

Pleasanton Weekly

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Passovers past and present: Why is this night different from all other nights? **PAGE 10**

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VOL. XII, NUMBER 14 • APRIL 15, 2011

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We the People
insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defence and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution

*We the People:
then and now
page 12*



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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

More shops, restaurants for Pleasanton

While the economy is not yet coming up roses, it's looking a lot better for downtown merchants and restaurants and for the rest of Pleasanton as new businesses move into town and others expand. Downtowners cheered last week with the news that Margaret Smith will reopen Domus, her popular kitchen and home accessories store, at 652 Main St., which has been closed for three years. Nearby, Masood, with 20 years in the restaurant business including the last 10 years at Fontina's, opened his new Chianti's Ristorante Italiano at 436 Main St., which has been packed with customers on most evenings ever since. The same enthusiastic response has been seen at Alicia and Demetrious Shaffer's Prim's, a colorful boutique at 520 Main St. that offers the latest in women's clothing, shoes, accessories and even upcycled and reclaimed primitive furniture. A new medi-spa and the city's first hydroponics and organics supply store are also newcomers to the retail community in the downtown district.



Chianti's owner Masood

Two days ago, a British-owned company opened another of its Fresh & Easy markets in the Rosewood Pavilion, taking the space formerly occupied by the Express Fitness workout center that relocated to expanded facilities a few spaces down. Fresh & Easy operates more than 160 stores in California, Arizona and Nevada, offering freshly prepared meals, meats and produce, including national brand products and household items and its own branded products. Along with 99 Ranch Market, an Asian American supermarket opened in the Rosewood Pavilion last year, the two grocery stores provide some relief for shoppers used to buying products at Nob Hill, which closed a year ago. Coupled with the new Lifestyle supermarket that Safeway is building at Valley and Bernal avenues across from the Fairgrounds, which will open by Thanksgiving, these new grocery stores are adding a greater variety in shopping across a wider area of Pleasanton as well as several hundred new jobs.

The boost that Domus, Prim's and Chianti's are giving to Main

Street already and the added vitality are much-needed as downtown businesses work their way out of several years of economic slow-down. When Domus opened its Pleasanton store in September 1998, it was part of Smith's Los Gatos operation. Later, she sold the Pleasanton business to managers John Maloney and his wife Cathy, who were allowed to continue using the name. The Maloneys then closed their business to pursue other interests, and the building has been vacant ever since.

When Smith learned that the rent on her Los Gatos store would be doubled starting next month, she chose to relocate her flagship store to Pleasanton, which, at 11,000 square feet, is much larger than the Los Gatos facility. She expects customers will be coming here from all over the Bay Area — and even Los Gatos — to shop at Domus for kitchenware, home accessories, toys, books, stationery and other items. San Francisco Magazine once described Domus as a unique blend of Williams-Sonoma, Pier 1, Pottery Barn, Papyrus and Crate and Barrel, all the types of stores downtown promoters have said we need in Pleasanton.

At Prim's, by taking over the unique retail space with the raised wood sidewalk in front, the Shaffers have added to the growing women's fashion business downtown. Having launched successful brands such as the Peanut Shell and Wink Belly Bands, the husband and wife team has brought a new boutique concept shopping experience to Pleasanton, along with keeping their store open evenings and on weekends, operating times that are being encouraged by the Pleasanton Downtown Association. Even the store's windows are worth a look, designed and conceptualized by a celebrated window designer. Inside, almost everything you see is for sale, even the primitive fixtures that the Shaffers say they can replace.

Chianti's isn't the only Italian restaurant in Pleasanton, but it does offer a unique dining experience. I joined the Leadership Pleasanton group for lunch there the other day, feasting on Carpaccio Salmone, which consisted of finely sliced smoked salmon topped with mozzarella cheese, capers, red onions and fresh tomatoes. The menu includes baby Manila clams, sautéed prawns, sautéed chicken, veal and pork, ranging in price from \$10 for lunch to \$16-\$20 for dinner. Seeing the crowds over the last week or so, Masood, a Pleasanton resident by the way, seems to have tapped the taste buds of other Italian food aficionados as well. ■

About the Cover

Members of the 1995 Amador Valley High School We the People team have gone on to successful careers, while the current team gets ready to head off to the national finals in Washington, D.C. Cover design by Kristin Herman.

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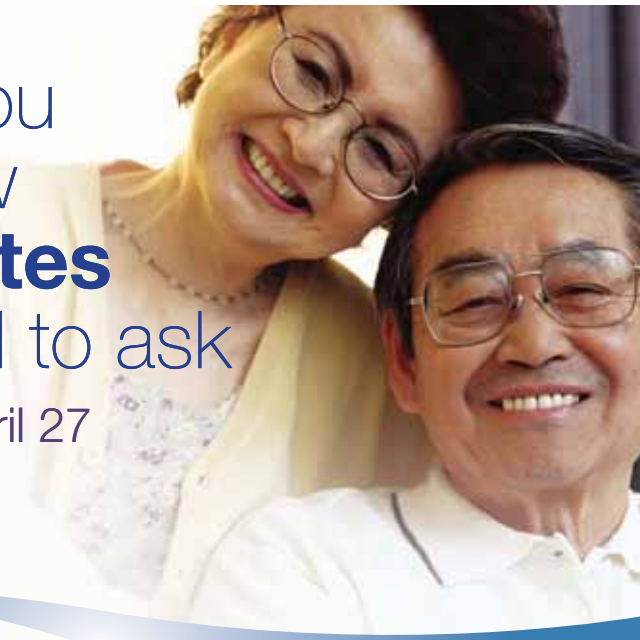
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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Where do you take visitors from out of town?



Sheila Sanches

Retired homemaker

We like to take our visitors to Poppy Ridge in Livermore and have brunch. We really miss the old Pleasanton Hotel; we always used to take guests there to eat. One of our favorite spots now is Baci on Main Street.

Dan Edeen

Engineer

Pastime Pool is my favorite place to take guests. It has a great atmosphere.



Kelly Mason

Research administrator

We're from Kansas, so we are out of town guests! We're visiting my aunt, who recommended Main Street as a good place to start our sightseeing and grab a cup of coffee.

Freddy Schoorl

Manager at Christensen's

I like to take my guests to Wente in Livermore. It showcases our area with its hills and beautiful scenery, and it has great food as well.



Nancee Consos

Owner of Sincerely Yours

We hit downtown Main Street to visit the stores and eat at the great restaurants; they're all delicious. Sitting outside is just fabulous.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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

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Shop Local

Good for **Business**. Good for **You**.
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Discover and enjoy the rich diversity of Pleasanton businesses at ShopPleasanton.com, the new online guide to all local businesses featuring listings, customer opinions, web links, photos, maps, coupons, special deals, gift certificates, promotional event listings and much more.

When you shop locally, good things happen to make our community stronger:

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- You help to sustain the unique and diverse businesses that make our shopping areas vibrant.
- You show how much you value the expertise of these businesses and the quality service they offer their customers.
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DIGEST

Free E-waste collection

The city of Pleasanton is hosting a free e-waste collection today and tomorrow at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. The public may drop off items between noon and 5 p.m. today; and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. tomorrow, entering the Fairgrounds at Gate 12, off Valley Avenue.

All types of electronic equipment can be dropped off, with no limit. Among the acceptable items are computer components, digital cameras, power cables, toner cartridges, video game systems, MP3 players, keyboards, DVD and other electronic items. A list of items is at noewaste.com/calendar.

Tomorrow only, pharmaceutical drugs will be collected, co-hosted by the Dublin San Ramon Services District.

Dennis honored for 'green' work

Becky Dennis has been named the Greenbelt Alliance's Volunteer of the Month for April. When Dennis was on the Pleasanton City Council, she supported the approval of several successful affordable housing projects for both families and seniors, noted the Alliance.

"Becky continues to advocate for affordable homes in Pleasanton as an organizer for Citizens for a Caring Community (CFCC), and as an ad hoc member of the Hacienda Redevelopment Task Force," according to a news release.

The group stated that she spent hours helping organize a successful outing earlier this year to show Pleasanton residents examples of "well-integrated and nicely designed affordable housing developments around the Bay Area."

Easter special

Greet the dawn at Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area at an Easter Sunrise Service, which will begin at 6 a.m. April 24.

This year's service will be a re-enactment of a late 1800s worship performed by Gen. Pleasanton (the Rev. Jim Meek of the Livermore Trinity Baptist Church) near the lake around a campfire and tents. Everyone is invited to dress in boots, hats and bonnets of that era. The service will include group singing, then a walk to the lake to hear a brief sermon by the Rev. Mike Barris of Pleasanton Centerpointe Presbyterian Church.

Coffee and donuts will be served. Parking is free, with the gates opening at 5:30 a.m. In case of heavy rain, the service will be held at Pleasanton Centerpointe Presbyterian Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court.

Schools could face more than \$5 million in new cuts

Governor proposing billions in additional reductions

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

With budget negotiations suspended in Sacramento, the Pleasanton school board was told Tuesday night that it could face as much as \$5.4 million in new cuts.

Gov. Jerry Brown has proposed additional cuts of \$4 billion to \$5 billion to schools across the state if his plan to extend taxes doesn't make the ballot. The plan has yet to make it out of the state Legislature; a June ballot has already been pushed back and may not make it to the voters before November. That could mean a new round of spending cuts for the current school year.

"We're looking at roughly needing \$5.4 million in reductions," Luz Cazares, assistant superintendent of business services, told the board at Tuesday night's school board meeting. "We would be looking at changing our operations fairly significantly at that point."

While the district has already pared its budget by more than \$3.1 million, cutting programs and laying off more than 65 workers, that could mean changes to the entire upcoming year as well.

"I've heard some school districts say they're going to have to start their school year in October," said board member Jamie Hintzke.

Alex Sutton, president of the CSEA employee's union, told the board he'd spent the weekend in Sacramento lobbying legislators for school funding and against an all-cuts budget proposed as an alternative by Brown, but got little good news.

"The May revise is not going to be pretty for the state of California," Sutton said. He suggested the board adopt a resolution in support of the tax extension and said people should write their local legislators, asking them to support the extension as well.

See **CUTS** on Page 7



GLENN WOHLTMANN

Dancing at the arts center

Gary Harrington admires "2 Dancers," a 9-foot Core-tens steel and brushed steel sculpture that was installed last week on the grounds of the Firehouse Arts Center. Harrington and his wife Nancy purchased this piece from Greg Hawthorne in Big Sur and also are considering other Hawthorne works, including a fused glass mobile for inside the center. Donations are being taken to offset the cost of the art; contributors of \$3,500 or more will have their names inscribed on the base of the dancers' statue.

Park District to vote Tuesday on Shadow Cliffs

Plans have been tweaked in response to comments

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

After 45 days of public review, the new land use plan for Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area will be voted on Tuesday by the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors.

The Shadow Cliffs review began after the California Splash Water Park project to expand the waterslides was dropped, in 2008. Now the goals are to create a more natural landscape in areas that were once quarries.

Park District staff gathered questions and comments at four meetings earlier this year plus received another 38 in emails and letters, which, in some cases, resulted in revisions to the plan.

The new plans call for phasing out the existing waterslides, which were opened in the early 1980s.

"The waterslides have provided approximately 50 jobs seasonally to high school and college kids for more than 30 years. It would be a shame to let them go," one person commented.

"The District acknowledges that the waterslides provide an attractive activity and jobs for area youth and, in fact, District staff supported the expansion of the waterslide concession during the 2002 LUPA (Land Use Plan Amendment) process," the district responded. "Without the California Splash project, however, District staff believes that the existing waterslide is not sustainable, in the long term, as a part of Shadow Cliffs' future."

"This does not mean that the waterslides

See **SHADOW CLIFFS** on Page 7



Last year's winners in a tie: Avni and Sangita Patel

Mom-Daughter Lookalike Contest

With Mother's Day right around the corner, the Pleasanton Weekly again is holding its annual Mother-Daughter Lookalike contest.

If you think you and your daughter could be twins, send a digital photo to contest@pleasantonweekly.com by Monday, April 25. Photos can be black and white or color, need to be in JPG format, at least 300 dpi and no larger than 1 MB. Photos entered for previous contests are not eligible; only

digital photos will be accepted.

The staff at the Weekly will choose the finalists, and readers will be able to vote online for which mother and daughter in Pleasanton look most alike. First-place prize is a \$100 gift certificate for Strizzi's restaurant; second-place prize is four gift certificates to the Vine Cinema in Livermore.

Photos of the winners will be published in the May 6 edition of the Pleasanton Weekly. ■



Last year's winners in a tie: Sheila and Cassie Cross

TAKE US ALONG



Austrian interlude: Dad Jim Daniel with daughters Kellie and Mackenzie and wife Karen spend an intermission at "The Sound of Music" in Salzburg, Austria, on the bridge overlooking the Danube River with their Weekly.

'Shop Local' aims to boost Pleasanton business, shopping

Website lists all local businesses, provides coupons, special offers, menus and customer reviews

A new program to connect Pleasanton shoppers with local businesses has been launched at ShopPleasanton.com. The new website — a directory of nearly all businesses in Pleasanton — features profiles of companies, special offers and coupons, restaurant menus, photos, maps, event announcements and more.

The program is a collaboration of the Pleasanton Weekly, the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, Pleasanton Downtown Association and the city of Pleasanton. Its aim is to raise awareness of the products and services offered by local merchants and their importance to the vitality of the community.

More than 1,000 Pleasanton businesses have already created their ShopPleasanton profiles or posted information in preparation

of the launch of the site.

"We are excited to launch what will be the most comprehensive and interactive local business directory available anywhere," said Gina Channell-Allen, publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly.

"While there are many other attempts at business directories out there, none offer either residents or business owners the breadth of features of ShopPleasanton.com," Channell-Allen said. "And none are supported by the marketing reach of the local newspaper and the dominant community website."

With ShopPleasanton.com, any business physically located in Pleasanton can create a free profile, including photos, product offerings, coupons, links to its website, gift certificates and much more. Businesses can promote their special events, create additional web pages and sell merchandise online. Restaurants can upload their menus. A verification process helps to ensure the greatest possible accuracy of the content.

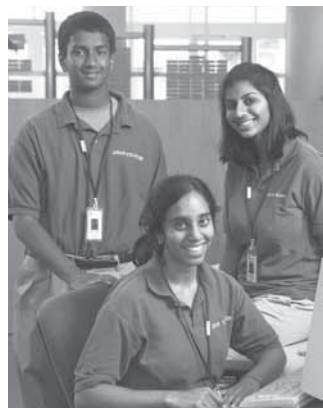
Local residents can search for businesses by name or category,

display profiles with maps and contact information, browse special offers of all merchants, buy gift certificates and post comments about individual businesses.

New offers or updates to a business' profile can be quickly spotted through a news feed on the site.

A multimedia marketing campaign will promote ShopPleasanton.com through the Weekly, PleasantonWeekly.com, and Express, the news digest e-mailed to thousands of residents each weekday. The partner organizations will also market the site to their members and the community.

The "shop local" movement is gaining visibility and supporters throughout the nation, as studies have shown that communities benefit more from dollars spent close to home. In addition to keeping sales-tax revenue in the community to support the schools and other programs, 68% of the money spent at a locally owned business remains in the community, compared to only 43% for national chain-store purchases, research has shown. ■



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Camp Parks deal paves way for major Dublin development

BY JEB BING

The U.S. Army Reserve and SunCal have signed the largest-ever reserve property exchange agreement that will allow the construction of new military facilities at Camp Parks Reserve Forces Training Area in Dublin in exchange for 180 acres of land that will be developed into a master-planned community.

"We're pleased to reach this important milestone so new base facilities can be built at no added cost to taxpayers," said Joseph F. Calcara, deputy assistant secretary of the Army.

The Army chose SunCal through a competitive selection process that began when more than 150 investors, contractors, developers and other interested parties attended an "industry day" to launch the Army's search. SunCal's proposal was considered the best overall value for the Army.

The agreement allows the base to gain much-needed new facilities with no impact to the federal budget through the utilization of land.

Camp Parks will gain a new main gate and a 4,300-square-foot administrative building for base police. This will be followed by a 33,000-square-foot area maintenance support facility; a 33,000-square-foot regional medical training facility; a 42,000-square-foot Army Reserve training facility; a 40,000-square-foot public works/logistics warehouse; and a variety of road and utilities infrastructure construction and improvements.

On the 180 acres it receives, SunCal will develop Dublin Crossing, a pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use community that will connect the east and west sides of town currently separated by Camp Parks. Planned as a community centerpiece, Dublin Crossing will be a transit-oriented development within walking distance of a BART station. This will include 1,500 new homes, parks and several hundred thousand square feet of retail, office, hotel and industrial uses.

"This exchange represents the type of innovative public-private partnerships that will enable us to maintain top-rate facilities for our Reserve Forces for many decades to come," said Calcara.

David Soyka, senior vice president of Public Affairs for SunCal, noted that Dublin Crossing will be designed to serve Dublin's ongoing growth needs with residents able to walk to BART and leave their cars at home.

"This brings the vision of Dublin Crossing a step closer to reality," Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti said. "We're excited to continue working with SunCal as we partner to bring new jobs, shops, restaurants and homes, plus parks and trails, to Dublin. This new neighborhood is a significant part of our city's future."

SunCal is the largest privately held land developer in the U.S. The company acquires, entitles and develops major residential properties and commercial developments throughout the U.S. ■

Living with diabetes

ClubSport to host Pleasanton's first family Walk for a Cure

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

When 11-year-old Elena Kjos started getting dry, irritated skin on her hands, and began getting up in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom, her mother, Tamra Teig Kjos, took her to the doctor right away.

"They were very subtle symptoms," said Teig Kjos, "but since my mother-in-law has Type 1 diabetes, I always watched for warning signs in my three children."

Because of the family history, their pediatrician saw Elena right away.

"First they pricked her finger," Teig Kjos recalled. "It takes just a few seconds to get a reading on a blood glucose monitor (used by diabetics) and it was high — over 400."

She knew the blood sugar level should register between 80 and 120.

"The next morning we had an appointment with an endocrinologist, and Elena started injections immediately," Teig Kjos said. "She was so great about it. She never complained, she never got angry."

But Teig Kjos said she herself was devastated inside.

"It changed Elena's life — our lives — forever," she said.

Type 1 diabetes, also called juvenile diabetes, is an auto-immune disease. For still unknown reasons, the body destroys the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas. Without insulin, the glucose builds up in the bloodstream, causing high blood sugar, and the body basically starts to starve.

The more common form of diabetes, Type 2, is often referred to as a "lifestyle disease," said Teig Kjos, because it can often be controlled by eating healthier and exercising regularly. "But with Type 1 diabetes, Elena's dependent on insulin for the rest of her life. Can you imagine what that's like? Whenever you want to eat or drink something, you have to see what your blood glucose level is, and then take insulin, either by giving yourself a shot or through an insulin pump."

Teig Kjos pointed out that exercise, stress and illness also affect blood sugar level, which complicates life further for diabetics. High blood sugar, left untreated for a long



COURTESY KJOS FAMILY

Elena Kjos leads an active life despite her Type 1 diabetes, which she now manages with an insulin pump.

period of time, can cause major health problems, such as heightened risk for stroke, heart attack, kidney damage and blindness.

"But what's even more scary is that very low blood sugar levels can be life-threatening," Teig Kjos explained. "A parent's worst fear is if their child has low blood sugar in the middle of the night, they're not going to wake up. If a Type 1 diabetic doesn't have some type of sugar available to them immediately when they're extremely low, they can go into a coma and die."

Teig Kjos visited every one of Elena's teachers, to explain how to recognize signs of low blood sugar, and to give them juice and glucose tablets in case her blood sugar got too low during class. Elena always carries juice and snacks with her as well.

Elena, now 18 and a senior at Amador Valley High, uses an insulin pump and sensor, which monitor her blood sugar level continually and help calculate and deliver insulin.

"The pump is working well," said Teig Kjos. "It's helpful to be able to see what her blood sugar level is at

any time, and much better than her having to take five to seven shots per day."

But she notes that it needs daily maintenance, and two separate sensors must be inserted under the skin and changed every three days. "It's still a long way from having a working pancreas."

The family supports the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, which funds research to find a cure for Type 1 diabetes. Elena and her family will be taking part in Pleasanton's first 5K Family "Walk for a Cure," sponsored by ClubSport, on Sunday. The walk will take place from 9-11 a.m. along the Arroyo Trail. Organizers are requesting a \$10 minimum donation, which includes social time afterward and a drawing for a Converse tennis shoes. Call ClubSport at 463-2822, ext. 570.

The proceeds of the walk will help fund JDRF initiatives, such as its Artificial Pancreas Project. It was begun in 2005, but has yet to be approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

"Medical devices like this undergo intense scrutiny, and rightfully so," said Teig Kjos, "but we need Congress to act more quickly on legislation that affects projects for diabetics."

"People need to understand that diabetes is becoming an epidemic," Teig Kjos added, "and millions of diabetics are walking around undiagnosed. We need to support research and education efforts now." ■

Early warning signs of diabetes

- Frequent urination
- Excessive thirst
- Losing weight rapidly without trying
- Weakness and fatigue
- Tingling or numbness in your hands, legs or feet
- Other signs: blurred vision, dry or itchy skin, frequent infections or cuts and bruises that take a long time to heal

CUTS

Continued from Page 5

Opponents of the local tax initiative, Measure E, spoke out again at the meeting. Doug Miller once more pointed out that the parcel tax, if approved, would bring in \$8 million over four years, while step-and-column raises would cost the district \$15 million.

Miller said the while the parcel tax money would be dedicated to the items listed in the measure, money that would normally go to that could be used for other things, comparing it to taking money out of one pocket and putting it in another. He was joined by Gary Kinsman, a 25-year resident with two grandchildren about to enter school. Kinsman wants the district to move to a system that rewards good teachers while getting rid of teachers who are not performing. "Please wake up and make the system economically real," he told the board. "I'd like to see some fundamental change."

Parcel tax opponents also want the board to review a bond measure, Measure B, claiming that the district did a cash-out that was later ruled illegal when Brown was state attorney general in 2009. Although that was not on the agenda, and board members couldn't discuss the matter due to the Brown Act, the board did ask for a consultant to do an accounting of the cash-out and where the money was spent.

That review will come before

the board in May.

Step-and-column raises were once again discussed, with Hintzke asking that pay increases for steps — additional pay based on years of service — and for column — extra pay for getting additional college credit — be separated out for the board to review at its next meeting.

Board members approved layoff notices for the equivalent of nearly 22 fulltime classified employees. Bill Faraghan, assistant superintendent of human resources, pointed out that the notices are required under the state's education code, although some of those jobs and hours could be restored if the district can find money for them.

The board also heard a review of new steps taken this year under the district's safe schools plan. New outreach measures for students with drug and alcohol problems and their families are in place along with a new trainer program for school counselors and new support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning teens at Amador Valley High School.

The board also heard from three Amador Valley students who won awards at the Tri-Valley Science and Engineering Fair. Aishwarya Yenepalli, Ray Zhou and Ruchita Gupta took home first-place awards and their projects will be entered in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) later this year in Los Angeles. ■

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SHADOW CLIFFS

Continued from Page 5

would necessarily close in the short term," the report said, adding that the waterslides may continue to operate until the District implements grading and other improvements.

The district Board of Directors will make a separate decision on any operating agreement with the waterslides concessionaire.

Other comments asked about parking.

"Why no additional parking if park users continue to park (illegally) on Stanley Blvd. on peak days?" said one.

"Shadow Cliffs has three main lots, providing approximately 1,140 parking spaces. With the an-

icipated fencing of the beach area and the eventual removal of the waterslide concession, the District does not anticipate a long-term demand for additional parking on peak days," was the reply.

In response to public input about trails, the recommendations were revised to acknowledge Shadow Cliffs as a regional trail hub and to develop a centralized area adjacent to parking and restrooms that could include, among other things, regional trail information.

The board's public hearing to consider approval of the Land Use Plan Amendment and environmental studies will take place at 2 p.m. April 19 at EBRPD headquarters, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland. Call (510) 544-2351. ■

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Religious diversity in Pleasanton

We'll give credit for the expected crush of congregants to churches and synagogues this coming week to Pleasanton Presbyterians, who built the first church here at Neal and Second streets in 1876. That church building still stands, although it's now the Lighthouse Baptist denomination. The Presbyterians outgrew that early-American-design church to move to larger quarters on Mirador Drive and then, more recently, to an even larger site at Busch Road and Valley Avenue where they worship under a new name, Centerpointe Presbyterian.

With Palm Sunday marking the start in just two days of the holiest week on the Christian calendar, and the Jewish community starting its observance of Passover at sundown Monday, Pleasanton's faithful will crowd into sanctuaries that have multiplied many times over since the little white church on Neal was built. Among the newest, Centerpointe Presbyterians can still claim the title with their unique Sprung tent-shaped green structure highly visible from Valley Avenue, a domed structure that serves as the sanctuary until a more traditional multi-million-dollar facility can be built at the corner of their site.

They're not all that unusual in their architectural taste. Other churches that have outgrown their early beginnings such as CrossWinds, Crossroads, Valley Bible and the Fountain Community churches are in converted warehouse and corporate buildings that give them more space. CrossWinds, which started in Pleasanton, moved to Dublin to accommodate an overflow of parishioners. It already has outgrown that space and is planning to build a much larger facility near the Livermore Airport. Similarly, church-goers at Crossroads, located in its huge warehouse-type building next to Costco, must often walk several blocks from corporate parking spaces because the spacious church parking lot fills up early for its multiple services on Sundays.

It's like that all over Pleasanton as worship centers expand and build new facilities to meet a growing number of congregants. St. Mary & St. John Egyptian Orthodox, which bought the Mirador site from the Presbyterians, is attracting the Greek and other orthodox to Pleasanton. Since relocating from Livermore into its new building at Bernal Avenue and Nevada Street, Congregation Beth Emek is filled Fridays and for meetings other days. Its popular pre-school is open to children of all faiths and always has a waiting list. In an appeal to Jews who have lost interest, Rabbi Raleigh Resnick moved here from New York to establish Chabad of the Tri-Valley. He's also attracting new faces including major turnouts for public services he conducts at the Stoneridge Shopping Center.

Many churches have expanded. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church recently opened a new youth center and gymnasium which can also be also used for church meetings. St. Clare Episcopal won a hard-fought battle to gain a city permit to expand its crowded church on Hopyard Road. Because of the growing diversity of Pleasanton's population, Chinese and Korean language churches have been established here, with a Muslim Community Center now open in the Hacienda Business Park and Baha'i Faith serving its followers. Several congregations that either don't yet have enough construction funds or can't find available property rent space for services at Pleasanton Middle School and at Amador Valley High.

Besides diversity, Pleasanton's growing faith-based community also comes with interesting names, such as 21st Century Grace, Blazing Fire, Church of Divine Man, and Iglesia la Palabra on First Street. These aren't names or denominations the early Presbyterians would recognize, but they no doubt would graciously welcome on the eve of the holy week ahead. ■



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

LETTERS

No on Measure E

Dear Editor,

Not many public agencies have the audacity to ask their constituents to triple tax themselves with three simultaneous tax measures.

First, Pleasanton Unified School District asked for a tax from 1988 until 2013 with Measure A and assurances they'd not come back to the taxpayers again until 2007. They said that Foothill High had "construction defects," and had to be rebuilt. Why? Their district inspector had signed off on faulty construction, so claimed PUSD.

Then along came Tax No. 2, Measure B, another tax until 2020.

Was \$155 million dollars enough? No.

Meanwhile, PUSD has had the nerve to propose three additional tax measures in 1996, 2009 and now. And it began siphoning off \$7 million from bond refundings for a district slush fund, without voter approval. The Attorney General condemns this practice as unconstitutional.

Tax rates we actually pay exceed rates in the Measure B text. That means for us with an average house price, we're already taxed by PUSD about \$800 a year.

Recent PUSD reports indicate we'll be paying existing taxes until 2024, with the bond principal still over a whopping \$98 million.

It's time to rein in spending at PUSD. Please vote No on Measure E.

Anne Fox

Money will stay here

Dear Editor,

I am writing to encourage all Pleasanton residents to vote yes on Measure E. As a former teacher, I can tell you firsthand that we have outstanding schools in Pleasanton, and Measure E will help ensure we remain among the best by providing stable local funding that can't be taken by the state.

Measure E will protect our local schools and prevent deeper cuts to the classrooms. It will help support core academic instruction that improves math, science and reading skills, attracts and retains high quality teachers, and supports specialized science and reading instruction.

Plus, money raised by Measure E will stay here in Pleasanton and cannot be taken away by the state.

Please support tomorrow's leaders today and vote Yes on E.

Jennifer Minnite

No new parcel tax

Dear Editor,

I have lived in Pleasanton for over 25 years, our daughter graduating high school and subsequently college. She is now a professional within our community. The educational process has been and continues to be extremely important to us, especially since we now have grandchildren who will soon be attending K-12 in Pleasanton.

Over 60% of the public school funding comes mostly from the state's income taxes and sales taxes. Since we currently have such a high unemployment rate, our revenues from state income tax have been much less, as well as a decrease in sales tax revenues. This obviously means that we all must tighten our belts and sacrifice for the common good.

The public schools must live within a reasonable budget just like the rest of our town residents. That means, this is not the time to be focusing on raises for teachers, exorbitant pensions for retirees, class size reduction and programs that are not essential. Please understand, the majority of the citizenry can not absorb any more tax increases of any kind. We are all strapped to the max, and the public school system needs to understand this unfortunate reality and respond accordingly. No new parcel taxes.

Lynda Kinsman

Protect kids' future

Dear Editor,

To prevent draconian cuts to basic education, we must pass Measure E. Measure E is \$98/year for four years and the funds stay right here in Pleasanton. No money is given to the state — it can't rob our children's future.

Measure E will support the following items. Nothing more, nothing less:

- Core academic instruction that improves math, science and reading skills
- Attract and retain highly qualified teachers
- Specialized science and reading instruction
- Keep school libraries open
- Minimize class size increases

Measure E also includes protection for all taxpayers. These protections include:

- All funds must stay in Pleasanton schools.
- No funds may be taken by the state or other school districts.
- No funds may be used to increase salaries or benefits.
- No funds may be used for administrator salaries or benefits.
- Measure E will expire in four years.
- Seniors are eligible for an exemption.
- An independent oversight committee must review fund use and report their findings.

Please protect the future of our children, our community, and our property values. Vote Yes on Measure E.

Michelle Flanagan

Parcel tax won't help

Dear Editor,

As a Realtor, I make a living dealing with people who are upside down on their house — owing more than their house is worth. I am constantly counseling people who don't know what to do and where to turn. Twenty percent of all properties on the market in Pleasanton

See **LETTERS** on Page 9

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LETTERS

Continued from Page 8

anton are either in foreclosure or in short sale. They can't afford their house payment, can't retire, can't refinance, can't sell, can't downsize, can't modify their loan — they are out of options.

Homeowners are having a tough time right now. So are the teachers. But charging a parcel tax is not going to help anyone. Also \$98 may not sound like much, but if a homeowner can't make their payment it's a fortune. If you want to help a teacher, give them the \$98; don't force all homeowners to give \$98 when you know a large part of that will go toward administration, not the classrooms.

We have been through this with the lottery — remember, that money was supposed to take care of our schools. California's top individual income tax rate is the third highest in the nation and we have the highest sales tax in the country. California's business tax climate ranks 49th in the nation and our income tax rate is the highest among western states.

Another tax? When, and where, will it end? It is time to draw the line. Stop increasing taxes and demand accountability. We need those who run our schools and government to get their house in order and make needed cutbacks to their budgets instead.

Connie Cox

Yes for school quality

Dear Editor,

Pleasanton school district is making a reasonable request of its citizens by asking them to vote Yes on Measure E, a four-year parcel tax of \$98/year. This is how our democracy works. We get to choose whether or not to invest in education for Pleasanton students.

The opposition seems to believe that by defeating Measure E, their criticisms of education will be resolved. Let's look at what a No vote will and won't accomplish:

A No vote will not reform the way pensions are funded. A No vote will add five to seven students to each kindergarten, first, second and third grade classroom, and ninth-grade English class.

A No vote will not change the "step and column" pay structure. A No vote will reduce the counselors available to middle and high school students in crisis or seeking college application help.

A No vote will not change how Measure B bond funds were spent. A No vote means 45 minutes less instruction time per week in grades 1 through 5. Five P.E. teachers will be laid off.

A No vote will not reform anything. A Yes vote will help maintain educational quality in Pleasanton, and help ensure that the children of today are the educated and skilled workforce of tomorrow.

Please don't be swayed by opponents who are confounding the issues, discounting education, and

cheating children. Measure E is a "necessary tax." Citizens have ample opportunity to oversee its spending. We get to choose. We get to invest in the future of our children.

Andrew Shotland

Must ensure funds

Dear Editor,

I am not a politically pushy person; but I am dedicated to the education of our children. Unfortunately, I have seen the change in the quality of education since my children first entered Pleasanton schools in 2005. If we have to endure more cuts at the whim of the state, that quality will continue to diminish.

Because of this, I implore each and every one to vote Yes on Measure E to help ensure that our children will continue to receive a quality education.

We must ensure that stable, local funds are available for our children's education. We are actually pretty lucky in Pleasanton because we do live in a district where the families are most often able to afford to give more to the schools. Even with that, Pleasanton and the other cities in the state lag far behind most other states in per-pupil spending.

Our children are the future leaders and innovators in California and what they learn today is what will make them successful in the future. If we do not provide them with a solid foundation to grow from, I am very worried about what that future will look like.

Kimberly Carlson

Layoff notices, raises

Dear Editor,

As a parent of two kids in the Pleasanton Unified School District school system, I spoke out against the Measure E parcel tax at the last PUSD board meeting. I stated that it does not make sense that layoff notices have been sent to some teachers while the remaining teachers who "survived" the cuts would still be receiving raises. I also expressed my confusion as to why the district will be handing out \$15 million in raises over the next four years while the parcel tax would only raise \$8 million during the same time frame.

In my opinion, the district's poor fiscal management has placed our schools onto an unsustainable path. The parcel tax revenues will only encourage continued poor behavior from PUSD and delay the necessary and critical structural reforms needed by PUSD (and our overall education system).

This parcel tax is a "feel good" attempt to address one symptom of the serious structural issues in our school system. The tax will only delay addressing the root causes of the problems. Moreover, these problems will be even greater once they finally do get addressed. I will vote No on Measure E, because I care for our kids and schools.

David Miller

Do the math

Dear Editor,

Vote No on Measure E — we are

drowning in debt.

Our government is in a financial crisis starting at the federal level all the way down to the city of Pleasanton and our school district. We are overspending. A \$98 tax for four years will not solve the problem but just exacerbate it. When the school district started retiring personnel at up to \$172,000 a year, that did it for me. They are spiking their salaries. Spiking means adding to your last year's salary in order to get a higher pension.

We currently have 48 retirees from the Pleasanton Unified School District and the city of Pleasanton with retirement pay over \$100,000/year along with free health insurance. I wonder how many residents of Pleasanton, besides public employees, have retirement pay this high?

Thanks to the recent filing of a Public Records Request from our School District, we shall soon learn how deep this spiking goes. School boards let this happen saying it isn't coming out of our General Fund. No, it's coming out of taxpayers' wallets and is underfunded \$56 billion. That will boost the payment from California's already strained general fund by 20%.

I am voting No on E and any other tax measure with the hope that elected officials will start doing basic math.

Please join me on voting No on Measure E.

Kay Ayala, former Pleasanton Council Member

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Why is this night
different from all other nights?
Passovers
past & present



PHOTO BY SUGAR POND

The author has grown to love Passover although she dreaded it as a child, finding it a holiday with “bad food and way too much discussion.”

By JESSICA LIPSKY

Passover, the Jewish holiday commemorating the story of Exodus, begins on April 18 this year — to the joy of many and the consternation of a few devout lovers of bread, which is given up for a week.

Observed for seven or eight days, Passover celebrates the story of how God helped the Israelites escape slavery in Egypt by inflicting 10 plagues upon the Egyptians and the Pharaoh. Traditionally, a family, group of families or friends will gather on the first or second night of Passover and hold a Seder, a symbolic dinner where people read the story of Passover and eat unleavened foods. During the Seder, the youngest person will ask guests questions about the holiday and children hunt for hidden Afikoman, or matzah.

While Passover is among the “less intense” Jewish holidays (most reform Jews don’t attend synagogue) and many adults enjoy the time spent with family and friends, the love of Passover or “Pesach” doesn’t come easily to some.

Now it’s my favorite religious holiday. But as a child I always dreaded the mid-spring celebration: Passover was a horrible holiday with bad food and way too much discussion. Everyone looked forward to finding the hidden matzah and all the children were disappointed when the ghost of Elijah (who is supposed to announce the coming of the messiah and for whom a glass of wine is left near the door) never showed. My family tended to celebrate with one of three families and while I was excited to see my friends, I inevitably found myself squirming at someone’s rigid dining room table waiting for the macaroons to debut.

Our Seders would consist of about 10 parts, beginning with blessings and wine (Kadeish), breaking of the matzah, the telling of the Passover story, eating of symbolic foods and finally a meal of foods made without yeast. During the storytelling portion of the evening, the youngest person at the table would be re-



sponsible for asking guests the Four Questions about the significance of the Seder — a task I reluctantly accepted until my younger brother learned to read.

But whenever a lack of bread caused my inner brat to rear her ugly head and complain, my parents would placate me with stories of Passovers past, where more traditional Jews wouldn’t take any lip from restless children.

“Those Seders could last for hours if people were traditional,” my mother told me recently. “You were fidgeting, hungry and couldn’t eat anything. People wouldn’t hesitate to smack you on the head and tell you to straighten up and fly right if you complained.”

She later told me that crotchety uncles would ply their young relatives with rye (whiskey), hoping to get them giddy about washing dozens of their mother’s best china plates after a three-hour dinner. This might have appealed to me much more as a teenager.

But as the years progressed and my parents got tired of wrangling their hungry and bored children, our Seders became more of a semi-formal dinner among close friends with ever-changing, crazy schedules. One year, our Haggadah, the text from which the Passover story is told, was printed by Maxwell House

Publishers — we stopped for a commercial break every few minutes and gave thanks to our “sponsor.”

Perhaps the seriousness of my childhood Passovers was simply to instill tradition in my eager(ish) mind, but as we got older, my parents began to get less serious. You are supposed to recline during the Seder — in fact, reclining is the answer to one of the Four Questions, “Why is this night different from all other nights?” — and my father makes a big deal of saying, “This night really isn’t different from all other nights, because we recline all the time.” And while I still try to keep kosher for the week, we have pretty much given up on traditional foods.

As a result, Passover has become less of a Jewish holiday for me and more of a yearly gathering of family and friends. We’re bound by a common heritage and religion, but it isn’t necessarily the basis of the evening.

The same goes for Seders with my friends, which are usually a silly affair that leaves my house reeking of potato latke oil for days. Most of my guests are reform Jews like myself that seem more interested in our common background and kibitzing about not being able to eat bread for a week. However, at least one of my non-Jewish friends is always interested in attending a Seder.

The story of Passover is one of challenge and hope, which is easily understood by family members of all ages. My own relationship to the holiday has changed throughout the years, as has my willpower to avoid cereal and pasta. Maybe the food has just gotten better.

For those Jews who are no longer wandering the desert but are still without Seder plans this Passover, there is a wealth of Pesach activities to participate in. Beth Emek synagogue will hold a community Seder on Tuesday, April 19, as well as a catered Passover luncheon that Thursday. Chabad of the Tri-Valley will hold a series of services and a dinner at the end of the week. ■

Community Pulse • Transitions

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

POLICE BULLETIN

Two charged with felonies in traffic stop

A traffic stop led to the arrest of two men on possession of burglary tools and drug charges.

Officer Krissie Fountain spotted a white Nissan pickup truck with a cracked windshield and missing front license plate around 3:45 p.m. April 6. Fountain pulled the truck over near Hopyard Road and Owens Drive.

A search of the truck led to the discovery of methamphetamine and a backpack containing a bolt cutter

and screw drivers, according to a police report, which said John Rodi, 29, and Steven Reece, 30, were arrested. The two men were also charged with parole violations.

In other police reports, 100 Hugo T-shirts valued at \$5,000 were reported stolen from Macy's in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road. The theft took place between 7:15 p.m. April 10 and 11:40 a.m. April 11.

Two laptop computers worth \$1,100 apiece were stolen in a commercial burglary in the 4600 block of Chabot Drive, a police report said. The theft occurred between 7:40 p.m. April 7 and 6:45 a.m. April 8.

Another theft near the same address on Chabot Drive occurred around 4:47 a.m. April 8. A pry tool was used to gain entry to the building, where a \$2,000 laptop and \$75 computer mouse were stolen.

POLICE REPORT

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

April 6

Theft

- 10:05 a.m. in the 4500 block of Mirador Drive; petty theft
- 12:20 p.m. at the intersection of Ruby Hill Drive and Vallecitos Road; petty theft
- 1:01 p.m. at the intersection of Hacienda Drive and Owens Drive; grand theft
- 2:26 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft
- 3:39 p.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road; possession of lock-picking tools, possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance

Auto burglary

- 8:33 a.m. in the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

Vandalism

- 1:39 a.m. in the 100 block of Wild Flower Lane

April 7

Theft

- 8:45 a.m. in the 400 block of Main Street; petty theft
- 9:34 a.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

Auto burglary

- 8:33 a.m. in the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

Drug and alcohol violations

- 11:30 p.m. at the intersection of First Street and Abbie Street; DUI

April 8

Theft

- 4:49 p.m. in the 1300 block of

Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

Burglary

- 9:13 a.m. in the 4600 block of Chabot Drive
- 10:36 a.m. in the 4600 block of Chabot Drive
- 10:52 a.m. in the 4067 block of Jensen Street
- 8:27 p.m. in the 4100 block of Jensen Street

Vandalism

- 1:30 p.m. in the 1200 block of Concord Street; vandalism, battery

Drug and alcohol violations

- 11:56 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Northway Road; under the influence of a controlled substance; paraphernalia possession

April 9

Theft

- 6:35 p.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; theft, public drunkenness

Burglary

- 7:07 a.m. in the 4400 block of Mohr Avenue
- 3:44 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Battery

- 12:57 a.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road
- 7:07 a.m. in the 4400 block of Mohr Avenue; battery, vandalism

Vandalism

- 8:39 a.m. in the 200 block of Main St
- 12:41 p.m. in the 200 block of Main St

Auto burglary

- 9:50 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Drug and alcohol violations

- 9:18 p.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road; possession of a

controlled substance, marijuana possession

April 10

Theft

- 10:20 a.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court; auto theft
- 2:16 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 2:54 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; theft

Battery

- 6:53 a.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue

Threats

- 10:07 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Vandalism

- 1:30 a.m. in the 3700 block of Vineyard Avenue
- 11:44 a.m. in the 1200 block of Concord Street
- 12:22 p.m. in the 2900 block of Chardonnay Drive

April 11

Assault with a deadly weapon

- 10:50 a.m. in the 3900 block of First Street

Theft

- 12:48 p.m. in the 5700 block of Johnson Drive; forgery
- 5:13 p.m. in the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 6:24 p.m. in the 6000 block of Stoneridge Drive; forgery, paraphernalia possession

Auto burglary

- 8:52 a.m. in the 5300 block of Case Avenue

Vandalism

- 11:47 a.m. in the 300 block of Main Street

OBITUARIES

Leonard Joseph Silva

Leonard Joseph Silva, a rancher who lived in Pleasanton his entire life, died March 13 at the age of 70.

He was born to Dorothy and Joseph Silva and graduated in the class of 1958 from Amador Valley High School. He was employed by the city of Pleasanton Water

Department and Zone 7.

Mr. Silva was predeceased by his sister Janet (Peter) Houle. He is survived by his wife Margaret; son Joe (Diana) Silva, and daughters Ami (Kevin) Browne and Lenda (John) Youngblood; seven grandsons and three granddaughters; sister Wilma (Ed) Shannon; nephews and a niece. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated March 22 at St. Raymond's Catholic Church. Donations may be made to Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Suite 100, Dublin.



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, April 19, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: Review the Tri-Valley Transportation Council Strategic Expenditure Plan and adopt a resolution updating the Tri-Valley Transportation Development Fee
- Public Hearing: Adopt a resolution to approve the 2011 Weed Abatement Program and authorizing the abatement of weeds, rubbish, dirt, or refuse upon or in front of certain described properties within the City of Pleasanton
- Public Hearing: Consider allocations of Housing and Human Services Grant (HHSG) and Community Grant Program Funds for Fiscal Year 2011-12
- Receive presentation from the California High Speed Rail Authority on the Altamont Corridor Rail project and provide comments
- Continued from March 15, 2011 - Public Hearing: PAP 152 (PADR 2138), Frederic and Yiping Leroudier, Appellant (Applicant) – Consider an appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of an Administrative Design Review application to install a second-story window on the right (south side) elevation of the existing residence located at 5252 Meadowwood Court. Zoning for the property is R 1 6,500 (One Family Residential) District

Housing Commission

Thursday, April 21, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Approval of Annual Operating Budget for Kottinger Place for Fiscal Year 2011/12
- Approval of Streamlined Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2011 for the Pleasanton Housing Authority
- Acceptance of Annual Housing Authority Independent Audit for the Year Ending June 30, 2010
- Status of the Housing Element Update and Summary of Input from Community Meetings

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

WEDDINGS

Moran-Oyanagi

Ken Moran and Yukie Oyanagi were married Sept. 18 at the Ravenswood Historic Site in Livermore. The ceremony was officiated by minister Andy Painter, a relative who speaks Japanese. It included a Japanese sake ceremony as well as lighting of the Unity candle. Yukie's family traveled from Japan to participate in their celebration. During the reception, Ken played a few songs on his tenor saxophone with the band, The Hogan Brothers, whom Ken met while studying

at Cal State East Bay.

Yukie, a 2006 graduate of Cal State East Bay, is the daughter of Kiyoshi and Toshiko Oyanagi of Kashiwazaki, Japan, where she attended local schools. She works as a paralegal for a Japanese law firm in Southern California.

Ken, the son of Mike and Cathy Moran of Pleasanton, is a 2002 graduate of Amador Valley High School and a 2007 graduate of California State University, Northridge. He is a professional musician playing with big bands as well as groups in the L.A. area. He is a private woodwind instructor, works weekends at the Broad Stage in Santa Monica, and is touring this spring with Blues artist Roy Gaines



and His Orchestra in Europe.

The couple honeymooned in Maui. They live in Los Angeles.

We the People: then and now

Students in Constitution competition go far

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

It's a chicken-and-egg question: Do the students who participate in We the People succeed because of the intensive civics program, or does the program draw students who would be successful anyway?

The answer is probably a bit of both. Most of the Amador Valley High School students who won the national We the People finals in 1995 have gone on to successful careers: Two, for example, are engineers with well-known firms, two are lawyers, and one is with the State Department.

Ben Glickman, now an attorney in Palo Alto, said it's a combination of both.

"We the People is unique in that it's not a true honors class," Glickman said, explaining the team members are not necessarily the top 30 kids at Amador. "The people who try out for We the People are motivated and work hard, and the people who are motivated and tend to work hard are the people who are successful later in life."

Amador Valley High School's current We the People team won the state championship and is headed to compete in the national finals at the end of the month. Glickman is helping the team get ready for the competition, acting as a judge for practice rounds.

"I'll actually be going back (to Washington, D.C.) with the team, which will be a lot of fun," he said.

Glickman said We the People, also known as comp civics, helped him become "a better writer, a better thinker and a better speaker."

"The program does equip people with skills that are unique," he said. "It's truly the full range of skills that you need to become successful."

Ryan Long is with the Foreign Service Institute with the U.S. Department of State. Long said most of the members on his team would probably have done well no matter what.

"I would say that most of the people on the team would have been successful anyway," he said. "I was kind of the exception to the rule. I was a C student and I went on to finish grad school."

Long added that his training with the team helped him pass the foreign service exam.

"For people who want to work for the State Department, the exam's probably been going on for 40 years now and they ask a lot of questions that have to do with the history of the U.S. and constitutionality," Long said.

He said what he learned is still helping him as he's posted to places democracy hasn't taken hold of yet.

"Being a diplomat now, we tell the story of the U.S. to other people," Long said, using his recent posting to Nigeria as an example. "They didn't have democratic rule until 2001 ... There are things they're unfamiliar with."

Members of the 1995 team have special memories of the competition, but many of those memories center around Skipp Mohatt, their teacher and coach who died in 2008.

"Even after high school, I would always drop in and visit him," Long said. "He had a philosophy of tough love. He was kind of a stern person (but) he was just doing that for us to do the best we could. He was also a very emotional person — seeing us win was the first time I saw him cry."

That memory is shared by Danielle Havener, who's now a middle school teacher in Danville.

"After the final round, when we had all finished doing the questions — he was usually very hard on us but at the end he was in tears, just telling us how proud he was of us. That's just etched on my brain. He was a really cool teacher," Havener said.

She said Mohatt also inspired her to become a teacher.

"That was a big influence, because of Mr. Mohatt," she said, adding that being on the team "helped with my public speaking and being able to talk in front of people."

As with the other members of the team, Havener said it's tough to say whether the students succeeded because of their involvement, or if they would have



Ben Glickman



Ryan Long



Chris Bing and son Jonathan



Clint W.



Danielle Havener

Left: Amador Valley High School won the National Title in 1995. Right: Amador Valley High School students at the National Title competition.

been successful anyway.

"I'd say it definitely helped but I'd say, too, that a lot of the people on the team were really motivated," she said. "It would definitely be a factor but it's not the only factor."

Chris Bing is continuing to work on his doctorate in Sino-African affairs from UC San Diego while also raising his son as a full-time father. After research trips to China and several African states, including The Sudan, he paused to take care of newborn Jonathan while his wife Mary completes her residency this June as an emergency room doctor at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Bing pointed out that the competition is for high school seniors, and most of them already have been accepted into college.

"It's not like it helps you get into college. It's very personal. You do it for yourself, you do it for the group," Bing said, adding, "I think it helps in college especially. A lot of the assignments are team-based. Working with a diverse group, that was essential."

According to the organization's website, more than 2 million students each year participate in We the People, which concludes in Washington, D.C., with a simulated congressional hearing, a performance to test their understanding of the Constitution and their analytical thinking skills.

Constitutional experts evaluate their understanding of the U.S. founding principles in hearings where students testify as constitutional experts before panels of judges acting as a congressional committee.

Each class is divided into six groups, one group for each of the six units of the "We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution" textbook. Testimony

begins with a formal presentation, followed by questioning where the judges look into the students' understanding and their ability to apply constitutional knowledge.

About 1,200 students from all 50 states along with some from District of Columbia and the Northern Mariana Islands will compete in this year's 24th annual competition in Washington, D.C., which runs from April 30 to May 2. While there, the students will get the chance to tour the capital and meet with members of Congress and other dignitaries.

The current members seem to be following the footsteps of the class of '95 along the path to success.

Xanth El-Sayed, a member of this year's team, said his involvement with We the People has changed his perspective and given him a new career path.

"It's opened my eyes a lot to different things. We have a very privileged life here and you hear about a lot of different things that don't really apply to you. Comp civics lets you see what's going on outside the little bubble of Pleasanton," El-Sayed said.

He said as a result of We the People, he's changed his college focus.

"I'm going to UC Santa Barbara in the fall. Originally, I was going into biology or engineering and I was going to minor in marine biology, and now, after going through comp civics," El-Sayed explained, "I'm thinking of majoring in marine biology and minoring in environmental sciences and focusing on nonprofit foundations' part in the realm of aquatic life."

Emily Truax is headed to UC Berkeley, planning to study political science. She said We the People has kept her busy and focused while some of her classmates have been coasting.

"All of my other friends said."

She also noted that many of her classmates have forged a bond.

"We're all friends and we're all motivated," she said.

Giving back to the community is a theme among all the Amador Valley High School students present.

Glickman and Havener are members of the '95 team who participated in the competition through a nonprofit corporation.

"It's not just to get an education in general, it's to be a part of society. Without government and the rule of law, there's no government. It's a responsibility that we have."

Havener has done volunteer work at a homeless shelter and the local food bank.

At least one day a year, she said.

We the People has helped her get back. Glickman is now an attorney and teacher, Keldon C. is a lawyer.

2000s.

Even Truax, who is planning on college, is planning on coming back.

"In 10 years, I'm going to be back," she said. "If it still exists, I'm going to be back about eliminating the gap between the rich and the poor."

come back and just



Woods



Havener



Valley High
We the People
1995.
Valley High
hope to win
this year.

er friends have gotten lazy," Truax

the members of the comp civics team
nd.
ds. We push each other and tell each
rder. It's not self motivation, it's team
said.

the community seems to be common
nador comp civics members, past and

fellow attorney Clint Woods, another
5 team, along with another former We
ipant from Bakersfield, are forming a
ation to promote civics.

o support We the People, it's for civic
eral, which would include We the Peo-
aid. "Civics, to my eye, is the bedrock
ut knowledge of our society and gov-
role of citizens, I don't see the future
t's important for citizens to know the
y have to society and to each other."

one community service with an animal
ocal food bank, and plans to spend at
ear in a community-oriented project.

e also seems to draw its participants
is a volunteer judge, and the current
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ho's not yet done with the final round,
ontributing in the future.

see myself as a successful attorney," she
sts (there's been some talk in Congress
g finding for the program), I want to
dge at future competitions." ■

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Classes

GNON (GIRLS NIGHT OUT NETWORKING) GNON and Pleasanton Unified School District are offering women in the Tri Valley a speaker series seminar. The group meets from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 20 at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Health and Wellness discussion. Learn insights and tips on healthy living and healing. To register: www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted or call 925-426-4280. Cost \$15 for GNON members, \$25 for nonmembers.

Clubs

2011 AUTHORS' SPOTLIGHT The California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch presents 2011 Authors Spotlight, showcasing 10 of its members. Eat lunch and listen to published writers read brief pieces from their works from 1:30-3 p.m., Saturday, April 16, at Oasis Grille, 780 Main St. Their books will be available for sale. Cost \$11. Call 484-5924 or visit www.trivalleywriters.org.

TRI-VALLEY CARES The next monthly meeting of Tri-Valley CAREs (Communities Against a Radioactive Environment) is 7-9 p.m., Thursday, April 21, at Livermore Public Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore, with a special presentation from staff and members who attended the DC Days events in Washington. New and long-time members are welcome. Call 443-7148.

Events

25TH ANNUAL PLANT SALE Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club members will offer great deals on plants from their gardens at their annual plant sale from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, April 16, at Amador Valley High School parking lot, 1155 Santa Rita Rd. Come early for the best selection. Visit www.LAVGC.org.

JUSTICE AND THE HEART OF GOD: INVISIBLE CHILDREN Be a part of the next chapter of Invisible Children. This is an all-area event with Inversion, community worship, social justice dialogue, and a viewing of Invisible Children's new film, "Tony." The event is from 6-8 p.m., Sunday, April 17, at Valley Community Church, 4455 DelValle Parkway. Call 426-5502 or email shearerfam@comcast.net.

TRI-VALLEY THIRD THURSDAY Here is another chance to network with your peers in human resources. Meet with like-minded folks in an informal setting from 6-7 p.m. April 21 at Faz Restaurant, 5121 Hopyard Rd. Appetizers provided, pay for your own drinks. Call 415-291-1992 or visit www.nchra.org.

Film

'DIRT!' THE MOVIE A free documentary film screening of "Dirt," sponsored by the Pleasanton Public Library, will be shown at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 21, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. "Dirt" takes you inside the wonders of the soil and tells the story of

earth's most valuable and under-appreciated source of fertility. Call 931-3405.

Fundraisers

SPRING FLING FOR THE ANIMALS Special Saturday boutique will showcase animal-themed items for spring and Mother's Day such as garden art, home decor, fashion accessories, and pet toys and dishes. The fundraiser is from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, April 16, at Feline Medical Center, 3160 Santa Rita Rd. Proceeds will benefit Jackie Barnett's Just Like New Fund, a Valley Humane Society Program that aids sick and injured pets. Call 872-7668 or visit www.valleyhumane.org.

Kids & Teens

ENVIRONMENTAL ED VAUDEVILLE Enjoy a lively mix of environmental education, juggling, comedy & audience participation in "Eco-Tainment," from 3-3:45 p.m., Saturday, April 16, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. For ages 5 and up. Call

931-3400, ext. 8, or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library/.

Miscellaneous

FORUM TO HIGHLIGHT TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTX) is holding a transportation forum to highlight transportation improvements in Eastern Alameda County, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Thursday, April 21, at Dublin City Hall, 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin. Visit www.alamedactc.org.

On Stage

'NIGHT OUT - A MINI-OPERA IN A DINER' Livermore Valley Opera is taking a short break from fully staged traditional operas to create a fun-loving show starring nationally recognized principal singers and a waitress with an attitude. Kids matinee will take place at 2 p.m. followed by an 8 p.m. evening performance on Saturday, April 16, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

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115 Announcements

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135 Group Activities

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150 Volunteers

Rairoad Volunteer Opportunities



202 Vehicles Wanted

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210 Garage/Estate Sales

Pleasanton, 1533 Harvest Road, Saturday April 16th 8-2pm
Multi Family Garage Sale...
Video games, playstation, cds, Prom dresses, Lots of clothes, shoes furniture, kitchen items, toys

Pleasanton, 3231 Vineyard Ave, Current

235 Wanted to Buy

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245 Miscellaneous

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

825 Homes/Condos for Sale



Menlo Park, 3 BR/2.5 BA
Virtual Tour www.978Continental.com. Open House Sun 4/10 1:30-4:30. 650-380-2850. DRE#01781586

840 Vacation Rentals/Time Shares

PET OF THE WEEK

Brooke, a calico cat

Brooke, a plus-sized Calico beauty at 13 pounds, is one of the sweetest kitties you could hope to meet. She's 5 years old and quite people oriented - she won't hesitate to come right up to you for a good back scratch and some lap time. Adults, kids, other cats: They're all potential friends for Brooke. We've even been told that she doesn't mind dogs! Meet her at the East Bay SPCA, 4651 Gleason Drive, Dublin. Call 479-9670 or visit www.eastbayspca.org.



MICHAEL MALONEY

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Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

Study finds Americans prefer smart growth communities

Many willing to sacrifice size of home for less driving

By JEB BING

Americans favor walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods, with 56% of respondents preferring smart growth neighborhoods over ones that require more driving between home, work and recreation.

That's according to a recent study, the Community Preference Survey, by the National Association of Realtors.

"Realtors care about improving communities through smart growth initiatives," said NAR President Ron Phipps, broker-president of Phipps Realty in Warwick, R.I. "Our members don't just sell homes, they sell neighborhoods."

"Realtors understand that different home buyers are looking for all kinds of neighborhood settings and that many home buyers want walkable, transit-accessible communities," he added.

Walkable communities are defined as those where shops, restaurants and local businesses are within walking distance from homes. According to the survey, when considering a home purchase, 77% of respondents said they would look for neighborhoods with

abundant sidewalks and other pedestrian-friendly features, and 50% would like to see improvements to existing public transportation rather than initiatives to build new roads and developments.

The survey also revealed that while space is important to home buyers, many are willing to sacrifice square footage for less driving. A total of 80% of those surveyed would prefer to live in a single-family, detached home as long as it didn't require a longer commute, but nearly three out of five of those surveyed — 59% — would choose a smaller home if it meant a commute time of 20 minutes or less.

The survey also found that community characteristics are very important to most people. When considering a home purchase, 88% of respondents placed more value on the quality of the neighborhood than the size of the home, and 77% of those surveyed want communities with high-quality schools.

The survey of 2,071 adult Americans was conducted by Belden, Russonello and Stewart from Feb. 15-24. ■

1724 Zenato Place ~ Pleasanton

Open House

Saturday 1-4pm
Sunday 1-4pm



Ruby Hill

French Country Custom Four Bedroom Home on Private Lot with Pool, Spa, and Waterfall. Overlooks Vineyards. Master Suite on Lower Level with Marble Master Bath. Elegant Entry with Hardwood floors. Granite counters, Kitchen island and wet bar. Bonus room, office and Exercise rooms. Approx. 4000 sq. ft. of living space.

Offered at \$1,689,000



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Broker Associate

Lic#00630556

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Tom@TomFox.com

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2119 PALMER DRIVE



Open House Sunday 1-4

Great home in the Estates of Mohr Park. Located within walking distance of the highly sought after Mohr Park Elementary school. This lovely home includes 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, approximately 3068 sq ft of living space including 1 bedroom and full bath downstairs with an oversized 3 car garage. Great private yard on a quiet street with no through traffic. Price \$1,150,000



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www.dronkers.com

www.2119palmer.com



JUST LISTED

*Carriage Garden Estates
603 Blossom Court, Pleasanton*



This awesome home features 4 large bedrooms and 4 baths, exercise or 5th bedroom, separate library/office and a bonus room. Approx. 5200 sq. ft. of living space on a rare 3/4 acre flat lot. The park-like backyard has a lighted basketball court, gazebo, fountain and greenhouse. Incredible views of the Pleasanton Ridge. A rare find!

925.989.6500

Offered at \$1,798,000

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

Delores Gragg
REALTOR®
Lic#01206964



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Visit these homes and other BHG listings during our MEGA Open House Event!!!

PLEASANTON | 6111 Johnson Court #110 | 925.463.9500 | www.bhghome.com/pleasantonhopyard

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



Julia Korpi

27466 DOBBEL AVE – HAYWARD – \$529,900
Sunlit, open and airy floorplan. Tasteful brand new remodel in kitchen with stainless appliances, granite counters, new cabinetry with glass doors - it's very nice! The master suite is a suite with cozy fireplace, sitting area and master bath. Second fireplace in the family room. Hurry on this one.

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 Sat/Sun 1-4



Cindy Gee

7971 FOOTHILL KNOLLS – PLEASANTON – \$1,239,000
Just Listed - The lovely neighborhood of Foothill Knolls provides the perfect setting for this extraordinary 5 BR, 3 BA residence. The approximately 3,850 sq. ft. floor plan features formal living areas, a large bonus room, large master suite and an approximately 28,970 sq. ft. lot with an incredible rear yard with pool, gazebo, views and so much more.

Open Sat/Sun 1-4



Cindy Gee

2309 GAMAY CMN – LIVERMORE – \$920,000
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 Sun 1-4



Julia Korpi

3349 HADSELL CT – PLEASANTON – \$659,900
Beautiful 4 bedroom in the Pleasanton School District! Newly appointed kitchen w/ granite countertops, tasteful tile backsplash, and stainless appliances. A custom fireplace that is fabulous! Nicely landscaped, large back yard and many more features are sure to please. Formal living rm & family rm!

Open Sun 1-4



Andrea & Earl Rozran

3471 KAMP DR – PLEASANTON – \$939,000
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.

Open Sun 1-4



Adam Golden

3100 LA PLAYA CT – LAFAYETTE – \$775,000
This beautiful, immaculate, single-level home has been extensively remodeled. Located in stunning Lafayette, with an open layout and 4 beds/2.5 baths. Numerous windows and doors allow natural light to stream through the home as well as give views to the 17,000+ lot. Don't miss out!!

Open Sun 1-4



Chris Kamali & Gina Piper

632 RUBY RD – LIVERMORE – \$559,000
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!

Open Sun 1-4



Stephanie Zhou

4838 SWINFORD CT – DUBLIN – \$408,000
Bright open floor plan. Offers 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom & 2 attached garage. 1,565sqft of living. Balcony off of master room. Master shower room like new (never use). Inside laundry room. Newer ext. paint. Maple cabinets. Low HOA. Walk to school, shopping, Bank, movies theater, parks

Open Sun 1-4



Sue Condon

1014 WAT CT – PLEASANTON – \$550,000
Best buy on market!!! Walk to Downtown Pleasanton! 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, indoor laundry.

Open Sun 1-4



Linda Slagle

8134 VOMAC RD – DUBLIN – \$479,950
Curb appeal galore & move-in ready! Well-maintained & updated East-facing single story in nice neighborhood. 4BRs, open floor plan, super clean, central HVAC, dual pane windows! Large lot with beautiful pool! Great location near park, shopping, & fwy access! Must see!

RUBY HILL | 101 E. Vineyard Ave. #103 | 925.471.2250 | www.bhghome.com/rubyhill

Open Sun 1-4



Shawna Jorat

2440 MILLSTREAM LN – SAN RAMON – \$555,000
STYLISH & ELEGANT! This upgraded townhome offers an open kitchen w/granite countertops, corner work station & eat-in area, hardwd flrs, cozy fireplace, formal living & dining rm, lrg master suite w/huge walk-in closet, soaking tub & dual sinks, downstairs full bth & office/bedrm, laundry rm & much more!

Open Sun 1-4



Tracey Esling

1292 REBECCA DR – LIVERMORE – \$749,950
A MUST SEE! 5 BR 3.5 BA 2 Story home with new paint & flooring. An awesome home with a light, bright & open floor plan, large family & formal living areas, & designer window coverings. Wonderful pool & spa with solar heat, great yard for entertaining & play, close to parks & school. A very well maintained home!

Open Sun 1-4



Janet Cristiano

2252 DOCCIA CT – PLEASANTON – \$1,250,000
INSIDE THE GATES OF RUBY HILL! Popular Ascona Neighborhood with a great court location. Largest floor plan with 4 bedrooms plus a downstairs study/bedroom & 3 full baths. A charming front porch, beautifully appointed kitchen, spacious master suite with views of Mt. Diablo & a large backyard with room for a pool!

Open Sun 1-4



Marjorie Wallace

2426 POMINO WY – PLEASANTON – \$1,639,000
STUNNING CUSTOM MEDITERRANEAN HOME in the gated community of Ruby Hill! Intricate marble & wood floors in entry, dining room & extra wide halls. Double French doors lead to a courtyard that provides privacy & shelter. Desirable main level Master Bedroom & Guest Suite. Attention to detail throughout!

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Castro Valley

5 BEDROOMS
24977 Palomares Road \$2,499,000
 Sun 1-3 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2536

6 BEDROOMS
21122 Knuppe Place \$1,199,000
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2536

Danville

4 BEDROOMS
220 Stetson Drive \$739,950
 Sat 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 200-2525

Dublin

3 BEDROOMS
4838 Swinford Court \$408,000
 Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

4 BEDROOMS
8134 Vamac Road \$479,950
 Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500
6059 Hillbrook Place \$640,000
 Sun 1-4 Joe Davis 926-0571

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS
307 Bernal Avenue \$269,950
 Sat & Sun 1-4 Connie Cox 766-3198

1228 Hibiscus Way \$389,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2523

4 BEDROOMS
2256 Lawson Circle \$660,000
 Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties Team 980-0273
1117 Riesling Circle \$730,000
 Sat 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

2309 Gamay Common \$920,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens 463-9500

5 BEDROOMS
632 Ruby Road \$559,000
 Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

1292 Rebecca Drive \$749,950
 Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Ruby Hill 471-2250

3063 Rodeo Lane \$835,600
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Gene & Cindy Williams 918-2045

Pleasanton

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

2574 Heatherlark Circle \$425,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Connie Cox 766-3198

175 Junipero Street \$459,000
 Sun 1-4:30 YourPleasantonHome.com 400-8146

3 BEDROOMS
247 Bay Meadows Circle \$488,950
 Sun 1-4 George McKean 426-7100

343 Christina Court \$495,000
 Sun 12-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

1835 Harms Drive \$538,000
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

3788 Rocky Mountain Court \$549,950
 Sun 1-4 Connie Cox 766-3198

1014 Wat Court \$550,000
 Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

2937 Garden Creek Circle \$578,000
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Pat Griffin 426-3844

6535 Singletree Way \$588,000
 Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 519-8226

7717 Cottonwood Lane \$619,900
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 838-4300

4 BEDROOMS
119 Neal Street \$1,099,000
 Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties Team 202-6898

2119 Palmer Drive \$1,150,000
 Sun 1-4 Roy Dronkers 484-5200

2252 Doccia Court \$1,250,000
 Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Ruby Hill 471-2250

1350 Benedict Court \$1,300,000
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

2438 Silver Oaks Lane \$1,384,000
 Sat/Sun 12-5 Keller Williams Tri-Valley 290-8399

See **OPEN HOMES** on Page 22

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PLEASANTON
 Open SUN 1 - 4 2253 VIA ESPADA
HIGHLY UPGRADED HOME \$750,000
 4 BR 2.5 BA 1950 sq. ft. Gourmet kit w/SS appliances. Hardwood flrs. Lrge private yard. 925.847.2200



5967 CORTE CERRITOS
UPGRADED PLEASANTON HOME! \$649,900
 3 BR 2.5 BA Only 2-blocks from Tennis Park. Wood laminate flrs, dual-pane windows, upgraded kit & bath. 925.847.2200



3060 BOLERO CT
BEAUTIFULLY UPGRADED! \$485,000
 3 BR 2.5 BA 1611 Sq. Ft. upgraded w/laminate flrs, 2 car garage. Close to schools, parks, & freeway. 925.847.2200



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

BRENTWOOD

Open SUN 1 - 4 221 EAGLE LANE
CUSTOM RANCHER! \$599,950
 4 BR 2.5 BA Private Road. Vaulted beam ceilings. Open Flr plan. Knotty pine + Tile flrs. Granite Kit. & Island 925.847.2200

Open SAT/SUN 11 - 5 5274 MATTHEW TERRACE
CHARMING ARDENWOOD HOME CALL FOR PRICING!
 4 BR 2.5 BA Kit w/Granite counters, newer appl. Mstr Bd Rm w/vaulted ceilings. Dual-Pane windows. 925-847-2236

MORGAN HILL

17065 COPPER HILL DRIVE
COMING SOON! \$698,000
 4 BR 2.5 BA Vaulted Ceilings, skylights, separate family room. 2681 sq ft. Beautiful 20,500 lot 925-367-7414

SAN LEANDRO

15215 FARNSWORTH STREET
WASHINGTON MANOR HOME! \$225,000
 3 BR 1 BA Built in 1950. Remodeled kit. w/wood cabinets & Granite. Hardwood flrs. Dual pane windows. 925.847.2200

FREMONT

Open SAT 11 - 5 4298 OTHELLO DR
COMPLETE REMODEL! \$748,000
 4 BR 2.5 BA Ardenwood Beauty! 2052 Sq. ft. Dual Pane Windows, new roof, and new carpet. 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

Open SAT 1 - 4 1117 RIESLING CIRCLE
CHARMING DOWNTOWN CUSTOM! \$730,000
 4 BR 2.5 BA Beautiful 2 Story w/large gourmet kitchen, SS appliances, lovely backyard & 3 car garage 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON

Open SUN 1 - 4 1835 HARMS DRIVE
GREAT HOME!! \$538,000
 3 BR 2.5 BA Freshly Painted, New Carpet, dual-pane windows. Upgraded tile on counters in kit and entry. 925.847.2200

SAN RAMON

2536 CRANFORD WAY
BEAUTIFUL HOME! \$974,950
 4 BR 4 BA Over 4000 Sq. Ft. w/Huge Bonus Room. Gourmet Eat-In Kit. Granite Slab, SS Appli. & Tile flrs. 925.847.2200

Open SAT/SUN 11 - 5 34129 FINNIGAN TER
FULLY UPGRADED! \$720,000
 4 BR 2.5 BA Kit has granite counters w/SS appliances. Awesome Ardenwood Schools & Neighborhood. 925.847.2200

911 CURLEW ROAD
BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL \$570,000
 Beautiful home with upgraded carpet, decorator paint, large kit & great commute location. 925.847.2200

Open SUN 12 - 4 343 CHRISTINA COURT
WELL-KEPT HOME! \$495,000
 3 BR 2 BA Walk to downtown. New carpet, roof, dual-pane windows & fence. Hardwood flrs in Kit & hall. 925.847.2200

Open SUN 1-4 PM 235 COPPER RIDGE ROAD
BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED!!
 2 Bd/2 Ba Lovely moldings, hardwood floors, beautiful stained cement counters, one of a kind find!

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HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during March 2011

Dublin

- 7976 Agate Way** S. & L. Myers to M. & S. Dean for \$545,000
- 7652 Arbor Creek Circle** D. Huang to B. & M. Vimolchalao for \$323,000
- 4193 Clarinbridge Circle** P. Fitzgerald to D. & M. Alonzo for \$390,000
- 8315 Cypress Court** Suntrust Bank to Wang Trust for \$362,000
- 3743 Ferncroft Way** Gollmer Trust to J. & M. Howeth for \$890,000
- 3420 Finnian Way #112** Toll Dublin Limited to J. Baveja for \$424,000
- 3658 Finnian Way** Bank of America to Poperidge Limited for \$301,000
- 4317 Fitzwilliam Street** Paper Trust to D. Bassine for \$350,000
- 4382 Fitzwilliam Street** Union Bank to A. Khanna for \$365,000
- 8608 Galindo Drive** Structured Asset Trust to R. & C. Mordoff for \$391,000
- 6368 Gatwick Court** Aurora Loan Services to F. Guan for \$351,000
- 10795 Inspiration Circle** Martin-Leano Trust to G. & I. Damelio for \$835,000
- 7428 Limerick Avenue** J. & N. Locicero to R. Johnson for \$451,000
- 3293 Monaghan Street** D. Pasut to D. & C. Wong for \$320,000
- 7321 Starward Drive #27** HSBC Bank to Y. Lee for \$155,000
- 11449 Winding Trail Lane** J. Major to S. & O. Reiderman for \$410,000

Livermore

- 1522 Buena Vista Avenue** Bac Home Loans to S. Kennedy for \$430,000
- 2178 Calibria Court** Arisa Limited to Luty Trust for \$859,000
- 1049 Camelia Drive** F. & M. Degrazia to R. Heal for \$375,000
- 707 Canterbury Avenue** R. & L. Pelayo to S. & J. Cisneros for \$390,000
- 3686 Carrigan Common** Ing Bank to G. Johnson for \$173,000
- 5563 Charlotte Way** Bank of America to S. Biro for \$365,000
- 837 Cherokee Drive** A. & J. Cosford to C. & J. Yang for \$380,000
- 6641 Forget Me Not** Department of Housing to M. Darling for \$225,000
- 2135 Gabriella Lane** C. Luongo-Colandrea to E. & M. Schwantes for \$840,000
- 979 Hollice Lane** Indymac Mortgage to T. & D. Cook for \$418,000
- 349 Lloyd Street** Federal National Mortgage to Jwelnat Investment & Real Estate for \$300,000
- 958 Lucille Street** R. & A. Paulson to Pedrini Trust for \$459,000
- 2390 Marina Avenue** Cary Trust to E. Cantwell for \$975,000
- 2514 Merlot Lane** S. & C. Blacklock to Koonce Trust for \$855,000
- 555 North O Street** Aurora Loan Services to R. Lynch for \$275,000
- 1851 Pepperwood Common** US Bank to A. & A. Richards for \$393,000
- 1783 Prima Drive** Wells Fargo Bank to P. & G. Bilovesky for \$815,000

- 59 Raccolio Way** W. & L. Hawkey to M. & K. Clark for \$897,500
- 2446 Robinson Circle** K. & S. Woollvin to C. & C. Gherghe for \$699,000
- 5935 Singing Hills Avenue** Preswick Investments to J. & L. Budde for \$355,000
- 657 South M Street** K. Koster to Baptist Trust for \$899,000
- 6109 St. Andrews Way** C. Clarke to T. Schmidt for \$330,000
- 315 Wall Street** Wells Fargo Bank to G. & A. Harford for \$359,000

Pleasanton

- 7855 Canyon Meadow Circle #G** New Century Home Equity to A. Lam for \$255,000
- 5211 Caparelli Court** Gsaa Home Equity Trust to N. & S. Kothakota for \$612,000
- 464 Del Sol Avenue** A. Burtis to M. Patel for \$737,000
- 6887 Herrin Court** American Home Mortgage to P. Nijjar for \$435,000
- 1609 Holly Circle** Erlandson Trust to J. Won for \$560,000
- 4734 McHenry Gate Way** Smith Trust to B. Kang for \$752,000
- 4507 Mirador Drive** Wong Trust to Chiariello Trust for \$748,000
- 432 Mission Drive** Mauro Trust to D. & M. Eckert for \$580,000
- 8145 Mountain View Drive #C** J. Sylvestri to S. Dahlin for \$265,000
- 3265 Northampton Court** D. & M. Deeds to S. & D. Pettey for \$714,000
- 1807 Sinclair Drive** J. Won to Z. Li for \$540,000
- 3417 Stacey Way** Clark Trust to T. & S. Fox for \$673,000

- 7485 Stonedale Drive** R. & M. Adamski to Regan Trust for \$380,000
- 7586 Stonedale Drive** Ing Bank to B. & M. Strong for \$412,500
- 1773 Via Di Salerno** Bac Home Loans to J. Ren for \$1,800,000
- 1907 Zenato Place** Wu Trust to J. Chimni for \$1,650,000

San Ramon

- 2423 Basswood Drive** D. Loughlin to A. Sharma for \$665,000
- 2928 Biddleford Drive** D. Wort to D. Chan for \$497,000
- 2796 Bollinger Canyon Road** N. Olsen to S. Peck for \$258,000
- 9615 Camassia Way** C. Dacumos to A. & V. Peterson for \$495,000
- 40 Haven Place** D. Rogoff to M. Mancuso for \$482,500
- 4 Henry Ranch Drive** R. & M. Montazeri to J. Scivally for \$1,050,000
- 7087 Honeycastle Drive** W. & L. Rhodes to X. Cui for \$802,500
- 818 Jadecrest Drive** K. & K. Neate to R. & B. Patel for \$1,040,000
- 4209 Lilac Ridge Road** National Residential to M. Mao for \$1,181,000
- 4425 Lilac Ridge Road** P. & W. Chang to W. Huang for \$907,000
- 2549 McLaren Lane** M. & M. Murphy to C. & L. Tindall for \$684,500
- 1111 Nancy Lane** US Bank to P. Lin for \$419,000
- 3606 Sandalford Way** M. Doroudchi to C. Qu for \$700,000
- 2215 Watermill Road** Edmonson Trust to A. Patel for \$543,000

Source: California REsource



W
M

einer &
cDowell

CONCIERGE REAL ESTATE GROUP

PHYLLIS WEINER

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PETER McDOWELL

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PMcDowell@rockcliff.com

J. Rockcliff



Realtors

<p>2416 VIA DE LOS MILAGROS ORIGINAL COUNTRY FAIRE, PLEASANTON</p>  <p style="background-color: #007060; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">OPEN SUN 1-4</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">5 Bd 3.5 Ba • 3,259+/- sq.ft. CALL FOR PRICE AND DETAILS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em;">FABULOUS "AMADOR" MODEL IN DESIRABLE ORIGINAL COUNTRY FAIRE, PLEASANTON. KITCHEN FEATURED IN DIABLO MAGAZINE, PARK LIKE YARD WITH POOL, SPA, ETC. 5 BEDROOMS, 3 1/2 BATHS, 3259 SQ.FT.</p>	<p>1159 CANYON HILLS RD CANYON HILLS, SAN RAMON</p>  <p style="background-color: #007060; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">OPEN SUN 1-4</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">4 Bd 2.5 Ba • 2,360+/- sq.ft. NEW PRICE! \$774,950</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em;">WELCOME TO THIS EXCEPTIONAL HOME LOCATED IN THE GATED COMMUNITY. BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED AND UPGRADED TO PERFECTION, THIS HOME WILL PLEASE YOUR FUSSIEST BUYERS. EXCELLENT CURB APPEAL WITH PROFESSIONALLY LANDSCAPED YARDS & MUCH MORE!</p>	<p>6605 AMBER LANE CARRIAGE GARDENS, PLEASANTON</p>  <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">4 Bd 3.5 Ba • 3,675+/- sq.ft., 0.47 ACRE LOT \$1,298,000</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em;">CARRIAGE GARDENS SINGLE LEVEL HOME, ONE OF BEST LOCATIONS IN PLEASANTON! GREAT FLOORPLAN WITH OVERSIZED ROOMS, 3 FIREPLACES, MASTER W/RETREAT. HUGE PRIVATE FLAT LOT, WITH SALT, SOLAR POOL, SPA, CABANA W/BATH, TREE HOUSE. FUN!</p>
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<p>219 E. ANGELA, PLEASANTON</p>  <p style="background-color: #007060; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">AVAILABLE</p>	<p>6645 AMBER LN, PLEASANTON</p>  <p style="background-color: #007060; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">AVAILABLE</p>	<p>1586 LOGANBERRY, PLEASANTON</p>  <p style="background-color: #007060; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">PENDING</p>	<p>9663 CROSBY DR, PLEASANTON</p>  <p style="background-color: #007060; color: white; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold;">JUST SOLD</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em; color: #007060;">CLIENT TESTIMONIAL</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">"MY FAMILY AND I RECENTLY RELOCATED FROM THE UK TO THE EAST BAY AREA AND ENGAGED PHYLLIS AND PETER TO ASSIST US WITH FINDING A HOME. THE OUTCOME WAS COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL. PUT QUITE SIMPLY, WE WOULD NOT HAVE ACHIEVED THIS WITHOUT THIR HELP. THEY BOTH POSSESS A WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF THE LOCAL AREA AS WELL AS BEING HIGHLY EXPERT IN THE HOME SALE AND PURCHASE PROCESS. THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE PROCESS WE FOUND THEM TO BE PROFESSIONAL, FRIENDLY AND RESPONSIVE! WE CAN NOT RECOMMEND THEM HIGHLY ENOUGH."</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">- BUYERS</p>
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J. Rockcliff



Realtors

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<p>9999 LONGVIEW LN PLEASANTON</p> <p>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</p> <p>\$3,249,000 • 6 Bd • 5(3) Ba • 8,330+/- sq.ft. Gated custom westside French Chateau w/ stunning grounds, elevator, private tennis court, indoor pool, casino/theater and much more!</p>	<p>VIA DE LOS MILAGROS PLEASANTON</p> <p>OPEN SUN 1-4</p> <p>WEINER / MCDOWELL (925) 251.2550</p> <p>\$1,248,000 • 5 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,259+/- sq.ft. located in the desirable "Original Country Faire" neighborhood, well kept homes, large lots, mature trees, & friendly neighbors.</p>	<p>1976 ARMONDO CT PLEASANTON</p> <p>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</p> <p>\$3,649,000 • 6 Bd • 6(1) Ba • 9,821+/- sq.ft. This Italian Villa is all about architectural details & refined craftsmanship. Located on cul-de-sac, views, private patios & balconies.</p>	<p>1159 MATARO COURT PLEASANTON</p> <p>OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4</p> <p>DENISE IVALDI (925) 251.2532</p> <p>\$889,000 • 4 Bd • 3 Ba • 2,400+/- sq.ft. Updated throughout. Too much to list! Surrounded by open space with gorgeous views! Community Amenities.</p>	<p>862 GRAY FOX CIR PLEASANTON</p> <p>TONNI CHANDLER (925) 251.2556</p> <p>7 Bd 7(2) Ba • 7,163+/- sq.ft., 1.15+/- Acres Gorgeous custom home created w/ attention to detail in every aspect, representing craftsmanship at its finest.</p>
<p>1819 MADDALENA CT PLEASANTON</p> <p>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</p> <p>\$1,298,000 • Lot and Land • 1.27+/- Acres Exquisite, oversized PRIME lot w/ Mt Diablo & vineyard views. The largest lot available in Ruby Hill, to accommodate any size and style home!</p>	<p>7717 COTTONWOOD LN PLEASANTON</p> <p>OPEN SUN 1-4</p> <p>MCDANIEL CALLAHAN (925) 838-4300</p> <p>\$619,900 • 3 Bd • 2 Ba • 1,593+/- sq.ft. Located on desirable tree lined lane in Highland Oaks. Single level. Kitchen family room combo w/ double sliding doors, pool & more!</p>	<p>1225 LOZANO CT PLEASANTON</p> <p>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</p> <p>\$4,299,000 • 6 Bd • 7(2) Ba • 8,877+/- sq.ft. Prepare for what lies beyond the gorgeous entry of this Italian Villa. Unrivaled setting among olive trees & lush landscaping, views of vineyards...</p>	<p>9745 SANTOS RANCH RD PLEASANTON</p> <p>PEGGY CORTEZ (925) 648.5454</p> <p>\$2,998,000 • 2,170+/- sq.ft., 70+/- Acres Gated Santos Ranch; renovate existing 4,850 +/- Tahoe-like home or build a grand mansion. Minutes to freeway & downtown.</p>	<p>219 E ANGELA ST PLEASANTON</p> <p>WEINER / MCDOWELL (925) 251.2550</p> <p>4 Bd • 3 Ba • 2,178+/- sq.ft., 0.10+/- Acres Tudor, walk to downtown! 300+/- sq.ft. carriage house. Gourmet kitchen, granite, hardwood floors, solid wood arched doors, private yard.</p>
<p>1159 CANYON HILLS RD SAN RAMON</p> <p>OPEN SUN 1-4</p> <p>WEINER / MCDOWELL (925) 251.2550</p> <p>\$774,950 • 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!</p>	<p>1996 PASEO DEL CAJON PLEASANTON</p> <p>JOE FRAZZANO (925) 735.7653</p> <p>\$738,800 • 5 Bd • 3 Ba • 2,358+/- sq.ft. Beautifully updated home. Dwnstrs bd & full bth. Bright & open kitchen & fam room combo. Updated kitchen w/ granite counters & more!</p>	<p>6605 AMBER LN PLEASANTON</p> <p>WEINER / MCDOWELL (925) 251.2550</p> <p>\$1,298,000 • 3,675+/- sq.ft., 0.50+/- Acres Carriage Gardens, single level! Great floorplan w/ oversized rooms, 3 fireplaces, master w/retreat. Salt solar pool, spa & cabana w/bath, tree house.</p>	<p>5240 GENOVESIO DR PLEASANTON</p> <p>LISA DOYLE (925) 855.4000</p> <p>\$510,000 • 2 Bd • 2 Ba • 1,156+/- sq.ft. Court/ Prime location. Open, light & bright floor plan, vaulted ceilings, hrdwd flrs & more! Close to freeways, trails, walk to BART & shops.</p>	<p>1867 SANNITA CT PLEASANTON</p> <p>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</p> <p>\$2,749,000 • 5 Bd • 5(2) Ba • 7,340+/- sq.ft. Cul-de-sac w/ unobstructed views. Impressive dual entry staircase, Oversized & temp. cont. walk-in wine cellar, large Koi pond, built in BBQ.</p>
<p>21122 KNUPPE PL CASTRO VALLEY</p> <p>OPEN SUN 1-4</p> <p>KRISTY & COMPANY (925) 251.2536</p> <p>\$1,199,000 • 6 Bd • 5 Ba • 4,591+/- sq.ft. Off of Jensen Rd. Breathtaking Panaramic views, over 4,500 sq. ft. of spacious living. 6 bd and 5 ba, possible in-law set-up or great in home office.</p>	<p>24977 PALOMARES RD CASTRO VALLEY</p> <p>OPEN SUN 1-4</p> <p>KRISTY & COMPANY (925) 251.2536</p> <p>5 Bd • 4.5 Ba • 6,696+/- sq.ft. • 38.83 Acres Bay Area Dream Estate Ranch. Large Bar, Octagon Livingroom, Beautiful gated 38 Acres, Private equine-horse facility, approx. 40 horse & more!</p>	<p>9877 FOOTHILL RD SUNOL</p> <p>KRISTY & COMPANY (925) 251.2536</p> <p>4 Bd 3 Ba • 3,027+/- sq.ft., 16.01+/- Acres Magnificent Location, This home is only 2 years new w/ views, Single story, all located next to Pleasanton Ridge Park, Great Castle Brook Horse Barn.</p>	<p>1228 HIBISCUS WAY LIVERMORE</p> <p>OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4</p> <p>MICHAEL J. DUFFY (925) 251.2523</p> <p>\$389,000 • 3 Bd • 2 Ba • 1,584+/- sq.ft. Fantastic Springtown Home great location some remodeling and more! Sun Room not included in sq ft. Large side yard for boat/RV.</p>	<p>220 STETSON DR DANVILLE</p> <p>OPEN SAT 1:30-4</p> <p>KELLY PATTERSON (925) 200.2525</p> <p>\$739,950 • 4 Bd • 3 Ba • 2,059+/- sq.ft. Tassajara Ranch! Loaded w/upgrades. 4th br is a den., gourmet kitchen, crown molding, tile flooring. Spectacular rear yard w/in ground spa.</p>

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

Real estate Town Hall on April 26

Discussion to focus on Pleasanton market, opportunities

By JEB BING

A free seminar on the status of the real estate market in Pleasanton will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, at the Veteran's Memorial Building, located at 301 Main St.

Sponsored by the Bay East Association of Realtors, the city of Pleasanton, the Pleasanton Weekly and the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, the seminar is aimed at providing the public with objective, timely and accurate information about the local residential real estate market.

"Pleasanton differentiates itself from the rest of the California's real estate market in a number of ways that are important for both sellers

and buyers to understand," said David Stark, public affairs director for the Bay East association. "Pleasanton residents like to be informed about local issues and this event will provide a clear snapshot of the city's housing market."

Real estate and lending professionals leading a panel discussion on market conditions will include Otto Catrina, 2011 president of the Bay East Association, and George Duarte, representing the California Association of Mortgage Brokers. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman will open the event.

This will be the fourth annual Pleasanton real estate town hall. The event is free and open to the public. ■

OPEN HOMES

Continued from Page 19

23 Silver Oaks Ct	\$1,480,000
Sat/Sun 12-5 Keller Williams Tri-Valley	290-8399
1724 Zenato Place	\$1,689,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Tom Fox	872-1275
8043 Rockford Place	\$1,795,000
Sun 1-4:30 June Nye-Nebel	877-689-3267
18 Foothill Place	\$1,989,000
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley	463-9500
3650 Platt Court	\$599,950
Sat 1-4 Connie Cox	766-3198
3349 Hadsell Court	\$659,900
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley	463-9500
653 Claret Court	\$709,950
Sun 1-4 Melda Telford	789-0233
852 Madeira Drive	\$719,950
Sun 1-4 Jim Lavey	846-3755
7505 Trotter Way	\$739,999
Sun 1-4 Sheri Platter	858-5400

2375 Fairfield Drive	\$799,900
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors	251-1111
1159 Mataro Court	\$889,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors	251-2532

5 BEDROOMS	
7971 Foothill Knolls	\$1,239,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens	463-9500
2416 Via de los Milagros	\$1,248,000
Sun 1-4 Weiner McDowell Group	209-0343
1471 Irongate Court	\$1,499,000
Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors	251-1111
1092 Sycamore Creek Way	\$1,559,000
Sun 1-5 Blaise Lofland	846-6500
2426 Pomino Way	\$1,639,000
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Garden Ruby Hill	471-2250
6 BEDROOMS	
1226 Shady Pond	\$1,550,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors	251-1111
7966 Foothill Knolls Drive	\$1,999,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors	251-1111



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COMING SOON!



Expanded single story beauty located Downtown Pleasanton.... 4 bedrooms, 3 updated baths, updated galley kitchen with granite countertops, stainless appliances, hardwood flooring, stunning stone fireplace in spacious family room, French doors and MORE! Call for pricing.

SOLD!



524 Andreas Court, San Ramon
Sold for: \$1,025,000
5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bath home features many upgrades. Located at the end of a cul-de-sac in BEAUTIFUL Windermere. **Represented VERY HAPPY BUYERS!**

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SYCAMORE HEIGHTS

JUST LISTED - OPEN SUN 1-5



1092 SYCAMORE CREEK WAY, PLEASANTON
Wow! Private premium 20,180 sq ft estate lot. Panoramic views of Pleasanton Ridge, the valley and Mount Diablo. Large rear grounds with expansive lawn area and patio. Backs to open space. Built by Greenbriar Homes in 2006. Five bedrooms, plus den, bonus room option (5th), five and a half bathrooms. Approximately 5,000 sq ft. Large gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops and stainless steel appliances. Crown molding throughout, new custom flooring, extensive upgraded light fixtures, new interior paint throughout. Close to downtown, Castlewood Country Club, Oak Hills Shopping Center, and Mission Hills Park. Award winning schools! **OFFERED AT \$1,559,000**

RUBY HILL

PRICE REDUCED



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 \$1,449,000**

CHARTER OAKS

COMING SOON



1549 MAPLE LEAF DRIVE, PLEASANTON
Highly upgraded four bedroom, plus bonus/teen room, three bathrooms. Approximately 2541 square feet. Completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom backsplash, custom cabinets & stainless steel appliances. Brazilian cherry hardwood flooring, upgraded carpet & remodeled master bath. Newer interior paint. Three car garage. Completely re-landscaped private rear grounds with built-in BBQ/kitchen, custom fire pit/sitting area, slate patio, garden and play areas. Tile roof. Convenient to downtown, neighborhood park and award-winning schools! **PRICE TO FOLLOW**

STONERIDGE PARK



2812 GARDEN CREEK CIR, 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**

PHEASANT RIDGE



933 LAGUNA CREEK LANE, PLEASANTON
Beautiful Pheasant Ridge home on professionally landscaped .30 acre lot. Panoramic views of Pleasanton Ridge. This semi-custom built by Greenbriar in 2007 has a total square footage of 5,096. Six bedrooms plus bonus (media prepped) (7th), six bathrooms. Upgraded gourmet kitchen with granite and stainless appliances, three car garage, beautiful grounds include built-in BBQ, outdoor fountain, large lawn area & slate meditation area. Walk to neighborhood park, convenient to downtown and award winning Pleasanton schools. **OFFERED AT \$1,475,000**

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. **OFFERED AT \$319,500**

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. **SOLD FOR \$645,000**

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street





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DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



ALAMO \$2,250,000
Spacious Roundhill home, premium creekside lot. 6bd + loft & storage loft, dramatic formal DR&LR, huge gourmet kitchen, spacious master suite, pool, spa, 2951 ROUNDHILL RD

DOUG BUENZ SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,999,000
Exquisite Mediterranean Estate! 6bd+loft+detached office/rec room, 5ba,4 car garage, tumbled stone & granite,private 1.1 Acre lot w/pool, waterfall, outdoor kitchen.7966 FOOTHILL KNOLLS DR

DANIEL ALPHER BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,610,000
Warm & Inviting 4391 sq ft Estate Nestled on a Court with over 334k in Upgrades. Irresistible Quality, Charm & Designer Touches Embrace this 4 Bed, 4.5 Bath Luxury Home! 3372 SAGEWOOD CT

MOXLEY TEAM SAT & SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,550,000
Amazing backyard! 6BD 6BA 5,096sf on 15,712sf. lot. Top of the line upgrades throughout. Private location, BD, office & full bath on main level. His & hers closets and large open bath. 1226 SHADY POND

TIFFANY ROSE OPEN SUN 2-5



PLEASANTON \$1,499,000
Stunning luxury home in prime location!! Upgraded top to bottom, inside & out! Private, spacious outside paradise w/ fire pit,BBQ, pool/spa. European walnut hardwood floors. 1471 IRONGATE CT

SYLVIA DESIN BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$879,000
Don't miss this lovely, well-maintained home close to downtown Pleasanton, 680 freeway and shopping. Newer roof, windows, and HVAC. Full bed & bath downstairs. 5816 SAN JUAN WAY

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPT



DISCOVERY BAY \$849,950
Beautiful single story home located on deep water. Features include granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, new carpet, two fire places, 3 car garage, & much much more. 3909 LIGHTHOUSE PL

TIM MCGUIRE OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$799,900
4bd/2.5ba, "Monterey" model in a cul-de-sac, 2101+/-sf, granite kitchen, newer appliances, new windows, hardwood floors, remodeled baths, inside laundry, pool, side yard access. 2375 FAIRFIELD DR

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$465,000
Charming single story contemporary garden style 2 bd/2full ba home. Open FR and LR, Breakfast bar in kitchen, wood flooring, master opens to brick patio, near park and shopping. 4190 PEREGRINE WAY

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$429,000
Great home in a central location. Updated plantation shutter & vaulted ceilings in living area. Kitchen offers gas cooking & pantry. Rear yard offers wood patio & stone path. 2125 RHEEM DRIVE



That Old Tree

Has seen kids swing from it. Heard lovers whisper beneath it. Sheltered horses during a storm. When it comes to choosing a real estate company, choose one that has stood the test of time. One that demonstrates financial strength – it proves they care about your investment. One that is flexible – it knows how to meet your specific needs. And one that has experience – because it can keep you from pitfalls.

After 20 years, Alain Pinel Realtors is an exceptionally strong private company that repeatedly leads the Bay Area in home sales.

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Vice President
Managing Broker
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For emergency care that requires immediate treatment, please call 911 or go directly to the nearest hospital emergency department.

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ER Open House

Saturday, April 16, 2011
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

We invite you to take a look beyond our doors. You'll find a beautiful new Emergency Department... comfortable, private, personal and most importantly, equipped with some of the most advanced technology available. For kids, we have special equipment and a pediatrician from Children's Hospital Oakland always in our hospital. Join us for a tour, meet some of the staff, and enjoy light snacks and refreshments.

New Emergency Department

- 8,900 square feet
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- Negative-pressure isolation room
- Large, comfortable waiting room
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