

Pleasanton Weekly

Pleasanton Rage U19 Orange advances to Association Cup quarterfinals » 17



VOL. XIII, NUMBER 9 • MARCH 16, 2012

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This weekend, everyone is Irish
 Don the green and join the fun at the St. Patrick's Day Celebration >>12



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*Did you resolve to lose Inches this year?
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	I love it. I have noticed that I can pull my pants down without unbuttoning them. It's amazing.Anderson*	
	This was a great way to loose inches in the targeted places. I lost more inches around my midsection that in 2 months of dieting. This gives me the incentive to continue more exercise to take another several inches off.... Diane*	

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

From budgets to Buddy in large type

By JEB BING

Pleasanton Finance Director Emily Wagner's success in writing children's books that even 3-year-olds can follow with ease and quickly learn to read makes us wonder if she wouldn't be better placed in Washington, D.C., where she could rewrite some of our tax codes. It is surprising when you look at Wagner's many years of accounting and finance activities, including writing and then re-working the hundreds of pages that go into Pleasanton's annual \$100 million budget document, that she has the time and is able to make the transition to the younger set of readers.

Her two new books, "At the End of Every Rainbow" and "Asleep Under the Moon," are for sale at Towne Center books, where Wagner signed several hundred copies yesterday for those notified in advance. Colorfully illustrated by Wagner's friend Diane DeCoite, a Pleasanton artist, the books focus on Wagner's grandson Gavin, now 8 years old, and the family dog Buddy. Wagner and her husband Gary have a home in Carmel where their son Garrett came to visit with Gavin and Buddy. Always fantasizing about creative writing outside of financial textbooks and budget reports, Wagner found herself walking along the beach when the idea hit her: a children's story about Gavin and Buddy.

In one story, the boy and his dog are dozing under a bright moonlit sky when Buddy finds himself transported to the moon where he romps and runs faster than ever with great leaps beyond anything imagined back on earth. But he becomes sad because his friend Gavin isn't there. Just then a giant wave comes crashing on shore, waking everyone up and united again.

Wagner's focus on "Asleep" is on gently explaining the moon, gravity and where we live on earth to young children. She does the same with "Rainbow," walking the reader through the multiple colors we see and how they're there. The books, in large print, also help parents point to the illustrations and the words, as Gavin's family did as he grew. An active youth baseball player in Brentwood where he



JEB BING

Emily Wagner with her two new children's books, "At the End of Every Rainbow" and "Asleep Under the Moon."

attends Brentwood Elementary, Gavin now reads the books to his younger friends and even accompanies Buddy on some of his moon trips.

Emily Wagner is a long-time and well-known Pleasanton financial guru. A graduate of Amador Valley high School, she earned her accounting degree at San Jose State, then an MBA at Cal State East Bay. A certified public accountant with five security licenses, she started out working for a land developer, then an auditing firm and in 1977 became the city of Pleasanton's first accountant. By 1984, she was finance director and then assistant city manager, leaving the municipal post a year later to go into investment banking. For a time, she owned her own business on Sunol Boulevard, but in 2006 accepted an offer to again join the city as its fiscal officer. She's been back holding the finance director's post since 2010.

Her talent for writing was recognized along the way by professors and business associates, who urged her to help make more sense out of financial textbooks and other books used by professionals. She toyed with the idea but was never inspired, which she now knows is the key to a writer's success. Even with "Asleep Under the Moon," it took about five years from start to finish with many walks with Gavin and Buddy along the Carmel seashore before all the words came together. There will likely be a few more books as Gavin and Buddy grow, probably for the slightly older set.

"At the End of Every Rainbow" and "Asleep under the Moon" are available at Town Center Books for \$12.95 and \$8.85 respectively. ■

About the Cover

This weekend Dublin will host its annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration for the Tri-Valley, with a Green & White Gala, two-day festival, parade, pancake breakfast and Shamrock 5K Fun Run & Walk. Photos by Dino Vournas for the City of Dublin. Design by Kristin Herman.

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Streetwise

ASKED AT KAISER PERMANENTE

Should health insurance companies be required to cover birth control?



Aaras Vonmonovski
Self-employed

I think so, absolutely. Not everyone can afford it, and it could be considered preventative care if you don't want to get pregnant.

Gerda Diaz
Retired

I would say that insurance should pay for it. It should be covered 100%; unwanted children would be a burden for everyone.



Flo Bras
Retired teacher

No. I have the same opinion as Rush Limbaugh about Sandra Fluke, and I don't believe that they should be required to pay for it.

Barry Kaminsky
Retired OB/GYN


Yes, definitely. I am a retired OB/GYN, so I've had a lot of experience with this topic. It is very important to prevent unwanted pregnancies. I am very much in favor of insurance companies covering contraception.



Julie Hastings
Retired

I do think birth control should be covered. It's important to wait until one is ready to have children, because unwanted pregnancies are a problem.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally



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

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to www.PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566. © 2012 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

DIGEST

Looking for best wines

The Tri-Valley Conservancy is looking for wine entries for its third annual "Livermore Valley Uncorked," which will be held April 29 to showcase the quality of local wines to top buyers. The competition accepts only wines grown and produced in the Livermore Valley and available for purchase.

The deadline for entry is April 20; all entries must be delivered to the Tri-Valley Conservancy office, 1736 Holmes St., Building B, Livermore. Judging, by a 16-person panel of qualified wine judges including local wine buyers and winemakers, will be held April 29 at The Wine Steward on Main Street in Pleasanton.

For complete rules, contact the Tri-Valley Conservancy at 449-8706 or LVuncorked@tri-valleyconservancy.org.

Welcoming spring

The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will perform "La Primavera — Springtime in Italy," from 2-3:15 p.m., Sunday, March 25, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton. The free program will include music by Rossini and Verdi along with themes from great Italian movies.

BART fare meetings

BART has added meetings at five more locations to receive input from residents about fare increases being planned for July. New locations include a meeting from noon-1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza. Others will be held in Antioch, San Francisco Richmond District, Fremont and Hayward.

The increase will help to replace aging trains, a long-range project expected to total \$3 billion. Most of the funding will come from local, regional, state and federal governments, with BART contributing about 25%.

The meeting will also explain the Clipper card system of paying for fares and discuss whether such cards are convenient to purchase. Also BART is seeking input on its draft Environmental Justice Policy, which aims to address the needs of low-income populations in transportation decisions.

Free tickets

Tri-Valley Community Television is enrolling TV30 "Lucky Fans" to receive free tickets to entertainment venues such as the Vine Cinema and Firehouse Theater as well as restaurants and more. Go to www.trivalleytv.org to register; there is no charge. Winners will be picked randomly at various times from the "Lucky Fan" registrations.

Walmart market bid goes to city planners Monday

Unions call for protests to stop retailer from opening supermarkets in East Bay

By JEB BING

An overflow crowd is expected to jam the 227-seat Firehouse Arts Center on Monday night as the Planning Commission holds the first of what will likely be two public meetings on a bid by Walmart to open one of its Neighborhood Market grocery stores in Pleasanton.

Protests, mainly from organized labor groups that oppose Walmart business policies, filled the City Council chamber in the Pleasanton Civic Center last month when the issue was discussed. City planners, expecting a larger crowd this time, decided to hold the meeting in the larger arts center auditorium.

Union organizers have put out a call to grocery and other union locals to attend Monday's meeting to demonstrate their objections to allowing a Walmart market here, which would be the first of four under consideration in the East Bay.

At the same time, shop owners in Meadow Plaza at West Las Positas Boulevard and Santa

Rita Road, where Walmart would take over the former and now vacant Nob Hill supermarket building, are petitioning other businesses and neighborhood residents to demonstrate their support for the Walmart store at the meeting.

Although the two sides will face off once again Monday, it's not clear just what the Planning Commission's options are. Walmart's application already has been approved by the city's zoning administrator who determined that the proposed market matches the footprint of the Nob Hill store, which the city approved in 1982. The planned unit development approved at the time stays with the property, meaning that a similar use operation can reopen the same type of business under the same operating permit.

Both City Manager Nelson Fialho and the



Nelson Fialho

city's Economic Director Pamela Ott told Realtors and their associates at recent meetings of the Valley Real Estate Network that Walmart can move into the Nob Hill site without further permits or public agency approvals. Fialho said that after all of the current protest meetings are finished, Walmart should be able to complete its on-site work to open by mid-summer.

Monday's meeting is not billed as a public hearing but rather just that, a meeting. It follows promises by some members of the City Council to give anyone with a view on the proposed Walmart market a chance to speak publicly. If the Planning Commission decides to accept the zoning administrator's decision, as the City Council did, it's expected that Angela Joe-Willmes and Linda Martin, both Pleasanton residents, who appealed that council vote, will appeal the Planning Commission's decision once more back to the council

See **WALMART** on Page 7



JAY FLACHSBARTH

Big opener for Little League

Elected officials, police, firefighters, Marines and scores of Little League officials gathered at Bernal Community Park last weekend to toss out balls to young players to open the 2012 Pleasanton Little League baseball season. But it was the little guys, shown here preparing for the ceremony, who were the stars as they participated in the festivities and played their first games.

Pleasanton arsonist faces 3 years in prison

Zuffa pleads no contest, to undergo psychiatric evaluation

A former Pleasanton resident has pleaded no contest to a felony arson charge for setting off an explosion and fire that burned down the home where she lived with her husband and their two sons in 2008.

Deonna Zuffa, 43, could face up to three years in state prison when she's sentenced by Alameda County Superior Court Judge Stuart Hing on May 16.

But prosecutor William Denny said Monday that Zuffa's fate will be influenced by a diagnostic study that will be conducted by psychologists at the Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla.

Hing placed Zuffa in cus-

tody and ordered that she be sent to the facility after she entered her plea last Friday.

Denny said that in addition to recommending that Zuffa be sent to state prison for three years, the diagnostic study could recommend that she serve time in the county jail or get outpatient treatment.

He said Zuffa suffered burns on 60% of her body in the blaze at the home at 839 E. Angela St. in Pleasanton at about 10:35 a.m. Dec. 8, 2008, and has been getting treatment for them ever since.

Prosecutors said a notice of foreclosure eviction had been posted on the front door of the family's home shortly before the fire.

Zuffa's husband, Keith Zuffa, and their two sons weren't at home at the time of the fire. Deonna Zuffa was the only person who was injured in the blaze. Keith Zuffa divorced her after the fire, according to public records.

Deonna Zuffa was arrested in connection with the blaze on Dec. 21, 2010, in Lincoln, where she was living with her parents.

Denny said that in exchange for Zuffa's plea to the arson charge, prosecutors dropped charges that she possessed flammable material with the intent to burn property and that she caused damage to adjacent homes that were damaged in the fire. ■

PUSD gives nod to early retirement buyout plan

Aims to replace older teachers with newer ones at lower cost

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Teachers eligible for retirement will be offered an extra incentive to bow out early under a plan approved Tuesday night by the Pleasanton school board.

The plan would offer 75% of their final year's salaries for teachers who decide to retire, with the district saving money by hiring newer teachers at lesser pay. Administrators and non-certificated employees would not be eligible.

To make the plan work, nearly 60 teachers would have to choose retirement, according to Luz Cazares, assistant superintendent of business services.

"We need 59 eligible employees," Cazares told board members. "That's about 35% of eligible employees."

The offer would be cancelled if fewer than the 59 required sign up.

"This is going to be difficult to achieve," said Dennis Hu from Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS). "It may be a long shot."

PARS is a private company that specializes in buyouts of this kind; Hu said the firm has worked with public-sector employers from San Diego and Los Angeles to San Francisco. The district would pay PARS 5% of the total payouts to administer the program for five years or at least \$5,000 per year.

The district estimated 17 retirements through natural attrition from people who would take an existing early retirement incentive of a one-time payout of nearly \$38,000 and annual health care costs of about \$6,800 until they're 65, when Medicare benefits kick in. Those who take the PARS deal would not be eligible for the district's incentive.

PARS's initial estimate was that 41 teachers — about 24% of those eligible for the buyout — would take its offer, which would actually cost the district more than \$426,000 over the five-year length of the payouts. The district would still cover health care costs until the

See **PUSD** on Page 6

PUSD

Continued from Page 5

retiree is 65.

The number needed for the plan to work could be lower than 59 if enough higher-paid employees sign up and could be higher if lower-paid employees take the deal. The PARS plan is based on an average salary of an incoming employee at about \$62,000 a year and an average of about \$90,000 for those retiring. Those numbers were provided by the district for PARS to make its calculations.

"This program is about math," said Board Member Jeff Bowser. "It's taking an expensive teacher and replacing it with a less expensive teacher."

Bowser abstained from the final vote because his wife would be eligible for the buyout, but said she had no intention of retiring.

While Board Member Jamie Hintzke worried that the district could lose experienced teachers, Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi noted that many of them do return as mentors and substitutes.

Board President Joan Laursen said the deal could save jobs.

"This means we wouldn't have to lay off 59 teachers," she said.

Trevor Knaggs, president of the Association of Pleasanton Teachers (APT), said he also supported the plan.

Teachers who opt for the PARS plan would have to sign up by April 27 and would need to submit an irrevocable letter of resignation; if enough employees don't sign up, the district would void those termination letters. If too few take the option for the district to go ahead with the plan, PARS would get a one-time fee of \$3,500.

The district would pay 15% of the salaries of each retiring employee through PARS for five years for the 75% total.

To be eligible, an employee must be 55 or older with five or more

years in the district or 50 years or older with 30 or more years. Employees who take the buyout would have the option of getting paid the 75% of their salaries over the course of five to 15 years or to get a smaller amount annually for the rest of their lives.

In other budget matters, Cazares said the district might have to cut another \$8.5 million from its budget in the 2013-14 school year if school revenue proposals don't pass in November. There are currently three different packages (see page 7) that could offer districts across the state financial relief. In a presentation of the district's current financial state, Cazares said it currently has nearly \$67 million in undesignated reserves, with an unexpected \$217,000 it received from lottery sales. With no increase in state funding, those reserves would drop to about \$181,000 for the 2012-13 school year and to a deficit of \$8.5 million the following year.

In a lengthy discussion that included invoking Robert's Rules of Order several times, the board agreed to discuss taking money from the Sycamore Fund to pay for a facilities master plan study.

Board Member Valerie Arkin made the motion to put that on the board's next agenda; Arkin also wanted to discuss the possibility of postponing the study and included that in her motion, which was disallowed on a point of order by Laursen. Arkin's following motion, to postpone the study, fell flat with no support by Laursen, Bowser or Board Member Chris Grant.

The Sycamore Fund was established through the sale of district property. It was initially set up for technology upgrades but has been used in recent years as a source for revolving loans. The fund once stood at more than \$7.2 million but now holds just shy of \$4.8 million, with more than \$2.4 million owed

by the district.

Budget matters may not matter for kids, but homework does, and a review of district homework policy adopted last year shows most students — and many parents — still think they have too much. That flies in the face of teacher responses to a survey done of parents, teachers and students.

The survey shows 29% of parents and 53% of students think too much homework is assigned while only 3% of teachers agreed. Students and parents also thought more homework was being assigned while only 1% of teachers thought that was the case.

One thing that all agreed on, although the percentages differed, was that there still is difficulty in coordinating homework assignments between teachers so that students aren't deluged with homework on some nights with much less other nights.

That, board members agreed, needs to be handled on a school-by-school basis. Jane Golden, director of curriculum and special projects pointed to one school, Harvest Park Middle School, as moving in the right direction; the school now uses Google's calendar feature to coordinate assignments between teachers.

While students still claim they're getting homework on weekends and holidays, Cindy Galbo, assistant superintendent of educational services, said a part of that may be procrastination by students who are given an assignment early in the week and wait until the last minute to complete it.

Many students reported they never use social media, text or surf the Internet when they're doing homework, but Laursen, a parent herself, was skeptical.

"Sorry, students, I don't believe you," she said.

The student member of the board, Sherya Gupta, said she'd talked to her friends about homework and that many agree there has been a shift, with less homework in general. Gupta said that's not the case for students taking several advanced placement (AP) courses, many of whom work hours each night. Board members pointed out that AP courses aren't covered under the district's policy for homework.

The board also gave its final approval to begin transitional kindergarten in the upcoming school year. The plan would initially offer a kind of pre-kindergarten for students who turn 5 in November of the school year, but could be expanded to those who turn 5 in October and September. Based on current funding figures from the state, at a 30 to 1 ratio, the district would actually make more than \$200 even if the state doesn't fund the program until those students are actually 5 years old, although the current plan is to fund the program from the start of the school year.

The meeting lasted nearly two-and-a-half hours and action on several items was postponed until the next board meeting, set for March 27. ■



JEB BING

ValleyCare's new urgent care center opened Monday in Dublin's Gateway Medical Center at Dublin Boulevard and Tassajara Road.

ValleyCare opens urgent care center in Dublin

Occupational Health service will share facility

By JEB BING

ValleyCare Health System opened its new Urgent Care Center in Dublin's Gateway Medical Center on Monday, adding to that city's expanding health care focus along Dublin Boulevard and Tassajara Road.

Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti and others from the City Council and city staff joined ValleyCare CEO Marcy Feit and Board Chairman Marty Inderbitzen in a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the ground-floor facility, which is located in the building occupied by the Palo Alto Medical Foundation.

In addition to the new Dublin urgent care center, ValleyCare also operates a similar facility at ValleyCare Medical Plaza in Livermore.

ValleyCare's Occupational Health service also is relocating

from Livermore and Pleasanton to the new facility. Its hours of operations will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with after-hours services at the Urgent Care Center from 5-10 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

The Eden Township Healthcare District, which operates Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley, also owns property in the same Gateway Medical Center and plans to expand medical services to Dublin. Its site is zoned for a 100-bed hospital or other medical use.

Kaiser Permanente has announced plans to build a full-service hospital near the Gateway Center in the 2020-year time range. Kaiser may open medical offices there before then. ■



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Pleasanton PTA stumps for Our Children Our Future initiative

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

A petition drive is under way at Pleasanton schools that could secure funding for schools across the state for the next 12 years.

Twelve PTA members, some with their children in tow, met March 8 with members of GroundWorks, the company hired to help push the measure, to discuss getting signatures for the initiative, called Our Children, Our Future. The measure would bump taxes and put the money for schools into a lock box.

"We've lost counselors, vice principals," said Jodie Vashistha, president of the Pleasanton PTA Council who attended the meeting at Round Table Pizza on Main Street. "Some of our schools have no vice principals for 700 kids. We have an increase in mental health issues and no counselors."

The initiative would create a dedicated fund that can only be used to benefit public education, and focuses on investments designed to improve academic achievement. Neither the state Legislature nor the governor could divert the money from schools, and control over spending would be local, with school boards deciding where the money would go based on requests from the schools themselves.

"This is a 12-year initiative,

so we wouldn't be cutting back every year," said Lea Grundy with GroundWorks, who is also a member of the Berkeley PTA. "The advantage of doing it for 12 years — that's a generation of kids."

That, Grundy said, would allow districts to measure the total effect of the legislation for kids who enter first grade at the start of the funding and are graduating when it ends, adding weight to a move to bring back the measure for another 12 years.

"The time is now. We have a chance to do it," Grundy said, explaining that this year, with a presidential election, would bring the greatest voter turnout and offer the biggest chance to pass the measure.

"The goal for Pleasanton is 50 signatures per PTA school, so that works out to 400," said Sandy Piderit, also with the Pleasanton PTA Council.

Supporters say Our Children, Our Future could raise \$10 billion a year by raising income tax rates on a sliding scale from .04% for some families to 2.2% for multimillionaires. The Pleasanton Unified School District would get more than \$12 million in

the 2013-14 school year, more than \$21 million by the 2017-18 school years and more than \$29 million by the 2023-24 school year. A website at <http://ocof.advanceproj.org> shows how much each school would get.

The initiative would also limit the use of the money that could go toward administration, with 1% dedicated to administrators, and would specify that the funds could not be used for increased salaries or benefits.

Over the first four years of Our Children, Our Future, 60% of the funds generated would be added directly to the budgets of individual schools. The remainder would go toward other things, including paying down a portion of the state's debt.

The initiative is one of three school funding measures that could make the November ballot. Gov. Jerry Brown has proposed increasing sales taxes and income taxes to support schools among other things, and the Courage Campaign would raise taxes for millionaires to do much the same.

The state PTA is hoping to change that, according to Piderit.

"The president of California PTA has met with the governor several times to try to work with him on consolidating measures, but we feel like this is the best possible measure," she said. ■



Lea Grundy

Stoneridge Creek construction work starts next month

By JEB BING

Continuing Life Communities (CLC) has signed a \$250 million construction loan for Stoneridge Creek Pleasanton, the company's retirement community now being built in Staples Ranch on the city's far northeast side.

Work on Stoneridge Creek began in October on 635 independent living residences, 68 assisted living apartments with dedicated memory support areas and 73 skilled nursing beds. With much of the infrastructure now completed, the company plans to start above-ground construction early next month.

The company also will begin recruiting administrators this fall, including an executive director. When completed, Stoneridge Creek will employ approximately 450 people.

The construction loan represents one of the largest non-governmental construction loans signed since the beginning of the economic downturn, according to Justin Wilson, CLC's chief operating officer. Bank

of America is leading the syndicate financing for the 46-acre project.

"Seventy-five percent of the homes in Phase I at Stoneridge Creek have already been reserved, reflecting a strong interest in the community and the lifestyle it will offer," Wilson said. "The demand was so strong that we just decided to expand the initial phase by more than 30%."

"Although it is extremely difficult to entitle and build a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) in California, the end product is worth the wait," Wilson continued. "No other CCRC offers the program we include: a high repayment with long-term care included, and the financial protection of a debt-free community."

Troy Bourne, vice president of CLC and the onsite marketing director for Stoneridge Creek, also attributes the demand for housing reservations to CLC's program, which features a comprehensive package of services, amenities, activities, dining and transportation with long-term

care included. Nursing care is provided in an adjacent skilled nursing and assisted living center professionally staffed 24 hours a day.

Stoneridge Creek will offer several restaurant venues ranging from casual to fine dining, a library, billiard and card rooms, and a computer lab and business center.

Other onsite amenities will include a spa and fitness center; open-air pool, steam room and spa terrace; performing arts theater for musical and theatrical performances; movie theater and an art studio; and a woodworking shop. Outdoor recreational amenities will include tennis courts, a "short-game" golf course, dog park; walking and cycling trails, and bocce and croquet courts.

"Because of the success of this project, Phase I has been expanded to 415 independent living homes," Bourne said. "Completion has been set for the second half of 2013, with the first Stoneridge Creek residents expected to move in shortly thereafter." ■

store expansion can be stopped. A union representative also urged those at a Democratic Party rally last month in Dublin to join the protests, arguing that Walmart pays below-scale wages to its employees and provides inadequate health benefits.

Security is expected to be tight Monday night with door personnel limiting those admitted to the 227-

seat capacity. The Planning Commission will occupy the stage area with speakers required to climb stairs to the stage to make their comments at lecterns.

The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton with parking provided in a rear lot accessible off Spring Street. ■

WALMART

Continued from Page 5

for another, and likely final hearing.

Besides urging local union representatives to attend Monday's meeting, union organizers also have appealed to union members throughout the East Bay to target Pleasanton as the city where Walmart's grocery

TAKE US ALONG



Merry Montana: Nancy Combs with grandchildren, Reed Schrosk and Kaia Schrosk, enjoy the Pleasanton Weekly at Logan Pass in Glacier National Park in July.

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FOCUS ON FITNESS

Thingamajigs and whatchumacallits

By: *Jim Evans*

DEAR JIM: I've thought about joining a health club for a long time, but some of those fancy exercise machines look pretty scary. What happened to the simple old barbells and dumbbells that I grew up with? It seems like everything is computerized now. I'm 72, and I'm not sure you can teach this old dog any new tricks. DAUNTED IN DUBLIN



DEAR DAUNTED: Don't bet on it. Remember the '54 Chevy that you thought was so "cool" when you were 22? Compare it to the new SUV or sedan that you might be driving now and, maybe, you can understand how fitness equipment has evolved over the years too — a good reason NOT to be intimidated by all of the "bells and whistles" on the high-tech equipment at your health club.

A perpetual problem for most health clubs is member retention because people, in general, are very indifferent about exercise and usually don't stick to their exercise program for very long.

"When health clubs first became popular back in the fifties - in the days of Vic Tanney, Jack LaLanne, Ray Wilson, and other fitness pioneers - exercise was a novelty, and the public flocked to gyms and health spas across the country," says Dave Morrison, owner of Bay Area Family Fitness in Pleasanton. "But as the novelty wore off, and people became bored with exercise, the fitness industry responded to the challenge by improving the quality and appearance of their equipment and adding lots of fancy 'thingamajigs' and 'whatchumacallits' to keep your attention and to make exercise more fun."

Modern exercise equipment — especially the cardiovascular equipment — now offers computerized screens that tell you how far you have walked (or run), how many calories you have burned, and much more. By keying in your age, fitness level, and other data, the machines can adjust your workout with variable time, speed, and resistance; change the grade of incline or decline; and measure your heart rate. Some of them even talk to you during your workout. You can plug in your own ear phones and listen to your choice of music or even watch television from a remote or dedicated monitor. Some equipment is even hooked up to the internet.

Today's treadmills have flexible decks under high density rubber treads to reduce the impact on your bones and joints and reduce the incidence of injury. In recent years, they have been somewhat supplanted by the popular elliptical machine — a kind of suspended treadmill that allows you to literally run "in the air" with no impact whatsoever. Stationary bikes now come in standard, racing, and recumbent style. Stairclimbing machines? Well, it's hard to make climbing stairs any easier, but the bells and whistles do make it more tolerable.

Aesthetically, most fitness equipment is more modern and streamlined in appearance than it was 40-50 years ago too. Even the traditional free weights are rubber or vinyl coated in many cases to reduce the clanging and banging of yesteryear. The resistance training equipment allows you to isolate specific muscle groups like never before using a variety of resistance mechanisms including selectorized weights, resistance bands, hydraulics, and even air compression.

"There is a simple learning curve associated with using today's modern fitness equipment — just like learning to drive that old Chevy," says Morrison. "With a little tutelage from one of the club's certified personal trainers, you will find most of the equipment to be very user-friendly, and in no time at all you will be singing the praises of modern technology and enjoying your exercise more."

"But, not to worry," he says reassuringly. "Most health clubs still have a wide assortment of free weights — I know we do — so you can still pump some iron while learning to the new equipment at the same time."

Jim Evans is a 45-year veteran of the health and fitness industry and internationally recognized fitness consultant. He is also a member of the Visionary Board of the International Council on Active Aging. Readers can send their questions to Jim about health, fitness, and quality of life to jime@bayareaaffc.com.

This column is brought to you by Bay Area Family Fitness Center, 4250 Rosewood Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, in the Rosewood Shopping Center. Call 925-416-1100 for further information.



Business News

Edited by Jeb Bing

Most working moms like their jobs

Care.com finds women feel 'empowered' with dual role

A majority of working mothers are empowered as role models for their children, have professional ambitions and feel like they are receiving support from their spouses and families despite a lack of childcare benefits offered by their workplaces, according to a national survey commissioned by Care.com, a national online childcare provider and service resource organization.

The Care.com report found that nearly eight out of 10 working moms (78%) say that they enjoy being a working parent. And half (50%) of working mothers feel that working enables them to be strong role models for their children.

But moms aren't content with feeling "mommy tracked" in the office. In fact, nearly six out of 10 working moms (58%) aspire to move higher in the professional ranks, and this group believes that promotion is possible. Nearly eight in 10 (78%) do not feel that they have been passed over for a promotion because of a perceived lack of commitment to work.

In fact, working mothers are seeing themselves more as mothers who work, and the benefits at home and the workplace are evident in the survey. Since becoming a working parent, four out of 10 working moms (40%) feel that working makes them more creative as a parent and that being a parent has added perspective that enhances their contributions at work.

Thirty-two percent feel that they are more motivated to work and take on new roles since becoming a parent, and three out of 10 (29%) feel that they are more productive now than they were before children.

With partners who help, mothers find work even better because they have support at home. More than three-quarters of working moms (77%) have a spouse or partner who participates in the raising of their children. Among those, nine out of 10 (89%) feel that their spouse/partner supports their career goals.

The feelings of "mommy guilt" appear to be abating, Care.com's research showed, with 64% percent saying they no longer find the demands of their job interfering with their ability to be a good parent.

Care.com also found that increasingly, as more women enter (or re-enter) the workplace and their professional aspirations continue, businesses need to catch up to the new normal of the motherhood workforce. Nearly three out of four companies (73%) where working moms are employed do not offer any childcare benefits. Only 18% offer flex-spending accounts; 6% offer on-site child care; 5% offer emergency back-up care; and only 4% subsidize child care.

Ambition and support at home is limited without workplace support, Care.com found. According to the survey, about four out of 10

working moms (39%) had to miss work during the previous year because of a childcare issue.

"I'm inspired to learn from this Care.com survey that eight out of 10 working moms enjoy what they do, most love being a great role model for their children and many feel more creative and motivated as a working-parent and even feel they add a better perspective at their jobs now that they are moms," said Katie Bugbee, managing editor of Care.com.

"This survey makes it clear that much still needs to be done in the workplace to support mothers," she added. "Women now hold more than half of the entry-level jobs at American blue-chip companies."

Bugbee continued: "According to the 2011 White House Report on Women, women will account for nearly 60% of total undergraduate enrollment by 2019. When nearly 40% of the female workforce has to miss work because of a childcare issue, the productivity loss is felt on the bottom line."

The Care.com survey was conducted via an online survey among 1,000 women who have children under 18, are employed, and are living in private American households.

Working from a database of American households that represents the population of the U.S., Poll Position conducted interviews for this survey for Care.com during the period from Jan. 4-10, 2012. ■

AC Transit welcomes new general manager

AC Transit's interim General Manager Mary V. King has left the organization today, yielding her duties to David J. Armijo who has taken over as general manager.

King, a former Alameda County supervisor, is credited with steering the bus agency through arguably its toughest financial times. She was recruited to AC Transit in 2004 to become the assistant general manager for communications and external affairs. But five years later she was appointed to be the interim general manager as the district struggled to stay afloat

through labor strife, reduced state and federal funding and severe service cuts.

"In her capacity as interim general manager, Mary V. King directed the day-to-day operations of the district with exceptional leadership and business acumen, exercising financial adroitness during a time of extreme crisis by masterfully reducing district expenses while sustaining vital bus services," the agency's board of director said in a resolution praising her tenure.

In 1988, she became the first African American woman to be

elected an Alameda County supervisor. She was re-elected twice and served as board president for two years. Earlier, she led the drive for a successful county tax initiative campaign (Measure B) that created new sources of funding for public transit and other transportation projects and made Alameda County one of the first "self help" counties in the state. Upon leaving office in 2001, Ms. King became a private consultant specializing in government affairs, regional housing, land-use and transportation issues. ■

New Roche drug helps melanoma patients

Twice-a-day pill shown to improve patient survival

A metastatic melanoma drug developed by Roche Molecular Diagnostics of Pleasanton in concert with Berkeley-based Plexxikon Inc. has been approved by European regulators for adult patients with the most aggressive form of skin cancer.

The drug Zelboraf is a twice-a-day pill that targets patients suffering from a specific mutation of melanoma.

According to a report in the San

Francisco Business Times by Ron Leuty, the drug was approved in August by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, with a European panel recommending approval in December.

Plexxikon is owned by Daiichi Sankyo.

The approvals are expected to benefit people with BRAF mutation-positive metastatic melanoma, researchers reported in analyzing clinical trial results.

Dr. Hal Barron, Roche's chief medical officer, said Zelboraf significantly improves patient survival, according to the article.

Zelboraf also has been approved in Canada, Switzerland, Brazil, Israel and New Zealand. It is being reviewed in Australia, India and other countries, Roche said.

Zelboraf is marketed in the United States by South San Francisco-based Genentech Inc., a Roche subsidiary. ■

Pleasanton Weekly

PUBLISHER

Gina Channell-Allen, Ext. 119

EDITORIAL

Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

Managing Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli, Ext. 111

Online/Community Editor

Jessica Lipsky, Ext. 229

Reporter

Glenn Wohltmann, Ext. 121

Contributors

Jay Flachsbarth

Jerri Pantages Long

Kerry Nally

ART & PRODUCTION

Lead Designer

Katrina Cannon, Ext. 130

Designers

Lili Cao, Ext. 120

Kristin Herman, Ext. 114

ADVERTISING

Account Executives

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Karen Klein, Ext. 122

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Andrea Heggelund, Ext. 110

Ad Services

Cammie Clark, Ext. 116

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 126

Circulation Director

Bob Lampkin, Ext. 141

Front Office Coordinator

Kathy Martin, Ext. 124

HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial e-mail:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales e-mail:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales e-mail:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation e-mail:

circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840.

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Community support of the Pleasanton Weekly is welcomed and encouraged through memberships at levels of \$5, \$8 or \$10 per month through automatic credit card charges. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to www.PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Appeals process works just fine

Elected and appointed officials in Pleasanton may have their faults, but not listening to homeowners who have comments or complaints about neighborhood issues are not among them. Those who have spent time at meetings of public committees, the Planning Commission and City Council — even the school board (whose meeting last Tuesday ended near midnight) — know that this is a city that likes to talk, and listen. It's been part of our municipal culture for decades, and it works.

That's why we were surprised by Mayor Jennifer Hosterman's plea last week to "streamline" the appeals process to cut down on the number coming before the City Council. She reacted out of frustration when appellants Rodney and Trina Lopez asked for another delay in the council's consideration of their appeal over payment of a neighbor's skylight. Their 40- to 50-page appeal was already before council members, and those who were involved in the dispute, whether it be the neighbors, architects, legal counsel or others, had the evening reserved to be at the council meeting to again go over their views and reports. For Hosterman and the council, it was another in a series of appeals and re-appeals that has taken much of their time and city staff's hours of work on what some may consider trivial issues.

But they're not trivial and, as Councilman Matt Sullivan pointed out, it's a right of anyone in Pleasanton to come to the council and make their case. And, he added, it's an elected official's job to listen. Unlike in some larger cities where neighborhood disputes never reach elected officials, Pleasanton has always encouraged the hometown discussions.

Instead of streamlining or curbing formal appeals, perhaps better efforts can be made to meet with those who can't solve their backyard disputes amicably with a more formal mediation process. Pleasanton had success with this approach when St. Clare's Episcopal Church found its neighbors objecting to a church expansion plan. With mediation, arranged and conducted through government channels, all sides reached an accord and the expansion, with some limitations, is moving forward. Across Hopyard, Trinity Lutheran Church couldn't reach agreements with its neighbors for a school building addition, and that project failed to proceed.

Pleasanton has always taken a neighborly approach to solving issues. State requirements call for notifying those within 100 feet or so of a proposed construction project such as a room addition or new fence; Pleasanton sends notices to those within 1,000 feet. A city building official or planning department consultant is always listed on these notices with phone numbers to call. Pleasanton has a good record of "working things out." Some cities never allow these "hometown" issues to reach the lawmakers. But in the end, when mediation and negotiations over the backyard fence don't work, it's the City Council's job to hear everyone out for as long as it takes, and then make a decision. It's the Pleasanton way. ■



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

LETTERS

Waterslide forums are a sham

Dear Editor,

I am writing to comment on the Around Pleasanton column by Jeb Bing on March 2, "Keep the waterslides open." I would like to thank him for the first clear, straightforward, lack of BS reporting that I have seen in years. For the first time someone acknowledges that these open meetings or forums are a sham and a waste of time.

It is a shame that the slides will not open this summer or ever again. I enjoyed many days there with my kids and their friends. It is more shameful that this is controlled by a handful of people instead of those that really utilize this public facility.

These people do not reside in our city and do not care. I will not be renewing my East Bay Park membership. Please keep writing these kinds of articles. We need them. They cut to the point of a problem and it is only at this point that resolution can begin.

Lori Wolfe

Allow competition

Dear Editor,

I am neither a Walmart shopper nor a Walmart representative, but just a Pleasanton resident who lives in the area that Walmart is moving into. I believe in equal opportunity and fairness. I understand that Walmart followed the necessary procedures to be granted the permission to move in the vacant store.

So far as Walmart obeys the

country's and the state labor laws, union pressure should not prevent a business from opening in Pleasanton and providing an opportunity for Pleasanton residents to shop. Competition leads to lower prices and is a big winner for Pleasanton residents. Lack of competition (what Councilman Matt Sullivan wants) will lead to high prices.

The government should let businesses compete. Only allowing their favorite businesses to flourish and suppress competition is not what the USA is built on. Such Matt Sullivan beliefs happen only in one country, North Korea, where the citizens are not only deprived of choice but their daily basics because the government dictates to them. Also, residents pushed by their union affiliations should not tell other Pleasanton residents where to shop.

If Pleasanton even begins to treat Walmart differently than it treats any other business in town, beware of the 14th Amendment, Equal Protection Clause, which provides that "no state shall ... deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." The day shall never come in Pleasanton when the government or the unions tell Pleasanton residents where to shop.

Rajinder Ghatoaura

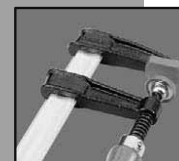
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WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE VALLEY — MUSIC, THEATER, ART, MOVIES AND MORE

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Finding Mr. Amador

Young men strut their stuff for a good cause

Andrea Garcia and Kara Matsune have been watching their male schoolmates at Amador Valley High all year with a discerning eye. As co-directors of this year's seventh annual Mr. Amador contest, they needed to pinpoint a variety of contestants.

"There's sort of an image that's been created over the years," Garcia said. "They are outgoing and well respected around the school."

This year's contestants include eight upperclassmen and two sophomores, and the all-male pageant will benefit the George Mark Children's House in San Leandro.

"In order to get more money most people wanted boys from different groups," explained Garcia.

Her committee drafted a jock who plays football, a "really studious" valedictorian who's well-liked and respected, a guy who plays the guitar, someone involved with his church, a class clown, a guy who's super involved in school and different clubs, and a wrestler.

"All the guys this year are enthusiastic," Garcia said.

But it's not all fun and games. The pageant involves a lot of rehearsals.

"We have them sign a contract," Garcia said. "They have to attend three-quarters or more of the practices. And they can't abuse the privilege of being up there with inappropriate acts — they have to follow the script."

The endeavor has taken a lot of preparation. Garcia and Matsune put out applications for the Mr. Amador committee in early October. They also talked to other high schools in the area for ideas. Foothill High held its contest March 1 and this year's Mr. Amador is senior Jack Reed.

"We put together a team of subcommittees," Garcia said. "Cheerleaders and girls involved in dance teach the boys their dances. The technical committee is taking pictures and putting together commercials."

Then there's the publicity committee that seeks community support from businesses. They also have fundraisers, such as the Mr. Amador contestants dressing up to deliver Valentine's Grams with flowers to girls on Valentine's Day.

"The girls get to choose which boy delivers it," Garcia said. "It's generally pretty popular."

Tomorrow as the Special Olympics is held on campus, the contenders will be serving a pancake breakfast, which is the group's biggest fundraiser.

The committee and contestants are com-



mitted to making money for the George Mark Children's Home, a pediatric palliative care center for seriously ill children and their families.

"This year we decided to have everyone go visit the house so they'd feel more passionately about it," Garcia said. "You walk in and it's like a home. It's meant for the families so they aren't living in a hospital environment."

The Mr. Amador event itself, on March 26, also raises money. Tickets for students who have joined ASB are \$5; non-ASB are \$7; others are \$10 at the door.

"Definitely the families of all the boys come, and their extended families," Garcia said. "And a lot of other parents do enjoy coming to watch it, too."

"The boys will all be introduced, and there will be a fashion show," she said. "This year's theme is controversial sports."

The contestants and their sports are:

- Hussain Ali — Cheer
- Scott Bolin — Parkour
- Simeon Comanescu — River Dancing
- Anson Han — Quidditch
- Nick Hasjim — Ping Pong
- Chase Hennings — Color Guard
- Nick Lopez — Aerobics

- Dev Rishi — Cricket
- Ryan Mahoney — Rodeo
- Tommy Yozzo — Speed Stacking

Each contestant will have an escort, a girlfriend or a friend, who takes them through a Q&A.

"Some questions are more serious, some are fun," Garcia said.

"There are several dances throughout the show they are working hard on perfecting," she added.

The evening will take on a more serious note as a video is shown of the contestants visiting the George Mark Children's House.

In former years the audience has voted for the winner but this year there will be two shows, at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m., Monday, March 26. The winners are chosen 50% by peer votes cast after the show, and 50% by a judging panel of teachers.

"The next day on the quad it's announced," Garcia said. "And it will be on the marquee in front of school."

The Mr. Amador directors and all the boys will deliver the proceeds to the George Mark Children's House in mid-April, to allow time for donations to be made after the show.

"My favorite part about the show is getting to watch all of these boys from different social circles and grades come together and rally the school to get behind this great cause," Garcia said. "They have all put their heart and soul into this show, knowing that it is on them to not only raise money for George Mark but to represent Amador well." ■

“There’s sort of an image that’s been created over the years. They are outgoing and well respected around the school.”

—Andrea Garcia, one of the directors of this year's seventh annual Mr. Amador contest

City offers fun summer camps for kids and teens

Registration now open

Hike along the Pleasanton ridge and get a mini-course on local history, explore the Bay Area's premier science museums, or discover the world of robotics. These are just a few of more than 40 summer day camps offered through the city of Pleasanton's Community Services Department. Registration began Feb. 1.

A complete list of camps and activities is in the Spring 2012 Activities Guide, which is mailed to homes in Pleasanton. Copies are at the Pleasanton Public Library or at the Community Services offices at 200 Old Bernal Ave. It can also be viewed online at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov. A full-color center insert features 15 pages of summer day camp options for ages 2 to 18.

The camps include:

■ **Summer Seekers**, specially designed for students entering first

through third grades. It includes eight weeks of themed fun including Under the Sea week, a talent show, Pirate Adventures and Wild About Art. Activities will include arts and crafts, cooperative games, camp songs, theater arts, outdoor play, swimming and a special event or field trip each week.

■ **Summer Explorers**, for kids entering grades 4 to 6, up to eight themed weeks of fun such as arts and crafts, games, theater arts, outdoor play and swimming, plus one field trip or special event each week to destinations such as the Lawrence Hall of Science and Boomers.

■ **P-Town Teens Camp**, for middle school students entering grades 7 to 9. In addition to swimming, games, art projects and cooking, campers will go on a field trip each week to places such as the Chabot Space & Science Center and Marine World.

All three camps run from June 20 through Aug. 12 at the Amador Recreation Center at 4455 Black Ave., next to the aquatics center. Campers should plan to bring a snack and lunch from home each day.

In addition to adult staff supervision, the camps are conducted by well trained college counselors. Space is limited and early registration is encouraged.

A wide sampling of specialty camps is also planned, including art camps focused on painting, drawing and sculpture, a chess camp, science camps, computer and Lego camps, nature camps, drama camps, and dozens of sports camps. Gingerbread Preschool will host summer camps for ages 2 to 6.

For more information about any of the summer camps, call 931-5340 or register online at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/services/recreation. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

City Naturalist Eric Nicholson conducts hikes on the Pleasanton Ridge as part of the Ridge Runners Nature Day Camps offered in the summer.

Hometown tenor

Marco Stefani appearing at Firehouse theater tomorrow

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

When tenor Marco Stefani steps onstage at the Firehouse Arts Center tomorrow, it will be a coming home for him: He lived in Pleasanton for many years and graduated from Amador Valley High in 2005.

"Marco's talent was brought to our attention by one of our volunteers who had seen him perform at University of the Pacific," said Firehouse Theater Supervisor Rob Vogt. "We reviewed a DVD of his recital and realized that he had great tal-



ent that should be shared with his home community." Stefani completed his undergraduate studies at the University of the Pacific and is a three-time alumnus of the Music Academy of the West. He received a master of music degree from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana Uni-

versity and made his professional debut in Puccini's "Gianni Schicchi" with the Stockton Opera.

Tomorrow night Stefani will present a recital of songs and arias featuring Liszt's "Tre Sonetti di Petrarca," collaborating with pianist Sunny Yoon.

He recently sang in a classic master class series at Carnegie Hall. This summer, he will perform at the Opera Theatre of St. Louis as a Gerdine Young Artist.

Stefani's skills include stage combat, conversational Italian, French, German and Spanish, guitar and Greek folk dance.

"We're very excited to bring him to the Firehouse stage," Vogt said.

Tomorrow's performance begins at 8 p.m. Ticket range from \$18-\$22. Go to www.firehousearts.org or call 931-4848. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton. ■

Sing along with John Travolta

Fun Rotary evening to benefit Open Heart Kitchen

It's always OK to quietly tap your toes during a musical but Tri-Valley Rotary is offering the chance for an entire audience to burst into song.

Rotary's sing-along to the movie "Grease" will take place March 25 at Vine Cinema in Livermore. It will benefit Open Heart Kitchen, which provides hot meals to those in need in the Tri-Valley.

"An energetic audience will sing out loud to popular rock and roll songs like 'Greased Lightning', 'Summer Nights' and 'You're the One That I Want,'" said Rotarian spokesman Chad Caines. "Go

ahead and sing along with the chorus. Don't worry, the theater management will encourage it."

On the other hand, he noted, there is no pressure to sing.

"If singing is not your thing, then just sit back relax and enjoy the show," Caines said.

If you sing, don't worry about your voice — every one, on key or off, is welcome to join in. The screen will display the lyrics.

A pre-event starts at 4:45 p.m. with no-host food, wine, drawings, auctions and a costume contest. Everyone is encouraged to dress as a cast member for "Grease," which

is set at a high school in 1958; John Travolta plays bad boy Danny Zuko and Olivia Newton-John is the clean-cut Sandy. Doors open for the movie at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for children. Call 273-1603.

Vine Cinema is located at 1722 First St. in Livermore.

In addition to benefiting Open Heart Kitchen, proceeds will go to Rotary International's End Polio Program, Tri-Valley Rotary's annual Livermore VA Hospital Veteran's barbecue and other local and international Rotary programs.

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



STEFFI GROSS

Check out the competition

The Foothill High Winter Guard performs "I Feel Fine," which it will showcase at the annual Winter Guard, Percussion and Drum Major Competition being held Saturday, March 24, at Foothill High. The more than 100 performances will include teams from Dublin, Livermore and San Ramon, and top finishers often dominate the Championships the following weekend. Drum Majors start the day at 8:30 a.m. in the stadium with awards at 2 p.m. In the large gym, the Percussion competitions begin at 8:30 followed by Winter Guard at 1 p.m. and awards at 5:45. The day, which includes sales of souvenirs, food and a vendor court, is a major fundraiser for the Foothill Band Boosters and benefits the Foothill music program.

LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA **2nd** ANNIVERSARY SEASON

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BY GIACOMO PUCCINI

HER COURAGE BROUGHT DOWN THE TERROR OF ROME

MAR. 10, 16 @ 8:00 P.M.
MAR. 11, 17 @ 2:00 P.M.

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BY PHONE: 925.373.6800, OR ONLINE:
LIVERMOREVALLEYOPERA.COM



This weekend, everyone Don the green and join the fun at the St. Patrick's

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Enjoy an Irish jig this weekend.

Dublin is going green as the Tri-Valley gathers to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a pancake breakfast Saturday, a parade, a festival that lasts all day, both days, and the Shamrock Fun Run.

"I'm 100% Italian but I'm 100% Irish that weekend," said Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti.

Firefighters start serving their famous green pancakes at 7 a.m. at Station No. 16, on the corner of Donohue Drive and Amador Valley Boulevard. No reservations are needed, just \$5 to cover the cost of the breakfast, which will last until 10 a.m.

The Dublin Lions Club Parade begins at 9:30 a.m., with staging on Amador Plaza Road near Safeway, and heads south, turning left to go under the freeway and looping around.

"The Lions Club (which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year) started the parade in 1983, the year after the city became a city," recalled Bill Burnham, who ran the first parade and has been its director every year since. "The mayor at the time, Pete Snyder, was a Lions Club member. He suggested, now that we're a city we should be put on the map with something. He suggested a parade."

Burnham and fellow Lion Scott Thompson rounded up a couple dozen entries with about 250 people and staged the parade from the parking lot at Dublin High School.

"After two to three years we outgrew the parking lot and now we're downtown," Burnham said. "We have to max it out at 80 entries. We have floats and horses. You name it, we have it."

He said he tried using committees to organize the parade and coordinate with the city in the early years but for the last 25 or so has found it easier to do the planning by himself.

"Then every Lions Club member shows up Saturday morning to help out," he said. "We blow up balloons, pass out beads, direct traffic, do just about everything."

Bands come from Dublin schools, and this year there will be two new bagpipe units, Burnham said.

"Last year we had 2,600 people in the parade," he noted. "And as far as watching, it was about close to 10,000."

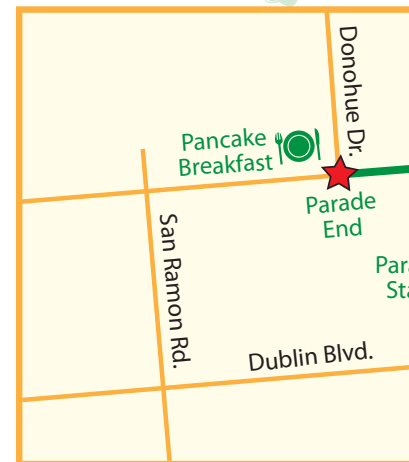
The best place to view the parade, he said, is on or near the bleachers at the corner of Amador Valley Boulevard and Village Parkway, where the announcers are located, along with cameras from Tri-Valley Community TV, which airs the festivities later.

"Get there early," Burnham advised.

Seating in the bleachers is first come, first served.

"We try to discourage saving places," he said.

The parade starts off with a banner reading "Dublin Lions Club." School groups are featured, as well as their bands, and this year the parade's grand marshal will be Danielle Green, 8, whose birthday falls on St. Patrick's Day. She will be



marching with her fellow students from Fallon Elementary School.

A few characters in costume walk the parade route, such as a guy dressed up like a hotdog in a bun to advertise a local fast food eatery.

"The kids enjoy that sort of thing," Burnham said.

Mayor Sbranti, who grew up in Dublin, said that being in the parade is like a rite of passage for residents, as it features Little League teams, Scouts and other community groups.

"I was in it a couple of times, growing up," he recalled.

Now he parades down the route as mayor, and when he is finished he will go to the bleachers and co-announce the entries with former Mayor Janet Lockhart.

"I enjoy doing the parade," Sbranti said. "The

parade, as big as it is, could even be bigger but we chose to keep it more modest in size. A lot of outside vendors talk about coming in and trying to make it like Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade, with big outside floats and vendors. But we like the parade to have a local hometown feel."

Burnham said the 80 parade slots were filled several weeks ago. The Lions Club charges \$50 for nonprofit groups and \$75 for commercial entries.

"We give away balloons and beads, and there's all the signage," he explained. "It got pretty costly."

Burnham has kept his sense of humor as he figures out the logistics of the parade each year. For instance, the marching order. He organizes entries into two parts — front and back — and then alternates each year.

"But some complain, 'Why can't I be in the parade,'" he said. "The same people complain every year."

E Clampus Vitus, the men's club celebrating California history and drinking, used to be a "precision drill team," he reported.

"They pulled a wagon with beer on it and they'd drink it," he recalled. "Their 'drill team' was a log they carried and they'd stop and drink from it in the log."

"The Police Department didn't say anything but half a dozen women complained."

Burnham expressed their concerns about the parade.

"They pretty much told me in no uncertain terms that if they're not allowed to do the parade, they're not back," he remembered.

People also complained a few years ago when Miller Lite had a 40-foot trailer in

is Irish k's Day Celebration



DINO VOURNAS FOR THE CITY OF DUBLIN

The St. Patrick's Day Parade is a rite of passage for Dublin youths, who almost all participate through their schools, teams or Scout groups. At left are Dublin High School and Wells Middle School marching bands, which add to the parade excitement. The festival is held 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

perform continuously on the Plaza Dance Stage, a favorite of the mayor.

"I like the whole setting — and seeing the entire community come together, that's one of things I really like," Sbranti said. "It's a signature event for the Tri-Valley and a signature event for Dublin in particular. Having it brings everyone together."

An International Food Court will offer corned beef sliders, Irish bangers and mash, Guinness marinated tri-tip on Irish soda bread and fish and chips. Festival favorites such as funnel cakes and kettlecorn will also be available as well as lumpia and teriyaki chicken and beef kabobs.

A Tea Cottage will offer "a wee bit of Ireland" in a fresh cup of tea served in china with shortbread and scones near a cozy fireplace while a Celtic harpist performs.

On Sunday morning, the annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk will open registration at 7:15 a.m. at 6815 Dublin Blvd., with the race beginning at 8:30 a.m. The 3.1-mile course draws about 1,800 participants. Although preregistration is over, people can sign up Sunday morning for \$30.

Tonight the Dublin Sister City Association is holding its Green & White Gala at the Dublin Senior Center with an Irish happy hour, dinner and dancing to live music.

"It's great to see how the event has grown," Sbranti said. "It's a great setting, right in middle of city, it works out really well. There's a real sense of atmosphere."

"Rain or shine we have a good time," he added. ■

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playing Irish music with girls in low-cut, short black cocktail dresses and high heels walking behind it.

"The same group of six women complained to city hall that it was inappropriate with kids," Burnham said, adding with a laugh, "They looked very nice as far as I'm concerned."

The entry did not return.

The city of Dublin sets up the parade viewing bleachers and does cleanup as well as sponsoring the festival from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the nearby Dublin Civic Plaza. It will have carnival rides and more than 200 booths, featuring Irish tartan ties and scarves, Celtic capes and shawls, hand-knit wool sweaters and more.

There will be three stages with everything from traditional Irish folk music to Celtic Rock, from bagpipes to Celtic harp. Irish dancers will

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THE CITY OF

PLEASANTON

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: P12-0042, City of Pleasanton – Consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 18.44: C Commercial Districts, Special Purpose-CC Central Commercial District of the Pleasanton Municipal Code to designate financial institutions as a conditional use within the Downtown Revitalization District
- Review of framework for amended Growth Management Ordinance
- 2012 Regional and Local Water Supply Update
- Consider the scope, work plan, general schedule and public input process for preparation of an East Pleasanton Specific Plan
- Adopt a resolution accepting the Midyear 2011/12FY Operating Budget Update

Planning Commission Special Meeting

Monday, March 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue

- **P12-0113, Angela Joe-Willmes and Linda Martin, Appellants (Kathy Wooley/Harris French & Associates, for WalMart Neighborhood Market, Applicant)**

Appeal of the Zoning Administrator's (in this case the Community Development Director's) approval of a Zoning Certificate to operate a supermarket as a permitted use at 3112 Santa Rita Road within the hours of operation and delivery limits as set forth in the existing Conditions of Approval for PUD-84-4 (Ordinances Nos. 1035, 1165 and 1214 and Planning Commission Resolution No. 2691).

Historic Preservation Task Force Meeting

March 22, 2012, 6:30 pm
Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Boulevard

The focus of the City's Historic Preservation Task Force will be to review selected sections of the General Plan, Downtown Specific Plan, and associated Downtown Design Guidelines, as well as other related documents. The Historic Preservation Task Force will make recommendations to the City Council to help clarify City policy on historic preservation and development review processes in the Historic Downtown and other areas within the City.

To be added to the email list for agenda packets and additional Historic Preservation Task Force information, please email your request to rrondash@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. For further information or questions, see our website at <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/business/planning/DH/ HistoricPreservationTaskForce.html>.

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

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails – 1 Youth Member
Civic Arts Commission – 1 Alternate Member
Economic Vitality Committee – 1 representative from each of the following categories:

- Business at Large - Business Park - Commercial Services Firm - Commercial Real Estate Broker
- Commercial Real Estate Developer – Environmental Industry - Infrastructure - Medical Technology - Residential Real Estate Broker

Energy & Environment Committee – 1 Member
Housing Commission – 1 Alternate Member

Human Services Commission – 1 Alternate Member
Library Commission – 1 Member, 1 Alternate Member

Youth Commission – Representatives from each of the following categories:

- Village High School Freshman/Sophomore – 1 Member
- Harvest Park Middle School 6th or 7th Grade – 1 Member
- Pleasanton Middle School 6th or 7th Grade – 1 Member
- Thomas Hart Middle School 6th or 7th Grade – 1 Member
- At Large Student 6th to 10th Grade – 3 Members
- Adult Commissioner 18 years old or older – 2 Members
- Alternate Members 6th Grade to 10th Grade – 2 Members

Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) Citizens Advisory Committee – 3 Pleasanton representatives

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

Applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 23, 2012.

**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

POLICE BULLETIN

Sneaker sales lead to fight

A fight over the new Air Jordan sneakers led to a felony charge against a Livermore man, according to police reports.

A Castro Valley man was accused of cutting in line at Champs in the Stoneridge Shopping Center in front of Anthony Christopher Pisano, 31, and wound up with the last pair of size 13 sneakers. That led Pisano to threaten to slit his throat, a police report said. Pisano was arrested at about 9:36 a.m. March 10 on a charge of criminal threats.

In other police reports:

- A Pleasanton woman faces a DUI charge after losing control of her 1996 Ford Ranger pickup truck, veering off the road and striking a fire hydrant at the intersection of Muirwood Drive and Clovewood Lane. A witness said the collision snapped the hydrant from its base, sending water shooting more than 50 feet into the air and flooding the street.

The driver, Lauren Ayers, 20, was headed northbound on Muirwood Drive and hit the hydrant at the northeast corner of the intersection. Ayers was arrested at about 10:40 p.m.; the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department responded and shut the water off.

- Two Pleasanton teens were charged in separate incidents earlier this month.

In one, a 14-year-old boy was arrested March 9 for possession of marijuana on school grounds for having 1.1 grams of pot at Hart Middle School. The incident was reported at about 1:11 p.m. in the 4400 block of Willow Road.

In the second, a 14-year-old girl was arrested March 6 for possession of stolen property. The girl had an

iTouch that was taken from another's backpack. The incident occurred at Foothill High School and was reported at about 1:55 p.m.

- Three vehicles were stolen in separate incidents in four days last week. A 1995 Honda Civic was stolen March 7 from the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive, and was reported at about 10:06 p.m. A second car, a 2000 Honda Civic was stolen March 10 from Tonopah Circle and reported about 9 a.m.; and a third car, a 1989 Nissan Maxima was stolen between 3:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. March 11 from Stoneridge Mall.

Police have said thieves are using shaved keys to gain access to older-model foreign cars.

- Electronic equipment valued at about \$10,000 was reported stolen from an office in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road. Four Fujitsu tablet computers similar to Apple iPads and valued at about \$2,000 apiece were taken along with four printers worth about \$500 each. An employee left the items to be shipped by UPS at about 4:30 p.m. Feb. 2 and only realized the theft after they didn't arrive at their destination.

- A San Jose man was arrested March 10 for burglary and parole violation in an incident at Walmart. Ellious Nichlan Dunson, 53, was taken into custody at about 5:30 p.m. for taking 28 miscellaneous computer games and DVDs worth nearly \$2,000 along with a \$14 duffel bag. A security officer who recognized Dunson watched him put the games and DVDs in the bag and then put the bag in the garden section of the store. Dunson was on parole for a prior theft charge.

- A Pleasanton woman was taken into custody on a felony drug sales warrant on March 13. Emma Kirkup, 29, was arrested at about 5:52 a.m. in the 600 block of St. Mary Street; she was wanted for possession of marijuana for sale and marijuana sales in San Joaquin County.

Under the law, those arrested are considered innocent until convicted.

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

March 7 Theft

- 12:05 p.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Drive and Pleasant Hill Road; auto theft

- 10:06 p.m. in the 5700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

Paraphernalia possession

- 3:32 a.m. in the first block of California Ave

March 8 Identity theft

- 5:03 p.m. in the 5500 block of Black Ave

Auto burglary

- 7:31 a.m. in the 2500 block of Grappa Pl

Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:58 a.m. in the 2900 block of Hopyard Road; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

- 10:54 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; possession of a prescription in another's name

March 9

Theft

- 5:22 p.m. in the 4500 block of

Rosewood Drive; theft

- 5:49 p.m. in the 4800 block of Mason Street; grand theft

- 7:40 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall road; theft

Auto burglary

- 7:18 p.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:11 a.m. in the 3800 block of Hopyard Road; DUI

- 1:30 p.m. near the intersection of Hopyard Road and I-680; DUI

- 1:44 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Stoneridge Drive; DUI, two separate charges

- 6:25 p.m. at the intersection of Vineyard Avenue and Thiessen Street; marijuana possession

- 10:23 p.m. at the intersection of old Vineyard Ave and Three Oaks Dr; marijuana possession, possession of tobacco by a minor

March 10

Burglary

- 8:10 a.m. in the 2100 block of Arroyo Ct

- 2:31 p.m. in the 5600 block of Black Ave

- 3:59 p.m. in the 4500 block of

Rosewood Drive

Battery

- 1:57 p.m. in the 7200 block of Beaumont Court

Alcohol violations

- 9:50 p.m. in the 3100 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; underage drinking on private property

March 11

Theft

- 4:30 p.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court; grand theft

Vandalism

- 12:34 p.m. in the 700 block of Palomino Drive

March 12

Identity theft

- 2:24 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 7:55 p.m. in the 3500 block of Helen Drive

Auto burglary

- 2:48 p.m. at the intersection of Navajo Court and Yuma Way

DUI

- 12:27 a.m. in the 4700 block of Augustine Street

OBITUARIES

Lee Roy McGalliard Pleasanton (formerly of Cupertino)

Lee Roy McGalliard, 81, passed away peacefully on March 3, 2012 with his daughter by his side. Lee was born in Miami, FL and raised in Pelham (Cotton), GA. As a young boy he worked in the fields picking cotton, as a grocery bag boy, in a diner and at the Coats & Clarke thread mill. He played semi-pro baseball and retained his love of the game throughout his life. In 1950 he joined the Navy serving on the USS Boxer during the Korean War and was stationed at Moffett Field. Near the end of his enlistment he met Nita at a dance in Stockton and they married 6 weeks later. Upon Lee's honorable discharge they moved to Pelham, GA for a brief

time before returning to CA where they lived in the Bay Area throughout their lives. Lee retired as Battalion Chief after 30 years with the Moffett Field Fire Department. A part-time job in 1963 at the Saratoga Horticultural Foundation grew into a passion for Lee. The knowledge he gained inspired him to start Lee's Landscape & Maintenance which he ran for over 40 years before relocating to Pleasanton in 2006. It was his nature to teach anyone with an interest how to prune and care for their trees, shrubs, and especially roses.

Lee was a 3rd degree Mason over 50 years at Pelham GA Lodge 312, 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason over 40 years, and an Asiya Shriner over 35 years. He was past president of the Shrine Golf Club. Lee was an avid golfer.

Lee & Nita were past members of Saratoga Country Club. He and son-in-law Keith won the Santa Clara County 2 Man Best Ball tournament in 1985.

Lee was a devoted husband, father, grandfather. Most of his adult life he worked two jobs at a time. He was extremely proud both his grandsons attend Santa Clara University. Lee was predeceased by his dearest darling wife of 55 years Nita, son Mark, granddaughter Ashley, his parents and 6 brothers and sisters. Lee is survived by his daughter Jan Wheaton (Keith), his adoring grandsons Curtis & Scott, all of Pleasanton, and many nieces & nephews. Lee loved to be around people and everyone found his southern charm engaging. He was a good friend to all who knew him and will be dearly missed by many friends and family.

Burial in Alta Mesa Memorial Park, Palo Alto. In lieu of flowers please send donations to San Jose Scottish Rite Clinic.





AMERICAN

Eddie Papa's American Hangout

4889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 469-6266. Winner of The Pleasanton Weekly's Reader Choice Awards for "Best American Food Restaurant" and "Best Meal under \$20," Eddie Papa's American Hangout celebrates the regional food and beverage cultures of America. Bring the whole family to enjoy iconic dishes from across the United States, Old World Hospitality, and hand crafted artisan cocktails. www.eddiepapas.com.

BARBECUE

Red Smoke Grill

4501 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 734-0307. Home of the Tri Tip and Blue, Red Smoke Grill was Voted Reader's Choice Best 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2011. Dine in or take out rotisserie chicken, ribs, prawns, salads and tri tip, or pulled pork sandwiches. Relax with a beer or a bottle of wine. Visit www.redsmokegrill.com.

BREW PUB/ALEHOUSE

The Hop Yard American Alehouse and Grill

3015H Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 426-9600. Voted Best Watering Hole in Pleasanton, The Hop Yard offers 30 craft beers on tap as well as great food. The full-service menu includes appetizers, salads and grilled fare that will bring you back time and again. Banquet facilities available. On the web at www.hopyard.com.

470 Market Place, San Ramon, 277-9600. Featuring a giant 8-foot projection screen for major sporting events, they also feature 30 beers on tap and a great grill. Go in for the beer, go back for the food. More at www.hopyard.com.

To have your restaurant listed in this dining directory, please call the Pleasanton Weekly Advertising Department at (925) 600-0840

Careers

ADMINISTRATIVE SKILLS TODAY Find out what administrative skills are in demand today, continue to be the pulse of the office, ensure you add value to your employer, and the best kept secret in the administrative world. Prize drawings and networking opportunities. Saturday, March 17 from 9-11 a.m. \$10 / \$20 with breakfast Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. 294-8451. www.iaap-laspositas.org/

Classes

MUSIC LOVERS SING-ALONG There is no one to compete against in this club, it's just a fun group. Lyrics and music are provided, participants should just bring their melodic voice and meet from 10:15-11:15 a.m., every Thursday, at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. All musical accompanists are welcome to join in. This event is free.

Concerts

BANOIST JAYME STONE Jayme Stone performs an array of music inspired by folk traditions from around the world, including selections from his latest album "Room of Wonders." Friday, March 16 from 8-10 p.m. Adult: \$15, \$20, \$25; Child: \$12; Senior \$20. Purchase online, by phone or at Firehouse Box Office. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 925-931-4848. www.firehousearts.org

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100 gold albums, 19 Grammy nominations and 4 Grammys, Larry Carlton is one of the most acclaimed musicians of his time. Thursday, March 22 from 8-10 p.m. Tickets: \$35, \$40, and \$45. Purchase online, by phone or at Firehouse Arts Center Box Office. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848. www.firehousearts.org

'OF PIANO AND ORGAN' Valley Concert Chorale Presents! will present concert pianist Daniel Glover and organist Jerome Lenk performing duets at "Of Piano and Organ," at 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 23, at the First Presbyterian Church, Fourth and L streets, Livermore. Tickets are \$25. Program will include Franck, Dupre and Liszt. Visit www.valleyconcertchorale.org or call 866-4003.

Events

CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California invite you to join them for Champagne Brunch. RSVP (with check) to Jill by March 18, at 510-881-4788. Sunday, March 25

at 11 a.m. \$29.75 (incl. tax and tip) Castlewood Country Club, 700 Country Club Circle, Pleasanton. 510-881-4788.

CUBAN WEEK CELEBRATION Las Positas College invites the public to celebrate the Cuban people, history,

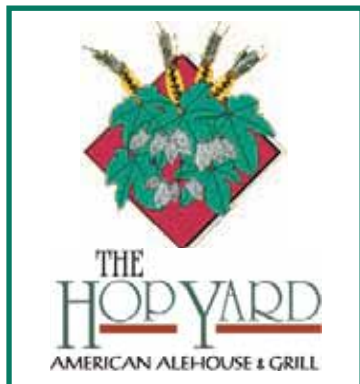
art, dance, music and religions. The festival, now in its fifth year, will provide education, information and a chance to practice your Spanish. The event is from 7-9 p.m. March 12-16 at the Barbara Fracisco Mertes Center for the Arts. Call 424-1554 or visit www.laspositascollege.edu.

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Fundraisers

BLUE STAR MOMS CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT Blue Star Moms Chapter 101 Charity Golf Tournament Supporting our Troops & Gold Star Families. Entry Fee includes FJ Shoes, green fee and cart, lunch and dinner, one free round next time. If you do not golf you can still be a Hole Sponsor; thank you for supporting our troops. Friday, April 20 at 10 a.m. \$200 entry fee Callippe Preserve, 8500 Clubhouse Dr., Pleasanton. 426-6666. www.playcallippe.com

BRING BACK THE LIVERMORE FIREWORKS The community is invited to an evening of food, wine, beer, entertainment and fun while raising money to bring back the Livermore July 4th fireworks display and celebration. A local favorite, vocalist and guitarist Roger Kardinal, will provide entertainment for the evening. Thursday, Mar. 22 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. \$20 Robert Livermore Community

Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. 963-8019. www.livermorefireworks.org

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TEAM LEAP'S SUPPLY DRIVE Team LEAP, a Destination Imagination team from Pleasanton, is organizing a supply drive for the local high schools to provide some relief from the recent budget crisis. The drive will be directly benefiting Foothill or Amador. Sunday, March 18 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Free Office Max, 5596 Springdale Ave., Pleasanton. www.risetosupply.com

Kids & Teens

MAD SCIENCE FOR KIDS Mad Science of Diablo brings its traveling science fair at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 17, to the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Program highlights the powerful principles of air and pressure, and includes spellbinding experiments and demonstrations sure to spark the imagination. Call 931-3400, ext. 8.

Lectures/ Workshops

RETHINK YOUR LAWN TALK Learn how to tear out your lawn without tearing out your lawn. Join Bay-Friendly Qualified Designer and owner of Chrysalis Gardens, Ann Morrison for this free nursery talk. You can get valuable design tips and how-to, and view a sheet mulch demonstration. Drawing for garden gifts following the talk. Saturday, March 17 from 10-11:30 a.m. Free Western Garden Nursery, 2756 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. 510-891-6542. www.LoseYourLawn.org

Live Music

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND SPRING CONCERT The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will perform its Spring Concert, "La Primavera - Springtime in Italy," with music by Rossini and Verdi along with themes from great Italian movies. Sunday, March 25 from 2-3:15 p.m. Free Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 846-5897. www.pleasantonband.org

Miscellaneous

ST. PAWTRICK'S DAYS ADOPTION EVENT Join Valley Humane Society for St. Pawtrick's Days, a special adoption event. Wear a spot o' green Friday, March 16; Saturday, March 17; or Sunday, March 18

and receive a discount on your dog or cat adoption fees. Adopt a pet or make a donation in any amount to try your luck finding treasure in our Pot o' Gold. Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St., Pleasanton. 426-8656. www.valleyhumane.org

On Stage

PUCCINI'S FIERY 'TOSCA' A story of love, murder, suicide, a rebellion and a fiery diva is in store for audiences as the Livermore Valley Opera presents "Tosca." Performances are at 8 p.m., Saturday, March 10; 2 p.m., Sunday, March 11; 8 p.m., Saturday, March 17; and at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 18 at Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets are \$39-\$74 with \$10 off for students under 18. An opening night gala, which includes dinner at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, is \$75. Call 373-6800 or visit www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Recreation

SHAMROCK 5K FUN RUN AND WALK If you are a casual runner or just want to walk with family and friends, this is an event for you. It's hosted by the city of Dublin to help promote family fitness and enhance community engagement during the St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Sunday, March 18 from 8:30-10:30 a.m. On-Site Registration - \$30 6815 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin. 556-4500. www.dublin.ca.gov/index.aspx?nid=867



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Sports



Eighth-grade champs

The CCOP eighth-grade girls became Champions of the Tri-Valley CYO League after beating St. Isidore, 36-33, in the championship basketball game, winning five straight to earn the first-place trophies. This culminated a season of 11 wins and two losses. Team members are (front, l-r) Shreya Madan, Kaitlyn Mojica, (middle) Olivia Christianson, Laurette Hanna, Alison Harizal, (rear) Head coach Jeff Carter, Shelby Carter, Coach Al Mojica, Sarah Fortunati, Chelsea Pedersen, Jackie Wood, Taylor Smith and Coach Greg Smith.



Score! At Association Cup

Mary Gruen is congratulated by teammates Nayo Clinchard (left) and Madison Nethery after she scored Rage U19D3 Orange's first goal in the Association Cup on Sunday against the Sacramento Fury at the Morgan Hill Sports Complex. Rage won, 2-1, and advanced to the quarters after beating the Visalia Blue, 1-0. Rage continues this weekend at Elk Grove against a Hanford team.

SPORTS DIGEST

Off and running

Foothill track and field athletes posted great marks at the Dan Gabor Invitational this past weekend at Amador Valley. On Friday, Annie Geasa placed 20th out of 252 in the girls 1600. Kyra Schwaninger took 21 out of 207 in the girls 800m.

Saturday saw the girls 4x100m relay team take first out of the 26 teams, and the boys take third out of 42. In the 400m, Rachel Reichenbach took 12th out of 119, and Jack Simmons took 29th out of 223. In the 100m Precious Akanyirige took fifth out of 209.

In the field events Rose Doyle-mason took second out of 38 in the girls discus, and Rachel Reichenbach took third out of 32 in the girls long jump. All results are posted at www.foothilltrack.com.

The Dan Gabor Invitational had 2,000 athletes from nearly 40 high schools at Amador Valley High, one of the largest athletic competitions hosted by Amador, held in tribute to the late Dan Gabor, the only Amador athlete to win a state championship in any sport. Coach Peter Scarpelli, his staff and parent volunteers made the huge event a success.

The highlight of the evening for Amador was Jena Pianin's second-place finish in the girls 3200m race in a school record time of 10:41.

AVHS swim starts EBAL

The Amador Valley varsity girls swimming and diving team began its EBAL season against Carondelet and, despite some good individual performances, fell short by a 100-86 score.

Leading the scoring for the Dons

were the Brand sisters, Kirsten and Iris. Kirsten won the 100 free and took second in the 200 free while Iris won both the backstroke and the 50 free. In addition, both swam on the 200 free relay, along with Eva Chung and Anna Parker, which finished first. Chung went on to win the breaststroke and earlier had a second in the fly while Parker posted a third in the back and a fourth in the 50 free.

Amador's diving team had a good day with Lauren Hall, Haley Brott and Gabby Cosgrove going two-three-four.

After starting slowly, the Amador Valley JV girls swimming and diving team swept the IM and 50 free to take a lead that they never relinquished, posting a 93-85 victory over Carondelet.

The Dons got off to a poor start in the medley relay and fell 12 points after the 200 free despite Bridget Booe's first place finish in the event. Things turned around quickly, however, when Rachel Bench, Erin Walsh and Katie Su went 1-2-3 in the IM, and Katie Micheletti, Paris Sinclair and Kylie Copenhagen did likewise in the 50 free.

The two events gave Amador a 12-point lead, which they managed to keep by primarily finishing first in all the remaining individual events. Lyndsey DeWilde won the fly and Walsh took the 100, followed by Booe taking the 500 and Sinclair the back. Rounding out the top finishers was Su who went 1-2 with Bench in the breaststroke. Walsh, Micheletti, Booe and Sinclair brought Amador another first in the 200 free relay.

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

PREP LINE-UP

March 16

- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. De La Salle, away
- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Carondelet, home
- Baseball: Foothill vs. James Logan, away
- Boys Swimming: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Granada, home

March 20

- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Granada, away
- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Granada, home
- Boys Volleyball: 6 p.m., AVHS vs. De La Salle, away
- Boys Golf: 3:30 p.m., AVHS vs. San Ramon, away
- Softball: 3:45 p.m., Foothill vs. Irvington, home
- Boys Tennis: 3:30 p.m., Foothill vs. De La Salle, home

March 22

- Boys Tennis: 3:30 p.m., AVHS vs. Foothill, away
- Boys Volleyball: 6 p.m., AVHS vs. Granada, away
- Boys Golf: 3:30 p.m., AVHS vs. Livermore, home
- Track & Field: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. Granada/San Ramon Valley, away



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REGINA GIELER

Realtors urge Obama to keep mortgage interest deductions

'We urge the president and Congress to do no harm,' says head of national association

By JEB BING

The president of the National Association of Realtors said last week that the organization "strongly opposes" elements of President Obama's budget proposal that would limit itemized deductions, including the mortgage interest deduction, for thousands of families.

"As the leading advocate for housing and homeownership, NAR believes that the mortgage interest deduction is vital to the stability of the American housing market and economy," said Maurice (Moe) Veissi, a REALTOR from Miami, Fla. "We urge the president and Congress to do no harm."

Veissi said that while progress has been made in bringing stability to the housing market, the recovery has been slow. He added that the nation's homeowners already pay 80% to 90% of U.S. federal income taxes.

"Raising taxes on them, now or in the

future, could critically erode home values at all price levels," he said. "This would destroy middle-class wealth accumulation and trillions of dollars in home values nationwide."

"The mortgage interest deduction must not be targeted for change," he added. "Any modifications to the deductibility of mortgage interest will harm housing and homeowners, and until housing markets have stabilized, there cannot be a robust economic recovery. Realtors are actively engaged to ensure that America's 75 million home owners will continue to receive this important benefit."

Veissi continued: "NAR also strongly opposes eliminating capital gains treatment for any carried interest of a real estate investment partnership. The loss of capital gains treatment for income from a carried interest could disrupt the conventional business model and places an unfair tax burden on general partners. Ultimately this would negatively impact commercial real estate investment." ■

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3 BEDROOMS

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

4 BEDROOMS

69 White Pine Lane \$1,350,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333

Danville

4 BEDROOMS

1617 Colchester Street \$1,099,000
Sun 1:30-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

67 Jasmine Court \$849,950
Sun 1-4:30 Coldwell Banker 837-4100

85 White Pine Ln \$1,199,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333

Dublin

5 BEDROOMS

6107 Ledgewood Terr \$930,000
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 580-5107

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS

519 Escondido Cir \$459,950
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 580-5107

4 BEDROOMS

642 Canterbury Ave \$449,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Sylvia Desin 413-1912

Pleasanton

2 BEDROOMS

4141 Moller Drive \$479,900
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

1485 Trimmingham Dr \$485,000
Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 251-1111

3 BEDROOMS

7859 Creekside Dr \$489,950
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

2534 Secretariat Dr \$450,000
Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

4 BEDROOMS

640 Varese Ct \$1,950,000
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273

5744 San Carlos Way \$750,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Prudential Ca Realty 249-1600

5260 Ridgevale Way \$980,000
Sun 1:30-4:30 Moxley Team 600-0990

3435 Palmer Pl \$1,125,000
Sun 1-4 Andrea & Earl Rozran 858-4198

7011 Corte Rosa \$839,000
Sat 1-4, Sun 2-4:30 Julia Murtagh 997-2411

5 BEDROOMS

1619 Orvieto Ct \$1,950,000
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273

1138 Mills Ct \$1,049,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 251-1111

San Ramon

3 BEDROOMS

2835 Yosemite Ave \$549,500
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc. 648-5400

4 BEDROOMS

2832 Morgan Dr \$749,000
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333

304 Goshen Ct \$574,900
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

SALES AT A GLANCE

Dublin

Total sales reported: 14
Lowest sale reported: \$244,500
Highest sale reported: \$763,000
Average sales reported: \$391,536

Pleasanton

Total sales reported: 10
Lowest sale reported: \$170,000
Highest sale reported: \$785,000
Average sales reported: \$543,400

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during February 2012

Dublin

6651 Adare Lane Dublin Tralee II to K. Ha for \$420,000

6659 Adare Lane Dublin Tralee II to K. Chang for \$443,000

5405 Blackstone Way J. & S. Owens to V. Balagopalan for \$763,000

7319 Bower Lane #8 J. Lopez to J. Hsu for \$330,000

7429 Brigadoon Way #240 D. & S. Channon to J. & A. Ramirez for \$340,000

4244 Clarinbridge Circle J. Colunga to B. Ratcliffe for \$345,000

3465 Dublin Boulevard #102 Toll Dublin Limited to J. Rix for \$244,500

3385 Dublin Boulevard #240 H. McNevin to M. Slagle for \$265,000

4354 Fitzwilliam Street V. & Y. Luyen to W. Qiu for \$353,000

6099 Hillbrook Place E. Cole to S. & R. Metlapally for \$500,000

7445 Oxford Circle C. Mears to A. Taylor for \$270,000

6965 Penn Drive N. Schwarz to M. & J. Reay for \$450,000

7587 Sunwood Drive Wells Fargo Bank to A. & S. Hon for \$360,000

4827 Swinford Court A. & M. Mantri to R. Santhipillai for \$398,000

Pleasanton

6485 Alvard Way Gsr Mortgage Loan Trust to R. & S. Zollner for \$485,000

7788 Cottonwood Lane M. Lawrie to T. & L. Iantosca for \$640,000

2126 Delucchi Drive J. & E. Rosas to C. Lee for \$310,000

210 East Angela Street P. Kesseling to W. & J. Silver for \$785,000

2389 Foothill Road #2 P. & C. Larsen to F. Wikins for \$170,000

7858 Kentwood Way H. & T. McGuirk to J. & M. Lawrie for \$725,000

7893 La Quinta Court Ing Bank to A. & M. Burstein for \$765,000

4216 Payne Road R. & M. Grundstrom to F. Song for \$468,000

4559 Ross Gate Way Silvergate Investment Group to V. & M. Syerik for \$680,000

3719 Vine Street Amber Valley Limited to Maxwell Real Estate Investment for \$406,000

Source: California REsource



- 4 Bedrooms Plus Office
- 4.5 Baths
- Approx 4015 Square Feet
- California Mission Paver Flooring
- Red Birch Custom Cabinet Finishes
- Amazing Yard Includes Pergola and Pool
- Incredible Golf Course and Mt. Diablo Views

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<p>1225 Lozano Ct Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 6 ba 8 sqft+/- 8,877 \$3,799,000</p> <p>Stunning, classic Italian Villa in one of Bay Area's most desirable locations. Catch your breath & prepare for what lies beyond the gorgeous entry of this estate. Nestled in an unrivaled setting among olive trees & lush landscaping w/ mile long views of vineyards.</p>	<p>Laguna Heights Ct Sunol</p> <p>bd ba acres+/- 10.9 \$1,398,000</p> <p>Build your custom estate in the gated, master planned community of Laguna Heights! It consists of 9 custom estate sites (3 sold) totaling 40.5 acres. The home sites range from 2.36 acres to 10.89 acres. All sites have sweeping panoramic views of the surrounding hills!</p>	<p>6107 Ledgewood Ter Dublin</p> <p>bd 5 ba 4 sqft+/- 3,844 \$930,000</p> <p>Views of TriValley, Mt Diablo & Dublin Hills! Dub Ranch Beauty w/ 5 Beds, Bonus/Game Room, 4 Baths. Master & Guest Suite on Main Level. Premium lot location w/ access to open space. Walk to golf course, swim club & award winning schools.</p>	<p>993 Summit Creek Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 5 ba 4.5 sqft+/- 4,434 \$1,648,000</p> <p>Exceptional home in Bridle Creek. The "Avalon" model features; A separate "cabana" studio home with its own address adds another 450 square feet of living space, and includes complete kitchen and another full bath. Perfect for guests, parents, etc.! Wonderful views.</p>	<p>404 Oak Ln Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 4 ba 2.5 sqft+/- 3,400 \$1,598,000</p> <p>Mediterranean Villa nestled against the hills in Castlewood. A true replica of a country home in Madrid, this home is amazing in its detail, charm and ambience. Spectacular setting on 3/4 acre wooded lot, creek, lawn, balconies and patios.</p>
<p>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</p> <p>9999 Longview Ln Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 6 ba 6.5 sqft+/- 8,330 \$3,499,000</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>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</p> <p>8012 Golden Eagle Wy Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 5 ba 6.5 sqft+/- 8,585 \$3,498,000</p> <p>Fabulous private custom Mediterranean in resort-like setting has it all. Porte Cachere, grand entry, gourmet kitchen, awesome theater w/ theater seating, stunning arcade & exercise rms. Vast lawns & wrap-around decks, guest house, pool/spa.</p>	<p>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</p> <p>2188 McLean Place Livermore</p> <p>bd 3 ba 4(2) sqft+/- 4,062 \$1,179,999</p> <p>Custom home (Court location), Special lighting system, gourmet kitchen, baking center, office; den, theatre / exercise bonus room w / half bath and kitchenette above garage, travertine flooring, 3 fireplaces, BBQ, pool, and raised - bed garden.</p>	<p>Weiner/ McDowell 925.251.2550</p> <p>260 Lyndhurst Pl San Ramon</p> <p>Lot and Land Only \$1,199,000</p> <p>Build Your Dream Home on 4.39 acres in the beautiful Norris Canyon Estates. Panoramic views of Mt. Diablo and Norris Canyon hillsides, Already for your building pad, Private gate on property, Located above existing Norris Canyon Estate Homes.</p>	<p>Weiner/ McDowell 925.251.2585</p> <p>3891 Vine St Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 2 ba 2.5 sqft+/- 1,221 \$339,888</p> <p>Best End unit with Creekside setting! 2 spacious master suites w/vaulted ceilings, plush carpet & designer paint, 2 skylights & laminate floors downstairs. Kitchen opens into fm rm, corian counters, frig stays & new washer/dry. Attached gar, close to Downtown/Ace Train & schools!</p>
<p>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</p> <p>5678 Bellevue Cir Dublin</p> <p>bd 5 ba 3 sqft+/- 2,660 \$559,950</p> <p>Come see this beautiful home Price to Sell! Desirable two story home with a spacious master suite w /walk in closets. Corner Lot.</p>	<p>Peggy Cortez 925.209.3451</p> <p>2501 Tamworth Ln San Ramon</p> <p>bd 4 ba 4 sqft+/- 3,824 \$999,950</p> <p>Model Perfect! Over \$300k in upgrades, prof landsc, pebble sheen pool, prem lot, Mcnear pavers, 4 car gar, office, bonus rm, sand & finish walnut floors, cust iron banister, cust blt-ins, mill-work, crown mouldings, greatroom, hike trails, open space, top-rated school.</p>	<p>Patrick Maravelias 925.251.2530</p> <p>5338 Hazel Tine Dublin</p> <p>bd 4 ba 4.5 sqft+/- 3,883 \$779,950</p> <p>Beautiful Dublin Range Home in the Dublin Hills. Corner lot that's larger than most lots in the area. To many upgrades to list.</p>	<p>Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</p> <p>2194 Elsa Cmn Livermore</p> <p>bd 3 ba 2.5 sqft+/- 1,911 \$464,950</p> <p>Gorgeous hardwood floors, new paint, Corian counters & great court location! Light & bright! Open floorplan w/huge master! Second biggest lot in development w/ added parking space. Community pool/spa for summer fun! Convenient shopping & commuting! Regular sale!</p>	<p>Dean and Wahl 925.200.4130</p> <p>247 East Vallecitos Rd Livermore</p> <p>Lot and Land Only \$1,799,000</p> <p>Build your Dream Custom Vineyard Estate Plus Tasting Room. Breathtaking views of the valley. Easy to build-on desirable flat building pad. Pristine location adjacent to Sycamore Grove. Enjoy wine country living in the S. Livermore wine country!</p>
<p>David Azimi 925.251.2580</p> <p>519 Escondido Cr Livermore</p> <p>bd 3 ba 2 sqft+/- 1,616 \$459,950</p> <p>Wonderful Granada Woods home in a charming Livermore community of just 64 homes. Just a short distance to three parks and outlets to both E Stanley Blvd and Highway 84.</p>	<p>The Engels 925.580.5107</p> <p>6950 Crow Canyon Rd Castro Valley</p> <p>bd 4 ba 3.5 sqft+/- 2,700 \$883,000</p> <p>Country Colonial Charming This Gated Entrance to this Country Charming property is great. The main home is 2,700+/- sq.ft., updated kitchen and most windows are new, flooring thru out the home is newer and so much more. Cottage which is over 850 sq.ft. all on 1 Acre.</p>	<p>The Swift Team 925.251.2588</p> <p>1894 Elm St Livermore</p> <p>bd 2 ba 1.5 sqft+/- 1,150 \$450,000</p> <p>Great Opportunity for 2 Homes on One Lot. Larger Unit was rebuilt to perfection in 2004 and includes large modern kitchen with gas stove, recess lights, ceiling fans, dual pane windows, gorgeous floors, carpet & paint. Smaller Unit is a 2 bed/1 bath and apx 850 sq ft.</p>	<p>Diane Sass 925.583.2168</p> <p>3056 Riversbend Cir Livermore</p> <p>bd 4 ba 3 sqft+/- 2,878 \$779,950</p> <p>Large executive home, possible 5th bedroom. Property has a gourmet kitchen with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, upgraded kitchen cabinets. formal dining room, master suite with marble bathroom, plantation shutters throughout. Full bed/ba downstairs.</p>	<p>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</p> <p>30156 Palomares Rd Castro Valley</p> <p>bd 3 ba 1.5 sqft+/- 1,410 \$999,000</p> <p>Great Ranch style on 24 acres, views of the rolling hills. Property Backs up to the park district, lots of room for horses, Home has 1930's charm and has been nicely maintained, Near 2 wineries and minutes from the freeway, schools and shopping!</p>
<p>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</p> <p>Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</p> <p>Corey Green 925.899.6011</p> <p>Max de Vries 925.251.2514</p>				

Blackhawk East 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300	Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd. Danville, CA 94506 925.736.6000	Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000	Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette, CA 94549 925.385.2330	Livermore 1983 Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 925.667.2100	Montclair/Piedmont 6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200 Oakland, CA 94611 510.339.4800	Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500	Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000	Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500
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Julia Murtagh

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JUST LISTED

7011 CORTE ROSA, PLEASANTON

Spacious family home with beautiful pool in desirable Country Fair. This popular "Stratford Model" is just over 2800 sq. ft. and is located on a large court in South Pleasanton. Walking distance to Del Prado Park, Pleasanton Tennis Park, and Del Prado Cabana Club.

- 4 bedrooms / 3 bathrooms
- Beautiful Pool with Solar Heating
- Upgraded Kitchen
- Excellent Floor Plan
- Large 3 car garage & Large Side Access

OFFERED AT \$839,000



OPEN SAT 1-4
& SUN 2-4:30

PENDING



PENDING
IN 4 DAYS

1111 TIFFANY LANE, PLEASANTON

Charming Duet, close to downtown, 1705 sq. ft. upgraded throughout, built in 1985. Walk to school, shops, parks. Call for more details. OFFERED AT \$479,000

RECENTLY SOLD



6023 Sterling Green Cir, Pleasanton
Beautiful home in the "Canyon Oaks" neighborhood. This 4 bed/2.5 bath upgraded home is just under 2900 sq ft. Sold for \$815,000



2650 Chocolate St, Pleasanton
Wonderful 4 bedroom / 2.5 bathroom home. Built in 2000, located in Mohr Elementary School District. Sold \$625,000



4615 Rimini Court, Dublin
2160 sq ft. 3/2.5, Popular Luserna Model, with beautiful upgrades. This was a Short Sale. Sold for \$520k



REPRESENTED
BUYER

4397 Muirwood Dr, Pleasanton
1880 sq ft. 3/2, charming 2 story home, upgraded throughout. This was a Short Sale. Sold for \$590k

RECENT SELLER REVIEW

December 5, 2011 — "We highly recommend Julia Murtagh as a partner in any real estate transaction. Julia recently represented us as our Listing agent. We were quite impressed with the level of knowledge she brought and her detailed follow up and commitment to our success with the sale of our home. We do believe that her personal touch and hands on approach assisted in a prompt and painless process. We will definitely look to Julia to handle any future real estate needs."
—Jennifer Koidal

DISTRESSED SELLERS

2012 will have record numbers of Short Sales. For those sellers, there will be major incentives and programs to help the transition. Please review my dedicated website for more information or call.

www.JuliaHelpsDistressedSellers.com



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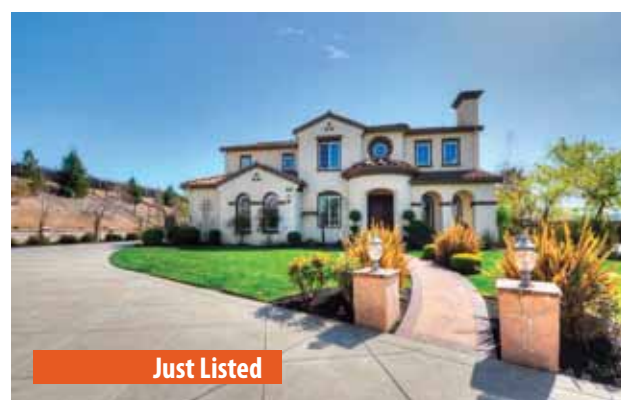
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TWO GREAT HOMES



Just Listed



993 SUMMIT CREEK CT PLEASANTON, CA Offered at \$1,648,000

Welcome to this exceptional home in the wonderful Bridle Creek Community. The "Avalon" model features 5 spacious bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, with 4434 square feet of luxurious living space. A separate "cabana" studio home with its own address adds another 450 square feet of living space, and includes complete kitchen and another full bath. Perfect for guests, parents, etc.! One of the very best locations in all of Bridle Creek, at the top of a private, quiet court, with wonderful views. Additional photos and content at 993SummitCreek.com

404 OAK LANE PLEASANTON, CA Offered at \$1,598,000

Welcome to this authentic Mediterranean Villa located in the Castlewood area of Pleasanton. Tucked against the Pleasanton Foothills surrounded by heritage oak trees, a meandering creek, views and vistas. Custom built, designed and replicated after a country villa in Madrid, this wonderful and unique home features 4 spacious bedrooms, approx. 3400 sq.ft. on a 3/4 acre view lot. Additional photos and content at 404OakLane.com

PHYLLIS WEINER

PETER MCDOWELL

925.251.2585

925.251.2550

PWEINER@ROCKCLIFF.COM

PMCDOWELL@ROCKCLIFF.COM

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DUBLIN
11367 VILLAGE VIEW COURT
COMING SOON!! **\$810,000**
 4 BR 3 BA Updated Kitchen w/Granite w/walk-in pantry & Lrge island. Formal Living Rm. Mstr retreat! 925.847.2200



FREMONT
39931 SAN SIMEON CT
GREAT COURT LOCATION! **\$1,098,888**
 5 BR 3 BA one bedrm/bathrm on 1st flr. Remodeled throughout. Kit w/Chery Cabinets & SS Appli. Hrdwd Frs 925.847.2200



SAN LEANDRO
Open SUN 1 - 4 **980 ARBOR DR**
GORGEOUS HOME! **\$569,000**
 4 BR 2 BA Chefs Kitchen. Granite Countertops. Dual Pane. Hrdwd Flrs. Luxurious Bath. Hurry 925.847.2200



SAN RAMON
Open SAT/SUN 12 - 4 **145 COPPER RIDGE RD.**
CONDOS AVAILABLE PRICING STARTS IN LOW \$300'S
 2 bd condos, vaulted ceilings avail, w/garages, gated, renovated/upgraded 925.847.2200

CASTRO VALLEY

o CULL CANYON RD.
GORGEOUS 100+ACRES **\$1,248,000**
 Many oak trees. Hard to find so much land in Bay Area. Close to BART/Airports/Freeways 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

4706 BEL ROMA RD.
LOVELY RANCH HOME! **\$1,995,000**
 4 BR 2.5 BA 6 stall horse barn w/pipe paddocks. Formal Din/Liv.Lg Fam.Rm. Remodeled Kit w/granite. 925.847.2200

645 LOYOLA WAY
LIVERMORE BEAUTY! **\$539,999**
 4 BR 2.5 BA Home includes a bright and open flr pln w/formal living & dining rm. Bckryd w/paved patio 925.847.2200

764 LELAND WAY

SUNSET WEST COMMUNITY! **\$385,000**
 4 BR 2 BA Single Story Home! Great Flr plan w/spacious rms. Beautiful well maintained front/backyard. 925.847.2200

MANTECA

1069 MISSION RIDGE DR.
MOVE IN READY! SPACIOUS LOT **\$185,000**
 3 BR 2 BA Convenient to Schools, Parks, Shopping, dining & Freeways. Cozy Flrpln in a growing community 925.847.2200

OAKLAND

5165 FAIRFAX AVE
GREAT INVESTMENT HOME! **\$150,000**
 2 BR 1 BA Great Neighborhood. Roof & Dual-Pane Windows. Basement & Bonus rm. Garage entry from backyard 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON

927 HAPPY VALLEY RD
COMPLETELY REMODELED! **\$1,000,000**
 4 BR 3 BA 3,361 sq.ft. living space. Gourmet Kit. w/ granite counters, SS Apps. Mstr Ste w/Spa like tub. 925.847.2200

4141 MOLLER DRIVE

Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4 **DESIRABLE DANBURY PARK** **\$479,900**
 2 BR 3 BA Plus Open Den w/closet downstairs. Vaulted Ceilings/Fireplace. Close to parks and downtown 925.847.2200

SAN LEANDRO

942 WOODLAND AVE
UPGRADED CRAFTSMAN **\$589,000**
 4 BR 3 BA Fabulous Kit. w/Granite, work island, commercial range SS, custom cabinets. Mstr Ste w/deck. 925.847.2200

2520 GALLEON PL

BEAUTIFUL LOCATION! **\$189,900**
 2 BR 2 BA Gorgeous Seagate. Laminate Flrs. Remodeled Kitchen. Granite. Brkfst Bar. SS Appliances 925.847.2200

1400 CARPENTIER ST

GREAT GROUND UNIT **\$125,000**
 2 BR 2 BA Near Pool/clubhouse w/view from patio/courtyard. Newer appliances. Close to BART, 580/880 FWY 925.847.2200

SAN LORENZO

16019 VIA DEL SOL
UPDATED PROPERTY! **\$300,000**
 3 BR 1.5 BA Hardwood Flrs thu-out. Oak Kit. Cabinets. Solarium in Kit. Beautiful Entry. Lrge Fam. Rm 925.847.2200



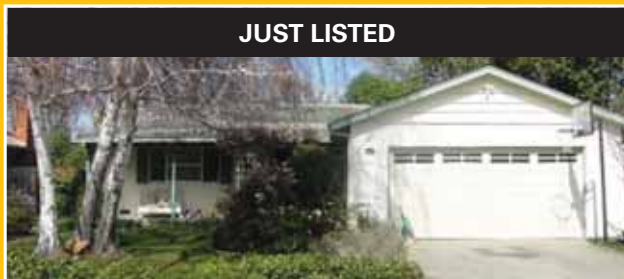
Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122



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4091 NEVIS STREET, PLEASANTON

LOCATED IN JENSEN NEIGHBORHOOD



JUST LISTED

3BD 2BA 1,243sf. on a 6,000sf. lot. Highly sought after home in Jensen Neighborhood. Hardwood floors; spacious family room with fireplace. Updated kitchen with pantry, breakfast bar and eat in kitchen. Large bedrooms. Close to Alisal Elementary, downtown and shopping!
\$545,000

3623 CAMERON AVENUE, PLEASANTON

LOCATED IN MOHR/MARTIN ESTATES



5 BD 3 BA 3,291sf. on a flat 1 acre lot. Country elegance close to town. This single story offers a private well, pool, volleyball court, horseshoe court and so much more!
\$1,319,000

2020 MARTIN AVENUE, PLEASANTON

LOCATED IN MOHR/MARTIN ESTATES



4 BD/office 3 BA 3,107sf. + 1,100sf. guest home or optional 6 car garage on a 24,963sf. lot. Updated gourmet kitchen with prep island & generous storage. Overlooks the grand rear yard that offers a pool, bocce court, fire pit & spacious grass area.
\$1,499,000

5260 RIDGEVALE WAY, PLEASANTON

LOCATED IN PLEASANTON VALLEY



OPEN SUNDAY 1:30-4:30

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!
\$980,000

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OAK LANE



369 OAK LANE, PLEASANTON
Former Hearst Estate Hunting Lodge - "Moonlight Oaks." Private Driveway leads to 1.2 acre estate lot in premium wooded, secluded location. This is an entertainers dream home. Extensive use of quality Redwood timber. Recently upgraded, desirable single level with tastefully maintained historic charm. Panoramic views of nature and historic majestic Oaks. Approximately 3800 Square Feet with three bedrooms, three remodeled bathrooms, large gourmet kitchen, and incredible Great room with large Yosemite style fireplace and open beam ceiling. Large basement for storage and detached two-room wine cottage.
OFFERED AT 1,549,000

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 \$1,569,000

OAK PARK



247 TOMAS WAY, PLEASANTON
Completely remodeled, single level in Oak Park. Remodeled gourmet kitchen, remodeled bathrooms, newer dual pane windows, crown molding, hardwood floors, upgraded baseboards, central air conditioning, and private rear yard. Newer doors, door trim, and hardware, upgraded light fixtures and fans. Close to downtown and shopping. **OFFERED AT \$549,000**

WALNUT GLEN ESTATES



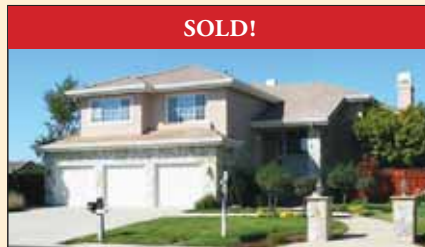
3891 PICARD AVENUE, PLEASANTON
Wow! Better than new because it is done & ready! Extensively designer remodeled, single level, plus upstairs bonus room/ au pair/guest quarters! Premium corner .34 acre lot! Four bedrooms plus bonus, four bathrooms, 3588 square feet. Completely remodeled gourmet kitchen 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!
SOLD FOR \$1,205,000

DOWNTOWN



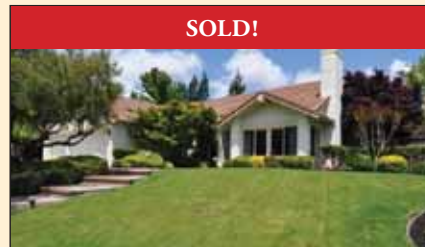
335 DEL SOL AVENUE, PLEASANTON
Location, location, location. Desirable downtown quiet court location! Beautiful upgraded home, 5 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms with 2350 square feet. Remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom backsplash and stainless appliances. Newer upgraded hardwood flooring, 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 Timber Tech 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**

KOTTINGER RANCH



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

FOOTHILL KNOLLS



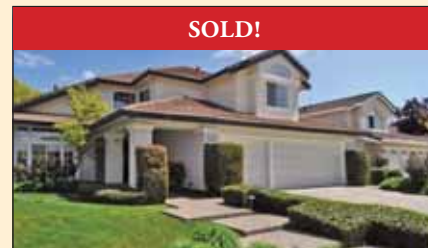
7863 FOOTHILL KNOLLS, PLEASANTON
Beautiful single story on private premium .35 acre lot. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, approximately 2,150 sf. Completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom backsplash, custom cabinetry and high end European appliances. Hardwood flooring, French doors, 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

LAGUNA OAKS



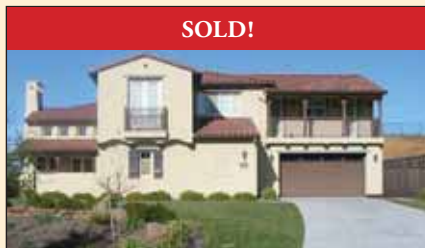
2505 ARLOTTA PLACE, PLEASANTON
Best location in Laguna Oaks! Desirable Newport model on premium .40 acre lot. Quiet premium court location. Four bedrooms, bonus room, plus formal office. Private guest/in law/au pair quarters (4th). Three and a half bathrooms. Approximately 3,830 square feet. Large gourmet 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**

CHARTER OAKS



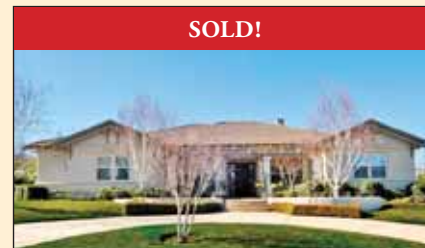
1549 MAPLE LEAF DRIVE, PLEASANTON
Highly upgraded four bedroom, plus bonus/teen room, three bathrooms. Approximately 2,541 square feet. Completely remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom backsplash, custom cabinets & stainless steel appliances. Brazilian cherry hardwood flooring, upgraded carpet & remodeled master bath. Newer interior paint. Three car garage. Completely re-landscaped private rear grounds with built-in BBQ/kitchen, custom fire pit/sitting area, slate patio, garden and play areas. Tile roof. Convenient to downtown, neighborhood park and award-winning schools! **SOLD FOR \$880,000**

SYCAMORE HEIGHTS



1092 SYCAMORE CREEK WY, PLEASANTON
Wow! Private premium 20,180 sq ft estate lot. Panoramic views of Pleasanton Ridge, the valley and Mount Diablo. Large rear grounds with expansive lawn area and patio. Backs to open space. Five bedrooms, plus den, bonus room option (5th), five and a half bathrooms. Approximately 5,000 sq ft. Large gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops and stainless steel appliances. Crown molding throughout, new custom flooring, extensive upgraded light fixtures, new interior paint throughout. Close to downtown, Castlewood Country Club, Oak Hills Shopping Center, and Mission Hills Park. Award winning schools!
SOLD FOR \$1,490,000

RUBY HILL



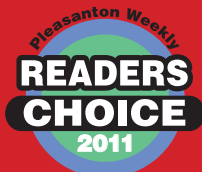
4355 CAMPINIA PLACE, PLEASANTON
Gorgeous upgraded single level home on .60 acre premium lot. Located in the desirable Ruby Hill private gated community. Four bedrooms, plus private office, three bathrooms, custom gourmet kitchen with granite countertops. Extensive crown molding & built-ins, Brazilian cherry flooring, expansive master suite. Professional landscaping includes: built-in BBQ, viewing/sitting area, views of surrounding hills & vineyards, covered patio and extensive lawn area. 3 car garage. Ruby Hill community amenities: *clubhouse, golf course, swimming pool, *tennis courts, large park and greenbelts (*discounted memberships now available). Close to several wineries.
SOLD FOR \$1,382,500

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**





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TRI-VALLEY REALTY

#1 OFFICE
IN PLEASANTON
IN VOLUME
AND SALES



OPEN SUN 1-4

1619 Orvieto Ct. — Ruby Hill, Pleasanton
NEW LISTING! This luxurious Tuscan-inspired manor is a must-see! 5,143 sq.ft., 5 bedrooms, including bonus with side bedroom, 4 full and 2 half bathrooms, plus office on .6 acre private and flat lot with Grecian pool, 4 car garage. **Offered at \$1,950,000**

The Fabulous Properties Team
Cunningham • Garrison • Schall

Fran & Dave Cunningham
925.202.6898
DRE # 01226296 & 00930892



Donna Garrison
925.980.0273
DRE # 01735040

Susan Schall
925.519.8226
DRE # 01713497

www.FabulousProperties.net
www.RubyHill.net



NEW LISTING

1734 Terra Ct. — Ruby Hill, Pleasanton
French country elegance w/luxurious guest house w/refined architectural details. Approx. 7,000 sq.ft., 6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths, bonus, exec. office, spectacular backyard w/pool/spa, vineyards, private canyon views. **Offered at \$2,950,000**

The Fabulous Properties Team
Cunningham • Garrison • Schall

Fran & Dave Cunningham
925.202.6898
DRE # 01226296 & 00930892



Donna Garrison
925.980.0273
DRE # 01735040

Susan Schall
925.519.8226
DRE # 01713497

www.FabulousProperties.net
www.RubyHill.net



Sale Pending

900 Sunset Creek Lane, Pleasanton
Spectacular Bridle Creek home w/approx. 3445 sq ft, 4 BR, 3 BA plus office & bonus room. Gourmet kitchen w/maple cabinets, granite counters, stainless steel appliances. Beautifully landscaped backyard w/ sports pool, slide & automatic pool cover. **Offered at \$1,289,000**



Melissa Pederson
REALTOR® DRE # 01002251
925.397.4326
melissapedersonhomes@gmail.com
www.melissapederson.com



First Time Open Sun 1-3

2534 Secretariat Drive, Pleasanton
Simply Adorable!
Walk to downtown Pleasanton from this adorable home! 3 bedrooms, 2 bath and almost 1500 square feet. Sunny kitchen, new paint and carpet. Seldom available in this price range — offered in the mid \$400's!



Dave & Sue
Flashberger
REALTORS®, GRI, CRS, SRES
925.463.0436
www.SoldinaFlash.com



PENDING

3300 Araldi Lane, Dublin
In Arrivare at Sorrento in Dublin. A taste of Italy in the Dublin countryside. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath single family home with open architecture and intelligent floor plan; amazing community amenities!

Call us before going to the sales office of any new development — we will be on your side to help get what you want in your new home.

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Danielle Peel
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DRE #01293873
Cristin Kiper Sanchez
925.580.7719
DRE #01479197



homes@peelsanchez.com | www.PeelSanchez.com

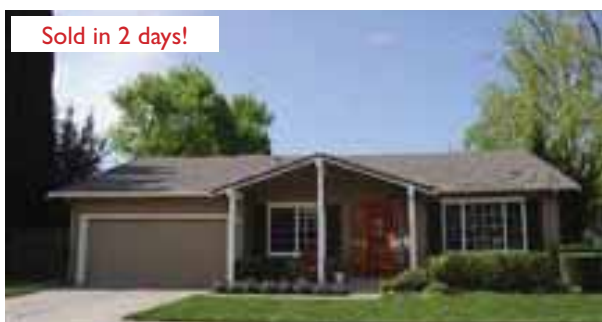


PENDING

4432 1st Street, Pleasanton
One of a kind! Amazing Downtown Victorian. 4 BR, 3 BA and 1791 +/- sqft. Within walking distance to all Downtown events. Updated throughout with original details, and custom enhancements. Plus 417 sqft. studio apartment above the garage and an additional basement in law unit! **Offered at \$979,000**



DeAnna Armario
REALTOR® DRE # 01363180
925.260.2220
www.armariohomes.com



Sold in 2 days!

4911 Blackbird Wy, Pleasanton
Gorgeous remodeled single level, 4 bedroom, 2 bath in popular Birdland area! Hardwood floors, maple cabinets, solar pool, top schools and close to the park! Call for pricing.



Gail Boal
REALTOR® DRE # 01276455
925.577.5787
www.gailboal.com



1641VettaDrive.com

1641 Vetta Dr, Livermore
Outstanding 5 bed (6 potential) & 4.5 ba home w/ 3500+ sq ft. 1 bed/ba downstairs. Upgrades throughout including \$27k in solar (no PG&E), new carpet, crown molding, maple cabinets, plantation shutters & great yard for entertaining. **Offered at \$914,900**



Cindy and Gene Williams
REALTORS® DRE # 01370076 and 00607511
925.918.2045
www.williamsteam.net



Open Sun 1-4

3218 Melanie Circle, Pleasanton
Exquisite taste follows you through every step of this beautifully updated 4 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom property — from the landscaped front walkway to the backyard patio. Enjoy a large upstairs Master Suite featuring a sitting area, balcony and luxurious bath with heated floors. As an added bonus this 2847 sq.ft. home boasts 2 master suites — 1 downstairs, a bonus room and 3 car attached garage. **Offered at \$949,000**



Ingrid Wetmore
REALTOR® DRE # 00923379
925.918.0986
www.krugergroup.com

KW Associates closed **19% more homes** per Agent in 2011. While other Agents remain constant or retract, ours thrive! Source: RealTrends Data, 2011

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