

Pleasanton Weekly

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“Come home right away, the baby is burning up!”

And no matter what I do he won't stop screaming...

Dear friend,

What a story. It's a story that I heard long ago that I should tell you about, too. It may help change a life.

The year is 1977 and Bob and Susan are newly married. They are setting out creating a life together and starting a family with the arrival of their first child, a boy named David. Their son is healthy and happy, that is until one day when he has his first fever.

At first, Bob and Susan are not too worried. After all, kids get fevers. It is no surprise to parents that the first night of David's fever meant that Bob and Susan are not sleeping much. David is cranky and waking up all night long. As the morning sun comes through the window these two parents are exhausted, Bob is leaving for work and the baby's fever is not changing.

Susan stays home with David, trying her best to keep him comfortable. But as the day passes, David is getting worse. His fever is higher and after lunch he just starts screaming. No matter what this young mother does, nothing seems to be helping her little boy. She is trying to reach her husband Bob, but back before cell phones, it takes a while to track him down. Hours later, she finally reaches him, and says “*Come home right away, the baby is burning up! And no matter what I do he won't stop screaming!*” Bob hears real worry in his wife's voice, clears his schedule and heads home.

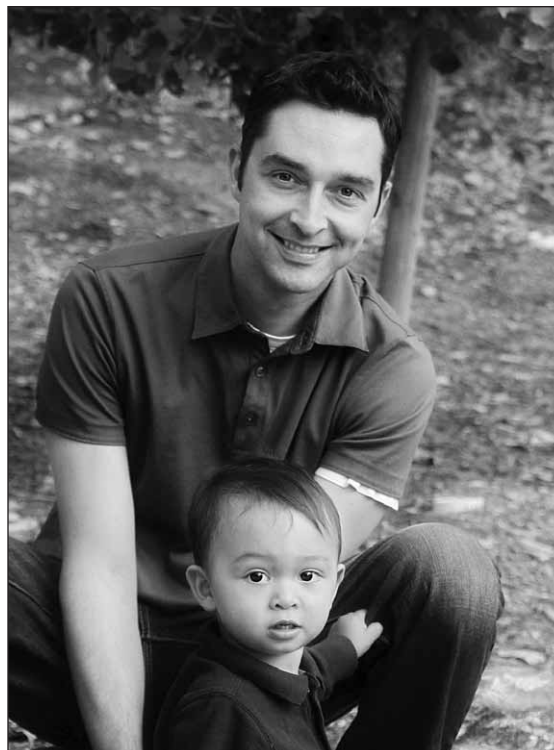
It is after 8 p.m. before Bob can fight his way through the traffic and make it home. He is walking up the stairs and approaching to door to his apartment when he hears his son's screams. As he walks in he sees his wife, visibly upset, holding David. Bob takes David and feeling how hot he is, begins to check him. He finds a misalignment and he gives David an adjustment. You see, Bob is a young chiropractor.

The crying continues for a few minutes and then David settles down and falls asleep. David (and his tired parents) sleep through the night that night. David sleeps and sleeps as his little body fights off whatever bug he has. In fact David sleeps for 18 hours straight! And as Bob returns home from work that night, the night before hearing screams, on this night he hears the joyous laughs and giggles of his happy baby boy.

I know this story very well. *You see, this is my story.* Bob and Susan are my mom and dad, and yes, I am David. I am a chiropractor now too, and I too have a baby son now, Benjamin. That's me and Ben in the photo.

Ben was checked and adjusted within the first minutes of his life. He obviously didn't complain of neck pain or back pain; I adjust him to keep

him healthy ... as with all the children I care for in my office. You see, it's not normal for kids to get ear infections, headaches, allergies or a number of other illnesses we see clear up in our office. When the nervous system is working correctly your internal resistance and healing powers are enhanced.



It's strange how life is, because now families come to see *me* when they have problems like I used to have. Also, they come to me with:

- Migraines
- Chronic Pain
- Neck Pain
- Shoulder/Arm Pain
- Whiplash from car accidents
- Backaches
- Numbness In limbs
- Sciatica

Just to name a few...

Here's what some of my patients had to say:

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—(Greg A. – Pleasanton)

“Before I started chiropractic care, my back and neck hurt all the time. I was in constant

pain. So I got used to hurting and forgot how it felt to not be hurting. The first time Dr. De Bonis adjusted me I started to remember how it felt to be normal and free of pain. I have been off my medications for 1 year now. Dr. De Bonis helped me a lot and now I feel great!”

—(Sarah K. – Pleasanton)

There are millions of people who suffer from health problems, and many do not know where they can turn. For over one hundred years, chiropractors have been helping those people and making a difference to them, one by one.

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Thank you.

—Dr. David De Bonis
Chiropractor for Children & Adults

P.S. When accompanied by the first, I am also offering the second family member this same examination for only **\$10**.

P.P.S. You can call 7 days a week to set up your appointment.

AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Let's add more 'sizzle' downtown

Downtown merchants could see their profits rise by 3-5% this holiday season, thanks to programs being advanced by the city's Economic Development Director Pamela Ott, the Pleasanton Downtown Association's new executive director Laura Olson and the business owners, themselves. Olson, who was named to the PDA post last May, said the "Shop Local" campaign that is being advanced by EMC Creative, a Danville-based marketing group, is a city-funded (e.g. taxpayer-paid) effort to encourage more shoppers to take their business to Pleasanton. Because it's a publicly-financed effort, the campaign won't limit its strategic thinking to just the downtown but will also include retail centers in other parts of Pleasanton, including the Stoneridge Shopping Center. Although clearly, Olson told a Realtors' group earlier this month, the campaign's focus is on the downtown where small businesses especially have been struggling in the economic downturn.



Laura Olson

While the EMC program, that recommends newspaper advertising, flyers and greater uses of what it calls "freebies," such as Facebook and Twitter promotions, puts an immediate focus on the upcoming Christmas shopping season, Olson says the city and the PDA are working together to bring more sizzle to the downtown. A big boost is expected to come with the opening tonight of the \$10 million Firehouse Arts Center on Railroad Avenue, just a block from Main Street. Some pubs are already open late on weekend nights including those that offer music, dancing and other entertainment, such as Barone's the Farmer Restaurant, Redcoats and Main Street Brewery. The PDA is working with other businesses to make a downtown trip to a Firehouse performance even more enjoyable with restaurants that will guarantee quick service so that patrons can dine and still make it to the theater on time, and some that stay open later with menus for late night

desserts and drinks even if they don't have music and dancing.

Beyond the Firehouse, Olson wants to expand special events downtown. This year's First Wednesday street parties brought record crowds, partly because of good weather at each of the five summertime events, but also because more folks who live here are finding the street parties better organized. The popular beer garden was restricted to adults only this year with a second band added along with family seating at the north end of Main. Next year, Olson plans to add a wine bar and entertainment at the family section, and she also hopes to draw more people to south Main Street with a limited number of hot rods and classic cars on display, courtesy of the Pleasanton-based Goodguys organization. Olson says she knows the added attractions are working. The September First Wednesday usually attracts only 5,000 people. This year it was well over 10,000, about the same as August's event. Main Street Brewery's business was up 10-15% vs. the month prior when the First Wednesday venue was not extended north to the arroyo.

Another benefit of First Wednesdays is that there's more appeal to Pleasanton residents than other major attractions, such as antique shows and exhibits at the Fairgrounds which have a greater Tri-Valley/East Bay appeal. Downtown merchants like it when out-of-towners shop at their stores and dine locally, but it's those who live in Pleasanton who need to be more supportive. Olson cited a study by a national nonprofit grass roots group called the "350 Study" that found that if every employed person in the U.S. spent \$50 a month at independently-owned businesses in their home towns it would generate \$42.6 billion in local revenue throughout the country. That's not to say those who live here should avoid Stoneridge Shopping Center or other Pleasanton shopping centers, which bring in huge sales tax revenue to the city, but Olson simply reminds everyone how much a meal or two or a special gift could benefit our historic downtown, which most of us consider the crown jewel of Pleasanton. Still, PDA and city surveys show that the public would like more variety and even more special downtown events. Merchants, as members of the PDA, want to hear from their customers about just what they'd like to see. Those are the ideas Olson will use in the coming weeks as she and her PDA directors plan their 2011 strategy to add more sizzle to downtown. ■

About the Cover

A large glass marquee designed by internationally recognized glass artist Martin Donlin and unique back-lighted metal signage mark the entryway to Pleasanton's new \$10 million Firehouse Arts Center that opens tonight. Cover design by Lily Cao. Photo by Jay Flachsbarth.

Photo Gallery

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Streetwise

ASKED AT THE CIVIC CENTER

What are the highlights of the new Firehouse Arts Center that people should look for when it opens tonight?



Julie Finegan
Visual Arts Coordinator

People can look forward to seeing some really nice art exhibits that will inspire our residents and support our local artists, as well as other artists in the region.

Rob Vogt
Theater Supervisor

One of the highlights of the Firehouse Arts Center is the theater. With only 227 seats, it has an intimate nature. Whether patrons are coming to see Mose Allison or Roger McGuinn, they will have a wonderful, intimate experience.



Susan Andrade-Wax
Director, Parks and Community Services

The Arts Center will be a focal point of downtown Pleasanton. People will now be able to come downtown, enjoy a meal, and then explore various types of art, including performing arts and visual arts. It is not only a theater and arts center; it will also be a venue for special events.

Andy Jorgensen
Civic Arts Manager

Visitors to the Firehouse Arts Center can look forward to experiences that are of high quality and sophistication in a lovely, welcoming and intimate setting that incites passion for the arts.



Mark Spiller
Community Services Manager

There is a wonderful classroom facility in the Arts Center that will complement the performing arts, and it can serve as a rehearsal space. We can also offer drawing and painting classes for the community.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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

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DIGEST

Iron Horse Trail extension

The East Bay Regional Park District and the city of Pleasanton are hosting a second community meeting to discuss the 1.6-mile extension of the Iron Horse Trail from Santa Rita Road to the Pleasanton/Dublin BART Station. Closing this gap will complete the Iron Horse Trail through Pleasanton.

The feasibility study under way is evaluating comments and concerns voiced by residents at the first meeting held in June as well as alignment challenges, environmental impacts, traffic impacts and arterial roadway crossings. At this second meeting, the district will present the proposed alignment alternatives that have been identified, show maps and graphics, solicit comments and provide feedback to the general public. The meeting is scheduled from 6-8 p.m. Sept. 29 at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. in Pleasanton.

Plots offered for Pleasanton residents

People who live in Pleasanton and non-residents with a spouse or partner buried at Pioneer Cemetery will have first option to purchase plots starting Oct. 1. The cemetery, at 5780 Sunol Blvd., has 200 plots and 200 cremation niches to sell at a maximum of two per family. Beginning in April, any unsold spaces will be offered to the general public.

Information about plot locations, costs and purchase options is available through the city's agent, Jayne Archer of Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services, at 455-9696.

Books for sale

Boost your private book collection at the Fall Book Sale 2010 hosted by the Friends of the Pleasanton Public Library from Sept. 24-26 at the library's large meeting room. More than 40,000 donated books and other media from bestsellers to biographies to children's picture books will be for sale. Paperbacks are 50 cents, with hardbacks and large-format paperbacks for \$1. Revenues purchase library materials, programs or equipment.

The Friday night sale will run from 6-9 p.m. for Friends members; memberships are available at the door. The sale is open to the public from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, and from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. Because of the tight confines of the sale layout, no strollers are allowed.

The Friends are seeking adult volunteers to help set up and to work during the sale. Call Nancy Bering at 462-4368.

3 candidates vie for 2 open seats on Pleasanton school board

With no incumbents seeking re-election, there'll be 2 new faces for sure after Nov. 2 election

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Their websites are up, the search for endorsements is on, and campaigning is in full swing for three candidates seeking election to two open seats on the Pleasanton school board in the Nov. 2 election.

The candidates are **Jeff Bowser**, **Joan Laursen** and **Sandy Piderit**.

Two of them will succeed current board members Pat Kernan and Jim Ott, who have chosen not to seek re-election to their posts. The other members of the school board, whose terms expire in 2012, are Chris Grant, Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke.

In interviews with the Pleasanton Weekly, the candidates discussed their reasons for seeking election to the school board.

Jeff Bowser

Pleasanton school board candidate Jeff Bowser, an executive with Qwest Communications, is hoping to bring his educational and business experience to the district.

Bowser, who lost the race in 2008, said deciding to run again was a difficult decision.

"It's my choice to run for the board but it really needs to be a



family decision," Bowser said. "We decided as a family (that) my education and business experience is what Pleasanton schools need so for that, we're willing to make difficult decisions at a difficult time and the controversy that creates."

Bowser has a master's degree in educational leadership and spent 13 years working at all levels in schools, beginning as a teacher and making his way through the ranks.

"That, combined with 13 years of business experience, brings the best of both worlds to benefit Pleasanton schools," he said. "I think the key thing is our schools are in dire straits and they need somebody with actual educational leadership experience. It sounds a little corny, but it's also to give back to a community where I've been a resident for 39 years."

Bowser said he's aware of the problems the district is facing.

"The job of the board as well as the administration is to attract the best of the best," he said, but "come spring, we're going to be back in the same budget situation we were in."

Part of Bowser's motivation comes from his recent completion of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Pleasanton program.

"Even though I've lived in this town for 39 years, there was so much I didn't know," he said, adding that the program gave him a better understanding of the city and how

it's dealing with the state budget crisis.

One reason deciding to run again was difficult, Bowser said, is that his wife, Patty, who's a third-grade teacher at Hearst Elementary School, will be restricted from promotion and won't be able to change positions should he be elected.

He said he'd recuse himself from any votes that would appear to be a conflict of interest.

"For the most part," Bowser said, "it's not an adversarial position. It's about coming together."

Bowser will be helped in his campaign by his son, Jeffrey, a senior at Foothill High School, the same school he graduated from.

Joan Laursen

Pleasanton school board candidate Joan Laursen, who kicked off her campaign in July, said the experience she already has working with schools makes her "uniquely qualified" for the board.

"I have spent 15 years volunteering and working extremely hard with our staff and parents in our community. That's why I want to run," Laursen said.

She worked in banking for 12 years, which she said gave her ex-

perience analyzing data, setting up systems and measuring goals.

"I'm very comfortable with numbers and budgets," Laursen said. "The job of a school board member isn't to get down in the minutia of a budget, but it is to understand that what you're getting out (of the budget) is worth what you're putting into it."

Laursen has also served on school site councils; a number of district-wide committees, including budget advisory committees; in band booster groups; and on the Parent Faculty Association & Parent Teacher Association boards.

"Most recently, I was the president of the Pleasanton PTA Council, representing over 5,000 members in Pleasanton," she said, noting that in 2009, the Pleasanton PTA Council was named Outstanding Council for California by the state PTA. "During my tenure on the PTA Council, we hosted flu vaccination clinics, trained and mentored PTA officers at school sites, conducted a school board candidates' forum, and held many parent education workshops."

Laursen said her work as a volunteer has given her an understanding of educational issues and how complicated the system can be.

"Getting changes made, that has to do with having the knowledge



See **SCHOOL BOARD** on Page 6



JEB BING

Parade kicks off soccer season

Pleasanton's soccer season 2010 opened Saturday with teams in colorful costumes parading down Main Street in the traditional start to the Ballistic United Soccer Club games for boys and the Pleasanton RAGE for girls. Team volunteers and coaches, many of them dressed to match the colorful costumes worn by their teams, walked alongside the groups as hundreds more watched from the sidewalks. The players exhibited creativity and fun, dressed as daffodils, tigers, snakes and in baseball and football jerseys, bringing "Mardi Gras" in September to downtown Pleasanton. Goodies were provided along the route with the parade ending at Angela Street and Peters Avenue. Games in the 2010 soccer season got under way at 9 a.m. and lasted all day on scores of fields at Sports Park and middle and elementary school fields.

Candidates disagree on council's direction

Oak Grove, hillside development continue as issues on campaign trail

By JEB BING

Candidates for mayor and City Council sparred Tuesday over the question about the direction of the municipal government in Pleasanton with very different and blunt answers.

Asked by businessman and moderator Brad Hirst at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce candidates' forum if they thought the City Council was headed in the right or wrong direction, the answers were:

Wrong, said by City Councilwoman Cindy McGovern who is seeking the mayor's post, and by Realtor Karla Brown, a newcomer on the political circuit who wants a seat on the council. They said the council majority had for too long ignored the will of their constituents, citing votes to approve the Oak Grove housing proposal and against a citizens' measure to block hillside development.

Right, said Mayor Jennifer Hosterman and council members Cheryl Cook-Kallio and Jerry Thorne, who are seeking re-election, and newcomer Fred Watson, a manager at Open Heart Kitchen who also is seeking a council seat. The incumbents pointed to a host of capital improvements during their terms, including construction of the \$10 million Firehouse Arts Center, which opens tonight, the lighted baseball fields on the Bernal Community Park, the approval earlier this month of the multi-million-dollar development projects on Staples Ranch, the extension of Stoneridge Drive to El Charro Road and Livermore, and the renovation of the Veterans Memorial Building.

In response to questions, Cook-Kallio and Thorne also cited successful negotiations with the firefighters' union with members agreeing to contribute 2% of their pay toward retirement benefits. Also both the firefighters and city management employees hired after Jan. 1, 2009, will have to contribute to health insurance coverage for their spouses and families and will no longer be eligible for lifetime coverage after age 65, having to rely on Medicare instead.

See **CANDIDATES** on Page 6

TAKE US ALONG



Racquetball, anyone? Bobby Sehrghosha competed in the Junior National Racquetball Championships held at Michigan State last June, and his mother Maryam Sehrghosha and Coach Elaine Dexter brought along a Weekly for good luck

Schools do well in state testing

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Pleasanton schools did well on the state's Academic Performance Index (API) tests, but some areas still need work, according to state documents and local officials. Overall, the district's average climbed by 5 points, and all schools except for Village High are well above the state's goal, a score of 800 or better. Pleasanton's API average is 906; in 2009 its score was 901.

Seven of Pleasanton's schools made advances, with some, such as Hearst and Vintage Hills elementary schools, Harvest Park and Pleasanton middle schools, gaining 10 points or more.

Three schools — Mohr Elementary, Hart Middle and Foothill High — scored the same as last year.

API scores dropped at four elementary schools: Fairlands, Lydiksen, Valley View and Walnut Grove, with Valley View dropping 9 points. Overall math and science scores have been going up, according to Cindy Galbo, assistant superintendent of educational services. She said 85 percent of eighth-graders are taking algebra, with 70 percent scoring proficient or advanced; and 7 percent of eighth-graders are taking geometry, with 100 percent proficient or advanced.

"In science, our fifth-grade science

results, 90 percent of our fifth-graders are proficient or advanced, which are some of the highest scores in the state," Galbo said.

Galbo traced the drops at some schools to three subgroups.

"Our socio-economically disadvantaged students are significantly below the rest of our population," she said. "And then our students with disabilities, they score below average."

She said the third group is Hispanics. But, Galbo said, all three groups have been the focus of extra attention from the district and the problem with all three groups is statewide, not just in Pleasanton, where some gains have been made.

Find the link to the scores at PleasantonWeekly.com. ■

SCHOOL BOARD

Continued from Page 5

and the background so that you have an understanding of the process," she said.

Laursen said the school board needs to be able to set policy and have a vision for what the Pleasanton school district is going to look in the next five to 10 years.

"This community is taking a deep breath and we're ready to look forward and move ahead to decide what we want to change and what we want to keep in the next few years," she said. "I'm really looking forward to it."

Laursen and her husband, Darrel, have two children. Their son is currently attending UC San Diego, majoring in engineering physics, and their daughter is an eighth-grade student at Harvest Park Middle School.

Sandy Piderit

Concern for the future of education in Pleasanton led Sandy Piderit to run for the school board, she told a small crowd at her recent kickoff event.

Piderit, who moved to the area with her family in 2008, said part of the reason for the move was the quality of Pleasanton schools. She said she became concerned after hearing about the state cuts to education and wants to explore new ways of looking

at the district and new financial options to bring in money.

"I think that the district could put more emphasis on grant writing, partly as a way of piloting new kinds of teaching experiments," she said, explaining some of those options could include online learning and new types of tutoring.

More than that, Piderit said she wants to get people talking.

"I think the real key is to get all the members of the community talking with one another about what's most important and how we can support our students and teachers, getting the work of learning done," she said. "We need to make sure that teachers are

the best quality teachers we can recruit and be sure we challenge them to be sure they develop their skills throughout their career."

Piderit, a visiting associate professor at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, drew from her experience at the school. She pointed out that all naval programs are evaluated every three years to make sure they're accomplishing what they were designed to do, and she hopes to bring a similar approach to the district.

"I want to do everything possible to make sure our schools here stay strong," Piderit said.

She has served on the Site Council at Alisal Elementary since August 2009, and has volunteered at the school in several different capacities.

Piderit holds a Ph.D. in Business Administration from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and has taught management and organizational behavior courses for more than a decade.

Piderit and her husband Scott live in Mohr Park. They have a 9-year-old daughter, Julia, who attends Alisal Elementary School. ■

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CANDIDATES

Continued from Page 5

Thorne, who serves on 18 regional committees and commissions, including the League of California Cities, said Pleasanton has managed to reduce its unfunded pension liabilities in the last several years.

Hosterman cited a recent Money Magazine report that named Pleasanton as one of the top cities in the U.S. in its population category.

"We have a city that provides a wonderful opportunity for people to raise their families, to work here, to play and to go to some of the best schools in the country," she said.

Cook-Kallio said the City Council is about leadership and she believes she has the qualities of a good leader.

"In these difficult times, we must take steps to ensure that we have a stable economic plan so that we can continue to offer the high level of services we now provide," she said. "Businesses are essential partners in that effort."

Watson said he was not familiar with some of the issues facing Pleasanton, but knows that a good business base is vital.

"As a manager at Open Heart Kitchen, I have seen the homeless coming for help," he said. "These are good people who have a good education and want to work if there were jobs for them to take. I want to make sure Pleasanton stays as a community that makes sure businesses stay here and that others build here."

In his questioning, Hirst pointed out that Cook-Kallio was the only candidate four years ago to support extending Stoneridge Drive to Livermore. Tuesday, all six of those at the candidates' forum said they favor opening the roadway now.

The six also said they support the planned construction of a new, large Lifestyle Safeway supermarket and retail complex at the corner of Valley and Bernal avenues, across from the Fairgrounds.

McGovern also said she is accepting campaign contributions only from individual supporters, and declined an interview with the Pleasanton Chamber's political action committee because she does not want money or support from a special interest group. She has been a long-time critic of Hosterman for accepting campaign contributions from developers. ■

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Pleasanton's new housing plan: Getting it right this time

Just a month after settling an affordable housing lawsuit that included scuttling its 1996 voter-mandated, 29,000-unit housing cap, Pleasanton is now working to develop a new "housing element" that will meet state requirements. It has just nine months to identify and rezone available land that would make it possible for developers of nonprofit, affordable housing to successfully build and provide high density housing for low and very-low income tenants. To meet the deadline and ensure that the new plan would likely meet state specifications, the City Council last week approved hiring Baird & Driskell Community Planning for \$100,000 to research and revise a plan that city staff last updated in 2003. That plan recommended some areas for consideration for affordable housing, but the plan had only token follow through until earlier this year when a suit by Urban Habitat neared a final decision in the Alameda County Superior Court. Guessing correctly that the city was woefully short of the housing numbers imposed by the state, it agreed to rezone land in Hacienda Business Park for high density housing and appointed a 20-member Hacienda Task Force to review the suggested plans by three developers and provide guidance to the council. Meanwhile, the city must move quickly to update its 2003 plan to meet a court deadline of next August.

Consultant Jeff Baird and his consulting agency should be able to the job. The firm has almost 30 years of general plan and housing element experience with scores of communities throughout the state. These have included Corte Madera, San Rafael, San Mateo, Marin County and the town of Ross. Recent work handled by Baird & Driskell included the downtown specific plan for San Mateo and a land use study and plan for the city of Davis. Those plans combined smart growth with transportation linkages, design and identity strategies to include long-term vibrant neighborhoods in those areas. Pleasanton's housing element will incorporate similar features in the new 800-unit-plus apartment and town home developments planned in Hacienda, which will be close to the BART station and access to freeways with a minimal use of city streets to reach them.

While the Hacienda Task Force speeds up its work to complete a viable plan for that project, the council, in addition to hiring Baird & Driskell, also approved the formation of an 11-member ad hoc Housing Element Task Force to work with the consultant in updating the 2003 housing element. That plan, by the way, languished while another group worked on updating the city's 1996 General Plan, once viewed as a three-year effort that was finally completed last fall. In the meantime, Cathy Creswell, deputy director of the California Department of Housing Community Development, rejected the 2003 plan when it was clear there would be no follow-through on its recommendations. She subsequently decertified the document so it's likely Baird & Driskell will be providing the council with a brand new housing element, not an update.

Given the firm's success in writing acceptable plans for other cities that meet state requirements, Pleasanton should have one by mid-2011 that the state will approve. It doesn't hurt that Jeff Baird has a long working relationship with Ms. Creswell, including teaching courses on Housing Element requirements and best practices with her at UC Davis. ■



Visit Town Square at PleasantonWeekly.com to comment on the editorial.

LETTERS

The right man

Dear Editor,

With today's bad news, the Sept. 8 workshop on green energy held by Congressman Jerry McNerney at Dublin's beautiful Shannon Community center was a bright beacon of hope. It was so encouraging to hear how much is going on in the Tri-Valley area with respect to going green. Venture capital, loan programs, assistance for ordinary companies to

save money by greening, training/education for green jobs, as well as the expected efforts to promote renewable sources of energy were the order of the afternoon. The emphasis on innovation in the area of green energy renewed my belief that America is a can-do country.

McNerney's opponent for Congress reads the Declaration of independence on Tax Day in Pleasanton at a Tea Party event while McNerney fights for our future.

Jerry McNerney is definitely the right man for our time.

Eloise Hamann

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ON THE TOWN



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

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Clubs

AAUW WELCOME TEA The Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin Branch of American Association of University Women will host a welcome tea for current and prospective members from 1:30-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 25, at Lynnwood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. Information available about interest groups, activities, and AAUW programs to further women's education. Call 484-3321.

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES NIGHT Democratic candidates on the Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore November ballots will address the TriValley Democratic club from 7-9 p.m., Monday, Sept. 20, at IBEW 595 Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Q&A/discussion time permitting. Call 831-8355 or visit www.trivalleydems.com. The public is invited. Free admission and refreshments.

Events

'IN THE SHADOW OF THE RAVEN: EDGAR ALLAN POE' Broadway and film veteran Duffy Hudson brings his talent and fascination for Edgar Allan Poe to life in this unique one-man play at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 20, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Using a combination of biographical information and the dramatic interpretation of Poe's literature, Hudson provides an in-depth theatrical experience of the life and works of one of America's best-known and enigmatic personalities. Call 931-3405 or visit www.duffy-hudson.com.

BIRTHDAY DINNER FOR WIDOWS The Widows and Widowers of Northern California are celebrating with a birthday dinner at 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 19, at Black Angus, 4818 Dublin Blvd., Dublin. RSVP to Marge at 828-5124 by

Sept. 17. Cost depends on menu choice and beverage.

MAGIC OF TIM JAMES Bring the kids, parents and grandparents for a fun evening of magic from 7-8:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 19, at Bunjo's Comedy Lounge, 6513 Regional St., Dublin. Tim James, an international award-winning magician, combines skill, humor and an active imagination. Cost is \$10 general, \$7 children 11 and under. Call 264-4413 or visit www.bunjocosmody.com.

PLEASANTONIANS 4 PEACE Pleasantonians 4 Peace will have a Peaceful War Protest from 5-6 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 22, at the corners of First and Neat streets. Call Cathe at 462-7495; email Matt at mjs7882@gmail.com; or visit www.pleasantonians4peace.org.

RETIRED TEACHERS TO LEARN ABOUT VON TRAPP FAMILY California Retired Teachers Association, Tri-Valley Division No. 85, will have its next luncheon meeting at 11:15 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 21, at IBEW, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. "The Von Trapp Family Before, During and After the Sound of Music" will be presented by Leonard Cooper. Cost is \$13. Call Pat Williams at 846-0211.

Exhibits

ARTIST RECEPTION Local artist Rob Tomlinson will be displaying his latest works from noon-5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 18, at Serenity Stoneworks, 252 Main St. Complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres in a beautiful garden setting. Visit www.robtomlinsonart.com.

Fundraisers

FOR MONICA VAN WEGEN Monica Van Wegen, an Amador Valley Class of 1997 graduate and record holding track and field runner, is undergoing treatments to battle brain cancer. To

raise money to help with health care costs, Friends of Monica are hosting an event from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Oakland A's Coliseum. Cost \$65 includes food and beverage at the tailgate party, ticket to the ball game, and drawings. Call Jennifer Dolder (Raimondi) at 321-1747 or email jendolder@gmail.com.

Health

FREE HEALTH FAIR A free Health Fair will take place from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18 at Shiva Vishnu Temple, 1232 Arrowhead Rd., Livermore. Medical advice, free evaluation for blood sugar, cholesterol, bone density, blood pressure and bone marrow drive. Call 449-6255 or email suman1218@yahoo.com.

GENTLE CHIROPRACTIC Learn about gentle chiropractic techniques nurturing the whole person emotionally, mentally and physically that can impact your overall health, from 7-9 p.m., Monday, Sept. 20, at Harvest Park Middle School, 4900 Valley Ave. Presented by Dr. Andrea Pritchett and Dr. Nicole Valega. Call 519-3003 or visit www.holisticmoms.org.

MURPHY'S WAG & WALK Embark on an hour-long dog walk downtown from 9-10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 18, at Murphy's Paw, 410 Main St. Then it is back for free Peet's coffee, just in time for a beautiful farmers market. Call 600-8925 or visit www.murphys-paw.com.

ZUMBA EXERCISE CLASS Enjoy a blend of Latin and international dance moves that create an exciting, energetic and effective workout from 10:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesdays, Sept. 15-29, at ClubSport, 7090 Johnson Dr. A fun class for moving, toning and sculpting. All fitness levels are welcome. Free with reservation. Call 344-4273 or visit www.clubsports.com/pleasanton.

Holiday

YOM KIPPUR Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will hold a non-religious short ceremony and a series of workshops for adults and children from 1-5 p.m. Sept. 18 at Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. The ceremony will include readings, music and a memorial. Adult workshops on guilt, forgiveness, charity and social change. Bring canned or boxed food for food bank. Cost \$10 for non-members 13 and over. Call 485-1049 or visit www.Tri-ValleyCulturalJews.org.

Miscellaneous

COMEDY NIGHT Watch six of the most talented humorous speakers perform from 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 21, at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave. No charge, but seating is limited. For more details go to <http://d57toastmasters.org/events.htm>.

On Stage

MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO FRANK SINATRA Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre presents "My Way: A Musical tribute to Frank Sinatra" at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays from Sept. 17-Oct. 10 at Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Ln., Suite 309. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$22 for seniors, and \$20 for students. Call 462-2121 or visit www.trivalleyrep.com.

Spiritual

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY Lighthouse Baptist Church will celebrate seven years in the community, at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 19, at 118 Neal St. All are invited to visit the "Grand Old Church Downtown" for food, inspiring music and an encouraging message. Police and fire personnel

will be honored for their service and are encouraged to attend. All are welcome to stay for a ham luncheon. Call 846-7220.

Support Groups

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP The American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Support group meets from 7:30-9 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at LifeStyleRx, 1111 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Call 833-2784 or visit www.valleycare.com. 7:30-9 p.m.

WOMEN WITH ADHD SUPPORT GROUP A support group for women, mothers and daughters living with ADHD or executive function challenges meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at DeLatti's Ice Cream, 5424 Sunol Blvd. Call 872-8728 or email kathryn@bellamenti.com.

Volunteering

AMERICAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION The American Red Cross will hold a volunteer orientation at its Pleasanton Blood Donation Center from 4-6 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 23, at 5556-B Springdale Ave. Tour the center and learn about ways to greet, inform and thank the community's blood donors or help post fliers at key locations. Advance sign-up required. Call (510) 594-5165.

TV30

TRI-VALLEY SPORTS FINAL Back for its sixth season of covering team and individual high school sports in the Tri-Valley, Ian Bartholomew and George "Dr B" Baljevich will present commentary and footage covering this season of football and girl's volleyball. The show will air at 3:30, 7 and 10 p.m. Monday-Friday, and is available via Video on Demand at www.tri-valleytv.org.

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POLICE BULLETIN

Police standoff ends peacefully

An emotionally disturbed man held Pleasanton police at bay for about 90 minutes Monday while holding a gun on himself. Traffic was closed for about an hour and 45 minutes during the standoff, on Stonedale Drive from Springdale Avenue to Maywood Drive.

The incident began at about 9 p.m. when the man's wife found a suicide note and called police, who found him in his car near the intersection of Stonedale Drive and Valley View Court, a news release said. The man ultimately surrendered and was placed on psychiatric hold; the report said a .38-caliber revolver was found at the scene.

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, September 21, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Presentation of Holiday Shop Local Campaign
- Consider adoption of a resolution approving joint cooperative efforts with the City of Livermore regarding the Livermore Airport
- Consider recommendation to temporarily suspend Holiday Ice Rink operations in FY 2010/11
- Consider approval of operating agreement with the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority

Planning Commission (Special Meeting)

Wednesday, September 22, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- PAP-148, Mark Lobaugh/Complete Wireless Consulting, Inc.
Appeal of the Zoning Administrator's denial of a Design Review application (PDRW-38) for the construction of a 65-foot tall faux pine tree to be operated as a wireless facility for Verizon Wireless at 6890 Koll Center Parkway.
- Work Session on the amendment of the Pleasanton Municipal Code to reference the California Green Building Standards (CalGreen) Code, with local amendments to address specific green building issues, and other related green building amendments.

Energy & Environment Committee

Wednesday, September 22, 2010 @ 6:00 p.m.
Operation Services Center, 3333 Busch Road

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

Hacienda Task Force

Thursday, September 23, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.
Hart Middle School, Multipurpose Room, 4433 Willow Road

- Continue consideration of Planning concepts

Applications are being accepted for the new Ad-Hoc Housing Element Task Force

The City Council is accepting applications for five at-large members for the new Housing Element Task Force. Applicants must be residents of the City of Pleasanton with an interest in understanding the housing needs of the community and recommending where the City should plan for future housing. Applicants should be willing to attend at least one or two meetings a month from late October 2010 through November 2011.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office, 123 Main Street, or on the City's web site at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us. Please indicate you are applying for the Housing Element Task Force. For additional information, please contact Janice Stern, Planning Manager, at 925-931-5606 or jsstern@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Applications must be received no later than Tuesday, September 28th at 4:30 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

**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

POLICE REPORT

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

Sept. 7

Theft

- 6:49 p.m. in the 6300 block of Benner Court; identity theft
- 10:51 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive; petty theft

Burglary

- 6:30 a.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Vandalism

- 5:33 p.m. in the 6500 block of Calle de la Mancha

Sept. 8

Theft

- 12:57 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springdale Avenue; embezzlement
- 8:44 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft

Vandalism

- 9:21 a.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive
- 10:31 a.m. in the 5800 block of Canyon Way
- 6:29 p.m. in the 3600 block of Kirkcaldy Court

Sept. 9

Identity theft

- 1:41 p.m. in the 3200 block of Vineyard Avenue

Burglary

- 5:20 p.m. in the 900 block of Clinton Place

Battery

- 4 p.m. at the intersection of W. Las Positas Boulevard and Willow Road
- 4:56 p.m. at the intersection of W. Las Positas Boulevard and Willow Road

Vandalism

- 7:52 a.m. in the 4300 block of Chapman Way
- 9:48 a.m. at the intersection of W. Lago Road and Laguna Creek Way

DUI

- 5:39 p.m. in the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway
- 6 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

Sept. 10

Theft

- 9:05 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 9:33 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springdale Avenue; embezzlement

Battery

- 6:22 p.m. in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue

Drug/alcohol charges

- 12:10 a.m. near the intersection of I-680 and Bernal Avenue; DUI
- 11:19 p.m. at the intersection of Jensen Street and Santa Rita Road; driving with marijuana
- 11:33 p.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Drive and Hopyard Road; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance

Sept. 11

Theft

- 12:29 p.m. in the 3900 block of

Stoneridge Drive; auto theft

- 7:01 p.m. in the 500 block of Bonita Avenue; petty theft

Burglary

- 3:19 p.m. in the 1600 block of Bivar Court

Vandalism

- 8:21 a.m. in the 800 block of Piemonte Drive

Drug/alcohol charges

- 12:10 a.m. in the 800 block of Main Street; DUI
- 3:57 p.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road; marijuana possession
- 10:54 p.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Arthur Court; marijuana possession

Sept. 12

Petty theft

- 10:16 a.m. in the 3100 block of Weymouth Court

Drug/alcohol charges

- 12:50 a.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street; public drunkenness
- 1:21 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Old Santa Rita Road; DUI
- 3:13 p.m. in the 400 block of Angela Street; possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a hypodermic needle

Sept. 13

Public drunkenness

- 3:31 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita road and Stoneridge Drive

OBITUARIES

Jill Martine (Schirm) Brierley

Jill Martine (Schirm) Brierley died at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday evening at the age of 54, four years after being diagnosed with Stage 3 colorectal cancer. Her journey of the last four years can be followed on the Brierley Blogger at <http://brierleyblogger.blogspot.com/>.



She was born Aug. 25, 1956, in Burbank, the youngest of five children, and grew up in Southern California. She graduated from South High in Torrance, and graduated from University of San Francisco with a degree in information technology. While her children were young, she ran a home day care center and when they reached high school she transitioned to maintaining the Foothill High School Technology Department. She also was active at her church, CrossWinds Church of Dublin, and was a counselor for junior high and high school youth group trips.

She was predeceased by her mother Henriette (Scribe) Schirm and her sister Misheline Caldwell. She is survived by her husband of 32 years Casey, her children Bonnie (Rick) Hansen, Sean, Kyle and

Brigitte; her father Louis Schirm III, siblings Louis IV (Linda) Schirm of Yorba Linda, Lorette (Fritz) Harnsberger of Santa Barbara, Nicky (Tom) Suard of Napa; mother-in-law Peggy Brierley and in-laws Duffy and Gail of Torrance, and Kathy and Larry of Reno; many friends and extended family.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11 a.m. Sept. 25, at CrossWinds Church, 6444 Sierra Court in Dublin with a potluck lunch. In lieu of flowers, her family requests donations to the American Cancer Society July 2011 Pleasanton ColoRectal Walk for Life, specify to add to fund of the "Hope West Coast" Team-Jill's Fund; or to the Foothill High School Technology Department for purchase of new computers or other technical equipment.

John D. (Jack) Smith

John D. (Jack) Smith, who moved to Pleasanton in 1969, died Sept. 8 at the age of 72.

He was born Dec. 14, 1937, in Oakland. He worked for PG&E in Power Control in San Francisco and retired after 40 years, in 2002. He was affiliated with the 129th Alumni & Heritage Association; the El Dorado Brass Band of Sacramento; the Pleasanton Blairgowrie Fergus Sister City Organization; and SIR's Branch 34. He was also a long-



time member of St. Clare's Episcopal Church in Pleasanton.

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife Pat; his children Deborah (Michael) Bennett of Danville and Diane Smith (Gregory) Young of McKinleyville; three grandchildren and one great-grandson. Friends and family are invited to funeral services at 11 a.m. tomorrow at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton. The family requests donations to St. Clare's Episcopal Church or the Salvation Army, 3950 Clayton Road, Concord 94521.

Erwin Munzinger

Pleasanton resident Erwin Munzinger died unexpectedly Aug. 26 at the age of 84.

He was born April 17, 1926, in Eberbach am Jagst, Germany, and immigrated to the United States in 1958. He moved to Pleasanton in 1987 upon retiring from an engineering career in Silicon Valley. He was a machinist by trade and enjoyed working in his machine shop building things for around his house as well as for friends and family. He was also an avid amateur radio operator and loved to talk with people from afar.

Mr. Munzinger is survived by his wife of 57 years Maria; his daughter and son-in-law Angela and Erik Miller of Livermore, and his son and daughter-in-law Frank and Stephanie Munzinger of Vacaville.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Sept. 25 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St., Pleasanton.

Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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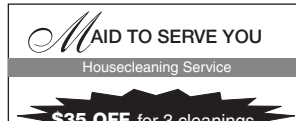
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CATHERINE HANSEN RUSH



PHOTOS BY JAY FLACHSBARTH.

Above: Randy Stewart, senior project manager for O'Connor Construction Management Inc. leads tour group in the Firehouse Arts Center's Harrington Gallery section. The center opens to the public tomorrow.

Top right: Pictures await hanging in the Harrington Gallery.



Firehouse Arts

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE TOMORROW

By JEB BING

The city's stunning new \$10 million Firehouse Arts Center opens tonight with a sold-out, \$125-a-ticket launch party sponsored by the nonprofit Cultural Arts Council that helped get the center started six years ago.

Then the official — and free — public grand opening follows starting at 10 a.m. tomorrow and continuing through most of the day with artist demonstrations, live music, theater performances, art activities for children and refreshments.

The center is located at 4444 Railroad Ave. at the end of Division Street, just a one-block walk to Main Street and downtown Pleasanton. Some pubs are already open late on weekend nights with music, dancing and other entertainment that will make after-theater dining and other entertainment readily available without driving. The Pleasanton Downtown Association and city officials are working on

plans to make attractions available and after Firehouse performance.

Most striking is the blend of architecture with the old historic building built in 1929 that was saved by artists and members of the Cultural Arts Council who saw the site as their needs. The CAC set up a soliciting contributions and more than \$2 million to help pay for the new performing arts center.

This premier cultural center features a seat flexible studio theater, 2,000 versatile gallery space, two large bars and a spacious grand lobby for events. As a multiple-use facility, the Arts Center will provide a broad programming opportunities. In addition to theater performances to lecture series, youth performances, workshops and other activities, the facility will serve as a



Bob Elliott, Firehouse Arts Center theater technician, works controls in the high tech control room at rear of theater.



Tour groups that had an advanced look at the new Firehouse Arts Center gather in the lobby and glass lobby.



Center opens tonight

LOW FEATURES TOURS AND ENTERTAINMENT

available both before and after the event.

and of modern art from destruction of the Cultural Arts Center. The foundation for the center has raised more than \$10 million to cover the costs of the

er features a 227,000 square feet of large art classrooms, for receptions and gallery, the Firehouse Arts Center offers a broad range of arts programs. From musical and theater, films, comedy, dance and demonstrations to a vibrant center for

the arts for all segments of our community.

Also sure to be a crowd-pleaser is the Pleasanton Art League's exhibit, "First at the Firehouse."

Construction on the project began in summer 2008. At the time, budget estimates ran as high as \$12 million to build and furnish the structure. Because of the recession that has hit the construction industry especially, when bids were advertised the cost had dropped to \$8 million, with another \$2 million added for special features, including environmentally conscious features such as solar panels. The master plan was designed by ELS Architecture and Urban Design of Berkeley, and the general contractor was W.A. Thomas Co. Inc. of Martinez.

Pleasanton residents Nancy and Gary Harrington donated several of the most dramatic features of the Firehouse Arts Center — two large glass marquees designed by world-renowned architectural glass artist Martin Donlin, as well as a statue of Claude Monet that

will be installed near the outdoor plaza.

The first major city-sponsored event will take place at 7 p.m. next Thursday with a special free performance by the Pleasanton Community Concert Band for the Sister City delegation from Tulancingo, Mexico.

Then a full season of entertainment kicks off next Friday night with performances by master jazz guitarist Earl Klugh. On Saturday, Sept. 25, celebrated composer musician Mose Allison will perform, with award-winning pianist Evelyne Brancart in a Chopin piano concert on that Sunday, Sept. 26.

Tickets for all performances are available for purchase online beginning at www.firehousearts.org. Starting this week, tickets could also be purchased in person at the Firehouse Arts Center box office, or by phone at (925) 931-4848. Box office hours are from noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Tickets, if available, can also be purchased two hours prior to each performance. ■



A steel walkway with a see-through bottom connects art studios, classrooms and exhibit area on the second floor of new Firehouse Arts Center.

An Adoption Event

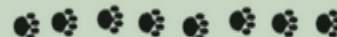
**Sunday
Sept 26th
12-4 PM**
East County
Animal Shelter
4595 Gleason Dr.
Dublin, CA



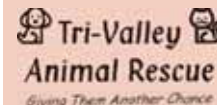
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1225 Lozano Court, Ruby Hill
6 Bd • 6.5 Ba • 8,877+/- sq.ft.



Via di Salerno, Ruby Hill
16th Fairway • Acres Apx: 0.50



833 Piemonte Dr, Ruby Hill
4 Bd • 3 (3) Ba • 5,390+/- sq.ft.



860 Castlewood Pl, Pleasanton
4 Bd • 3 Ba • 4,300+/- sq.ft.



6645 Amber Ln, Pleasanton
5 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,475 sq.ft.



Classic Italian Villa \$4,500,000
Stunning Ruby Hill Estate. Nestled in an unrivaled setting among olive trees and lush landscaping w/ mile long views of vineyards.
Uwe Maercz 925.360.8758

Golf Course Lot \$690,000
Big flat premium lot on the 16th fairway with fully approved plans for a 7,00sf+ custom home. Great opportunity, one of the last two golf course lots in RH!
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Mediterranean Style \$2,250,000
Features; marble, granite, cherry finishes. Library, 4 fireplaces, huge 5-car garage. Incomparable 0.70 acre yard, pool, spa, outdoor kitchen & more.
Diane Gilfether 925.648.5443

Open Sat & Sun 1-4 \$1,595,000
Quiet Serene Setting 20 X 24 Great room 15' Ceilin. Large eat in Kitchen granite tops, formal din rm. Formal LR, Den could be 5th bed. Nature lovers rear yard.
Steve Mattos 925.426.7978

Open Sun 1-4 \$1,498,000
Beautifully upgraded custom home features 5 spacious bd, improved 1/2 acre lot. Pool, spa, waterfall, slide, sport court and more.
Weiner & McDowell 925.251.2585

7930 Racoon Hollow, Pleasanton
6 Bd • 3.5 Ba • 3,366+/- sq.ft.



3905 Fairlands Dr, Pleasanton
4 Bd • 2 Ba • 2,540 +/- sq.ft.



5063 Monaco Dr, Pleasanton
5 Bd • 3.5 Ba • 3,079+/- sq.ft.



9663 Crosby Dr, Pleasanton
5 Bd • 4(2) Ba • 5,200+/- sq.ft.



6224 Guyson Ct, Pleasanton
4 Bd • 2 Ba • 1,489+/- sq.ft.



0.80+/- Acre Lot \$1,495,000
Private park-like setting w/ pool for this beautiful custom home with amazing valley views. Spacious open layout and custom designer features throughout.
Peggy Cortez 925.648.5454

Lovely Neighborhood \$659,000
Very nice home. Hardwood floors, bonus room, large yard perfect for entertaining, great schools & much more! Hurry!
Lisa Doyle 925.855.4046

Open Sat & Sun 1-4 \$975,000
Upgraded semi-custom home w/ Mt Diablo View! theatre room w/fireplace plus den! Cathedral ceilings & MORE!
Diane Sass 925.699.9508

The Preserve \$1,898,000
Stunningly beautiful, located on the desirable West side. Beautiful views, backs to open space. Excellent, well planned floorplan and much more!
Weiner & McDowell 925.251.2585

Val Vista \$599,000
All new kitchen, granite counters. Extensive new lighting, flooring and moldings. Large fenced yard. Close to schools, shopping and freeway.
Glen Landrum 925.837.7110

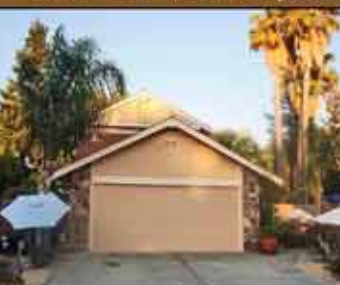
9877 Foothill Rd, Sunol
4 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,027+/- sq.ft.



3258 Royalton Ct, Pleasanton
3 Bd • 3 Ba • 1,941 +/- sq.ft.



6124 Corte Padre, Pleasanton
3 Bd • 3 Ba • 1,472 +/- sq.ft.



3686 Platt Ct, Pleasanton
4 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 1,834 +/- sq.ft.



E Gate Way, Pleasanton
6 Bd • 5 Ba • 3,760 +/- sq.ft.



16+/- Acres \$1,890,000
Style Dreaming of a Home w/ nice views of the Valley, Great Castlebrook Horse Barn, 4 car storage & carport Barn with loft, Pleasanton Ridge water. 16+/- acres.
Kristy and Company 925.251.2536

Great Value! \$625,000
Court location and upgraded; new dbl pane windows, new flooring, new baths w/ recessed lights in kitchen. Walking distance to park and school!
Khrista Jarvis 925.855.4065

Resort Setting \$630,000
One bed and bath on main floor, no steps. Lots of upgrades including tankless water heater. Re-modeled kitchen.
Mahshid Shaghafi 925.648.5340

Open Sun 1-4 \$629,950
Upgraded throughout: Crown Molding, Plantation Shutters, Window Casings, Granite Counters & More. Gorgeous Landscape w/ Concord Grapevine Arbor.
Duffy & Patterson 925.251.2523

Walnut Hills \$998,000
Beautifully maintained home with a full bed and bath downstairs, perfect for in-laws, guests or au pair. Large eat-in kitchen opening to family room with fire place.
Weiner & McDowell 925.251.2585

7914 Paragon Cir, Pleasanton
5 Bd • 3.5 Ba • 4,592+/- sq.ft.



7294 Kolb Pl, Dublin
4 Bd • 3 Ba • 2,026 +/- sq.ft.



4073 Rosehill Pl, Dublin
4 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 2,550 +/- sq.ft.



4601 New Haven St, Dublin
5 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 2,211+/- sq.ft.



4063 Fallwood Ct, Pleasanton
4 Bd • 3 Ba • 1,739 +/- sq.ft.



Laguna Oaks \$1,498,000
Popular floor plan w/ 1 Bd & Ba downstairs, 3 B/R + Bonus upstairs. Gourmet Kit w/ top of the line SS Appl., Granite Counters & Tumbled Marble Backsplash.
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Open Sun 1:30-4 \$649,000
Don't miss your chance to own this beautiful West Dublin home! Located on a cul-de-sac in the desirable Briarhill development, this home has it all.
Susetta Clark-Walker 925.251.2547

Greenbriar Home \$749,000
Beautiful Greenbriar home is located on a wonderful court location in the desirable Rainsong development. Entertainer's dream with professional landscaping.
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Come home to dramatic, light-filled formal spaces w/ 2-story, volume ceilings & hardwood flring. Close to Emerald Glen Park.
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Foothill Farms \$624,880
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Danville, CA 94506
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Danville, CA 94526
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GREAT LOCATION!
 5229 LONDONDERRY DRIVE
\$700,000
 5 BR 3 BA + bonus rm down. Neutral colors, open flr plan w/ frplc in fam rm. Walk to park!
 925.847.2200



LIVERMORE
 Open SUN 1 - 4
GORGEOUS HOUSE
 2514 MERLOT LANE
\$939,000
 5 BR 3.5 BA 14000 sq ft lot w/pl, 1 bed/1 bath down, office on main flr, 3 fireplaces, great neighborhood
 925.847.2200



LIVERMORE
 Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4
SHARP & CLEAN!
 1255 SPRING VALLEY CMN
\$210,000
 3 BR 2.5 BA laminated flrs, neutral paint, many upgrades, inside laundry, dual pane windows, A/C, great loc
 925.847.2200



SAN RAMON
 Open SAT/SUN 12 - 4
CONDOS/TOWNHOUSES AVAIL PRICES START IN HIGH \$200'S
 145 COPPER RIDGE RD.
 1 & 2 bd condos/2 bd townhouses, vaulted ceilings avail, w/garages, gated, renovated/upgraded
 925.847.2200

DANVILLE
1349 LAWRENCE ROAD
PRICE REDUCED!
\$1,299,000
 5 BR 3 BA 1.4 level acres, pl/spa, covered/lighted arena w/sand ftng, 5 stall barn w/pipe paddocks
 925.847.2200

DUBLIN
5990 HILLBROOK PLACE
STUNNING HOME!
\$500,000
 3 BR 3.5 BA adjacent to hills/open space, SS appli, granite counters, hrdwd flrs, plantation shutters
 925.847.2200

KNIGHTSEN
1830 DELTA RD
SUPER SHARP
\$579,800
 3 BR 2.5 BA w/add'l office or master retreat, lrg

rms, 5 stall barn w/vet rm, 16x16 stalls, covered arena
 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE
1687 QUAIL CT
AMAZING HOME!
\$1,220,000
 5 BR 3 BA approx 1 acre, 5 car gar, workshop, media rm, updated kit w/SS appli, huge bedrms, hrdwd flrs
 925.847.2200

30 STORYBOOK LANE
ONE OF A KIND PROPERTY
\$899,000
 WELL IS IN. Rock walls to property. Perked for septic. Paved drwy to parcel, many imprvemnts
 925-580-9050

Open SUN 1-4
GREAT HOME!
911 CURLEW ROAD
\$615,000
 4 bed, 3 bath, new carpet, decorator paint/lrg kit/fam rm combo w/slab granite counters/newer appli.
 925.847.2200

#10 STORYBOOK LANE
GORGEOUS PROPERTY!
\$499,000
 well is in, perked for septic, paved driveway to parcel, NOT raw land, many imprvemnts are in!
 925-580-9050

1866 CORTE CAVA
OPEN AND BRIGHT!
\$399,000
 3 BR 3 BA 1 bedroom and 1 bath downstairs and much more!
 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON
3822 W LAS POSITAS
YOUR OWN PRIVATE PARK
\$695,000
 4 bed, 3 bath, flagstone patios, lush gardens, pond w/waterfall. Many upgrds in a great neighborhood
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184 JUNIPERO STREET
GORGEOUS REMODEL!
\$599,950
 2 BR 2 BA w/tons of upgrds! Custom kit w/grnite,, SS

appli, breakfast bar, chrry hrdwd, vaulted ceilings
 925.847.2200

Open SUN 1-4
BEAUTIFUL!
4386 KRAUSE STREET
\$595,000
 3 BR 2.5 BA many upgrades! Dual pane windows, private backyard with patio and fountain
 925.847.2200

SAN RAMON
235 COPPER RIDGE RD
BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED
\$295,000
 2 BR 2 BA lovely moldings, hrdwd flrs, beautiful stained cement counters, this is a one of a kind find!
 925.847.2200

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LIVERMORE - Beautiful custom home with extensive views and large lot. 3 Bedrooms, 2 full baths in home plus 1/2 bath in garage. Garage also has room with views upstairs. Tall ceiling in garage can accommodate rv. Add'l concrete pad behind garage for rv or boat.
2440 CALDERON CT
\$1,100,000



SAN RAMON - Model-like home on one of windemere's largest lots. Located at the end of a court in a private and serene setting, this home has no rear neighbors and backs directly to open space and trails. Minutes from local parks and top rated schools. Great floorplan with large kitchen/family room combo.
665 ARGYLE CT
\$759,000



DUBLIN - Traditional sale and move-in ready...Largest floor plan, plan 4, in tassajara meadows...1 Full bed/1 full bath on first floor, superb court location. Shows like a model with granite counters and extensive tile and wood flooring! A must see!
5280 HECETA CT
\$644,990



LIVERMORE - Expanded and updated pinewood model with addition of downstairs master bedroom. Gorgeous yard with pool. Fabulous interior updates including gas range, granite counters, tile flooring, dual pane windows. Walk to top ranking schools, parks, stores, downtown.
727 POLARIS WAY
\$620,000



SAN RAMON - Welcome to shelbourne an upscale townhome community with pool and countless amenities! This light filled large open floorplan has plantation shutters, granite countertops, maple cabinets, awesome master suite with his and hers walk in closets. Equity sale and easy to show, enjoy!
1913 NANCY LANE
\$469,000



PLEASANTON - Fantastic location with trees all around, great neighborhood* pantry in kitchen quaint and very serene back yard, new carpet, walk to shopping, dining, work this home is gorgeous!
4184 TORINO CT
\$469,000



LIVERMORE - Regular sale! Lovely single story home in a court location. Remodeled kitchen w/newer appliances, dual paned windows, silestone counters, tile floor & all neutral colors through out. Whole house fan, canned lights, hardwood floors, central heat/air. Great side yard & large yard. Much more!
1140 NAPA CT
\$419,000



LIVERMORE - Purchase this property for as little as 3% down! This property is approved for hompath mortgage & hompath renovation mortgage! Convenient location closing to stores, restaurants and downtown. Needs some tlc - flooring, paint, etc....But at this price, you can't go wrong!
1001 MURRIETA BLVD. #74
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6300 LAURA LANE, PLEASANTON

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OFFERED AT \$1,495,000

BRIDLE CREEK



863 SUNNY BROOK WAY, PLEASANTON

Upgraded Avalon Model in Bridle Creek on premium .28 acre lot. Beautiful views of Pleasanton Ridge. Private rear yard with built in fire pit, custom pergola and putting green. Beautifully landscaped. Five bedrooms, private office plus private guest suite/bonus room (5th), 5.5 bathrooms, 4,434 sq. ft. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops. Custom tile and hardwood flooring, plantation shutters. Built by Greenbriar Homes in 2001. Located on quiet street with no through traffic. Close to downtown, Castlewood Country Club, Oak Hills Shopping Center, and Mission Hills Park.
OFFERED AT \$1,549,000

VINSANTO



2845 VINE COURT, LIVERMORE

Beautiful highly upgraded home in excellent condition. Panoramic views of vineyards and surrounding hills. Five bedrooms (4th is private office, 5th in guest house/casita), four bathrooms (4th in casita). Approximate total square footage 3,553. Upgraded kitchen with granite countertop & backsplash, two fireplaces, plantation shutters throughout, three car garage. Private gate & rear grounds include separate guest house/casita, expansive exposed aggregate patio, lawn area, fruit trees and vineyards. No backyard neighbors. Close to wineries & golf courses.
OFFERED AT \$849,000

KOTTINGER RANCH



1327 HEARST DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Great location! Beautiful semi-custom home on .40 acre lot. Expansive deck with panoramic views! Private rear grounds. Five bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, 4,026 square feet. Upgraded gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, newer paint & carpeting, extensive hardwood floors. Expansive master suite. Community pool, park, tennis courts and open space. Walk to Main Street and award winning schools!
OFFERED AT \$1,298,000

BRIDLE CREEK

OPEN SUN 2-5



897 SUNSET CREEK LANE, PLEASANTON

Single level in Bridle Creek on .29 acre premium view lot. Built by Greenbriar Homes in 2000. Beautiful views of Pleasanton Ridge. Private rear yard with built in pool. Beautifully landscaped. Five bedrooms, four bathrooms. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops. Crown molding and plantation shutters. Close to Downtown, Castlewood Country Club, Oak Hills Shopping Center, and Mission Hills Park.
OFFERED AT \$1,399,000

PLEASANTON SEMI-CUSTOM

OPEN SUN 1-4



4150 CREEKWOOD COURT, PLEASANTON

Don't miss this private, Pleasanton home on premium 1/2 acre lot. Large multi media/game room, upgraded kitchen and bathrooms with granite. Five bedrooms, three full bathrooms, hardwood floors, two fireplaces, three car garage, 4,002 square feet. Large secluded park-like rear yard includes expansive Trex deck, in-ground pool, Hot Springs grande covered spa, waterfall/pond, playhouse, zip line, large lawn area, mature redwood trees and large cemented side yard area. Walk to great schools & neighborhood parks.
OFFERED AT \$1,195,000





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MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,750,000
Gourmet cook's kitchen & entertainers delight. 5 BD/ 5.5 BA w/ 5,330sf. plus theater room, office and library. Outdoor kitchen, patio & pool. 7208 Rosecliff Ct.

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,499,000
Fabulous Golden Eagle luxury home! 4bd/3ba, granite/cherry kitchen, pool, spa, BBQ, stunning views of the ridge! 7909 Doral Court

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



SUNOL \$1,199,900
Stunning remodeled 4bd/3ba Craftsman style home with panoramic views, custom upgrades & finishes situate on a private .79+/-acre lot. 12367 Foothill Rd

MARK KOTCH BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,159,900
Stunning 4bd/3ba home. Expanded family room and wet bar. Large bonus room upstairs. Coronado plan with one bd downstairs. 2784 Lylewood Drive

KAT GASKINS BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$854,950
Pristine semi-custom home! 2430+/-sf with 4bd,3ba, court location, updated kitchen and baths, new carpet and paint. Serene backyard. 5791 San Carlos Wy

GINA HUGGINS SUN 1:30-4:00



LIVERMORE \$789,000
This home has 5bdr/3full bath, with 1bdr/1bath downstairs. Formal living and dining area. Side yard access. Newer solar heated pool. 1626 Peridot Drive

TIMOTHY MCGUIRE SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$785,000
3bd/3ba, 2,042+/-sf, Tiger hardwood floors, Granite/Alder kitchen, new 50-yr roof, dual pane windows, Plantation shutters, remodeled baths and a pool. 4166 Hall Ct

JOYCE & RICK JONES SAT 2:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$749,950
Updates galore, 4bd, 3ba, w/pool, hot tub, granite counters, white cabinets, raised ceiling w/sky light in kitchen, hardwood flooring, updated baths. 3232 Balmoral Ct

JANNA CHESTNUT BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$709,000
Charming one story in quiet court location. Easy commute access. Close to downtown. Updated kitchen & baths with great flowing floor plan. 3124 Thistledown Ct

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$650,000
An extra 315sf. additional master suite space. 3BD 2BA 1,475sf. Updated throughout. Open floor plan, pool, spa, side yard access. 1077 Kolln St



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Home & garden

Yesterday's charm, today's conveniences

Remodeled St. Mary Street house offers the best of both worlds

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Stroll along the 600 block of St. Mary Street in Pleasanton and it might be the year 1910. In one stretch on the north side of the street are a row of homes built shortly after 1900.

Teri and John Banholzer, the owners of 653 St. Mary St., recently received the first Historic Preservation Award from Museum On Main for reconstructing their home to maintain the character of the neighborhood.

The Banholzers knew from the time they rented a 1915 bungalow on Second Street that they wanted to buy and restore a historic home.

"We looked at several houses on Second Street but the market was crazy then," recalled John.

Finally in 2000 they bought the house on St. Mary Street, which was built in 1906.

"It needed lots and lots of work," John said. "It was a rental property for close to 50 years and hadn't been well cared for. But we saw the potential, being in the midst of six turn-of-the-century houses right in a row."

The house was 1,300 square feet, but the quarter-acre lot meant it had room for a 700-square-

foot addition plus a generous back yard.

"It wasn't as large and detailed as the other houses on the street," John explained. "It was a typical pretty simple turn-of-the-century house with two bedrooms, one bath. We added a second bath and a bigger kitchen — we reformatted the back of the house."

They knew the house needed all new electrical and plumbing and rented a place to live around the corner on Pleasanton Avenue while they worked on the renovations. But when they started work, the project turned out to be much bigger than they'd thought.

"It didn't have gutters, and there was dry rot everywhere," John said. "It needed a whole new foundation."

They hired Pleasanton architect Charles Huff, who specializes in historic buildings, and contractor Bruce Trestrail.

"He shared my attention to detail," said John. "We worked really well together. He made it happen."

The house had a chimney but not a fireplace. They built a fireplace in the living room, construct-



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The fireplace features redwood salvaged from the house. The kitchen has old-fashioned cabinetry, a farmhouse sink with an apron front, and a table made from the original roof rafters.

See **HOUSE** on Page 22



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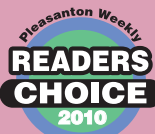
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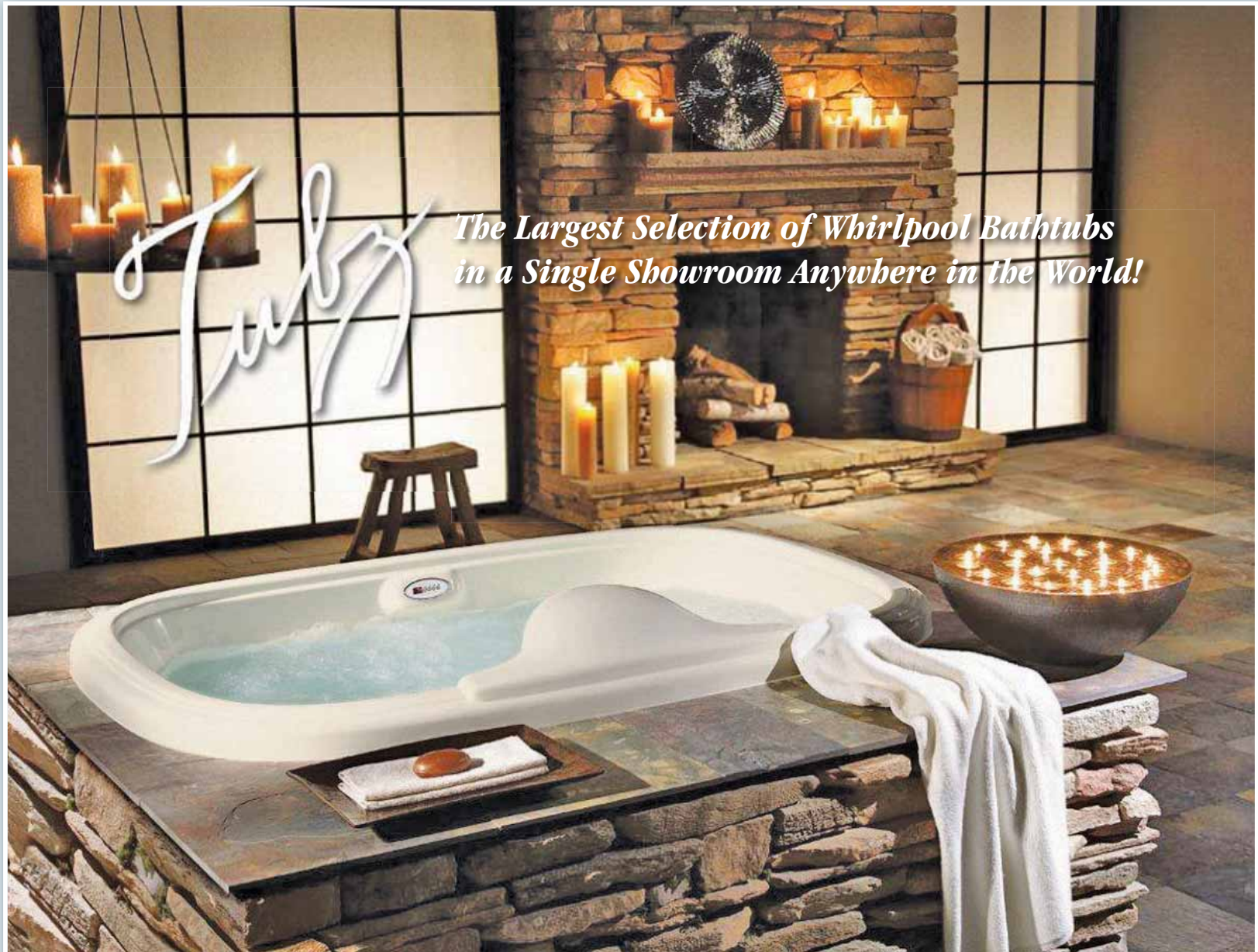
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Folsom, Foothill Ranch, Roseville,
Newport Beach, Austin

HOUSE

Continued from Page 19

ing the mantle of the fireplace from redwood salvaged from the house.

"We raised the pitch of the roof and had to take all of the rafters off the roof," John recalled. "They were 100-year-old Douglas fir. We took that down and built the table in the kitchen. It's really a big farm table. It helps with the period look of the house."

They enlarged the porch to wrap around the side and meet the dining room with another door, in addition to the front door that opens into an entryway. Both doors were salvaged from older homes, and the front porch is made of tongue and groove from their own house.

"We were careful about reusing materials to reconstruct things," said John. "I couldn't stand to throw away any of that stuff."

They moved the original claw-foot bathtub into the master bathroom, and used one-inch octagonal black and white tiles in both bathrooms in keeping with the period.

The original home had a bedroom on either side of the bathroom, in "Jack-and-Jill style," but the Banholzers added a hallway, built at an angle, so each room could open off of it.

"The best remnant of the house is the original floor," John noted. "There is Douglas fir flooring throughout the house, except for one bathroom."

They added bay windows to the front spare room, which is used as a playroom, and the kitchen. The home has an unfinished second story with the staircase opening off the home's entryway.

The 10-foot ceilings also give the home its historic charm, John pointed out, and they added three-piece crown molding along the top. They also kept the old-fashioned wooden windows.

"I hand-painted 32 window sashes with a brush," John recalled. "Things took awhile but you don't get the look I wanted taking shortcuts."

The addition includes an expansive kitchen opening off a dining room that was the old kitchen.

Teri noted that they tried hard to match the old wooden floor in the former kitchen with that of the new kitchen.

"We left it out in the rain and everything," she remembered with a laugh.

She said it was her job to create the 1906 look in the new kitchen, which has all the modern conveniences. She worked with Crown Point Cabinetry, a specialist in New Hampshire.

"I sent the dimensions and pictures to the designer," Teri said, and the contractor reported that the cabinets came back a perfect fit.

The cabinetry is on legs, called furniture style, finished with milk paint for the historic off-white look. The kitchen has soapstone counters, and a farmhouse sink with an apron front.

By Thanksgiving 2001 the house was in good enough shape for the Banholzers to move in. Their daughter Sarah, now 8, was born the next February.

"When we moved in none of the landscaping was done," John recalled. "We put in the front lawn first."

A raised brick patio opens off the kitchen, with stairs leading to a lower patio with a built-in barbecue/kitchen. A smaller brick patio opens off the master bedroom.

"We laid about 10,000 bricks — patios, walkways, driveways," John said, explaining that he collected them from old buildings and factories. "I was obsessive. I had multiple sources, and culled a few here and there."

The yard is a mixture of large old trees — Monterey pine, Italian stone pine — and co-



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The renovated home features a wrap-around front porch and second-story dormer windows. The home's exterior color was chosen by Robert Schweitzer, author of "Bungalow colors: Exteriors."

pious plants with lawns in front and back.

"We took the approach of planting densely — it's survival of the fittest," said John. "We built a garage, and it is period-detailed as well."

A long driveway has two brick runners that flank a planted center with elderberry ground cover, ivies and ornamental strawberries. It leads down the side of the house to the garage, which is outfitted with carriage doors. A loquat tree provides shade.

The Banholzers consulted with Robert Schweitzer from Eastern Michigan University, author of "Bungalow Colors: Exteriors," in picking the house's color, bungalow gray.

"I wanted to make sure we got just the right look," John said. "We've probably had 50 people knock on the door and ask the

color."

Teri and John both grew up in bland houses, he said, she in Stockton and he in Kansas. As a teenager, he visited his sister in St. Louis, who lived in a house built in 1902.

"I started to pick up on different things," he recalled. "I actually used some of my memories of molding and trim in our house here."

Now the Banholzers enjoy living in the home and neighborhood plus they like their neighbors and the proximity to downtown.

"There aren't a whole lot of old homes in Pleasanton so people who have them are protective," John said. "We get the best compliments from our neighbors."

"The cool thing," he added, "is we had a vision and it really turned out." ■

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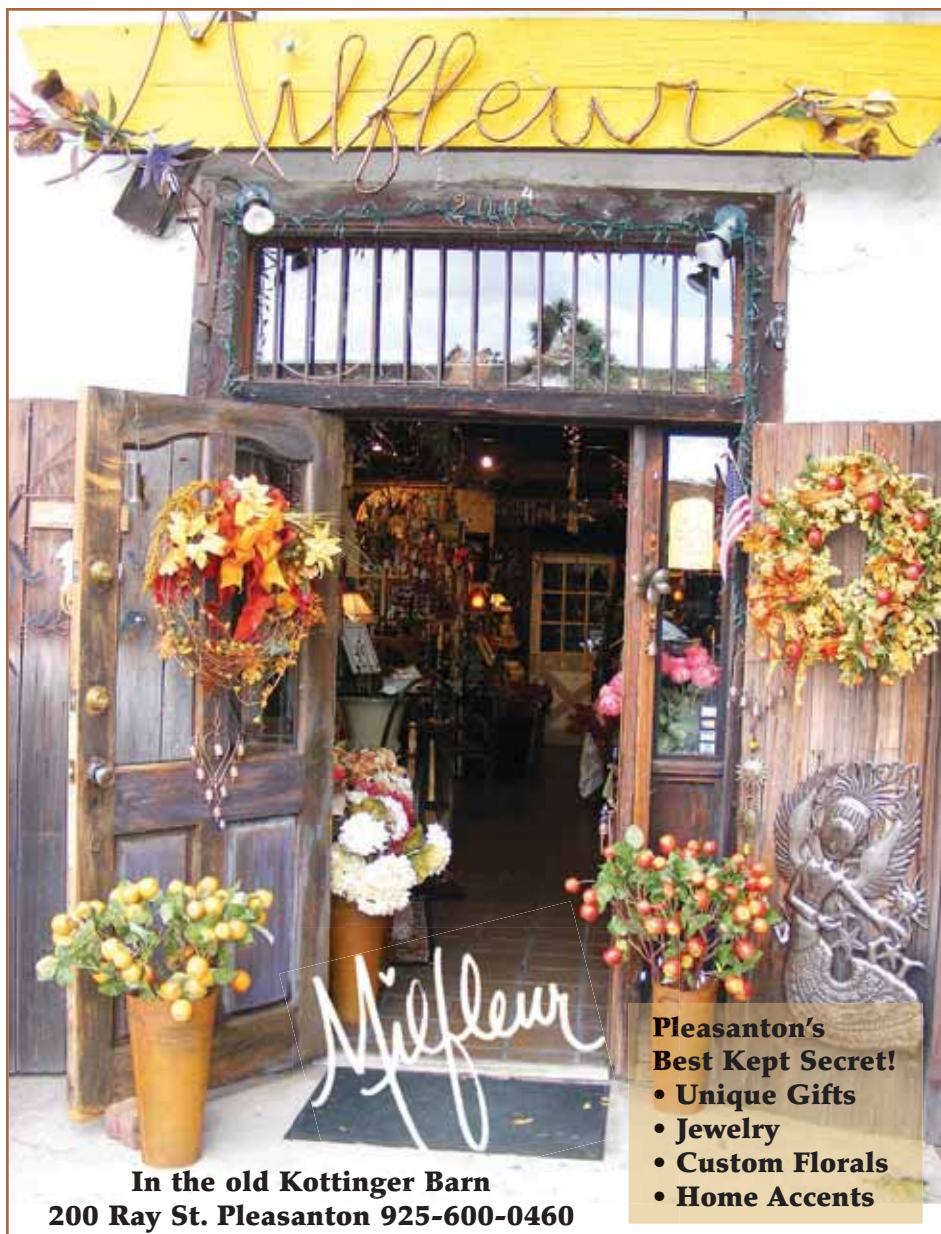
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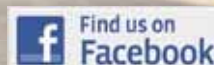
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