

# Pleasanton Weekly

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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Greenest city in California?

A few years ago, mention of parking meters downtown or rules requiring homeowners to install triple-pane windows before selling their homes would have council members shaking their heads before quickly moving on to other less sensitive issues. But times have changed and everything's in play as Pleasanton moves to meet tough new state and federal requirements on a myriad of issues concerning energy conservation, land use, the air we breathe and the kinds of cars we drive, even the types of toilets we can install in our homes. The once-sacred Prop. 13 is being challenged by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa who wants to cancel that benefit, at least for business properties as a starter.

Pleasanton Operations Director Daniel Smith, who mentioned pay-

Tuesday's public hearing, they were the all-out support, except by Miller, for the climate plan that includes the statement: "Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice and rising global average sea level." Smith, a believer, spent more than an hour Tuesday showing how water availability (his No. 1 concern) and other commodities and lifestyle comforts we take for granted are threatened unless cities such as ours take action. He noted the extreme heat this month in southwest Texas, 11 inches of rain this week in New York, and said we could be next despite a pleasant couple of years with better than average rainfall and reasonable temperatures. "We're at the tipping point," he warned, in urging council approval.

No one's sure just how personal habits and lifestyles will change as a result of the Climate Action Plan.

Whatever you were driving or wherever you were traveling in 2005, you'll have to make do with 15% less nine years from now.

for-parking and home retrofits at Tuesday's council meeting, quickly added that those aren't part of his new Citizens Climate Action Plan that the City Council reviewed and then approved in a 5-0 vote. But the plan does contain numerous goals and requirements that will affect all of us in the not-too-distant future, using terms as climate change, carbon footprints, greenhouse gases and sustainability. While pay-for-parking to discourage driving the family car to nearby shops is not part of the plan, some on the council indicated they would pay (e.g., taxpayers' dollars) to add more Wheels buses to canvass the city for riders.

Clearly, a long-sought effort by the Pleasanton Downtown Association to build parking garages downtown seems now to be an endangered species, along with the polar bears CAP-type programs hope to spare. In fact, polar bears brought the only opposition to the Pleasanton CAP from David Miller, a self-professed Tea Party supporter. He countered Smith's chart showing 400,000 years of periodic climate changes until now by showing his own data from the 1960s and beyond about "imminent" melt-downs of the polar ice caps, overpopulation and the dying-out polar bears, whose population he says has now rebounded.

If there were any surprises in

Dave Stark, a vice president at the Bay East Association of Realtors and former Housing Commissioner, said he and his wife, to reduce water usage, ripped out their front lawn and replaced it with an architect-designed yard that requires no water and has no grass. It's not clear how prospective buyers would view grass-less front yards, but perhaps if everyone did the same, they'd have no choice.

Assembly Bill 32, which mandates that cities enact CAP measures, uses 2005 as a baseline for energy conservation and other climate goals, and goes even farther. Cities must target their 2020 emission, as the new Pleasanton CAP does, at 15% below 2005 levels. That means that whatever you were driving or wherever you were traveling in 2005, you'll have to make do with 15% less nine years from now.

Garbage will take a hit, too. Pleasanton now recycles about 73% of its waste; Smith wants that to go to 90% by 2025. The CAP uses a baseline of water consumption from 1996 to 2005, equivalent to 244 per capita gallons of water used per day. CAP tells us to reduce that by 20% by 2020.

In response to Councilman Jerry Thorne's support of the CAP as a way to make Pleasanton the greenest city in California, Smith said: "That's our goal." ■

## About the Cover

Summer interns (l-r) Amelia Arvesen, Dena Behnam and Priyanka Mody say they learned a lot working at the Pleasanton Weekly this summer, from doing research for the Info resource guide to conducting interviews and writing stories. Photo by Glenn Wohltmann. Cover design by Lili Cao.

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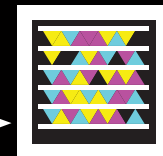
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## Do you have any back to school traditions?



**Linda Soares**

*Hygienist*

When my daughters start high school, I take them to San Francisco to get their makeup done, and then we have lunch and go shopping for clothes. My daughter Jessica will be a freshman this year, so we're going to San Francisco this Friday.

**Jennifer Oxe**

*PTA VP, Walnut Grove Elementary*

My mom comes over and spends the night, and after we have a big breakfast with the kids, we all walk to the first day of school. After the parents' Welcome Back Coffee, a big group of moms go the Sunshine Saloon and have mimosas.



**Brett Townley**

*Golf Pro*

When I was a student, we always used to go shopping for new clothes and school supplies like binders and things.

**Chiara Seidl**

*Community outreach assistant to Dr. David Perry*

We take my kids shopping. They get a monthly allowance, and they buy everything from clothes to treats with their own money so that they are able to learn how to budget at an early age.



**AJ Clyne**

*First-grader*

We go and get the stuff for school like erasers and pencils and we set my clothes out the night before. I'm going to wear my favorite Mario shirt. I brush my teeth, too. My teacher is going to be Mrs. Gunn and I'm really excited.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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

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## DIGEST

### School year to begin

The district has some pointers for students and parents, old and new, as schools starts this Tuesday, Aug. 23.

People are asked to remember that traffic is always at its worst at the start of the year as parents walk their children to their first days of school or try to figure out where to drop off students, and as student drivers jockey for parking spaces. Leave home early and be cautious of students walking and riding bikes.

A new California law has changed the requirements about student immunization against pertussis. For the 2011-12 school year, students entering grades 7-12 will need proof of a Tdap booster shot before starting school. This requirement applies to students at all public and private schools.

### News hours for MOM

The Museum On Main, 603 Main St., has increased its hours to six days a week, adding Tuesday, plus now opens an hour earlier.

"Over the past year our visitation has increased by 69% and the additional hours will help assist those people who wish to visit earlier in the week and earlier in the day," Executive Director Jim DeMersman said. "We are also looking at adding some evening hours to accommodate the evening foot traffic in downtown."

The new hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free but donations are welcome. Call 462-2766.

### The homeless plight

Shepherd's Gate, which provides Christ-centered services and housing for battered and homeless women and children in Livermore and Brentwood, is holding "24 in Your Car" the weekend of Oct. 8-9 at the Fairgrounds to raise money and publicize this fastest growing segment of the homeless population. Participants will join discussion groups, hear testimonies, and experience eating convenience store meals and sleeping in their cars, after gathering \$24 pledges from family and friends.

To publicize the program, Jennifer Harp, Shepherd's Gate's director of marketing, spent five days living in her car this week. During this time, she sought resources available to the "mobile homeless" and talked to those who have had to live in their cars. Learn more at [www.24inyourcar.com](http://www.24inyourcar.com).

## Council OKs Climate Action Plan that regulates future energy uses

Plan expected to meet tougher state-required greenhouse-gas emissions rules

By JEB BING

The City Council approved a broad-based Climate Action Plan (CAP) on Tuesday night that could make Pleasanton "one of the greenest cities in California" in the coming years.

Nearly three years in the planning stage, the new plan is aimed at creating a structure of regulations and goals on environmental issues to conform to a new state law, called AB 32, which requires that cities reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020.

The Pleasanton CAP approved Tuesday also is being submitted in draft form to the state Attorney General's Office to make sure it meets

a court-ordered directive to show that the city is complying with greenhouse gas emission requirements earlier imposed by Gov. Jerry Brown, when he was attorney general.

But council members, in their 5-0 vote in support of the CAP, said the plan also moves Pleasanton toward sustainability in the years to come as climate change and environmental concerns increasingly affect the quality of life for both businesses and residents here.

To reduce emissions and improve water resources, the CAP includes provisions that will encourage the installation of charging stations in the city for battery-powered cars, bicycle racks

downtown, free visits to homes by experts to discuss energy improvements, free water-saving devices, lighting upgrades to more energy efficient bulbs, solar panels on municipal buildings and irrigation audits of residential and business water customers in the city.

Several more onerous suggestions, including parking meters and required energy upgrades for those selling their homes, are not included in the plan, although they appear to be still on the table if state energy requirements stiffen.

The CAP, several hundred pages in length, was prepared by Daniel Smith, director of See **COUNCIL** on Page 8



GLENN WOHLTMANN

### Hurry up and wait

Jenna Traurig, 16, and Duncan Crawbuck, 15, wait with Duncan's mother, Mary, in a long line for walk-through registration at Amador Valley High School on Tuesday. Both teens will be juniors this year and each is taking one AP class. While Traurig is considering a career in the medical field, Crawbuck said he just wants to make a lot of money. School starts Aug. 23.

## 911 tribute scheduled for Fairgrounds on 10th anniversary of attacks

Impact for America plans daytime events, American Idol at night

Impact for America, part of a national ministries group, will hold a special event Sunday, Sept. 11 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds to pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the 911 terrorist attacks and to honor Americans killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Called the "Never Forget" tribute, the ceremony will mark the 10th anniversary of the attacks and will include special events starting at noon. Although open to the public free of charge, a ticketed evening event will start at 7 p.m. in the fairgrounds' amphitheater, featuring a live performance by American Idol Jason Castro. Reserved seating will be available with ticket prices starting at \$10.

Event organizers estimate that more than 15,000 will attend the day-long tribute, which

will include rides and attractions for families sponsored by local businesses, churches and organizations, food booths, live stage events and a "Never Forget Flash Mob."

Veterans' organizations, including Pleasanton Military Families and the Diablo Valley Flag Brigade, are among the sponsors. Members of these organizations and the Warriors Watch Riders will also be part of a parade planned for the event to honor victims of the 911 attacks.

Impact for America is a division of Impact Ministries. It states on its Website that it is "dedicated to bringing unity and community to all Americans in their home towns." More information is available at [www.impactforamerica.com](http://www.impactforamerica.com).

—Jeb Bing

## STAR tests show Pleasanton schools continue to improve

Students score above state, county averages

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Students in the Pleasanton school district scored above both the state and the Alameda County averages in STAR scores released this week for the 2010-11 school year.

Cindy Galbo, assistant superintendent of educational services, said the results for STAR, which stands for Standardized Testing and Results, show the district is continuing to improve in most academic areas.

Nearly 83% are proficient in English, although third-graders scored significantly lower than the rest of the district.

In history, 78.7% are proficient or advanced. Math had scores above average at 72.4%.

"We had 247 students take Algebra 1 in seventh grade. Out of 247, 244 were proficient or advanced," Galbo said. "We had 157 eighth-graders take geometry — usually they take it in ninth or 10th grade — all 157 were proficient or advanced."

She said that the district also does well in science, with 90% of kids proficient or advanced.

There are still problem areas, however, which the district has already begun to address.

"We continue to see our subgroups — our African American and Hispanic kids, our students with disabilities and socio-economically disadvantaged — they are performing below average across the board," Galbo said.

While the results show many growth areas, there are some drops: second- and fourth-grade English scores have dropped, as have fourth- and sixth-grade math scores. English scores have risen for seventh- and eleventh-graders, and eleventh-grade history scores have gone up as well.

Galbo acknowledged that some scores seem to depend on when a course is taken. For example, while 100% of the eighth-grade students who took geometry ahead of schedule did well, 81% of those who took it in ninth grade, when the course is usually taken, were advanced or proficient, while 15% of 10th-

See **STAR** on Page 8

## Safeway holds 10th annual campaign to support M.D.

Donations through Labor Day go to help people with neuromuscular diseases

By JEB BING

This month Pleasanton-based Safeway Inc. is holding its 10th annual company-wide campaign to support the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

MDA works to develop treatments and assist people coping with neuromuscular diseases.

"We are honored and pleased to continue our association with one of the most highly regarded charitable causes in the world," said Larree Renda, executive vice president and chair of the Safeway Foundation. "MDA is a remarkable organization, funding more than 300 leading-edge research projects worldwide annually that are changing lives."

MDA works to combat neuromuscular diseases through basic and applied scientific investigation. It also offers local comprehensive programs of medical and support services and widespread professional and public health education.

Through Labor Day, Safeway, Vons, Pavilions, Dominick's, Raddalls, Tom Thumb, Genuardi's, Carrs and Pak 'N Save stores in the U.S. and Canada will collect donations.

The Safeway Foundation will distribute the funds in their entirety to MDA and Muscular Dystrophy Canada (MDC). The company's U.S. retail stores will also participate in the "Make a Muscle, Make a Difference" program, which provides MDA with a portion of the proceeds of specially marked products purchased by Safeway customers.

While 2011 marks the 10th year Safeway has conducted a companywide fundraiser for MDA, the partnership goes back much further. In years past, individual stores collected donations through local grassroots fundraising and groups of employees volunteered by answering phones during the annual telethon. Over the years, Safeway has raised more than \$58 million for muscular dystrophy charities. In addition to the company's participation in the National Telethon, Safeway employees from across the country will continue to participate in regional MDA telethons to bring attention to the cause.

The impact of the donations and dedication has been tremendous. In the last six months alone, MDA has reached the following landmarks with the help of Safeway's customers and employees:

- Launched the first clinical trial with a drug that specifically targets the genetic flaw in familial ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease;

- Gained FDA approval to initiate a clinical trial with the first drug designed to reverse the genetic flaw in Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a disease that causes the muscles to atrophy and waste away;

- Launched two projects designed to prevent debilitating side effects caused by long-term steroid therapy, currently the only approved drug regimen for certain neuromuscular diseases;

- Launched a clinical trial de-

signed to optimize a gene therapy strategy for Limb Girdle Muscular Dystrophy, which most severely affects hip and shoulder muscles; and,

- Established multi-center clinical research networks that are engaged in cutting-edge clinical investigations to further improve the diagnosis and clinical management of individuals with these conditions.

Safeway spokeswoman Teena Massingill said Safeway dedicates each April and August to helping people with disabilities. The company uses in-store radio broadcasts to customers and employee video messages to communicate research breakthroughs and new programs that help millions of people with disabilities. Easter Seals and Special Olympics are among the organizations that receive the donations raised in April, with the August campaign dedicated to MDA and Muscular Dystrophy Canada (MDC).

Along with supporting people with disabilities, Safeway is also one of the largest corporate supporters of cancer charities, having raised nearly \$170 million for breast cancer and prostate cancer research and treatment. In addition, the company contributes to a broad range of charitable and community programs and in 2010 raised or donated more than \$200 million to education, hunger relief, health and human services and programs focused on assisting people with disabilities, including MDA. ■

## Blessing of animals will be blessing for shelter

'Our pets are part of our families,' says new pastor

By DENA BEHNAM

The Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer and Youth Minister Diana Bohn will preside over a Blessing of the Animals next weekend at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, which also will benefit the Valley Humane Society's "Save Our Shelter" campaign.

"The outdoor event will be held in the front area where there's grass and white pavement so it'll be cooler for the paws," Hammer said with a laugh.

Although this event traditionally falls on the Feast Day of St. Francis, Oct. 4, the church wanted to hold the event sooner in response to the Humane Society's present and ongoing need for funding.

All are welcome to bring pets on leashes or in cages to the free outdoor worship celebration at 3 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 28, which will include music and prayer. Cookies and doggy biscuits will be offered after the short service, and people will be able to mingle with fellow pet owners. Parking is available behind the church, which is at 4444 Black Ave.

"Our pets are part of our families," said Hammer, who has an adopted shelter puppy of her own and friends who regularly foster kittens. "We nurture them with love as part of God's creation."

"And blessings are always nice to receive," she added.

Hammer just became the Lead Pastor of Lynnewood United Methodist Church on July 1. She is known in the Tri-Valley due to her years of teaching German, English and social sciences at Amador Valley and Livermore high schools.

"I'm just delighted to be appointed to Lynnewood Methodist Church," she said. "It's a vibrant community with lots going on, with lots of ages represented from children to adults, and it's just a great opportunity to be in ministry here."

Hammer brings a diverse background to church leadership. She first earned a secondary-school teaching career, a bachelor's degree in international studies from American University and a master's in reading instruction from the University of Maryland.

She said she answered a call to the ministry after her son suddenly died on Sept. 10, 2001.



Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer

"That caused me to look at my life in a new way," she recalled. "In the process of grief and healing, the church was tremendously supportive and helpful. We have two other children, and the members of the church supported us all."

"I felt that it was then in my private time of reading and prayer life the call from God came to go to seminary and to offer what I could to other families in grief as a spiritual leader," she added. "I wasn't sure at first what that would lead to, but I knew that I had a new direction in my life. It was joyful and no longer so sad."

Hammer then attended Pacific School of Religion, where she earned a Masters of Divinity with honors and distinction in preaching in 2006. Before returning to her local community, she served churches in Alamo and Rohnert Park.

Her new role as a pastor includes many duties.

"There's a tremendous creativity and variety involved in ministry at a local church and I thought my gifts would be well used in that context," she said. "So that's what I was prepared to do."

Not only does she lead worship, but Hammer's ministerial duties include pastoral care, small-group ministry and new-member relations.

"Every time I meet with individuals we have an opportunity for a deepening of our relationship and our faith," Hammer said. "I think I will influence people by providing that opportunity."

She is eager to serve this community and the world, committed to finding spiritual meaning in life, and making connections.

"This is a message we need to get out. We're not alone in this world," she said. "There are others who care about us, what we're trying to accomplish in life, and making life more meaningful." ■

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## No major changes in school funding expected — for now

December state review could trigger late year cuts

By **GLENN WOHLTMANN**

It's too early to tell what will happen with the state's budget, but the Pleasanton school district is gearing up for some possible worst-case scenarios.

At its first official meeting of the 2011-12 school year, on Tuesday, the board heard that, for now, no major changes are anticipated in state funding for the district.

"The budget that was enacted was not significantly different than the one we saw at the May revise," Luz Cazares, assistant superintendent of business services, told the board. "We don't have any major revisions."

In fact, there was even some good financial news. The district budgeted for \$2.7 million in federal jobs money but in fact received nearly \$3.1 million, adding about \$351,000 to the budget.

There is, however, some potential impact to the budget that could come late in the year that Cazares described as "troubling."

She said the state included \$4 billion in optimistic revenue projections that may never come to pass. The state's director of finance is to review tax receipts and if there's a shortfall as of Dec. 15, automatic spending reductions would be triggered.

Those reductions wouldn't affect school budgets unless there's a shortfall of \$2 billion or more. Should that occur, more cuts to school funding would be likely.

"What this essentially does for school districts — it puts us in a place of uncertainty," Cazares said.

Those cuts could mean another \$3.1 million reduction to district financing, although Cazares said

she's already working to come up with just-in-case reductions.

Also at the Tuesday night meeting, the board approved \$5,000 for a healthy kids and school climate survey. The cost of the survey is less than 50 cents per child.

The district has done similar surveys in the past, paid for with state and federal funding that has since been cut. The confidential survey, conducted every two years, provides information on tobacco and drug use, sexual behavior, violence and mental health, among other things. The information is used to develop programs for each school.

Based on the information collected, the district is adding school counselors to its DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program and adding a discussion on cyber safety.

Kevin Johnson, senior director of pupil services, said the district is also adding drug and alcohol counseling and intervention at one middle school and both high schools in the hope of further cutting the expulsion rate, down to 14 in the 2010-11 school year from 31 in 2009-10.

Board members suggested that students be asked what works best for them and be given an opportunity to ask for help — possibly through a text messaging system directly to school counselors — as possible future steps.

The board also heard a report on its summer school program from Glen Sparks, director of adult education and summer programs.

Sparks told the board that de-

See **FUNDING** on Page 8

## Desmond named V.P. at BrightSource Energy

Pleasanton businessman served in Schwarzenegger administration

By **JEB BING**

Pleasanton businessman Joseph Desmond has been named senior vice president of government affairs and communications for BrightSource Energy, a solar thermal technology company in Oakland.

He will have charge of communications, marketing and government and regulatory affairs.

BrightSource Energy, a privately held company with operations in the U.S. and Israel, develops and

sells solar thermal power systems to utilities and industrial companies.

Prior to joining BrightSource, Desmond served as an executive vice president at Ice Energy, Inc. and was also a senior vice president of external affairs at



**Joseph Desmond**

NorthernStar Natural Gas. He was the Deputy Secretary of Energy for the State Resources Agency under Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, where he also served as chairman of the California Energy Commission and undersecretary for Energy Affairs.

Prior to public service, Desmond spent four years as president and CEO of Infotility, Inc., president and CEO of Electronic Lighting, Inc., and vice president of Parke Industries. ■

## Tomatoes! Onions!

### Save money by growing your own

City program to help residents raise their own veggies

By **DOLORES FOX CIARELLI**

With the economy down, the number of home gardeners is up so Pleasanton is hosting an event to help those wishing to start or to expand their own gardens. Gardening industry surveys are showing double-digit growth in the number of home gardeners and mail-order seed companies report running out of seeds for popular vegetables such as onions, tomatoes and peppers.

The city, in conjunction with its Energy and Environment Committee, will host a free panel presentation entitled "Food for Thought" beginning at 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, at the Veterans Memorial Building, 300 Main St. This will make it easy for visitors to the nearby

Saturday morning farmers market to drop in.

Master Gardener Kathy Southern, who coordinates Pleasanton's community garden program at Val Vista Park, will discuss growing your own home garden. The city's Community Garden at Val Vista Park, where residents may pay a nominal fee to grow vegetables and fruits, has had a waiting list since it opened.

Also on hand will be representatives from Terra Bella Family Farms and Farm Fresh

to You to discuss organic and sustainable farming techniques.

Other topics will include backyard and container gardening, preparing fresh seasonal meals, the benefits of composting food scraps, organic and sustainable farming and community supported agriculture.

Lita Gates from Western Garden Nursery will offer tips on growing a successful home garden and how to plant a great container garden, and Linda Wyner from Pans on Fire on Main Street and author of "Food for Thought" will prepare a stone fruit salsa and herbal vinaigrettes.

Participants will also receive valuable coupons, recipes, samples and more. For more information, call 931-5506. ■



**Linda Wyner**

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## FUNDING

Continued from Page 7

spite large cuts, programs were held to help struggling students at all grade levels. Although academic support was eliminated for students in grades 1 to 5, 130 students at Valley View Elementary received English Language Development (ELD) classes. Another 37 students received ELD help at Pleasanton Middle School, and Special Day Classes for disabled students were held, drawing 233 at Harvest Park Middle School and 112 at Vintage Hills.

At the high school level, 731 students attended classes at Amador Valley High School covering a range of subjects for review and to help seniors who didn't have enough credits to graduate in June.

In all, 1,252 students attended summer classes; Sparks noted that at its peak, summer school included a wide range of classes for all students and drew more than 2,000 students.

Board members asked that academic support for elementary school students be restored if funding can be found. ■

## STAR

Continued from Page 5

graders and 13% of 11th-graders who took the course were proficient or advanced.

STAR also showed a drop in physics scores for both 10th- and 11th-graders. In 2010, 97% of 10th-grade students tested at

proficient or advanced; this year, that number dropped to 82%. Eleventh-grade scores dropped from 89% proficient or advanced to 83%.

In history, 78.7% are proficient or advanced. Math and science also showed scores above average, at 72.4% and 86.3%, respectively. ■

## TAKE US ALONG



### Sunny Santiago

While Pleasanton was rainy and cold, Michael, Janet, Matthew, Nico and Gigi Scarpelli spent the 2010 Christmas holidays with relatives in Santiago, Chile, in glorious 85-degree weather while snow still remained on the Andes surrounding the city. They spent time swimming and took three trips to the zoo to see their favorite hippo.

## Pleasanton's flautist wins again

Annie Wu, 15, a sophomore at Foothill High, is announced as the winner at the 27th annual National Flute Association's High School Soloist Competition held in Charlotte, N.C., on Aug. 11-14, competing against seven other finalists. In the final round she played Telemann's Fantasia No. 2 in A Minor; Henri Dutilleux, Sonatine for Flute and Piano; and a commissioned work. The first-place award was \$500 plus the \$400 Geoffrey Gilbert Prize, to be used for further flute study. Wu, who plays in the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra and studies flute with Isabelle Chapuis, has been winning prestigious competitions since the age of 12 and has performed twice at Carnegie Hall.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## COUNCIL

Continued from Page 5

Pleasanton Operations Services; Laura Ryan, energy and sustainability manager; and consultant Jeff Caton.

"Years ago, the city of Pleasanton made a commitment to protect our environment and make this the greenest city in the state," Smith said. "Back then, the terms 'cli-

mate change' and 'carbon footprint' weren't commonplace for most cities and states, or even for most people. We are pleased to say that the city of Pleasanton was an early adopter of climate-friendly, sustainable management."

Since embarking on a formal CAP, Smith and his team, including a citizens' Committee on Energy and Environment established by the City Council last year, have held public meetings in neighborhoods, with businesses and public workshops at the Civic Center to solicit ideas for environmental and energy efficiency improvements.

"We learned a great deal from the public that we were able to incorporate into this plan," Smith said.

Some "heavy lifting" will have to be done by residents, businesses and the local government to

achieve the plan's goals, which will require significant modifications in lifestyles involving water use and energy consumption.

One speaker at last night's meeting, David Stark, said he tore out his lawn at his Pleasanton home and replaced it with an attractive yard, designed by a land use architect, that requires no watering.

"What a great idea," said Mayor Jennifer Hosterman. "Let's see if we can develop a list of homeowners that people can contact to consider for their own improvements."

Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio said the job of meeting tougher environmental standard may not be as difficult as it sounds.

"Kids today are already thinking of the environment in almost everything they do," Cook-Kallio, a teacher, said. ■



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## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### Economy ramping up in Pleasanton, East Bay

Just as the retail vacancy rate dips to a new low of under 5% in downtown Pleasanton comes more positive news from the East Bay Economic Development Alliance. Its mid-year report shows nonfarm employment in the East Bay posted a modest gain in the second quarter of 2011, the first increase in a year. Consumer spending is picking up, with taxable sales showing moderate growth for seven consecutive quarters with a forecast that these sales will reach 2007 peak levels by mid-2012. Even improvements, though slow, are expected in home prices and sales in the coming months.

Although there has been some volatility in the East Bay's employment figures in recent months, the Alliance points out that June posted solid gains, about 8% on an annualized basis. That's better than in 2008 when the East Bay shed 3.4% of its nonfarm positions, with that accelerating in 2009 to 5.7%. Last year, the labor market remained weak with the East Bay's unemployment rate rising to 10.7% last June. The economies of neighboring San Francisco and the South Bay have posted more than double the job growth of the East Bay since reaching bottom. The Alliance believes that the labor markets here have finally also hit bottom.

Here in Pleasanton, the leading employment bases are in professional, scientific and management jobs, and the business climate is much better. Pleasanton reported an unemployment rate in July of 2.6%. That is expected to remain unchanged and even improve in the coming months as construction continues on a new Safeway Lifestyle store and Clorox research center on the west side and the Stoneridge Creek retirement community about to break ground on Staples Ranch at the city's northeast corner. Those operations, when they open, will join other large employers here, such as Oracle, Kaiser Permanente, the Pleasanton school district, stores in the Stoneridge Shopping center and others, including Thoratec Corp., Shaklee Corp. and Ross Stores.

Despite a healthy uptick in taxable sales, government budgets remain constrained, including here in Pleasanton where some 45 vacant municipal positions are being left unfilled. Although there have been no layoffs locally and city operations remain unchanged, capital expenditures are being postponed until tax revenues increase. Outside of Pleasanton, other local and some state agencies shed an additional 2,500 jobs in the last quarter and those sectors are expected to continue to face difficulties for the next few quarters, according to the Alliance.

Still, the organization sees a gradual increase in employment in professional, scientific and technical services employment, job sectors where Pleasanton thrives. More than 4,000 workers were added to these specific payrolls over the last six months.

The housing market also may see some improvement. In Alameda County, roughly half of the cities, including Pleasanton, saw existing home prices increase in the second quarter of 2011. Pleasanton, in fact, remains the most expensive city in the county based on recent data with a median price for an existing single-family home selling for \$690,000. The East Bay Economic Development Alliance's outlook is that a continuing population increase in this area, spurred by a healing economy, should provide ample demand for new housing and a steady improvement in retail sales and job growth for the balance of 2011 and beyond. ■



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

## GUEST OPINION

By BART HUGHES

### City isn't really living within its means

I'd like to point out an oversight in your "S&P Downgrade" op-ed you published last week. The discussion with city management leaves the reader with the impression that Pleasanton debt is carefully managed and the city has a balanced budget requirement that helps keep debt in check. The facts suggest otherwise.

Current accounting rules allow cities like Pleasanton to keep public employee pension and retirement medical debt "off balance sheet" and out of sight from the general public. Only those willing to expend significant effort are able to discover the complete debt obligation picture of the city. Pleasanton had zero pension debt in 2003 before the significant contract giveaways to city employees. We now have a \$180 million (Market Value of Assets) debt bill that is likely to grow and with no credible plan to bring it under control.

This situation is similar to a family who makes the claim that all is well and they are living within their means while charging all expenses in excess of income to a secret no-limit credit card that is hidden away. GASB, the accounting standards board, is so concerned about this misrepresentation by government agencies that it is changing accounting rules next year to force greater disclosure.

This lack of complete and open disclosure can lead to poor decisions and outcomes. It fools people into believing that things aren't that bad and so they can put off difficult decisions — essentially "kicking the can down the road." Unfortunately, this mindset was on display Tuesday night at Pleasanton's City Council meeting during the discussion of the next police contract. It was quite disconcerting to see several City Council members equivocate and ask questions with the hope of minimizing the problem. However, there was no way around the simple and direct point that John Bartel, an actuarial expert, made. Pleasanton's unfunded liability and therefore its

pension expenses are likely to increase regardless of CalPERS' likely investment returns.

Many continue to try to blame this predicament on the Great Recession. Yes, the recession has aggravated things but is really only a receding tide that has more quickly exposed underlying issues (as acknowledged recently by the League of California Cities). It was a mayor/City Council in 2003, wanting to get elected to higher office and/or re-elected, who voted in an unaffordable employee contract. It was subsequent councils and city management who supported and voted in additional unaffordable employee contracts and ignored the mounting unfunded liability and personnel costs. The current City



Council was set to approve another unaffordable employee contract late last year until there was significant push-back from the community. With all the

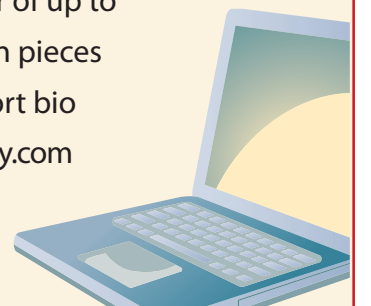
compelling data that proves the unsustainability of the current situation, it is disappointing and a bit amazing to realize that the reluctance of some council members may cause the City Council to not ask for full concessions from our labor groups as many other cities are already doing. If this happens, Pleasanton's unfunded pension liability will grow more quickly and personnel costs will continue to crowd out other city services. Keep this in mind when you wonder why an expanded library, additional much-needed sports fields and other city amenities continue to get pushed off into the future.

I do hope that this council can find the courage to do what is right for the citizens of Pleasanton.

—*Bart Hughes has been a proud resident of Pleasanton for 13 years. During his 20-plus year career, he has held senior management positions with several leading technology companies where he focused on operational improvement. He has held several board positions with local nonprofit organizations. In addition to his engineering degree, he holds a graduate degree in business.*

## Share your opinion with us

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words or guest opinion pieces up to 500 words with a short bio to [Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com) or post it on Town Square at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com).



## POLICE BULLETIN

### New Hampshire man charged in Stoneridge shoplifting

A 33-year-old man from Londonderry, N.H., was arrested Tuesday on theft and drug charges in a shoplifting at Macys Men's store, a police report said.

Jason Cameron Reid was arrested after piling six Northface jackets, three Northface hoodies and two Lacoste shirts, valued at a total of \$1285, near the entrance, then grabbing the pile and leaving, the report said. Reid was also charged with possession of a controlled substance and paraphernalia in a search after he was arrested, according to the report, which said the incident occurred around 6:47 p.m.

In other police reports:

A custom-made ring with a large emerald and two large diamonds valued at \$5,000 was stolen from a home in the 5900 block of Via del Cielo. Also taken were a \$300 gold nugget pendant and \$150 gold nugget earrings. The theft took place between 8 a.m. July 12 and 5 p.m. July 15, but was reported Aug. 10. Police could not determine how the break-in occurred.

A burglary at a home in the 4300 block of Ruby Hill yielded a \$100 hard drive but also gave the burglar keys to the home and a Jaguar. The break-in took place between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Aug. 10.



### WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

#### Planning Commission

Wednesday, August 24, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

##### • P11 0051, Guerilla Jiu Jitsu

Application for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a martial arts studio and fitness facility at 4464 Willow Road, Suite 102. Zoning for the property is PUD I/C O (Planned Unit Development - Industrial/Commercial-Office) District.

##### • P11-0055, Grape Times Wine Bar, LLC

Application for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a wine bar and bistro at 4469 Railroad Avenue. Zoning for the property is C-C (Central Commercial), Downtown Revitalization, Core Area Overlay District.

##### • PSPA-4/PUD-65-01M/Nick Kavayiotidis

Applications for: (1) an amendment to the North Sycamore Specific Plan and a Planned Unit Development Plan (PUD-65) major modification to allow a memory care/assisted living facility as a permitted use; and (2) PUD development plan to construct an approximately 21,481 square foot, one-story memory care/assisted living facility containing 46 beds on the existing properties located at 5980 and 5998 Sunol Boulevard. Zoning for the properties is Planned Unit Development - Office (PUD-O) District.

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

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## POLICE REPORT

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

### Aug. 10

#### Theft

■ 11:59 a.m. in the 3500 block of Valenza Way; identity theft

#### Burglary

■ 3:18 p.m. in the 5900 block of Via del Cielo

#### Drug/alcohol violations

■ 10:05 p.m. at the intersection of Stanley Boulevard and El Charro Road; under the influence of a controlled substance

■ 10:26 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Stanley Boulevard; DUI

### Aug. 11

#### Petty theft

■ 12:28 p.m. in the 200 block of

Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 4:27 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Burglary

■ 3:44 p.m. in the 4300 block of Ruby Hill Road

#### Battery

■ 10:13 p.m. in the 400 block of St. John Street

#### Alcohol violations

■ 8:48 p.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive; DUI

■ 9:39 p.m. in the 400 block of St. John Street; public drunkenness

### Aug. 12

#### Theft

■ 1:24 p.m. in the 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; identity theft

■ 5:15 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; theft

■ 5:43 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

■ 8:57 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft

#### DUI

■ 12:16 a.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Valley Avenue

### Aug. 13

#### Grand theft

■ 3:40 p.m. in the 1200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Drug/alcohol violations

■ 3:25 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Old Santa Rita

Road; possession of a prescription in another name, under the influence of a controlled substance

■ 5:51 p.m. in the 600 block of Main Street; public drunkenness

### Aug. 14

#### Burglary

■ 7:32 p.m. in the 3100 block of Lansdown Court

#### Drug/alcohol violations

■ 12:23 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and W. Las Positas Boulevard; public drunkenness

■ 12:33 a.m. in the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road; DUI

■ 3:11 p.m. in the 4400 block of First Street; marijuana possession, possession of tobacco by a minor

■ 10:07 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Oak Vista Way; DUI

### Aug. 15

#### Theft

■ 11:08 a.m. in the 3900 block of Rockingham Drive; grand theft

■ 11:20 a.m. in the 7900 block of Winged Foot Court; grand theft

■ 5:40 p.m. in the 2100 block of Cascara Court; identity theft

### Aug. 16

#### Rape

■ 10:15 a.m. in the 5000 block of Woodthrush Road

#### Theft

■ 9:16 a.m. at the intersection of Old Vineyard Road and Safreno Way; grand theft

■ 5:14 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft

■ 6:47 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft, possession of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

#### Auto burglary

■ 1:53 p.m. in the 3000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

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# Transitions

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## OBITUARIES

### Marlin (Doug) Williams

Marlin (Doug) Williams, a Pleasanton resident, died Aug. 9 at the age of 51.

He was born Nov. 6, 1959. He graduated from Irvington High School in Fremont in 1977, and enjoyed a 31-year career at AST in Sunnyvale.

Mr. Williams is survived by his wife Lori; children Emily and Claire; parents Marlin and Betty; brother Bryan and family, Jackie, Allison and John. A Memorial Service was held Aug. 14 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton. Donations may be made to his daughters' education, to the Williams Family Trust c/o Fremont Bank, 6654 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 345, Pleasanton 94566.

### William Anthony Furtado

William Anthony Furtado, of Pleasanton died suddenly Aug. 7 at the age of 68.

He was born Sept. 20, 1942, in Oakland to William and Anna Furtado. He worked for 45 years in sales for Montgomery Ward, Mason Flooring Supply and Butler Johnson, retiring three years ago. He enjoyed golfing, fishing, playing and coaching soccer, boating on the California Delta, and visiting Monterey Bay and the Florida Keys. He had a passion for cooking, gardening and landscaping, and he was an avid football fan. He was a successful and awarded salesman with a magnetic and charismatic personality, as well as a devoted husband and father.

He is survived by his wife Joy; brother Allan; sons Dan and Tony; and daughter-in-law Stephanie. A Memorial Mass was held Monday

at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton.

### Eugene 'Gene' O'Brien

Eugene "Gene" O'Brien, 76, a Pleasanton resident, died suddenly Aug. 8 in Arnold after leaving the golf course.

He was born June 9, 1935, in Detroit, Mich., to James and Kathleen O'Brien, who were Irish immigrants. He graduated from Sacred Heart High School in Dearborn, joined the Army and served in Korea. He then attended Western Michigan University before spending 40 years in the construction business in California, moving to Pleasanton in 1958. He retired in 1992 then went to work as an inspector for the city of Pleasanton. The family cabin was built in Arnold in 1981 and has been a second home since then.

Mr. O'Brien was a member of the Jaycees and served as president of the Lion's Club. He was currently a member of SIRS Branch 34 and the Sequoia Woods Country Club. He loved playing Keno, bocce ball, trivia games, watching his grandchildren's activities and golfing. He had a hole-in-one in 2003. He was a handyman for family, friends and neighbors and no project was too big or too small. He was proud of his Irish heritage, had an outgoing personality, and loved political debate.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years Kathy; children Patrick (Debbie) of Pleasanton and Erin of Pleasant Hill; grandchildren Sarah, James and Michael of Pleasanton; brother Jim and sisters Peggy, Maureen and Sister Kathleen, IHM, of Michigan; and many nieces and nephews. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. tomorrow at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton, with a reception following. Donations may be made to Open Heart Kitchen, 1141 Catalina Drive, Mailbox 137, Livermore 94550.



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<b>Blue Agave Club</b> 625 Main St., Pleasanton, 417-1224	<b>Best Outdoor Dining, Best Main Street Restaurant, Best Margarita</b>
<b>Borg Fence</b> 575 Boulder Ct., Pleasanton, 426-9620	<b>Best Home Contractor</b>
<b>Callippe Preserve</b> 8500 Clubhouse Dr., Pleasanton, 426-6666	<b>Best Golf Course</b>
<b>Cardinal Jewelers</b> 3003 Hopyard Rd. Ste. B, Pleasanton, 416-1111	<b>Best Jewelry Store</b>
<b>Casa Orozco Mexican Restaurant</b> 7995 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, 828-5464	<b>Best Mexican Restaurant</b>
<b>Clover Creek</b> 670 Main St., Pleasanton, 462-0814	<b>Best Home Furnishings</b>
<b>Diablo Flooring</b> 5600 Sunol Blvd. Ste. D, Pleasanton, 426-7847	<b>Best Carpet / Flooring Store</b>
<b>Eastern Medical Center</b> 3510 Old Santa Rita Rd. Ste. D, Pleasanton, 847-8889	<b>Best Acupuncture</b>
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<b>Red Smoke Grill</b> 4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 734-0307	<b>Best Barbecue, Best Take-out Restaurant</b>
<b>Scott's Automotive &amp; Light Truck Repair Inc.</b> 32 California Ave. Ste. C, Pleasanton, 417-0222	<b>Best Domestic Car Repair</b>
<b>Studio Seven Arts</b> 400 Main St., Pleasanton, 846-4322	<b>Best Art Gallery</b>
<b>Sylvan Learning</b> 6654 Koll Center Pkwy. Ste. 185, Pleasanton, 485-1000	<b>Best Tutoring School</b>
<b>VIP Cleaners</b> 1809 Santa Rita Rd. Ste. F, Pleasanton, 846-4335 3120 Santa Rita Rd. Ste. E, Pleasanton, 462-8838	<b>Best Dry Cleaners</b>
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<b>Wente Vineyards</b> 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore, 456-2305 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, 456-2405	<b>Best Winery</b>
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## Making a difference

### Local group packs 100,000 meals for Somalia refugees

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
GLENN WOHLTMANN

Many people just reach for the remote when confronted with scenes of suffering or pleas for help in parts of the world suffering from famine, disease or war.

Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman got mad, then got busy.

She said she recently watched a TV show focusing on Somalia. Over the last three months, nearly 30,000 children have died after a drought and 20 years of rebel fighting. Parents are walking miles to one large refugee camp in the hope of saving their children.

Hosterman was so upset, she said, "I went and pounded on my neighbor Sherri Leal's door."

Leal runs the local chapter of Kids Against Hunger. Hosterman said the two of them talked about what the organization is doing and whether it can do more.

"Jennifer is very direct. When she gets on a mission, she wants to accomplish it," Leal said, explaining Hosterman's first goal was 100,000 meals. "She said, 'If I can get the funds, can you do that?' I said, 'Heck yeah.'"

Hosterman then set out to raise money. Originally, the goal Monday was to package 75,000 meals. About 30 volunteers, working in shifts, gathered in a warehouse space on Quarry Lane to do the packaging.

The operation worked like an assembly line, with volunteers adding food to bags that were then sealed, boxed and

loaded onto pallets for shipping. Before noon, they'd already packed 10 percent of their goal.

It takes less than a minute for the volunteers to put together a meal, using scoops that add a predetermined amount of each of the ingredients. Leal explained that each meal contains rice, soy with extra protein, dehydrated vegetables, vitamins and minerals.

"A one cup serving, you can literally survive on and a child can actually thrive," she said, adding that when Kids Against Hunger volunteers travel to Haiti, they eat those meals themselves.

While water continues to be a problem in Somalia, Leal said the meals take that into account. They have to be boiled for 20 minutes, which kills any organism that can cause infection or disease.

With volunteers from the area doing the packing, each meal costs about 25 cents.

Normally, the group holds a training session, but because they were packing so many meals in such a short time, Leal called on experienced volunteers to come pack, sending out 1,000 emails to get the help she needed.

About 250 people turned out, largely from church groups, to lend a hand. Among the volunteers, Leal said, were members of Centerpointe Presbyterian Church and Valley Community Church in Pleasanton, along with volunteers from the San Ramon Christian Academy and

See **DIFFERENCE** on Page 13

Volunteers, young and old alike, carefully measure soy protein, dehydrated vegetables, rice and vitamin powder in an assembly-line set up to put together meals for Kids Against Hunger. After the packages are sealed, they're loaded into boxes, shrink wrapped and put on pallets for shipment to Cincinnati first, and then to Somalia to feed the refugees.

"A one cup serving, you can literally survive on and a child can actually thrive."

Sherri Leal, volunteer

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## Neil Diamond Tribute will help diabetes research

Concert returns to Wente by popular demand

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Neil Diamond tribute band is returning by popular demand tonight to perform a concert and dinner benefit at Wente Vineyards for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's "Summer Classic."

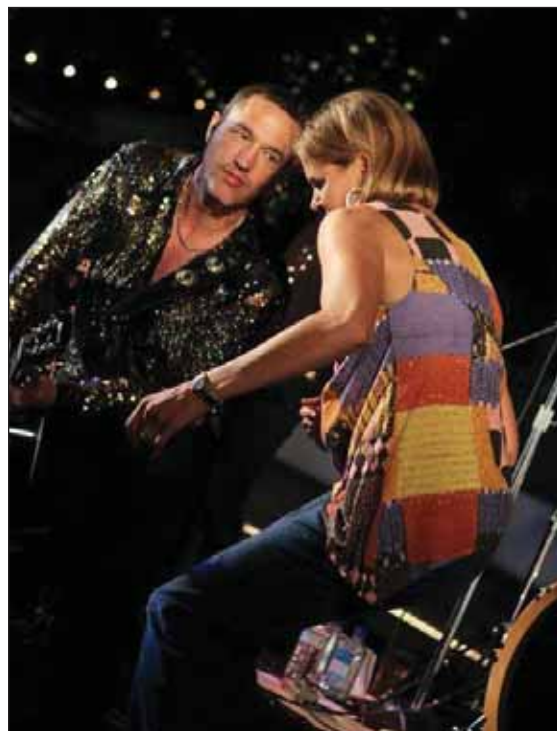
"We are thrilled to have 'Super Diamond' back for 2011," said Jason Skeoch, co-founder of Active Charity, which is putting on the sixth annual JDRF fundraiser. "The dance floor was packed all night and our supporters enjoyed over four decades of Neil Diamond hits."

Besides the dinner and concert, the event will include a live and silent auction to raise money to help kids battling diabetes. The fundraiser includes a separate, optional golf tournament earlier today.

Active Charity is a group of local businessmen and their supporters who have raised over \$1.4 million dollars for JDRF in the first five years. Chevron is the presenting sponsor tonight. Valentine Wealth is the host sponsor.

"The money raised helps our treatment, education and prevention programs, aimed at kids and their families coping with juvenile diabetes," said Kelly Craft of JDRF.

Since its founding in 1970 by parents of children with type 1 diabetes, JDRF has awarded more than



JINAH MANLY PHOTOGRAPHY

Singer "Surreal Neil" of Super Diamond dances with a fan at the 2010 "Summer Classic" at Wente Vineyards.

\$1.5 billion to diabetes research, including more than \$107 million last year. More than 80 percent of JDRF's expenditures directly support research and research-related education. For more information, visit [www.JDRFbayarea.org](http://www.JDRFbayarea.org). ■

## OF NOTE

### Strike up the band for the Blue Devils

Three Foothill High students who spent their summers rehearsing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. six days a week to prepare for the Drum Corps International World Championships in Indiana were rewarded last week when their Blue Devils B cinched its third straight Open Class World Championship. The Foothill students are Paige Arcieri, color guard, class of 2014; Grace Miller, percussion, class of 2012; and Tevin Mitchell, percussion, class of 2011. He will be attending TCU Texas Christian University this fall and will be a member of its award-winning Marching Band.

"I spoke with my daughter, Grace Miller, last night and she was so hoarse from screaming with joy," wrote Holly Higgins in an email Wednesday. "Both she and Tevin are now three times World Champions and this is Paige's first time."

Blue Devils B earned a score of 95.00 at the Open Class



Finals in Michigan City, Ind., edging out the Oregon Crusaders by 3-10ths of a point. The Devils join the ranks of only two other Open Class corps and four corps in any division that have won three times in a row. The California corps had a nearly perfect season, winning all but one competition with their show, "Synchronicity."

## DIFFERENCE

Continued from Page 12

Community Presbyterian Church in Danville and other churches from Dublin and Livermore. She said Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts volunteered, too.

The kids were outnumbered more than two to one by adult volunteers, and Leal was quick to point out that despite the name Kids Against Hunger, the organization welcomes anyone 10 and older.

By late afternoon, volunteers were nearing their goal of 75,000 meals, but Leal said that got bumped to 100,000 meals late in the day, thanks to Hosterman, who raised \$25,000 for that day.

"She started making phone calls," Leal said. "It was so exciting. I've not had an event like that before."

By 8 p.m., all 100,000 meals were packed, boxed and loaded onto pallets for shipping to Cincinnati, where Kids Against Hunger is based. The group is working with WorldHelp with the goal of providing a million meals for Somalia, specifically to the refugee camp in its capital, Mogadishu, which is expected to

run out of food in less than three weeks. Although the country has so far blocked deliveries to that camp, food is being shipped to other camps in Kenya along its border with Somalia.

Hosterman wants to do it all over again before the end of the month. She's looking to raise money for another 100,000 meals.

Leal said she can get the volunteers if Hosterman can get the donations.

"That's totally up to Jennifer, because I don't have the \$25,000," Leal said. "I challenged her to talk to the other mayors."

Leal pointed out that Kids Against Hunger in Pleasanton already has a commitment to feed 1,500 children in Haiti three times a week, with the United Nations feeding them other days.

To help her raise funds for the second round of 100,000 meals, Hosterman is calling for donations from the community. Checks can be made out to Kids Against Hunger-Pleasanton and sent to 1258 H Quarry Lane, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

"We can't save everybody," Hosterman said. "But with a community like this, we can save a few." ■

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# Summer interns bring

## THREE YOUNG JOURNALISTS SHARE T

**H**ere's one more reason to Support Local Journalism: The and produce our weekly print edition as well as continuing Weekly.com, Dublin/TriValleyViews.com, SanRamonExpress.com. We offer internships for interns to learn about the changing world of journalism from reporting to design and final production.

This year our three summer interns helped with tasks large and small, including events including groundbreakings and fundraisers. As their first



## Meet Amelia

BY DENA BEHNAM

**W**hether returning from sprinkling mozzarella cheese onto marinara-covered dough at Pavlo's Pizza in San Ramon or sterilizing tools and creating molds for retainers at Dr. Gary Greer's orthodontist office, Amelia Arvesen, a freshman at Las Positas College, opens the door to the Pleasanton Weekly's office still looking perfectly put-together and displaying a smiling countenance.

How she manages two jobs and an internship without losing her sanity remains baffling. But Amelia has a keen desire to write.

"Being able to perfectly trim sentences into something understandable is satisfying to me," she said. "I can always delete or erase." This has advantages over talking: "Sometimes I don't mean what I say and I can't take those words back."

Amelia began exploring her interest in writing during her senior year at California High, when she joined the school newspaper.

"When I considered making writing into a career, I wanted to be sure I still liked it," she said. "I wanted my name to be in the paper, so I made that happen by joining the class."

Since then, her interest in journalism has flourished.

"Without journalism, people would be more focused on their own little world instead of the whole-wide-world around them," she said.

With her enthusiasm toward writing and a little bit of luck, an intern position at a newspaper company was well on its way.

After Editor Jessica Lipsky walked into the school newspaper classroom last spring looking for an intern for the San Ramon and Danville Expresses, Amelia immediately contacted her.

"I didn't want to miss an opportunity to explore my interest," she said.

After e-mailing back and forth for some time and sending in a few writing samples, referred to in the business as "clips," Amelia did not hear from Jessica for a while. Suddenly, a few weeks before summer began, she received the awaited call.

"She asked me to come in and said they're really interested in hiring me," Amelia recalled. "So I came in on the last day of school and got the job. It was a great way to end the year."

Despite the long and tedious hours in the beginning of the internship of working on the annual Info resource guides for Pleasanton and the San Ramon Valley — which Amelia recalls working on for an entire day — she said she truly experienced the life of a professional journalist.

"I learn so much about different things that happen in the community. I like putting the pieces of a story together," she said.

Writing has been the most enjoyable part of the job for her. She specifically took pleasure in doing a ride-along in a police car shadowing a Danville officer.

"My favorite project was covering the ride-along story," she said. "It was exciting to witness something firsthand instead of reading about it in the paper. It was even more exciting to be the person to write about it for the paper."

When away from the hustle and bustle of her everyday life, Amelia can be found reading in her bedroom or dragging and dropping items into her online shopping cart.

But creating greeting cards to give to her friends and family keeps her grounded.

"It relaxes me when I have a million thoughts in my head because instead of thinking about those things, I focus on cutting a piece of paper perfectly," she said. "I think that buying greeting cards is overrated. I like to personalize each and every card to the recipient."

Although the summer is winding down, Amelia will continue to intern with the Expresses while in college.

"I'm not sure what I want to do as a career yet, but I know that having experience with writing for a publication will be beneficial to me," she said.



## Meet Dena

BY PRIYANKA MODY

**P**erhaps it was no surprise that Dena Behnam, a junior at Amador Valley High, found herself interning at the Pleasanton Weekly. A Pleasantonian all her life with a passion for journalism, Dena is the perfect fit for the local publication.

Growing up in the area, Dena was quite familiar with the Weekly and first became involved when Editor Jeb Bing asked her to help out with a video in the spring for its Support Local Journalism campaign.

Then in June, Dena began interning at the Weekly office, and after eight weeks, she says that the experience was definitely worthwhile. The exposure to a more diverse crowd allowed her social skills to improve.

"You go out and talk to all sorts of different people and interviewees," she said.

Dena, who is patient and competent, came to work with enthusiasm. She remembers sorting through recycled papers on her first day and responding to the humble task with, "I'm

# g a fresh perspective

## THEIR EXPERIENCES AT THE WEEKLY

Pleasanton Weekly has a real office where we gather to work and usually update the websites run out of our office, PleasantonExpress.com and DanvilleExpress.com. So we have opportunism — from gathering news, planning stories and selling ads and small and all went out on assignment to help us cover an assignment, they interviewed and wrote about each other.



fine with whatever you want me to do.”

However Managing Editor Dolores Fox Ciardelli knew that Dena was capable of much more and said, with a laugh, “You will be surprised at what we plan on giving you.”

One of her most memorable stories featured a professional dirt-biker and motocross racer, Kacy Martinez, who recently participated and competed at the X-Games.

“It was almost like I got some insider coverage because she told me a few things that not many people were aware of,” Dena said.

Furthermore, Martinez’s experiences were unlike anything Dena had known before. The fascinating people and experiences that she encountered throughout her internship are exactly what piqued her interest in journalism initially.

Dena currently is the design editor for her high school’s yearbook. She recalled what appealed to her when, in middle school, she signed up to be a member of the yearbook staff.

“You did everything — designing, talking to people, photography, writing,” she said. “Right off the bat I fell in love with it.”

However, writing for the Weekly was a much different endeavor than partaking in high school journalism. She feels that her maturity and work ethic have grown, and the way she had to approach people was much more formal.

“It’s no longer just covering an event on the quad,” Dena said. “You’re talking about stories that are going on in a larger community.”

Dena is also an active member of Pleasanton’s Youth and Government group, a model legislature in association with YMCA.

“It’s basically a kid-based California with a youth governor and everything,” she said. She was the editor-in-chief of the Sunday Magazine within the Print Media portion of this body, which allowed her to incorporate her journalism skills.

Additionally, Dena helps out in her community by babysitting a few of her neighbors’ children. In fact, she once overscheduled herself to the point where she had to cover an event for the Weekly while she was babysitting.

“I completely forgot about babysitting Dylan, so I ended up taking him to Relay For Life while I interviewed people,” she laughed.

Luckily, everything worked out: Dylan found a classmate at the event, which helped ease her initial worries. The event itself also proved to be rewarding; after interviewing several organizers and those who were running in honor of their loved ones, she became inspired to participate next year.

“Everyone was very supportive and excited that the Weekly was covering the event,” Dena said.

Throughout her journalism journey at the Weekly, Dena has developed a sense of appreciation for news in general.

“You can be anywhere and there’s always something to talk about,” Dena said. “News is prominent in any society and it’s how people interact with each other.”

As her internship concludes, Dena is certain that the Weekly will remain close in sight.



## Meet Priyanka

BY AMELIA ARVESEN

It’s rare to find someone who is always smiling but for Priyanka Mody, it comes naturally.

Even during the long process of updating the Info resource guide at the Pleasanton Weekly, Priyanka seemed to always keep her positive attitude.

In the fall, Priyanka will be a senior at The Harker School, a small private school in San Jose. She is looking forward to taking charge of her school’s newspaper, The Winged Post, as editor-in-chief.

“I never knew how passionate I would become about a certain group at school,” she said.

Priyanka said she feels fortunate to have come across the opportunity to be an intern at the Weekly, especially after applying to many small papers and being turned down. The position has turned out to be a good fit, and she has enjoyed her numerous tasks, including reporting and taking photos.

The 17-year-old said she has learned a lot about journalism during her internship and has come to realize that people

are only a phone call away. She now feels confident calling people she doesn’t know and said that learning how to interact with others will be helpful in the future.

“Everyone has a story and it’s up to you to find out what it is,” Priyanka said, quoting her newspaper teacher.

After high school Priyanka hopes to pursue psychology, attend medical school and specifically become a child psychologist. If that doesn’t work out, Priyanka said her dream job would be to own a successful restaurant and be the head chef.

When she’s not keeping busy with extracurricular activities such as cross country track, she enjoys “wasting time” surfing through online recipe guides. Surprisingly, she spends more time on Foodandwine.com than Facebook.

On Sunday mornings, Priyanka puts her knowledge of all things epicurean to work at the Fremont Farmers Market.

“Nothing beats fresh, local produce — a colorful array of yellows, reds, purples and greens,” she said, adding that going to the market with her mother every week has become a tradition.

Priyanka said that she loves to cook and eat and believes that great conversations happen around food.

She also relishes playing the piano, traveling, running and flying planes. She is taking flying lessons at the Palo Alto Airport, which include ground training and practice in the air, using a 1966 Cessna 150.

While she didn’t know what she was getting herself into at first with flying, Priyanka has since learned to appreciate the skill. She said she knows flying is a risk that not a lot of people are willing to take but feels she will be thankful later in life that she learned to fly.

Priyanka said she prefers to be on land, running and dancing, and is learning the Indian classical dance Bharatnatyam.

She also enjoys long runs with her cross-country teammates, who help her endure what she calls “the unbearable sport.”

“Going on really long runs is mentally refreshing especially when you’re stressed out about something external,” she said.

A social butterfly on and off the sports field, Priyanka delights in being around family and friends. She said she’s good at talking to people and understanding situations from different perspectives.

“I can’t imagine a job that you can’t be around people,” she said, explaining that interning at the Weekly gave her plenty of practice and experience.

Priyanka said that she has learned how instant news is. Through her experience at the Weekly, she has learned that sometimes you have to be persistent because people don’t always respond or give you the exact quotes you expect.

“You just keep trying and eventually you’re going to end up with an article that reflects the amount of time you put in,” she said.

Although she doesn’t want to be a professional journalist or pilot, Priyanka said that she is just trying to find out who she is, while keeping a smile on.

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## Auditions

**'SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS'** Ohlone College Theatre will host auditions for "Servant of Two Masters" for 12 roles (8 male, 4 female, 2 either) from 6-10 p.m., Tuesday-Wednesday, Sept. 6-7, at the Smith Center at Ohlone College, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont. Prepare a memorized 1-2 minute monologue and dress comfortably. Visit [www.ohlone.edu/go/audition](http://www.ohlone.edu/go/audition).

## Book Clubs

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

## Class Reunions

**DUBLIN CLASS OF 1981 30 YEAR REUNION** The reunion is from 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Aug. 20, at the Holiday Inn, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Cost \$75 and includes sit-down dinner. For more information, contact Dave Snyder at 872-4181.

## Classes

**DROP IN COMPUTER TUTORING** Need help with downloading e-books from the library to your e-reader, sending email attachments, social networking, blogging or have general Internet questions? Class will be meeting from 6-8 p.m. Thursdays through Aug. 25 at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Program is free and open to everyone. Call 931-3400, ext. 7.

**ITSY BITSY SPIDERS** Worried about these little monsters? Fear not those that help you! Learn all the great things these creatures do for us and even meet a few "friendly" ones from 11 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Sept. 3, at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road. Cost is \$3 for residents; \$5 for non-residents. Pre-registration is required; call 931-3479.

## Clubs

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

**DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION DAR**, Daughters of the American Revolution, Jose Maria Amador Chapter meets the first Saturday of the month. It is a social gathering and time to explore the history of our American roots. For meeting time and location, call Ann at 510-507-5509 or email [anariso@comcast.net](mailto:anariso@comcast.net).

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

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



### Get jazzed tonight

At tonight's Concert in the Park, Burton & Co. will play original jazzy rhythm and blues that bring those swingin' and groovin' rhythms to life. Bring blanket or chairs and dinner to Wayside Park, corner of First and Neal streets, for the music from 7-8:30 p.m., presented by the Pleasanton Downtown Association. Please no rocks or plastic tarps on the lawn, and no blankets or chairs on the lawn before the day of the concert.

PHOTO COURTESY PDA

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

**LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB** This club will meet and host guest speaker Susan Morrison, at 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 1, at Alisal School, 1454 Santa Rita Road. Susan is an author and landscape designer, who will talk about "Vertical Gardening." This event is free. For more information, call Bev at 485-7812 or visit [www.lavgc.org](http://www.lavgc.org)

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

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

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

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

**TRI-VALLEY EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION** Established in 1984, the Tri-Valley Executives' Association helps business owners and managers develop resourceful relationships in a fun and progressive format. The club meets from

7-8:30 a.m. every Thursday at Vic's All Star Kitchen, 201-A Main St. Membership is open to businesses that are not in competition with a current member of the association. Call 736-4522 or visit [www.trivall-eyexecs.com](http://www.trivall-eyexecs.com).

**TRI-VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S FEDERATED BBQ** This club will host its annual BBQ from 2-8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, at Amador Valley Community Park, 4301 Black Ave. (behind the Aquatic Center). Cost is \$20, including BBQ pork and chicken, potato salad and caesar salad. Guest speaker will be Charley Freedman. Advance reservations are required; call 462-4931 or mail checks to TVRWF, P.O. Box 1901, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

**VIRTUALLY SPEAKING TOASTMASTERS** Virtually Speaking Toastmasters club meets from noon-1 p.m. every Thursday at Electrical Reliability Services, 6900 Koll Center Pkwy., Suite 415. Everyone is welcome to come see what a positive change Toastmasters can make in their confidence. Call 580-8660.

## Concerts

**'THE TUBES'** Known for San Francisco Sound of the '70s and contemporary CDs, "The Tubes" will entertain with its signature creativity, artistic skill and theatrics, at 8 p.m., Friday, Sept. 9, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$35, \$40 and \$45. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Events

**'HONOR OUR HEROES'** Operation S.A.M. (Supporting All Military) will host the 10th annual anniversary remembrance of Sept. 11 and a tribute to "Honor Our Heroes" at 3 p.m. (open seating starts at 2:15 p.m.), Sunday, Sept. 11, at Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Guest speaker will be Capt. Paul Krumenacker.

**ALVISO ADOBE TOURS** Learn about what happened in the past on the site that is now Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Rd., from 3-5 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 28. You'll also hear about opportunities to be part of the volunteer team. Call 931-3485 or visit [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

**DOMUS GRAND OPENING** Domus will host grand opening festivities



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Don't wait until we're completely reserved! To learn why so many people like you have already secured their future at Stoneridge Creek, call **1-800-924-6430** today, or hear firsthand from our future residents at [StoneridgeCreek.com](http://StoneridgeCreek.com).



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Continuing Life Communities Pleasanton LLC, dba Stoneridge Creek Pleasanton, has received authorization to accept deposits from the California Department of Social Services.

from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, at the store, 652 Main St. Enjoy prizes, product demonstrations and refreshments. This event is free. Visit [www.domusonline.com](http://www.domusonline.com).

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

**GNON (GIRLS NIGHT OUT NETWORKING) REMEMBERS VICTIMS OF 9-11** GNON will be partnering with Pleasanton Military Families in receiving donations to send to troops overseas, from 5-8 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 24, at Hairlights Salon, 4307 Valley Ave. Cost \$15 for non-members and \$10 for members. Call 487-4748 or visit [www.gnontrivalley.com](http://www.gnontrivalley.com).

**GOODGUYS 25TH WEST COAST NATIONALS** This year is the largest automotive event in the Western United States. Over 3,500 hot rods, custom cars, and classics through 1972 vintage on display. The event is

from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26, and Saturday, Aug. 27; and from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 28, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Cost is \$18 for adults, \$6 for children 7-12 years old, parking fee \$8. Call 838-9876 or visit [www.good-guys.com](http://www.good-guys.com). 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Adults: \$18, Kids: \$6

**LUNCH/OPTIONAL DUBLIN PARK & MUSEUM TOUR** The Widows and Widowers of Northern California would like you to join them for lunch at noon, Saturday, Aug. 27, at the Elephant Bar Restaurant, 7202 Amador Plaza Rd., Dublin. Optional Dublin Park and Museum Tour. Cost your menu choice. RSVP to Marge by Wednesday, Aug. 24, at 828-5124.

**LUNCHEON IN SUNOL** The Widows and Widowers of Northern California would like you to join them for a luncheon at 1 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 24 at Bosco's Bones and Brew, 11922 Main St., Sunol. Cost your menu choice. RSVP to Ginny by Monday, Aug. 22, at 510-656-5625.

**PEACEFUL WAR PROTEST** Pleasantonians 4 Peace has an ongoing peaceful war protest

from 5 to 6 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at First and Neal streets. Contact Cathe Norman at 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at [mjs7882@gmail.com](mailto:mjs7882@gmail.com); or [kdowding@pacbell.net](mailto:kdowding@pacbell.net). Visit [www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org](http://www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org).

**SATURDAYS SIZZLE DOWNTOWN** Each Saturday in August from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. visitors will enjoy special offers from downtown shops and eateries. Guests will also enjoy live music in the 400-600 blocks, with special entertainers for children in the 600 block. The free events are organized by the Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA). Visit [www.pleasantondowntown.net](http://www.pleasantondowntown.net).

**TRI-FOR-FUN TRIATHLON SERIES** The Third Leg of the Tri-for-Fun Triathlon Series starts at 7 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 20, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanley Blvd. Close to 900 first-timer, few-timer, and many-timer triathletes will be on hand. Entry fee is \$65 in advance and \$75 day of. Check-in registration will begin at 5 a.m., with the first wave hitting the water at 7 a.m. To register, contact On Your Mark Events at 209-795-7832 or visit [www.active.com](http://www.active.com).

## Exhibits

**'THE OUTSIDERS' PLEIN AIR PAINTING** Displaying the works of Nikki Basch-Davis, Ray Jackson, Judy Molyneux, William Rushton, Randal Sexton, Jerry Turner and the late Pam Glover, the exhibit will be on display from noon-5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays through Aug. 27 at the Harrington Gallery, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Suggested donation \$2. Call 931-4849 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**JAMES LEONARD ABSTRACT ART EXHIBITION** Studio Seven Arts is exhibiting the paintings of master abstract artist James Leonard, an acclaimed artist from the Tri-Valley. His use of color palettes is vibrant, with a subtlety of composition and textural complexity. The exhibit is from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Aug. 4-31 at Studio Seven Arts, 400 Main St. Call 846-4322 or visit [www.studiosevenarts.com](http://www.studiosevenarts.com).

## Fundraisers

**'SHAKES' GARAGE SALE** Livermore Shakes (supporters of the Livermore

Shakespeare Festival) will host a garage sale from 8 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Aug. 20, at the downtown Train Depot Parking Lot, 22 South L St. (corner of North L and Railroad Avenue), Livermore. Call 443-BARD (443-2273).

**2011 FOOTHILL FOOTBALL KICKOFF BBQ** Foothill High is kicking off the 2011 Football Season with a party, with live music by JamFunkShus. Meet the Falcon coaches and players. Enjoy dancing, an auction, prize drawings and more. Barbecue provided by Red Smoke Grill. The event is from 6-11 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.; 100% of proceeds go to Foothill High School Football Program. Tickets are \$45. Call 980-6066 or visit [www.foothillsports.com](http://www.foothillsports.com).

**BARK FOR LIFE OF ALAMEDA COUNTY** American Cancer Society's Bark For Life honors the caregiving qualities of canine companions and is a non-competitive walk event for dogs and their owners that will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 28, at Muirwood Community Park, 4701 Muirwood Dr. Cost is \$25 for individual dogs; \$30 per family. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. Call (510) 460-8515 or visit [www.RelayForLife.org/PleasantonCA](http://www.RelayForLife.org/PleasantonCA).

**SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE FOR FOSTER KIDS** In an effort to help California foster kids feel prepared and confident this school year, Sleep Train is hosting its annual School Supply Drive for Foster Kids. Donations of new school supplies can be made at any Sleep Train store now through Sept. 5. Visit [www.sleeptrain.com](http://www.sleeptrain.com).

## Health

**HEALTH ADVISORY CLINICS** The Hindu Community and Cultural Center will be conducting free health advisory clinics from 1-3 p.m. on four Saturdays to reach out to the community and touch people's lives through health, food and education, at the Shiva-Vishnu Temple, 1232 Arrowhead Ave., Livermore. The schedule is: Cardiology on Aug. 6; Geriatric (Neuro) Psychiatrist on Aug. 13; OBGYN on Aug. 20; and Internal Medicine on Aug. 27. Call 449-6255, ext. 3, or email [suman1218@yahoo.com](mailto:suman1218@yahoo.com).

## Kids & Teens

**ACT AND SAT PRACTICE TEST** Proctored practice exams will begin promptly at 10 a.m. and end at 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 3, at the Livermore Public Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Students must register. Visit Princeton Review's website at [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com). Enter 94550 in search box, and click on the tab, "Free Event." Parents and students are encouraged to return from 6:30-8 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 13, for the SAT/ACT Strategy Session to view scores, get feedback, and ask questions about standardized tests for college. Call 373-5500 or visit [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

**KIDZ'N POWER CHILD SAFETY** TriValley ATA Martial Arts will be hosting an Open House Child Safety and Abduction Prevention Class from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday,



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Aug. 20, at 2217H San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon. The program will teach children ages 3-17 self-defense techniques, stranger dangers and dealing with bullies. This class is free. Call 200-5236.

**WONDROUS UNIVERSE SERIES: STAR PARTY** It will be a night to remember under the stars from 8:30-10:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road. Listen to some great stories from the Naturalist under the stars. If the skies are willing, we'll take a view of the wonders above. Cost \$5 for residents and \$7 for non-residents. Ages 5 and up. Call 931-3485.

## Lectures/ Workshops

**GRIEF JOURNEYS SUPPORT - SPOUSAL-PARTNER LOSS** The death of a loved one can leave us feeling alone, confused, and isolated. Finding ways to explore your grief and how it may be affecting you can be very healing. Supportive group setting designed with activities to help you process your grief; class is from 7-8:30 p.m. every Thursday through Sept. 28 at Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Dublin. Cost is \$40 for eight sessions. Call 829-8770 or visit [www.hopehospice.com](http://www.hopehospice.com).

**LOWDOWN ON HIGH HOLY DAYS** This second annual Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur workshop will be a day of learning, fun, and inspiration for all ages from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 28, at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, with a team of experts lead by Rabbi Andrea Berlin and Rabbi David Katz. Admission is free and lunch will be available for \$8-\$12. Call 931-1055 or visit [www.bethemek.org](http://www.bethemek.org).

## Live Music

**KING COTTON JAZZ BAND** King Cotton rolls with classic tunes from the 1920s and will be performing at 2 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 28, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The Alta California favorite is a hard driving band, powered by a strong rhythm section and known for its ensemble playing and vocals. The concert is free. Call 931-3405.

## Miscellaneous

**PLEASANTON 1778 ERA FIFE AND DRUM LESSONS** Pleasanton 1778 era Fife and Drum will host music lessons at 6 p.m., Fridays, Aug. 26-June 30, at a private residence in Pleasanton. The first four lessons are free; \$7 per hour for small group professionals. Dues are \$10 per week, which are billed monthly. To register, call Jason Giaimo at 484-0265 or visit [www.youngamerican-patriots.com](http://www.youngamerican-patriots.com).

## On Stage

**'CHICAGO'** Women, money and murder: The musical "Chicago" is set in the Prohibition era in that city when criminals were elevated to celebrity status. Performances at 8 p.m. Aug. 20, 25 and Sept. 1 and 3; at 9 p.m. (so as not to interfere with Friday night Concerts at the Park) Aug. 26 and Sept. 2; at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 21; and at 2 p.m. Aug. 28

and Sept. 4, at the Firehouse Arts Centers, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets \$18-\$33 for adults, \$17-\$29 for seniors and children. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Seniors

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

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

**DAY TRIPPERS - ALVISO ADOBE TOUR** Seniors are invited to tour Alviso Adobe and learn about Amador Valley history from Naturalist Eric Nicholas from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 10, meeting at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$18 for residents; \$20 for non-residents. Visit the restored Adobe, and the Meadowlark Dairy Barn. Enjoy a gourmet box lunch overlooking the valley. To register, call 931-5365.

**DRIVER AWARENESS & SAFETY TRAINING** Driving is a complex task that requires drivers to deal with constantly changing variables in a skillful, consistent and safe manner. The class is from 6-7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 25, at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Join them for an interactive presentation with a CHP officer and CHP Senior Volunteers. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

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

**PEDDLER SHOPPE AT THE SENIOR CENTER** The Peddler Shoppe in the lobby of the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., offers the handmade wares of talented local senior artisans. It's a great place to buy gifts. The Shoppe is staffed by volunteers and is open to the public 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; 6 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday evenings; and 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday monthly.

**SENIOR SAFETY** Community Service officers with the Pleasanton Police Department will be on hand to

provide information on keeping seniors safe. The lecture is from 10:30-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 30, at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Topics will include identity theft, home security, phone call solicitations and door-to-door solicitations as well as other safety tips. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

## Support Groups

**BEYOND TREATMENT BREAST CANCER** This group provides a safe place to express and share thoughts, concerns and experiences of living with the uncertainty, the physical effects and problems related to intimacy, marriage, reproduction and employment. The group meets from 6-8 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month at ValleyCare Health Library & Ryan Comer Cancer Resource Center, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd, Suite 270. The group is facilitated by Mary Prishtina, RN, and Estee Goren, MFT. Call 399-1177.

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

**DEPRESSION & BIPOLAR** Depression Bipolar Support Alliance, DBSA, is a support group for people who live with depression, bipolar and other disabilities. They can help each other navigate the ups and downs of life! A place where you can be yourself and feel safe. The group meets from 7:15-8:45 p.m. every Wednesday, at St. Claire's Episcopal Church, Classroom 1, 3350 Hopyard Rd., although it is not affiliated with the church. No charge for meetings. Call 462-6415 or visit [www.dbsalliance.org/pleasanton](http://www.dbsalliance.org/pleasanton).

**EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR SUPPORT GROUP** If you have recently been diagnosed with ET or would like to learn more about this common movement disorder in a safe and supportive environment, please join us from 10 a.m.-noon on the third Saturday of each month, in the Blackhawk A and B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Rd. For more information, view their blog at [www.eastbayet.com](http://www.eastbayet.com).

com or call 487-5706 or email [eastbayet@comcast.net](mailto:eastbayet@comcast.net).

**GRIEF JOURNEYS SUPPORT - PARENT LOSS** The death of a loved one can leave us feeling alone, confused and isolated. This supportive group setting is designed with activities to help you process your grief. Class is from 7-8:30 p.m. every Wednesday through Sept. 28 at Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Dublin. Cost is \$40 for eight sessions. Call 829-8770 or visit [www.hopehospice.com](http://www.hopehospice.com).

**HOPE HOSPICE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS** Hope Hospice offers ongoing grief support services for adults, teens and children including a Transitions Support Group; Tragic Loss Support Group; individualized grief support; caregiver support; on-site support for schools; youth organizations and the workplace; community support services; a resource library; and more. For more information or to register, call 829-8770.

## Volunteering

**AMERICAN RED CROSS** Public Blood Drive will be held from 8 a.m.-1

p.m., Saturday, Aug. 20, at Hearst Elementary School, Multi-Purpose Room, 5301 Case Ave. To schedule an appointment call 800-733-2767 or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (Sponsor Code: LIVES).

**BARTON READING PROGRAM** Tutor training begins in September. No experience needed, they will train you, all materials provided, ongoing support. For more information contact Christina Clark at 596-0292 or email [christina.clark2@comcast.net](mailto:christina.clark2@comcast.net).

**NEW VOLUNTEER TUTOR TRAINING** Share the gift of Reading and Writing. New volunteer training class from 1-4 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., for adult volunteers to provide free English tutoring to adults who want to improve reading, writing and English conversation skills. Must be at least 18 with average reading and writing skills and an interest in helping another adult; no teaching experience needed. Call 931-3405 or email [pjohnson@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:pjohnson@ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

# 2011 Concerts in the Park

**Downtown Pleasanton** **JUNE 3 – SEPTEMBER 2**  
**FRIDAYS 7:00PM - 8:30PM**  
**LIONS WAYSIDE PARK (CORNER OF FIRST & NEAL)**

## August Concert Line Up

**August 19 – Burton & Co.**  
*Jazzy Rhythmic & Blues*  
**SPONSOR • STATE FARM INSURANCE**

**August 26 – Hot Rods Band**  
*Rockin' Oldies/50's & 60's*  
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**210 Garage/Estate Sales**  
Pleasanton, 3231 Vineyard Ave, Current Pleasanton, 3370 Hopyard Road, August 20th, 8-2

Pleasanton Military Families is having a Rummage Sale in the parking lot of the Masonic Lodge 3370 Hopyard Rd, Pleasanton. Saturday, August 20th, 8am to 2pm. This is a fundraiser for care packages to be sent to our troops overseas. Small appliances, furniture, children's clothing, books, house hold items, etc. The Lions Club will be grilling and selling sausages for your lunch and Susan's Sunshine Ice Cream Truck will be there as well. Come find some new treasures for yourself while you help support our troops!! Cash only. No early birds. For questions please email Sandy at [boktong1@aol.com](mailto:boktong1@aol.com)

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Specialty shop seeking qualified person for sales associate. Retail experience required. Part/time, some weekends.

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No more extra treats for you for awhile, boy! He is comfortable in his black and white coat, and weighs in at almost 53 pounds. This is a good solid family dog of mature years. He is a Club Second Chance dog, which means you save some cash and still get a great pet. Grant is waiting to meet you at the East Bay SPCA at the Tri-Valley Adoption Center, 4651 Gleason Drive, Dublin. Learn more about other available pets by going to [www.eastbayspca.org](http://www.eastbayspca.org) or calling 479-9670.



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# Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### Danville

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**216 Country Meadows Lane \$485,000**  
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

### Dublin

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**8363 Rhoda Avenue \$789,000**  
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

### Livermore

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**18 Cascata Court \$830,000**  
Sat 1-4 Pat Fracisco 337-3750

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**2137 Bella Vista Place \$1,090,000**  
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

### Pleasanton

#### 2 BEDROOMS

**2134 Goldcrest \$409,900**  
Sat 1-4 Keller Williams 397-4200

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**1485 Trimmingham \$517,500**  
Sun 1-5 Tim McGuire 895-9950

**4128 Graham Street \$519,000**  
Sat/Sun 12-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

**1967 Fiorio Circle \$529,000**  
Sun 1:30-4:30 Moxley Team 600-0990

**244 Carnation \$559,000**  
Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 895-9950

**755 Concord Street \$639,000**  
Sun 1-4 Doug Buenz 463-2000

**575 Del Sol Avenue \$949,000**  
Sun 1:30-4:30 Moxley Team 600-0990

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**1219 Hansen Drive \$1,061,250**  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

**2189 Pomezia Court \$1,175,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties Team 202-6898

**18 Castlewood Drive \$1,248,000**  
Sun 12-3 DeAnna Armario 260-2220

**3038 Bersano Court \$1,450,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties Team 519-8226

**3533 Mercato Court \$1,499,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties Team 202-6898

**3372 Sagewood Court \$1,579,000**  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

**2529 Tanager Drive \$599,950**  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams 397-4200

**3298 Monmouth Court \$729,000**  
Sat 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

**6793 Paseo Catalina \$868,888**  
Sun 1-4 Kathy Westernoff 577-2600

**1008 Malaga Court \$969,000**  
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

**2924 Amoroso Court \$969,000**  
Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**1920 Nicosia \$1,250,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties Team 202-6898

**6243 Camino Del Lago \$745,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Margarita Cacalieri 918-1103

**2506 Sanderling Drive \$754,950**  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

**2755 Huff Drive \$899,000**  
Sun 1-4 Doug Buenz 463-2000

**335 Del Sol Avenue \$899,000**  
Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

#### 6 BEDROOMS

**35 Gold Road \$1,599,888**  
Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario 260-2220

**929 Gray Fox Circle call for price**  
Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

### San Ramon

#### 2 BEDROOMS

**3935 Crow Canyon Road \$320,000**  
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**627 Lomond Circle \$749,000**  
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

**3209 Barons Lane \$779,900**  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel 314-1111

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**9733 Thunderbird Drive \$829,000**  
Sun 1-4 Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley 463-9500

Use this QR code to view more open homes online. QR code reader required.



For marketing opportunities contact Andrea Heggelund at (925) 600-0840 x110 or e-mail aheggelund@pleasantonweekly.com.

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3533 Mercato Court, Ruby Hill



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512 Bunker Lane, Castlewood



4 BR, 3.5 BA, plus bonus, 4,000 sq. ft. Beautiful high end features, convenient location to freeway, town and schools. Offered at \$1,350,000

3038 Bersano – 3687 sq.ft., 4bd/3.5ba, \$1,450,000 and 1920 Nicosia – 3851 sq.ft., 5bd/3ba, \$1,250,000 in Ruby Hill OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 1-4



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DRE License #01226296 & 00930892

Donna Garrison  
925-980-0273  
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Susan Schall  
925-519-8226  
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**603 Blossom Ct, Pleasanton**  
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**4691 Finch Way, Dublin**  
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, approx 2400+ sqft, separate office, loft (4th bedroom) and bonus room. New price \$699,000

Recently Sold



**533 St. John St., Pleasanton**  
Represented the seller

**2359 Greenberry Ct., Pleasanton**  
Represented the buyer

**698 Austen Wy., Livermore**  
Represented the buyer

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# July home sales top year-ago numbers

'Interest rates at near-record lows, home prices favorable,'  
Realtor group says

By JEB BING

California home sales fell in July but were up from the previous year, the California Association of Realtors reported Tuesday.

"Despite the uncertain outlook, interest rates are at near-record lows and home prices are favorable," said CAR Vice President and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young.

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California dropped 4.1% to a seasonally adjusted 458,440 units in July, according to information collected by CAR from more than 90 local realtor associations and MLSs statewide.

July home sales were up 4.5% from the 438,850 units sold in July 2010. The statewide sales figure represents what would be the total number of homes sold during 2011 if sales maintained the July pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

"Although July sales improved over last year, they were somewhat weaker than expected, given current prices and mortgage rates," Appleton-Young said. "Economic uncertainty and recent developments in financial markets have caused hesitation among buyers, the effects of which we may see in the coming months."

"We must see sustained job and income gains along with an increase in consumer confidence before we can expect to see

consistent improvement in the housing market," she added.

The statewide median price of an existing, single-family detached home sold in California dipped 0.3% in July to \$294,230 from a revised \$295,210 in June. July's median price was down 7.6% from the \$318,550 recorded in July 2010.

"Despite the uncertain outlook, interest rates are at near-record lows, and home prices are favorable," said CAR President Beth L. Pearce. "Well-qualified, motivated buyers who expect to own their home for more than a few years should carefully study their options now."

Other aspects of CAR's resale housing report for July 2011 include:

- The Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes was 5.5 months in July, up from 5.0 months in June, but essentially unchanged from July 2010's 5.6-month supply. The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

- Thirty-year fixed-mortgage interest rates averaged 4.55% during July 2011, virtually unchanged from 4.56% in July 2010, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable-mortgage interest rates averaged 2.97% in July 2011, compared with 3.73% in July 2010.

The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 52.1 days in July 2011, compared with 42.4 days for the same period a year ago. ■

# Proposed law could stop gouging of condo, townhouse owners

Realtors support measure that would block excessive fees

By JEB BING

The California Association of Realtors is sponsoring AB 771, a state bill that would prevent home buyers in a common interest development (CID), such as a condominium or townhome, from being charged excess document fees.

Existing law requires homeowners' associations (HOAs) to provide specific documents to prospective purchasers of homes in a CID — a form of real estate ownership in which each homeowner has an exclusive interest in a unit and a shared interest in the common area property.

In addition to the standard residential property disclosures that must be provided to purchasers of residential property, purchasers of a unit within a CID must receive basic information about the structure, operation and management of the homeowners association that operates the CID.

Current state law requires that this information come from the HOA and prohibits it from charging fees in excess of what is "reasonable," not to exceed the actual cost of processing and producing these documents. HOAs generally provide the documents for approximately \$75 to \$250.

But increasingly, the HOAs are delegat-

ing document preparations to third party vendors or contractors who, under a 2007 court decision, are exempt from this fee limitation. This delegation of responsibility by HOAs sometimes results in home purchasers being forced to pay additional fees for other documents, which are "bundled" with the required documents.

Assembly Bill 771, introduced by Assemblywoman Betsy Butler (D-Torrance), addresses this situation by specifying that only fees for the required documents may be charged when such documents are provided, effectively prohibiting any "bundling" of fees for other documents with these fees.

The bill also creates a new form detailing which documents are required. The seller of a CID must complete this form and transmit it to the prospective purchaser along with the required documents.

The real estate group said this would eliminate any uncertainty for the prospective purchaser as to exactly which documents are being provided.

AB 771 passed off the Assembly floor Monday by a vote of 69-0. The measure now awaits the governor's signature into law. ■

Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) and click on the **Real Estate** link for sales information, current listings, open homes and virtual tours.

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5 BR 3.5 BA Coming Soon!!Gourmet kit w/Granite counters.Hardwood flrs.Cul De Sac location. 925.847.2200

**624 SHELLY DRIVE**  
LOCATION....LOCATION CALL FOR PRICING!  
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**9640 DAVONA DR**  
SPACIOUS FLOOR PLAN \$539,900  
4 BR 2 BA Kit.w/SS appliances,Guest Bath w/Corian.HW flooring through out.Private patio. 925.847.2200

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<p><b>VIA DE LOS MILAGROS PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>WEINER / MCDOWELL (925) 251.2585</b></p> <p><b>5 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,259+/- sq.ft., 0.26+/- Acres</b> Carriage Gardens, single level! Great floorplan w/ oversized rooms, 3 fireplaces, master w/retreat. Salt solar pool, spa &amp; cabana w/bath, tree house.</p>	<p><b>5580 PASEO NAVARRO PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>WEINER / MCDOWELL (925) 251.2585</b></p> <p><b>5 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,315+/- sq.ft., 0.20 Lot Acres</b> Absolutely gorgeous, remodeled in the heart of Pleasanton! Every detail and amenity is top quality. No rear neighbors! Backs to beautiful park.</p>	<p><b>1502 VIA DI SALERNO PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</b></p> <p><b>\$2,549,000 • 6 Bd • 6.5 Ba • 7,100+/- sq.ft.</b> Mediterranean Estate w/Impressive Dual Wrought-Iron Staircase Grand Entry Foyer Staircase, open Kitchen/Nook/Family Room Area &amp; more!</p>	<p><b>8012 GOLDEN EAGLE WAY PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>PEGGY CORTEZ (925) 648.5454</b></p> <p><b>\$3,498,000 • 5 Bd • 5(3) Ba • 8,585+/- sq.ft.</b> Private Mediterranean Estate. Porte Cachere, grand entry, gourmet kitchen, theater. Guest house, pool, BBQ &amp; "Wailua" gazebo &amp; more.</p>	<p><b>1892 VIA DI SALERNO PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>OPEN SUN 1-4</b></p> <p><b>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</b></p> <p><b>5 Bd • 3.5 Ba • 4,189+/- sq.ft.</b> Prepare for what lies beyond the gorgeous entry of this Italian Villa. Unrivaled setting among olive trees &amp; lush landscaping, views of vineyards...</p>
<p><b>1695 GERMANO WAY PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>COMING SOON</b></p> <p><b>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</b></p> <p><b>5 Bd • 6.5 Ba • 7,330+/-sq.ft., 0.65+/- Acres</b> This home offers an impressive entry foyer, stately office, movie theatre, expansive kitchen, walk-in wine cellar and more.</p>	<p><b>862 GRAY FOX CIR PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>TONNI CHANDLER (925) 251.2556</b></p> <p><b>7 Bd 7(2) Ba • 7,163+/- sq.ft., 1.15+/- Acres</b> Gorgeous custom home created w/ attention to detail in every aspect, representing craftsmanship at its finest.</p>	<p><b>1041 GERMANO WAY PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>UWE MAERCZ (925) 360.8758</b></p> <p><b>5 Bd • 5(3) Ba • 8,299+/- sq.ft. • +/-0.62Acres</b> Mediterranean Villa on Premium Lot with Panoramic Views of Mt. Diablo, Overlooking Creek, Majestic Oaks and 15th Fairway.</p>	<p><b>7952 SPYGLASS CT PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>GARY CIVELLO (925) 855.4016</b></p> <p><b>3 Bd 2.5 Ba • 2,523+/- sq.ft., 0.16+/- Acres</b> Move-In Condition. Popular detached single-story Plan 2 in Golden Eagle. Security Gate. Private patio/yard area.</p>	<p><b>892 MADEIRA PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>CINDY ENGEL (925) 580.5107</b></p> <p><b>4 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 1,993+/- sq.ft. +/-0.21Acres</b> Walk to Vintage Hills Elem., remodeled, kitchen w/slab granite, painted cabs, some new appliances, new baths, big yard, close to park!</p>
<p><b>2501 GLEN ISLE AVE PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>JOE LEDESMA (925) 251.2559</b></p> <p><b>3 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 2,330+/- sq.ft. +/-0.11Acres</b> Duet home, gourmet kitchen w/granite counters, cozy fire place, tranquil backyard w/pond w/water fall, close to schools, parks and shopping.</p>	<p><b>2904 YORKSHIRE CT PLEASANTON</b></p> <p><b>OPEN SAT &amp; SUN 1-4</b></p> <p><b>CINDY ENGEL (925) 580.5107</b></p> <p><b>3 Bd • 2 Ba • 1,900+/- sq.ft. • 0.22+/- Acres</b> Great location, w/ separate workshop/cottage w/ bath, cul-de-sac, close to elem school, walk to cabana club w/ pool, 2 city parks w/ tennis courts.</p>	<p><b>2188 MCLEAN PLACE LIVERMORE</b></p> <p><b>PATRICK MARAVELIAS (925) 890.1254</b></p> <p><b>3 Bd • 4.5 Ba • 4,062+/- sq.ft. • 0.33+/- Acres</b> Stunning one of a kind, custom home in the heart of Livermore Wine Country. Every detail of this home has been carefully considered. Pool.</p>	<p><b>1647 QUAIL CT LIVERMORE</b></p> <p><b>DIANE SASS (925) 583.2168</b></p> <p><b>4 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 3,513+/- sq.ft. • 0.98+/- Acres</b> Single story custom. HUGE gourmet kitchen recently done w/slab granite, decor 6 burner gas stove. Huge pool w/electric cover.</p>	<p><b>621 KILKARE RD SUNOL</b></p> <p><b>DEBRA A ALLEN (925) 251.2530</b></p> <p><b>4 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 2,230+/- sq.ft. +/-0.98Acres</b> New master bedroom bath w/ stain glass window. New carpeting &amp; fresh paint show off the beautiful wood plantation shutters.</p>
<p><b>1524 GREEN VALLEY RD DANVILLE</b></p> <p><b>OPEN SAT &amp; SUN 1-4</b></p> <p><b>MICHAEL SWIFT (925) 251.2587</b></p> <p><b>4 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 2,402+/- sq.ft. +/-0.23Acres</b> Custom rancher completed early 2007. Distressed hardwood floors. Gorgeous kit. w/custom island. Circular extended driveway &amp; so much more!</p>	<p><b>1441 CALVARY LN LIVERMORE</b></p> <p><b>MAX DE VRIES (925) 525.0116</b></p> <p><b>4 Bd • 2 Ba • 3,322+/- sq.ft. +/-0.80Acres</b> This classic Ranch style home on 1 acre of land with 6 horse stalls, is uniquely located near the heart of Livermore.</p>	<p><b>2068 CABERNET WAY LIVERMORE</b></p> <p><b>GAIL HENDERSON (925) 980.5648</b></p> <p><b>5Bd • 4.5 Ba • 4,428+/- sq.ft., 0.34+/- Acres</b> Largest model in Arroyo Crossings Estates w/ 5 BRs, LOFT, OFFICE, MUD ROOM, 4.5 ba., walk to downtown &amp; school, large private backyard.</p>	<p><b>2306 MERLOT LN LIVERMORE</b></p> <p><b>COREY GREEN (925) 583.2173</b></p> <p><b>4 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,940+/- sq.ft., 0.36+/- Acres</b> Private and Peaceful describes this Beautiful Tapestry Home in Livermore. Updated Kitchen and Baths! Resort like backyard with waterfall pool.</p>	<p><b>10678 CROW CANYON CASTRO VALLEY</b></p> <p><b>OPEN SUN 1-4</b></p> <p><b>KRISTY &amp; COMPANY (925) 251.2536</b></p> <p><b>3 Bd 2 Ba • 1,792+/- sq.ft., 57.97+/- Acres</b> Tree lined driveway to a nicely maintained manufactured home, w/ a landscaped yard. Great property w/ an excellent potential for horses.</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

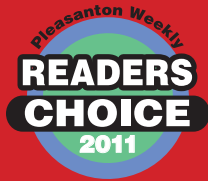
5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
925.251.2500

## Orinda

89 Davis Rd.,  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925.253.7000

## Walnut Creek

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



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**SOLD! Represented buyer**  
**4143 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton**  
 Bank owned! Great for investor or first time home buyer! Cute 2 bedroom 1000+ sf bungalow with curb appeal close to downtown! Features oversized, detached garage. Fresh paint/carpet makes this home move-in ready! Large 8,000 sf lot. **Offered at \$329,900**



**Jo and Carla Hunter**  
 REALTOR®  
 Jo: 413.4278; Carla: 200.2142  
[jo@johunter.com](mailto:jo@johunter.com)  
[carla@carlahunter.com](mailto:carla@carlahunter.com)  
 DRE # 00692588 and 01463436



**262 Grisby Court, Brentwood**  
 Spacious and beautiful. 5 BD, 3 BA and 2600+ sq.ft. Upgraded kitchen w/granite countertops. Kitchen/family room combo. Only 10 years old in lovely neighborhood. Call us to see this and other unbelievable buys in Brentwood! **Offered at \$325,000**



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 REALTOR®  
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[www.gailboal.com](http://www.gailboal.com)  
 DRE # 01276455



**404 Pine Hill Lane**  
 Carmel Style Downtown Craftsman Mini-Estate! Studio apt over garage. Over 1/3 acre. Zoned for 2nd home on property! **Offered at \$859,000**



**Pat Burns**  
 REALTOR®  
 925.876.2655  
 DRE #00396535



**SOLD**  
**7905 Spyglass Court, Pleasanton**  
 Golden Eagle Patio Home, Fantastic Single Level, 3 bedrooms, 3 Baths, Dual Fireplace, Oak Cabinets with Granite Counters, Flagstone Patio & Spa, Travertine Floors. **Offered at \$859,950**



**Fran & Dave Cunningham**  
 925.202.6898  
 DRE # 01226296 & 00930892

**Donna Garrison**  
 925.980.0273  
 DRE # 01735040  
**Susan Schall**  
 925.519.8226  
 DRE # 01713497

[www.FabulousProperties.net](http://www.FabulousProperties.net)  
[www.RubyHill.net](http://www.RubyHill.net)



**Open Sunday 1-4**  
**3038 Bersano Court, Ruby Hill**  
 Stylish single story 3,687 sq. ft. home w/ 4 BR + office, 3.5 BA, granite, hardwoods, marble, many upgrades. Lush backyard with gorgeous views in a quiet cul-de-sac location. **Offered at \$1,450,000**

*The Fabulous Properties Team*  
 Cunningham • Garrison • Schall



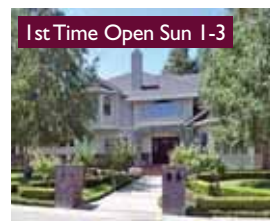
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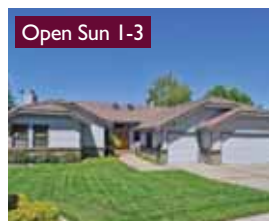
**4330 First Street, Pleasanton**  
 Contemporary Victorian style home built in 2005. Hardwood floors, crown molding, cherry cabinets and granite counters throughout. Kitchen/family rm with fireplace. Master bedroom w/balcony. Formal dining rm, office. Walking distance to downtown. **Offered at \$899,000**



*Dave & Sue*  
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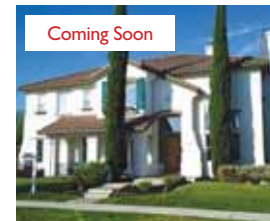
**1st Time Open Sun 1-3**  
**Absolutely Fabulous!**  
 Located in Foxbrough Estates, "one of Pleasanton's best kept secrets." 5 bdrms, 4 baths, expanded game rm or perfect in law suite! Almost 4000 sf, 4 car garage and a 20,288 sf lot. 929 Gray Fox Circle



**Open Sun 1-3**  
**Downsizing in Pleasanton Isn't Easy** until you see this fabulous one level Vintage Heights home! 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, almost 2900 sf with a 3 car garage. New cement roof, windows, central heat & air. 2924 Amoroso Court



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 REALTORS®  
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[www.williamsteam.net](http://www.williamsteam.net)  
 DRE # 01370076 and 00607511



**Coming Soon**  
**1641 Vetta Drive, Livermore** Outstanding 5 beds (6 potential) & 4.5 baths w/3500+ sq ft. 1 bed/ba downstairs. Upgrades throughout incl \$27k in solar (no PG&E). **Offered at \$929,000**



**1673 Prima Drive, Livermore** Featuring 5 BR, 3 BA, 3 car garage, 3300+ sf. Upgrades incl dbl crown moldings, S/S app, granite counters, tile & hdwd floors, upstairs laundry & 1 bed/ba dwnstrs. **Offered at \$850,000**



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

**Open Sun 1-4**



**Kris Demarest**

**2137 Bella Vista Pl – Livermore – \$1,090,000**  
Distinctive South Livermore beauty features solar for the home and pool! Elegant upgrades throughout – slab granite, tile floors, luxurious carpet, master suite and 3 bedrooms downstairs. Loft, bed and bath upstairs, private yard with 250 SF pool house w/bath & kitchen, great schools.

**Open Sun 1-4**



**Sue Fredrickson**

**216 Country Meadows Ln – Danville – \$485,000**  
Open, spacious, light and airy townhome with tons of upgrades, including hardwood floors and granite countertops in kitchen and baths. Lots of storage. Bonus room on the second level for office, playroom, game room or guest quarters. Beautiful French doors open to private enclosed patio.

**Open Sun 1-4**



**Adam Golden**

**3935 Crow Canyon Rd - San Ramon – \$320,000**  
Well-priced condo with superb upgrades. Two master bedroom suites.

**Open Sun 1-4**



**Adam Golden**

**627 Lomond Cir – San Ramon – \$749,000**  
Great home located in the sought-after subdivision of Inverness Park in San Ramon. 4 bedroom home with curb appeal.

**Open Sun 1-4**



**Claudia Colwell**

**1008 Malaga Ct – Pleasanton – \$969,000**  
Entertainers delight! Elegant marble entryway, opens to comfy lg. rm. w/gas FP, spacious formal DR. Gourmet kit. w/ granite cntrs, s/s Bosch appl., lge island w/prep sink & marble floor, opens to FR w/FP Expansive master bdrm. w/views & gas FP. Great court location with marvelous neighbors.



**Cindy Gee**

**3679 Reflections Dr – Pleasanton – \$579,000**  
Adorable Pottery Barn!!! Move in ready, updated, Granite, wide hardwood, Plantation Shutters, crown moulding & professional landscape backyard!!! Close to downtown. Gorgeous, a must see!

**Open Sun 1-4**



**Cindy Gee**

**8363 Rhoda Ave – Dublin – \$789,000**  
Million dollar views!!!!!! This Gorgeous home boasts a gourmet remodeled kitchen with granite, gorgeous bonus game room with views, an outdoor covered deck with Views, Master bedroom with Views!! Remodeled bathrooms.. Must See!!!

**Open Sun 1-4**



**Adam Golden**

**9733 Thunderbird Dr – San Ramon – \$829,000**  
Fantastic home found in the heart of San Ramon. 5 bedrooms and 3 baths. Huge lot and swimming pool.



DRE#01349446



**Tim McGuire**  
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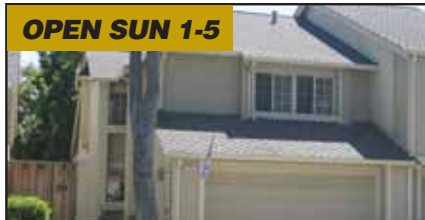
**OPEN SUN 1-4**



**244 Carnation Court, Pleasanton Heritage Gardens**

3bd/2ba, quiet court location, 1,412+/-sq.ft, oak kitchen, stainless appliances, newer carpets, walking distance to parks, schools and downtown.  
Offered at \$559,000

**OPEN SUN 1-5**



**1485 Trimmingham Drive, Pleasanton Danbury Park**

2bd/3ba, with office/potential 3rd bedroom downstairs, beautifully updated kitchen and baths, vaulted ceilings, custom fireplace, walking distance to Shopping, Schools and Parks  
Offered at \$517,500



**5230 Hummingbird Road, Pleasanton Birdland**

4bd/2ba "Holiday" model, 2,167+/-sq.ft, newer roof, windows, Pergo floors, garage door, HVAC system, crown molding and inside laundry.  
Offered at \$719,000



**4649 Klamath Court, Pleasanton The Gates**

Charming single story, 3bd/2ba home with new roof, carpets, baseboards, paint, windows, garage door, plus large landscaped backyard and RV parking.  
Offered at \$499,900

**PENDING**



**4792 Canary Drive, Pleasanton Birdland**

Single story "Gatewood" model, 4bd/2ba, 2,112+/-sq.ft, granite/alder kitchen, new baths, windows, doors, furnace/AC, tile floors and paint.  
Offered at \$779,000

**PENDING**



**4483 Shearwater Court, Pleasanton Birdland**

4bd/2ba "Colony" model, 1,923+/-sq.ft on a 6,825+/-sq.ft lot, remodeled eat-in granite kitchen, oak hardwood floors, Travertine gas fireplace and mantle, dual pane windows.  
Offered at \$779,000

**PENDING IN 3 DAYS**



**1608 Loganberry Way, Pleasanton Pleasanton Valley**

Absolutely turnkey "Terrace" model, remodeled throughout, 3bd/2ba, 1,377+/-sq. ft, walnut kitchen, SS appliances, custom tile baths, hardwood floors, park-like back.  
Offered at \$685,000

**COMING SOON!**

**Several Pocket Listings,  
not yet on the MLS  
Call for Details**

# The latest from The 680 Blog

## Pleasanton Market Update: Sales Strong, Inventory Rising

Inventory increased in Pleasanton for the fifth consecutive month in July, and was at its highest level since June of 2009. Pending sales of single family detached homes remained strong, posting the second biggest number of the year. Homes priced under \$1 million, which made up 70% of Pleasanton's inventory in July, lead the way with gains in both inventory and pending sales.

Overall, there were 224 single family detached homes on the market at the end of July, an increase of four (1.8%) over June's 220. Pending sales increased 8%, from 62 in June to 67 in July. While absolute inventory levels rose, inventory relative to pending sales actually decreased in July. There were 3.3 months of inventory available at the end of July, compared to 3.5 months at the end of June.

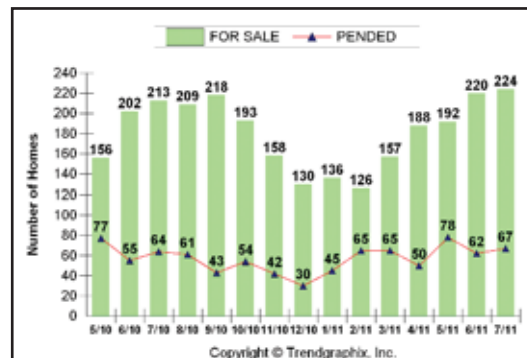
Homes priced under \$1 million saw inventory increase 6% in July to 157 homes, from 148 in June. Pending sales increased nearly 11% to 52 in July, from 47 in June. Inventory relative to pending sales stood at 3.0 months in this market segment, little changed from 3.1 months in June. This price range accounted for 70% of Pleasanton's inventory and 78% of its pending sales in July.

Inventory actually fell in the market for homes priced between \$1 million and \$2 million. There were 47 such homes available at the end of July, down 5 or 10%, from 52 at the end of June. Pending sales increased by one unit in July to 15. Inventory relative

to pending sales fell from 3.7 months in June to 3.1 months in July. This segment made up 21% of Pleasanton's inventory and 22% of pending sales in July.

Not much changed in the market for homes priced over \$2 million. Twenty of these homes were for sale at the end of July, unchanged from June. There were no pending sales in this segment in July, compared to one in June. Still a pretty sluggish market in the luxury segment.

Inventory continued to rise in July but sales increased more, thereby decreasing the relative inventory level in Pleasanton. With pending sales numbers at their current level, the market is in decent shape. Certainly we'll keep an eye on the growing inventory as we go through >>Go to [www.680homes.com](http://www.680homes.com) for more real estate information.



## Doug Buenz The 680 Group



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— Steve & Vicki S.

Go to [680Homes.com](http://680Homes.com) for more information on these homes and other properties.



**Country living yet close to everything!** Fabulous 4 BR, 3 BTH home remodeled with designer upgrades on 2+ acres with sports court, and more!  
**\$1,199,900**



**2755 Huff Drive**  
Model perfect 5 BR, 3 BTH home with hardwood floors, granite kitchen, designer paint, luxurious master suite, large private yard, and oversized 5th bedroom/bonus room.  
**\$899,000**



**755 Concord St**  
Walk to Vintage Hills School! Spacious single story home with 3 BR, 2 1/2 BTH, 3 fireplaces, sunny updated kitchen, vaulted ceilings, and large 8600 sq ft private creek side lot!  
**\$639,000**



**Pristine upgraded Vintage Hills 4 BR, 2.5 BTH home shows like a model!** Cherry & granite kitchen, 3 car garage, hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, and private .31 acre yard with sparkling pool!  
**\$885,000**



**Fabulous 4 BR, 2 BTH home in prime cul-de-sac location with vaulted ceilings, large family room with fireplace, sunny kitchen, formal living & dining, and private yard with sparkling pool!**  
**\$579,000**



**Charming single story 4 BR, 2 BTH home with granite kitchen, updated baths, vaulted ceilings, tile roof, laminate hardwood style flooring, and huge private cul-de-sac lot with sparkling pool!**  
**\$649,000**



**Fabulous French Country custom with 5 BR + office & retreat, 4 full & 2 half BTH, hardwood floors, 4 car garage, and private .62 acre lot with pool.**  
**\$1,779,000**



**Fabulous estate home with 6 BR + loft & office/rec room, 5 BTH, 4 car garage, stone flooring, dream kitchen, and 1.1 acre lot with pool, sports court, outdoor kitchen and views!**  
**\$1,840,000**



**Old world charm in a private oasis! Stunning single story custom home. 4 BR, 4 1/2 BTH, private .75 acre lot with pool & security gate, and exceptional quality!**  
**\$1,785,000**



**3616 NICOLE AVENUE, PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN MOHR/MARTIN ESTATES



5 BD 3.5 BA 4,460sf. on a 3/4 acre lot. Remodeled kitchen w/ large island, breakfast nook, granite counters & Brazilian cherry floors, large master & additional bedroom on main level. Large private backyard with pool. **\$1,750,000**

**2020 MARTIN AVENUE, PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN MOHR/MARTIN ESTATES



4 BD/office 3 BA 3,107sf. + 1,100sf. guest home or a 24,932sf. lot. Updated gourmet kitchen with cook island, generous storage. Overlooks the grand rear yard that offers a pool, bocce court, fire pit & spacious grass area. **\$1,595,000**

**575 DEL SOL AVENUE, PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON



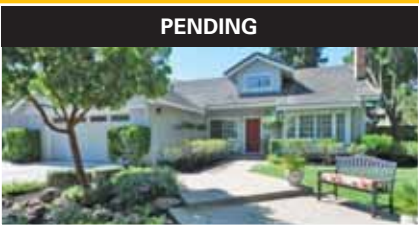
**OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30**  
3 BD 2.5 BA 2,266sf. tri-level home on 6,490sf. lot. Quiet and tranquil setting offers low maintenance with a large deck and no rear landscaping off the kitchen and family room. Close to downtown with the farmers market and downtown activities. **\$949,000**

**9632 BROADMOOR DR. SAN RAMON**  
LOCATED IN SAN RAMON ROYAL VISTA



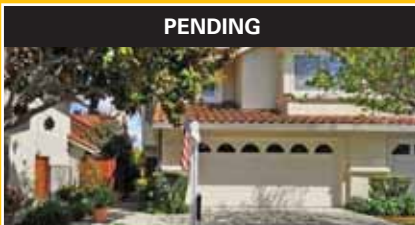
4 BD + office, 3 BA, 3,195sf. + finished attic. Built in 2010 with top of the line materials. Gourmet kitchen, handmade mouldings, energy efficient & entertainer's dream home. Backs to the 4th hole green. **\$869,898**

**3858 MOHR AVENUE, PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN CHARTER OAKS



**PENDING**  
3 BD 2 BA 1,948sf. on 7,500sf. lot. Highly updated single level home with open floor plan. Private, nicely landscaped backyard. Move in ready and within walking distance to Mohr elementary. **\$750,000**

**1522 POPPYBANK CT. PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN CHARTER OAKS DUETS



**PENDING**  
4 BD 2.5 BA 2,020sf. on a 2,850sf. lot. Location, privacy, updated & move in ready. Open kitchen w/ granite countertops. Large master w/ cherry cabinets and large tub. Private backyard perfect for entertaining. **\$610,000**



**OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30**

**1967 FIORIO CIRCLE, PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN DANBURY PARK

3 BD 2.5 BA 1,732sf. on a 2,850sf. lot. Recently updated throughout, this home offers an open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. Private backyard with patio and grassy area. Close to parks and shopping. **\$529,000**



**COMING SOON**

**1435 COLUMBINE WAY**  
LOCATED IN LIVERMORE

4 BD 2.5 BA 2,202sf. on a 6,896sf. lot. A charming home in a quiet neighborhood. Home offers an open floor plan with a formal dining room, kitchen opens to the family room with a fireplace. The rear yard offers the perfect area for entertaining. **LOW \$500,000s**

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**DOWNTOWN**



**OPEN SUN 1-4**

**335 DEL SOL AVENUE, PLEASANTON**  
Location, location, location. Desirable downtown quiet court location! Beautiful upgraded home, 5 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms with 2350 square feet. Remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom backsplash and stainless appliances. Newer upgraded hardwood flooring, plantation shutters, dual pane windows, newer brushed nickel hardware and fixtures. Lots of upgrades including 30 year roof. Elevated lot with private secluded tranquil grounds includes TimberTech deck, mature trees. Walk around the corner at Neal and in one minute you are at the Farmers Market and can also enjoy all the other downtown amenities! Award winning schools! **OFFERED AT \$899,000**

**OAK MANOR**



**819 OAK MANOR COURT, PLEASANTON**  
As soon as you enter you will be impressed with the unique elegance. Gorgeous custom home on private .62 acre lot. Approximately 4,541 square feet, four bedrooms (two master suites) plus office/wine room and bonus loft area and 5.5 bathrooms. Quality, high end equipment and finishes throughout. Gourmet kitchen with granite slab counters and stainless steel appliances. Hardwood floors. Oversized four car garage. Beautifully landscaped Tahoe-like grounds with mature trees. Two minutes to Castlewood Country Club. **OFFERED AT \$1,565,000**

**CANYON OAKS**



**COMING SOON**

**5809 STONECLIFF VISTA LN, PLEASANTON**  
Newer beautiful home built in 2004. Great location, backs to open space with views of Mount Diablo, Pleasanton Ridge & surrounding open space! Three bedrooms plus loft/office, two & a half bathrooms, 2401 square feet. Custom tile flooring. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, stainless appliances. Spacious master suite. Oversized two car garage. Beautiful landscaping. Walk to new sports park & award winning Hearst Elementary, Pleasanton Middle School, Oak Hill Shopping Center & Main Street! Convenient to Callippe Golf Course & Castlewood Country Club. **OFFERED AT \$839,500**

**ESTATES OF MOHR PARK**



**COMING SOON**

**2248 KAMP COURT, PLEASANTON**  
Premium private large (12,691 sq ft) lot in excellent court location with in-ground pool & spa! Highly upgraded five bedrooms, three bathrooms. Approximately 3,369 square feet. Completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom cabinets & stainless steel appliances. Remodeled master bathroom with new granite & tile. Three car garage. Professionally landscaped private rear grounds with in-ground pool, spacious deck and large lawn area. Just a few minutes to downtown. Just around the corner from Nielsen Park. Award winning schools! **PRICE TO FOLLOW**

**FOOTHILL KNOLLS**



**PENDING**

**7863 FOOTHILL KNOLLS, PLEASANTON**  
Beautiful single story on private premium .35 acre lot. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, approximately 2,150 sf. Completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom backsplash, custom cabinetry and high end European appliances. Hardwood flooring, French doors, vaulted ceilings, newer windows, newer tile roof. Master suite includes custom built-in closet/dresser area, French doors to rear grounds, private bathroom with dual sinks. Very private professionally landscaped rear grounds, with no rear neighbors. Recently re-plastered and tiled pool/spa with new equipment. Built-in kitchen/BBQ island with refrigerator. Mature trees, patios and lawn areas. **OFFERED AT \$949,000**

**LAGUNA OAKS**



**SOLD**

**2505 ARLOTTA PLACE, PLEASANTON**  
Best location in Laguna Oaks! Desirable Newport model on premium .40 acre lot. Quiet premium court location. Four bedrooms, bonus room, plus formal office. Private guest/in law/au pair quarters (4th). Three and a half bathrooms. Approximately 3,830 square feet. Large gourmet kitchen, granite countertops, custom backsplash, tile flooring and large eating area. Spacious master suite with views of Pleasanton Ridge, and large walk in closet. Beautifully landscaped rear yard with ultimate privacy. Expansive lawn areas (pool site). A short walk to the community pool, park, and tennis courts. **SOLD FOR \$1,300,000**

**VINTAGE HILLS**



**SOLD**

**3593 ARBOR COURT, PLEASANTON**  
Beautiful single level in quiet court location. Excellent condition. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, 1766 square feet. Remodeled gourmet kitchen with new cabinetry and stainless appliances. Wood flooring, fully cased windows, new light fixtures, new hardware, upgraded bathrooms. Private premium .26 acre lot with large park-like rear grounds. Pebble tech free form pool, brick patio, covered patio area, wood deck and spacious lawn area. Walk to great neighborhood Parks. Convenient to downtown. Award winning Pleasanton schools. **SOLD FOR \$740,000**

**CHARTER OAKS**



**SOLD**

**1549 MAPLE LEAF DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
Highly upgraded four bedroom, plus bonus/teen room, three bathrooms. Approximately 2,541 sf. 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! **SOLD FOR \$880,000**

**PLEASANTON 900 Main Street**





Go to **open.apr.com** for the Bay Area's only complete online open home guide.



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PRESENTING THE PROPERTIES OF OUR *Pleasanton & Livermore* OFFICES...

DANIEL G ALPHER SUN 1:00-4:00



**PLEASANTON \$1,579,000**  
4391 sqft +/- Estate nestled on a court with over 334k in upgrades and VIEWS! Quality, charm & designer touches embrace this 4 BD, 4.5 BA luxury home near downtown! 3372SageWoodCt.com. 3372 SAGEWOOD CT

KIM OTT SAT&SUN 1:30-4:30



**LIVERMORE \$1,061,250**  
Beautiful home in South Livermore within walking distance to Sycamore Grove Park and local wineries. Private lot and true country feel. Easy commute. 1219 HANSEN RD

JULIA MURTAGH BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$999,000**  
Wonderful family home in the Pleasanton Hills. The "Ashley Model", 3000+/-sf. Enjoy stunning upgrades throughout and the amazing back yard with beautiful Solar heated Pool. 4875 DOLORES DR

SYLVIA DESIN BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$899,000**  
Price reduced! Beautiful 4 BD home in a great neighborhood. Huge downstairs bonus/playroom. Spacious master suite with retreat and custom closets. Remodeled gourmet kitchen. 387 EWING DR

KIM OTT SUN 1-4PM



**PLEASANTON \$754,950**  
Beautiful Birdland area, completely updated, Alder kit. Cabinets, Silestone Cntrs, w/ travertine backsplash, hw floors, newer roof, dual pane windows, beautiful backyard w/ pool/entertaining area. 2506 Sanderling Dr.

JOYCE JONES SAT 2:00-4:00



**PLEASANTON \$729,000**  
4 bd, 3 ba (1 bd/ba downstairs), updated kitchen/baths, & solar panels for energy efficiency. LOCATED-end of the cul-de-sac, backing to greenbelt w/playground, community pool! 3298 Monmouth Court

JO ANN LUISI BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$660,000**  
Beautifully upgraded Monticello 4 bedroom home plus a large bonus room. Large, private yard. One year home warranty included. www.958Turino.com 958TURINO ST

KAREN CROWSON SUN 1:00-4:00



**LIVERMORE \$575,000**  
Sharp Murietta Meadows home, freshly painted and new carpeting. Tile flooring throughout lower level. Full bedroom and bath downstairs. Formal living and dining rooms. Spa with Gazebo. 63 SPARROW ST

JULIA MURTAGH BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$575,000**  
Super clean, upgraded kitchen, huge beautiful backyard, new windows, great location, very well maintained by owners. 6432 INGLEWOOD DR

JULIA MURTAGH BY APPT



**DUBLIN \$520,000**  
Popular "Firenze" model in Dublin Ranch! Elegant 3 bd/2.5ba, huge 3 car tandem garage, gorgeous spiral staircase, quiet location, \$50k+/- in upgrades! Must See! 4615 RIMINI CT #14

# ALAIN PINEL REALTORS

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**Don Faught**

Vice President  
Managing Broker  
Pleasanton and Livermore  
dfaught@apr.com

