

# Pleasanton Weekly

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# 2010

## WHAT A YEAR

Remembering it all,  
 from January storms  
 to election results  
 to end-of-year happenings  
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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Help us reach our 2010 Holiday Fund goal

We crossed the \$80,000 mark this week in contributions to the Pleasanton Weekly 2010 Holiday Fund in our effort to achieve our \$100,000 goal this year. With the Tri-Valley Community Foundation matching every dollar contributed one-for-one, that means we need just \$10,000 to provide the \$20,000 still needed in this year's campaign. Five nonprofits have been selected as this year's recipients of the eighth annual Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund and \$100,000 means these beneficiaries — Axis Community Health, Hope Hospice, Open Heart Kitchen, Valley Humane Society and the Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center at ValleyCare Health Systems — would each receive \$20,000 in needed funds to meet their growing demand for services in 2011. That means more meals for Open Heart Kitchen to serve, more funds for Axis to provide increased pediatric care for uninsured children, updated resources for those seeking cancer guidance at ValleyCare, added grief counseling at Hope Hospice and more services at Valley Humane, which is expanding its Pleasanton facilities.

Even though we're seeing some improvement in the local economy, many here are still without adequate health insurance or sufficient incomes and need our help. Although Pleasanton is ranked as one of the wealthiest cities of its size in the nation, there are thousands who rely on charitable organizations for individual and family assistance, emergency aid when they're suddenly without jobs and health care. Not everyone is wealthy here, not everyone has a job, not everyone has health insurance. These are the people who need our help.

Whether we're employers or among the employed or in business for ourselves, each of us has been affected by fast-rising costs in health care, for gasoline, for basic food and milk. Those on the bottom rung of the employment ladder may have a job, but they don't earn enough to meet these ongoing higher living costs. They often have inadequate or no health insurance at all. Some have lost their jobs or their benefits, or both, because of corporate downsizing, layoffs and ben-



efit reductions. Just last month, more than 1,000 were laid off by employers, according to the Tri-Valley Community Foundation. That's an organization that knows what the needs are as it works with the Weekly's Holiday Fund and many other charitable groups to help serve those organizations' financial needs. The Holiday Fund can put money to work very quickly whereas it might take quite a long time for these organizations to partner up with donors themselves. So this is a much more effective and direct way to get money to work in the community by giving to the Holiday Fund.

Unlike most other fundraising drives by individual organizations, the Holiday Fund has no administrative expenses or other overhead. The Pleasanton Weekly donates all the support services so all money raised can support local nonprofit groups. All funds are held in trust by the Tri-Valley Community Foundation and are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Besides the matching funds provided by the Community Foundation, every dollar contributed will go directly to this year's five beneficiaries. Unlike contributions that may go to national organizations where administrative costs can skim 15-20% off the top, every dollar contributed here stays here. Also, funds contributed to national charities often don't make their way back here again to the Tri-Valley or even California. Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley are not on anyone's list as a demographic area in need of public aid. But many are. Unemployment is just as severe here as in other parts of the region. Even many with jobs have taken pay cuts and severe reductions in their health care plans. They need our help.

This week's Weekly lists donors to the 2010 Holiday Fund. If you're not yet on the list, I hope you'll fill out the contribution form on p. 21 and send us your check (or bring it into our office at 5506 Sunol Blvd.) so that we can add your name next week. ■

## About the Cover

It's the last day of the year. As we head into a new decade, many are asking where did 2010 go? We try to answer that in brief commentaries about news and features stories carried in the Pleasanton Weekly over the past 12 months. Happy New Year! Cover design by Kristin Herman.

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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

## Do you have any New Year's resolutions that you plan to keep?



**Helen Chan**  
*San Diego Physical therapist*

My New Year's resolution is to travel back to the Bay Area more often to spend time with my family.

**Travis Chubb**  
*Student*

I would like to raise my Spanish grade. I already do my homework consistently, so I plan to study more for tests and quizzes to help improve my scores.



**Theresa Buckley**  
*Office manager*

My parents and I made a joint resolution to get together at least once a month. We might meet for coffee, or go to an art gallery or bookstore. They live in Brentwood, and we haven't seen each other as much as we'd like in the past.

**Shawn Edgington**  
*Insurance broker and author*

I plan to balance my personal time with my social media. I am going to reduce the time I spend texting and online, and have developed a five-step process to help. I'm going to put my phone away when I'm with others, and try to schedule time with family and friends away from technology.



**Pam Victor**  
*Insurance*

I want to focus on being healthier all the way around. I'm aware that most New Year's resolutions are not kept, so I have a plan in place to ensure that I am successful. For example, if I'm not able to exercise in the morning, I have a backup plan.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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Have a Streetwise question? E-mail [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

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## DIGEST

### Ball at the Mall tonight

Those still looking for a place to go for a New Year's celebration tonight can consider the Ball at the Mall, a charity event at the Stoneridge Shopping Center. The evening comes with The Aphrodesiacs, a 1970-era live band, a DJ, a piano bar, no-host bars, a champagne toast and local celebs to count down to midnight. Tickets are still available at the door for \$75. The event runs from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

### Mozart and more

Cypress String Quartet, a young, well-established ensemble, will perform Mozart K.465 'Dissonance', Schulhoff's 'Five Pieces for String Quartet' and the Debussy 'Quartet'. The concert is from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9 at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets \$20-\$30 for adults, \$25 for seniors and \$12 for children. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

### Think you can dance?

Hip-Hop Crew dancers will have the chance to dance in hip-hop classes taught by Tony Bellissimo, a top-20 finalist in season five of So You Think You Can Dance at Tiffany Dance Academy in Lovemore.

Students as young as 6-years can take classes with Tony beginning January 10th. Tony will be adding his own choreography to all Hip-Hop crew competition pieces, giving each dance its own unique twist.

Classes are free for crew dancer at any East Bay location and \$5 per dancers not a member of the TDA Hip-Hop Crew. For more information, call Kristin Bleier of Tiffany Dance Academy at 408-393-4076.

### S.F. to mandate 20% local hiring

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom has declined to veto a local hiring ordinance approved by the Board of Supervisors earlier this month. The legislation, which requires 20 percent local hiring for city-funded construction projects in the first year, increasing by 5 percentage points each year to 50 percent in the seventh year, will now become law in 60 days. The board approved the measure by a veto-proof majority of 8-3 on Dec. 14.

The measure has drawn ire from contractors and building trade unions in Alameda County as well as from the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and other Peninsula officials, including state Assemblyman Jerry Hill, (D-San Mateo).

Newsom said he has concerns about the measure, which he returned to the board unsigned.

## Teens say pressure leads to cheating, drug use, depression

### Student panelists talk about stress

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

A recent panel to address the causes of teen stress came up with a simple answer to who's responsible for pushing kids to overwork themselves.

Their answer: everyone, from teachers and administrators to parents, peers and even the students themselves.

The panel, held earlier this month, featured seven current Foothill High School students and a recent graduate. It drew about 50 people, a mix of parents, school administrators and even some students.

The eight panelists talked about the anxieties they face in a district where a grade of B — not a C — is the average and where in some cases anything less than an A is unacceptable.

"There's all this pressure to become a machine and crank out grades," said Yash Nagda. "We just totally lose ourselves at school. There's all this pressure to perform."

Despite that pressure, senior Andres Oswill pointed out there's often little retention.

"It's all about get that grade, pass that test (but) 50% of California college students have to take remedial courses," he said.

Amber Birdwell, now a student at Diablo Valley College, was a casualty of the stress she faced when attending high school.

"I found other ways to cope. For me, I just stopped going to school," Birdwell said, adding, "You fail the first class, it's easy to fail two or three."

Subhashree Rengarajan said she voluntarily enrolled in a summer SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) because of her friends, all high achievers.

"A lot of who you are is who you hang out with," Rengarajan told the group. "Some of our greatest stresses come from our friends."

A case in example, she said, was students comparing grades after a tough test.

The students admitted that the stress they see has led to depression, cheating and drug use.

"In my junior year, there were numerous times I considered just slitting my wrists," said Aren Lim, also a senior. "I didn't want to go home. I was just so overwhelmed with stress."

Lim transferred to Foothill from an all-Asian school, where she said she'd been expected to get straight A's.

The students generally admitted that cheating, things like copying homework assignments from one another, goes on regularly. Part of that stems from having homework due the same time as a big test when the students have to choose where to focus their energy. Most of the students said they'd been assigned more than two hours of nightly homework as early as middle school.

"For me, the worst is work sheets," Oswill said. "A lot of homework is mindless copying down."

That amount of homework leads to students losing sleep, which Mollie Richardson said means they can't focus in school and makes them less able to do homework, a cycle that

leads to less and less sleep.

Annie Johnson said she'd been prescribed a medication because she couldn't sleep at all.

"My mind kept running on and on and on," Johnson said.

The amount of homework and assignments also means students dosing themselves with energy drinks and caffeine. Although students from some schools highlighted in the movie "Race to Nowhere" said they used stimulants to stay up to finish their work, the teens here said alcohol and marijuana were by far the most prevalent.

Stephanie Holmes called the two "readily available" in school.

"For some kids, that's the only aspect of their lives they can control," Holmes said.

Although the panel painted what appeared to be a dire picture of high school life, most said they'd found ways of lessening their stress. Most are headed to colleges that fit their talents rather than concentrating on getting into Ivy League schools. Most said they'd received support from their parents.

"The only thing they can do is sit back and say, 'I love you,'" Johnson said.

The district is also looking at ways to make student lives less stressful.

Jane Golden, the district's director of curriculum and special projects, is drafting a revised homework policy for the school system. That

See **STRESS** on Page 6



JOANNE HALL

### 'User-friendly' permit center

This newly designed permit center in the Pleasanton Civic Center features a state-of-the-art operation where customers are seated at a single counter and the appropriate employees are brought out to discuss the customer's projects and questions. The red carpet treatment comes with major improvement, including new carpeting (although it's not red), paint, signage and a 40-foot curvilinear counter area with six customer stations.

Even the ceiling has been reconstructed with better lighting and solar tubes. Work stations for the city staff have been added, along with a new conference room. The central area leading to the City Council chambers and its large conference room have been re-done.

The new center is open for business Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Local architect Peter Shutts handled the project.

## Bay Area transit agencies offering free service tonight

### Tri-Valley's Wheels opts out

Transit agencies across the Bay Area — except for the Tri-Valley's Wheels bus service — are offering New Year's Eve revelers free rides and extended service to help them celebrate without having get behind the wheel.

For the 11th consecutive year, free transportation will be available on all San Francisco Municipal Railway trains and buses between 8 p.m. tonight and 6 a.m. on New Year's Day.

Muni will also extend metro service between the Embarcadero and West Portal stations until 4 a.m., and will run extra buses on the Muni Owl lines between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.

The SFMTA is reminding those who decide to drive to expect delays due to the city-sponsored fireworks show near the Ferry Building on the Embarcadero.

For those looking to leave the city after New Year's Eve celebrations, Caltrain service will be free after 11 p.m. tonight, and four extra southbound trains will be added after midnight to accommodate holiday travelers.

The extra trains will depart the San Francisco station at Fourth and King streets at 12:45 a.m., 1:15 a.m., 1:45 a.m. and 2:15 a.m.

SamTrans buses will be free from 11 p.m. tonight to 2 a.m. tomorrow. Redi-Wheels and RediCoast, the San Mateo County Transit District's paratransit services, will also be offering free rides during those same hours.

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority will offer free service on all its buses and light rail trains from 7 p.m. tonight until 4 a.m. tomorrow.

See **TRANSIT** on Page 7

## TAKE US ALONG



**Saying goodbye:** Katie Hume, who'd recently graduated from Amador Valley High School, says so long to her family and her hometown newspaper as she is dropped off to begin college at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in September 2009. (Katie and others can get the Pleasanton Weekly delivered to them for \$60 per year. Go to [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com) to sign up.)

## 49ers to stay at Candlestick through 2014

Move to Santa Clara now set for 2015

By JEB BING

The San Francisco 49ers have announced that a tentative deal has been struck with the city of San Francisco to keep the team playing at Candlestick Park through at least 2014.

Under the agreement, the team would receive a combination of rent credits and reductions from the city in order to complete needed repairs at the stadium, according to an announcement on the team's website.

The agreement still has to be approved by the city's Recreation and Parks Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

"We hope this settlement will

be finalized allowing us to improve the game day experience for our fans during our remaining years at Candlestick Park," the announcement said.

The team still plans to move to Santa Clara in 2015, 49ers spokeswoman Lisa Lang said.

Santa Clara voters in June approved a ballot measure to build a new stadium that the team would use when it moves.

However, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom has said he hopes the 49ers will stay in San Francisco, and that the city is ready to help the team build a new stadium there. ■

**May you have a Happy, prosperous New Year from my family to yours!**



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## PTA Council announces winners of 8th annual arts program

More than 310 submitted entries

By JEB BING

The Pleasanton PTA Council has announced the winners of its eighth annual Reflections Arts Recognition Program.

The students will now advance to the next level of national art competitions, according to Diane VanWagner of the PTA Council.

Pleasanton students from kindergarten through 12th grade entered their work in six categories: photography, visual arts, literature, musical composition, dance choreography, and film/video production.

A total of 310 young artists from eight Pleasanton schools submitted entries for this year's program to their local PTA or PTSA sponsored program.

From these entries, Reflections Committees at each school identified students in each category and age level to represent their school at the council level.

More than 60 entries were submitted to the Pleasanton PTA Council for recognition and were showcased at the Firehouse Arts Center. These students were awarded certificates by Parvin Ahmadi, Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent, and Jodie Vashistha, Pleasanton PTA Council President. Also attending the recognition ceremony were school board

members Joan Laursen and Valerie Arkin, and Amador Valley High School Principal Jim Hansen.

"The Pleasanton PTA Council was extremely happy to be able to hold our annual Reflections Arts Recognition Program at the Firehouse Arts Center this year," said Jodie Vashistha, Pleasanton PTA Council President.

"The Firehouse Arts Center is perfect for live performances so for the first time in our history, we were able to have a select number of students present their entries to our audience," she said.

Vashistha added: "Our live presentations included Saloni Wasnik, a dancer from Fairlands Elementary, Brendan Hwang, a violinist Hearst Elementary, Esther Forest, a film maker from Walnut Grove, and Sandhya Kalavacherla, from Harvest Park Middle School who read her literature entry."

The advancing entries are:

**Photography:**

Rylee Galletti, 2nd GR, Hearst  
Zara Fatteh, 4th GR, Hearst  
Varsha Ramakrishnan, 7th GR, HPMS  
Hayden Mitchell, 11th GR, AVHS

**Literature:**

Sudiksha Gudipati, 1st GR, Vintage Hills

Stacy Simanuki, 5th GR, Alisal  
Sandhya Kalavacherla, 6th GR, HPMS  
Da Eun Kim, 10th GR, AVHS

**Visual Arts:**

Mahika Sharma, Kindergarten, Fairlands  
Sophia Kang 4th GR, Mohr  
Lucille Bell, 7th GR, HPMS  
Linyan Tian 10th GR, AVHS

**Musical Composition:**

Hannah Jang, 1st GR, Hearst  
Brendan Hwang, 4th GR, Hearst  
Logan Kane, 9th GR, AVHS

**Film/Video Production:**

Amala Rao, 2nd GR, Hearst  
Esther Forest, 3rd GR, WG  
Varsha Ramakrishnan, 7th GR, HPMS

**Dance Choreography:**

Mahika Shamra, Kindergarten, Fairlands  
Saloni Wasnik, 5th GR, Fairlands

The National PTA Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program for students. It provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by this year's theme, "Together We Can ..."

## New law affects online impersonators

Called 'dark side of the social networking revolution'

A new law that will go into effect on Jan. 1 could bring online impersonators heavy fines or even jail time.

According to SB 1411 — authored by state Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, and signed into law in late September by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger — anyone who assumes the identity of another person to intentionally harm, intimidate, threaten or defraud may be charged with a misdemeanor.

Offenders could face a fine of up to \$1,000 and or spend up to a year in jail, the bill said.

The law will also allow victims sue for compensation in civil court, Simitian said.

Simitian called the act of making phony pages "the dark side of the social networking revolution." People can easily use Facebook or Twitter, e-mail, and Web forums to harass or embarrass others, or in some cases even endanger another person's life, he said.

"This takes no special expertise," Simitian said. "Anyone can put up

a Facebook page and misuse someone else's name and identity."

Online impersonators or "e-personators" have been known to send obscene e-mails or post invitations on adult sites while pretending to be someone else.

Simitian said he hopes the law will act as a deterrent, but also give victims recourse.

The legislation was influenced in part by Silicon Valley Leadership Group President Carl Guardino, who earlier this year recounted three different instances where either he or someone he knew had been a victim of online impersonators.

Simitian said Guardino sought help from local police and the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office and they told him there really wasn't anything they could do legally.

"Here we are in the heart of Silicon Valley in one of the most sophisticated technological centers of the world and people are saying that nothing can be done," Simitian said.

Simitian said the only impersonation law that came close to the Facebook issue was a law passed in 1872 referring to "any written instrument" or causing someone to become liable to prosecution or for payment of a debt.

The existing law, however, did not provide or address the potential for broader forms of impersonation, such as via social networking or e-mail, Simitian said.

He said he authored the bill after realizing there was a need for a new law to crack down on 21st century forms of impersonation.

Simitian said he wanted to be conscientious about protecting the free speech rights of those who impersonate for parody, satire and political speech. Only people who impersonate an actual person without consent would be considered to be in violation of the law.

The law will be enforced by local law enforcement, but the state attorney general's office could also get involved, Simitian said.

—Jeb Bing

## STRESS

Continued from Page 5

should be ready for the 2011-2012 school year; meanwhile, she advised students who are overwhelmed with homework to talk to their teacher — and to get their

parents involved.

"Our kids need eight to nine hours of sleep," Golden told the group, adding she'd considered writing that into the revised policy.

The district has scheduled three homework forums. The first, for elementary school students, is Jan.

27 at Hearst Elementary School; the middle school forum is Feb. 2 at Pleasanton Middle School; and the third is Feb. 9 at Amador Valley. All run from 7 to 8:30 p.m., and Dr. Kenneth Ginsberg, who was featured in "Race to Nowhere" will speak in Pleasanton in March. ■

## Amador, Foothill soccer alumni face off again

Old rivalries die hard, bring older players back

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

Pleasanton's soccer alums are invited to come kick up their heels at next weekend's eighth annual Ryan Gordon Foothill/Amador Alumni Soccer Games.

While Ryan's Dad, Curt Gordon, is hoping to top last year's total, he's looking for more former soccer stars to step up.

"Over the seven years we've played, we don't get the same alumni each year but we've had over 300 alumni play the game. We've had players who have played in the 70's, 80's, 90's and the 2000's," Gordon said. "The players pay \$20 per person to play in the games. We prefer for them to sign up before so we know how many shirts to have."

So far, 24 alumni have signed up.

"We'll typically have between 85 and 110 total," he said. "We had 89 last year."

The games are an opportunity for former players to revive some old rivalries between the two schools. So far, Amador men have won the alumni games six out of seven times, while Foothill women have won five out of seven times.

Older players don't need to worry about facing off with younger ones, Gordon said, because the coaches substitute sides en masse.

The annual fundraiser, named after Ryan, a soccer-playing Foothill High School senior who died in a jet ski accident, has brought in more than \$40,000 for soccer programs at the two local high schools, according to Ryan's dad, Curt.

Tickets for the game are \$7. Each of the student players is asked to sell five tickets, but this year, Gordon said several have come back for more.

"When you multiply two varsity teams, junior varsity and freshmen girls and boys, that's 12 teams

between the two schools," he said. "We think we're going to do better this year. We've had better participation from the players — we think we're going to exceed what we did last year, which was \$7,000."

Ticket sales and the \$20 ponied up by the players aren't the only revenue streams, Gordon said.

"We have a voluntary snack bar open during the games and all that money goes to the total," he said. "We have an after-game party the Hopyard. They contribute 20 percent of their revenue."

There's also a raffle and all the money raised goes directly to soccer programs at Foothill and Amador Valley High School, for everything from uniforms to soccer balls.

The games will be held Jan. 8 at Amador. Pre-game festivities begin at noon, with the women's game starting at 2 and the men's set to begin at 4:30. ■

## Cop cars cause concern

Police using unmarked vehicles to seek out crime

If you're a bad guy in Pleasanton don't be surprised if you get pulled over by an unmarked police car.

Sgt. Michael Tryphonas said it's part of the department's ongoing effort to crack down on crimes.

"Especially with residential burglaries and robberies," Tryphonas said. "We've been doing a lot of special enforcement activities to reduce crime in the city."

Tryphonas was hesitant to name the types of vehicles police are using, since they are, after all, undercover.

The use of unmarked cars has caused some alarm from residents, concerned over whether they are getting pulled over by an actual police officer and not an imposter.

Tryphonas said that hasn't happened lately in Pleasanton.

"All the stories what we've seen through history is that they don't

have badges, they just put up a red light," he said.

Still, he admits that it's not a bad thing for people to be suspicious if they're pulled over by someone they don't recognize as a police officer.

"You can always call dispatch at the police department's number, and ask them to confirm that it is a police officer," Tryphonas said. "Our officers always have badges with them and you can always ask to see their Pleasanton I.D. card."

The department's non-emergency number is 931-5100. But with little history of police impersonators in Pleasanton, he said odds are it's an unmarked car, with an officer just doing his job.

"We're doing everything we can to address crime in our city," Tryphonas said.

—Glenn Wohltmann

## Pleasanton to host Climate Action plan workshop

Energy efficiency, conservation strategy target of review

The city of Pleasanton will host a free community workshop about the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) to explore energy efficiency, renewable energy, land use, transportation alternatives, green building, water conservation and waste reduction strategies.

The meeting is planned for 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Jan 11 at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main Street.

City spokeswoman Joanne Hall said the workshop will include a progress update on the city's CAP process, solicit feedback on proposed measures and seek ad-

ditional ideas, suggestions and input.

A CAP is an energy efficiency and conservation strategy designed to reduce heat-trapping GHGs that contribute to climate change. Pleasanton is joining other U.S. cities in the effort, which begins with the creation of a formal CAP.

Pleasanton's CAP will serve as a roadmap to reduce the carbon footprint of the collective community that includes both residents and employees who work in Pleasanton. It will identify GHG emission sources, quantify baseline and future emission pro-

jections, and establish reduction targets that align with state regulations. The CAP will also demonstrate how the city can meet those targets while becoming more sustainable and resilient to climate change.

The plan will build on existing conservation and pollution reduction programs, policies, and actions by establishing greenhouse gas reduction strategies to keep Pleasanton green.

To learn more, sign on to the city's website at [www.pleasanton-greenscene.org](http://www.pleasanton-greenscene.org) or email [info@pleasantongreenscene.org](mailto:info@pleasantongreenscene.org).

—Jeb Bing

## Crackdown leads to 17 DUI arrests

Two-week push for drunken drivers paid for by grant

A grant for a two-week push to arrest drunken drivers paid off for Pleasanton police.

Seventeen people were charged with driving under the influence, with additional arrests on drug charges in connection with the stops.

Sgt. Bob Leung said the "Avoid the 21" campaign began Dec. 17 and will run until Jan 2.

"We have some extra saturation patrols. We have a DUI checkpoint scheduled for the 30th," Leung said. "I have one dedicated DUI patrol on the 31st."

Leung said that checkpoint is to raise awareness as much as it is to catch impaired drivers.

"We can effectively stop and talk to a large number of people as opposed to stopping them for

a traffic violation," he said.

The grant is administered by the city of Livermore and brings four special patrols specifically looking for people driving drunk.

"The guys are out there looking for any reason to stop because we're looking for these impaired drivers," Leung said. That means potential stops for everything from broken taillights to erratic driving.

He said the real reason behind the campaign is to promote safety over the holidays, when DUI deaths traditionally spike.

"It's not just the driving — it's when the intoxicated driver gets into an accident and causes injury to somebody, or kills somebody, that's the worst part," he said.

Leung said people who are over

the legal limit of .08 have a number of alternatives, including getting a designated driver, calling a taxi, getting a hotel room and calling AAA, which is offering a free tow for up to 10 miles for members and nonmembers alike who have had too much to drink.

State police will join local officers starting this afternoon in a statewide crackdown aimed at keeping drunken drivers off the road over the New Year's holiday weekend.

Police said the maximum enforcement period starts later today.

Traffic deaths statewide were just a fraction of what they were last year, with just a single fatality this year versus 15 from last year.

### TRANSIT

Continued from Page 5

The VTA recommends that passengers plan their routes in advance, as some lines will be running on regular weekday schedules with others offering extended hours.

BART will provide extra trains and extra police officers. Stations will remain open until about 3 a.m. tomorrow.

BART is alerting riders that certain trains heading out of San Francisco will skip some downtown stations to prevent overcrowding.

For those who decide to drive tonight and find themselves too intoxicated to drive home, AAA Northern California is offering free one-way rides for drivers and passengers as well as free one-

way tows for the driver's car.

Being a member of AAA is not a requirement. Anyone needing a ride or a tow can call (800) 222-4357 (AAA-HELP) and tell the operator "I need a Topsy Tow," and a tow truck will be sent out.

AAA is offering its Topsy Tow service from 6 p.m. tonight to 6 a.m. on tomorrow.

But in Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley, Wheels, a service of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) that provides public transportation for the Tri-Valley communities of Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore, announced only that its buses will run on a reduced-Sunday service level for New Year's Day. Chris Cooney, Bay City News, contributed to this story.

—Jeb Bing

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## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### RV show back with boats and optimism

The RV show is back at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, this time with boats of all sizes and prices added to the annual event. Although the white-topped temporary shelter on the Fairgrounds where the RV/Boat show will open next Friday is smaller than we remember in previous years, the event is larger than it's been recently, a sure sign that with the demand for recreational vehicles growing that there's improvement in the economy overall. Show manager Shawn Nohr of Good Times Promotions said RV and boat manufacturers and marketers know the economy hasn't completely turned around, but sales have picked up strong enough to see optimism in this year's show. This bodes well for Nohr's show as well as for the Fairgrounds and Pleasanton, which stand to benefit as thousands of RV and boat enthusiasts return, spending their time and money at local hotels, restaurants, gas stations and shopping when not at the show.

The recession drove the RV industry into a ditch, but signs are pointing to the end of the rough road. RV shipments from manufacturers to dealers are projected to increase by nearly 43% in 2010 over a year ago, according to a forecast by Richard Curtin, an RV industry analyst and director of consumer surveys at the University of Michigan. While sales face challenges due to a continued slow economic forecast for 2011, Curtin predicts shipments will increase by 4% in the coming year. In addition, RV parks and campgrounds across the country report that reservations in 2010 were up 5% over 2009, which made this year the best ever for campgrounds despite the recession.

The Wall Street Journal, in an article Dec. 27, reported that the RV industry is being spurred on by manufacturers who are offering more fuel-efficient trailers aimed at frugal travelers tired of airports and motels. According to the report, U.S. sales of RVs, ranging from towable campers costing as little as \$4,000 to bus-like "behemoths" with two bathrooms and king-size beds for \$300,000 or more, boomed in sales from 2000 to 2007 when the economy and RV sales began plunging. At the Alameda County Fairground show, prospective buyers will see redesigned RVs where the weight has been cut by as much as 25% partly by using plastic composite materials instead of wood. That means better gas mileage, although driving an RV or even pulling a trailer won't bring results close to a Prius, but it could mean more family time and fun.

Nohr says his firm's analysis shows that people are looking for inexpensive vacation options and that an RV, despite the initial costs, can provide that year after year. Savvy travelers who own RVs claim that they save vacation money in the long run and, best of all, can pack what they want for a trip across country to see the kids or the Washington Monument with no extra luggage charges or a full-body security check at the airport.

The RV and boat show will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays starting next Friday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, although closing at 6 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets cost \$12, \$10 for seniors 65 and older, and children 16 and under will be admitted free of charge. The show ends on Monday, Jan. 17. ■



Visit Town Square at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) to comment on the editorial.

### Coldwell Banker drive nets record high charity gifts

Contributions of toys, coats far exceeds 2009 numbers

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage has announced that it collected more than 9,000 toys and 2,100 coats this holiday season to benefit families in need throughout Northern California.

The Toys for Tots and Operation: One Warm Coat campaigns this season marked the 24th consecutive year that the firm has supported these holiday efforts in partnership with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and several non-profit organizations in the area.

"We received a tremendous amount of community support for the Toys for Tots and Operation: One Warm Coat campaigns this season," said Rick Turley, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, a leading real estate company.

"We always expect a certain amount of generosity from agents

and their clients, but this year seemed to go above and beyond," Turley said. "More members of our communities are in need now than in recent years, and the public really responded. The outpouring of support was truly inspiring."

In all, 50 Northern California Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices participated in the Toys for Tots campaign and 32 offices in the Operation: One Warm Coat drive, collecting nearly 4,000 more toys and 500 more coats than in 2009. Eight offices in the East Bay region participated in the donation drives and collected 1,228 toys and 481 coats. That included the Danville office, which collected 600 toys, the Oakland-Piedmont office, which collected 400 toys and the Livermore office, which collected 130 coats.

—Jeb Bing

### Governor appoints 2 prosecutors as Superior Court judges

Both experienced deputy district attorneys

By JEB BING

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has appointed two veteran Alameda County prosecutors to be judges on the county's Superior Court bench.

Thomas Rogers, 59, of Moraga, is currently the county's chief deputy district attorney and heads the District Attorney's Oakland-based Northern Division, where he oversees major prosecutions in that part of the county and files charges in serious cases such as murders.

Rogers, who has been with the district attorney's office since 1976, previously prosecuted many high-profile murder cases.

He is a Republican and earned a law degree from the University

of San Diego School of Law and a Bachelor of Science degree from Santa Clara University.

He fills the vacancy created by the conversion of a court commissioner position on Oct. 8.

Armando Cuellar, 59, of Clayton, has been a deputy district attorney since 1985 and currently heads the office's asset forfeiture unit.

Cuellar, a Democrat, earned a law degree from the John F. Kennedy University School of Law and a Bachelor of Science degree from Trinity College. He fills the vacancy created by the conversion of a court commissioner position this month.

The compensation for each position is \$178,789. ■

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### Schwarzenegger plan to sell state buildings delayed

Unless state Supreme Court rules otherwise, Brown will be governor when case is heard

A California appeals court in San Jose has set a Jan. 26 hearing on the disputed \$2.3 billion sale of 11 state buildings and blocked the sale of the buildings for the time being.

A three-judge panel said a temporary stay to block the sale of the buildings that it issued on Dec. 13 "shall remain in effect until further order of this court."

If the stay is continued — and is not overturned by the California Supreme Court — it would take the sale out of the hands of Gov.

Arnold Schwarzenegger's administration and place it into the hands of incoming Gov. Jerry Brown, who takes office Jan. 3.

But Schwarzenegger filed an emergency appeal with the California Supreme Court last week, asking it to lift the stay before the end of the year.

In the current schedule, the panel will hear arguments on Jan. 26 on a lawsuit that includes three former state building officials claiming the sale of the

buildings to a group of private investors is an unconstitutional gift and waste of public funds.

The deal would provide \$1.2 billion in revenue after \$1.1 billion in building bonds and sale expenses is paid off. The plaintiffs claim renting back the office space would cost the state millions and possibly billions in the long run.

The case was assigned to seven temporary justices, taken from state appeals courts.

Joseph Cotchett, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, noted there are only three more court days before Schwarzenegger leaves office.

"He's got one more shot at it," Cotchett said, referring to Schwarzenegger's emergency appeal to the state high court.

The 11 building complexes are in San Francisco, Oakland, Santa Rosa, Sacramento and Los Angeles.

—Jeb Bing

# Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Cars targeted by thieves over last week

Cars, electronics and jewelry were among the items stolen in Pleasanton over the last week, according to police reports.

A 2010 Toyota Prius was reported stolen at about 4 p.m. on Dec. 24 on the 300 block of St. Mary Street. The owner, (Ignacio Lopez) said he'd parked at Redcoats at about 9 p.m. Dec. 23 and left the car overnight; when he went to pick it up the next afternoon, it was gone.

A 1991 Jeep was reported stolen the same day from in front of a home on the 3000 block of Flora Court;

the owner said he parked the previous afternoon, and the car was gone the next afternoon.

A tennis bracelet worth \$6,500 was reported stolen from a home on the 6200 block of Detjen Court on Dec. 22; the report said that bracelet was stolen in April.

Stereo equipment worth \$1,100 was stolen from a car parked at the Stoneridge Shopping Center on Dec. 22; the owner said an in-dash stereo and two amplifiers were stolen from the car between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Tools valued at more than \$700 were reported stolen from a vehicle in the 4400 block of Addison Way between 4:30 p.m. Dec. 20 and 6:00 a.m. Dec. 21. A report said a pry tool was used to gain access.

A GPS, cell phone and chargers were reported stolen from a vehicle parked at Walmart between 1 and 10 a.m. The report said a lock punch was used in that theft.

## POLICE REPORT

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

### Dec. 19

#### Theft

- 12:16 a.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 5:36 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; grand theft, petty theft

#### Vandalism

- 1:06 a.m. in the 400 block of Main Street

#### Burglary

- 1:11 p.m. in the 4400 block of Valley Avenue
- 7:15 p.m. in the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 2:27 a.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Division Street; DUI
- 3:09 a.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road; DUI

### Dec. 20

#### Theft

- 9:27 a.m. in the 3900 block of Valley Avenue; grand theft
- 7:28 p.m. in the 3600 block of Portsmouth Court; identity theft
- 9:07 p.m. in the 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; identity theft

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:57 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Elmridge Court; DUI
- 2:52 a.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue; public drunkenness
- 5:33 a.m. at the intersection of Case Avenue and Bernal Avenue DUI
- 9:49 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; public drunkenness

### Dec. 21

#### Auto theft

- 5:14 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Auto burglaries

- 6:03 a.m. in the 4400 block of Addison Way

- 9:49 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### Dec. 22

#### Theft

- 2:43 a.m. in the 1000 block of Harvest Court; identity theft
- 4:13 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 5:29 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; theft
- 9:39 p.m. in the first block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft

#### Burglary

- 11:59 a.m. in the 6200 block of Detjen Court
- 3:49 p.m. at the intersection of Stonedale Road and Maywood Drive
- 6:21 p.m. in the 2700 block of Lylewood Drive

#### Auto burglary

- 6:29 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:40 a.m. at the intersection of Montpelier Court and W. Las Positas Boulevard; DUI
- 12:52 a.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; DUI
- 2:04 a.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Drive and Rheem Drive; DUI
- 5:25 a.m. in the 4900 block of Owens Drive; public drunkenness
- 4:19 p.m. in the 7200 block of Tulipwood Court; DUI
- 6:57 p.m. in the 3500 block of Utah Street; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia

### Dec. 23

#### Theft

- 11:06 a.m. in the 2700 block of Calle Alegre; grand theft
- 4:59 p.m. in the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Burglary

- 2:38 p.m. in the 3100 block of Devereaux Court

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:29 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Crestline Road; DUI
- 11:13 p.m. in the 200 block of Santa Rita Road; possession of paraphernalia

### Dec. 24

#### Theft

- 10:23 a.m. in the 4800 block of Ganner Court; identity theft
- 11:20 a.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; forgery
- 11:46 a.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 1:57 p.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street; auto theft
- 3:02 p.m. in the 700 block of Corte del Mar; identity theft
- 5:05 p.m. in the 3000 block of Flora Court; auto theft

#### Auto burglary

- 4:49 a.m. in the 4400 block of Valley Avenue

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:46 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Morganfield Road; DUI
- 6:04 p.m. at the intersection of Castlewood Drive and Pleasanton Sunol Road; DUI

### Dec. 25

#### Forgery

- 3:47 p.m. in the 6800 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Public drunkenness

- 4:10 a.m. in the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road

### Dec. 26

#### Theft

- 9:07 a.m. in the 4500 block of Denker Drive; grand theft
- 1:38 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 3:43 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 6:25 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 8:07 p.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive; petty theft

#### Auto burglary

- 10:06 a.m. in the 3700 block of Pimlico Drive

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 3:59 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; driving with marijuana

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**THE CITY OF PLEASANTON**

## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### City Council

Tuesday, January 4, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: PRZ 55, City of Pleasanton – Consider the introduction of an ordinance to amend the Pleasanton Municipal Code to reference the California Green Building Standards (Cal Green) Code, with local amendments to address specific green building issues, and other related green building amendments
- Review and accept the Fiscal Year 2010/11 First Quarter Financial Report

### Civics Arts Commission

Monday, January 3, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Review FY 2010/11 City Grant Midterm Reports
- Selection of topics to be discussed at the Civic Arts Workshop in January 2011

### Committee of Energy & Environment (Workshop)

Wednesday, January 5, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m.  
Operations Services Center, 3333 Busch Road

- The Committee will discuss the draft Climate Action Plan measures

### Housing Task Force

Wednesday, January 5, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Library Community Room, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

- Discuss outreach to Stakeholders
- Discuss criteria for evaluating housing sites
- Refine list of potential housing sites

### Hacienda Task Force

Thursday, January 6, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Refine the Draft TOD Standards and Guidelines
- Address issues raised at the Joint Workshop

### Human Services Commission

- The Human Services commission meeting on January 5th has been cancelled. There will be a special joint meeting on January 12th with the Livermore Human Services Commission.

**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](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar)

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

**E**xercise more, eat better. New Year's resolutions are rolling off the tongue these days. Another one might be: Take advantage of all that Pleasanton has to offer.

The new Firehouse Arts Center 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton, continually offers live entertainment as well as art exhibits.

"There's a chemical reaction when you put actors and the audience together," says actor Jeff Seaberg, who frequently appears in productions of the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre. "The excitement of what is prepared and what is uncertain."

Tri-Valley Rep stages its small musicals in its studio theater on Serpentine Lane in Pleasanton while its main stage productions are presented at the Bankhead Theatre in Livermore.

Coming soon to places near you:

■ **Paintbrush Diplomacy:** International children's art exhibit by ages 5-18 showing works from the permanent collection of Paintbrush Diplomacy, an organization that seeks to connect the world, one paintbrush at a time. At Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center, through Jan. 12.

■ **Treasures of the Tri-Valley III:** Tri-Valley Toybox, through Jan. 30 at Museum On Main, 603 Main St., Pleasanton. Featuring toys from private collections throughout the Tri-Valley area.

■ **Pleasanton Library Free Classic Film Series:** "Twelve O'clock High," 7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 6; 400 Old Bernal Ave.

■ **Jeff Bordes and the Panthelion Quartet** with its energetic blend of jazz, classical, tribal, and urban-groove styles. Bordes is a graduate of Amador Valley High. At 8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 8, Firehouse Arts Center.

■ "Phases of Life After Death" author and psychic Irma Slage speaking at the Pleasanton Library; 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 9.

■ **Cypress String Quartet** will play Mozart, Schulhoff and Debussy at 3 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 9, at the Firehouse Arts Center.

■ **M.O.M.'s Reading Time** for preschoolers and their parents at the Museum On Main will feature reading and an activity on Martin Luther King Jr. from 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 12, at 603 Main St.

■ **Museum On Main 2011 Ed Kinney Lecture Series:** "The Relativity of Albert Einstein" at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 12, at the Firehouse Arts Center. Meet the great scientific thinker who revolutionized physics, portrayed by dynamic Broadway and film actor Duffy Hudson. Tickets at the door. Call 462-2766.

■ **Tingstad and Rumbel:** Acoustic musicians bring their "American home-style music" to the Firehouse Arts Center at 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 14. Tickets: 931-4848.

■ **Rodgers & Hammerstein and Rodgers & Hart:** part of the Firehouse Arts Center Cabaret Series, performing at 8 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 15-16.

■ "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," based on the film starring Steve Martin and Michael Caine. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, Jan. 21-Feb. 6. Tickets: 373-6800

■ "The Horse, of Course!" exhibit at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road, Pleasanton, through Jan. 31. Curated by the Museum On Main with photographs, objects and documents to demonstrate the importance of the horse in the Valley's history.

■ **Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre** will present "Cabaret," the musical set in 1931 Berlin at the seedy Kit Kat Klub, revolving around the English cabaret performer, Sally Bowles, and her relationship with a young American writer, Jan. 21-30, at the Firehouse Arts Center.

■ **Valley Concert Chorale:** An Evening of Music with Daniel Glover, at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 5, at First Presbyterian Church, Fourth & L streets, Livermore. Tickets: 866-4003. ■



Acoustic musicians Tingstad and Rumbel bring their "American home-style music" to the Firehouse Arts Center on Jan. 14.

*New year*

## new offerings

Theater, arts groups starting off with exciting events



AMADOR-LIVERMORE VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**Above left:** Jeff Bordes, a graduate of Amador Valley High, performs an energetic blend of jazz, classical, tribal, and urban-groove styles with his Panthelion Quartet on Jan. 8 at the Firehouse Arts Center. **Above right:** "Harness race at Pleasanton Race Track, 1910," is part of a "The Horse, of Course!" exhibit at Alviso Adobe Community Park through Jan. 31. **Right:** Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre will present "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," based on the film starring Steve Martin and Michael Caine, from Jan. 21-Feb. 6.

## NOW SHOWING

REVIEWS OF NEW MOVIES

BY PETER CANAVESE

**Black Swan**

Rated R for strong sexual content, disturbing violent images, language and some drug use.  
1 hour, 48 minutes  
Director: Darren Aronofsky

With his psychological thriller "Black Swan," director Darren Aronofsky ("The Fighter") again concerns himself with a performer's driving need to be in the spotlight, and its corresponding psychic toll.

No one can be blamed for finding "Black Swan" overwrought or ridiculous: It's both. But those who meet Aronofsky halfway can get off on this exercise in dichotomy: the ballet film wedded to Grand Guignol, an exploitation picture granted a big star (Natalie Portman), "Showgirls" transplanted to Lincoln Center.

Dichotomy is the heart of the problem for longtime ensemble player Nina Sayers (Portman), who covets the leading dual role in a high-scale New York ballet production of Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake." Though she has the attention of Balanchine-inspired artistic director Thomas Leroy (Vincent Cassel) — or is that the "attentions"? — he vocally questions her ability to play both the innocent White Swan and the sinful Black Swan.

Leroy takes the leap of casting Nina, seemingly to stroke his own ego as he creates a star, and to take advantage of her gratitude. "Perfection is not just about control," he purrs. "It's also about letting go."

Letting go is, of course, dangerously close to coming unhinged, as Nina steadily does over the course of the film. Screenwriters Mark Heyman, Andres Heinz and John J. McLaughlin (working from a story by Heinz) paint Nina's issues in the broadest of strokes: Nina's jealously protective, smothering stage mother (Barbara Hershey, enjoying her "Mommy Dearest" moment) has made her daughter dangerously repressed, and it'll take only a few choice shoves to send the dancer over the edge.

In the 21st century, it's hard to swallow that such a delicate flower has made it into the ballet elite with her sensibilities as yet unchallenged. And the film flirts with sexism, in part by suggesting that Nina's ambition dooms her to bipolar mania: She's either

sexually frigid or vamp, victim or victimizer, snapping as easily as her brutalized dancer's feet.

Ironically, Aronofsky also casts a sympathetic gaze on the well-documented punishment of the ballerina: the physical deterioration, the not-uncommon endurance of sexual harassment, and the inevitability of being discarded for the latest model. The "All About Eve" model recurs as prima ballerina Beth Macintyre (a cleverly cast Winona Ryder) must yield to Nina, who in turn fears her sexy understudy Lily (Mila Kunis).

Where "Black Swan" most succeeds is in Aronofsky's high-flying style, his approach to the story as a fever dream blurring the fine line between a performer playing a role and a psychotic succumbing to delusion. Though crack cinematographer Matthew Libatique ("Requiem for a Dream") shoots roughly in handheld 16 mm and digital, there's a refinement to the projection of Nina's fears in visual terms: One swooping shot simulates the depth of 3D.

The camera has a more intimate relationship with Nina than any character in the story. Aronofsky holds in close-ups Portman's perpetually anguished look, a weak, overwhelmed demeanor that gradually morphs into one of feral, predatory ambition. The director also grabs hungrily at dreamlike effects: doppelgängers, reflections and the freaky suggestion that Nina's self-improvement requires molting.

"Black Swan" is, by definition, a male fantasy about a woman, territory that has been trod more skillfully and empathically by filmmakers like David Lynch and even the socially unpopular Roman Polanski. Still, designed as the passion of Natalie Portman, Aronofsky's film takes us on a visceral wild ride, scored to Tchaikovsky. ■



## POETIC PLEASANTON



BY DEBORAH GROSSMAN

## Honoring Amador Valley High's teen poet

Here is a poem honoring the season by Noelle Malindzak, Teen Poet Laureate for Community Programs. Noelle is a senior at Amador Valley High School.

**From My Wintry Windowpane**

BY NOELLE MALINDZAK

White slab of ice,  
a rink on the roof,  
morning grass,  
crisp and crunchy,  
like a snow cone,  
frosty blue,  
Pinstriped candy canes,  
coat the kid's teeth,  
Marshmallow Santa's,

gooey and sweet,  
Frosty air nips,  
at unglowed hands,  
thin socked feet,  
High spirits surround,  
like a warm blanket of fleece  
This pleasant town,  
is the place to be,  
when Winter walks along,  
with Holiday Glee

**Poetry program in Firehouse Arts Center Feb. 18**

Our next poetry program is "A Literary Evening at the Firehouse: The Myth & Reality of the Hero & the Anti-Hero from Mythology to Reality and Personal Story" on Friday, Feb. 18. Join us for a wine and cheese reception at 7:30 p.m. followed by the program from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center, Pleasanton.

Narrator Robert Eastwood,

award-winning poet and author from San Ramon, will weave his perspective on the mythology of the heroic and un-heroic with other invited Bay Area writers. Pleasanton writers include Fred Norman, founding member of the Tri-Valley California Writers Club, and Liz Fortini, poet, author and publisher of [www.languageandculture.net](http://www.languageandculture.net).

Kirk Ridgeway, Pleasanton's third Poet Laureate (2003-2005), who now lives in Davis and led many literary evenings in Pleasanton, will also read.

Other acclaimed writers include Connie Post, Poet Laureate Emerita of Livermore, Lynne Knight of Berkeley, Lee Rossi of San Carlos, and David Alpaugh of Pleasant Hill.

**Deborah Grossman is Pleasanton's Poet Laureate. Email her at [pleasantonpoetry@gmail.com](mailto:pleasantonpoetry@gmail.com).**

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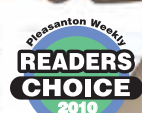
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# 2010

## WHAT A YEAR

*Remembering it all, from January storms to election results to end-of-year happenings*



Fireworks light up the night sky at the Alameda County Fair July 2, a memorable event for some 70 fairgoers who were stung by yellow jackets down below.

JEB BING

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Where did 2010 go? This sentiment seems to be on the tip of everyone's tongue. Look over the following month-to-month breakdown of events in Pleasanton and you will see that it was an action-packed year.

Now on to 2011, which begins delightfully as 1-1-11. It has to be a great one!

### January

- Pleasanton's Economic Development Manager Pamela Ott predicts that businesses will do better in 2010 after weathering the storm of 2009.
- Pleasanton Unified School District realizes it will need to cut another \$6.9 million from its expenditures, for a total of \$8 million, after Gov. Schwarzenegger releases his updated budget Jan. 8.
- Bowlers come to area for Professional Bowlers Association tournament in Dublin.
- Pleasanton hires new City Attorney Jonathan Lowell, who comes from the city of San Luis Obispo.
- School district holds series of meetings to discuss school finances with nearly 200 concerned community members.
- Storm knocks over two large trees — a coastal redwood and a spruce — smashing them into a cinderblock wall on Valley Avenue.
- Office opens off Koll Center Parkway for 2010 Census count in Pleasanton.
- ValleyCare Medical Center opens new floor with 24 beds as part of its \$10 million expansion.
- Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Zolfarelli retires from heading up the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department.
- The Pleasanton Weekly celebrates its 10th anniversary.

### February

- Pleasanton Rotary Club, schools and others hold fundraisers to benefit victims of the devastating Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti.
- Labor dispute begins at Castlewood Country Club involving about 65 full-time and part-time employees over their new contract.
- The Pleasanton Public Library holds a blood drive, saying it will be an annual winter and summer event.
- Pleasanton PTA Council kicks off a petition drive to lower the super majority requirement for a parcel tax.
- Friends hold a fundraiser to send family of cancer-stricken Geoff Haskell, 35, a former youth pastor at Centerpointe Presbyterian Church, to Disneyland.
- City Council places Oak Grove referendum on June 8 ballot to decide if 51 homes can be built at the end of Hearst Drive.
- Amador Valley High freshman Evelyn Gonzalez killed by Union Pacific freight train near the high school in an apparent suicide. In response, the School District makes counselors available for students and holds community forum for parents.

### March

- Nob Hill Foods closes its Pleasanton supermarket on Santa Rita Road.
- Museum On Main is chosen to join the 2010 Conservation Assessment Program.
- Alameda County Fairgrounds is polling place for 1,400 registered Iraqi voters.
- Downtown welcomes new mural on side of Valley Plumbing's Home Center on Peters Avenue at Rose.
- Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch rules that Pleasanton's 14-year housing cap is invalid.
- Mountain lion allegedly is spotted in a Ruby Hill yard on Paladin Way.
- The Livermore-Amador Valley Transit Authority, which operates WHEELS buses in Pleasanton, receives \$780,000 in federal stimulus funds.

### April

- Mayors from the four Tri-Valley cities — Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon — vote to stay on the board of TV30.
- Pleasanton Seahawks achieve USSA Swimming Level 4 Club Recognition status, the highest awarded.
- Pleasanton kicks off major marketing survey among residents to make a long-range plan for a more robust image and memorable shopping experience.
- Artist Seward Johnson installs 11 life-size, lifelike statues throughout downtown, much to the delight of residents and visitors.
- Museum On Main launches new monthly program to introduce preschoolers to books and people and cultures in their community.

- Pleasanton Community Concert Band celebrates turning 35.
- Ranch 99 opens a branch of its Asian markets in Rose Pavilion.
- Report from Pleasanton Police Department shows major crimes at a 22-year low.
- City Council votes to settle, not fight, the ruling that the city's 29,000-unit housing cap is in violation of state law.

## May

- Pleasanton Unified School District hires new Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi, who has been Superintendent of Instruction for the Fremont Unified School District for the last two years.
- Rick Pickering, chief executive officer of the Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association, is named a Distinguished Eagle Scout.
- Marla Silversmith, who teaches the life skills class at Amador Valley High, is selected as the School District's Teacher of the Year.
- More than 700 supporters of Hope Hospice turn out to Hike for Hope in the Sunol Regional Wilderness, raising \$80,000.
- Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department names Jim Miguel as the new fire chief, coming from the Modesto Fire Department.

## June

- Three Pleasanton principals opt for retirement: Donlon Elementary's Marc Schweitzer; Hart Middle School's Steve Maher; and Amador Valley High's Bill Coupe Jr.
- Pleasanton Poet Laureate Deborah Grossman presents "Poetry Rocks in Many Languages" at the Century House.
- Voters reject southeast hills project known as Oak Grove, Measure D, with 54.3% casting ballots against it after a record \$514,000 high is pumped into the Yes on D campaign by the Frederic Lin Family. The opposition raised just under \$7,000.
- Lin family files lawsuit to be able to proceed with Oak Grove project, saying that in 2007 the City Council approved an ordinance to OK a development agreement.
- Alameda County Fair runs June 23-July 11 with the theme, "Come Out and Play!" Horse racing continues to be one of the biggest draws.
- Pleasanton School Board, principals and vice principals meet to discuss new ways to deal with the district's expulsions and suspensions. An increase in drinking and drugs on campus had led to 33 expulsions and 604 suspensions in the 2009-10 year out of a student population of 14,839.

## July

- More than 70 fairgoers are stung when a yellow jacket nest is disturbed during a July 2 fireworks show at the Fair. Those stung, some multiple times, are treated by firefighters.
- Pleasanton enjoys an old-fashioned July 4th at Lions Wayside Park at its all-volunteer event, "Celebrating Freedom and its Evolution since the Revolution."
- Money Magazine ranks Pleasanton No. 63 nationwide in best cities to live in, citing its good climate, low crime and excellent schools, recreation programs and facilities.
- Pleasanton's own golfer Paula Creamer becomes the U.S. Women's Open champion after winning July 11 at the Oakmont Country Club near Pittsburgh, Pa.

## August

- Pleasanton-based staffing company, Aptitude Staffing Solutions, is accused of not paying workers.
- Thirty-six neighborhoods participate in National Night Out with potlucks, ice cream socials and music.
- Volunteers hold East Bay Stand Down at the Alameda County Fairgrounds over four-day weekend to provide medical and legal services for more than 700 needy veterans as well as clean sleeping bags, clothes, shoes and more.
- Museum On Main gives out its first Heritage Awards at its annual fundraiser, "Brothels, Bar Rooms and Bandits."
- City Council agrees to pay \$1.9 million in legal fees to two affordable housing coalitions since it scuttled the city's voter-approved 1996 housing cap designed to prevent runaway residential growth.
- City Council OKs development on 124-acre Staples Ranch, bringing smiles to scores of seniors who look forward to the Stoneridge Creek retirement community on the site. One holdup was residents protesting extending Stoneridge Drive through Staples to connect to El Charro Road.

## September

- Pleasanton's Joey Bernardi, U.S. Under-21 bocce ball champs, travels to Italy to participate in the international championships.
- Valley Humane Society breaks ground for a new 5,000-square-foot facility at its site on Nevada Street where it's been operating out of a portable since 2006.



JAY FLACHSBARTH

Stunning new \$10-million Firehouse Arts Center sits ready for public dedication and opening in September.



JAY FLACHSBARTH

Bronze sculptures by artist Seward Johnson, including this gentleman reading a newspaper, filled downtown Pleasanton streets last spring during a temporary outdoor exhibit arranged by the city, Pleasanton Downtown Association and the Civic Arts Commission.



Pleasanton's own golfer Paula Creamer, shown here teeing off at a local course, becomes U.S. Women's Open champion after winning July 11 competition in Pittsburgh, Pa.

## October

- Ingrid Cuffe, 16, a junior at Foothill High, reigns as Rowell Ranch Jr. Rodeo Queen.
- Pleasanton hires Los Angeles law firm to defend the city against lawsuit by the Lin family regarding Oak Grove development.
- Stunning new \$10 million Firehouse Arts Center opens on Railroad Avenue with a Friday night gala and an all-day Saturday community celebration.
- Clorox announces plans to move 700 workers to 26-acre campus of former Washington Mutual Bank.
- Toll express lane opens on Interstate 680 on the Sunol Grade, the first of its kind in the area.
- Pleasanton and Livermore city councils vote to jointly lobby federal representatives to phase out older, noisy jets, and to establish a community forum to discuss noise and flyover issues from the Livermore Municipal Airport.
- Stoneridge Shopping Center celebrates 30 years since opening in 1980. In that time it has grown to 165 stores with more opening this year.

- Pioneer Cemetery offers plots, giving priority to Pleasanton residents as well as non-residents who have a spouse or partner already buried there.
- The 2010 Mayor's Award for meritorious service goes to retired educators and philanthropists Nancy and Gary Harrington for donating dramatic features to the Firehouse Arts Center as well as art in other parts of town.
- Mayor Jennifer Hosterman hosts U.S. Conference of Mayors Water Council with keynote speaker Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
- City Council OKs new Safeway superstore on Valley and Bernal avenues near I-680 in a vote of 4-1 with Councilman Matt Sullivan against it.
- Congressman Jerry McNerney announces that \$10 million in stimulus funds are heading to Pleasanton to be used for transportation, including closing the gap in the Iron Horse Trail.

See **YEAR** on Page 14



View of Kottinger Ranch homes from proposed Oak Grove housing development that voters defeated in June.

JEB BING



American Legion color guard marches in Pleasanton's Veterans Day observance on Main Street Nov. 7 in Bay Area's largest parade honoring the military.

KERRY NALLY



JANET PELLETIER

Sawed-off coastal redwood and spruce trees hang over a sound wall on Valley Avenue Jan. 20 after being toppled by a major storm that roared through Pleasanton.



JEB BING

Gary and Nancy Harrington in front of art gallery named for them at the new Firehouse Arts Center after receiving the Mayor's Award for public service in October.

## YEAR

Continued from Page 13

- Pleasanton ranks 14th on a list of priciest real estate markets, with an average sales price of \$896,488.
- Foothill High student Quentin Martin raises an 823-pound pumpkin, which he enters into the contest at Half Moon Bay. The winning pumpkin weighs in at 1,535 pounds.
- MerchantArts Walks begins on Main Street, a monthly event with businesses exhibiting art and offering hors d'oeuvres and other attractions to shoppers.
- Green Scene Fair is held in Pleasanton, sponsored by the city and Hacienda Business Park, with 75 vendors to give people ideas on how to reduce their carbon footprints.
- Pleasanton launches "shop local" program to urge residents and visitors to support local businesses.

## November

- Pleasanton voters keep Mayor Jennifer Hosterman over challenger Councilwoman Cindy McGovern, as well as council incumbents Cheryl Cook-Kallio and Jerry Thorne over challengers Karla Brown and Fred Watson
- In the school board race, voters choose Joan Laursen and Jeff Bowser for the two open positions, with Sandy Piderit coming in third.
- Police Chief Michael Fraser retires as head of the Pleasanton Police Department after 30 years on the job, including the last three as chief.
- Veterans Day Parade up Main Street pays tribute to the Navy and marches on despite falling rain.
- Pleasanton Unified School District board hears results of a parcel tax survey that concludes residents would support it if it emphasizes academic instruction.
- Craig Semmelmeier, whose Main Street Property Services developed the popular Tully's Coffee Shop site at Main and Angela streets, purchases the building at 234 Main St. and begins plans to renovate.
- The lockout at Castlewood Country Club enters into its ninth month with management and UniteHERE local 2850 farther apart than ever.
- Downtown Pleasanton hosts Friday night "Magical Holiday Evening" followed by Saturday morning "Earlier than the Bird" shopping to jumpstart holiday shopping.
- Educators and parents begin a look into whether Pleasanton expects too much from its young people with a showing of the movie, "Race to Nowhere."
- Hacienda Task Force wraps up 10 months of work on development standards and design guidelines for an 850-unit, transit-oriented housing project in Hacienda Business Park.

## December

- Pleasanton amends city's code with reference to the California Green Building Standards Cod, known as CALGreen before it goes into effect Jan. 1.
- Pleasanton Military Families Support Group collects, packages and sends out a record 260 packages to troops in war zones overseas.
- Jury selection begins in Alameda Superior Court for Ernest Scherer III, accused of the brutal murders of his father Ernie Scherer Jr. and his mother Charlene Abendroth in Castlewood in February 2009.
- Chabad of the Tri-Valley lights a nine-foot menorah constructed of blue and white balloons at Stoneridge Shopping Center on the first night of Hanukkah.
- Little Chorkie (cross between a Chihuahua and a Yorkie) named Cookie is reunited with his owner after they are separated after a car accident, thanks to a story posted at www.PleasantonWeekly.com. ■



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Artist's sketch of new 5,200-square-foot building now under construction to house the Valley Humane Society on Nevada Street next to the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department headquarters.

# ON THE TOWN



## AMERICAN

### Eddie Papa's American Hangout

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## BREW PUB/ALEHOUSE

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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](http://www.hopyard.com).

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Pleasanton location

# Bollinger Nail Salon

## BOLLINGER NAIL SALON LOCATIONS

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310 Main Street Suite D ..... (925) 484-4300

**Livermore (next to the Bankhead Theater)**  
2375 Railroad Ave ..... (925) 455-6800

*Host a Party—For birthdays, bridal showers or friends who want to have a unique and fun get together, arrange a private party at Bollinger Nail Salon.*

[www.Bollingernailsalon.com](http://www.Bollingernailsalon.com)

## Auditions

### YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL AUDITIONS

SET Auditions held from 6-9 p.m. January 11 & 13 at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Ages 6-18 (rock bands excluded). Send Youtube.com submissions/links via email to Mark Duncanson at mduncanson@ci.pleasanton.ca.us before Jan. 14. Call 931-3433 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Author Visits

**PSYCHIC IRMA SLAGE** Her books: Phases of Life After Death and Psychic Encounters, A guide to having your own spirit contact. She will be signing books at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9 at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Slage speaks to spirits and promotes death as simply our next step in life. "Death is only the beginning of another portion of our existence." Call 931-3405.

## Book Clubs

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

**TOWNE CENTER BOOKCLUB** The club meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday the month at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826 or visit [www.townecen-](http://www.townecen-)

[terbooks.com](http://terbooks.com) for the current selection.

## Careers

**ONE-ON-ONE RESUME CRITIQUE** Looking for a job? Consider setting up a 20-minute session with a job search professional who will give you sound advice on how to make your resume more attractive to potential employers. Call the Dublin Library at 803-7275 for dates, times and to schedule an appointment.

## Civic Meetings

**CITY COUNCIL** The Pleasanton City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

**CLIMATE ACTION PLAN WORKSHOP** Participants will explore the challenges facing Pleasanton in accommodating growth while reducing future greenhouse gas emissions. We'll be seeking input on energy, land use, waste, transportation, water, and more. The workshop is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 at Veterans Memorial Hall, 301 Main St. Call 931-5506 or visit [www.pleasantongreenscene.org](http://www.pleasantongreenscene.org).

**HOUSING COMMISSION** The Pleasanton Housing Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION** The Human Services Commission meets

at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION** The Pleasanton Parks & Recreation Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

**SCHOOL BOARD** The Pleasanton Unified School District Board meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday monthly during the school year in the district office board room, 4665 Bernal Ave.

**YOUTH COMMISSION** The Pleasanton Youth Commission meets 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

## Classes

**ART STUDIO FOR ALL MEDIA** Can't find space to do your art? Drop in from 12:30-3:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. It offers space for artists and crafts projects. Open sessions are designed for individuals to work independently in a creative and friendly environment. Cost is \$1.25 activity fee. Call 556-4511 or visit [www.dublin.ca.gov](http://www.dublin.ca.gov).

**FREE FIFE (FLUTE) AND DRUM LESSONS** The Young American Patriots Fife and Drum band "YAPs" is a Pleasanton-based parade band dedicated to perpetuating the music and history of the American Revolution of 1776. It will host free drum or fife (flute) lessons from 6:30-8 p.m., every Friday. Call Jason Giaimo at 484-0265 or visit [www.youngamerican-patriots.com](http://www.youngamerican-patriots.com).

**HEALTHY INTERNATIONAL COOKING** Six classes cover Latin, Mediterranean I and II, Thai, Indian, and Japanese healthy cooking. Classes are from 6-9 p.m. Thursday evenings, Jan. 13 through Feb. 17 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost \$40 for resident and \$45 for non resident and \$12 supply fee payable to the instructor. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

**PASTEL PAINTING WORKSHOP** Join artist Debbie Wardrope in this workshop focusing on painting in pastel from 7-9 p.m., Tuesdays, Jan. 18 through Feb. 9, at Studio 7 Fine Arts, 400 Main St. Whether you're a beginner or a more advanced student, this fun and relaxed class will give you the opportunity to create beautiful paintings in a supportive environment. All levels of expertise are welcome. Cost is \$90. Call 846-4322 or visit [www.studiosevenarts.com](http://www.studiosevenarts.com).

**YOGA BASICS COMMUNITY CLASS** Beth Fox, certified yoga instructor, teaches Yoga Basics, a yoga class that is open to the public and meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Mondays at Lynnewood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. Supplies are available for class. Cost is \$12. Call 200-4060.

## Clubs

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at Chamber Chatters, a Toastmasters club that meets from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave. Toastmasters International is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills. Visit [www.chamberchatters.wordpress.com/](http://www.chamberchatters.wordpress.com/).

**DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION DAR**, Daughters of the American Revolution, Jose Maria Amador Chapter meets the second Saturday of the month. It is a social gathering and time to explore the history of our American roots. For meeting time and location, call Susan at 699-4147.

**EAST BAY EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATION** The East Bay Executives Association is a non-profit organization for helping businesses network with other businesses. It meets at 7:15 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays monthly at Shari's, 3360 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley. Call 600-7342.

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

**PLEASANTON NEWCOMERS CLUB** This club is a great way for new and established residents to make new friends. It meets for coffee on the first Wednesday of every month and for lunch on the second Wednesday of every month. The group has activities like hiking, walking, Bunco and more. Visit [www.pleasantonnewcomers.com](http://www.pleasantonnewcomers.com) or call Ruby M. at 462-6404.

**ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON** The Rotary Club of Pleasanton since 1965 has been a leader in the community in helping make Pleasanton a great place to live. It has a luncheon meeting from 12:15-1:30 p.m., every Thursday, at Hap's Restaurant, 122 W. Neal St., Pleasanton. Cost for lunch is \$17. For information, visit [www.PleasantonRotary.org](http://www.PleasantonRotary.org).

**ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON NORTH** Pleasanton North Rotary invites anyone interested in making a difference. The membership includes 65 professionals, business owners, executives, managers and community leaders. The club meets from 12:15-1:30 p.m. Fridays at the Hilton Hotel, 7050 Johnson Dr. Call 580-7947 or visit [www.pnr-rotary.org](http://www.pnr-rotary.org).

**SOCRATES CAFE** The Socrates Cafe discusses modern philosophical questions using the Socratic method, on the first and third Tuesday of every month from 7-9 p.m. at Peet's Coffee, corner of Valley Ave. and Hopyard Rd. No politics involved. Call 249-1865 or visit [www.digiassist.com/SocratesCafePleasanton.html](http://www.digiassist.com/SocratesCafePleasanton.html).

**VIRTUALLY SPEAKING TOASTMASTERS** Virtually Speaking Toastmasters club meets from noon-1 p.m. every Thursday at Polycom, 4750 Willow Rd. Everyone is welcome to come see what a positive change Toastmasters can make in their confidence. Call 580-8660.

## Concerts

**JEFF BORDES AND PANTHELION - PLEASANTON NATIVE BRINGS 'NU**

**CLASS' HOME** Will be performing from 8-10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8 at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Panthelion Quartet features the new musical genre known as "nu class", performing an energetic blend of jazz, classical, and urban-groove styles. Tickets are \$15-\$25 for adults; \$12 for children and \$18 for seniors. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN WITH HART CABARET SERIES** Vocalists Chelsea Nenni and Zachary Franczak perform songs from The Sound of Music, The King and I, Oklahoma, Carousel, South Pacific, at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15 and 2 p.m. Sunday, January 16 at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$15-\$25 for adults, \$15 for children and \$22 for seniors. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**TINGSTAD AND RUMBEL** Together for more than 24 years, they perform the perfect blend of finger style guitar, oboe, English horn and ocarina. They will be performing from 8-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14 at the Firehouse Art Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$15-\$25 for adults, \$12 for children and \$20 for seniors. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Events

**ART, CRITIQUE & COFFEE** Art, Critique & Coffee (ACC) meets at 10 a.m. each Friday at Borders Cafe, 4575 Rosewood Dr. Artists and art lovers are welcome to view latest works as they discuss how to better each piece before it is released to the public. Call 461-5084.

**FARMERS MARKET** Island Earth's farmers market is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays in the parking lot between Macy's and Sears at Stoneridge Shopping Center. It features organic produce, artisan wares, fresh flowers and more. Call 510-769-1525 or visit [islandearth-farmersmarket.org](http://islandearth-farmersmarket.org).

**PEACEFUL WAR PROTEST** Pleasantonians 4 Peace has an ongoing peaceful war protest from 5 to 6 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at First and Neal streets. Contact Cathe Norman at 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at [mjs7882@gmail.com](mailto:mjs7882@gmail.com); or [kdowd-ing@pacbell.net](mailto:kdowd-ing@pacbell.net). Visit [www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org](http://www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org).

**PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB CRAB FEED** Pleasanton Lions Club is hosting a casino night and dancing from 6-11 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 29, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Crab will be served at 7:30 p.m. No host bar opens at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and includes parking. Contact Steve Grimes at 484-3524 or Greg Aynesworth at 336-6069.

**PLEASANTONIANS 4 PEACE** Pleasantonians 4 Peace sponsors a candlelight vigil at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main St. The group reflects on the human and monetary costs of the war, honors veterans who have sacrificed, and visualizes ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. They plan to con-

tinue this monthly event as long as necessary. Contact Cathe Norman at 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at [mjs7882@gmail.com](mailto:mjs7882@gmail.com); or visit [www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org](http://www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org).

## Exhibits

**"THE HORSE, OF COURSE!"** Alviso Adobe Community Park is open daily from dawn to dusk, now through Jan. 31. The Horse of Course! exhibit is located in the Dairy Barn on the property, where visitors are welcome to take park self guided tours Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The park buildings are closed on Mondays, Tuesday, and City of Pleasanton holidays. Call 931-3483 or email [enicholas@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:enicholas@ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

**'CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD'** The Harrington Gallery will host Paintbrush Diplomacy's international children's art exhibit, "Celebrations Around the World," from Dec. 11 through Jan. 12 at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. The gallery is open noon-5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. A donation of \$2 is suggested. Paintbrush Diplomacy seeks to promote peace and understanding through the universal language of art and encourages awareness of international issues through art exchanges and exhibits of works by children ages 5-18. Call 931-5340 or visit [www.paintbrushdiplomacy.org](http://www.paintbrushdiplomacy.org).

**TRY-VALLEY TOYBOX COMES TO MUSEUM** Toy aficionados will share their collections at the third "Treasures of the Tri-Valley" exhibit from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesdays through Sundays, from Nov. 10 through Jan. 30, at Museum on Main, 603 Main St. There will be toy-making crafts and opportunities to meet the collectors. Call 462-2766 or e-mail [education@museumonmain.org](mailto:education@museumonmain.org).

## Fundraisers

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CRAB FEED** Pleasanton Knights of Columbus is having its annual Crab Feed on Jan 15. Proceeds benefit both church and community. Crab Feed is at St Augustine Church hall. Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner at 7p.m. Tickets are \$38, & must be purchased by Jan 9. Call 846-7181 or send email to [crabfeed@comcast.net](mailto:crabfeed@comcast.net)

## Health

**ART FOR THE HEART** ValleyCare is sponsoring a free art therapy program for cancer patients and their loved ones. A local artist from Lilly Oncology will lead participants in an art lesson from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, March 5, at ValleyCare Health System, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 240. Supplies and lunch will be provided. Call to register, 734-3319.

**CANCER SURVIVOR PROGRAM** Exercise program for breast cancer survivors will be held from noon-1 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 1 through Feb. 22, at LifeStyleRx, 1119 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. The program, consists of yoga and pilates taught by instructors who are certified and have experience working with

post op patients. Call 454-6316 for more information.

**COLON CANCER AWARENESS** ValleyCare is hosting a free educational seminar on "Colon Cancer Awareness." Hear Dr. Entwisle discuss important risk factors, from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, March 17, at ValleyCare Health System, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 240. Refreshments will be provided for registered guests. Call to register, 734-3319.

**DIABETES MANAGEMENT CLASSES** Free Diabetes Class. Seven week series will teach you how to manage your Type 2 diabetes or Pre Diabetes, eat the foods you love, how and why to check your blood sugar, medications, exercise and more! New series from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 8 - March 5 at Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Call 510-383-5185 to register.

**HEALING TOUCH** ValleyCare Health System is hosting a free learn at lunch seminar on "Healing Touch." This treatment was developed by nurses to help cancer patients restore balance in their life. The lecture is from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 8, at ValleyCare Health System Women's Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Conference Room 240. All registered participants will receive a free lunch. Call to register, 734-3319.

**LUNCH & LEARN PROGRAM** A Using the Internet for Health Information seminar is from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 11, at ValleyCare Health System, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd. Margaret Hsieh, the Medical Librarian at ValleyCare Health System, will present the program, helping users to find credible information from the Internet. Call to register, 734-3319. Pleasanton.

**TEAM IN TRAINING INFO MEETING** Keep your resolution to get healthy and give back to your community in 2011! Join The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (TNT). Attend the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 6 at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Call 800.78.TRAIN or visit [www.teamintraining.org/sf](http://www.teamintraining.org/sf).

**USING THE INTERNET FOR HEALTH INFORMATION** ValleyCare Health System's Medical Librarian will be giving a free talk on "Using the Internet for Health Information" from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 11, at ValleyCare Health System Women's Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Conference Room 240. All registered participants will receive a free boxed lunch. To register, call 734-3319.

**YOGA** Stretch, relax and rejuvenate every Saturday from 9-10:30 a.m. at Art of Living Center, 6690 Amador Plaza Road, Suite 13, Dublin. Yoga and meditation. Become one with your mind, body and spirit. Class is free. Visit [www.artofliving.org/sanramon](http://www.artofliving.org/sanramon).

## Holiday

**CHRISTMAS DISPLAY** Visit the 28th annual free Christmas display from 6-9:30 p.m., Dec. 3 through Jan. 1, at Casa del Pomba, 352 Hillcrest

Ave., Livermore, with over 325,000 lights plus a new walk-through display. A new theme every year tells a story. Grand opening will be Friday, Dec. 3, with a candlelight procession down the street. Open every night, weather permitting. Visit [www.casadelpomba.com](http://www.casadelpomba.com).

## Kids & Teens

**JOB'S DAUGHTERS BETHEL No.14** This group meets at 7 p.m., on the second and fourth Monday of every month, at Pleasanton Masonic Lodge, 3370 Hopyard Rd. It is for girls between the ages of 10 and 20 who have a Masonic relationship. It teaches the girls team work, leadership and public speaking. Call 683-5401.

**M.O.M.'s READING TIME** Preschoolers and their parents are invited to meet from 10-11 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month at Museum On Main, 603 Main St. Let Museum On Main introduce your preschooler to books and activities about the unique people, places, and events in our community. Call 462-2766 or visit [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org).

**TEEN AND MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT THE LIBRARY** Pleasanton Public Library offers Volunteer Information Meetings for teens in high school that may volunteer at the library at various times of the year like the Friends of the Library Book Sale or help with the Children's Summer Reading Program. Students (not parents please) will need to visit the blog at [www.ptownteenlib.blogspot.com](http://www.ptownteenlib.blogspot.com) to find out when new volunteer training dates are available before e-mailing Teresa Parham at [tparham@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:tparham@ci.pleasanton.ca.us). Also, middle school students are invited to help run the library's summer reading program by becoming a "Kid Power Volunteer" to help children sign up for and play the summer reading game, as well as distribute prizes. For more information, call the Children's Desk 931-3400, ext. 8.

## Live Music

**CHRIS BRADLEY'S JAZZ BAND** Enjoy live jazz music from the 20s, 30s and 40s from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Sunol Jazz Cafe, 11986 Main St. Cover is \$5.

## Miscellaneous

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ONLINE BOOK SALE** Did you know you can buy books from the Friends of the Library at Amazon.com? The Friends have a year round magazine and paperback book sale in the library and have two major book sales a year. To buy books, visit [www.amazon.com/shops/ptwnfriends](http://www.amazon.com/shops/ptwnfriends) or call Nancy Bering at 462-4368.

## On Stage

**CABARET** Focuses on 1931 nightlife at the seedy Kit Kat Klub, English cabaret performer, Sally Bowles, and the young American writer, Cliff Bradshaw. Performances are

at 8 p.m. Jan. 21, 22, 27, 28, and 29 and at 2 p.m. Jan. 23 and 30 at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$17-\$32 for adults and \$17-\$28 for seniors and children. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Seniors

**2011 TAX CHANGES** Since 2001 the estate exemption has been increasing, from \$1 million in 2001 to \$3.5 million in 2009. In 2010 there was no estate tax. Now that 2011 is approaching, what will the status of the law be? Come and learn about the law and what this means for you and your estate plan. The workshop is from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 6 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost \$1.75 for resident and \$2.25 for non resident. Call 931-5369 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

**BRAIN MATTERS** Enjoy a morning of fun while learning how to keep your brain active and your memory sharp. The class is held from 10-11:30 a.m. the first and third Fridays of every month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Word games, puzzles, challenging activities, reminiscing and more, geared to help you age-proof your mind. Cost \$1.75 for resident and \$2.25 for non-resident. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

**COMPUTER CLASSES FOR SENIORS** Pleasanton Public Library hosts Computer Classes for Seniors including Beginning Internet on the first Wednesday and Thursday of every month; Beginning E-mail on the second Wednesday and Thursday of every month; Open Practice on the third Wednesday and Thursday of every month; Advanced E-mail on the fourth Wednesday and Thursday of every month, at the Adult Computer Area in the library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Computer classes are designed for mature adults. Registration is required; call 931-3400.

**DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER DANCE CLASSES** Seniors are invited to a Beginning Latin Line Dance from 1-2:15 p.m. Tuesdays; cost is \$12 for four classes per month or \$15 for five classes per month. Beginning line dance from 10:25-11:25 a.m. Thursdays, cost is \$1.25 per class; beginning-intermediate line dancing from 10:15-11:15 a.m., Tuesdays, cost is \$2 drop-in, or from 10:30 a.m.-noon Saturdays, cost is \$3 drop-in; easy and intermediate line dance from 2-4 p.m. Thursdays, cost is \$3 per class; intermediate line dance from 10:45-11:45 a.m. Fridays, cost is \$1.25 per class; advanced line dancing from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Mondays, cost is \$3 per class; or social line dance from 10:15-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, cost is \$2 for drop-in or \$6 for four classes per month or \$7.50 for five classes per month; all at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Call 556-4511.

**DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER FOUNDATION MEETING** The Dublin Senior Center Foundation meets at 9 a.m. on the first Wednesday of every month, at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd.

Call 556-4511.

**DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER MINI-LIBRARY** The Dublin Senior Center Mini-Library is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday at the senior center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. The library gladly accepts donations of like-new used books published in the last five years, puzzles, magazines within three months of distribution, and videotapes. Unused books are donated to Friends of the Dublin Library. Bring donations to the office for processing. Call 556-4511.

**DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER OFFERS MUSIC CLASSES** Dublin Senior Center offers two music classes including Sing-a-longs with Judy Kufin and Merrill Ito at 10:30 a.m., Thursdays; and Ukulele Beginning Instruction with Judy Kufin and Merrill Ito at 1 p.m., Tuesdays, both at the Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Cost is \$1.25 for each class. Call 556-4511.

**DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS** Dublin Senior Center offers different programs and activities including "Tattle Tales" which helps seniors write their life story from 12:30-3 p.m., on the first and third Monday of every month; a Reading Group that discusses new books every month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month; and the Needle Arts Group that enjoys quilting, sewing and knitting from 1-4 p.m. every Monday; all at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Cost is \$1.25 for each activity. Call 556-4511.

**FREE MEMORY SCREENING FOR SENIORS** Caring Solutions is sponsoring free memory assessment on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Call 556-4511 for a 30-minute appointment. Preregister by the Monday prior to reserve an appointment. Informational materials are available at the Senior Center.

**LEARN WHAT THE INTERNET CAN DO FOR YOU** You don't need to own a computer to attend this program. The class will introduce you to the internet and show you how it benefits you to use it. The class is from 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

**LUNCH PROGRAM** The lunch program sponsored by Spectrum Community Services is from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Lunch is served at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.25. Reservations required a day in advance by 1 p.m. Call 931-5385.

**MILLS LINE DANCE SOCIAL** DJ Millie Dusha will play tunes from the classic oldies at the Mills Line Dance Social on the first Thursday of every month at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. All level of dancers are welcome. Cost is \$3. Call 556-4511.

**PEDDLER SHOPPE AT THE SENIOR CENTER** The Peddler Shoppe in the lobby of the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., offers the handmade wares of talented local senior artisans. It's a great place to buy gifts. The Shoppe is staffed by

volunteers and is open to the public 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; 6 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday evenings; and 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday monthly.

**PREVENTING FALLS** Habits developed over a lifetime can put you at risk for a fall. There are many simple things you can do to reduce your risk of falling. Lively & informative discussion on identifying what might put you at risk for a fall & how to reduce those risks and avoid falling. Class is from 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost \$1.75 for resident or \$2.25 for non resident. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

**TECH TUESDAY** A new computer class with Las Positas College student volunteers will guide you through various programs, applications and answer computer questions. Class is from 10-11:30 a.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost \$5 resident, \$6 non-resident. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

**TRANSCRIBING FOR YOU** Transcribing for You has volunteers that will transcribe and print your letters to be sent. The service is located at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd, Dublin, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$1.50. Call 556-4511 for an appointment or email [seniorctr@ci.dublin.us](mailto:seniorctr@ci.dublin.us)

**WII BOWLING** Play Wii Bowling on the big screen from 3:30-4:30 p.m. every Wednesday afternoon at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost \$1.75 resident and \$2.25 nonresident. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

## Spiritual

**COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY** The Gospel of Luke will be the topic of study for the CBS Women's Class, for women of all ages and children up to 5 years old. Classes are held every Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Dr. Call 399-5072 or visit [www.communitybiblestudy.org](http://www.communitybiblestudy.org).

**MEDITATION STUDY GROUP** Practice new meditation methods, based on teachings of Shinzen Young, using audio, video and handouts from 7:15-8:30 p.m., on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, at Tri-Valley Unity's gathering place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. Contact Gayle at [gstaehle@comcast.net](mailto:gstaehle@comcast.net).

**MEDITATION STUDY GROUP** Practice new meditation methods, based on teachings of Shinzen Young, using audio, video and handouts at 7:15-8:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. Study group will meet at Tri-Valley Unity's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. 7:15-8:30 p.m.

**NEW CHURCH ROCK BIBLE CHURCH** Been meaning to find a casual, compelling, community church but Sundays are your day to sleep in? Pastor Scott Berglin and his wife Julie, longtime Pleasanton residents, are offering service from 5-6

p.m. at Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Ct. He has 20 years ministry experience committed to scripture. Call 519-3169 or visit [www.rockbiblechurch.com](http://www.rockbiblechurch.com).

**PERSONAL GROWTH (OPTIONAL CE UNITS)** Shoshana Kobrin, MFT, will present a workshop on "Love, Anger, Power and Food" from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (registration will start at 8:30 a.m.), Friday, Jan. 21, at San Damiano, 710 Highland Dr., Danville. This retreat is for people with difficulties with food as well as those who treat them. Cost is \$75; \$95 for CE units (6 CE units available for MFT, LCSW, RN, & LVN's). Call 837-9141, ext. 315 or visit [www.sandamiano.org](http://www.sandamiano.org).

**WEEKLY LDS BIBLE STUDY** Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints hosts a weekly bible study from 7:30-8:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the church, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Refreshments served. For information, call 305-9468.

## 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](http://www.valleycare.com). 7:30-9 p.m. Free

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** Caring for a loved one is challenging physically and emotionally. Join this support group to explore resources and generate problem solving ideas from 1-3 p.m., on the second Monday of every month, and from 7-9 p.m., on the second Wednesday of every month, at 5353 Sunol Blvd. Get the support you deserve at the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. Call 931-5389.

**CLUTTERLESS SELF HELP GROUP** Overwhelmed by clutter? Learn how to deal with it by attending this support group, which meets from 7-8:30 p.m. every Monday at St. Mary & St. John Coptic Orthodox Church, 4300 Mirador Dr., Rm. 7. Call 200-1943 or visit [www.clutterless.org](http://www.clutterless.org).

**EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR SUPPORT GROUP** If you have recently been diagnosed with ET or would like to learn more about this common movement disorder in a safe and supportive environment, please join us from 10 a.m.-noon on the third Saturday of each month, in the Blackhawk A and B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Rd. Call 487-5706 or e-mail [galexplor@comcast.net](mailto:galexplor@comcast.net).

**FIBROMYALGIA 'PLUS' SUPPORT GROUP** The Fibromyalgia "Plus" Support Group holds informational meetings for those who suffer from FMS as well as similar conditions and desire knowledge, understanding, support, sharing and caring. Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at the ValleyCare Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Ste 270. Sufferers and caregivers are encouraged to attend. Call 443-5707.

**PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES SUPPORT GROUP** Formed in 2003 this

support group's mission is to provide support and comfort to the families of Pleasanton residents whose loved ones are deployed in the combat zones of Afghanistan and Iraq. This group has monthly meetings and other events such as the upcoming Dec. 4 Christmas/Holiday "pack out" of comfort and care items to be sent to deployed members of the armed forces. The group also sponsors the Yellow Streamer program on Main Street where these personnel have streamers displayed with their name, rank and branch of service. Contact Chairwoman Pat Frizzell at [PleasantonMilitaryFamilies@gmail.com](mailto:PleasantonMilitaryFamilies@gmail.com) or Chris Miller at [millercj3@gmail.com](mailto:millercj3@gmail.com).

**TRI VALLEY SUPPORT GROUP FOR FIBROMYALGIA, LUPUS & ALL FORMS OF ARTHRITIS** Tri Valley Support Group for Fibromyalgia, Lupus and all forms of Arthritis meets from 6:30-8 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month at Tri Valley Support, 3115 Finnian Way, Dublin. They are in need of volunteers to help out. Call 875-0960.

**TRI VALLEY SUPPORT GROUP FOR FIBROMYALGIA, LUPUS AND ALL FORMS OF ARTHRITIS** This group meets from 6:30-8 p.m., on the fourth Monday of every month, at the Groves at Dublin Ranch in the Clubhouse, 3115 Finnian Way, Dublin. It hosts special speakers like doctors or specialists. For information, call JoAnne during the hours of 11 a.m.-10 p.m. at 875-0960.

## Volunteering

**BLOOD DONATION CENTER** about ways to greet, inform and thank our community's blood donors from 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13 at Pleasanton Blood Donation Center, 5556-B Springdale Ave. Advance sign-up required. Call 510-594-5165 or email [blackstone@usa.redcross.org](mailto:blackstone@usa.redcross.org).

**BLOOD DRIVE** American Red Cross mobile blood drive from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26 at Safeway, Employee Fitness Facility, 5858 Stoneridge Mall Rd. Call 738-1365 to schedule an appointment.

**SENIOR SUPPORT PROGRAM NEEDS DRIVERS** Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley is looking for volunteer drivers to transport seniors to their medical appointments. This program supplements existing public and paratransit services by providing rides via volunteer drivers. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle, carry automobile liability insurance, and have a clean DMV record. Contact Jennifer Cullen for more information at 931-5387 or e-mail [ja.cullen@yahoo.com](mailto:ja.cullen@yahoo.com).

## 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](http://www.tri-valleytv.org).

# Holiday Fund 2010

## Thank you to our Holiday Fund donors

Since the launch of the 2010 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, 411 donors have contributed \$80,358 to the fund. Fifty one anonymous donors have given \$18,415 of that total.

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Our Children & Grandchildren from Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Daggett .....	**

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My Grandchildren from Doris A. Slater .....	**
Sgt. Patrick M. Herman, USMC from Mike Herman .....	**
Pleasanton Community Concert Band, for 35 years of melodious service from Jerri & Rob Long .....	**
Jana Grant from Steve & Jori Grant .....	100
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*\*\*The asterisk designates that the donor did not want to publish the amount of the gift.*

**The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund**

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund was created to provide financial support from our readers for a select group of local nonprofit organizations to help alleviate the needs that exist, despite our community's prosperity. This marks the eighth year of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. It provides an opportunity to aid local groups at a time when the numbers of those without jobs or with low-paying jobs and few if any health benefits have increased.

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund drive could not exist without the help of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation and its generous donors. This will enable us to double your donation and allow your gift of \$1 to total \$2 to the nonprofits. An added benefit: Neither the Pleasanton Weekly nor the Tri-Valley Community Foundation will take any fees or expenses for administering the fund. One hundred percent of donations go to the intended grantees.

We appreciate your support of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund and these worthy nonprofits.



# How to give

**Your gift helps seniors, children and others in need**

Contributions to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund will be increased by the Tri-Valley Community Foundation. For every \$1 contributed, \$2 will be donated to these local organizations. All contributions will go directly to programs that benefit Pleasanton and Tri-Valley residents. Contributions will be distributed by the Tri-Valley Community Foundation to the five agencies listed below. No administrative costs will be deducted from the gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

This year, due to the tremendous need of all nonprofits, donations will be shared equally among the five recipient agencies.  
For more information call us at 600-0840 or e-mail editor@pleasantonweekly.com.

**The following agencies will be supported by the Holiday Fund:**

- **Axis Community Health:** Provides medical, mental health, addiction counseling and health education services to more than 20,000 patients and clients each year, regardless of their ability to pay. An estimated 70 percent have no medical insurance or are underinsured, including some that have recently lost their jobs and health benefits. Call 462-1755 or visit [www.axishealth.org](http://www.axishealth.org).
- **Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center at ValleyCare:** The ValleyCare Health Library and Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center, established in 1991, offers free access to easy to understand, up-to-date health and medical information. Open to the public, the library is located in the ValleyCare Medical Plaza, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270, Pleasanton. The center is named for Ryan Comer, a star baseball player at Amador Valley High School who died of a rare form of pediatric cancer known as rhabdomyosarcoma in 1991 at age 17.
- **Hope Hospice:** Hospice care is unique because it works to not only meet the needs of those at the end of life but also supports the emotional and spiritual needs of the family as well. Hope hospice care is provided regardless of the ability to pay and relies on contributions such as those raised by the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.
- **Open Heart Kitchen:** As the only nonprofit free soup kitchen in the Tri-Valley area, this service provides nutritious meals for low-income people in the area at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasanton, Holy Cross Lutheran and Vineyard Christian Fellowship in Livermore, and CrossWinds Church in Dublin. Visit [www.openheartkitchen.org](http://www.openheartkitchen.org) or call 580-1616.
- **Valley Humane Society:** This nonprofit group's mission is to teach responsible pet ownership. It assists in rescuing and placing abandoned or injured animals and operates an adoption center on Nevada Street in Pleasanton. It does not euthanize unless health problems dictate. Call 426-8656.

Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_

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I wish to contribute anonymously.  Don't publish the amount of my contribution.

Please make checks payable to **Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund**  
Enclose this coupon and send to: **The Holiday Fund, Pleasanton Weekly**  
**5506 Sunol Blvd, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566**



The Tri-Valley Community Foundation is located at 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Ste. 206, Pleasanton, CA 94588. More information about the Foundation can be obtained by contacting the organization at the above address, by calling its President David Rice at (925) 734-9965 or through its website: [www.tvcfoundation.org](http://www.tvcfoundation.org). The Pleasanton Weekly will make every effort to publish donor names for donations received before Dec. 31, 2010, unless the donor checks the anonymous box. All donations will be acknowledged by mail.

# Marketplace Pleasanton Weekly

To advertise in the Marketplace call Karen at 925.600.0840 x122 or email [kklein@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:kklein@pleasantonweekly.com)

## Real Estate



**Mike Fracisco**  
REALTOR  
Fracisco Realty & Investments  
Residential, Commercial  
& Property Management  
direct: 925-998-8131  
[www.MikeFracisco.com](http://www.MikeFracisco.com)  
DRE#01378428

## Healthcare

**Independent Contractors  
wanted for Senior Home  
Health Care.**  
**MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE**  
**Senior Solutions**  
**925-443-3101**

## Accounting/Bookkeeping

**NEED HELP  
WITH QUICKBOOKS?**  
No job too big or too small!!!  
Over 23 years experience  
in all aspects of bookkeeping  
Call Linda 925.918.2233

## General Contracting

**HANDYMAN**  
**Complete Home Repairs**  
Electrical Service / Carpentry  
Drywall / Texturing / Tile  
**925.989.6179**

## Foreign Language

**Ciao Italia**

Italian language  
courses and tutoring  
in Pleasanton

**\* Now Enrolling \***

Courses start on January 11th

Enrica Olivieri  
925-858-3776  
[eulivieri@comcast.net](mailto:eulivieri@comcast.net)

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**FOGSTER.**  
**COM**

# fogster.com THE TRI-VALLEY'S CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE

**BULLETIN BOARD**

## 115 Announcements

**PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION?** Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 866-413-6293 (Void in Illinois) (AAN CAN)

**SHARPEN UP AT THE FARMERS MARKET**  
Stress and Pain Mgmt, BLR, MFT  
Sunday Morning Cafe!

## 130 Classes & Instruction

**Airlines Are Hiring!**  
Go to aviation maintenance college for FREE! Tuition paid for the BEST. H.S. Grad w/good grades and proven work history. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance (866) 859-6378. (Cal-SCAN)

**Attend College Online**  
from Home. \*Medical, \*Business, \*Paralegal, \*Criminal Justice. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV certified. Call 888-210-5162 [www.Centura.us.com](http://www.Centura.us.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**High School Diploma!**  
Graduate in 4 weeks! FREE Brochure. Call Now! 1-866-562-3650 ext. 60 [www.SouthEasternHS.com](http://www.SouthEasternHS.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA!**  
Graduate in just 4 weeks!!  
FREE Brochure. Call NOW! 1-800-532-6546 Ext. 97 <http://www.continentacademy.com> (AAN CAN)

## 133 Music Lessons

**SINGING LESSONS FOR ALL AGES!**  
Voice Studio of Cherie Michael  
Call 925-462-4419  
For further information and to reserve your private lessons.

## 135 Group Activities

ClutterLess[CL] meets Mondays  
Lioness Club seeks New members

## 150 Volunteers

Thrift Shoppe Volunteers

## 155 Pets

**Who Adopted Cha Cha & Grayson?**  
CHA CHA and GRAYSON were 2 outside cats I cared for last year who I loved, brought to Valley Humane & were adopted- Yay! I'd just like to hear from whoever adopted them: how're they doing, what kind of housecats they have become? Please email me if you have info about these 2 kitties. Thank you, Alice ([alice@radancemagazine.com](mailto:alice@radancemagazine.com))

**SOLD FOR SALE**

## 201 Autos/Trucks/Parts



**Cadillac 2007 CTS**  
20X8 crave alloy No. 10 rims with 245/35R20 nexen tires with less than 500 miles wear call 846-8636

## 202 Vehicles Wanted

**Donate Vehicle**  
Receive \$1000 Grocery Coupons, Your Choice. Noah's Arc, No Kill Animal Shelters. Advanced Veterinary Treatments. Free Towing, IRS Tax Deduction. Non-Runners. 1-866-912-GIVE. (Cal-SCAN)

**Donate Your Car**  
Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research and Support! Free Vacation Package. Fast, Easy and Tax Deductible. Call 1-800-252-0615. (Cal-SCAN)

## 210 Garage/Estate Sales

Pleasanton, 3231 Vineyard Ave, Current

## 215 Collectibles & Antiques

All 50 State Quarters  
In Proof Sets For A Total of 109 Coins, 10 Years Collection. \$750.  
Call Jim 925-484-2550

Royal Doulton figurine - \$25

We Are Hiring (adnan.ahmed02) - \$122

## 220 Computers/Electronics

Consumers choice in Electronic p - 00  
Maruti Enterprises - A Computer - \$1000

## 240 Furnishings/Household items

3 piece kitchen carving set - \$10  
Entertainment Cabinet - Free  
MIKASA PHOTO FRAME 5X7 - \$35  
New Jukebox Shaped Ent Ctr - \$60

## 245 Miscellaneous



**2008 Kubota L-39**  
Tractor with Loader and Backhoe, winter sale \$4800, mail for details at [burn49eg@msn.com](mailto:burn49eg@msn.com) / 949-606-8553  
Non-stick stove top grill - \$20  
RED WORMS FOR COMPOSTING - \$25

## 250 Musical Instruments

**World Guitar Show**  
Buy, Sell, Trade. Marin Civic/San Rafael, January 8-9. OC Fair/Event/Costa Mesa, January 15-16. Saturdays 10-5, Sundays 10-4. [www.TXShows.com](http://www.TXShows.com) Clip this ad! (Cal-SCAN)

**KID STUFF**

## 330 Child Care Offered

**Kids Pick Up And Drop Off For School(s). In Pleasanton.**  
Contact Pat at [parul4229@hotmail.com](mailto:parul4229@hotmail.com)  
Live in AuPair Childcare

## 345 Tutoring/Lessons

**Everything-About-College.com**  
College Admissions Specialist. Everything you need to manage the college applications and admissions process.

**High School Tutoring**  
High school math/English tutoring. Algebra, Geometry, Pre-calc. Prepare for finals. Essay Writing/College Application essays. SAT/ACT prep. Retired teacher, Cal credential, 925-462-3807

**MIND & BODY**

## 425 Health Services

**Wanted: Diabetic Test Strips**  
Cash Paid. Unopened, Unexpired Boxes Only. All Brands Considered. Help others, don't throw boxes away. For more information, Call 888-491-1168. (Cal-SCAN)

## 435 Integrative Medicine

Herbal Medicine, Fact or Fiction

## 450 Personal Growth

YEAR END LETTING GO CEREMONY

## 460 Pilates

Pilates Training

**EMPLOYMENT**

## 550 Business Opportunities

**All Cash Vending Route**  
Be Your Own Boss! 25 Machines + Candy All for \$9995. Vend3. 1-877-915-8222. All major credit cards accepted! (Cal-SCAN)

**Be Your Own Boss**  
Start Today! Own a Red Hot - Dollar, Dollar Plus, Mailbox or Discount Party Store from \$51,900 worldwide! 100% Turnkey. 1-800-518-3064. [www.DRSS4.com](http://www.DRSS4.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**In Search of a bookkeeper**  
Qualifications:  
-Excellent computer skills  
-Thorough knowledge of Simple Accounting and Quickbooks  
-Internet-capable -Quick learner  
-Ability to work under pressure  
-Proven ability to handle sensitive and confidential information  
-Ability to work independently as well as part of a team  
-Strong verbal and written communication skills  
-Strong organizational skills  
-Ability to perform several tasks simultaneously  
-Would work only 3 days; Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays  
-Maximum of 2hrs during work days  
-\$1200 per month( i.e \$300/wk)  
Only qualified and interested applicants reply to: [quartzcharles@yahoo.com](mailto:quartzcharles@yahoo.com) NO QUESTIONS, NO PHONE CALLS!!!

## 560 Employment Information

**\$\$\$HELP WANTED\$\$\$**  
Extra Income! Assembling CD cases from Home! No Experience Necessary! Call our Live Operators Now! 1-800-405-7619 EXT 2450 <http://www.easywork-greatpay.com> (AAN CAN)

**Drivers**  
Company Drivers: Solos and Hazmat Teams \* Great Pay \* Great Miles \* CDLA Required. We also have dedicated and regional positions available. Call 866-789-8947. Swift. (Cal-SCAN)

**EARN \$75 - \$200 HOUR**  
Media Makeup Artist Training. Ads, TV, Film, Fashion. One week class. Stable job in weak economy. Details at <http://www.AwardMakeUpSchool.com> 310-364-0665 (AAN CAN)

**Paid In Advance!**  
Make \$1,000 a Week mailing brochures from home! Guaranteed Income! FREE Supplies! No experience required. Start Immediately! [www.homemailerprogram.net](http://www.homemailerprogram.net) (AAN CAN)

**BUSINESS SERVICES**

## 624 Financial

**crosetti funding**  
CASH NOW we offer fast cash for your mortgage note, annuity, and business note call 1 800 391 4032

## 645 Office/Home Business Services

**Advertise Your Home,**  
property or business for sale in 240 California newspapers. Reach over 6 million readers for ONLY \$550! Call this newspaper or visit: [www.CAL-SCAN.com](http://www.CAL-SCAN.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Advertise Your Job Opening**  
in 240 California newspapers. Reach over 6 million readers for ONLY \$550! Call 650/326-8216 or visit: [www.Cal-SCAN.com](http://www.Cal-SCAN.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Display Advertising**  
in 140 Cal-SCAN newspapers statewide for \$1,550! Reach over 3 million Californians! FREE email brochure. Call (916) 288-6019. [www.Cal-SCAN.com](http://www.Cal-SCAN.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**HOME SERVICES**

## 751 General Contracting

**NOTICE TO READERS** >It is illegal for an unlicensed person to perform contracting work on any project valued at \$500.00 or more in labor and materials. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at [www.csb.ca.gov](http://www.csb.ca.gov) or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs that total less than \$500.00 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board

**Calhoun Construction**  
No job too small! Add a door or window, need an extra outlet or lights, fans, repair siding, beautiful custom molding and trim. Larger jobs no problem, kitchen and bath remodels, general tiling, custom storage sheds and more. Very reasonable rates, lic# 899014, bonded 925-330-0965.

## 771 Painting/Wallpaper

## PET OF THE WEEK

## Licorice needs a home

Licorice is a handsome, long-haired fellow desperate for a home. Licorice is looking for his own window he can sit in all day without 30 other cats around to pester him. He came from the Fairmont Animal Shelter in May, but never adjusted to a shelter situation. But once in a home, he would surely be cool and collected. If you have an extra window sill and an open mind and heart, call 925-426-8656 or visit the [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org) to learn more. Valley Humane Society at 3670 Nevada St. It's open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



**\*JOE'S PAINTING & HANDYMAN\***  
Free Est. / Reasonable Prices no Job Too Small!!! 925-200-7333 Lic#624542

## 779 Organizing Services

Omnibus Organizing

**REAL ESTATE**

## 809 Shared Housing/Rooms

**ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM**  
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Roommates.com>. (AAN CAN)

## 825 Homes/Condos for Sale

San Ramon, 4 BR/2 BA - \$529,000

## 840 Vacation Rentals/Time Shares

**Timeshares**  
Sell/Rent for Cash! Our Guaranteed Services will Sell/ Rent Your Unused Timeshare for CASH! Over \$78 Million Dollars offered in 2009! [www.SellaTimeshare.com](http://www.SellaTimeshare.com) (877) 554-2098 (Cal-SCAN)

Squaw Valley-Olympic Village Inn  
Squaw Vly, Feb27-Mar 6 Timeshare - 700

## 850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

**El Paso, TX**  
Own 20 Acres, only \$129/month. \$13,900. (Safest city in America!) Low Down, No Credit Checks, Owner Financing. Free Map/Pictures. 1-800-343-9444. (Cal-SCAN)

No phone number in the ad?  
GO TO [fogster.com](http://fogster.com)  
for contact information

# Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during November 2010

### Dublin

**7577 Brigadoon Way** M. Foy to M. & M. Dollar for \$439,000  
**4051 Cassata Place** K. & J. Khashayar to H. Shetty for \$589,000  
**8362 Davona Drive** D. Burroughs to E. & C. Swetavage for \$405,000  
**3465 Dublin Boulevard #446** Toll Dublin Limited to M. Batts for \$392,000  
**6113 Ledgewood Terrace** Davis Trust to D. & C. Redmon for \$865,000  
**6115 Ledgewood Terrace** V. Dobjanschi to J. & T. Pask for \$885,000  
**4520 Mirano Court** J. & J. Kennedy to J. & M. Kim for \$628,000  
**3253 Monaghan Street** Wells Fargo Bank to T. Black for \$436,000  
**8857 Oliver Place** J. & C. Harris to C. Tam for \$370,000

### Pleasanton

**5837 Arthur Drive** L. & J. Worthing to A. & T. Lacey for \$750,000  
**5625 Baldwin Way #A** J. Perry to K. Khameshpour for \$440,000

**4678 Cochise Court** Bac Home Loans to H. & Y. Koo for \$235,000  
**2828 Daylily Court** S. & C. Reynolds to S. Yarlagadda for \$647,000  
**7330 Hickorywood Lane** S. Cross to W. Lem for \$1,170,000  
**6004 Inglewood Drive** D. & M. Dickenson to J. Chellappan for \$480,000  
**2237 Kamp Court** J. & M. Witaschek to M. & N. Harris for \$1,005,000  
**3485 Kamp Drive** B. & S. Knapp to T. Chan for \$870,000  
**2647 Lin Gate Court** A. & P. Curtis to M. Witaschek for \$625,000  
**2378 Meadowlark Drive** Z. & Y. Li to V. Reddy for \$720,000  
**264 Rachael Place** Pierce Trust to K. Johns for \$419,000  
**2219 Segundo Court #4** Bac Home Loans to L. Nguyen for \$186,000  
**3718 Smallwood Court** L. Colarusso to S. Li for \$1,200,000  
**1160 Tiffany Lane** B. Hoey to J. Mumford for \$419,000  
**4184 Torino Court** J. Franz to D. & J. Barker for \$450,000  
**2782 Turnstone Drive** J. Wipfli to S. & R. Keenan for \$705,000

Source: California REsource

## OPEN HOME THIS WEEKEND

### Pleasanton

4 BEDROOMS

**317 Diamond Court** **\$1,225,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Mark James 216-0454

To place an ad or open home contact Andrea Heggelund (925) 600-0840 x110 or e-mail aheggelund@pleasantonweekly.com

WISHING YOU A VERY PROSPEROUS AND

# Happy New Year



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BLACKHAWK | BLACKHAWK WEST | DANVILLE | LIVERMORE | LAFAYETTE | MONTECLAIR/PIEDMONT | PLEASANTON | ORINDA | WALNUT CREEK



**Phyllis Catania**



**Gerald Mace**



**Brian Wright**



**Leanna Litvishka**



**David Morris**



**Deborah Cilk**



**Bob Cilk**



**Penny & Gary Palmatier**



**Kirt Willard**



**Elaine Sternquist**  
 Broker Owner



Open Sunday 1-4



### Custom home

**317 Diamond Court, Pleasanton**

4 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, 3 car garage. 3544 sq. ft. Stunning interior. Real pride of ownership. Low maintenance yard.  
**\$1,225,000**

www.317Diamondct.Com to view the virtual tour

**Mark James**

925.216.0454 • markjames@apr.com • DRE# 00697341

apr.com | PLEASANTON 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



349 Main Street, Suite 202 • 925.426.7800

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In Downtown Pleasanton above Tully's Coffee



**Julia Murtagh**  
 Direct: 925.997.2411  
 jmurtagh@apr.com  
 www.JuliaMurtagh.com  
 DRE #01751854

**Happy New Year to my Clients and Friends!**

*Thank you for a successful 2010*

**"Bringing Integrity to Your Front Door"**

**Talk to me about Real Estate opportunities in 2011**



**COMING SOON  
IN "WINDSOR"**



4 bedroom, 3 bathroom,  
regular sale. Call Julia for more  
information. Offered at \$699,000

**Buyer Needs:**

- Large family home, close to Downtown, 900-1.2K
- Newer home, 2500+ sq. ft., 800-900K
- Larger home, with few acres up to 2 million

**Today 30% of home sellers are facing distressed sale situations. Here are the top 5 options for those sellers:**

- Short sale the home
- Reinstatement
- Forbearance or repayment plan
- Mortgage modifications
- Rent the property

If you would like to know more about your options please call me or visit my website:

[www.JuliaHelpsDistressedSellers.com](http://www.JuliaHelpsDistressedSellers.com)

**Client Testimonial**

*"Julia was a great partner in our move from the Oakland hills to Pleasanton. She is professional, personable, and will do whatever it takes to get you into your dream house. Finding a house was the easy part for us. However, without Julia's expertise and guidance afterwards, we definitely wouldn't be living where we are now. First, her knowledge and insight of the market in this area is unmatched. She gave us counsel in our negotiations as we beat out five other offers and still knew that we were getting a great deal! Second, her persistence and hard work served us well in the loan process. Like many others in this market, we were having problems with the mortgage company and were often getting the run around. At one point, Julia actually contacted the vice president of the company to advocate on our behalf. A few nights before the close of escrow, we were told by a loan officer that the vice president actually took our loan documents home to finish them himself! Without Julia, we are positive that our loan would have been lost in the shuffle.*

*Julia is the best. We were lucky to have her represent us as our realtor and now feel lucky to have her as a neighbor."*

—Don & Maria Vu, Oct. 2010

**RECENTLY PENDING AND SOLD**



**LISTED & SOLD BY JULIA**  
**2350 Meadowlark Drive**  
*Short Sale*  
 Sold for \$705,000



**RECENTLY SOLD BY JULIA**  
**4457 Arbutus Court**  
 Sold for \$685,000



**RECENTLY SOLD BY JULIA**  
**2556 Arlotta Place**  
 Sold for \$1,355,000



**CURRENTLY PENDING**  
**8145 Mountain View Drive**  
*Short Sale*  
 Listed for \$265,000



apr.com | PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



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LOFLAND**



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 www.blaiselofland.com  
 blaise@blaiselofland.com  
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 apr.com

**GOLDEN EAGLE ESTATES LOT**

**COMING SOON**



**8019 GOLDEN EAGLE WAY, PLEASANTON**  
 Beautiful large premium 1.08 acre lot in desirable Golden Eagle Estates gated community. Panoramic views! Build your own dream home or plans are approved for a 6300 sq ft. 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms home with 4 car garage. Plans available for custom rock sculpted pool with waterslide and waterfall, pool cabana and custom outdoor kitchen with pizza oven, outdoor shower. **OFFERED AT \$1,000,000**

**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 \$1,195,000**

**GREY EAGLE ESTATES**

**SOLD  
REPRESENTED BUYER**



**27 GREY EAGLE ESTATE, PLEASANTON**  
 Secluded 5904 sq ft. custom home on premium 5.3 acre estate in desirable, gated Grey Eagle Estates. Panoramic Views of the valley and Mt. Diablo. Five bedrooms, plus bonus room, office, 2nd office/hobby room, 3.5 bathrooms. Four car garage. Beautiful grounds include private vineyard, in-ground pool and spa. **SOLD FOR \$1,900,000**

**PLEASANTON SEMI-CUSTOM**

**SOLD**



**4150 CREEKWOOD COURT, PLEASANTON**  
 Don't miss this private, Pleasanton home on premium 1/2 acre lot. Large multimedia/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. **SOLD FOR \$1,120,000**

**NEW CUSTOM SINGLE LEVEL**

**SOLD**



**1588 FOOTHILL ROAD, PLEASANTON**  
 New custom single level home on private country lane off of Foothill Road. This private half acre lot is located adjacent to Golden Eagle with ridge views. Four bedrooms, bonus room/guest quarters, home theater room, private office, lockable 400 bottle wine cellar, 4.5 bathrooms, 4762 sq. ft. Gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops, top of the line appliances. Oversized three car garage (4th car option). In-ground pool, detached permitted room (office/workout room) seller to credit buyer for brand new landscaping. Near Castlewood Country Club. **SOLD FOR \$1,625,000**

**LOS OLIVOS**

**SOLD**



**2951 PICHOLINE COURT, LIVERMORE**  
 Beautiful, highly upgraded Los Olivos home on professionally landscaped private .25 acre lot. Don't miss it! Five bedroom (bonus room 5th), 3.5 bathrooms, plus detached studio/guest quarters (1 bed/1 bath). Approximately 3889 sq. ft. Gourmet kitchen with custom cabinets, granite slab countertops and stainless steel appliances. Highly upgraded spacious master suite with granite. Beautiful grounds include large private patio, spacious lawn area, garden/play set area, and atrium/side patio. Views of surrounding hills. Minutes to quality golf courses and Livermore Valley wineries. **SOLD FOR \$950,000**

**VINSANTO**

**SOLD**



**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. **SOLD FOR \$809,000**

**ORIGINAL COUNTRY FAIR**

**SOLD**



**2468 VIA DE LOS MILAGROS, PLEASANTON**  
 Desirable "Original Country Fair". Excellent location. Convenient to everything. Walk to all levels of schools & parks. Customized highly upgraded home with five bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, bonus/game room, 3,787 square feet. Three car garage, remodeled kitchen with granite and custom backsplash, custom cabinets & built-ins, plantation shutters throughout, newer high quality roof, two wood burning fireplaces. Very private beautiful grounds include in-ground black bottom solar heated pool & spa, exposed aggregate patio with flagstone, beautiful landscaping on .27 acre lot. **SOLD FOR \$1,318,500**

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street

