

Pleasanton Weekly

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SEX signals

College students discuss those assaults that often go unreported **PAGE 12**



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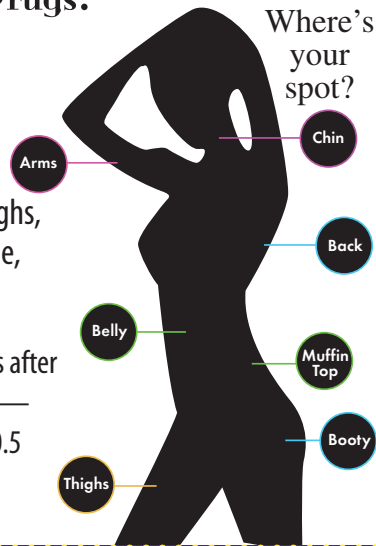
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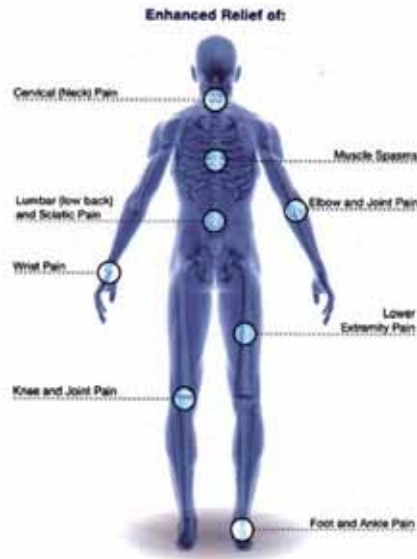


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Do you know someone who deserves a nomination?



Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award announced

April 15 deadline for submissions; winners to be named May 11

The Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award was established in 2008 to recognize Pleasanton residents chosen by their peers who consistently model high ethical and moral standards of behavior advocated by the Collaborative: Responsibility, Compassion, Self-Discipline, Honesty, Respect and Integrity. **Go to www.communityofcharacter.org.**

This year's Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award recipients will be announced May 11, 2011 at the Community of Character Collaborative Luncheon Celebration at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Cost per person is \$35 (this includes a \$5 donation to the Community of Character Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Scholarship Fund).

Past award recipients are:

Lori Rice (2008), Diana and Howard Mendenhall (2008), Jerri Pantages-Long (2009), Sue Evans (2009), Ken Mano (2009), Dr. Pushpa Dalal (2010), Chris Miller (2010), Bob Athenour (2010), and the GASIT Volunteers (2010).

Nomination forms and information available at www.communityofcharacter.org

About the Community of Character: For information about our organization or on becoming an Organization of Character visit www.communityofcharacter.org or contact us at P.O. Box 516 Pleasanton, CA 94566.



Pleasanton Unified School District



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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Government transparency at its best

I've waited outside closed-door meetings of a number of municipal, city, school district and other government agencies while they deliberated secretly over candidates for police chief, superintendents and even interim appointments to elective offices that opened after an election. So I was surprised at how easy it was to take a look at the four top prospects the administration and board members of Las Positas College are considering for their new president.

There in Room 801, the auditorium of a regular classroom building on the school's Livermore campus, were Stephen Schoonmaker, Kimberly Perry, Joe Olson and Kevin Trutna, all holding doctorate degrees and also all holding key positions at West Coast schools. There were probably 50 of us at any given time, with students coming and going between class breaks and some even there as part of a class assignment.

Joel Kinnamon, chancellor of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, served as the emcee, introducing each candidate for opening remarks and then helping to choose those wanting to ask questions. Besides the open forum, the whole day (from 11 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.) seemed terribly casual for this series of serious presentations. Not that any of us actually voted one of the four into the job at the end, but we all were asked to list our impressions of the candidates' professional strengths and weaknesses.

Trutna, vice president for Academic and Student Services at Northern California's Yuba College was the most casual of the group, almost Joe College in his answers to student questions about sports budgets and other campus concerns. As the only woman to make the final four, Kimberly Perry seemed the most approachable, a warm, compassionate leader who would hear you out in a time of need. She's vice president of Academic Af-

fairs at Los Angeles City College, a crowded urban two-year college with a number of branch campuses that keep its administrators on the go much of the week.

The first candidate to speak, Stephen Schoonmaker, had walked the Las Positas campus beforehand and was able to relate to buildings and sports fields when asked questions about the school. He's vice president of Instruction at Clatsop Community College outside of Portland, with a broader geographical background than the others, having earned degrees from colleges in New Mexico, Illinois and Vermont. He also served as V.P. of Student Services at Southwestern Oregon Community College, a position that endeared him to those asking about how he would relate to the variety of social issues at Las Positas.

Wearing a dark suit with spit-polished shoes, Joe Olson looked every bit the part he plays as vice president for Military, Community and Economic Development at Copper Mountain College in Joshua Tree, a desert community in southwest California.

“The college just eliminated 26 positions this week and with California's state budget in disarray, Las Positas needs someone at the top to help Chancellor Kinnamon in Sacramento budget battles.”

Olson was good at story-telling as a way of responding to most questions but seemed somewhat out of place in the more fast-paced, carefree campus environment at Las Positas. But that's all right. Not long after his trip here, Olson was hired as president of Umpqua Community College in scenic Roseburg, Ore.

These final four presentations have been long in coming at the leaderless Las Positas since DeRionne Pollard resigned last May to move to Maryland. The college just eliminated 26 positions this week and with California's state budget in disarray, Las Positas needs someone at the top to help Chancellor Kinnamon in Sacramento budget battles. No date has been given for making their choice, but with Olson out of the running and two others interviewing at other colleges, Kinnamon and the Chabot-Las Positas board need to make their decision soon. This openness in interviewing is great for those of us who enjoy “transparency” (today's favorite buzzword), but it's also a slippery slope in trying to hire the very best before he or she gets away. ■

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About the Cover

Actors Courtney Abbott and DeRante Parker perform scenarios as part of Sex Signals, a sexual assault awareness program presented recently at Las Positas College. Photo by Jessica Lipsky. Cover design by Lili Cao.

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ASKED AROUND TOWN

Have you thought about what you'd do if a strong earthquake hit the Tri-Valley?



Isabella Welch
Student

I don't feel like we are completely ready. I hadn't thought about it much before, but now I plan to talk to my family about preparing ourselves for an earthquake. Making an earthquake kit would be a good start.

Kevin Mattos
Electrical engineer

We're not disaster ready. It's easy to get caught up in everyday life, but we need to be more prepared. We're planning to have practice drills with our kids so they know what to do in the event of an earthquake or any other disaster, and we're going to stock up on supplies like food and water.



Charles Starling
Pressman

I moved here a few months ago, and we don't have earthquakes where I'm from. I'd probably be the first one to go. The devastation in Japan made me realize that I need to educate myself on how to survive a quake.

Joe Davis
Keller Williams

We aren't ready, and need to fix that. I don't have an earthquake kit, but I am going to get one this week.

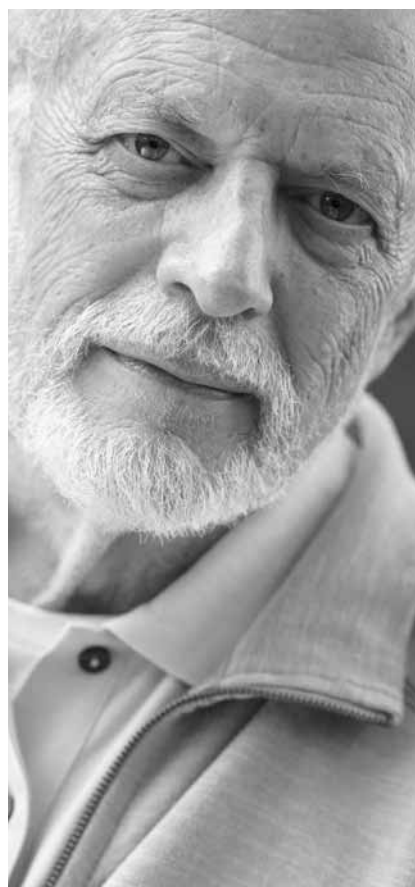


Sofia Osborne
Retired

I feel that we are somewhat prepared for a big earthquake. We have a big supply of water on the side of our house, and we also have dry supplies. I do need to ask my husband to show me where the shut-off valve for the gas line is located.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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Presented by:
Presented by: Wynn Smith, MD
ValleyCare Medical Foundation ENT

Date: March 31, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: ValleyCare Medical Plaza
5725 W. Las Positas Blvd, Pleasanton
2nd floor Conference Room
Pleasanton

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Dr. Wynn Smith, ValleyCare Medical Foundation ear, nose, and throat surgeon, has been interested in sleep apnea and other sleep disorders since he began performing sleep apnea surgery 30 years ago.

Dr Smith's talk will include observations on the personal and social cost of sleep disorders, the consequences of sleep deprivation, snoring as an alarm whistle, the necessity of good sleep habits, insomnia and the treatment of simple snoring and when snoring because a serious problem in children.

We invite you to register by calling our Health Information Line at 1-800-719-9111 or visit www.valleycare.com/educationseminars.



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Newsfront

DIGEST

Chamber backs tax

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors voted to endorse Measure E, the \$98-per-year parcel tax for schools that voters will decide by May 3 mail-in ballot.

A statement from the Chamber reads, in part, that the "parcel tax will help preserve the quality of education in Pleasanton schools that is increasingly threatened by severe state budget cuts of recent years.

"Features of Measure E include an exemption for property owners over 65; requirement of an expenditure plan each year that will specify where and how Measure E funds will be used; creation of an independent citizens' oversight committee comprised of Pleasanton residents; and automatic expiration of the tax in four years that cannot be renewed without voter approval."

Las Positas cuts staff

As a step toward addressing an anticipated \$10.3 million budget shortfall due to state budget cuts, the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees at its March 8 meeting approved a reduction in staff positions at the district and two colleges, involving 18 current employees.

Twenty-six positions are affected. Seven management positions, representing more than 9% of the district's management, have been cut; two are vacant positions. Nineteen eliminated classified staff positions, six of which are vacant, represent approximately 4% of the district's represented classified positions.

Character awards

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative is accepting nominations for the 2011 Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award until April 15. The award, named for long-time school trustee and community volunteer Juanita Haugen, was established to recognize residents chosen by their peers who model high standards of behavior, including responsibility, compassion, self-discipline, honesty, respect and integrity.

Nomination forms are at www.communityofcharacter.org, at the School District office, 4665 Bernal Ave., and at the Library, 400 Old Bernal. Award recipients will be announced May 11 at the Community of Character Collaborative Celebration at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

Correction

Last week's story on school district funds should have said that class sizes for kindergarten through third grade in Pleasanton schools would rise to 30-1 under the district's budget plan.

Oak Grove developers are back with a new plan

Long-time foe Kay Ayala makes disclosure at Tuesday council meeting

By JEB BING

Proponents of a 51-home development called Oak Grove in Pleasanton's southeast hills are back.

Former City Councilwoman Kay Ayala, who has led the fight — successfully, so far — against the hilltop project told the City Council on Tuesday night that she had heard the developers, Jennifer and Frederic Lin, had talked to council members and city staff about submitting a new development plan. Ayala said city law bars them from resubmitting a development plan until one year has passed since the June 8 referendum last year when voters rejected their 51 luxury homes.

"That means they can't be coming back to you before June 9 of this year," Ayala said.

Her comments, made during the "Meeting Open to the Public" session on the council's agenda, faced a somewhat hostile Mayor Jennifer Hosterman. She objected to Ayala's insistence that council members and staff respond, point-

ing out that the council a few minutes earlier had considered a "Lin vs. City of Pleasanton" issue in closed session. Those in that meeting are barred from disclosing specifics of the discussion, she said.

But Councilman Matt Sullivan took the microphone and said that, indeed, representatives of the Lins had contacted him to discuss a new development plan. Since that conversation was not part of the council's confidential discussion, he had no problem talking about it, he added.

Then, City Manager Nelson Fialho said publicly that some members of his staff also had been queried by the Lin development team.

City Attorney Jonathan Lowell said that he would have to research municipal laws governing re-applications of development plans once one had been turned down.

No one seemed to have any specifics on what the Lins might be proposing. They have tried several times over the last 12 years to gain ap-

proval for houses on the more than 500 acres of property they own at the end of Hearst Drive in Kottinger Ranch, a custom-home community they also developed.

At one time, they sought to build 98 homes there along with a golf course. That plan, such as the much-reduced 51-home development plan proposed five years ago, also was rejected by voters in a referendum after the City Council had given its approval.

Ayala pointed out that the Lins' new proposal comes just a few weeks after they lost a suit in Alameda County Superior Court contesting the June 8 referendum. That followed years of costly litigation that started in 2007 when Ayala led a citizens' group in petitioning the council to reverse its approval of the Oak Grove project.

"If they (the Lins) are coming back with a new plan, they at least should apologize to the people of Pleasanton for putting us through this costly process," Ayala said. ■



JAY FLACHSBARTH

Lots of smoke, but no fire

Firefighters from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department quickly shut off a smoking piece of equipment Sunday morning at VisionOne Optometry on West Angela Street near Main Street after someone called at 9:19 a.m. to report smoke coming from the store. Due to the physical nature of the two-story building, firefighters responded with four vehicles, causing early morning joggers and motorists to make numerous calls to police and fire headquarters asking for information. Fire Department investigators said that a piece of equipment in the rear of the building failed, causing the smoke, which resulted in only smoke damage to a part of the store.

Wounded soldier back in U.S.

Severely injured by improvised bomb in Afghanistan

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

A Livermore Marine is back in the United States and undergoing a series of surgeries after being severely wounded in Afghanistan.

Sgt. Jason Ross was on patrol when an I.E.D. (Improvised Explosive Device) went off. His left leg was amputated from below the knee and his right leg from above the knee, and he also sustained internal injuries.

Jason's father, George Ross, has been chronicling his son's day-by-day progress in a blog.

In the first entry, Ross said Jason "was taken to an in-country medical center where they stabilized him enough that they could medevac him to Germany so he could receive additional treatment. Once he was in Germany they took him in for further surgery and it was a little scary again, as Bridgette, his wife, Linda and I were asked to fly to be with him."

Before the family could get to Germany, however, they received word that Jason had been stabilized enough to be transported to Bethesda, Md., where he remains.

As of Tuesday, "Jason was a bit more alert,

See **SOLDIER** on Page 6

Holiday Fund donates \$147,000 to nonprofits

'Support we receive is enormously valuable,' Axis Community Health CEO says

Checks in the amount of \$29,473.55 have been distributed to five nonprofit organizations named as beneficiaries of the 2010 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund campaign.

The campaign, the seventh for the Weekly, raised more than \$147,000. The Tri-Valley Community Foundation again provided matching funds for \$50,000 of the direct contributions.

Representatives of Hope Hospice, Open Heart Kitchen, Axis Community Health, ValleyCare Health System Foundation and Tri-Valley Humane Society accepted the checks that were

distributed by Gina Channell-Allen, publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly; Jeb Bing, editor; and David Rice, president of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation.

"Your generous grant will be used to purchase food and supplies to feed those most in need here in the Tri-Valley area," said Linda McKeever, executive director of Open Heart Kitchen.

"Food is a basic human need, yet thousands right here in the Tri-Valley area start each day not knowing where their next meal will come from," she said. "Hunger is impacting our com-

munity in greater numbers than ever before, and we need you to help us make a difference.

"In 2010, we have seen the demographic of those we serve changing, with the largest increase coming from our newly underemployed and unemployed families," McKeever said.

She said that Open Heart Kitchen served more than 214,000 meals last year, including to one family that was a donor to Open Heart last year before one parent lost his job and his wife's job was cut to part-time.

See **HOLIDAY FUND** on Page 6

TAKE US ALONG

Great racing: Bob Dompe of Pleasanton and his son Nicholas Dompe of Mountain View enjoy the Weekly while waiting for the start of the Grand Prix du Canada in June. Photo by Bob's cousin Jim Ferrero of Quebec City.



SOLDIER

Continued from Page 5

and this was both good and bad, though I guess the reason it was 'bad' was an inevitability. The good was because we were able to communicate better with him, and the bad was that it seemed like Jason was beginning to recognize that he was seriously injured and that he wasn't physically the same," according to Ross' blog.

He also noted that Jason's vision seemed better and he could focus on who was talking to him. Ross

also thanked everyone for their "prayers and good thoughts."

Jason was set for another surgery Wednesday.

"We were spoken to by five sets/teams of surgeons, all of them wanting to be sure that we fully understood what they were going to be doing. By the time we were done talking to them all I felt like I had a pretty good idea of exactly what was going to be happening," Ross' blog said.

The day-to-day chronicle can be seen at <http://sgtjasonross.blogspot.com>. ■

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HEALTH

Pleasanton investigation leads to fraud bust

Goods were boxed for shipping to Mexico

By **GLENN WOHLTMANN**

Three men have been charged with credit card fraud after a call from employee at the Apple Store in Stoneridge Mall at around 1:05 p.m. March 9, police reported.

Pleasanton police Sgt. Jim Boland said a loss prevention employee at the store noticed the men's behavior and descriptions, matched them to other incidents, and called police.

That call led to an investigation by Pleasanton police and to a hotel room in Alameda, where detectives turned up about 75 counterfeit credit cards and a "vast amount" of merchandise purchased in Pleasanton, Hayward, Emeryville, San Francisco,

Daly City and Sacramento.

"Further investigation led to probably 15 full shopping bags of clothing jewelry and cosmetics as well as two apple computers and two Playstation 3s," Boland said.

Three Mexican nationals, Oscar Romero, 34, Jose Avalos Romero, 35, and Victor Carillo Vasquez, 36, were charged with forgery, possession of stolen property and burglary, according to the report. Police say the men were buying products with forged credit cards, then shipping them back to Mexico to be resold.

At the men's hotel room in Alameda, police turned up merchandise that had already been

boxed for shipping to Mexico, suspected stolen property, counterfeit credit cards and materials used to make credit cards, the report said.

All three men are being held at the Santa Rita Jail, and with evidence that the activities were not confined to California, a number of federal agencies have been called in including the FBI, Secret Service and the office of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

"There's some evidence that's leading also into Texas and right now we're working with some federal agencies dealing with jurisdictions outside the state," Boland said. ■

Livermore Lab to check for nuclear fallout

No evidence that dangerous levels of radiation will reach U.S. territory

A group at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory that predicts the spread of hazardous material releases is assisting the U.S. government by modeling the nuclear situation in Japan, a spokesman for the National Nuclear Security Administration said.

The National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center provides atmospheric plume predictions so that emergency managers can decide whether to take protective action after potential disasters, according to the group's website.

It provides real-time analysis of nuclear, radiological, chemical, biological and natural emissions.

The center is providing ongoing models based upon a variety of scenarios, both real world and speculative, following last week's deadly

earthquake and tsunami, nuclear security administration spokesman Damien LaVera said.

Several explosions have been reported at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station in the wake of the natural disaster, leading to concerns of a potential nuclear catastrophe, according to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The Department of Energy has sent two experts to Japan — an emergency response representative and a nuclear engineer who speaks Japanese — to assist the department's other team members on the ground, LaVera said.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has also been in close contact with Japanese officials and sent several experts, he said.

The commission has not found

any evidence that dangerous levels of radiation from the reactions will reach U.S. territory, but the Livermore atmospheric center is looking at how wind changes or rain could affect the spread of nuclear materials in Japan.

"(The center) has been activated to provide the U.S. government with a predictive modeling capability to analyze a variety of potential situations," LaVera said.

The National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center in Livermore also assisted with the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster and the 1979 Three Mile Island accident in Pennsylvania, plus it was activated during the 1991 Kuwaiti oil field fires and the 1993 Richmond sulfuric acid cloud.

—*Janna Brancolini, Bay City News*

HOLIDAY FUND

Continued from Page 5

"After losing their home, they found themselves in need of a helping hand, McKeever said. "Together, with the communities' generosity and support, we can provide that safety net against hunger for our neighbors during their time of need."

Sue Compton, chief executive officer of Axis Community Health, agreed.

"This generous donation, which totaled nearly \$30,000, will allow us to provide 200 more medical visits for children whose families are struggling during these tough economic times," she said. "Support from the community is especially important this year as we struggle with limited resources to make health care available to the rapidly growing number of people who are in need."

Axis is the sole provider of primary care medical services for the many Tri-Valley residents who are low income and do not have health insurance.

Compton said: "The need for our services is growing at a rapid pace as more and more of our friends and neighbors are experiencing tough times. We currently provide



JESSICA LIPSKY

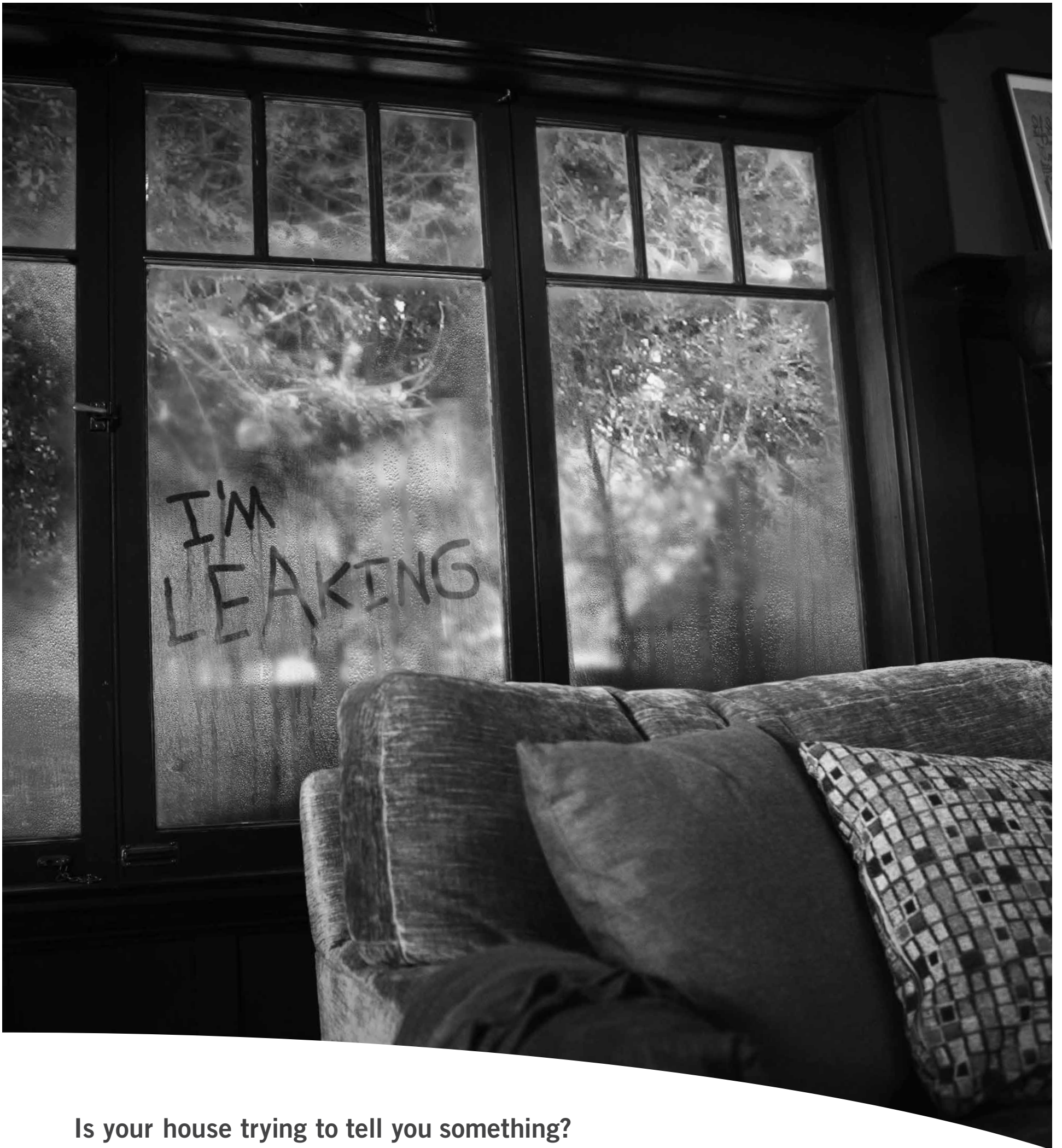
Accepting checks are (l-r) David Rice, chief executive officer, Tri-Valley Community Foundation; Lori James Rice, chairwoman of the Valley Humane Society board of directors and Steve Glavan, the organization's executive director; Linda McKeever, executive director, Open Heart Kitchen; Sue Compton, chief executive officer, Axis Community Health; Helen Meier, executive director, Hope Hospice, and Shelly Despotakis, manager of the ValleyCare Health System Foundation. At right are Pleasanton Weekly Publisher Gina Channell-Allen and Editor Jeb Bing.

services for nearly 14,000 Tri-Valley residents and we are enrolling 400 new medical patients each month.

"The support we receive to provide this care is not keeping pace with the enormous need for services. Last year we provided more than 3,000 medical visits that were uncompensated. Just six months into the current fiscal year, we have already provided more than 4,000 visits that will not be compensated.

"We rely on support from foundations and the community to cover

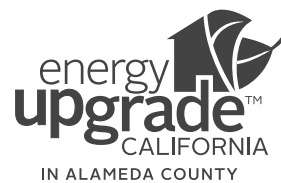
this gap, and the support we receive from the Holiday Fund is enormously valuable, as it will allow us to provide nearly 200 more medical visits this year. For a child who is struggling with an asthma attack, a pregnant woman who needs medical monitoring, or a senior with diabetes, this makes an enormous difference in their lives. We are very grateful to the Pleasanton Weekly and everyone in this wonderful, caring community who contribute to the Holiday Fund." ■



Is your house trying to tell you something?

Most homes leak energy and money. But don't fear: visit Lowe's for energy-efficient products and services. Rebates and incentives are also available from **Energy Upgrade California**.

EnergyUpgradeCa.org/InsulateMe



Buchanan talks budget to voters

Explains mix of cuts and tax extensions proposed by Gov. Brown

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

While Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan (D., Alamo) focused on the overall state budget situation and Gov. Brown's combination of budget cuts and tax extensions, many attending her open house Saturday were more concerned about his plan to end local redevelopment funds.

Buchanan gave a broad outline of the state's fiscal problems, starting with how California got into its current troubles, explaining that borrowing gradually increased

until the recession, when revenues dropped dramatically and forced a sharp jump in borrowing.

In nine years, from 2002 to 2011, she said debt service — paying for the borrowing — has risen nearly 111%, pensions have gone up 90.5%, and prison costs have risen almost 78% while the total money in the state's general fund has only gone up a little over 30%.

Buchanan said Brown's solution of cuts and tax extensions is a realistic one, that doesn't "kick the can down the road."

"The governor is not using inflated federal dollars," she told the crowd of about 40 who came to see her. "He's not pushing payments back."

She acknowledged that getting the tax extension measure — a five-year extension of higher vehicle license fees, sales taxes, and personal income taxes, and also eliminating dependent exemptions — has been a tough sell to legislators, who were set to vote on the measure Wednesday.

But, Buchanan said, "The governor has said he's prepared to make an all-cuts budget" if the measure doesn't pass the legislature or a popular vote, currently set for May.

The event, at the Livermore Library, was sponsored by Organizing for America, a project of the Democratic National Committee, and for the most part, Buchanan was speaking to the choir when it came to keeping the tax extensions in place for another five years. That wasn't the case when the discussion turned toward redevelopment funds — money normally used by cities for areas that need improvement — and the governor's plan to use that money to help balance the state budget.

Redevelopment funds have become an issue recently after misuse of the money for pet projects like a mermaid bar in Sacramento, but voters approved a measure last year, Proposition 22, that was supposed to keep that money local.



GLENN WOHLTMANN

Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan (D., Alamo) speaks with a constituent following her discussion of the state's budget problems and Gov. Brown's solutions.

Brown, however, would keep the money by repealing the law that created the funds.

Many cities are trying to hold on to that money by allocating the funds for projects, essentially tying up the money, which is likely to wind up in court. Most of those in the audience wanted Buchanan to fight that part of Brown's budget, but she said the state needs the money more than cities do, especially when it comes to one of her prime issues, education.

"Education has taken a bigger hit than the rest of the budget," Buchanan told the crowd, adding, "College tuitions are going way up."

She said that California per-pupil spending is \$8,908 per student, far less than the national average of \$11,397; that classes sizes average to 20.5-to-1 as opposed to the national average of 14.4-to-1; and that many districts have cut librarians, counselors and administrators — all issues the Pleasanton school district is grappling with.

"The primary mission of the state is education and public safety," Buchanan told the crowd. She asked the group to work to help pass Brown's tax extension, something she said Brown would fight for himself.

"I believe he will campaign for it tirelessly," Buchanan said. ■

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Schools losing out to redevelopment agencies

We wrote back in January that we were glad the city of Pleasanton never ventured into having a redevelopment agency. Voters wisely chose to have their taxes played close to the vest in a highly visible way so that capital expenditures would be controlled solely by their elected officials on the City Council and the money duly accounted for in public budget meetings. Now we are seeing just how wise that decision was as a new report by State Controller John Chiang cites millions of dollars taxpayers have sent to the 400 or so redevelopment agencies statewide have been lost in waste, misappropriation of funds and poor management of programs intended to help blighted areas. Gov. Jerry Brown wants to disband these agencies and send the money they collect to school districts, counties and the state, and so do we.

According to a report by Steven Greenhut in last weekend's Wall Street Journal, the California Legislature allowed cities and counties to form these redevelopment agencies back in 1945 with a main purpose of removing urban blight. Once the boards of these agencies deemed an area blighted, they could use their state-given eminent domain powers to clear the properties and sell bonds to pay for improvements. To pay off the bonds, the redevelopment agencies were allowed to collect any incremental local taxes going forward, including sales tax and other local revenue that might have otherwise gone to the cities and school districts. Today, according to Greenhut, these agencies have 749 projects under way, including Livermore's planned new performing arts center, "gobbling up" (Greenhut's words) 12% of all state-wide property taxes, money that otherwise would go to critical public services.

In his scathing report, State Controller John Chiang offers the results of a five-week, limited-scope review of 18 redevelopment agencies across the state, finding no reliable means to measure the impact of redevelopment activity on job growth. He said the agencies either do not track their impact or their methodologies lack uniformity and are often arbitrary. The review exposed the difficulty of holding RDAs accountable for their funding decisions when existing legal standards are so loose that any area can be deemed "blighted." The report also identifies several missed payments to school districts and widespread accounting and reporting deficiencies, questionable payroll practices, substandard audits, faulty loans, and inappropriate use of affordable housing funds.

For a government activity which consumes more than \$5.5 billion of public resources annually, we should be troubled that there are no objective performance measures demonstrating that taxpayers are receiving optimal return for each invested dollar, Chiang argues. Locally controlled economic development is vital to California's long-term prosperity. However, the existing approach — born in the 1940s — is not how anyone concerned with performance, efficiency and accountability would draw it up today.

The 18 selected agencies represent 16% of all redevelopment dollars in fiscal year 2009-10. Auditors from the Controller's office conducted the review by interviewing redevelopment staff and analyzing financial statements, reports, plans, budget documents, ledgers, job creation data and payroll records. The report notes that the 18 RDAs share no consensus in defining a blighted area. While run-down sections of Los Angeles with abandoned buildings show obvious need for redevelopment, other cities were far broader in their declaration of blight. Coronado's redevelopment area, for one, covers every privately owned parcel in the city, including multi-million-dollar beachfront homes. In Palm Desert, redevelopment dollars are being used to renovate greens and bunkers at a 4.5-star golf resort. That RDA receives the 10th-highest tax revenue in the state, with a fund balance worth \$4,666 for each of the city's 52,000 residents. Closer to home, the city of Pittsburg redevelopment agency signed a service agreement with the city and transferred \$3 million to the city's general fund. But no documentation exists to show that the \$3 million actually went to redevelopment services.

Most disturbing is Chiang's finding that five of the 18 RDAs failed to make \$33.6 million in required payments to schools within their redevelopment areas. When RDAs fail to make these payments, it increases the state General Fund financial obligations to local school districts. While RDAs are able to borrow funds in order to make these school payments, none of the five agencies attempted to do so.

Given the governor's determination to use redevelopment agency funds to help bail out the state's \$26 billion deficit, it's also puzzling as to why the mayors attending last week's Alameda County Mayors Association dinner in Pleasanton — including our own Mayor Jennifer Hosterman — voted unanimously to oppose Brown's plan to scuttle these agencies. Chiang's report was being widely circulated before the meeting. Perhaps these mayors and anyone else who's interested might want to read it. The full report can be found on the State Controller's website at www.sco.ca.gov. ■

LETTERS

Great big thanks

Dear Editor,

Our family would like to send, to each and every one of our friends and neighbors, our very heartfelt thanks for all the incredible support, help and encouragement that you have given to us after the house fire we experienced two weeks ago.

We would like to thank all of the heroic firemen, who fought so hard and diligently to save our home. They went above and beyond their duty to try to save as much of our furniture as they could, and also the thoughtfulness and kindness that they showed to us after the fire was controlled, in keeping us as informed as they could, on what was happening, was very much appreciated.

We would like to thank the fantastic communities of Walnut Grove, Harvest Park and Del Prado for the incredible support and help that they showed to our

family. Everything from very delicious meals cooked for us during our first few days after the fire, and friends who took care of our dog, to collections given to us of much needed clothing, and gift cards to help us to start to rebuild our lives again, have left me personally in tears, many times. Also to everyone who heard about our missing cat (thankfully now back with us) and helped to look for her. To all who wrote us such wonderfully supportive notes and cards with offers of help. The surge of amazing support, kindness and generosity that came to us when we were in dire need was truly breathtaking and appreciated so very, very much.

The words "thank you" just don't seem enough, but from the depth of our hearts, we truly do thank each and every one of you.

The Burke family: Beverley, Simon, Gabriel, Paris, Dillon (dog) and Blossom (cat)

What's your opinion?

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

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG

POLICE BULLETIN

Motel check leads to auto theft charge

A police check of the parking lot at Motel 6 at 5102 Hopyard Road led to the arrest of a woman in connection with a car theft in San Mateo, according to a police report.

The car, a rental, was unoccupied when it was spotted, but the suspect got into the car while the officer was waiting for information from the clerk. Tonique Theard, 27, was arrested at 7:28 p.m. March 14, according to the report.

In other reports, brass fire hydrant caps worth an estimated \$2,100 have been stolen from various spots across the city, a police report said. The caps are worth an estimated \$100 apiece.

POLICE REPORT

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

March 7

Theft

- 8:41 a.m. in the 6700 block of Corte Santa Maria; petty theft
- 10:43 a.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive; grand theft
- 1:30 p.m. in the 3100 block of Snowdrop Circle; petty theft
- 3:06 p.m. in the 5600 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; identity theft
- 4:40 p.m. in the 7600 block of Stoneridge Drive; possession of stolen property, lock picking, auto burglary, possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance, possession of a hypodermic needle

- 5:00 p.m. in the 3400 block of Andrews Drive; identity theft

- 5:50 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall; petty theft

- 8:13 p.m. in the 5500 block of Sonoma Drive; grand theft

- 10:20 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall; auto theft

Burglary

- 1:49 p.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

Vandalism

- 10:07 a.m. in the 3500 block of Bernal Avenue

- 8:44 p.m. in the 6200 block of Robin Ct

Vehicle break in

- 12:51 p.m. in the 3000 block of Leger Ct

March 8

Burglary

- 5 p.m. in the 2800 block of Foothill Oaks Terrace

Drug/alcohol violations

- 3:33 p.m. in the 4300 block of Railroad Avenue; public drunkenness
- 11:15 p.m. in the 7000 block of Koll Center Parkway; DUI

March 9

Theft

- 1:04 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; two counts theft, possession of stolen property, forgery, auto burglary

- 1:31 p.m. in the 4300 block of Krause Street; grand theft

- 3:43 p.m. in the 1000 block of Crellin Road; grand theft

Public drunkenness

- 6:45 p.m. in the 6000 block of Sequoia Court

March 10

Theft

- 8:28 a.m. in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue; auto theft

Vandalism

- 11:01 a.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Drug/alcohol violations

- 2:14 a.m. at Santa Rita Rd and Valley Ave; public drunkenness

- 7:44 a.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Nevada Court; DUI

- 8:44 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springdale Avenue; DUI

March 11

Theft

- 8:16 a.m. in the 5000 block of Case Avenue; petty theft

- 11:47 a.m. in the first block of Angela Street; petty theft

- 3:52 p.m. in the 3600 block of Chillingham Court; identity theft

- 4:07 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft, burglary

- 6:44 p.m. in the 3300 block of Norbridge Dr; petty theft, possession of stolen property

Battery

- 3:02 p.m. in the 500 block of Main Street; battery, vandalism

Auto burglary

- 4:29 p.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

Drug/alcohol violations

- 8:44 a.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court; marijuana possession

- 11:11 p.m. at the intersection of Vineyard Road and Ewing Drive; DUI

March 12

Theft

- 7:01 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft

- 12:48 p.m. in the 6300 block of Benner Court; grand theft

- 5:36 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

- 7:01 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft

Vandalism

- 8:24 a.m. in the 600 block of St. John Street

Auto burglary

- 4:32 p.m. in the 5000 block of Case Avenue

Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:06 a.m. at the intersection of Navajo Court and Santa Rita Road; DUI

- 2:42 a.m. at the intersection of First Street and Ray Street; minor transporting alcohol, driving with marijuana

- 2:42 a.m. at the intersection of First Street and Ray Street; minor transporting alcohol, driving with marijuana

March 13

Theft

- 5:13 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting

Battery

- 1:46 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Rd; battery, public drunkenness

Vandalism

- 9:37 a.m. in the 700 block of Main St

Drug/alcohol violations

- 7:53 p.m. at the intersection of Vineyard Avenue and Bernal Avenue; DUI

- 8:52 p.m. in the 2900 block of Hopyard Road; DUI

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THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, March 23, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **PADR 2163, C.S. Pangali**
Application for Administrative Design Review approval to retain an approximately 150 square-foot second floor loft addition within the vaulted ceiling area above the dining room and to relocate an existing second-floor window on the east (right) elevation of the existing residence located at 6333 Paseo Santa Maria.
- **PREV 806, Mark Kearns, Specialty Inspections**
Work session to review and receive comments on a preliminary application to construct an approximately 1,752 square foot, three-story dwelling unit with an attached two-car garage and an approximately 975 square foot basement for commercial storage (Specialty Inspections) at the rear of the property located at 261 Spring Street.

Energy & Environment Committee

- The regular Energy & Environment Committee meeting for March 23, 2011 has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Wednesday April 27, 2011

City of Pleasanton Commission and Committee Recruitment

The City of Pleasanton invites you to apply for vacancies on the following commissions and committees:

Housing Commission – 1 Alternate
Human Services Commission – 1 Member, 1 Alternate
Library Commission – 1 Alternate
Youth Commission – 7 Youth Members
Economic Vitality Committee -- 1 representative from each of the following categories:

- Commercial Services
- Infrastructure
- Medical Technology

Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails – 1 At-Large Youth Member

Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA)
Citizens Advisory Committee
1 Pleasanton representative

Altamont Landfill Committee Education Advisory Board
1 Pleasanton representative - Member should be a science, environmental education or vocational education teacher from the Pleasanton Public Schools and a resident of Alameda County.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office, 123 Main Street, or on the City's web site at <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/newcommapp.pdf>. For additional information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

Applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, April 1, 2011. Postmarks are not accepted.

If you are interested in serving on a commission or committee that has no current vacancies listed, you may register your interest in future vacancies by contacting the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027 or by completing an interest card on our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

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

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

Transitions

WEDDINGS ● ENGAGEMENTS ● OBITUARIES ● BIRTHS

OBITUARIES

Sharon Dolan Dirkx

Sharon Dolan Dirkx, 81, a longtime resident of Pleasanton, died peacefully at home Feb. 25 with her husband and daughter at her side.



She was born Oct. 6, 1929, in Parker, Idaho, and moved with her family to California when she was 12. She graduated from Alhambra High School in Martinez and with an academic scholarship went on to study at UC Berkeley. She worked in the health care field as a medical assistant to a number of physicians in the Bay Area for over 20 years. It was during one of her regular work trips to the Bank of America that she met a handsome teller, Joe Dirkx. They married Dec. 4, 1954, and started a family in Oakland. Later they moved to Hayward, eventually settling in Pleasanton in 1968. She was an avid outdoorswoman and was especially fond of golf. She played at the Pleasanton Fairways Golf Course into her 81st year. She also loved to travel and made many trips to the Pacific Northwest where she would spend time with family and fish-

ing on her son's boat.

Ms. Dirkx is survived by her husband Joe; sons Mark and Clayn; daughter Erin; and grandchildren Heather, Galen, Aislyn and Ella. A celebration of her life will be held April 9 at the family home in Pleasanton. Donations can be made to Vitas Hospice Care of Newark.

Robert Kennedy Reid

Robert Kennedy Reid, 83, died March 5 at his Pleasanton home, surrounded by his family.

He was born Nov. 8, 1927, in Edinburgh, Scotland. He left school at age 15 and served a five-year apprenticeship to become a carpenter. He worked with British Railways and served as a messenger for the Civil Defense during World War II. He enjoyed cycling and touring Scotland with his friends. He was a skilled ice hockey player and met his wife of 60 years, Sheila, at the rink. They left Scotland in 1963, arriving in San Francisco, and the family settled in Albany where he worked as lead carpenter at Alta Bates Hospital



for 26 years. He was a member of the Live Oak Lodge No. 61. In his retirement years, Mr. Reid and his golf buddies, "the dawn patrol," enjoyed many rounds starting at 6 a.m. The Reids moved to Pleasanton recently to be closer to their family.

Mr. Reid is survived by his wife Sheila; daughter Lesley and son-in-law Frank; and grandchildren Christin and Reid Napoleon. Friends are welcome to attend a memorial service at 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 23, at Sunset View Cemetery in El Cerrito.

Patricia J. Roberts

Patricia J. Roberts, a resident of Pleasanton, died March 8 at the age of 73.

She was born Feb. 6, 1938. She was a social worker with Santa Clara County, Valley Christian Counseling and other programs such as lay counseling ministries.

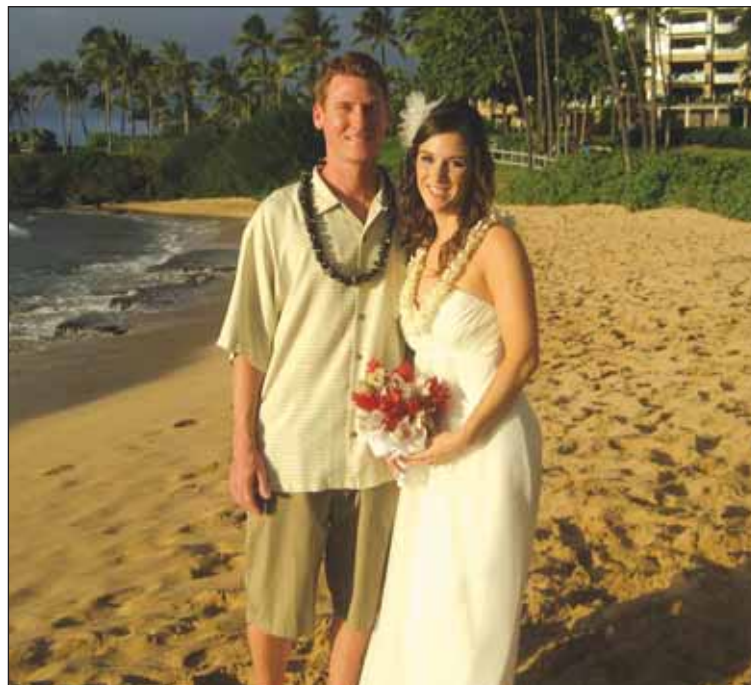
She is survived by her husband of 41 years Terry; daughter Tracy and her husband Tony; granddaughter Cora; sisters Norma Pati of Salem, Ore., and Barbara Ravas of Libertyville, Ill.; and dear friend Linda Lindquist of Dublin. A celebration of her life was held March 12 at the Valley Christian Center.

WEDDINGS

Marshall-Cain

Doug and Racia Marshall of Pleasanton have announced the marriage of their son, David Marshall, to Arica Cain on Jan. 20 on the beach in Maui, Hawaii. David's parents, brothers Dougie and Jeffery and sister Jeannie Jefferies were all present for the wedding.

David graduated from Foothill High School in 1998 and has an AA degree from Las Positas College. He followed in his father's footsteps and is an electrician. Arica is working on her master's degree in Early Childhood Development and is currently a teacher. They live in the San Luis Obispo area.



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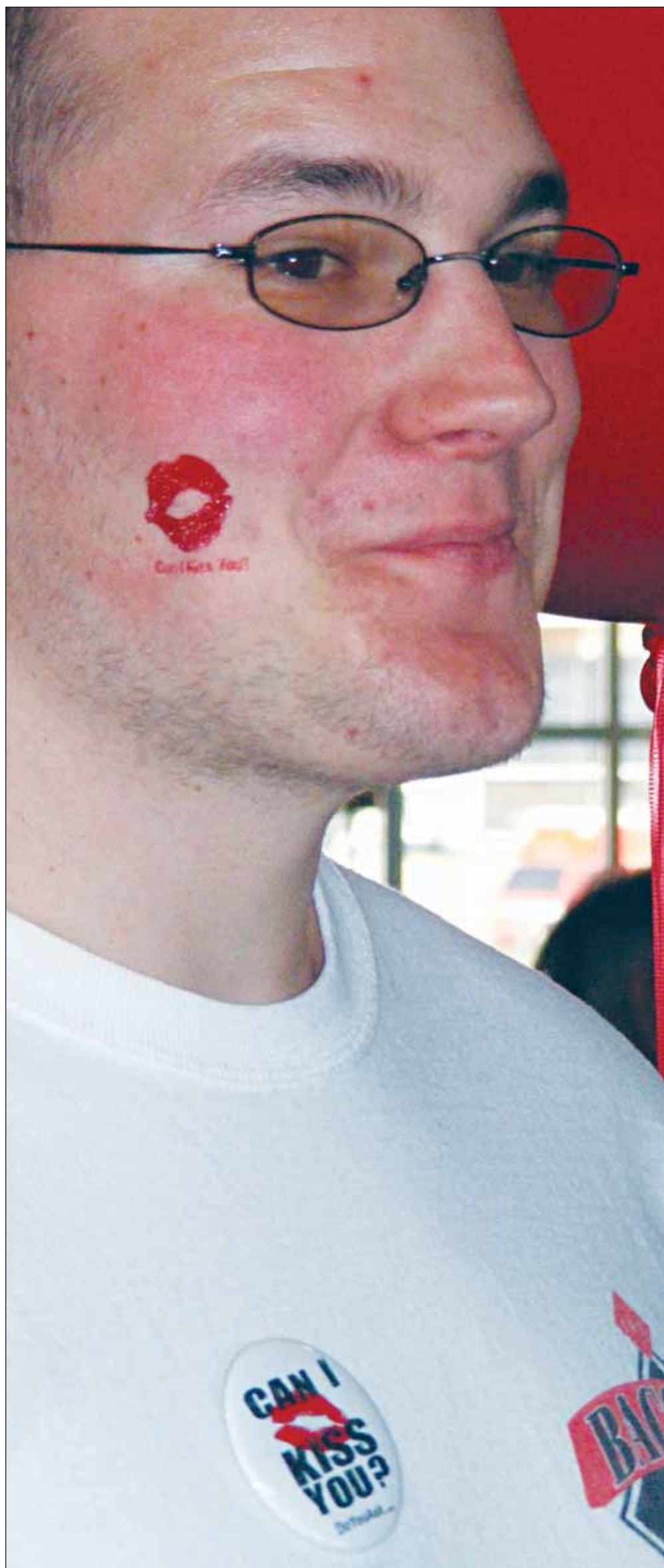
The Pleasanton Weekly will host **free** seminars for business owners and managers who want to learn more about social media, e-marketing and e-commerce and tools to make it easier and less time-consuming and won't break the bank.

The one-hour seminars will be held on **Thursday, March 24th** at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in the conference room of the Hyatt Summerfield Suites 4545 Chabot Dr., Pleasanton.

Space is limited; registration is necessary.
 To register or for more information call 600-0840 or email info@shoppleasanton.com

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Stephen Suban takes part in the Young Men of Strength campaign and wears a sticker that reads "my strength is not for hurting."



By JESSICA LIPSKY

When Amy invited David over to study, she didn't think her classmate would rape her.

The two had been drinking and flirting all night when the previously stop-and-go action reached its climax in unwanted intercourse. Amy whispered that David should stop, but the popular student chose not to listen and was later told that Amy was telling her friends she had been raped.

"I didn't rape that girl," David said, adding that if Amy really didn't want to have sex she would have been more forceful in letting him know.

This scenario was one of many presented by actors Courtney Abbott and DeRante Parker at Las Positas College as part of Sex Signals, a sexual assault awareness program that combines improvisational comedy and audience interaction to provide a provocative look at dating, sex and the core issue of consent.

What followed the skit was a heated discussion where the audience and the performers talked about the oft-gray area of date rape, a common form of sexual assault that is most prevalent among college-age adults. There were a total of 30 reported rapes in Pleasanton and Livermore in 2009.

"This is an opportunity for our students to take a look at themselves and each other by examining the world of dating in a provoking and alluring style," said Danya Barbero, student health center coordinator at Las Positas, which hosted the presentation the night of March 9.

The college partnered with the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and the Livermore Police Department as part of the Young Men of Strength campaign, which encourages young men to live a life based on equality, caring and respect. Officers handed out Smarties (for making smart decisions), buttons that asked "Can I Kiss You?" along with Hershey's kisses and informational fliers.

"Las Positas is a pretty safe campus because we do preventative measures," said Jeff Reters of the Fire Department. The last sexual assault reported to campus police occurred in 2007. He also agreed that fewer such assaults may take place at commuter colleges where students live at home.

"College students are at an elevated risk for sexual assault, especially when alcohol is involved," said health professor Elizabeth Hopkins. "The means of the presentation resonates with students."

The auditorium was almost at capacity as students filed in for the 90-minute presentation, which also dealt with power, stereotypes and societal expectations.

"Women don't want to be seen as a piece of meat, well, men don't want to be seen as animals that just eat meat," DeRante said before asking men — who made up about half of the audience — how they'd like to be seen by women. Independent, passionate and intelligent were the top responses.

To show how unrealistic these expectations were, Courtney portrayed a docile girl at a party alongside DeRante's uber-macho man and requested that the audience hold up red "STOP" cards when the scenario became too intense. A sea of red soon filled



Above: Las Positas students were "kissed" by Fire Chief James [name obscured] during a "stereotypical" skit, Courtney Abbott and DeRante Parker. DeRante portrays a he-man type. During a discussion about what to do if you're like Courtney pretends to be a girl — DeRante is a little overw

the room when DeRante's character became inappropriately and forced to have been spiked with a date

Like much of the presentation, the skit dealt with the dynamic of power between the sexes and how to ask for consent. While DeRante was obviously in the wrong, his DeRante's emotions.

"The rape scenario was very realistic," said about the It's Not My Fault campaign and popular student community. Confusion was the fact that the fight from Amy, the victim.

"We're so quick to excuse a guy for being charming," Courtney told the audience. "They should have physically assaulted him for sex."

FLEX MINALS

College students discuss those assaults that often go unreported



PHOTOS BY JESSICA LIPSKY

Rachael Hastings and Sarah Mendivil get Miguel. Right (top to bottom): In their plays a docile college freshman while trying to slip Courtney a date-rape drug. That men want their dream woman to be a crazy/sexy/spontaneous Maxim cover helmed.

Character began touching Courtney her to drink a beverage that might be rape drug.

ation, this scenario dealt with the no-sexes and who had the responsibility DeRante's piggish caricature was obvi- David character solicited more mixed

very confusing," said Dianne Lennon. It skit, in which an otherwise nice hits acquaintance rape. Adding to the both were intoxicated and the lack of

use someone's actions when they're the audience, some of whom said Amy ulted David if she didn't want to have

"In real life, I've been in situations where ... I didn't feel like I could say 'stop,'" said Rachael Hastings, a psychology major. "When people said Amy should have (been more forceful), it made me angry."

These are the sorts of statements that put blame on the victim, Courtney said. "We want to find a way to make rape not have happened, which creates a society where it's really hard for victims to come forward."

The Amy-David situation was a realistic and common scenario, the audience agreed, though it is one that often goes unrecognized and underreported. Because acquaintance rape it is not the traditional idea of rape — which is violent and between strangers in a public locale — it is harder to manage.

"A lot of people don't know if they've been raped because of their guilt, so it's good to have these conversations to specify what's rape and what's not," said San Ramon resident Brittany Colston.

Although they didn't give a concrete set of circumstances and qualifications for rape, Courtney and DeRante advocated for enthusiastic consent, or the explicit asking and receipt of permission in intimate situations.

"These situations occur all the time," Rachel Hastings said. "(DeRante and Courtney) put it in our faces that you see this happening on a daily basis, so what are you going to do about it? It was a call to action in a way."

Participants said they often didn't step in to defend potential victims because they didn't know how, were worried about their safety or just didn't think it was any of their business.

"It's always worth stepping in," Courtney said, suggesting casual conversation or acting as a third wheel to break up a potentially dangerous situation. "Be an active participant instead of a bystander in making us a safer community."

The performers closed the presentation by suggesting the audience take part in an extreme consent challenge, in which students must ask for explicit verbal consent when they want something — be it a kiss or a drink of water — and respect whatever response they get.

"You often take consent for granted, so this makes it easier in an intimate situation," DeRante said.

Theater arts major Matthew Hofsted said he enjoyed the performance and realized its importance in keeping Las Positas safe. He said it will encourage people to report what might be going unseen, adding, "Knowledge is power!"

While students left Sex Signals with new and clearer ideas of what constitutes rape, the Los Angeles-based performers left Las Positas equally impressed, calling the crowd awesome.

"The audience was very engaged, a very honest crowd that really spoke about how they felt," DeRante said.

Courtney said she liked that there was a diversity of opinion in the crowd, and that they responded to each other with astute observations.

"This is happening whether it's being reported or not. No matter how safe the community is, no matter how many blue lights and call boxes you have on campus, it's happening in places you can't police," she said. ■



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Author Visits

FAMILY THERAPIST LESLIE BAKER Leslie Baker, a resident of Pleasanton, will be available to sign copies of her Children's book, "Healing Feelings: A Healing Story for Children Coping with a Grownup's Mental Illness," from noon-1 p.m., Wednesday, March 23, at Axis Community Health Center, 6666 Owens Dr. This warm, rhythmic story brings hope for healing children living with a grownup who is dealing with a mental illness. Call 888-361-9473 or email terry@tatepublishing.com.

Classes

PLANTING BY THE MOON See how various groups planted crops at night by the light of the moon at this class from 8:30-10 p.m., Saturday, March 19, at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Foothill Rd. Cost is \$9 for residents; \$12 for non-residents. Call 931-3483.

Clubs

WRITERS LUNCHEON The California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch invites writers of all genres and experience levels to learn about their craft and share their work. The club will meet from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Saturday, March 19, at the Oasis Grille, 780 Main St. Join travel writer, poet and novelist Linda Watanabe McFerrin for a revealing adventure in the realm of the senses. Cost \$21 for members and \$27 for non-members. Call 960-9834 or visit www.trivalleywriters.org.

Concerts

GOLDEN BOUGH Golden Bough returns with Music of Celtic Lands at 2 p.m. for a kids' matinee and at 8 p.m. for an evening concert, Saturday, March 19, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Using an array of acoustic instruments, the trio blends its voices in three-part harmony. Kid's matinee: adult, \$10-\$18; child and senior, \$6-\$12. Evening concert: \$12-\$24. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

MOLLY'S REVENGE Enjoy lively Celtic Music by Molly's Revenge from 6-9 p.m., Saturday, March 19, at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd. Tickets for \$25 include Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. Contact Rev. Ron Culmer at 462-4802. Tickets on sale at the church or online at www.mollysrevenge.com.

Events

10TH ANNUAL POETRY PROSE & ARTS FESTIVAL Here's a chance to mingle with published authors, screen writers and poets, and learn from the best, beginning at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, March 26, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. There are workshops for all ages and \$1,200 in prizes for contests in poetry and prose. The festival is sponsored by the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council and the city of Pleasanton. Cost, depending on how many events are

attended, ranges from \$15-\$185. Register by March 15. Visit www.pleasantonarts.org.

GNON (GIRLS NIGHT OUT NETWORKING) Dr. Lacey Book with Specific Chiropractic Center, Joan Godfrey with ARBONNE, & Jennifer Allan with Jen Allan Fitness will host an evening, from 5-9 p.m., Thursday, March 24, at Specific Chiropractic Center, 7950 Dublin Blvd., Suite 103B, Dublin. Cost \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Call 487-4748 or visit www.gnontrivalley.com.

GOODGUYS 29TH ALL AMERICAN GET-TOGETHER CAR SHOW Goodguys is offering a huge two-day automotive event, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, March 26, and 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, March 27, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Tickets available at event or online at www.good-guys.com.

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; or kdowding@pacbell.net. Visit www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org.

PRACTICE PUBLIC SPEAKING Hacienda Park Toastmasters club is hosting an Open House from 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m., Thursday, March 24, at 4305 Hacienda Dr. Members learn and practice public speaking in a safe, fun environment. Guests are welcome. No charge. Call 366-3495 or email

morales_christina@sbcglobal.net.

Fundraisers

FOOTHILL ATHLETIC BOOSTERS MEAT SALE The Foothill Athletic Boosters will be selling a variety of USDA inspected choice meats (NY steaks, rib eye, filet mignon) and seafood (shrimp and scallops) purchased directly from wholesale suppliers, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, March 19-20, at Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Rd. Proceeds support all Foothill Athletic teams. Now more than ever support Foothill Athletic teams! Visit www.foothillsports.com.

Kids & Teens

YOUNG @ ART Kids will be inspired to be creative at Firehouse Arts Center's Young @ Art program. The first spring session is from 10-11:45 a.m., Saturday, March 19, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. This session is called "Marks of Nature," named for the current exhibit, and will emphasize how artists are inspired by nature and encourage the children to use real objects from nature to make their own artwork. "Horizontal and Vertical" will take place Saturday, April 16, focusing on using space and warm and cool colors to create an abstract landscape. Cost for each class is \$12 for residents and \$15 for non-residents. Call 931-5340 or visit www.firehousearts.org/programs.

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Lectures/ Workshops

INTERNET MARKETING SEMINAR The Pleasanton Weekly is hosting FREE one-hour seminars March 24 at the Hyatt Summerfield Suites in Pleasanton. Business owners and managers can learn about social media, Internet marketing and e-commerce and a new tool to make it easier and affordable to market your business online. Space is limited, registration necessary. For times, location or registration, call 600-0840.

SOLAR AND ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING The solar workshop is from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, March 19, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5506 or visit www.pleasantongreen-scene.org.

On Stage

'JUDY, JUDY, JUDY' Three celebrated vocalists come together in a nostalgic tribute to the songs of Judy

Garland, at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 20, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets \$15-\$25 for adults, \$15 for children, and \$22 for seniors. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

Recreation

CALLIPPE PRESERVE TRAIL HIKE Expert trail guide Dolores Bengtson will lead a World Walk to Wellness Callippe Preserve Trail Hike at 9 a.m., Saturday, March 19. Meet in front of the Callippe Preserve Golf Course clubhouse. The trail is about 3 miles long. Email walks@worldwalktowellness.org.

Spiritual

'HEAL THE COMMUNITY' WORSHIP SERIES New Generation Equally Loved (A.N.G.E.L.), which promotes worship concerts in the Bay Area, will present William McDowell at 5 p.m., Sunday, March 20, at San Ramon Presbyterian Church, 12943 Alcosta Blvd. San Ramon. Also featuring special guests Art Heckman,

Worship with Tri-Valley Music Ministries. Cost \$10. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Visit www.angelconcerts.com.

Sports

PGSL OPENING DAY 2011 Pleasanton Girls Softball League's Opening Day is from 7:45-10 a.m., Saturday, March 19, at Pleasanton Sports Park, 5800 Parkside Dr. Recognition of Phantom teams and high school seniors, Hall of Fame, drawings and demo by Amador and Foothill softball teams. Complimentary Pancake Breakfast starts at 7:45 a.m., ceremonies at 9:10 a.m. Join in kicking off the 2011 season! Visit www.pleasantonsoftball.org. Pleasanton.

SIGN-UP FOR TENNIS LESSONS Lifetime Tennis has opened its registration for the spring session for youth and adults. To sign-up, visit www.lifetimetennis.com or visit in person at 5801 Valley Ave. (corner of Valley and Hopyard). Sessions begin the week of March 27. Call 931-3449.

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a look at the future of
JOURNALISM

'Pre-porters' visit the Weekly



Reporter Glenn Wohltmann teaches budding journalists from Leslee Hart's third-grade class at Mohr Elementary School about the page proofs hanging in the Pleasanton Weekly production department. The youngsters produce their own newspaper, The Eagle's Nest.

Below: Anjali Gupta listens and takes notes so she can write her own story about the visit.

CAMMIE CLARK

BY GLENN WOHLTANN

Recently I had the chance to meet up with some of my young colleagues to discuss the newspaper industry. My 25 or so fellow reporters had some definite opinions about what should go in a paper and what makes a great journalist.

I should probably mention here that those colleagues are third-graders from Leslee Hart's class at Mohr Elementary School.

'The newspaper is very important,' wrote one third-grader. 'If someone doesn't have a TV, they read newspapers.'

The class includes some budding reporters — let's call them "pre-porters" — and publishes its own paper, The Eagle's Nest, that includes everything from breaking news to poetry, art and even an advice column. They're also politically active, although their views are more concerned with whether lunch should be held before or after recess than they are with health care or pension reform. The paper has started its own petition to change recess back to after lunch and has received 126 of the 400 signatures needed to make the change.

The class visited the Pleasanton Weekly where we discussed the difference between journalism and writing fiction (although some readers have accused us of blurring the line) and deadlines. We also talked about the inverted pyramid style of writing, the idea that the most important aspects of a story go on top with less and less important details following so it can be cut from the bottom for purposes of length; and about the five Ws (and one H) — who, what, when, where, why and how — that are the key concepts in news reporting.

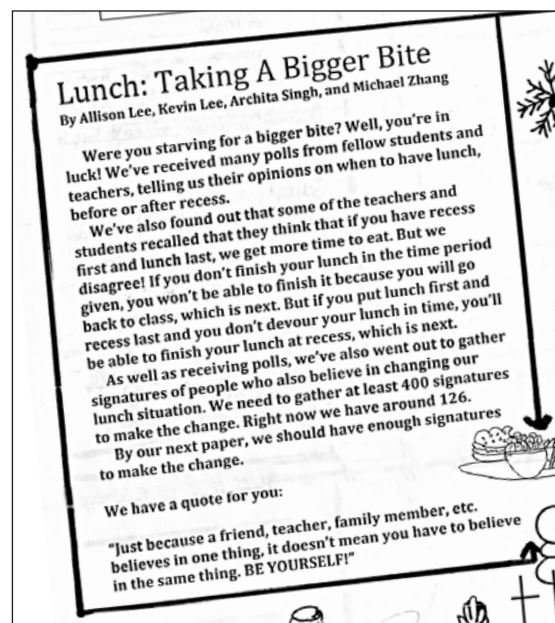
That stuck for a few of the kids, notably Aditya Bhaskar, who made the five Ws the key focus of her essay about the class's visit here.

I got to interview them as they interviewed me, and while they were learning about some reporting basics, I learned — or relearned — that you have to be careful what you tell a reporter in general and a third-grader in particular. I joked, for example, that I had three bosses, and that made me the "fourth boss" and was surprised to discover that many of my young colleagues took what I said literally.

Some of my future competitors were disappointed about the size of our offices; one — who'll remain unnamed — called our place "a tiny hole," and another was disappointed that we only take up one floor of the building.

Our wires got a little crossed when we talked about the days when newspapers all had printing presses in the basement; apparently I misspoke, giving them the impression that this building once had its own printing press. If only that were so; I miss the rumble that let me know I could take a deep breath and start getting ready for the next edition.

Unlike most of the journalism world, "The Eagle's Nest" doesn't rely on advertis-



ing sales. Instead, it gets its funding from its principal, Ben Fobert, they said, which makes me envious.

I was happy to have a quote of my own used — accurately — by Archita Singh, since I'm usually the one doing the quoting.

"Writing every day helps improve it," Singh quoted me saying. She graciously left out that I also said, "You have to stink at something before you get good at it."

Another essayist made me feel pretty good when he said, "The newspaper is very important," until I read on. "If someone doesn't have a TV, they read newspapers," he continued. I'd like to think they're not mutually exclusive.

In all, the essays were complimentary. Allison Lee in particular made my day.

"I felt so lucky to be there in the building

with such talented writers," she wrote.

A couple of the students, Everett Hunt and Ronit Krovidi, called the Pleasanton Weekly "awesome," — high praise, especially from third-graders.

Sahil Anand's essay gave me hope for the future of journalism when he said, "This field trip to the Pleasanton Weekly gave me a lot of ideas for my writing."

I was also reminded that I could never be a teacher. I don't have the energy.

Some of these pre-porters said they hope to be journalists when they grow up, and from the look of their paper, they've got a pretty good head start. I look forward to reading their work, whether it's on the printed page, in cyberspace, or whatever new form reporting morphs into over the next 20 years. ■

OF NOTE

Fremont honors Parvin Ahmadi

Pleasanton school Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi may have left Fremont Unified School District, but she has not been forgotten by her friends and colleagues there. Although Ahmadi accepted the job as superintendent of Pleasanton Unified School District last summer, she still was chosen as the Educator of the Year by the Fremont Education Foundation (FEF), and recently she received a standing ovation from over 300 guests at their annual awards banquet.

Ahmadi's career began in San Jose, where she taught kindergarten and grades 1, 5, and 6 for the Mount Pleasant School District. In 1997, she moved to the Fremont district as a sixth-grade teacher, then was vice principal at Weibel Elementary School and



COURTESY OF WALTER GARCIA, FUSD

principal of Parkmont Elementary, where she was lauded for "thinking outside the box" to enhance student curriculum. Later she was promoted to director of elementary education and then assistant superintendent. In that last role, Ahmadi was the district's representative to FEF, where she forged strong partnerships with many Fremont corporations.



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Reviewer lauds 'Butterfly'

Livermore Valley Executive Director Sara Nealy congratulates Melody King on her moving portrayal of Cio-Cio San in "Madama Butterfly" on opening night Saturday, where it played to an almost full house in Livermore's Bankhead Theater.

"Livermore Valley Opera has taken the care to stage Puccini's 'Madama Butterfly' with a cast that does the opera and the company proud," wrote a reviewer for the San Francisco Classical Voice (www.sfcv.org).

The opera continues this weekend at 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, with the matinee including an ice cream social during intermission. For ticket information, call 373-6800 or visit www.livermorevalley-opera.com.



BARBARA MALLON

Join us to talk about transportation planning in Alameda County. Please come to one of the five upcoming workshops to participate in the development of the Alameda Countywide Transportation Plan update.

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1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
5:30–6:00 pm—Informational Open House
6:00–7:30 pm—Workshop

Fremont—Monday, February 28th
Fremont Public Library, Fukaya Room A
2400 Stevenson Blvd.
6:30–7:00 pm—Informational Open House
7:00–8:30 pm—Workshop

Hayward—Wednesday, March 9th
Hayward City Hall, Conference Room 2A
777 B Street
6:30–7:00 pm—Informational Open House
7:00–8:30 pm—Workshop

San Leandro—Wednesday, March 16th
San Leandro Library, Karp Room
300 Estudillo Avenue
6:30–7:00 pm—Informational Open House
7:00–8:30 pm—Workshop

Dublin—Thursday, March 24th
Dublin Public Library, Community Meeting Room
200 Civic Plaza
6:30–7:00 pm—Informational Open House
7:00–8:30 pm—Workshop

Another round of community workshops will be held in Fall 2011. All locations are ADA and transit accessible. Individuals who require special accommodations should contact MIG at least 72 hours in advance of the workshop.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
Please call Maria Mayer, Outreach Coordinator, MIG at (510) 845-7549 or visit: www.alamedactc.com/cwtp_tep

Fourth-graders ace imagination challenge

The Pleasanton Sparks, fourth-graders from Hearst Elementary, won first place at the Regional Tournament of the 2010-11 Destination Imagination Challenge on March 5 held at Pleasanton Middle School.

"They were the best among six very competitive teams that competed in the Elementary Level of the STRUCTURAL challenge," reported team manager Kris Kumar.

The Sparks' challenge was titled "Verses! Foiled Again!" and included building the lightest structure out of wood, aluminum foil and glue that could withstand as heavy a load as possible. Plus they had to create and enact a play where they showed an evil plot being foiled.

In addition to that win, the Pleasanton Sparks team was presented the most prestigious award of the tournament: the Da Vinci award for Creativity, Courage and Originality. To win this award the students



The Pleasanton Sparks — Ananth Kumar, Sharanya Kumar, Ashira Monga, Ryan Boyden, Brendan Hwang and Varun Rao.

competed with all 60 teams that participated in the tournament, which included several at the high school and middle school levels.

The Pleasanton Sparks are Ananth Kumar, Sharanya Kumar, Ashira Monga, Ryan Boyden, Brendan Hwang and Varun Rao.

"Since we won the Regional Tournament, we are advancing to the State-Level tournament, which will be held in Oakhurst on April 9," Kris Kumar said. "We hope to be successful in the State Tournament and advance to the Global Championship in May."

Winter band shows open to all

The Foothill High School Band Boosters invite everybody to its annual Winter Guard, Percussion and Drum Major Competition taking place Saturday, March 26, at Foothill High School. Ninety-two performances are scheduled for this day-long event, which traditionally showcases the region's top talent; top finishers at Foothill typically dominate the awards podium at the Championships the following weekend.

The Drum Majors start the day off at 8 a.m. in the stadium. In the large gym, the Percussion competitions begin at 8:30 a.m. followed by Winter Guard at 2:50 p.m., and awards at 6:10 p.m. Tickets are \$10 adults; \$8 students; free for 5 and under. Food and band souvenirs also will be for sale. Proceeds benefit the Foothill High School music program.



The Winter Guard.

COURTESY FHS BAND BOOSTERS

Marketplace

Pleasanton Weekly

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115 Announcements

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PET OF THE WEEK

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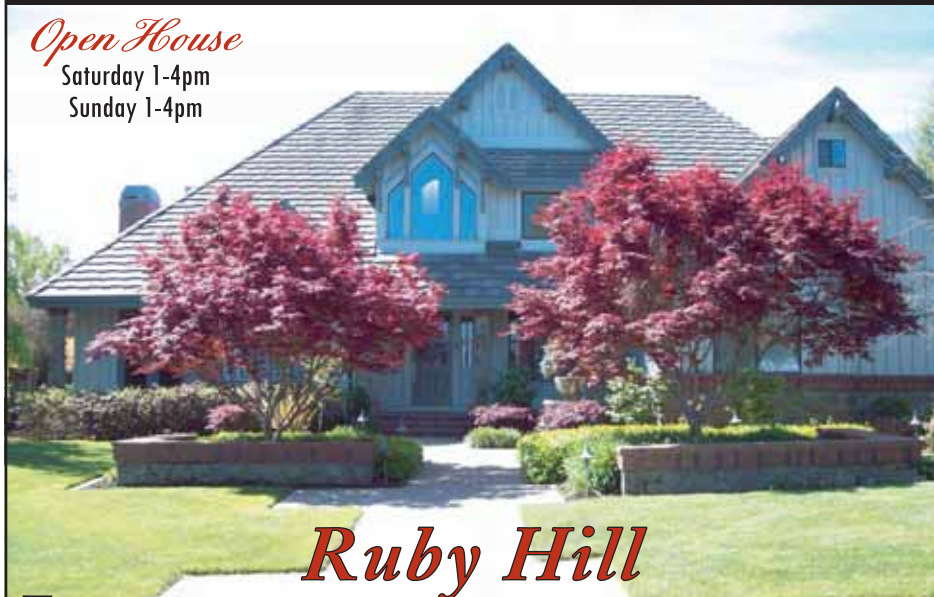


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Sat/Sun 11-5 Coldwell Banker 510-910-4691
34319 Eucalyptus Terrace \$680,000
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4 BEDROOMS
4298 Othello Drive \$738,000
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Livermore

2 BEDROOMS
6630 Forget Me Not \$235,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 989-2008

3 BEDROOMS
690 North N. Street \$315,000
Sun 1-4:30 Remax Accord 998-5312
2872 Hoya Common \$539,000
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

4 BEDROOMS
1755 Placer Circle \$589,950
Sun 2-4 Keller Williams 426-3858

820 Saturn Way \$614,000
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 487-6360

5578 Beck Lane \$749,900
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2309 Gamay Common \$989,000
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

5 BEDROOMS
3063 Rodeo Lane \$869,900
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 918-2045

2421 Livorno Court \$969,950
Sun 1-4 Natalie Kruger 847-7355

3 BEDROOMS
1409 Elliot Circle \$539,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 202-6898

2 BEDROOMS
5748 Belleza Drive \$399,950
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

175 Junipero Street \$459,000
Sun 1-4 YourPleasantonHome.com 400-8146

3 BEDROOMS
1409 Elliot Circle \$539,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty 202-6898

1921 Fiorio Circle \$565,000
Sat/Sun 2-4 Keller Williams 998-7747

2937 Garden Creek Circle \$578,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 426-3844

2812 Garden Creek Circle \$599,500
Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

1654 Holly Circle \$624,950
Sat/Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

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119 Neal Street \$1,099,000
Sat/Sun 12-4 / 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley 202-6298

4355 Campinia Place \$1,479,000
Sun 1-5 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

3768 Nicole Avenue \$1,550,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 Moxley Team 600-0990

1724 Zenato Place \$1,725,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Tom Fox 872-1275

18 Foothill Place \$1,989,000
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

3782 Kamp Drive \$635,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

7370 Hillsdale Drive \$719,900
Sat/Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

816 Abbie Street \$879,500
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3104 Devereux Court \$1,320,000
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1630 Laguna Hills Lane \$1,625,000
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4465 Clovewood Lane \$620,000
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Reserve ad space before April 1 for our special edition, Buying & Selling, publishing April 8. Contact Andrea at (707) 363-1934.

Home foreclosure crisis devastating

BY JEB BING

Calling the home foreclosure crisis in California "devastating," the president of the California Association of Realtors is urging banks, federal agencies and others to standardize and speed up their processes to allow homeowners to sell their properties more quickly once they can no longer pay their mortgages.

Beth L. Peerce, in an open letter to legislators, financial institutions and the public, said that in the past three years, more than 640,000 Californians have lost their homes due to foreclosures.

"With the number of homeowners who owe more than their mortgage is worth hovering at 30 percent, experts predict there will be many more foreclosures in 2011 and 2012," Peerce said. "Unless we take immediate, aggressive action to assist these homeowners, any meaningful recovery in the housing market and overall economy will continue to be delayed."

CAR advocates that short sales can play an important role in California's economic recovery by accelerating the pace of home sales and reducing the inventory of bank-owned homes on the market.

"Homebuyers who can qualify for a mortgage at today's low interest rates also are able to purchase a home at below-market prices," Peerce said. "Banks get a nonperforming asset off their books and avoid the headaches associated with disposing of assets they don't want to own in the first place. Neighborhoods have fewer abandoned homes and local businesses have more customers with money to spend."

She noted that many homeowners are unable to successfully negotiate a short sale because lenders' short sale processes and procedures vary widely.

"Poor and slow service by many banks and servicers have only exacerbated the problem. Increasing the number of closed short sales by speeding up and streamlining the short sale process is one important way we can help California families avoid foreclosure."

CAR recently advocated for improvements to short sale guidelines established under the federal Home Affordable Foreclosure Alternative (HAFA) program and has met with major banks, U.S. Treasury officials, and other industry leaders to urge them to standardize processes. ■

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Open Sun 1-4



Norm Nelson

816 ABBIE ST – PLEASANTON – \$879,500
SPECTACULAR VIEWS from almost every window in this home – Pleasanton Ridge to Mt. Diablo. Large 10,400 sf lot w/ fenced pool and plenty of flat land in the rear yard. Rich hardwood floors, upgraded kitchen and baths, super great room w/ views, skylights & more!! Walk to downtown.

Open Sun 1-4



Gina Piper

5748 BELLEZA DR – PLEASANTON – \$399,950
Beautifully upgraded unit with remodeled gourmet kitchen w/ granite & SS appliances, new UV coated dual pane windows, custom remote controlled blinds. Spacious living room with gas log fireplace and ceiling fan. Upgraded hall bath. Light and bright end unit.

Open Sun 1-4



Cindy Gee

3104 DEVEREUX CT – PLEASANTON – \$1,320,000
Gorgeous Laguna Oaks majestic executive home!! Granite kitchen, updated bath, newer appliances, 5 BR, 3.5 BA. Private office w/view of the Ridge, plantation shutters, private ct., huge kitchen/family room with quiet media room! 1 full bed and bath downstairs. Must see!!

Open Sun 1-4



Cindy Gee

18 FOOTHILL PL – PLEASANTON – \$1,989,000
Gorgeous!! Park-like backyard oasis backing to the peaceful Laguna Creek. Spacious single story on the Westside of Pleasanton, huge 4-car garage, Roman sparkling pool, granite, huge living, dining opening to beautiful yard, close to downtown, commute, BART, schools. Must see!!

Open Sun 1-4



Cindy Gee

2309 GAMAY CMN – LIVERMORE – \$989,000
Gorgeous, 1 story, high ceilings, open floorplan, hardwood, private lot, gated, huge master suite with fireplace. Close to schools, shopping, downtown, parks and much more. Must see!!

Open Sat/Sun 1-4



Claudia Colwell

7370 HILLSDALE DR – PLEASANTON – \$719,900
Recently updated single story in great neighborhood. Features open floorplan, kitchen with granite counters, walk-in pantry and dual ovens. Baths totally remodeled w/top of the line features, incl. granite, limestone and marble. Master with built-ins, wainscoting and crown molding.

Open Sat/Sun 1-4



Claudia Colwell

1654 HOLLY CIR – PLEASANTON – \$624,500
Charming, artsy cottage feel in this home, w/ open floorplan for entertaining, beam ceiling in eating area w/tile pavers & French doors. Soaring ceilings in lvg. rm. w/dramatic f/p. & formal d/r. Lge mstr. w/vaulted ceiling. End unit w/lge. yd. backs to Iron Horse Trail. Award winning school.

Open Sun 1-4



Adam Golden

2872 HOYA CMN – LIVERMORE – \$539,000
One of the most highly upgraded homes at Ivy at Montage. Amazing granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, travertine tile floors and maple cabinets. Massive kitchen/family room combination creates a large area for entertaining. Don't miss out!!!

Open Sun 1-4



Andrea & Earl Rozran

4222 MOHAWK RIVER ST – FREMONT – \$485,000
This home is a 3BR/2BA with just under 1,400 sq. feet of living space on a large corner lot across from a park. Updated kitchen w/ stainless appliances, new windows, and other upgrades.

Open Sun 1-4



Mike D'Onofrio

500 MONTROSE CT – SAN RAMON – \$694,990
I'm gorgeous & priced right!! Corner lot, court location across from park! Mediterranean beauty is well maintained and barely lived in. Spacious and desirable floor plan, granite & stainless kitchen, extensive tile flooring, plantation shutters, designer paint, crown molding. Must see!

Open Sun 1-4



Mia Teetsel

5859 PENWOOD LN – DUBLIN – \$865,000
Beautiful home in Dublin Ranch backs to open space. Upgrades include gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite slab countertops, large island and huge pantry. Bright and open floor plan with a separate study and bonus room. Incredible yard with built in fountain.

Open Sun 1-5



Sue Condon

1014 WAT CT – PLEASANTON – CALL FOR PRICE
Best buy on market!!! Walk to downtown. Gorgeous 11 yr old open floor plan w/updated eat-in kitchen, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, tile floor, spacious living and dining rooms, cozy family room, large master bedroom, beautiful updated master bath.



Andrea & Earl Rozran

3471 KAMP DR – PLEASANTON – CALL FOR PRICE
"Coming Soon" in Charter Oaks, Pleasanton. Beautiful & highly upgraded 4BR, 3BA home w/ 2,788 sq. feet of living space on a nearly 9,000 sq. foot lot w/ pool. Please call office for info.



Mia Teetsel

3290 MAGUIRE WAY – DUBLIN - \$205,000
Not a Short Sale! Meticulously kept single story beauty in The Terraces @ Dublin Ranch. Nicely upgraded and beautifully decorated. Best location, faces park, very quiet. Secure building with gated entrance, large pool, clubhouse, and gym.



Chris Kamali & Gina Piper

632 RUBY RD – LIVERMORE – \$575,000
LARGE TEMPO HOME! 5 bedrooms, 3.5 bath home w/large bonus upstairs. Solid granite countertops in kitchen with some updates in bathrooms as well. Great South Livermore home and schools to not miss out on!



Linda Slagle

8134 VOMAC RD – DUBLIN – \$495,000
Curb appeal galore & move-in ready! Well-maintained & updated east-facing single story in nice neighborhood. 4BR, open floor plan, super clean, central HVAC, dual pane windows! Large lot w/beaut. pool! Great loc near park, shopping, & fwy access! Must see!

MAJOR REDUCTION

**New Price:
\$498,950**



101 Goldstone Common • Livermore
This former Model Home is loaded with custom upgrades,
Granite Slab Counters, Surround Sound, Brazilian Cherry wood floors.
3 bedrooms 2.5 baths, approx. 2105 sq. ft.

If you are thinking of selling
or buying a home, call me for
information on current
market conditions and options
available to you.

925.989.6500

**Delores
Gragg**



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REALTORS

The market is continually changing. Now more than ever
it is important to talk to a Real Estate Professional.

"I work for you...it's that simple!"



Birdland

5023 Blackbird Way, Pleasanton
5bd/3ba Heritage model. Upgrades
include hardwood floors, granite coun-
tertops, new carpet throughout. Close
to Award Winning schools, Down-
town, Sports Park and easy access to
580/680. \$5K credit to buyer at close of
escrow. **Now offered at \$849,000**



Recently Sold!

811 Division St., Pleasanton
Darling 1bd/1 ba. Downtown living.
Anni represented the seller.



Recently Sold!

1863 Peary Way, Livermore
2bd/1ba duet in the desirable Robertson Park
neighborhood. **Anni represented the buyer.**



Anni Hagfeldt

925.519.3534
anni@apr.com
annihagfeldt.com

apr.com | PLEASANTON 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



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DUBLIN
2416 CANTALISE DRIVE
HIGHLY UPGRADED!! \$730,000
4 BR 3 BA, plus Library, Positano Home.Granite
Kit,crown molding,3 Car garage. 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4 3782 KAMP DRIVE
MOVE IN CONDITION!! \$635,000
4 BR 2.5 BA. Beautiful Updated Kit.Vaulted
ceilings,new roof & newer windows.Manicured
yard. 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
Open SAT 1 - 4 4465 CLOVEWOOD LN
COSMETIC FIXER! \$620,000
5 BR 2.5 BA Hrdwd flrs,kit w/New GE Range &
Dishwasher.Breakfst bar & spacious dining area
925-989-2008



SAN RAMON
Open SAT/SUN 12 - 4 145 COPPER RIDGE RD
CONDOS/TOWNHOUSES PRICING STARTS IN HIGH \$200s
1 & 2 bd condos/2 bd townhouses,vaulted ceil-
ings avail,w/garages,gated,renovated/upgraded
925.847.2200

BRENTWOOD

Open SUN 1 - 4 221 EAGLE LANE
CUSTOM RANCHER! \$629,950
4 BR 2.5 BA Private Road.Vaulted beam ceil-
ings.Open Flr plan.Knotty pine+Tile flrs.Granite
Kit.&Island 925.847.2200

ALAMEDA COUNTY

43346 BANDA TERR.
STUNNING REMODEL! \$788,888
3 BR 2.5 BA Gorgeous kit w/custom
cabinetry,lighting,granite counters,Mstr ste. w/
remodel bath. 925.847.2200

FREMONT

Open SUN 11 - 5 4298 OTHELLO DRIVE
COMPLETE REMODEL! \$738,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Ardenwood Beauty! 2052 Sq.ft. Dual Pane
Windows, new roof, and new carpet. 510.910.4691

Open SAT 11-5 34319 EUCALYPTUS TERR.
ARDENWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD! \$680,000
3 BR 2.5 BA 1646 Sq.Ft.Laminate Wood flring in
Kit.Lrge Mst Ste.2 car garage. 510.910.4691

Open SAT/SUN 11-5 5815 COMMERCE
GREAT HOME! \$605,000
3 BR 2.5 BA New Remodeled Kitch w/Granite Coun-
ters & New Appliances,Large Mstr Ste.
510.910.4691

4949 ELLIOT COURT
CHARMING GLENMOOR \$598,888
3 BR 2 BA 1409 sqft,w/fireplace,2 car garage,dual-
pane windows,stunning garden oasis.
925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

Open SUN 1 - 4 6630 FORGET ME NOT
IMMACULATE CONDITION!! \$235,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Granite Kit,1 car garage,Upstairs

Laundry,Close to Highway,shops and dining.
925.989.2008

PLEASANTON

1835 HARMS LANE
GREAT HOME! **COMING SOON!!**
3 BR 2.5 BA This home features new paint and car-
peting.Beautiful Backyard.Close to neighborhood
park. 925.847.2200

2264 SEGUNDO CT
SPACIOUS FLOORPLAN!! \$175,000
2 BR 1 BA Large Great rm,dual pane
windows,beautiful views,carport,private garden,RV
storage 925.847.2200

SAN RAMON

407 PINE RIDGE DR
BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOME \$375,000
2 BR 2.5 BA This home features bright & open

living space,hrdwd flrs throughout 1st floor,granite
slab 925.847.2200

Open SUN 1 - 4 235 COPPER RIDGE
BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED!! \$310,000
2 BR 2 BA Lovely moldings,hardwood floors,
beautiful stained cement counters,one of a kind
find! 925.699.1190

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Butler, Manager at 925.847.2257.
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1226 SHADY POND LN. PLEASANTON
LOCATED IN PHEASANT RIDGE



6 BD 6 BA 5,096sf. on a 15,712sf. lot.
Amazing private backyard! Huge gourmet
kitchen, hardwood throughout.
Guest suite w/ full bath on main level.
\$1,599,000

3768 NICOLE AVENUE, PLEASANTON
FOREVER MOHR ESTATES



4 BD 2.5 BA Single Story. Pool/spa, side
yard access and a detached casita with full
bath AND a full wine cellar under the
casita. Private 1/2 acre lot, three car garage.
Call for more information.
\$1,550,000

3265 NORTHAMPTON CT. PLEASANTON
LOCATED IN PLEASANTON MEADOWS



5 BD 3 BA 2,441sf. on a 6,937sf. lot.
Great location with side yard access.
Bedroom and full bath on main level.
Open floor plan.
SOLD FOR \$714,000

3123 MONTPELIER CT. PLEASANTON
LOCATED IN PLEASANTON MEADOWS



4 BD 2 BA 1,701sf. single level home.
Near greenbelt. Dual panel windows.
Living room, family room and dining room.
\$635,000

4190 PEREGRINE WY. PLEASANTON
LOCATED IN HERITAGE VALLEY



2 BD 2 BA 1,280sf. on a 3,486sf. lot.
SINGLE LEVEL, updated flooring
and bathrooms. Private backyard.
\$465,000

5466 ASPEN ST. DUBLIN
LOCATED IN SUMMERGLEN



3 BD + Office 2.5 BA 2,202sf. on a
6,014sf. lot. Rare single story. Kitchen w/
gas cooking & large serving counter.
2+ car garage w/ extra storage.
\$657,000

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CANYON MEADOWS



7860 - G CANYON MEADOWS CIRCLE, PLEASANTON
Beautiful Pleasanton single level condo, spacious floorplan with three
bedrooms, two remodeled bathrooms, 1,257 square feet. Excellent
condition, completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops,
tile & laminate flooring, updated light fixtures. Patio with storage.
Walk to community clubhouse, pool/spa, gym/exercise facility & tennis
court(s). Close to award winning schools and Stoneridge Mall.
PRICE TO FOLLOW

STONERIDGE PARK



2812 GARDEN CREEK CIRCLE, PLEASANTON
Beautiful Pleasanton single level close to great neighborhood parks &
award winning schools. Open floor plan with three bedrooms, two
updated bathrooms, 1,720 square feet. Excellent condition remodeled
master bathroom, spacious family room/kitchen area. Hardwood
flooring, updated fixtures, vaulted ceilings, completely finished garage.
Large private rear yard with mature trees and landscaping. 6,264 square
foot lot. Convenient to downtown.
OFFERED AT \$599,500

RUBY HILL



4355 CAMPINIA PLACE, PLEASANTON
Gorgeous upgraded single level home on .60 acre premium lot. Located
in the desirable Ruby Hill private gated community. Four bedrooms,
plus private office, three bathrooms, custom gourmet kitchen with
granite countertops. Extensive crown molding & built-ins, Brazilian
cherry flooring, expansive master suite. Professional landscaping
includes: built-in BBQ, viewing/sitting area, views of surrounding hills
& vineyards, covered patio and extensive lawn area. 3-car garage. Ruby
Hill community amenities: *clubhouse, golf course, swimming pool,
*tennis courts, large park and greenbelts (*discounted memberships now
available). Close to several wineries. **OFFERED AT \$1,479,000**

GOLDEN EAGLE ESTATES LOT



8019 GOLDEN EAGLE WAY, PLEASANTON
Beautiful large premium 1.08 acre lot in desirable Golden Eagle Estates
gated community. Panoramic views! One of a couple of remaining lots.
Build your own dream home or plans are approved and ready to start
for a 6,300 sq ft. 5 bedroom, 6 bathroom 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.
Community amenities include: pool, tennis courts and access to Augustin
Bernal Park. Located adjacent to Castlewood Country Club. Five minutes
from charming downtown Pleasanton. **OFFERED AT \$1,000,000**

PONDEROSA



6914 CORTE MADRID, PLEASANTON
Beautiful single level, extensively remodeled home in Ponderosa. Three
bedroom, two completely remodeled bathrooms. Remodeled gourmet
kitchen with granite slab countertop, expansive center island/breakfast
bar and stainless appliances. Hardwood flooring, crown molding and
upgraded fixtures. 1,612 square feet. Newer roof. Professional landscaping
with brick trimmed aggregate patio and lawn area. Across from Del Prado
Park. Close to Pleasanton's Sports Park and minutes from downtown.
Award winning schools. **OFFERED AT \$649,500**

KOTTINGER RANCH



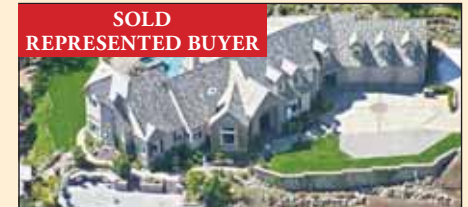
1327 HEARST DRIVE, PLEASANTON
Great location! Beautiful semi-custom home on .40 acre lot.
Expansive deck with panoramic views! Private rear grounds. Five
bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, 4,026 square feet. Upgraded gourmet
kitchen with granite countertops, newer paint & carpeting, extensive
hardwood floors. Expansive master suite. Community pool, park,
tennis courts and open space. Walk to Main Street and award winning
schools! **SOLD FOR \$1,163,500**

DANVILLE RANCHER



752 TURRINI DRIVE, DANVILLE
Large beautifully updated ranch style home on over 1/3 acre premium
lot in Danville! Three bedrooms, private office (4th), three bathrooms.
Gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops and stainless appliances.
Large master suite and bath, professionally landscaped with outdoor
kitchen, in-ground pool, boat/RV parking, and side yard access.
SOLD FOR \$900,600

GREY EAGLE ESTATES



27 GREY EAGLE ESTATE, PLEASANTON
Secluded 5,904 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**



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1867 SANNITA CT. RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON



UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758

\$2,749,000 • 5 Bd • 5(2) Ba • 7,340+/- sq.ft.
Cul-de-sac w/ unobstructed views. Impressive dual entry staircase, Oversized & temp. controlled walk-in wine cellar, wet bar, large Koi pond, built in BBQ.

1976 ARMONDO CT. RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON



UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758

\$3,649,000 • 6 Bd • 6(1) Ba • 9,821+/- sq.ft.
This Italian Villa is all about architectural details & refined craftsmanship. Welcoming & grand entry foyer, Located on cul-de-sac, views, private patios & balconies.

3718 OAKHURST WY. DUBLIN RANCH, DUBLIN



JOE FRAZZANO (925) 735.7653

\$799,900 • 5 Bd • 4(1) Ba • 3,148+/- sq.ft.
Full bedroom & bathroom + half bath downstairs, gourmet kitchen w/ stainless appliances, master bedroom w/ retreat & fireplace. 3 car garage. North/South Exposure.

4977 DANA CT. WINDMILL SPRINGS, LIVERMORE



MICHAEL SWIFT (925) 251.2587

\$549,950 • 4 Bd • 2(1) Ba • 2,098+/- sq.ft.
Former Model w/ Upgrades. Court Location, Large lot. Remodeled Kitchen w/ Granite Counters. Exquisite Bathrooms. Open & Airy Floor Plan. Huge Backyard.

219 E ANGELA ST. DOWNTOWN, PLEASANTON



WEINER MCDOWELL GROUP (925) 251.2550

\$1,099,000 • 4 Bd • 3 Ba • 2,278+/- sq.ft.
Classic Tudor architecture, and just 2 blocks from downtown Pleasanton! 300 sq.ft. carriage house. Gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, solid wood arched doors.

21122 KNUPPE PL. CANYON RIDGE, C.V.



KRISTY AND COMPANY (925) 251.2536

\$3,649,000 • 6 Bd • 6(1) Ba • 9,821+/- sq.ft.
This Italian Villa is all about architectural details & refined craftsmanship. Welcoming & grand entry foyer, Located on cul-de-sac, views, private patios & balconies.

1225 LOZANO CT. RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON



UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758

\$4,299,000 • 6 Bd • 7(2) Ba • 8,877+/- sq.ft.
South Livermore Location. Dual Side Yard Access. Large gourmet entry of this Italian Villa. Unrivaled setting among olive trees & lush landscaping, views of vineyards...

820 SATURN WY. THREE FOUNTAINS, LIVERMORE



OPEN SUN 1-4



TOM E. CHANCE (925) 487.6360

\$614,000 • 4 Bd • 2 Ba • 1,920+/- sq.ft.
South Livermore Location. Dual Side Yard Access. Large Master Suite w/access to refreshing inground pool. Close proximity to Great Schools. walking trails, parks & more.

6605 AMBER LN. CARRIAGE GARD., PLEASANTON



NEW PRICE



WEINER MCDOWELL GROUP (925) 251.2550

\$1,298,000 • 3,675+/- sq.ft., 0.50+/- Acres
Carriage Gardens single level home! Great floorplan with oversized rooms, 3 fireplaces, Master w/retreat. Salt, solar pool, spa and cabana w/bath, tree house.

5578 BECK LN. LINDENWOOD, LIVERMORE



NEW PRICE, OPEN SUN 1-4



TOM E. CHANCE (925) 487.6360

\$749,900 • 4 Bd • 3 Ba • 2,776+/- sq.ft.
Cul-de-sac, views of Community Park & hills. Granite counter-tops, hickory flooring, 2 fireplaces, luxurious master suite w/ jetted tub and large walk-in closet.

1159 CANYON HILLS RD. CAN. HILLS, SAN RAMON



OPEN SUN 1-4



WEINER MCDOWELL GROUP (925) 251.2550

\$784,950 • 4 Bd • 2(1) Ba • 2,360+/- sq.ft.
Exceptional home, gated community. Beautifully maintained and upgraded. Excellent curb appeal, great private yard, awesome Master Bath!

1711 COTTSWALD ST. MONTEROSO, DANVILLE



THE DEANS OF REAL ESTATE (925) 251.2553

\$865,000 • 4 Bd • 3(1) Ba • 2,810+/- sq.ft.
Breathtaking views amidst the Danville Hills, this spacious and highly upgraded home. Downstairs bedroom & full bath for your office or guest room.

9877 FOOTHILL RD. SUNOL



KRISTY AND COMPANY (925) 251.2536

\$1,890,000 • 3,027+/- sq.ft., 16.01+/- Acres
Magnificent Sunol Location, next to Pleasanton Ridge. Single story only 2 years new with fabulous views. Horse Barn and much more!

6107 LEDGEWOOD TER. DUBLIN RANCH, DUBLIN



NEW PRICE



THE ENGEL TEAM (925) 580.5107

\$917,450 • 5 Bd • 4 Ba • 3,843+/- sq.ft.
Panoramic views of Mt Diablo, Dublin hills and the Tri Valley. Walk to top rated schools, the golf course and the neighborhood swim club.

5240 GENOVESIO DR., PLEASANTON



LISA DOYLE (925) 855.4000

\$539,000 • 2 Bd • 2 Ba • 1,156+/- sq.ft.
Court/ Prime location. Open, light & bright floor plan w/ vaulted ceilings, new carpet, new paint, hrdwd flrs & more! Close to freeways, trails, walk to BART & shops.

1819 MADDALENA CT. RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON



UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758

\$1,298,000 • Lot and Land • 1.27+/- Acres
Exquisite, oversized PRIME lot in a highly desirable setting with Mt Diablo & vineyard views. The largest lot available in Ruby Hill, to accommodate any size and style home!

Blackhawk East

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir.
Danville, CA 94506
925.648.5300

Blackhawk West

3880 Blackhawk Rd.
Danville, CA 94506
925.736.6000

Danville

15 Railroad Ave.
Danville, CA 94526
925.855.4000

Lafayette

3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA 94549
925.385.2330

Livermore

1983 Second St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925.667.2100

Montclair/Piedmont

6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200
Oakland, CA 94611
510.339.4800

Pleasanton

5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925.251.2500

Orinda

89 Davis Rd.,
Orinda, CA 94563
925.253.7000

Walnut Creek

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