESTATES



8044 GOLDEN EAGLE WAY PLEASANTON
 Designer features throughout w/ extensive use of cherry wood, stone & more. Truly elegant. Level park-like backyard with pool, spa, lrg grass area.
Peggy Cortez 925.648.5454

GATED HILLTOP ESTATE



2801 GRAY FOX COURT PLEASANTON
 Panoramic views, 1.91 acres of privacy. Resort-like backyard w/ pool, spa, swim up bar, barbeque, palm trees. See details: www.2801GrayFox.com
Phyllis & Carolyn Weiner 925.872.1416

GORGEOUS CUSTOM ESTATE



833 PIEMONTE DRIVE PLEASANTON
 Dramatic street presence! Huge gourmet kit, sauna, exercise rm, library, 4 fireplaces, 5-car garage. Incomparable 0.70 acres, pool, spa, outdoor kitchen & more.
Diane Gilfether 925.648.5443

SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN



4328 W RUBY HILL DR PLEASANTON
 Dramatic entry w/ travertine flooring. 4 bd 4.5 ba, office & a bonus/game room. New Salt water pool w/ water features. New outdoor living area w/ BBQ, Plasma TV.
Todd Martinez 925.251.2571

PRESERVE COMMUNITY



9663 CROSBY DRIVE PLEASANTON
 This stunningly beautiful, totally custom home is located on the desirable West side of Pleasanton. The finest materials and workmanship.
Phyllis & Carolyn Weiner 925.872.1416

INCREDIBLE VIEWS



860 CASTLEWOOD PL PLEASANTON
 Beautiful custom home built in 1996 by Sterling Builders. Located above the 18th green and 10th fairway of the Hill Course. 4 bed 3 bath, 4,300 sq. ft., approx 0.50 acres.
Bryan Craft 925.855.4141

VINTAGE HILLS CUSTOM



850 CONCORD STREET PLEASANTON
 Entertain pool-side in park-like yard. Granite kitchen, newer windows throughout and remodeled marble master bath. Detached garage with lots of parking.
Michael Bowers 925.583.2196

SWIMMING POOL



3522 KINGS CANYON COURT PLEASANTON
 Lovely remodel, 1-story home in convenient location. Formal dining & living rooms. Kitchen w/ granite counters and lots of cabinets. Large Swimming Pool.
Margarita Cavalieri 925.251.2515

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THE EAST BAY'S PREMIER REAL ESTATE COMPANY
 WWW.ROCKCLIFF.COM

Blackhawk East

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir.
 Danville, CA 94506
 925.648.5300

Blackhawk West

3880 Blackhawk Rd. Ste. 200
 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
 925.385.2330

Livermore

1983 Second St.
 Livermore, CA 94550
 925.667.2100

Orinda

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

Pleasanton

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

Walnut Creek

1700 N. Main St.
 Walnut Creek, CA 94596
 925.280.8500

FABULOUS MT. DIABLO VIEWS



2538 VINEYARD AVE PLEASANTON
 Lot Acres Apx: 0.79, generally level, located across Clara Lane. Private well, electricity, public water & sewer. Located in the Vineyard Ave corridor specific plan.
Kelly Patterson 925.251.2535

MR. PICKLE'S FRANCHISE



3059 HOPYARD RD PLEASANTON
 Mr. Pickle's is a sandwich shop franchise w/ a "turn-key" package business opportunity. FF&E, employee hiring & training included. Avg monthly gross \$75K w/25% net.
Thomas Bramell 925.583.2180

MEDITERRANEAN ESTATE



MORGAN TERRITORY RD LIVERMORE
 Two beautiful custom Estates on a 92 acres. Main house is a 4 bd, 3.5 ba, approx. 9378 sqft, 12 car garage. 2nd house is a 3 bd, 4 bath, approx. 3000sqft.
Taso Tsakos 925.648.4199

CHARDONNAY GRAPES



655 EAST VINEYARD AVENUE LIVERMORE
 Fabulous 20+ acre parcel w/ 8090 +/- sqft custom home. 14.8 acres of income producing Chardonnay grapes. Part of Ruby Hill Vineyard Estates.
Carol Cline, CRS 925.648.5415

MAGNIFICENT VIEWS



3615 CALDEIRA LIVERMORE
 Custom built estate surrounded by your own Petite Sirah vineyard. Enjoy magnificent views filled with vines & hills galore.
Peggy Cortez 925.648.5454

108 AC. FENCED RANCH



MORGAN TERRITORY RD LIVERMORE
 Picturesque, Pano Views. 3 Bd Home w/ 20x20 Bonus Rm, Six Stall Barn, Tack Room, 120'x300' Arena, Wells/Springs, 1/4 Mile Road to Poss.
The Nagle Team 925.736.4155

POOL & SPA



DECKER LANE LIVERMORE
 Corner lot with enjoyable privacy. Beauty inside with tasteful flooring, kitchen overlooks the backyard. pool and spa are the place to rest.
Sharon Williams 925.648.5454

COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL



1716 SECOND ST LIVERMORE
 Corner house converted to office building in business district. Reception area, four offices, breakroom, & ADA bathroom. Curb parking and back lot parking, 10 spaces.
Thomas Bramell 925.583.2180