

# Pleasanton Weekly

VOL. XII, NUMBER 47 • DECEMBER 2, 2011

PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM



'We are all very competitive individuals'

## SWAT TEAMS from Pleasanton & Livermore merge

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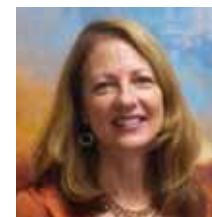
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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Experience Pleasanton

A task force, several committees, the Pleasanton Downtown Association and the city's Economic Development Director Pamela Ott have been meeting regularly over the past few months to find ways to make Pleasanton a stronger shopper and entertainment destination. Retailers downtown and in several neighborhood centers off Hopyard and Santa Rita roads and Sunol Boulevard are holding their own as the business community slowly eases its way out of a recession, but the crowds of shoppers aren't filling the streets as they're doing in Walnut Creek or in the Stoneridge Shopping Center. Night life, though better than it's been in several years, is still limited to only a few long-popular destinations on or near north Main Street. Those who go to Livermore or other nearby cities complain that too many Pleasanton restaurants, bars and even Tully's at Main and Angela streets close by 10 p.m. when the good times are just starting in other locations.

The Downtown Hospitality Guidelines Task Force held its Meeting #2 last night to review a voluminous packet of suggestions and list of locations that should make any city proud. It shows that we now have 33 bars and restaurants that serve wine or stronger drinks, including Barone's, Redcoats British Pub and Restaurant, Main Street Brewery, Blue Agave and the newly-opened Handles Gastropub, to name just five. Many on the list, such as Vic's All Star Kitchen and Dean's Cafe close at 3 p.m. A few others stay open for the supper crowd but are dark not long after. Walk out of a performance at the Firehouse Arts Center at 10 p.m. and you might find a yogurt to enjoy after the show, but little else.

This is the night life problem that the Hospitality Guidelines committee wants to solve without turning downtown Pleasanton into a center of rowdy drinkers that older residents remember. It's a committee of heavy hitters formed by the City Council and co-chaired by Councilmen Matt Sullivan and Jerry Thorne. Members include representatives of the Planning Commission, city staff, the PDA and neighborhoods near downtown that would be most affected by any loosening of permit restrictions on noise and late-night dancing and drinking. These meetings are open to the public and the Guidelines task force agenda and minutes are

posted on the city's Website.

As for boosting retail sales downtown, the PDA, its Downtown Vitality Committee and the Economic Vitality Committee are working with consultants to promote Pleasanton more aggressively. Early bird specials and pajama-dressed shoppers and store owners have already added to pre-Christmas sales with more to come. But it's after Christmas and in all of 2012 when the "fever pitch" is needed to keep Pleasanton retailers ahead of the competitive pack. Jay Galvin, managing director of digi-Assist, Ltd., and a member of the EVC, suggests putting a billboard or two along Hwy 101 on the Peninsula with the words: "Experience Pleasanton." He'd do the same at the Oakland Airport and along El Charro Road when Livermore's Paragon Outlet Center opens next fall.

Galvin points to the quaint, yet highly profitable, retail centers in Carmel and Solvang, two destinations that draw shoppers from the Bay Area, including Pleasanton. Although our downtown may never have that same nostalgic pull, we have a far better unhurried shopping and dining atmosphere than the crowded hectic pace of Walnut Creek. Galvin points out that in some cities, smaller merchants coordinate coupon campaigns where shoppers and diners can redeem certificates worth \$20 or more for every \$200 they spend. Why not do the same here?

The EVC, which represents all business activity in Pleasanton, is working on "brand statements" to enhance Pleasanton's image as "an extraordinary place to experience." Its strategy is aimed at encouraging residents to patronize local businesses, with a five-member subcommittee developing concepts for an area-wide campaign in the coming year. To begin, the subcommittee plans to create an online microsite to promote the benefits of shopping locally as well as provide a connection to a number of local shopping campaigns. An early draft of a promotional message states: "We are Pleasanton and we are an extraordinary place for shopping. We are home to a regional mall with over 165 stores and restaurants, as well as a vibrant downtown with independent retailers and unique items. We offer convenient commuter shopping along our interstate corridors, and our neighborhood shops are located throughout our residential district. Wherever you live or work, local shopping is just a short drive, walk or bicycle ride away."

Sure seems like a place worth "experiencing." ■

## About the Cover

SWAT team member Paul Mayer hauls a 40-pound battering ram and full gear during physical training qualifications, done twice a year. Photo by Glenn Wohltmann. Design by Lili Cao.

Vol. XII, Number 47



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## Treating and Beating Migraines

Migraine headaches affect over 35 million men, women and children in the United States alone and that number is increasing as time goes on. Nearly one in four households includes someone with migraines. Approximately 18% of American women and 6% of men suffer from migraine. What is not well known is that approximately 10% of school aged children also suffer from migraine.

Non-migraine sufferers do not realize how seriously painful and debilitating a migraine headache can be. More than 90% of migraine patients are unable to work or function normally during an attack. Every 10 seconds, someone in the United States goes to an emergency room with a headache or migraine. Migraine ranks in the top 20 of the world's most disabling medical illnesses.

Traditional medical treatments include drugs such as Imitrex, Maxalt, Cafergot, Fiorinal and Fioricet can help combat a migraine once it has begun, however these medications do not prevent migraines or even address the cause of the headache. Additionally, medications such as beta blockers, calcium channel blockers, antidepressants and anticonvulsants have not produced good results and in far too many cases produce significant unwanted side effects.

Research in the fields of alternative medicine has discovered that most headaches, including migraine are caused by one or a combination of the following:

- Abnormal pressure on the nerves and meninges at the base of the skull
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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

## Should Pleasanton ban gas-powered blowers?



**Jon Vranesh**  
Principal

No. Aren't there more important issues to deal with?

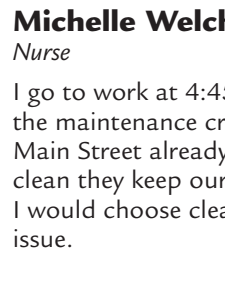
**Alex Bounour**  
Student

No, I don't think so. I think everyone should have the right to have a gas blower. It is considerate to respect your neighbors when using one, but they shouldn't be banned.



**Wayne Wright**  
Wright Tool Co.

I don't think so. They work better than anything else. I have both an electric and gas blower, and I prefer the gas-powered because it is so much more efficient.



**Michelle Welch**  
Nurse

I go to work at 4:45 in the morning, and the maintenance crews are hard at work on Main Street already. I really appreciate how clean they keep our beautiful downtown. I would choose cleanliness over any noise issue.



**Chad Welch**  
Chef

They should be banned or have some sort of time ordinance. I am able to sleep in, and they wake me up.

—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

### Enjoy Community Band concert

The Pleasanton Community Concert Band's Holiday Concert is at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. This year's concert is called "December — Remember?" and will feature "Remember Pearl Harbor," "Chanukah Is Here," "The Sounds of Christmas" in addition to more traditional selections of music from the holiday season.

The concert is free, though donations are appreciated. Doors will open at 1:40 p.m. To learn more about the Pleasanton Community Concert Band, visit [www.pleasantonband.org](http://www.pleasantonband.org) or call 846-5897.

### City pool renovations

Pleasanton is planning extensive renovations to the city's Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center in 2012 to upgrade the pool filtrations system and to replace pool decking that has become cracked and irregular.

During renovations, the 50-meter pool used for lap swimming, water aerobics and competitions will remain open, according to the city, but the smaller 25-meter pool, the diving pool and the activity pool with the waterslide will be affected. The city will finalize a schedule for the work after the design is completed and a contractor selected.

### Lab geochemist honored

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Geochemist Tom Guilderson has been named a winner of the Department of Energy's Ernest Orlando Lawrence Award, Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced earlier this week. Guilderson is being honored for ground-breaking radio-carbon measurements of corals, advancements in understanding the paleo-history of ocean currents and ocean processes revealing past climate variability, and the explanation of how physical and biogeochemical oceanic processes affect the global carbon cycle.

Guilderson's climate research has centered around documenting and understanding natural climate variability with a focus on tropical-extra-tropical connections in the oceanic and terrestrial realm. He is the 28th current or former LLNL employee to receive an E.O. Lawrence Award.

### Corrections

The story "On stage for the Holidays" in the Nov. 25 issue should have said that Valley Dance Theatre is presenting "The Nutcracker" for the fourth decade.

## Main Street kicks off holiday season with parade, tree-lighting tomorrow

Special guest Santa Claus will help mayor flick switch to light up the night

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Pleasanton parade and tree-lighting festivities tomorrow don't just celebrate the holidays, said event chairman Brian Dutchover. Businesses and other groups participate in the Hometown Holiday Celebration to show their community spirit, pride and appreciation for Pleasanton.

"Anybody from the community can participate," Dutchover said, "but the entry has to be of a holiday theme."

Both Amador Valley and Foothill high school marching bands take part, and this year it's Amador's turn to lead the parade. Neighborhoods and families participate, many with imaginative floats, along with horse entries, as well as

hundreds of Cub Scouts and Brownies, local car clubs and dog clubs.

Pleasanton's popular Balloon Platoon will be returning, and the Bay Area Ghostbusters are participating for the first time. Santa Claus brings up the rear as the parade's grand finale.

Community groups, such as the high school booster clubs, will offer food and beverages along the parade route, and some businesses will do giveaways.

The city of Pleasanton had been running the tree-lighting for about 30 years when, in 1997, it took over the parade, which had been presented by the Pleasanton Downtown Association. The two events combine each December as

the Hometown Holiday Celebration.

"In 1997, we had 400 parade participants — 30 entries equating to 400 people in the parade — and maybe 3,000 spectators," Dutchover said. "This year we will have 3,000 people in the parade and 20,000-30,000 people spectating."

The event committee of 12 volunteers and 12 city staff members begins meeting in June. About 100 volunteers are needed the day of the event, Dutchover noted; to find out more, visit [www.hometownholiday.com](http://www.hometownholiday.com).

The parade starts at 5 p.m. tomorrow at the Rose Hotel and proceeds down Main Street

See **PARADE** on Page 7



GLENN WOHLTMANN

### Mid-Eastern dance meets Western audience

Hala Fauzi of San Jose demonstrates her belly dancing technique to women in a recent show at the Pleasanton Library. Fauzi is from Egypt and said she began giving classes after realizing that some schools don't teach all the styles she learned in the Middle East. Pleasanton resident Jamie Kowahara, among her students who performed, said, "I wanted to take lessons from her because they're the most authentic." At the end of the performance, members of the audience were invited to join in the dancing — and they did.

## Car thefts show recent jump

Thieves choosing Acuras and Hondas

Car thefts in Pleasanton have spiked recently, with Hondas and Acuras being targeted more for what's inside than the car itself.

Those cars are being stolen, then dumped a few blocks away, said Pleasanton police Sgt. Kurt Schlehuber, who suspects thieves are using shaved keys.

"My explanation when people do that, the real purpose is to steal items from the car but they don't want to do it at the house," Schlehuber said. "The cars and the years they were taken, it's very easy to use a shaved key ... it takes a few seconds."

A shaved key has been filed or ground down and often works on older model Japanese cars where the locks are worn.

Nine cars were reported stolen between Nov. 9 and Nov. 28.

The recent trend targeting Acuras and Hondas is a bit different than the usual thefts.

"The other ones just seem to be car thefts. They seem to be recovered in the usual places: Modesto, Stockton, some in Hayward or Oakland. They end up headed over the hill in either direction," Schlehuber said.

The Vintage Hills neighborhood has been a popular target for the thefts, as has Stoneridge Shopping Center.

He said there may have been a recent jump, but for the year, the total number of thefts is consistent with past years.

"I noticed that we were having some more," Schlehuber said, adding, "On average for the year, we're very close to where we were last year."

In 2010, 83 vehicles were reported stolen in Pleasanton. By comparison, in 2010, Livermore police reported 151 vehicle thefts, Dublin had 72, and San Ramon had 76.

See **CAR THEFT** on Page 8

## New charge added against teen arrested in double stabbing

Remains held on \$260,000 bail

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

The teen charged in a September double stabbing near Village High School now faces an attempted murder charge.

Victor Garcia, 16, was originally charged with two counts of assault with a deadly weapon in the stabbing of Cameron "CamCam" Gipson and Dawayne Barnes.

The two were stabbed with a knife from Village's home economics class in a confrontation that grew out of an earlier dispute between others at the school that led to Gipson's girlfriend being suspended.

The attempted murder charge, in the stabbing of Gipson, was added Monday during a second day of Garcia's preliminary hearing in Alameda County Superior Court in Pleasanton.

"The location of the injury shows he was aiming for a vital organ of Mr. Gipson," prosecutor Connie Campbell told Judge Jacob Blea III. "I believe it has been proven more likely than not that is what the defendant wanted."

Defense attorney Thomas Knutsen said there was no proof that Garcia had armed himself that day.

"They're asking you to speculate that knives were available that date and that Mr. Garcia had access to them on that date," Knutsen told the judge.

However, Campbell said Garcia had been told by Village Principal Greg Giglio to leave directly after school, and that the teen had a home economics class after that meeting. Campbell said it was unlikely that Garcia had been carrying a knife he'd previously taken from the school and was bringing with him every day.

Blea recessed the court for about 20 minutes to consider Campbell's request to add the charge before ruling in favor of the prosecution. He then ruled there was probable cause for a trial to be held and sent the case to Superior Court in Hayward, which handles felony prosecutions.

The new attempted murder charge carries a maximum penalty of life with the possibility of parole. The two counts of assault with

See **STABBING** on Page 8

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## Five generations

Family spans from 96 years  
to 2 months

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Maria Lima celebrated her 96th birthday recently with five generations of her family; the youngest was her great-great-granddaughter Keira Uribe, who was born just 2 months ago.

"Keira seemed very interested in her great-great-grandmother, and my mother held her and was goo-gooing at her," said Liz Davidson, the second youngest of Maria's 10 children.

Maria, her husband John and their children immigrated to the United States in 1960 from the island of Faial in the Azores. They settled in Pleasanton where John had a job waiting as a carpenter at the Pleasanton Cabinet Shop, owned by Swiss friends Conrad Rickenbach and Frank Auf der Maur.

"I was 9," Davidson recalled. "The youngest was 6."

The oldest, Joe Lima, was 22 and is now 75. It was his son David Lima who was the first grandson, and David's daughter Kristine Uribe who was the first great-granddaughter. Her daughter Keira is the first great-great-granddaughter, for a total of five generations.

The Lima family first lived in a home on Angela Street, Davidson said, then moved to Railroad, then

See **GENERATIONS** on Page 8



Maria Lima with five generations of her family: son Joe Lima, grandson David Lima, great-granddaughter Kristine Uribe and great-great-granddaughter Keira Uribe, 2 months.

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# Martial arts training allows pharmacist to fight off attacker

Former employee charged with attempted murder

By **GLENN WOHLTMANN**

A Danville man is in custody on an attempted murder charge in a Nov. 5 attack on his former employer, according to a Pleasanton police who said the would-be victim, martial arts training saved him.

Benjamin Glover, 27, was arrested Nov. 22 in connection with the stabbing of Henry Ho.

Ho was attacked by Glover inside his store, Medicap Pharmacy, in the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road, police said. Ho, owner and pharmacist at Medicap, said that on the morning of Nov. 5, Glover entered the store wearing a hoodie over his head and a medical surgeon's mask on his face.

Glover approached the counter, asked Ho if he recognized him and removed his mask. Ho told police the behavior was suspicious but he was comfortable with Glover, who had worked for him for four years until he was fired a year ago.

Glover asked to speak with Ho who invited him back to the office of the pharmacy. After a five-minute conversation, Glover attacked Ho, without provocation or motive, by stabbing Ho in the neck with a knife or a similar small cutting instrument the release says.

Ho's quick reflexes and martial arts training enabled him to fend off the attack, police said. After Ho deflected the first attack, Glover

stood over him and attempted to stab him two more times, according to police, who said Glover then fled the pharmacy, leaving Ho with a five-inch incision in his neck.

After the investigation was completed, a warrant was sought for Glover and he was arrested at his home in Danville. Glover was booked at Santa Rita Jail where he is currently in custody.

Notification of the arrest was delayed due to the sensitive and complex nature of the investigation, police said. Anyone with information that may aid in the ongoing investigation is urged to contact the Pleasanton Police Department at 931-5100. ■

# SPCA sponsoring Home for the Holidays

Families urged not to surrender pets this season

East Bay SPCA is holding a Home for the Holidays campaign Dec. 1-30, with the goal of placing 200 or more animals with permanent new families.

"The East Bay SPCA has a large variety of wonderful dogs and cats in need of good, loving homes," said East Bay SPCA Executive Director Allison Lindquist. "Shelter animals make great pets and deserve a home for the holidays and beyond."

For this month, East Bay SPCA has teamed up with Pet Food Express, which will provide \$10 gift cards for the first 250 adopters.

"We encourage the entire family to spend time with the dog or cat they are interested in adopting to help ensure a good match," Lindquist said. "Choosing to share your life with an animal requires careful consideration and a commitment to that pet that goes far beyond the holidays."

The holidays can be a wonderful time of the year, but they can also be a stressful time for animals and families, Lindquist noted. While some people are looking to add a new pet to their household, others drop their unwanted pets off at animal shelters, so shelter workers are especially busy this time of year.

"Sometimes it seems like for every animal that gets adopted, another one gets surrendered," Lindquist said.

The East Bay SPCA will have staff on hand this month to counsel



Chantal Picard (left) and Nicole Henriquez of El Cerrito adopt Stellar the day before Thanksgiving from the East Bay SPCA. As a puppy Stellar was found in a pile of trash with two broken legs and one had to be amputated. Nonetheless he was cheerful from the start, wagging his tail and enjoying belly rubs. Picard and Henriquez fell in love with him and admired his zest for life, even with only three legs.

families that are thinking of giving up their pet.

"It's sad but we do see people giving up their dog or cat this time of year because they're leaving town and can't find someone to care for the pet, or their pet's minor behavioral or medical condition becomes too much to handle,"

Lindquist said.

She recalled one cat that was surrendered because he had accidents outside his litter box. It turns out a bladder stone was causing the issue and it was easily removed.

"Oftentimes, minor behavioral issues are related to treatable medical conditions that don't cost a lot of money to fix. We counsel families and work with them to seek a solution that benefits the animal and doesn't empty their wallet," Lindquist said.

East Bay SPCA has a full service veterinary clinic, an animal behavior help line, dog training classes and boarding available to the public. Lindquist urges people who are thinking of giving up their pets to use resources like these before dropping off their pet off at a shelter. During the month of December, the Vet Clinic will offer \$10 off a vet exam for pets 8 years and older.

The adoption center in Dublin, 4651 Gleason Drive, is open from 1-8 p.m. Wednesday through Thursday; and from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Sunday. Animals can also be seen at [www.eastbayspca.org](http://www.eastbayspca.org). Call 479-9670.

Cat adoptions are \$50 and dog adoptions are \$125. Older animals or those with a medical condition have lower adoption fees. A select group of animals that have been at the shelter the longest will have their adoption fees waived.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

## PARADE

Continued from Page 5

to the Veterans Memorial Building. Announcers will be at the US Bank, at the Museum on Main under the Pleasanton Arch, and in front of the Valley Community Bank.

"There are plenty of places for people to watch and listen," Du-

tchover said. "The parade takes approximately an hour and a half or so. Immediately afterward we have the tree-lighting ceremony."

Pleasanton musician and vocalist Don Lewis will perform, as will the Pleasanton Cooltones, a brass jazz ensemble, and there will be a community sing-along.

"It will be emceed by Mayor Jennifer Hosterman with all the

council in attendance," Dutchover said. "There will be a special guest appearance by Santa Claus, who will assist the mayor in lighting the tree."

Together they will pull down a huge lever and the evergreen in front of the museum will light up the December night. Then it will officially be the Christmas season in Pleasanton. ■

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## GENERATIONS

Continued from Page 6

Division. The children attended Pleasanton Grammar School and Amador Valley High.

"When we went to elementary school in Pleasanton, we were the only Portuguese children," Davison remembered. "Others came after us that had children our age."

In 1969, Maria and John moved to a home off Valley Avenue, where Maria still lives although John died in 1983.

"She comes from real hardy genes. She has longevity on her side," Davison said. "My mother is the oldest in a family of six and they are all over 80 now. Only one has passed away, at 90."

Maria's siblings immigrated after she did, and they live in

Northern California as do their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Davidson noted that her mother's childhood was interesting in part because she helped her father, a farmer, deal with the outside world, since he could neither hear nor speak.

"Mother, being the oldest, when a young child would go with him to communicate. All his children understood him. They had signs for different people, friends or neighbors, their own homemade sign language," Davidson said. "The amazing thing to me was he and his wife were able to connect, court and then get married."

Although, she pointed out, the island was small so they knew each other growing up.

"He was a great dancer," she added. "He sensed the music with his feet."

Although Maria has some paralysis due to a stroke, Davidson said, her mother's mind is sharp and she is able to do many things — such as hold her 2-month-old great-great-granddaughter. ■



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## STABBING

Continued from Page 5

a deadly weapon, can each carry a sentence of up to four years in state prison. Garcia is also charged with inflicting great bodily injury, which could carry an additional sentence of three years, of committing a violent felony, which could add another three years, and under a state statute that prohibits plea bargaining in some violent crimes.

Gipson's father Byron has been lobbying for the additional charge since the Sept. 15 stabbing.

"Cam is damaged for life and this guy may go to prison for a long time. I'm not the kind of person that wants to ruin a person's life. God said to forgive," Byron Gipson said Tuesday in an interview. "I think we need to send a message to these kids that you can ruin your life by bad decisions. Cam made a bad decision by going up there and (Garcia) made a bad decision by stabbing him."

Byron Gipson is also worried about his son's continued safety. He said a member of the South Side Riders gang — the same gang that his son testified had threatened him at Amador Valley High School — attended the preliminary hearing. He also said his son had been threatened near his home, and that he is dealing with anxiety as well as medical issues.

Monday's hearing was complicated by several sidebars and off-the-record discussions in Blea's chambers after Knutsen asked to cross-examine Barnes.

"Self defense is the issue to be addressed here," Knutsen told the judge.

Blea, however, invoked a trial rule, deciding that Knutsen was not legally allowed to use Barnes' testimony for to gain information to bolster his defense, even though Barnes refused to speak to a defense investigator.

Garcia remains held on \$260,000 bail. He was dressed in a blue Alameda County jail sweatshirt and tan slacks with a shackle chained to his waist.

The 16-year-old said little during his appearance, but was patted on the shoulder by Knutsen before being led back to jail.

Garcia has been scheduled for a Dec. 12 hearing at the Hayward Hall of Justice. ■



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## CAR THEFT

Continued from Page 5

Auto theft numbers have trended down over the last five years, with 95 stolen in 2009, 114 in 2008, 133 in 2007, and 141 in 2006.

Given the time of year, more cars are likely to be chosen for break-ins than thefts (see police bulletin, page 11), prompting Schlehober to give what's become an annual warning about presents and cars.

"A lot of stuff has been taken from cars at the mall since Thanksgiving," he said. "Don't leave packages in your car. Don't drop them off and go back in the mall."

—Glenn Wohltmann

# Business News

Edited by Jeb Bing

## Convention bureau hires new executive director

Grant Raeside has more than 20 years' experience in event planning, marketing

G. Grant Raeside, a veteran in the event planning and marketing fields, has been hired as the new executive director of the Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau, which is based in Pleasanton and serves five cities in the Tri-Valley region.

He succeeds Amy Blaschka, who left the organization earlier this year.

Raeside brings more than 20 years of management, marketing, public relations and event planning experience to the CVB. Previously he was executive director of the Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance, and before that at the San Luis Obispo Vintners Association.

During his tenure at Sonoma Valley, he is credited with doubling the revenues of the organization and establishing new and innovative programs that continue today.

"The energy and guidance Grant brings to the Tri-Valley CVB allows us to focus on building strong relationships with stakeholders and to enhance the marketing and public relations efforts for the region," said Kevin Goebel, who is chair-

man of organization's 14-member board of directors. "His experience with membership organizations and event planning brings a fresh and exciting approach moving forward."

Raeside acknowledged that his new role is to focus on building the Tri-Valley CVB.

"Our mission is quite clear: Market and sell the Tri-Valley as a competitive meeting, event and tourism destination," he said. "In the next 90 days we will have a more proactive sales department and a results-driven marketing and public relations plan that together will increase visitor-related economic impact to the Tri-Valley region."

The Tri-Valley CVB is partially subsidized by the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville. It works to attract organizations to hold their conventions here and to encourage tourists and others in the San Francisco Bay region to visit the Tri-Valley.

For more information, sign on to the organization's Website at [www.trivalleycvb.com](http://www.trivalleycvb.com). ■

## Brent Chaney retiring from Valley Community Bank

40-year banking veteran leaving Pleasanton bank he helped start

Brent Chaney, one of the original organizers and a founder of Valley Community Bank, will retire today as senior vice president and manager of the Pleasanton office.

A graduate of UC at Davis and a U.S. Air Force veteran, Chaney began his banking career in 1973 with Wells Fargo Bank. His professional experience includes consumer and commercial banking, mortgage lending, retail banking and financial product sales management in several locations throughout Northern California. Before coming to Valley Community Bank, which he helped organize in 1998, he spent 16 years with Wells Fargo Bank and served in management positions at three other banks, including U.S. Bank.

He also was an active 13-year member of The Network Exchange,

where he served two terms as president, and was president of the board of directors for The Foundation for Axis Community Health.

Undecided about a career path after college, Chaney took the advice of a professor, Hoy Carman, who suggested he try banking. "He said, 'I think you'd be good at it,'" remembers Chaney. "He must have been right because I stayed 40 years. I've enjoyed being involved with a wide variety of businesses and industries. Every day is different. It has always been an interesting job and it's been gratifying to help people and assist businesses in achieving their goals."

Chaney and his wife plan to spend more time with their grandchildren and tackle household projects at their home in Walnut Creek, where they have lived for 25 years. ■

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# Opinion

## LETTERS

### Busybody mayor

Dear Editor,

The editorial in the Nov. 25 Pleasanton Weekly is spot on regarding our busybody mayor. No doubt Jennifer Hosterman has future political aspirations after completing her term as mayor of Pleasanton. She certainly is entitled to her personal opinion on National Energy Policy but is not empowered to speak for the community on a subject so vital to the future prosperity of our Country.

California has painted itself into a corner on the matter of greenhouse gas, thanks to environmental activists like the mayor. Only time will tell what the future may hold for the once great State of California as businesses leave the state in search of a friendlier business environment and cheaper energy cost.

**Robert C. Bush**

### Ideas for downtown

Dear Editor,

Reading about Pleasanton's Downtown Task Force should give us hope for a 2012 vitalization, but some Task Force Groups get stymied. I've been on the Kottinger Task Force for some 10 years.

Downtown Pleasanton needs a fix — what to do? More parking! For a few bucks and some paint, parallel parking can be changed to diagonal, almost doubling the amount of parking spaces on Main Street and Peters Avenue. Also more parking can be created in the city-owned railroad right of way between Spring Street and Ray Street, eventually building a parking garage, using city in-lieu parking funds or private investment with an option to buy.

For better traffic flow on Main Street, make it one way from St. John to Old Bernal, and make Peters Avenue one way from Old Ber-

nal to St. John. It also would help to have Angela and Spring streets one way.

To enhance Saturday and Sunday downtown activities the Task Force might want to check out progress that has been made in Niles since the Niles Railway improved its rail line into town. If Pleasanton permitted the Niles Railway to continue north to Neal Street more activity could take place in our downtown, especially with the Firehouse Theater and all the fine restaurants. With proper cooperation Niles Railway might be interested in hosting a dinner/drama train between P-town and Niles.

Over the years many of these suggestions by some of the old-timers have been downplayed by city councils and city managers, so little has changed, but with new people and the Downtown Task Force there is still hope.

**Howard Neely**

### A little warmer tonight

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for sharing the plea for clothing for homeless veterans with your contacts. Over 350 veterans were served at the Project Homeless Connect and the VA Clinic in San Francisco event on Nov. 9, and every item that was donated was gratefully received. Thanks to the generosity of so many people in the Tri-Valley, I had to take all the seats out of my minivan to fit all the donations, and it was packed to the roof. I cannot tell you how much your enthusiastic support of this event each year means to me and to all those who will be a little warmer tonight thanks to your help.

**Jill Buck**

### Appreciate support

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the wonderful article and photos in the Weekly about the Firehouse Crystal Bell. It is a beauty! We appreciate your support.

**Nancy & Gary Harrington**

## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### As state prisoners move to Santa Rita Jail, more state funding needs to follow

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has unanimously passed the Public Safety Realignment Implementation Plan presented by the county's Community Corrections Partnership (CCP). The plan, necessitated by the state's new law that shifts responsibility for lower level felony offenders from the state to the counties, is both innovative and progressive in seeking to ensure public safety, reduce recidivism and promote community-based alternatives to incarceration.

In recommending approval of the plan, Supervisor Nate Miley, whose district includes Pleasanton, praised the Alameda County partnership for crafting an ambitious plan to address the needs of the distinct new populations to be served under realignment — those released from state prison to community supervision and now to be held at the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin. The new law also affects those who previously would have been sent to state prison upon conviction for specified crimes, as well as a majority of parole violators.

The Alameda County plan emphasizes the strategic use of resources and programming to provide targeted services to the larger jail population based on an individualized assessment of risks and needs. Local authorities emphasized that the county has the right combination of supervision, services, support and opportunities in this plan to make it successful.

To ensure that success, the county's CCP executive committee includes top-ranked law enforcement, legal and public support individuals. They are Alameda County's Chief Probation Officer David Muhammad as the chairman, Sheriff Greg Ahern, District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, Public Defender Diane Bellas, Presiding Judge Jon Rolefson, Alameda Police Chief Michael Noonan and Health Care Services Director Alex Briscoe.

This plan reflects strong collaboration within the partnership and includes several innovative features that will protect public safety and mitigate the impacts of realignment on our community. These include a coordinated, inter-agency focus on employment and the establishment of a Transition Center at the Santa Rita Jail, which will be co-staffed by the county's Probation Department and its Health Care and Social Services agencies. Those will serve as a critical bridge between the custody and community settings.

Sheriff Ahern said his office is looking forward to working in collaboration with county agencies and community-based organizations to ensure the success of this plan. He believes the new realignment will offer a wide variety of services to those entrusted to the county's care and affords us the opportunity to expand on existing programs to help these troubled individuals.

In addition to managing a new criminal justice population, Alameda County has the extra challenge of doing so with far fewer resources than most other similar-sized counties. The state's funding allocation formula for realignment puts the county at a disadvantage due to its successful history of keeping most lower-level offenders at the local level, which this new legislation now seeks to do statewide. An example is that though Alameda and San Bernardino counties have nearly the same crime rate, Alameda County will receive \$16 million less than San Bernardino in the first year of realignment funding, due to the formula's heavy emphasis on pre-realignment state prison remittance rates.

To its credit, the county board and its Community Corrections Partnership have designed a tremendous implementation plan, even though they are receiving an unfairly low allocation from the state. Legislators and the governor need to re-examine the funding formula and possibly increase Alameda County's allocation amount to ensure the residents here that they are receiving the services and public safety protections needed to make the realignment program a success. ■



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

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# POLICE BULLETIN

## Stoneridge Mall hit with four auto burglaries; seven others take place across city

Pleasanton was hit with 11 auto burglaries in a week, police reports show.

Four of the burglaries occurred at Stoneridge Shopping Center, two reported on Nov. 27 between 1 and 2 p.m. and two on Nov. 23, one between 1 and 9 p.m. and the other between 7:30 and 10:30 p.m.; a lock punch was used in the latter two.

A fifth was reported at 12:04 a.m. in the 6700 block of Singletree Way, and a sixth was Nov. 24 between 3:30

and 7:15 p.m. in the 7900 block of Sawgrass Court; the report did not indicate how the vehicle was entered.

A window was smashed to gain entry into the seventh, which took place between 1 and 9 p.m. in the 7900 block of Spyglass Court, and the eighth, which occurred between 6:30 p.m. Nov. 24 and 6:45 a.m. Nov. 25 in the 2100 block of Inverness Court; a pry tool was used in that break-in as well.

There was no indication on how thieves gained entry into two others, one in the 4400 block of Fairlands Drive between 10 p.m. Nov. 24 and 8 a.m. Nov. 25, and the other in the 4600 block of Carson Court between 6 p.m. Nov. 25 and 9 a.m. Nov. 26. There was also no indication of how entry was gained into the first in the series, which occurred between 5 p.m. Nov. 20 and 7 a.m. Nov. 21.

Reports did not show what was taken in any of the break-ins.

## POLICE REPORT

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

### Nov. 21

#### Theft

- 2:03 a.m. in the 5800 block of Owens Drive; auto theft
- 8:48 a.m. in the 3800 block of Stone Pointe way; theft, grand theft
- 3:11 p.m. in the 2000 block of Eilene Drive; identity theft

### Nov. 22

#### Theft

- 9:36 a.m. in the 3900 block of Churchill Drive; identity theft
- 9:56 a.m. in the 3600 block of Reflections Drive; petty theft, identity theft
- 11:32 a.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft
- 4:22 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 6:15 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

#### Vandalism

- 1:06 p.m. in the 500 block of Main Street
- 7:58 p.m. in the 2800 block of Hopyard Road

#### Drug violations

- 2:17 p.m. in the 6900 block of Corte Antonio; possession of a hypodermic needle, possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

### Nov. 23

#### Theft

- 8:49 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 9:28 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Auto burglary

- 10:45 a.m. in the 5000 block of Hillcrest Way

#### Battery

- 5:47 p.m. in the 1200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Vandalism

- 10:45 a.m. at the intersection of Paseo Santa Cruz and Corte de Flores

#### Prank calls

- 12:01 p.m. in the 1100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### Nov. 24

#### Theft

- 11:31 a.m. in the 4100 block of Moller Drive; identity theft
- 7:16 p.m. in the 7900 block of Sawgrass Court; grand theft

#### Auto burglary

- 9:21 p.m. in the 7900 block of Spyglass Court

#### Auto parts theft

- 10:54 p.m. in the 5800 block of Owens Drive

#### Vandalism

- 8:33 p.m. in the 7000 block of Valley Trails Drive

#### Alcohol violations

- 12:07 a.m. at the intersection of Lockhart Lane and Santa Rita Road; public drunkenness
- 1:43 a.m. at the intersection of Main Street and St. Mary Street; public drunkenness
- 2:43 a.m. near the intersection of Santa Rita Road and I-580; DUI
- 2:43 a.m. at the intersection of Hearst Drive and Remillard Court; DUI

### Nov. 25

#### Theft

- 8:46 a.m. in the 4400 block of Fairlands Drive; grand theft
- 12:07 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft
- 6:42 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft

#### Battery

- 1:09 p.m. in the 3800 block of Hopyard Road

#### Auto burglary

- 7:14 a.m. in the 2100 block of Inverness Court

#### Auto parts theft

- 10:42 a.m. in the 8000 block of Arroyo Drive

#### Misappropriation of property

- 4:43 p.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Vandalism

- 3:06 p.m. in the 2700 block of Lylewood Drive

### Nov. 26

#### Theft

- 6:35 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft
- 7:06 p.m. in the 6000 block of Inglewood Drive; grand theft
- 7:22 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; petty theft

#### Threats

- 10:01 p.m. in the 2100 block of Armstrong Drive

#### Auto burglary

- 1:33 p.m. in the 4600 block of Carson Court

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:55 a.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road; DUI
- 5:33 p.m. in the 2900 block of Hopyard Road; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance
- 11:40 p.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness

### Nov. 27

#### Theft

- 2:10 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; grand theft

#### Auto burglary

- 12:04 a.m. in the 6700 block of Singletree Way
- 1:13 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 1:54 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

# BIRTHS

The following information on Pleasanton births was provided by ValleyCare Medical Center.

- Oct. 10, Kimberly and Nicholas Caraballo, a girl
- Oct. 12, Lara Ganjei and Shane Woodcock, a boy
- Oct. 17, Rihan and Brian Boot, a girl
- Nov. 2, Maria Betancourt and Ian Engle, a boy
- Nov. 5, Jessica Millan and Mauricio Blanco, a girl
- Nov. 12, Michelle and Kyle Costello, a boy
- Nov. 15, Karlie and Tyson Bruce, a girl

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## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### City Council

Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: Adopt resolution Levying Pleasanton Downtown Business Improvement District Assessment for 2012
- Public Hearing: Adopt a Resolution making the finding that certain development impact fees (AB 1600 and SB 1693) collected are unexpended after five years but are committed to particular projects
- PGPA-17, City of Pleasanton: Discussion of Housing Element Update including sites to be rezoned
- Continued Public Hearing: PUD-50-01M, Ponderosa Homes, Carol Lehman, and William and Kathryn Selway – Consider a Major Modification to the Planned Unit Development to increase the number of lots on an approx. 19.47 acre site at 3157 Trenerly Dr. and 2313 Martin Ave. from 27 to 31; to construct 29 single-story homes from the previous combination of 25 homes, to change the house designs and sizes; on/off site modifications; amendment to the low-income housing agreement; and certify the Negative Declaration for said project
- Approve Council Commission and Committee Assignments and Appointment of Vice Mayor for Calendar Year 2012

### City Council/Planning Commission Joint Workshop

Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- PGPA-17, City of Pleasanton: Discussion of Housing Element Update including sites to be rezoned

### Civic Arts Commission

Monday, December 5, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Consider Request from Valley Concert Chorale to Amend its Use of FY 2011/12 Community Grant Funds
- Selection of Commission Chair and Vice Chair Assignments for 2012
- Review of the Commission Meeting Schedule for 2012
- Selection of Date and Topics to be Discussed at the Civic Arts Commission Annual Workshop in 2012

### Human Services Commission

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

- Selection of Commission Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Assignments

### Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee

Monday, December 5, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.  
Senior Center Classroom, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

- Status of the Iron Horse Trail Project (BART to Santa Rita Rd)
- Trails Project Status Report

### Parks and Recreation Commission

Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.  
City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Parks Maintenance Division Maintenance Report for June – Oct 2011
- Selection of Commission Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Assignments
- Review of the Commission Meeting Schedule for 2012

### Library Commission

Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.  
Library Conference Room, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

- Commission Planning Retreat

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

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

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE VALLEY — MUSIC, THEATER, ART, MOVIES AND MORE

Pleasanton trainer Jeremiah Labiano, shown at right with medals from his Jiu-Jitsu tournaments, will be one of the featured fighters at the Impact Mixed Martial Arts at the Alameda County Fairgrounds next week. It's the first time professional cage fighting will be in Pleasanton.



### MMA PRO FIGHTS COMING TO FAIRGROUNDS

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Introducing Pleasanton's own Jeremiah Labiano! Making his professional fighting debut!

Excitement is building in training facilities around town for the Impact Mixed Martial Arts cage fights coming to the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Dec. 10.

"The fighters are the most excited, and the fans who have never seen professional fighting," said promoter Tommy Rojas of Impact MMA, which includes boxing, wrestling, kickboxing and jujitsu. "It's the fastest growing sport in the world."

Labiano, 25, is a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and MMA fitness instructor at Crispim BJJ Barra Brothers in Pleasanton as well as a personal fitness trainer. A purple belt, he's been training in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu with Alexander Crispim since 2008.

"Jiu-Jitsu is basically submission. You grapple, go for points on takedowns and certain positions," Labiano explained. "Fighting is punching, kicking with knees and elbows, and takedowns."

At fights, three judges use different criteria to tally strikes and cage control on a 30-point scale.

"I've been fighting pretty frequently, every month or two, starting in February," Labiano said. "I lost my first fight by a split decision. I won the next three"

"I left it to my instructor if he thought I was ready to go professional," he added.

At 135 pounds, Labiano will be fighting Gabe Carasco in the bantam weight division.

"I don't know him personally, it's his professional debut also," Labiano said. "I've watched him on film, how he fights, and I'm planning for the fight according to what I see."

About half of the fighters are from the Tri-Valley area.

"The whole premise behind the show is the local fighters. These fighters have never had a chance to fight in their own area code," Rojas said. "Crispim Jujitsu is a very big academy. Jeremiah will have 300 people alone."

Fighters often face each other in the Gold Country casinos, Rojas said, which means they don't get to fight in front of their fans. The casino fights are not governed by the California State Athletic Commission, as they are in other venues statewide, including Pleasanton.

Next week's fights will have three five-minute rounds, and they may be stopped if one of the fighters verbally submits or taps his opponent to say he's done, if the referee says to stop, or

if someone gets knocked out.

Rojas says MMA fighters are seldom knocked out; it's a technical knockout if the referee stops the fight when a fighter is getting punched and not defending himself, or if he has a bad cut.

"Fighters will typically go the distance," Rojas said. "I made the match-ups myself, and the majority are going to be very aggressive with each other."

The fights will go quickly, he added, and the fighters receive stoppage bonuses if the fights don't go to the time limit.

"I want them to go fast," Rojas said. "We try to keep it at three minutes."

The 12 fights, being held in a 2,400-seat venue inside the Young California Building, are split into two, with the main card being the last six, and the main event being the very last fight.

"We are thrilled to have the Impact MMA at the Alameda County Fairgrounds," said April Mitchell, marketing manager for the Fairgrounds. "This is just another example of a truly unique event offered right here in Pleasanton. From professional cage fighting to the recent Tomato Battle to the Pirates of Emerson Haunt, we are proud to be the home of such a variety of unique experiences."

"The reason they are in a cage is because when you do this in a ring you end up having to stop the fight so they don't fall out, which could affect the outcome of the fight," Rojas said. "In a cage, it allows them to continuously fight — they're never going to fall out."

The weigh-in of the fighters is also exciting, Rojas said, and it will take place at 3 p.m. at Athens Burger in Dublin.

"There's a lot of buildup here," Rojas said. "A lot of fans have never seen a weigh-in."

Tickets range from \$25-\$150. Doors open at 5 p.m. for the 6 p.m. fights. There will be a pre-fight party at 4 p.m. and an after-party at Mexico Lindo near the Fairgrounds.

Sales were brisk as soon as the tickets went online, Rojas said.

"There was an overwhelming interest in the tickets — the VIP tickets went first," he said.

For Jeremiah Labiano, training is ongoing, as he works out in the morning and teaches in the afternoon. As his pro debut approaches he has mixed emotions.

"You're always going to be nervous, it's a natural instinct of fight or flight," he said. "But when you get the first punch off, adrenalin takes over. But you still have to stick to the game plan and fight smart."

"It's not a street fight," he added. "You have to pick and choose your shots and know what you're doing." ■



# THE **FIGHT** IS ON



# Holiday Heart and Hearth

## Let peace on earth begin with you

Don't stress out this holiday season

**BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

Remember the decorating, the presents, the wrapping, the cooking and baking, the parties, the greetings, tree lighting and seasonal concerts. But also be sure to take time to be good to yourself so you'll enjoy the season.

The obvious way to pamper oneself is with a massage or at least with a mani and pedi, but many people have other tips. How are you good to yourself during the holidays?

Last week Marianne Eisberg stopped as she left the Pleasanton library to answer the question and, at 67, she had some good answers.

"I try to keep my normal routine by walking with my friends every morning," Eisberg said.

It's especially important at this time of year to exercise — in little ways like parking your car across the parking lot from your shopping — or by keeping your routine of walking, jogging, biking or going to the gym.

The day also is filled with moments where you can work your muscles and help energize your body, points out fitness expert Kathy Kaehler.

At the office, she suggests standing up and sitting down on your chair to elevate your heart rate, increase your breathing and to get energized. Complete two sets of 15 repetitions to provide the burn you need to feel good.

In the car when at stoplights or in traffic, she says to squeeze your buttock muscles as hard as you can, for a set of eight to 10 reps. Then do it one side at a time.

Eisberg is also aware of the eating temptations at this time of year, which may be temporary pleasures.

"I try to limit my treats to stay feeling good," she said.

This goes along with the frequent advice at this time of year to not overeat. One tip is to satisfy your hunger before a party with a protein-rich snack, like beef jerky. Another tip is to keep water, juice and healthy snacks in the car to keep you feeling satisfied as well as energized.

"I try to minimize all the thousand of little details I used to find so necessary and to enjoy people, and not get too hung up on monetary experiences," Eisberg said.

Ashley Davis Bush, author of the book "Shortcuts to Inner Peace: 70 Simple Paths to Everyday Serenity," would agree with this.

"Through intentionally summoning a feeling of inner calm, we literally change the chemistry of our bodies," she says.

She suggests that if you find yourself grumbling, sing a song

to stay upbeat. When waiting in line to buy gifts or groceries, ask yourself, "What do I need to remember?" Keep asking until you start to get substantial answers like, "I need to remember what really matters in life."

When doing your holiday baking Bush says to sniff the ingredients — a deep whiff of vanilla extract, coffee or rosemary helps you savor your time in the kitchen rather than see it as a chore.

She also reminds us, even in the hustle and bustle of the holidays, to appreciate all the beautiful decorations, not to mention the beauty of the season. Consider keeping a small box or basket of seasonal treasures — pine cones, smooth stones, mistletoe and chestnuts — and whenever you feel tense or overwhelmed, take a few moments to finger each object. Simple appreciation tends to restore inner calm.

"We often think we need to change our circumstances to feel peaceful or that we need to be immersed in spa-like surroundings to find tranquility," says Bush. "But inner peace requires no extra time or money — just a shift in attention."

Eisberg said she tries to keep it simple.

"I try to focus on the true meaning of the holidays — sharing happiness and love and time with my loved ones," she said. ■



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## Grand opening tonight for Christmas display

Deacon Dave in Livermore draws tens of thousands each year

Tonight at 6:30 p.m. is the grand opening for the biggest and best holiday display in Livermore: the front yard of Deacon Dave Rezendes' home at 352 Hillcrest Ave., Casa del Pomba or House of the Dove.

The festively decorated home is visited by tens of thousands of guests each year, and is now in its 29th year. The theme changes each year, and is always kept a secret until opening night ceremonies, a fun event for the whole family.

Tonight the home and yard will be dark as a candlelight procession makes its way down the blocked off street. Members of the community are welcome to join the procession, which will feature the St. Michael's choir leading Deacon Dave and Santa and Mrs. Claus to the home. The Handbell Choir from Asbury United Methodist Church will also perform.

There will be a blessing of the lights, the theme will be announced, and then the lights will be turned on. At that time, guests are invited to walk through the yard.

"It is a spectacular evening, a perfect way to get in the holiday spirit," organizers reported in a press release.

Members of the nonprofit group, Good News Bears, which provides teddy bears to hurt, traumatized or abused children as well as adults, will serve refreshments tonight. Visitors wishing to support the group are invited to bring a new stuffed animal or cash donation to help them meet the ever-increasing need for "stuffed love" at shelters, hospitals, and emergency services.

In 2010, the theme was "The Sounds of Christmas" with scenes throughout the yard depicting some of the crew's favorite Christmas carols. Guests entered through



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Last year the theme was "The Sounds of Christmas" at Deacon Dave Rezendes' home, which has drawn visitors to its colorful displays for almost three decades.

a two-story building with matching octagon towers, and on the second floor, doors opened to reveal an animated choir conductor.

As visitors progressed down the driveway, they saw a "Twelve Days of Christmas" tree, "Frosty the Snowman" and even "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus." The roof of the house featured Santa Claus going up and down a chimney. "Jingle Bells" was depicted with a sleigh being pulled by a near life-size papier mache horse.

The exit building was a tribute to U.S. military personnel with a soldier coming home to surprise his family to "I'll Be Home for

Christmas." Throughout the yard there were more than 325,000 lights glowing and lighting up the night sky.

"How many lights this year? What is the theme? You'll have to stop by and find out," organizers said. "More and more LED lights are added each year. This year, each light is not only a prayer for peace, but for our future — our youth. Approximately 30 volunteers work hard throughout the year to put on the display. Be sure to walk through to gain the total experience."

Crew members are often on hand to answer questions. They wear red "Casa del Pomba" ball caps or jackets.

Santa also loves to visit, and makes time in his busy schedule to stop by often during the season. This year, he plans on greeting guests young and old Friday, Dec. 9; Thursday, Dec. 15; Saturday, Dec. 17; and Tuesday, Dec. 20, starting about 7 p.m. Plus he often drops in unannounced. Mrs. Claus loves the beautiful lights and story that is told every year, too, so she often joins Santa.

The display will remain until Jan. 1; hours are 6-9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; and 6-10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The gates may be closed during inclement weather, although every effort is made to leave the lights glowing.

There is no admission charge. All the donations collected in the coin toss, ponds and at the door are for Santa's Secret Service, a program that has provided visiting Santas, carolers and gifts to area nursing homes, shelters, and hospitals for over 50 years.

Visit [www.casadelpomba.com](http://www.casadelpomba.com) for more information on the display, Santa's Secret Service, and Deacon Dave's family history. It also has a webcam set up so fans can check out the display and its visitors at any time. ■

## The Christmas Shoppe at Western Garden Nursery



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### Tapestry in concert

Tapestry, the Bay Area's only vocal and handbell ensemble, will present "The Magic of Christmas" at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton. Admission is free with refreshments following the concert. Under the direction of Cindy Krausgrill, "The Magic of Christmas" will feature both sacred and secular music for the holiday season, perfect for all ages. A free-will donation will be accepted to benefit Open Heart Kitchen. This is the fifth and final concert for Tapestry, which has been spreading this year's Christmas magic from San Leandro to Walnut Creek to Clayton since Nov. 30.



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## Holiday Happenings

#### 'CREATURES OF IMPULSE: HOLIDAY SHORT'

Firehouse Arts Center  
4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton  
Pleasanton's Teen Improv Troupe will take suggestions to inspire holiday-themed games, scenes and audience interactions in the first act. The audience will then vote for which short scene Creatures of Impulse will make into an entire improvised "play" in the second act. — 7:30 p.m. Thu-Fri, Dec. 1-2

#### 'NUNCRACKERS: THE NUNSENSE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL'

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre  
1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 307, Pleasanton  
8 p.m. Fri/Sat; 2 p.m. Sun; Dec. 2-18  
\$25 adults, \$22 seniors, \$20 for students  
Call 462-2121

#### 'OF CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT'

Valley Concert Chorale's Annual Holiday Concert with Las Positas College Chamber Choir and Cantabella Children's Chorus  
■ Saturday, Dec. 3, 8 p.m.  
Trinity Lutheran Church,  
1225 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton  
■ Sunday, Dec. 4, 3 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
4th and L Streets, Livermore  
\$20 in advance; \$25 at door — Call 866-4003

#### PLEASANTON COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND HOLIDAY CONCERT

Firehouse Arts Center  
2-3:15 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 4  
Free, but donations appreciated — Call 846-5897

#### SING IT YOURSELF 'MESSIAH'

Valley Concert Chorale  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
1225 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton  
7:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 9  
Singers and music lovers of all ages and abilities are welcome to sing along or just enjoy.  
\$10 — Call 1-800-838-3006

#### 'SLEEPING BEAUTY'

Pleasanton's Civic Arts Stage Co. 2011 Holiday Show  
Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton  
2 p.m. Sat/Sun; 7 p.m. Fri/Sat; Dec. 9-18  
\$10, \$15, \$18 adult; \$6, \$9 and \$12, children, seniors  
Call 931-4848



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Sister MaryAnnette, Sister Mary Paul (Amnesia) played by Joan Evans, and Mount St. Helen students Rachel Malmrose, Harry Hatch and Rayley Farnham appear in Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre's "Nuncrackers: The Nonsense Christmas Musical," which opens tonight in its theater on Serpentine Lane.

#### 'THE NUTCRACKER'

Valley Dance Theatre  
Bankhead Theater  
2400 First St., Livermore  
2 p.m. Sat/Sun; 7 p.m. Fri/Sat/Sun; Dec. 10-18  
\$33, \$27 and \$24 adults; \$18 for 17 and younger  
Call 373-6800

#### RAVENSWOOD VICTORIAN YULETIDE

2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore  
Noon- 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 11 — Free

#### 2011 TRAIN OF LIGHTS ON THE HISTORIC NILES CANYON RAILWAY

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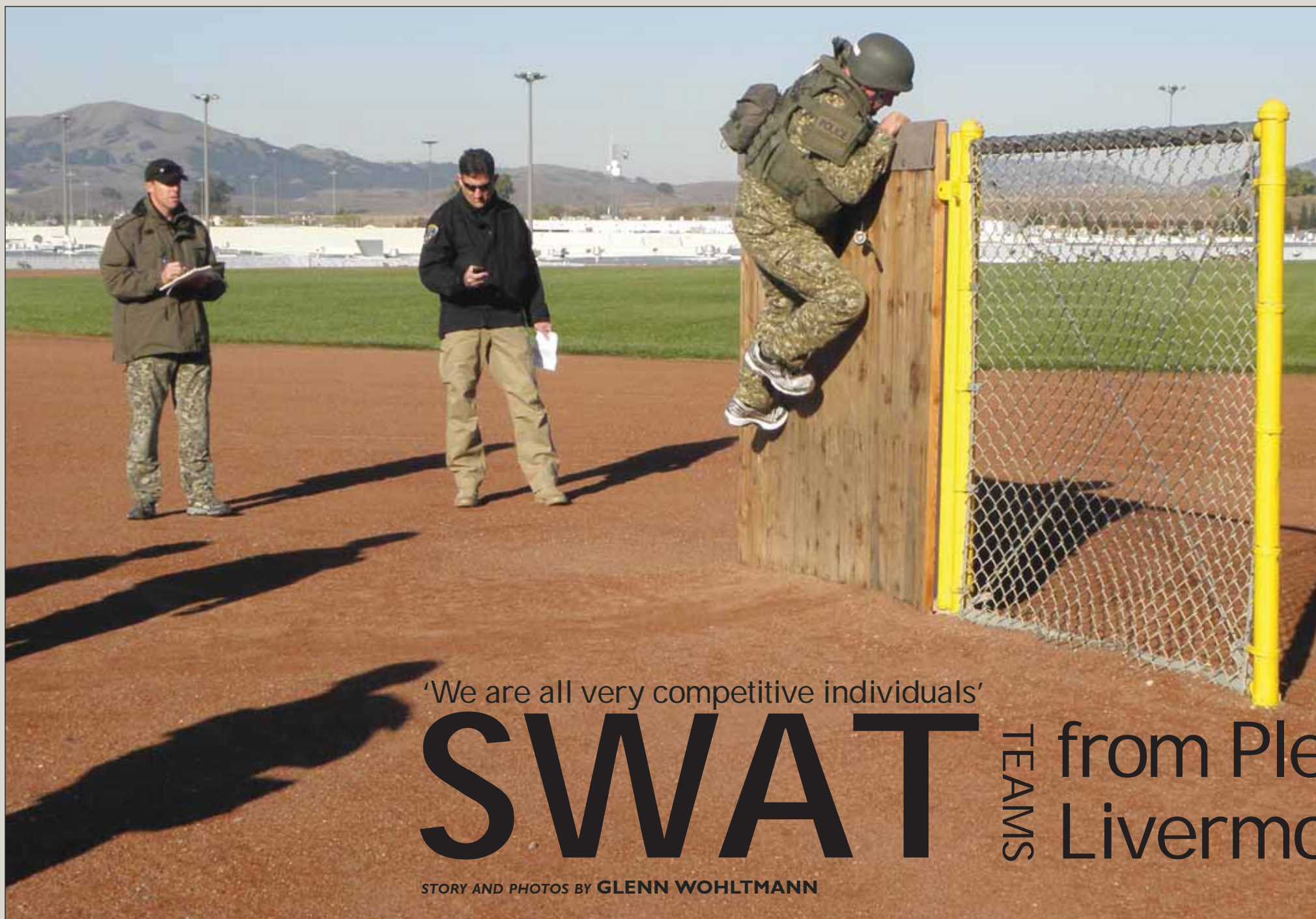
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'We are all very competitive individuals'

# SWAT TEAMS from Pleasanton and Livermore

STORY AND PHOTOS BY GLENN WOHLTMANN



Clockwise from above: Officer Al Grajeda does dips during a recent physical training qualification, Tactical Commander Sgt. Brian Martinez and SWAT Commander Lt. Mike Elerick time Officer Brandon Stocking climbing a 6-foot wall, Officer Dave Martin drags Officer Chris Thompson in a downed officer rescue drill.

It's one thing to go breaking in doors or serving a warrant on a high-risk suspect with a team of officers you know and trust guarding your back.

It's another thing to do it with strangers, but that's what Pleasanton's SWAT (Special Weapons And Tactics) team has been doing with its counterpart from Livermore.

It's part of a plan to save both cities money and stay on top of industry standards, which, according to Pleasanton police Officer Larry Cox, was becoming difficult because of the personnel costs involved in maintaining teams in both Pleasanton and Livermore. The two teams worked together from time to time in the past but officially merged over the summer to form the East County Tactical Team.

"When we began working together we worked in two separate teams. Since June of 2011 we officially became one team and the teams are completely integrated," said Cox, a member of the joint team. "We have been working really hard, on and off-duty, to get to know each other on a professional and personal level. We have been able to meet each other's families and learned the strengths and weaknesses of each other. Trust is huge in SWAT and I believe every team member, regardless of Pleasanton or Livermore, has each other's backs."

It seems to be working. During recent required twice-a-year physical training qualifications, there was little competition between the teams, and it was difficult for an outsider to tell who was on which team. Some of the members themselves are fiercely competitive, though. During one exercise, for example, when a team member asked how many pull-ups a colleague was doing, he replied, "One more than you."

Cox said that goes with the territory.

"We are all very competitive individuals. We are constantly competing with one another," Cox said. "Competition makes us better and I believe brings us closer together as a team."

He said the joint team has one obvious advantage: 21 members as opposed to 10 or 11.

"The hardest part is that because we work for two different

police departments, it is sometimes hard to communicate and keep everyone in the loop," he added.

While police in general have to maintain certain standards in physical fitness and shooting, for example, the SWAT teams take it to a higher level.

They have to run a mile in full SWAT gear — including vest, helmet and an unloaded rifle — which weighs in at 40 pounds or more, in less than 12 minutes.

"Our fastest time was in the six-minute range and our slowest was in nine minutes," Cox said.

They have to complete a 60-yard dash with a 40-pound battering ram and full gear in less than 15 seconds. Cox said all members made it in less than 12 seconds.

SWAT officers must do a 30-yard low-crawl wearing full SWAT gear including a department issued gas mask, within 60 seconds. The elbows and knees must touch the ground at all times. All team members finished in under 25 seconds.

They also have to climb over a 6-foot fence, unassisted, within 10 seconds wearing full SWAT gear. Team members completed the wall climb in less than five seconds.

Pull-ups and dips may be difficult at a gym; SWAT officers have to do both wearing full gear. Members completed at least five pull-ups and as many as 18, and all did at least 10 dips.

They must also practice rescuing a downed officer, dragging him 20 yards while both are wearing full gear, in 40 seconds or less.

"Most of our team members use a carrying strap and quickly drag the heaviest member. We have found this to be the most effective technique in moving a downed-officer," Cox said.

All team members are required to pass the test twice a year.

"The tests are random and team members do not know when we are going to do the test. That way it keeps all of our team





# Pleasanton & Fremont merge



members working out and constantly staying ready," Cox said.

The East County Tactical Team is made up of three separate units: the SWAT Team, Sniper Team and Crisis Negotiations Team.

"Although we are three separate units we work together to solve critical incidents. The SWAT team is responsible for containment and crisis entry, the Sniper Team does over watch, covers the SWAT Team and intelligence gathering and the Crisis Negotiations Team is trained in verbal communication and is primarily responsible for communicating and attempting to coming to a peaceful resolution of any situation," Cox said.

The team also has dispatchers who respond to a call and handle communications directly

between the officers without disrupting normal operations.

Now, the merged team is hoping for an armored vehicle. The team currently uses a 1980s-era transport van and unmarked police cars to transport SWAT officers.

Cox pointed to an October shooting spree in Cupertino that left three dead and seven others with gunshot wounds to the head.

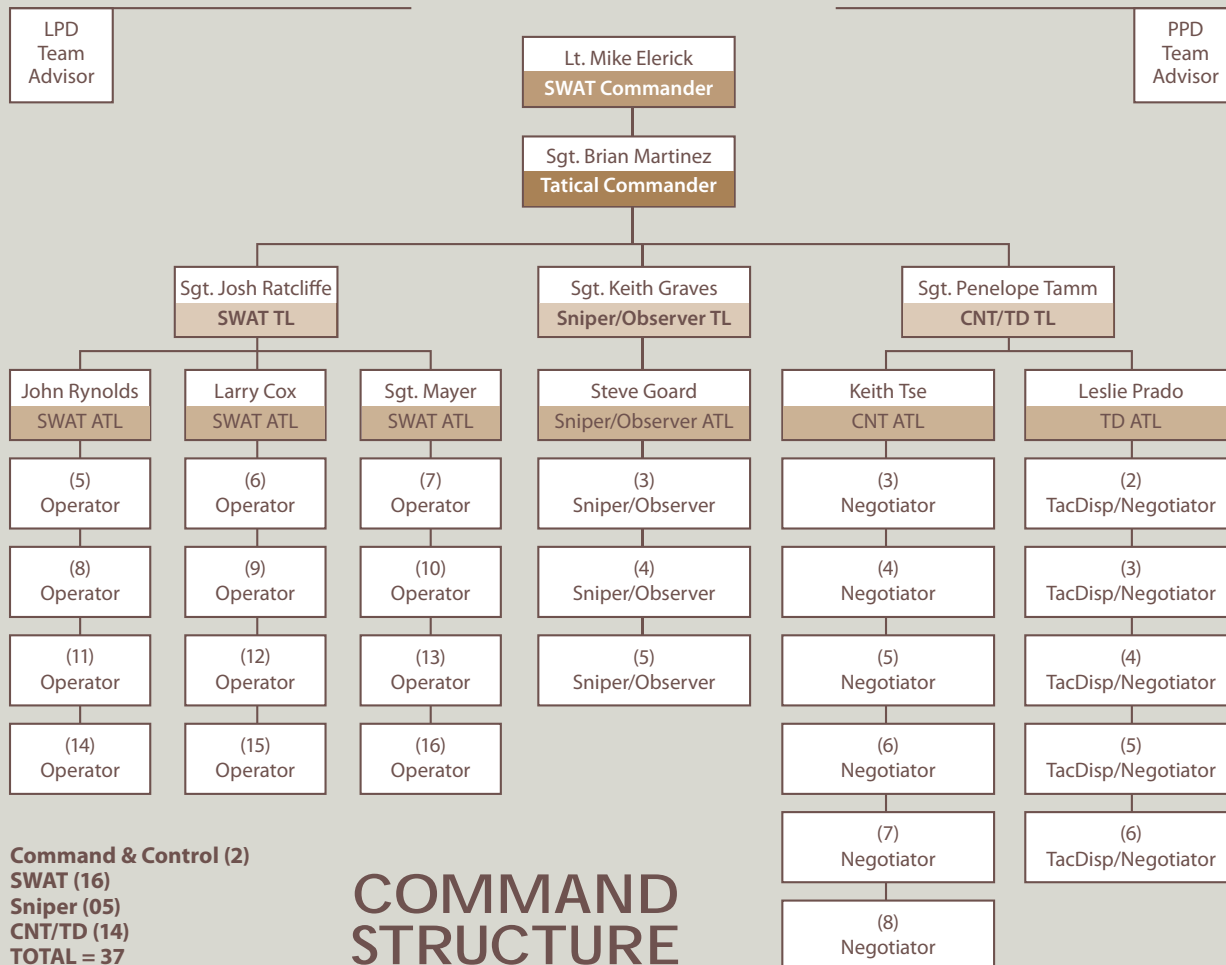
"In order to be able to send SWAT officer to go in and rescue downed citizens (and) downed officers — that's happening more and more — that's one of the main reasons we need an armored vehicle," he explained. "The nearest one is in the county. They usually have theirs in San Leandro or Union City. By the time you get a driver, it would be upwards of an hour."

The East County team recently competed in Bay Area Urban Shield competitions, a 50-hour preparedness exercise for SWAT teams and other responders, including firefighters, Hazmat teams, EMS and bomb squads.

The local team may be new, but it came in at sixth place in a contest that drew teams from across the bay area as well as an FBI team and a team from Israel. ■



Above: Sgt. Paul Mayer hauls Officer Brandon Stocking in a downed officer rescue. Below left: Two officers do a 30-yard low crawl. Below right: SWAT team member Chris Thompson does pull-ups. All the drills are part of the joint SWAT team's physical training qualifications.



# Holiday Fund 2011



GUIDING PEOPLE THROUGH  
THEIR FINAL DAYS  
FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS

*Holiday fund will  
go for people who  
can't afford service*

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

Most people go out of their way to avoid thinking about death, but for more than 30 years, Hope Hospice has been providing guidance and support for people — and their loved ones — as they near the end of life.

The organization is bigger than ever, with 160 employees and volunteers, but the need is also growing, said Larry Lakes, Hope Hospice's CEO.

"This year in our hospice program we have about 400 people, and in our grief support and individual meetings we probably help 1,500. These meetings are for people in the community, whether or not they've been in our care as well," Lakes said. "Baby Boomers are becoming a large group of people aging in life, so the amount of hospice care that's needed is increasing each year."

Lakes also pointed out that more and more doctors are recognizing hospice programs and are referring patients, adding to the demand.

"Hospice care is for people to have the best quality of life in their last months," Lakes said. "Our mission is to provide the absolute best quality community care for patients and family members dealing with an end of life situation."

While hospice is designed for people in their final days, generally with six months or less to live, he said people in hospice programs tend to live longer.

Hospice care is unique because it works to meet the needs of those at the end of life but also supports the emotional and spiritual needs of the family as well. Hope Hospice care is provided regardless of the ability to pay and relies on contributions such as those raised by the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

The holiday fund and any of the fundraising that we receive is first to cover hospice care for patients (and their families) who can't afford it on their own," Lakes said, adding much of the money would go toward support groups.

Hospice care is provided in a patient's home so that they can live their life as fully as possible, with dignity, and surrounded by loved ones. The patient and family receive support and education from a Hope Hospice team including a doctor, nurse, home health aide, social worker, chaplain and homecare volunteer.

Working with the doctor, the team develops a personal care plan, allowing the patient



COURTESY HOPE HOSPICE

Above: Nurse Jennie Olivero shows a patient a container to hold medications. Right: A young participant in a grief support center summer workshop displays some of her memory projects.

to remain in control of his or her health care decisions. As death nears, telephone advice and emergency is available 24 hours a day.

There's also a videographer who volunteers his time to interview patients and have them put their life stories and comments in a video format.

Hope Hospice will also support the family with funeral plans and for up to 18 months after the patient's death with bereavement support. The organization, one of the oldest in the country, provides several opportunities throughout the year for people to take time to remember their loved ones, including the annual Hike for Hope and Lights of the Valley: A Celebration of Light, this year being held in Livermore on Dec. 6, in Pleasanton on Dec. 7, in Dublin on Dec. 8, and in San Ramon on Dec. 13.

"It's a time for people to come together to



remember loved ones," Lakes said.

Hope Hospice also is hosting workshops on how to handle the holidays and for grief

support. For more information about Lights of the Valley or the workshops, call 829-8770 or visit [www.hopehospice.com](http://www.hopehospice.com). ■

# Holiday Fund donors

Since the launch of the 2011 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, 194 donors have contributed \$33,210 to the fund. 25 anonymous donors have given \$4,550 of that total.

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## How to give

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

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

This year, due to the tremendous need of all nonprofits, donations will be shared equally among the five recipient agencies.

For more information call us at 600-0840 or e-mail editor@pleasantonweekly.com.

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

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

- Axis Community Health
- Hope Hospice
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The Tri-Valley Community Foundation is located at 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Ste. 206, Pleasanton, CA 94588. More information about the Foundation can be obtained by contacting the organization at the above address, by calling its President David Rice at (925) 734-9965 or through its website: www.tvcfoundation.org. The Pleasanton Weekly will make every effort to publish donor names for donations received before Dec. 31, 2011, unless the donor checks the anonymous box.



## Her-ricanes win MVU Super Cup

The Pleasanton Rage U12 Flight Her-ricanes completed their successful season by winning the inaugural Mission Valley United Recreation Super Cup tournament held Nov. 19-20. After defeating the Castro Valley Goals R Us, 3-1; the Eclipse, 3-0; and tying the undefeated Fireballs, 0-0, the Her-ricanes moved to the championship game based on a tie-breaking greater goal differential.

In the championship game, the Her-ricanes faced the undefeated winners of the other bracket, the Fremont Crushing Panthers. The defense led by Hailey Hogarty and the entire midfield play kept the Crushing Panthers off the scoreboard. Allison DeFazio's shot deflected off a Crushing Panther defender and into the net for a 1-0 first half lead. The Her-ricanes scored to begin the second half on great passing and determination from Nicole Zhang to increase the lead to 2-0. Catherine Cho scored again several minutes later on a penalty shot just outside the box to increase the lead to 3-0. The Crushing Panthers scored with 10 minutes remaining. The Her-ricanes, led by their outstanding goalie throughout the tournament, Jamison Gray, shut down the Crushing Panthers the rest of the way to win MVU Recreation Super Cup championship game 3-1.

## SPORTS DIGEST

### NCS championships

The Foothill girls volleyball team made it to the finals in the North Coast Section Division 1 volleyball championships before falling to San Ramon Valley, 3-1, on Nov. 19. On their way to the finals, the Falcons defeated Deer Valley and Monte Vista.

Amador Valley girls waterpolo team defeated Clayton Valley, 9-8, in the first round of NCS championships. Next the Dons faced San Ramon Valley, and lost, 21-5. Foothill beat Granada, 5-3, in the first round, then was defeated by Monte Vista 13-6, in the second round. Monte Vista and San Ramon Valley made it to the finals, which San Ramon Valley won, 5-4, in overtime.

Foothill boys also made it to the NCS waterpolo championships. They faced Washington High in the first round and lost, 15-10.

### Lacrosse alumni game

Cross-town rival high school lacrosse alumni met each other Nov. 27 for the first alumni lacrosse game, which they plan to make an annual event. Amador won, beating Foothill 13-6.

### Former AVHS swimmer Athlete of Week

UC Davis senior swimmer Kayleigh Foley of Pleasanton has been named the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Female Athlete of the Week the conference office announced Wednesday.

Foley had individual wins in all three of her freestyle races against San Jose State. Foley's top finishes included the 50 (23.35), 100 (50.74), and 200 (1:50.45) Free, all season bests. All three swims lead the conference by substantial margins.

Foley was a four-year varsity swimmer at Amador Valley and graduated in 2008. She is finishing her degree in molecular biology.



## Headed to State Cup

The RAGE U12 Orange soccer team, coached by Gordon Lang, finished a great season as Division 1 Premier League Champions with a 3-0 win over the Walnut Creek Storm at Val Vista on Nov. 19. This league championship follows a spring league in which they also finished in first place. The Premier League title gives the team members positive momentum as they prepare for their State Cup tournament in January.

Team members are (back row, l-r) Jenilee Chen, Saylor Bagnall, Claire Wong, Kathryn Lee, Kirsty Brown, Tami Kwong, Lauren Russell, Audrey Goodman, Sophia Pearson, (front) G'ana Losson, Nikki Lee, Brianna Wolfe, Molly Murphy, Lilly Ryan, Taylor Noval and Jacqueline Templeman. Not Pictured: Samantha Dukes, Coach Gordon Lang.



## Orange in control

Mary Gruen and Ari Seigel give each other the high five at their U19 D3 Rage Orange game defeating WCCYSL Kaos, 6-0, at Hercules High School on Nov. 6. This was the Rage's last league game in the Orange and White, and with this win it claimed second place in the final standings.

Send photos and sports news to sports@PleasantonWeekly.com. Remember to include caption information: who, what, when, where—and the score.

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## TAKE US ALONG



**Volcano visit:** The Buck Family from the Highland Oaks neighborhood took the Weekly to the top of Mount Vesuvius in Naples, Italy, last summer. Emma attends Hart Middle School and her younger brother Sam, is in the third grade at Lydiksen Elementary.

## Auditions

**'ROGUE OF THE RAILWAY'** Auditions for the 2012 season of Melodrama are Singing: 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6, at Sunol Glen School, 11601 Main St., Sunol. Bring music selection. Acting: 7 p.m., Thursday,

Dec. 8. Rehearsals are Tuesdays and Thursdays, January through March. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays March 9-24. Non-performing positions are house manager, prompter and more. Call 862-0729 or visit [www.sunol.net/srt](http://www.sunol.net/srt).

## Classes

**ENDANGERED SPECIES** Come find out how you can protect our local endangered species and see some cool artifacts about ones that have recently gone extinct from 1-2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 11, at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road. Create some cool crafts and taste what a local endangered species eats! Cost is \$3 for residents; \$5 for non-residents. Pre-registration is required; call 931-3479.

## Clubs

**DEMOCRATIC POTLUCK DINNER PARTY** Congressmen Pete Stark and Jerry McNerney, Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan, state Sen. Mark DeSaulnier, TriValley, Diablo Valley & San Ramon Valley Democratic Clubs invite you to a seasonal potluck dinner party. The event is from 7-9:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at IBEW 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. The elected officials will provide the main courses. RSVP to Ellis at 451-4303. Visit [www.trivalleydemocrats.com](http://www.trivalleydemocrats.com).

## Concerts

**'WHAT CHILD IS THIS'** The musicians of Centerpointe Church will present "A Festival of Carols" at 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 11, in the worship center, 3410 Cornerstone Court. The program will feature carols interspersed with readings and scriptures read by Lee Lipsker. The festival includes carols sung by the audience as well as presentations by the church's chancel choir as well as its handbell choir. There will be a reception after the performance. This event is free. Call 846-4436 or visit [www.centerpointechurch.org](http://www.centerpointechurch.org).

**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CONCERT** Enjoy the diverse music of the various choirs at the Catholic Community of Pleasanton. The concert is from 7-8:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 16, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Food, fellowship and caroling will follow the concert at the Activity Center. For more information, call Mark Sullivan at 474-2776 or email [jsullivan@catholicofpleasanton.org](mailto:jsullivan@catholicofpleasanton.org).

**CASH COUNTRY CHRISTMAS** Firehouse Arts Center will host "Cash Country Christmas" with James Garner and his band to celebrate the season at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 17, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$25 for adults; \$20 for seniors; and \$12 for children. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**FOG CITY STOMPERS** Attend a free concert with the Fog City Stompers at 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 4, in the Pleasanton Public Library's Meeting Room, 400 Old Bernal Ave. This program is free and open to all. Call 931-3400, ext. 7.

**JEFF BORDES' JAZZY SOULFUL CHRISTMAS** Jazz trumpeter Jeff Bordes presents a holiday celebration of New Orleans swing band and soul of the blues. The concert is from 8-10 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$15-\$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, and

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## Events

### 'CHRISTMAS AT THE MISSION'

Under the direction of their new conductor, Michael Morris, the Ohlone Chamber Singers proudly present its 26th annual Christmas at the Mission Concert featuring Schubert's Magnificat and Rutter's Gloria with a full, ten-piece brass ensemble. See it at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 17, or at 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 18, at Old Mission San Jose, 43300 Mission Blvd., Fremont. Tickets are \$8-\$15. Call (510) 659-6031 or visit [www.smithcenter.com](http://www.smithcenter.com).

### 'LAUREATES SPEAK OF THE WORLD'

Pleasanton Poet Laureate Cynthia Bryant will host Poets Laureate and Poets Laureate Emeritus for "Laureates Speak of the World" at 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 18, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Admission is \$5; free to students. Fourteen past and present Poets Laureate from around California will gather for poetry readings followed by a reception, book sales and signing. For more information, call Michelle Russo at 931-4847.

### GNON's (GIRLS NIGHT OUT NETWORKING) TRI VALLEY CHAPTER HOLIDAY PARTY

Enjoy holiday menu and drinks! New unwrapped toys will be collected for the Toys for Tots program. Membership/Renewal special renew tonight to save as membership increases in 2012. Event is from 5-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6 at TGIFridays, 3999 Santa Rita Rd. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Call 487-4748 or visit [www.gnontrivalley.com](http://www.gnontrivalley.com). RSVP by Dec. 2 at [gnoners@gmail.com](mailto:gnoners@gmail.com).

### GROOVY ENTERTAINERS VARIETY SHOW

A local mother, son and daughter act will perform magic, and sing popular Disney songs from 3-4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Fun for all ages kids to adults. Their vision is to spread joy to the world. Call 366-3495 or e-mail [groovyentertainers@yahoo.com](mailto:groovyentertainers@yahoo.com).

### LAA GALLERY RECEPTION

LAA Gallery will host a Holiday Reception from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3, at the gallery, 2155 Third St., Livermore. Meet the gallery artists, enjoy tasty desserts, and browse the collection of handmade gifts such as jewelry, pottery, accessories and paintings. The public is always welcome to visit and admission is free. Gallery hours are 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday. Call 449-9927.

### NATIONAL WATERCOLOR SOCIETY EXHIBIT

The annual touring exhibit of the prestigious National Watercolor Society will be on display from Oct. 26 through Dec. 11 at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. A companion exhibit of works by California Watercolor Association artists, "Five Palettes," will also be shown. Admission including both exhibits is \$5. Harrington Gallery hours are noon-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; and for one hour prior to each Firehouse Art Center performance and during intermission. Call 931-4849 or visit

[www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**SOLAR ENCOUNTER** Celebrate the coming of the end of winter as we greet the emerging sun with a 'solar encounter' from 12:30-1:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road. Learn about how life on planet Earth benefits from our nearest stellar neighbor. Cost is \$5 for residents; \$7 for non-residents. Pre-registration is required; call 931-3479.

## Exhibits

**'COLLAGE COLLECTION'** Livermore Art Association will present a collage-themed show of "Collage Collections" from Dec. 1-31, at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. This collage will feature collage works of art in painting and photographic mediums. The library is open seven days a week. Call 449-9927.

## Fundraisers

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** Garry Linforth is starting work on his Eagle Scout Project, to send shoe boxes filled with toys, school supplies and personal care items to underprivileged children in developing countries. He is organizing this with Centerpointe Church for the relief effort Operation Christmas Child. It costs \$7 for the shipping. Email [garrison\\_linforth@yahoo.com](mailto:garrison_linforth@yahoo.com). The supporting organization is Samaritan's Purse, which will receive any excess funds.

### PLEASANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL CHEER FUNDRAISER

Pleasanton Middle School Cheerleaders will be selling Mixed Bag Designs, eco-friendly shopping bags, grocery bags, iPad, iPhone and laptop covers, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 4 at Raleys, 5420 Sunol Blvd. Proceeds benefit the cheer squad. E-mail [pmspanthercheer@gmail.com](mailto:pmspanthercheer@gmail.com).

**SECRET SANTA TOY DRIVE** Put on your Santa hat and lend a helping hand to make sure California's 60,000 foster children enjoy a bright holiday season with a gift from Santa under the tree. Sleep Train will be collecting donations of new, unwrapped gifts for all ages. Drop toys off at the nearest Sleep Train, through Dec. 11. Visit [www.sleeptrain.com](http://www.sleeptrain.com).

## Health

**FREE HEALTH FAIR** Receive free medical advice at a free health air that will be held on from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3, at Livermore Shiva Vishnu Temple, 1232 Arrowhead Road, Livermore. Topics will include internal medicine, cardiology, women's health, nutrition and diet, chiropractic services, physical therapy and eye disorders. There will be free evaluations on blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol. Call 449-6255.

## Holiday

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND HOLIDAY MARKET** At this fun Y event for families, start with breakfast with Santa then take a stroll through the holiday market, which will have Miche Bags, PartyLite candles and crafts from local artisans. The breakfast is from 9-11

a.m. and reservations are required; call 263-4444. The Holiday Market has free admission and is from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3 at Tri-Valley YMCA, 6693 Sierra Lane, Suite F, Dublin. Call 263-4444 or visit [www.trivalleyymca.org](http://www.trivalleyymca.org).

### CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Start your day with a pancake breakfast and get some Christmas shopping done all in one location from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 3, at Harvest Valley Church, 3200 Hopyard Road. Crafters and vendors will have unique, handcrafted items, holiday decor and boutique gift items from local artisans, crafters and home party consultants. Admission is free. Cost for breakfast is \$6. Call 484-2482, ext. 106.

### OPERATION: ONE WARM COAT

Coldwell Banker invites you to warm the spirits of those in our community this season by supporting a coat drive to collect and distribute coats to the less fortunate during the cold winter months. Donations will be accepted until Dec. 16. Drop off at The Coffee Company, 5424 Sunol Blvd #7, or for pick-ups, call 922-0671. Visit [www.camoves.com/emma.lea](http://www.camoves.com/emma.lea).

## Kids & Teens

**FOOTHILL CHEER CAMP** Foothill Competition Cheerleaders are calling all K-6 cheerleaders to learn new moves, dances and cheers at a class from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3, at Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Rd. Includes class, lunch, certificate, T-shirt and mystery gift. Register by Nov 1 and save \$5. Go to [www.foothillsports.com](http://www.foothillsports.com) to download the registration/medical release form. Cost is \$50. Call 699-1149 or email [mjscale2@comcast.net](mailto:mjscale2@comcast.net).

## Lectures/ Workshops

**TRI-VALLEY GRANT APPLICATION WORKSHOPS** Cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton will co-sponsor two application workshops for all fiscal year 2012-13 Livermore Housing and Human Services grants, Pleasanton Housing and Human Services and Community grants, and Dublin Community Development Block grants. The first workshop will be held from 10 a.m.-noon, Tuesday, Dec. 6, at the Pleasanton City Council Chambers,

200 Old Bernal Ave.; and the second workshop will be held from 1:30-3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Livermore City Council Chambers, 3575 Pacific Ave. To register, contact Sheryl Jenkins at 960-4434, or e-mail [sljenkins@ci.livermore.ca.us](mailto:sljenkins@ci.livermore.ca.us).

### WIGS (WOMEN IN GNON SEMINARS)

GNON will present Blueprint for Financial Success from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 15, at New York Life, Bishop Ranch 3, 2633 Camino Ramon, #525, San Ramon. Join them for an educational workshop where you will learn helpful ways to budget and help become debt free, and basic components of building a financial foundation. Free for members and \$10 for non-members. RSVP at [gnoners@gmail.com](mailto:gnoners@gmail.com).

## Spiritual

**MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS** Under the direction of Cindy Krausgrill, the Magic of Christmas will feature both sacred and secular music for the holiday season, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd. Admission is free, with refreshments following the concert. A free-will donation will be accepted to benefit Open Heart Kitchen. Visit [www.tapestryingersandsingers.org](http://www.tapestryingersandsingers.org).

## Sports

### MORNING GROUP RIDE - CYCLING

A group ride starts at 8:30 a.m. every Saturday from Cycle Pros Bike Shop, 728 Main St., meeting in the parking lot. The ride breaks into groups based on skill and distance. The regular ride usually covers 25-40 miles at speeds of 14-18 mph. The long ride covers 35-60 miles at a brisker pace. Routes vary each week. On Sundays mornings, there is a group ride for everyone, same time, same place, broken down into levels based on ability and distance. Call 400-4336 or visit [www.thecyclepros.com](http://www.thecyclepros.com).

## Volunteering

### AMERICAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Pleasanton Blood Donation Center will host a volunteer orientation at 5 p.m., Friday, Dec. 9, at 5556-B Springdale Ave. Learn about ways to greet, inform and thank our community's blood donors. Advanced sign-up is required. Contact Tami at (408)

577-2006 or [WethernT@usa.redcross.org](mailto:WethernT@usa.redcross.org).

**BLOOD DRIVE** The American Red Cross is holding a public blood drive from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, Activity Center, 4005 Stoneridge Dr. Call 1-800-733-2767 or go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) to schedule an appointment and use sponsor code CCOP.

**LIONESSE SEEK NEW MEMBERS** The Livermore Lioness Club welcomes new members at its regular monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. A \$2 to \$5 donation is requested. Participating in the many activities of the group is a great way to meet local people. The Lioness are a service club that helps many worthy causes in our community. Call 443-4543. 6:30 p.m. Free- \$2 to \$5 donation requested 925-443-4543.

## TV30

**TRI-VALLEY SPORTS FINAL** TV30 is back for its seventh season covering team and individual high school sports in the Tri-Valley. Join Ian Bartholomew and George "Dr. B" Baljevich for up to the minute reporting on football, volleyball and water polo on Channel 30. For more information visit [www.trivalleytv.org](http://www.trivalleytv.org).

Check out  
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**Pleasanton, 1008 Malaga Ct., Dec. 3, 9-2ish**  
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## 825 Homes/Condos for Sale



**East Palo Alto, 3 BR/2 BA**  
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**No phone number in the ad?**  
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## PET OF THE WEEK

## The perfect dog

"Hi, I'm Sprout and as anyone will tell you, I am the perfect dog! I'm easy going, low key, OK with dogs and cats. I may look a little scruffy but that's because I'm part Chinese crested (very fancy, you know!). I am a constant companion and an all around sweet guy! Let me warm your lap and your heart this holiday season!" Meet marvelous Sprout, a male Chinese crested/chihuahua mix at the East Bay SPCA's Tri-Valley Animal Adoption Center, 4651 Gleason Drive in Dublin. To see other animals available for adoption, visit [www.eastbayspca.org](http://www.eastbayspca.org) or call 479-9670.



TRINA CORT

# Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

## Growth seen in commercial real estate market

Vacancy rates still trending lower, but should rise modestly in 2012

By JEB BING

Commercial real estate markets have been relatively flat this year, but improving fundamentals mean a more positive trend is expected in 2012, according to the National Association of Realtors.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said there is little change in most of the commercial market sectors.

"Vacancy rates are flat, leasing is soft and concessions continue to make it a tenant's market," he said. "However, with modest economic growth and job creation, the fundamentals for commercial real estate should gradually improve in the coming year."

The commercial real estate market is expected to follow the general economy.

"Vacancy rates are expected to trend lower and rents should rise modestly next year," Yun said. "In the multifamily market, which already has the tightest vacancy rates in any commercial sector, apartment rents will be rising at faster rates in most of the country next year. If new multifamily construction doesn't ramp up, rent growth could potentially approach 7% over the next two years."

Looking at commercial vacancy rates from

the fourth quarter of this year to the fourth quarter of 2012, NAR forecasts vacancies to decline 0.6% in the office sector, 0.6% in industrial real estate, 0.8% in the retail sector, and 0.7% in the multifamily rental market.

The Society of Industrial and Office Realtors, in its Commercial Real Estate Index, an attitudinal survey of 231 local market experts, shows the broad industrial and office markets were relatively flat in the third quarter, in step with macroeconomic trends.

The national economy continues to affect the sectors, with 92% of respondents reporting the economy is having a negative impact on their local market.

Even so, the SIOR index, measuring the impact of 10 variables, rose 0.6% to 55.5 in the third quarter, following a decline of 2.6% in the second quarter. In a split from the recent past, the industrial sector advanced while the office sector declined.

The SIOR index is notably below the level of 100 that represents a balanced marketplace, but had seen six consecutive quarterly improvements before the last two quarters.

See **COMMERCIAL** on Page 26

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40 ACRES, A-2 ZONING \$475,000  
1 BR 2 BA All usable,zoned for 5 acre parcels. Country Cute Home,Barns,Fenced,Central location. 925.847.2200

**5309 JENSEN RD**  
NICE VIEW LOT/LAND! \$349,000  
Some grading done. Not too far up Jensen Road. Short Sale w/one lender. 925.847.2200

**4848 IRIS TERRACE**  
BEAUTIFUL CONDO! \$293,000  
2 BR 2 BA Move In Ready!No Neighbors below or above.One Car Garage w/Carport.HOA includes Cable. 925.847.2200

**OAKLAND**  
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SINGLE FAMILY HOME \$85,000  
3 BR 2 BA Needs some loving care!!Good Space in Front and Back Yard.Court Location.Close to 880 Fwy 925.847.2200

**CASTRO VALLEY**  
o CULL CANYON RD.  
GORGEOUS 100+ACRES \$1,298,000  
Many oak trees.Hard to find so much land in Bay Area.Close to BART/Airports/Freeways 925.847.2200

**1250 COUNTRY LANE**  
CUSTOM RANCHER! \$1,499,000  
5 BR 3.5 BA Upgraded home w/In-law Apt.Pool w/deck.Formal living/Dining rm.5 Stall Barn &raised garden 925.847.2200

**HAYWARD**  
Open SUN 1 - 4 1457 MACATERA AVE #250  
MANUFACTURED HOME! \$144,900  
3 BR 2 BA Newer manufactured home.Kitchen with island,upgraded cabinets,flooring.Too many extras. 925.847.2200

**SAN LEANDRO**  
Open SUN 1 - 4 942 WOODLAND AVE  
UPGRADED CRAFTSMAN \$589,000  
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**5167 CHESNEY GLEN DRIVE**  
EXCELLENT LOCATION! \$499,000  
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**5533 VIA LUGANO**  
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**SANTA CLARA COUNTY**  
17065 COPPER HILL DR  
BEAUTIFUL HOME! \$599,000  
4 BR 2.5 BA Backyard w/pavers & backs up to open space.Vaulted ceilings,Lrge Fam.Rm. w/ Fireplace 925.847.2200

**SAN RAMON**  
6902 EMERSON LANE  
BEAUTIFUL HOME!! \$1,035,000  
5 BR 4.5 BA Lrge Family Rm w/gas fireplace.Eat-in Kit w/sliding door to bkyrd.Mstr Ste w/Balcony. 925.847.2200



Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122

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**OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND**

**Alamo**

**6 BEDROOMS**  
**1311 Laverock Lane \$2,950,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Michael Hatfield Broker 984-1339

**Blackhawk**

**3 BEDROOMS**  
**306 Live Oak Drive \$879,000**  
 Sun 1-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

**Danville**

**3 BEDROOMS**  
**257 Jasmine Way \$426,550**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

**5 BEDROOMS**  
**755 El Pintado Rd \$1,945,000**  
 Sun 1:30-3:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

**Dublin**

**3 BEDROOMS**  
**10776 Ruthven Ln \$399,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**7793 Peppertree Rd \$629,000**  
 Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff 200-4130

**Livermore**

**5 BEDROOMS**  
**3056 Rivers Bend Cir \$849,900**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff 251-2514

**753 Traviso Cir \$819,957**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 J Rockcliff 525-0116

**Pleasanton**

**3 BEDROOMS**  
**7843 Cypress Creek Ct \$834,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Bhg Tri-valley Realty 463-9500

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**1684 Tanglewood Ct \$649,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

**640 Varese Ct \$1,950,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

**4184 Creekwood Ct \$1,079,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 463-2000

**5 BEDROOMS**  
**7235 Valley Trails Dr \$725,000**  
 Sat 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

**3891 Picard Ave \$1,269,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 846-6500

**San Ramon**  
**5 BEDROOMS**  
**2111 Mornington Ln \$869,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333



**Are you buying or selling a home?**

Visit [pleasantonweekly.com/real-estate](http://pleasantonweekly.com/real-estate) for sales information, current listings, open homes and virtual tours.

For marketing opportunities contact Andrea Heggelund at 600-0840 x110.

**SALES AT A GLANCE**

**Dublin (Oct. 30 - Nov. 3)**

**Total sales reported:** 10  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$120,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$590,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$417,550

**Livermore (Oct. 30 - Nov. 3)**

**Total sales reported:** 18  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$90,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$925,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$467,917

**Pleasanton (Oct. 30 - Nov. 3)**

**Total sales reported:** 10  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$243,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,465,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$612,400

**San Ramon (Nov. 6 - Nov. 16)**

**Total sales reported:** 17  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$105,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$995,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$474,794

Source: California REsource

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Sunset East! Dual Pane Windows, Remodeled Kitchen, Upgraded Baths, Freshly Painted. New Roof At COE, Fireplace, Private Backyard and Three-car Garage. Walk to Park, Arroyo and Downtown. **Offered at \$575,000**



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**COMMERCIAL**

Continued from Page 25

The last time the index reached the 100 level was in the third quarter of 2007.

Construction activity remains low, with 96% of respondents indicating that it is lower than normal; 88% said it is a buyers' market in terms of development acquisitions. Prices are below construction costs in 83% of markets.

NAR's latest Commercial Real Estate Outlook offers projections for four major commercial sectors and analyzes quarterly data in the office, industrial, retail and multifamily markets. Historic data for metro areas were provided by REIS, Inc., a source of commercial real estate performance information.

**Office Markets:**

Vacancy rates in the office sector are expected to fall from 16.7% in the current quarter to 16.1% in the fourth quarter of 2012.

The markets with the lowest office vacancy rates presently are Washington, D.C., with a vacancy rate of 9.3%; New York City, at 10.3%; and New Orleans, 12.8%.

After rising 1.4% in 2011, office rents are forecast to increase another 1.7% next year. Net absorption of office space in the U.S., which includes the leasing of new space coming on the market as well as space in existing properties, is projected to be 20.2 million square feet this year and 31.7 million in 2012.

**Industrial Markets:**

Industrial vacancy rates are projected to decline from 12.3% in the fourth quarter of this year to 11.7% in the fourth quarter of 2012.

The areas with the lowest industrial vacancy rates currently are Los Angeles, with a vacancy rate of 5.2%; Orange County, 5.7%; and Miami at 8.4%.

Annual industrial rent should decline 0.5% this year before rising 1.8% in 2012. Net absorption of industrial space nationally should be 62.0 million square feet this year and 41.2 million in 2012.

**Retail Markets:**

Retail vacancy rates are likely to decline from 12.6% in the current quarter to 11.8% in the fourth quarter of 2012.

Presently, markets with the lowest retail vacancy rates include San Francisco, 3.7%; Long Island, N.Y., and Northern New Jersey, each at 5.7%; and San Jose, at 6.0%.

Average retail rent is seen to decline 0.2% this year, and then rise 0.7% in 2012. Net absorption of retail space is seen at 1.2 million square feet this year and 13.5 million in 2012.

**Multifamily Markets:**

The apartment rental market — multifamily housing — is expected to see vacancy rates drop from 5.0% in the fourth quarter to 4.3% in the fourth quarter of 2012. Multifamily vacancy rates below 5% generally are considered a landlord's market with demand justifying higher rents.

Areas with the lowest multifamily vacancy rates currently are Minneapolis, 2.4%; New York City, 2.7%; and Portland, Ore., at 2.8%.

Average apartment rent is projected to rise 2.5% this year and another 3.5% in 2012. Multifamily net absorption is likely to be 238,400 units this year and 126,600 in 2012. ■

**HOME SALES**

This week's data represents homes sold during November 2011

**Dublin**

**11785 Bloomington Way** A. & C. Lenoir to L. & P. Rolandelli for \$590,000

**3975 Branding Iron Court** A. & L. Bisda to D. & P. Bhukhan for \$530,000

**7449 Brigadoon Way** H. You to C. Wong for \$351,000

**7620 Millbrook Avenue** J. & L. Yee to B. Smith for \$425,000

**4823 Perugia Street** Sorrento at Dublin Ranch to P. Ho for \$469,500

**4835 Perugia Street** Sorrento at Dublin Ranch to M. & P. Dapice for \$519,500

**6612 Sierra Lane** Dublin Tralee to J. Reese for \$405,000

**7323 Starward Drive #12** US Bank to R. & J. Avadia for \$120,000

**4851 Swinford Court** HSBC Bank to Dods Trust for \$415,500

**3671 Whitworth Drive** R. & E. Sharma to J. Zhu for \$350,000

**Livermore**

**506 Alden Lane** F. & S. Clement to M. & S. Watts for \$720,000

**4627 Almond Circle** K. & D. Armstrong to M. & P. Flegel for \$630,000

**389 Andrews Street** C. & A. Kamp to T. Lemay for \$264,500

**4739 Apple Tree Common** R. & S. Mikesell to S. & A. Lanza for \$315,000

**2529 Cowan Way** S. & A. Almirarez to S. & M. Garcia for \$760,000

**1689 De Leon Way** W. & Y. Miller to S. Baxamusa for \$555,000

**720 Debra Street** B. & K. Cartwright to B. & S. Yendrey for \$430,000

**849 El Caminito** Wakefield Trust to D. Myers for \$360,000

**641 Jackson Avenue** S. & C. Muelder to B. Henderer for \$385,000

**3880 Madeira Way** SGT Investments to E. & A. Boyd for \$300,000

**54 Meritage Common #204** J. Jung to P. & T. Davies for \$216,500

**1009 Murrieta Boulevard #43** Wells Fargo Bank to M. & R. Sosa for \$90,000

**394 North Livermore Avenue** Federal National Mortgage to C. & S. Wheeler for \$349,000

**566 Oriole Avenue** Mastr Adjustable Trust to O. Munoz for \$342,000

**2144 Ponderosa Drive** Federal National Mortgage to J. & M. Patricio for \$285,500

**2486 Regent Road** D. & K. Lewis to K. & J. Camuso for \$645,000

**5570 Stockton Loop** Patrick Lyman & Associates to W. & B. Chang for \$925,000

**710 Vinci Way** P. Chi to T. Wierzchon for \$850,000

**Pleasanton**

**5934 Bryce Canyon Court** B. & N. Lester to B. Maddi for \$505,000

**2238 Greenwood Road** Workman Trust to C. Wong for \$770,000

**3850 Kamp Drive** J. & J. Warner to S. Pasala for \$555,000

**3663 Kirkcaldy Court** K. Williams to M. Cardenas for \$530,000

**691 Palomino Drive #D** Densmore Trust to M. Jerman for \$255,000

**6793 Paseo Catalina** Hoefs Trust to R. & K. Cheong for \$858,000

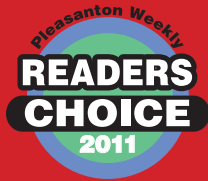
**7509 Rosedale Court** Davis Trust to E. Rashid for \$435,000

**6633 Singletree Way** Door Trust to C. & S. Mayott for \$508,000

**3517 Villero Court** R. Bacal to J. & N. Das for \$1,465,000

**4471 Yuma Court** O. Purnawan to S. Shah for \$243,000

Source: California REsource



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**262 Grisby Ct. Brentwood**  
 Spacious & beautiful 5 bedroom, 3 bath home with 2600+ sq ft. Built in 2001. Quiet court location. Kitchen/family room combo. Granite counter-tops & island in kitchen. Bonus room upstairs. Master bedroom features adjoining bath w/shower & Jacuzzi tub. Completely landscaped yards w/fruit trees in back yard. **Asking: \$325,000**



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 REALTOR®  
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**Open Sun 1-4**  
**6917 Sunnyslope Ave., Castro Valley**  
 Fabulous Views & Beautiful Home  
 If you're looking for fabulous views and a beautiful home- this is it! Completely remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home with granite counters and travertine tile in the baths. 1.51 +/- acres includes additional buildable lot with sale! Open floor plan & plenty of light. End of the road private location. **Offered at \$729,950**



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**New Price!**  
**3459 Ashbourne Circle, San Ramon**  
 Luxury bank owned home in gated Norris Canyon Estates. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms. Grand entry. Gourmet kitchen with granite counters & SS Appliances. Family Room and Formal LR & DR. Large Master Suite with Fireplace. Private backyard with room for pool. Lot backs to open space. **Offered at \$1,190,000**



**Dennis Gerlt**  
 Broker Associate  
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 DRE # 01317997



**SOLD! Represented buyer**  
**2792 Spotorno Court, Pleasanton**  
 Well maintained Ruby Hill beauty with quality and style tucked away on a court location. The home features a remodeled kitchen and family room, boasts 4600 square feet of living space including a large second level bonus room, and has a huge backyard. A must see!



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**Offered at \$829,000**  
**1097 Lexington Way, Livermore**  
 Beautiful single story 5 bedroom, 3 bath home in popular Kristopher Ranch. Wonderful floor plan. Backyard is an entertainer's delight complete with pool/waterfall/spa and outdoor BBQ.



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**1905 DeVaca Way, Livermore**  
 Wonderful light & bright duet unit w/huge yard, tons of privacy. Over 1400 sq ft of living space w/8200+ lot. Kitchen w/vaulted ceilings, garden window & corian counters. A light sunroom in master bdrm. **Offered at \$339,950**



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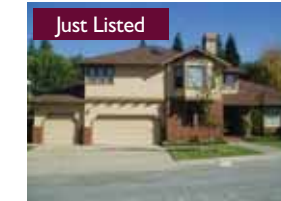


**Open Sunday 1-4**  
**640 Varese Court, Ruby Hill**  
 Beautiful 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath, 5665 sq ft home in Ruby Hill with bonus room, pool/spa, golf course lot & views. **Offered at \$1,950,000**

*The Fabulous Properties Team*  
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**Just Listed**  
**2913 Amoroso Court**  
 Nestled in the hills of Pleasanton. This home boasts a gourmet chef's dream kitchen with granite counters, stainless steel appl., breakfast bar. Family room with expansive fireplace overlooking the deck and backyard. 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath and 3,200+ sq.ft.



**Coming Soon**  
**4493 Holland Drive**  
 Beautiful views of the Pleasanton Ridge. 4 bdrm, 2 bath and 1,800+ sq.ft. Spacious kitchen with large dining area. Kitchen family room combo overlooking the backyard. Great corner lot location, walking distance to schools, parks and shopping.



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<p><b>1225 LOZANO COURT</b>   RUBY HILL</p>  <p><b>BED 6</b>   <b>BA 7(2)</b>   <b>8,877+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.65+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Stunning, classic Italian Villa in one of Bay Area's most desirable locations. Catch your breath &amp; prepare for what lies beyond the gorgeous entry of this estate. Nestled in an unrivaled setting among olive trees &amp; lush landscaping w/ mile long views of vineyards.</p> <p><b>THE UWE MAERCZ TEAM</b>   925.251.2568</p>	<p><b>9999 LONGVIEW LN</b>   PLEASANTON</p>  <p><b>BED 6</b>   <b>BA 5(3)</b>   <b>8,330+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>3.85+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>A gated westside French Chateau custom estate with stunning grounds, elevator, private tennis court, indoor pool, casino/theater, 450 gal salt water fish tank, finished attic, vista terrace etc. Incredible level of detail!</p> <p><b>THE UWE MAERCZ TEAM</b>   925.251.2568</p>	<p><b>7930 RACCOON HALLOW CT</b>   PLEASANTON</p>  <p><b>BED 6</b>   <b>BA 3.5</b>   <b>3,670+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.80+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Spectacular private park-like setting for this beautiful updated cstm home w/ amazing valley views. Open layout w/ grand entry &amp; luxurious master suite. Remodeled kitchen. Crown molding &amp; cstm designer features throughout. Pool &amp; waterfall.</p> <p><b>CORTEZ &amp; PESTAL</b>   925.648.5300</p>	<p><b>8012 GOLDEN EAGLE WAY</b>   GOLDEN EAGLE</p>  <p><b>BED 4</b>   <b>BA 3</b>   <b>2,500+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.20+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Profess Remodel! Chef's Kit w/ S/S top of line equip, Granite Counters, Cust Mill-work thru out, Cust 2 station office w/ cherry cabs, Baths w/ cherrywd, granite, tumbled marble, Newer windows, Plantation shutters, Bonus room w/ built-ins, fireplace.</p> <p><b>CORTEZ &amp; PESTAL</b>   925.648.5300</p>	<p><b>1892 VIA DI SALERNO</b>   RUBY HILL</p>  <p><b>BED 5</b>   <b>BA 3.5</b>   <b>4,200+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.71+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Beautiful Italian style home featuring +/-4,189sf, 5 bedrooms, 3/1 bathrooms, with gorgeous Brazilian Cherry floors and elaborate crown moldings. Enjoy the spacious +/-31,268 sf lot (+/-0.71 acres) with pool and privacy in the back!</p> <p><b>THE UWE MAERCZ TEAM</b>   925.251.2568</p>
<p><b>1695 GERMANO WAY</b>   RUBY HILL</p>  <p><b>BED 5</b>   <b>BA 6.5</b>   <b>7,330+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.65+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Elaborate Italian Villa with +/-7,330 sf, 5 bedrooms, 6/1 bathrooms, stunning tile work and built less than four years ago. This home offers an impressive entry foyer, stately office, movie theatre, expansive kitchen, walk-in wine cellar and more.</p> <p><b>THE UWE MAERCZ TEAM</b>   925.251.2568</p>	<p><b>4614 BLACK AVE</b>   PLEASANT VALLEY</p>  <p><b>BED 3</b>   <b>BA 2</b>   <b>1,377+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.17+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>A rare find for a single level home on a corner lot in the Pleasant Valley District. Upgraded windows and roof last six years. Walking distance to schools, Amador Community Park and Post Office. Close to downtown.</p> <p><b>TOM BRAMELL</b>   925.583.2180</p>	<p><b>3545 CALLE ALEGRE</b>   COUNTRY FAIRE</p>  <p><b>BED 4</b>   <b>BA 3</b>   <b>2,916+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.29+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Wonderful remodeled and upgraded Trinity model in Original Country Fair! Perfect location, floorplan and amazing backyard including saline pool, spa, waterfalls and spillways. Downstairs bedroom and full bath, maple cabinetry, newer roof and windows.</p> <p><b>WEINER McDOWELL GROUP</b>   925.251.2550</p>	<p><b>7781 CLIFDEN COURT</b>   THE RIDGE</p>  <p><b>BED 5</b>   <b>BA 5</b>   <b>4,606+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.47+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Magnificent Former Model Estate built by Taylor Woodrow! Every option you could imagine; natural stone, marble, hardwood, wood paneling, crown moldings, built-in speakers &amp; more! Master suite w/ retreat &amp; balcony. Panoramic views. a kind</p> <p><b>THE JOE FRAZZANO TEAM</b>   925.735.7653</p>	<p><b>5775 JOHNSTON RD</b>   PLEASANTON</p>  <p><b>BED 3</b>   <b>BA 2</b>   <b>2,474+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>4.10+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Come Experience Country Living - prestigious Tassajara Ranches, mins to vibrant Shopping &amp; Entertainment. Newer roof, paint &amp; carpet.+office, plantation shutters, central vaccum, bath/heated floors, new irrigation system. Barn/Garage w/ 2+ stalls.</p> <p><b>TESS FOLSTER</b>   925.984.7733</p>
<p><b>3056 RIVERS BEND CIR</b>   ARROYO</p> <p>OPEN SAT &amp; SUN 1-4PM</p>  <p><b>BED 5</b>   <b>BA 3.5</b>   <b>2,878+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.12+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Gorgeous. 5th bed room converted into suite and attached to master bedroom, to relax, to watch movie privately/withfriends of choice. Has formal living room and family room, travertine/carpet floor, granite counter top, shutters, fully landscaped.</p> <p><b>MAX DE VRIES</b>   925.251.2514</p>	<p><b>5875 CRESTMONT AVE</b>   SPRINGTOWN</p>  <p><b>BED 3</b>   <b>BA 2</b>   <b>1,269+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.14+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Tastefully updated home w/ laminate flooring, permitted bonus rm w/ 2 sliders, side yard access, eat in kitchen, romantic wood burning fireplace, close to Croce Elem. and Christensen Middle, close to 580, close to Livermore National Laboratory and more!</p> <p><b>MICHAEL SWIFT &amp; ASSOCIATES</b>   925.251.2588</p>	<p><b>4041 SAN GIORGIO CT</b>   SIENA</p>  <p><b>BED 2</b>   <b>BA 2.5</b>   <b>1,316+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.02+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Absolutely perfect townhome in great location, backs to greenbelt space. Meticulously maintained, shows beautifully!Hardwood floors, plantation shutters, designer paint and carpet. Near park and pool. Must be owner occupant.</p> <p><b>WEINER McDOWELL GROUP</b>   925.251.2550</p>	<p><b>7903 DRY CREEK DR</b>   DUBLIN</p>  <p><b>BED 4</b>   <b>BA 3.5</b>   <b>3,449+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.20+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Resort style backyard with pool. 4 bedrooms + large loft, 3 car garage, cul-de-sac location, numerous upgrades including cherry cabinets, slab granite, upgraded flooring, wrought iron, Brazilian cherry-wood flooring. Don't miss this one!</p> <p><b>THE JOE FRAZZANO TEAM</b>   925.735.7653</p>	<p><b>2889 RUTHERFORD CT</b>   LIVERMORE</p>  <p><b>BED 4</b>   <b>BA 3.5</b>   <b>3,504+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.30+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Wonderfully location at the end of a cul-de-sac, near vineyards &amp; open fields. Spacious entry way, gourmet kitchen &amp; grand master bedroom suite. This home has a large backyard w/ a private apartment/office above the garage.</p> <p><b>SARAH ARNOLD</b>   925.253.7074</p>
<p><b>3322 EAST AVENUE</b>   LIVERMORE</p>  <p><b>BED 1</b>   <b>BA 1</b>   <b>432+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.51+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Great development opportunity on this half acre lot. Zoned RG-16 - up to 8 units possible.</p> <p><b>UWE MAERCZ</b>   925.251.2568</p>	<p><b>7793 PEPPERTREE RD</b>   SILVERGATE</p> <p>OPEN SUN 1-4PM</p>  <p><b>BED 4</b>   <b>BA 3</b>   <b>2,240+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.21+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Desirable Westside in Silvergate Highlands! Laminate &amp; wood flrs, dual pane windows, updated kit &amp; baths. Master bd downstairs w/ private bath. Amazing parklike yard on 2 lots with RV access. Minutes to 580/680 &amp; BART, schools, shopping &amp; restaurants.</p> <p><b>CATHY DEAN &amp; KARI WAHL</b>   925.200.4130</p>	<p><b>3429 ASHBOURNE CIRCLE</b>   NORRIS CANYON</p>  <p><b>BED 5</b>   <b>BA 5.5</b>   <b>5,017+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.33+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>This Norris Canyon, San Ramon beauty backs up to open space and the Bishop Ranch Regional Open Space. Features a wonderful pool and waterfall, spa and an excellent space for outdoor entertaining.</p> <p><b>DAVID AZIMI</b>   925.251.2580</p>	<p><b>753 TRAVISO CIRCLE</b>   LIVERMORE</p> <p>OPEN SAT &amp; SUN 1-4PM</p>  <p><b>BED 5</b>   <b>BA 4</b>   <b>3,362+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.21+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Large executive home in south Livermore in the sought after Kristopher Ranch neighborhood. The house is situated on a nine thousand and thirty four square foot lot. Great privacy for guest or in-laws.</p> <p><b>MAX DE VRIES</b>   925.525.0116</p>	<p><b>1524 GREEN VALLEY</b>   DANVILLE</p>  <p><b>BED 4</b>   <b>BA 2.5</b>   <b>2,402+/- Sq.Ft.</b>   <b>0.23+/- ACRES</b></p> <p>Custom built rancher completed in 2007. Open floor plan. Chef's kitchen w/custom island, walnut cabinets, granite slab, + SS appl. Distressed walnut hrdwd floors. Amazing bathrooms. Ringed-shaped extended gated driveway/ detached oversized gar.</p> <p><b>MICHAEL SWIFT &amp; ASSOCIATES</b>   925.251.2588</p>



# Emily Barraclough

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OPEN SUN 1-4

### 1684 TANGLEWOOD COURT, PLEASANTON

Location! Location! Single story home located on a court just around the corner from the Elementary and Middle school. The home is approximately 1716 sq ft home with 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. The exterior has been freshly painted and updated landscaping in the front yard. The kitchen has been updated and has a wonderful open layout to the family room. Nice sized private back yard with a pool. **OFFERED AT \$649,000**



OPEN SUN 1-4

### 10776 RUTHVEN LANE, DUBLIN

Fabulous West side Dublin location in the California Highlands neighborhood. Great open floor plan includes vaulted ceilings, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms with approximately 1387 sq feet of living space. The home has a large living room/dining room with fireplace, spacious patio and a 2 car attached garage. Located amongst the foothills to create a very serene atmosphere. **OFFERED AT \$399,000**



PENDING

### 3717 BRANDING IRON PLACE, DUBLIN

Don't miss this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath townhome situated in the desirable Silvera Villas neighborhood of Dublin. Approx. 1654 sq ft of living space, this gorgeous home has a wonderful light and bright open floor plan. This home features many upgrades throughout including granite counters and stainless steel Bosch appliances in the kitchen and Bamboo hardwood floors throughout the living room, family room & kitchen. **OFFERED AT \$395,000**



PENDING

### 10 TURRINI PLACE, DANVILLE

A truly amazing home on a large lot that is great for entertaining or just relaxing. Stunning grounds with a pool, spa, pond, a deck with an outdoor BBQ area & gazebo. Home is approximately 5,000 sq ft. & is in need of some updating. **OFFERED AT \$1,175,000**



JUST SOLD WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS

### 4235 CLARINBRIDGE CIRCLE, DUBLIN

Beautiful 2 bedroom 2 1/2 bath condo in The Villas of the Dublin Ranch neighborhood. With approximately 1401 sq ft of living space this home has a nice open, light & bright layout. The kitchen has many upgrades including granite counters & stainless steel appliances. **SOLD FOR \$335,700**



JUST SOLD - REPRESENTED BUYERS

### 6731 HICKORY LANE, DUBLIN

Beautiful home with remodeled kitchen, wood floors, granite counters, cherry cab and stainless appliances. Newer dual paned windows, newer furnace, redone baths, soothing colors and large yard in desirable neighborhood. **SOLD FOR \$414,000**



## PLEASANTON 900 Main Street

### 1334 STONE CANYON CT, PLEASANTON LOCATED IN IRONWOOD ESTATES



PENDING

5 BD 4.5 BA 4,205sf. on a 10,588sf. lot. Over \$50,000 in upgrades. Open floor plan with high ceilings. **Bedroom/office is on the 1st level with adjoining bath.** Highly upgraded kitchen with granite counters, large island with sink, and stainless steel appliances. Custom fountain in rear yard surrounded by garden area. **\$1,350,000**

### 3623 CAMERON AVE, PLEASANTON LOCATED IN MOHR/MARTIN ESTATES



5 BD 3 BA 3,291sf. on a 39,892sf. lot. Flat 1 acre lot. Country elegance close to town. Updated kitchen offers neutral appliances, dinette area, breakfast bar, granite counters with full height backsplash, recessed lighting and opens into the family room. This single story offers a private well, pool, volleyball court, horseshoe court and so much more! **\$1,325,000**

### 5260 RIDGEVALE WAY, PLEASANTON LOCATED IN PLEASANTON VALLEY



4 BD 2.5 BA 3,043sf on a 10,750sf. lot. Hardwood floors throughout. **Large downstairs great room with built-in bar and vaulted ceilings.** Remodeled kitchen with granite counters and excess storage. Expanded master suite with retreat. Pool and spa in rear yard. Perfect for entertaining! **\$995,000**

### 3710 RIESLING COURT, PLEASANTON LOCATED IN VINTAGE HILLS



5 BD 3 BA 2,925sf. on a 10,331sf. lot. Open floor plan with bedroom & bath on main floor. Spacious kitchen with lots of storage. New carpet & roof. Master suite with large walk-in closet. Pool and spa in backyard. **\$750,000**

### 4055 ALVARADO STREET LOCATED IN THE JENSEN NEIGHBORHOOD



5 BD 3 BA 1,802sf on a 6,955sf. lot. Updated kitchen offers wood floors, pantry, granite counters, breakfast bar. Private deck and pool offered in rear yard. **LOCATED IN THE HEART OF PLEASANTON!** **\$612,000**

### 725 ORION WAY, LIVERMORE LOCATED IN SOUTH LIVERMORE



3 BD 2 BA 1,608sf. on a 10,000sf. lot. Single story in South Livermore. Expanded and updated kitchen, family room and master suite. Spectacular, huge rear yard with side yard access. **\$534,000**

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# The latest from The 680 Blog

## Do I Have to Stage my Home?

Q: I am thinking about selling my home, and I have read that staging a home is a good idea. However, I have limited resources, and the thought of staging my home is overwhelming to me at this point. Do I really have to stage it?

—Alice in Pleasanton

Alice, that is a great question. The short answer is no, you do not have to stage your home. You can sell any property in any condition provided it is priced properly. For some sellers, staging is problematic because they just don't have the time or energy to thin out closets, remove furniture, etc. Sometimes sellers just want to sell the property the way it is without having to do a long list of items that the Realtor or stager recommends. Sometimes there is resistance to change, for example after the passing of a loved one. These are valid feelings, and the good news is that no you do not HAVE to stage your home.

The biggest benefit of staging a home before putting it on the market is that you increase the appeal of the property. Buying a home is an emotion-

al decision first. How the home "feels" to a potential buyer is arguably the biggest factor in determining if they are going to pursue it. The goal of staging and preparation is to make the house feel more open, spacious, and inviting. It does not have to be expensive. In fact, many home stagers can use most if not all of the owner's furnishings to transform the look and feel of the home. Things like rearranging or removing furniture, or adding greenery and light, >> **Go to [www.680homes.com](http://www.680homes.com) to read the rest of this article.**



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**COMING SOON**



Luxurious 5 BR, 5 1/2 BTH home in The Preserve shows like a model with approx. 5700 sq ft on premium 1/2 Acre view lot! **\$1,595,000**

**OPEN SUN 1-4**



**4184 Creekwood Ct.** Single Story 4 BR, 3 1/2 BTH home on private 1/2 Acre lot with granite kitchen, hardwood floors, pool, and 4 car garage! **\$1,079,000**

**MOLLER RANCH**



Moller Ranch beauty shows like a model! Pristine 3 BR, 2 1/2 BTH home with hardwood floors, granite kitchen, plantation shutters, downstairs master BR. Private lot! **\$799,000**

**2+ Acres!**



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**

**PENDING SALE**



Upgraded 4 BR, 2 1/2 BTH Stoneridge area home with vaulted ceiling, granite kitchen, hardwood floors, new carpeting, new roof, 3 car garage, and private yard! **\$819,000**

**JUST SOLD!**



Pristine upgraded Vintage Hills 4 BR, 2 1/2 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**



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### WALNUT GLEN ESTATES

**OPEN SUN 1-4**



**3891 PICARD AVENUE, PLEASANTON**  
Wow! Better than new because it is done & ready! Extensively designer remodeled, single level, plus upstairs bonus room/au pair/guest quarters! Premium corner .34 acre lot! Four bedrooms plus bonus, four bathrooms, 3588 square feet. Completely remodeled gourmet kitchen with new granite slab countertops, designer backsplash & new stainless appliances. Remodeled bathrooms with granite slab countertops, custom marble flooring & surround. New interior & exterior paint, new carpet, new Travertine flooring! Vaulted ceilings, plantation shutters, crown molding, new door hardware & light fixtures! Security alarm system & intercom! Finished three car garage! Tile roof. Professionally recently upgraded landscaped grounds with spacious lawn area & patios. Award winning Pleasanton schools! Walk to neighborhood parks! **OFFERED AT \$1,269,000**

**DOWNTOWN**

**SOLD**



**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! **SOLD FOR \$830,000**

### ESTATES OF MOHR PARK



**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! **OFFERED AT \$1,165,000**

**KOTTINGER RANCH**

**SOLD — REPRESENTED BUYER**



**1348 HEARST DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
Excellent location!!! Panoramic views of surrounding hills. Backs to open space, no rear neighbors. Great condition, move in ready! Five bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, 3300 square feet. Recently updated gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops! Spacious master suite with fireplace & large bathroom. Open living room, family room and formal dining room. French doors, hardwood flooring. Three car garage. Beautiful, professionally landscaped grounds include, in-ground pool, spacious deck, gazebo, large lawn areas and 135 wine producing grape vines, private vineyard! Community amenities include tennis courts & pool! Walking distance to Main Street and downtown! Award winning Pleasanton schools! **SOLD FOR \$1,400,000**

### 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**

**FOOTHILL KNOLLS**

**SOLD**



**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 AND SOLD FOR \$949,000**

### CANYON OAKS



**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. **SOLD FOR \$810,000**

**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**

**PLEASANTON 900 Main Street**





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MARTA RIEDY BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$2,049,000**  
Beautiful Craftsman style quality custom home in Ruby Hill. Rich hardwood floors, 5bd w/ private baths, game room, office, gourmet kitchen w/commercial grade appliances, stunning views of Mt. Diablo. 3720 Raboli Street

LINDA TRAUIG BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$1,799,000**  
Absolutely stunning custom home features 5bd + bonus room + office on over an acre backing to open space. Recently remodeled kitchen, situated on quiet cul-de-sac. Perfect for entertaining! 8008 Rockford Place

DEBI BODAN BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$1,247,000**  
Amazing Wine Country Home! This home features Five Beds, Five Baths, Gourmet Kitchen, Guest House, Views and so much more. Minutes to I580, I680, HWY84 and ACETrain. 2465 BELMONT

SALLY MARTIN BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$895,000**  
Stunning hardwood floors & vaulted ceilings. Kitchen features slab granite & large breakfast nook. Master with fireplace & breathtaking views. Gorgeous pool & spa. 5th bd/office, 4th bd/media room. 1108 Crellin

JULIA MURTAGH BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$849,000**  
Walk to Award Winning Schools, downtown Pleasanton and shops, from this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home. Built in 2003 by KB homes, this home is just under 2900 square feet, and in great condition. 6023 Sterling Green Circle

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$835,000**  
Southside single story home. features include granite slab counters tops, stainless steel appliances, custom flooring, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, Must See!! 949 MEDOLLA COURT

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$710,000**  
3bd/2ba, 2,600+/-sq.ft on a 12,947+/-sq. ft lot, freshly painted inside and out, new appliances, inside laundry, side yard access. 3596 CHIPPENDALE CT

CHESTER HALL BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$699,000**  
Spacious Kottinger Heights is ready for entertaining and family fun. 4bd/2.5ba, 2260+/-sf. Relax around the sparkling pool or enjoy a sunny interior retreat. 3643 BERNAL AVE

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$650,000**  
4bd/2ba 'Holiday' model, 2,167+/-sqft, newer roof, windows, Pergo floors, HVAC system, crown molding, inside laundry and pool. 5230 HUMMINGBIRD RD

DAN GAMACHE BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$599,950**  
Beautiful 3bd/2.5ba immaculate home with over \$60k in upgrades! Remodeled kitchen & baths, hw floors, dual pane windows, fresh paing & more. Large side yard access for boat or rv. Great location! 4643 MOHR AVE



Alain Pinel Realtors not only continues to lead the Bay Area in home sales, but we also rank as the #1 Largest, Privately-Owned Residential Real Estate Firm in California - and #2 Largest in the United States.

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Source: 2011 REAL Trends Top 500 survey, ranked by Closed Sales Volume in 2010

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





# BE GOOD TO YOURSELF

So, you think Whole Foods Market is all about food, right? Well, remember, what you put on your body is as important as what you put in your body. Tucked away inside each of our stores is a section dedicated to helping you look and feel your best, from your hair to your toe. It's called Whole Body.

The difference between supplements we sell and those you get at other places is not necessarily what's in them, but what's not in them. Lower-quality supplements add things like starch, extra gelatin, artificial colors, sweeteners and preservatives, lactose, unnecessary fillers and hydrogenated fats — none of which you will find in anything Whole Body sells.



Whole Foods Market  
 100 Sunset Drive, San Ramon  
 925.355.9000



Store hours: 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. seven days a week.



SAN RAMON

[wholefoodsmarket.com/sanramon](http://wholefoodsmarket.com/sanramon)