

Pleasanton Weekly

HOME & GARDEN
A special publication inside » 11



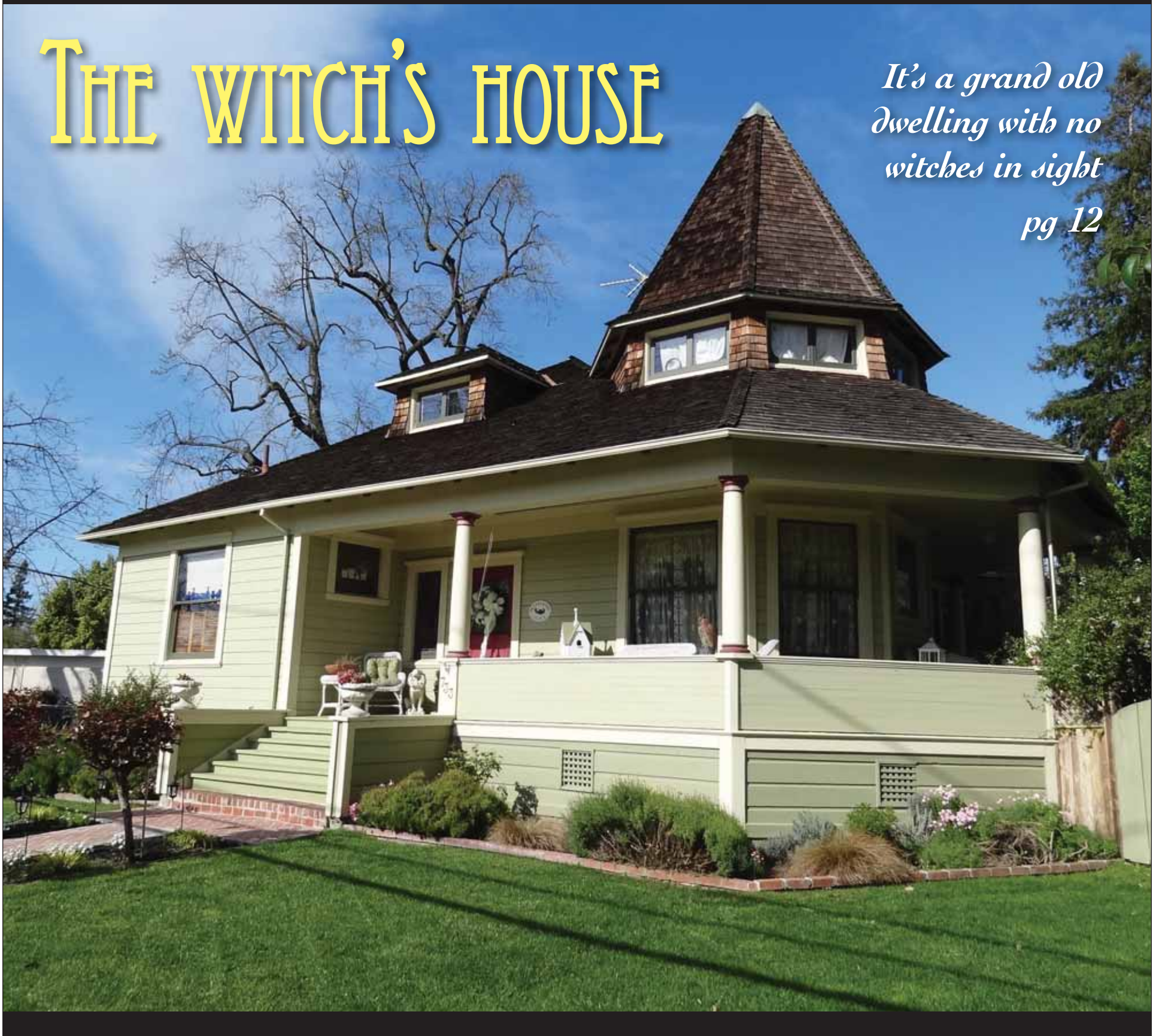
VOL. XIII, NUMBER 11 • MARCH 30, 2012

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THE WITCH'S HOUSE

It's a grand old dwelling with no witches in sight

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MARK KOTCH BY APPT



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Country Living, Private gated driveway on 5.18+-acres. 4bd/3.5ba. Hardwood floors, 1bd/ba on main floor. Back yard with pool, spa and gazebo. 6650 JOHNSTON RD

MOXLEY TEAM SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON \$1,499,000
Gourmet kitchen w/granite, cooking island, dinette area & open to great room. Detached 1,100sf. guest house w/kitchen, bedroom & bath. Private yard w/pool, large patios, bocce court, fire pit & more! 2020 MARTIN AVE

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,379,000
Castlewood area Mediterranean home shows like a model! Hardwood floors, granite kitchen, bonus room, stunning travertine master bath, designer upgrades throughout, private .57+- acre lot, sweeping views! 512 BUNKER LANE

MOXLEY TEAM SUN 1:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$1,319,000
Updated kitchen offers dinette area, breakfast bar, granite counters, recessed lighting & opens to family room. This single story offers a private well, pool, volleyball & horseshoe court & more! 3623 CAMERON AVE

TIMOTHY MCGUIRE SUN 1:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$1,049,000
5bd/4.5ba home on quiet court, 3067+-sf and eat-in maple/granite kitchen. 1138 MILLS CT

MOXLEY TEAM SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON \$980,000
Open floor plan w/vaulted ceilings & LARGE bonus room! Hardwood floors, updated kitchen w/granite counters & recessed lighting. Expanded master suite w/vaulted ceilings. Large yard offers pool & spa! 5260 RIDGEVALE WAY

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$675,000
A tropical paradise perfect for entertaining! Custom tile flooring, designer carpet, upgrades & finishes throughout. granite & stainless kitchen, stunning mb, crown molding, pvt yard, sparkling pool & spa! 4281 DIAVILA AVE

MOXLEY TEAM OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30



PLEASANTON \$647,000
4bd/2ba, 1519+-sf situated on a 9268+-sf lot., updated throughout, granite/stainless kitchen, breakfast bar, spacious and private rear yard, patio and sparkling pool. 3620 ASHWOOD DRIVE

MARK KOTCH BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$639,000
Downtown Pleasanton. Lovingly restored 1912 beauty with 2012 updates. Original redwood wainscoting & ceiling beams; oak & fir floors; all-new appliances, granite counters, 2 restored baths, 3bds. 414 DIVISION ST

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$545,000
Hardwood floors; spacious family room with fireplace. Updated kitchen w/pantry, breakfast bar & eat in kitchen. Large bedrooms. Close to Alisal Elementary, downtown & shopping! 4091 Nevis

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Foothill senior has them listening

Several thousand in Pleasanton were rocked to the core emotionally last week by motivational speaker Calvin Terrell, thanks to Atasha Bozorgzad, an 18-year-old senior at Foothill High School who has become one of his biggest fans. Atasha, who spent her freshman and sophomore years at Foothill, heard Terrell speak during her one brief junior year at Del Oro High School in Loomis. Upon returning to Foothill last August, she began making the case for bringing the widely known founder of Arizona-based Social Centric to Pleasanton. She had the help of her counselor Jennifer Roush, whose School Climate Task Force is charged with dealing with bullying, drugs, alcohol, depression and other concerns on school campuses. Terrell, Atasha explained, can help address those concerns and much more. Even more important, Atasha recalled from her Del Oro High experience, the kids listen, really listen.

We all saw that last week where more than 2,200 Foothill students, faculty and administrators sat in rapt attention in those two assemblies. There were the usual number of distractions by some disgruntled students who were too restless at first to listen, but within the first 10 minutes the cell phones were put away and even the usual whispers stopped as Terrell talked about present day issues, from the death of Trayvon Martin at the hands of George Zimmerman in Florida to casual language kids use that often can be hurtful.

For Atasha, Terrell's message was about bullying but also much more. It's the put-downs both boys and girls say, usually without thinking, such as "You're so gay," that seemed to have caught the attention of students. In a booming voice that filled the Foothill gym even when his microphone failed, Terrell talked about racism, ethnic slurs, cultural background, relationships, even genocide. Atasha, whose parents came to the States from Iran, proudly stood up as Terrell called out her ethnic background, going through Foothill's diverse roster until everyone was standing. "The point was that although there are many different cultures at Foothill, we all go to the same



ANTHONY DURAN

Foothill senior Atasha Bozorgzad, who brought motivational speaker to campus.

school and interact every day. We should be able to get along."

Looking across the auditorium, Atasha saw different emotions with some in tears and others nodding in agreement. At times, the gym was so quiet you could hear a pin drop as Terrell's talk made its impact. "This guy is for real," Atasha said. "He even made some of the guys cry over the things they might have said or ways they might have acted that were wrong, that hurt others. I've never seen one person have such a great impact on kids."

Terrell usually charges \$3,500 for a day of lectures and comprehensive workshops. But he remembered Atasha from her support at Del Oro and reduced his fees so that Roush, the counselor, could secure enough funds from her Awareness program and individual donations. Terrell's day here included the two assemblies, a separate workshop meeting with Foothill faculty, which he led, and a community meeting that night.

Atasha has joined Roush's task force that is working to keep Terrell's message alive "before the honeymoon is over." The group wants to increase efforts in the next school year to deal with bullying and other student problems. With Atasha's help, even though she's off to Sonoma State to study for a career in teaching kindergarten through fifth-grade students, she's committed to bringing Terrell back to Pleasanton. Using her friendship and influence with the motivational speaker once again, he may return for an even lower fee. ■

About the Cover

The home at 733 Division St. was built in 1895, and neighborhood children dubbed it the "witch's house." The current owners have decorated it to capture its Victorian splendor. Photo by Dolores Fox Ciardelli. Design by Kristin Herman.

Vol. XIII, Number 11



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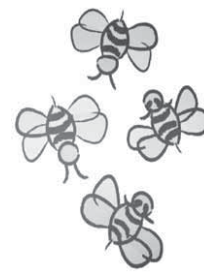
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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What is one food you could never give up?



Maryam Smith
Nursing student

Doughnuts. They're my favorite food, especially the maple kind. They're great on the weekends. I like to eat them on my birthday; my mom used to get them for me every year and now my boyfriend does it.

Sam Gonzalez
Student

I love pasta. Spaghetti is my favorite, but I love it all. We have a family recipe for linguine with clam sauce that I always request on my birthday — it's delicious.



Griffin Shea
First-grader

I love watermelon. It tastes so good. I like the big ones with the black seeds so that I can plant them in my yard. It grew but then all of them died.

Amanda Vandagriff
Homemaker

I'd have to say pizza. I have four kids, and they'll all eat it. The whole family will always eat pizza. We love Little Caesar's because it's so cheap; I can feed my family for only \$10 and you can't do that anywhere else.




Mrs. Castro
Library aide

Rice. I was brought up with rice in Puerto Rico, and it's a staple. I cook it a lot because my children and grandchildren all love it.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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



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DIGEST

Celebration for Chris Beratlis

A celebration will be held from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. tomorrow at Gay 90's Pizza to honor longtime city, civic and business leader and rancher Chris Beratlis.

Beratlis, 76, is a 1953 graduate of Amador Valley High School. He developed much of the open space in upper Vintage Hills where he and his wife Glenda still live. Over the years, he also invested in other Pleasanton real estate including a number of properties that he owns on Main Street. Always active in the Pleasanton Downtown Association, he spearheaded the successful drive to have the city of Pleasanton acquire the public cemetery on Sunol Boulevard from the Odd Fellows organization.

The friendship celebration includes refreshments and will be held in the Gay 90's patio at Main and Abbie streets.

Recognizing character

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative is soliciting nominations for the 2012 Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award. The award, named in honor of longtime school board member Juanita Haugen, was begun in 2008 to recognize residents who "exhibit volunteerism above and beyond their day-to-day job responsibilities while exhibiting the community-established character traits." Haugen, who died March 5, 2007, helped start the awards program.

The nomination form is at www.communityofcharacter.org as well as at the library, school district offices and Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce. The deadline for nominations is April 16.

The awards will be presented at a luncheon May 9 at the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Building. Past recipients are, for 2011: Chuck Deckert, Ron Sutton, Bob and Joyce Shapiro, Assistance League of Amador Valley; 2010: Dr. Pushpa Dalal, Chris Miller, Bob Athenour, The George A. Spiliotopoulos Invitational Tournament Volunteers; 2009: Jerri Pantages-Long, Sue Evans, Ken Mano; 2008: Lori Rice, and Diana and Howard Mendenhall.

Looking for classmates

The organizers of the 40th high school reunion on July 7 for the Amador Valley High class of 1972 are looking for graduates from the classes of 1971, 1972, 1973 and 1974. Anyone with information about a graduate is ask to send the name, address, telephone number and email address as soon as possible to Nanci Johnson Lenoci at nlenoci@yahoo.com.

Opus Bank drops bid for downtown Pleasanton location

Move comes as City Council takes up bank restriction ordinance

By JEB BING

Opus Bank representatives said this week that they are no longer pursuing a lease for the Past Time Pool building on Main Street in Pleasanton, ending for the time being concerns that an eighth bank would open in the downtown business district.

The Pleasanton Downtown Association wants the city to restrict the number of downtown banks so that more retailers can take the space, including seven corner locations that banks now hold.

The Planning Commission recently voted 4-0 on an ordinance that would require new banks to submit to a timely and costly review process that, in the end, would still allow the commission to reject their applications.

The City Council was poised to approve the ordinance two weeks ago until Councilman

Jerry Thorne asked for more time to study the proposal. As a result, action on the ordinance was put off until next Tuesday's council meeting. At the time, some indicated that there was a rush to have the ordinance in place before Opus closed its deal on the Past Time Pool building, which is located at 511 Main St.

But Jeff Leonard, senior vice president of Irvine-based Opus Bank, said bank officers have decided "not to pursue a new banking office at the 511 Main St. location."

"At the time we were shown that location by our local broker, as well as a couple of other locations in Pleasanton, we were looking at leasing, not purchasing," Leonard said. "We prefer to lease vs. purchase and all of the seven new banking offices that we have opened in the past 12 months, and all of those currently under

construction, are leased properties."

Whether the council will still consider the new ordinance Tuesday has yet to be decided. The PDA's concern is still there, that banks don't attract shoppers. Bank hours from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and often on Saturday mornings are much shorter than those of retail shops and restaurants. The PDA wants more retailers and restaurants downtown, and fewer banks and services businesses.

The ordinance amendment under consideration, although aimed at the Opus application, would essentially allow the city to make an informed decision about the placement of banks, not ban them outright.

The change would not prohibit banks downtown but simply allows some evalua-

See **OPUS BANK** on Page 7



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Volunteers continue to work on the Spring 2012 Book Sale on Tuesday although after 36 people showed up to help on Monday, the work was pretty far along.

Hooked on books?

Get your fill at library sale this weekend

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Volunteers worked all week to organize 35,000-40,000 items for this weekend's Friends of the Pleasanton Library Spring 2012 Book Sale, which starts this evening.

The sale is more than books, said Marilyn Swanson, who heads up the operation. It includes DVDs, CDs, puzzles, games, sheet music, cards, bookmarks and even a few picture frames. There are several shelves of cookbooks plus gardening and crafts, and some huge coffee table books.

"We sell videos, too," Swanson noted. "A lot of people have second homes where they still have VCRs."

Hardbacks and trade paperbacks sell for \$1; paperbacks for 50 cents. Some are brand new, signed by the author.

About 40 to 50 volunteers showed up this week to help ready the sale, including 36 on Monday alone, Swanson said. Friends of the Pleasanton Library members also meet each Monday throughout the year to go through that week's contributions collected in the library.

"We go through all the donations, sort

through them, put them onto shelves, and then pack them into boxes," Swanson said.

The spring and fall book sales earn about \$15,000-\$20,000 for the Friends of the Library, which uses the money to support the library and fund special projects requested by staff and patrons.

Friends members also work in teams to shelve children's picture books, videos and CDs; mend books; process and shelve magazines; and serve as docents for the genealogy collection.

This weekend's book sale hours are:

■ Friday, 6-9 p.m. — members only; join at the door

■ Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

■ Sunday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. — fill a bag for \$7

Friends of the Pleasanton Library memberships are \$10 for an individual; \$5 student; \$15 family; \$100 lifetime; \$150 lifetime/couple.

To minimize congestion, no scanners or strollers will be permitted in the sale room.

The Pleasanton Public Library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave. ■

PUSD discusses borrowing, lauds fundraising

Short term loans and Sycamore fund borrowing approved

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Financial issues once again dominated the Pleasanton school board meeting Tuesday night, with discussions about short-term borrowing, loaning money to itself, and a contribution from the Pleasanton Partnerships In Education.

After a lengthy discussion, the board voted 4 to 1 to borrow more than \$292,000 from the Sycamore fund to pay for the district's facilities master plan and a new demographer's report. The Sycamore fund was created with the sale of land originally intended for a new school and was to be used for technology upgrades. Recently, though, the district has been using it as a source for revolving loans to itself and currently owes the fund nearly \$2.5 million. At its peak, the fund was nearly \$7.5 million.

The board received a legal opinion that it could borrow the money, but could not spend the money outright. City Councilwoman Cindy McGovern, a former school board member, wrote a letter in support of using the fund noting that the city has recently approved rezonings for high-density housing, and that the master plan and demographer's reports are necessary to make sure the district can support a potential influx of new students.

"Development funding should pay for both of these studies as part of the mitigation for the impacts of their projects on the needs for facilities in the school district," McGovern wrote.

Board Member Chris Grant agreed with McGovern's assessment, saying hundreds and "potentially thousands" of apartments could be built.

"I think we're going to see some of those projects come up kind of quickly," Grant said, adding that the district has to be sure it can accommodate the growth.

Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi told the board she doesn't have a problem with using the money but is concerned about whether the district will be able to repay its loan.

The money originally earmarked to pay for the demographer's report and the master plan will go back into the district's reserve and could be used to restore programs. Luz Cazares, assistant superintendent of business services, however,

See **PUSD** on Page 7

City to host free recycling, e-waste collection

Earth Day event slated for April 21

As one of its signature Earth Week events, the city of Pleasanton will host a free Community Recycling and E-Waste Collection from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, April 21, at the city's Operations Service Center at 3333 Busch Road. The event is free to Pleasanton residents.

Among the items that will be accepted for recycling are computer components, digital cameras, power cables, toner cartridges, video game systems, MP3 players, keyboards, DVD and other electronic items, batteries, and fluorescent light bulbs. Free halogen lamp replacement for CFL models will be offered to customers who

bring a copy of their PG&E bill.

The event has been expanded this year to include the collection of shoes, clothing, bedding, linens and textiles. In addition, up to two banker-size boxes of paper per resident will be shredded and recycled between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

A complete list of accepted items can be viewed at <http://noewaste.com/calendar.php>. For more information, call (866) 335-3373. Among the items that will not be accepted are mattresses, furniture, smoke detectors and appliances.

Unused or expired pharmaceutical drugs will be collected at the same time and location. This por-

tion of the event is co-hosted by the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD). All prescription and over-the-counter drugs will be accepted from Pleasanton residents and DSRSD residential customers in Dublin and San Ramon.

Since 2008, DSRSD and the city of Pleasanton drop-off events have resulted in the collection of approximately 2,200 pounds of medications that otherwise might have been disposed into the sewer system or been diverted to the landfill. Drugs should not be disposed of in the toilet or sink because they contain chemicals, traces of which can pass through



COURTESY CITY OF PLEASANTON

Workers stack dropped off items at last year's Community Recycling and E-Waste Collection, which the city is hosting again in conjunction with Earth Day.

wastewater treatment to the San Francisco Bay where they may harm fish and other aquatic life.

For more information about the pharmaceutical drug drop-off, visit www.dsrdsd.com or call 875-2294. ■

Gun shows at Fairgrounds?

Gun shows could be headed back to the Alameda County Fairgrounds, with unloaded guns on tethers.

At a recent hearing on the long-running battle over gun shows at the Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, a federal appeals court appeared headed toward a narrow ruling rejecting two gun show promoters' constitutional challenge to county restrictions on firearms at the facility.

Promoters Russell and Sally Nordyke have been trying to overturn a 1998 Alameda County law banning guns from the Fairgrounds.

The Nordykes filed their lawsuit in federal court in San Francisco in 1999, after the county passed the law in response to a 1998 shooting at the fair in which eight people were injured.

The idea of allowing guns on tethers surfaced near the end of the hearing before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco after a lawyer for promoters Russell and Sally Nordyke conceded "it would be possible to have a gun show" in a format proposed by the county.

In the modified format, unloaded guns displayed to prospective buyers would be tethered by cables several feet long to a secure base.

The Nordykes, who live in Glenn County, claim the measure blocks them from operating gun shows at the Fairgrounds in violation of their Second Amendment right to bear arms and First Amendment right of free speech.

At a hearing before the Court of Appeals, a lawyer for the county said gun shows could be allowed if they were tethered.

Chief Circuit Judge Alex Kozinski picked up on the suggestion, telling Donald Kilmer, the Nordykes lawyer, "They said you could do it."

Kilmer initially demurred, saying, "No, we cannot conduct a gun show with guns tethered to a base."

When Kozinski and fellow Judge Susan Graber persisted in questioning, Kilmer conceded, "I can imagine it would be possible to have a gun show that way."

The panel will issue a written ruling at a later date.

—Glenn Wohltmann

Still in court seeking OK for 51 homes, developers now asking for just 10

New plan for Oak Grove project before Planning Commission

By JEB BING

Even as legal arguments continue over the city's refusal to approve their bid to build 51 custom homes on their hillside Oak Grove property, the owners of the 562-acre site now have a new plan before the Pleasanton Planning Commission seeking to build only 10 homes there.

Landowners Frederic and Jennifer Lin, represented by developer James Tong, are seeking to subdivide the property into 10 large lots for single-family custom homes with no commonly held property or open space dedication. The lots would vary in size from 16 to 214 acres and would be accessed by way of a 25-foot-wide gated private road extending from the end of Hearst Drive, which is now barricaded.

Another gated emergency vehicle access road is proposed to connect

the site to Grey Eagle Court in the Grey Eagle neighborhood, also a gated community located at the end of Crellin Road.

The Lins' plan was discussed by the Planning Commission on March 21, but no action was taken.

Meanwhile, the Lins' effort continues before the state Court of Appeal where they are asking the court to overturn a judgment in the Superior Court against their claim that a development agreement once signed by City Manager Nelson Fialho should allow them to build the 51-home development.

Numerous meetings have been held in the pre-hearing phase of the appeal with the Lins' San Francisco legal firm and Amrit Kulkarni, an attorney with the firm of Meyers/Nave, who has been hired by Pleasanton as outside counsel to argue

against the Lins' appeal.

City Attorney Jonathan Lowell said no formal hearing date has been set by the Court of Appeal.

The Lins have tried several times over the last 13 years to gain approval for houses on the wooded, undeveloped property they own. At one time, they sought to build 98 homes there along with a golf course. That plan, as well as the much-reduced 51-home development plan proposed five years ago, also was rejected by voters in a referendum after the City Council had given its approval.

It is that last referendum on June 8, 2010, that is the focus of the Lins' current litigation. At that time, voters overturned the council's approval of the project in 2007, which came after several years of public meetings and hearings. ■

At-home resident foils burglary attempt

Break-in tied to another the same day

By GLENN WOHLTMMANN

A Pleasanton resident interrupted a daytime break-in Monday morning, one of three daytime burglaries that occurred over the last week, according to police reports.

The man, at his home in the 8000 block of Regency Drive, heard his doorbell ring at about 11:35 a.m. but chose not to answer it. Moments later, he spotted a man trying to enter the home by forcing open a sliding window on the side yard.

"Upon being seen by the resident, the would-be burglar fled to the street and into an awaiting black, four-door sedan with two occupants," according to a news release. "The vehicle sped out of the Laguna Oaks development toward Foothill Road."

The homeowner called Pleasanton Police Department to report the incident, and as officers were

headed to the scene a driver turning onto Stoneridge Drive from Foothill Road saw the occupants of a black sedan throwing several items out of their car.

The driver lost sight of the car near Interstate 680 but drove to the Pleasanton Police Department to report what she had seen. Officers who recovered the discarded property on Stoneridge Drive found miscellaneous items showing an address in the 800 block of Hopkins Way. When police went to that residence, they discovered the home had been broken into and ransacked.

Witnesses described the suspect vehicle in the two cases as being similar to a 2000-04 black, four-door Lexus or Honda, with gold trim. The suspects are described as one Hispanic male and two black males, all in their mid-20s.

The victim in the Hopkins Way

burglary is still compiling a list of what was stolen from her home.

A daytime burglary March 23 in the 3600 block of Annis Circle netted nearly \$9,000 in cash and coins. Stolen was \$6,600 cash, plus about \$1,500 in coins, a large plastic Budweiser bottle containing about \$500 in mixed cash and a Playstation 3 valued at \$200. The burglary took place between 12:30 and 2:43 p.m. Entry was gained by forcing open a sliding glass door.

The investigations are ongoing. Witnesses and others with information on the suspects and their vehicle are urged to contact the Police Department at 931-5100. Police are also reminding residents that burglars will often check to see if a home is occupied by ringing the doorbell. If no one answers, these criminals feel comfortable entering the side or rear yards to look for access into the home. ■

TAKE US ALONG



In London town: While the Brumms were in London on their European vacation, they stayed with the Cranes, their Pleasanton next-door neighbors who were living in London for three years. Visiting Buckingham Palace with their Weekly are Ian, Tyler, Lucas and Chandler Crane with Robbie and Andrew Brumm.

PUSD

Continued from Page 5

cautioned the board about spending the money, saying that as of the last financial update, the district was short about \$200,000.

Board President Joan Laursen voted to allocate Sycamore fund money to the master plan and demographer's report but originally wanted to postpone making the transfer until later in the year.

Bowser was the sole member of the board to oppose using Sycamore money.

"The Sycamore fund has been meant to be a renewable resource," he said.

The board also approved a plan for short-term borrowing against anticipated income as a way to deal with state funding deferments that can leave districts cash strapped while they await state money. TRANS (Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes), issued through the California School Boards Association, would let the district borrow up to \$15 million.

Board members had asked what would happen if the district defaulted on TRANS borrowing; Mark Farrell, vice president at the asset management firm Piper Jaffray, said the district would likely have other problems — such as meeting payroll — long before then. He said, historically, the state has stepped in to control the district until its debt is paid.

One piece of good news to the board was a report from Debi Covello, executive director of Pleasanton Partnerships In Education (PPIE), which said it had raised \$296,000 to help reduce cuts to schools at all levels; \$186,000 will go to elementary schools to bring back a reading specialist and two hours a day for technology support.

Middle schools will get \$56,000 to pay for three hours per day for tech support and for a half-hour daily of library support. High schools will get \$44,000 for counseling, technology upgrades and for additional sections.

The school calendar was also approved, although it could be modified as a result of ongoing negotiations with the CSEA and Association of Pleasanton Teachers. This year, according to Bill Faraghan, assistant superintendent of human resources, the district made a greater effort to have its calendar match up with Livermore and Dublin, but said San Ramon's calendar may not match as closely. The district's 2011-12 calendar was called into question when parents learned that the winter break began later than it did in neighboring districts. ■

OPUS BANK

Continued from Page 5

tion so that shopping, dining and entertainment-related uses such as restaurants and retail are not permanently eliminated from the downtown, explained City Manager Nelson Fialho.

"Banks are vitally important, but the exact location is also a relevant consideration," he added. "The change would provide time for that type of deliberation." ■

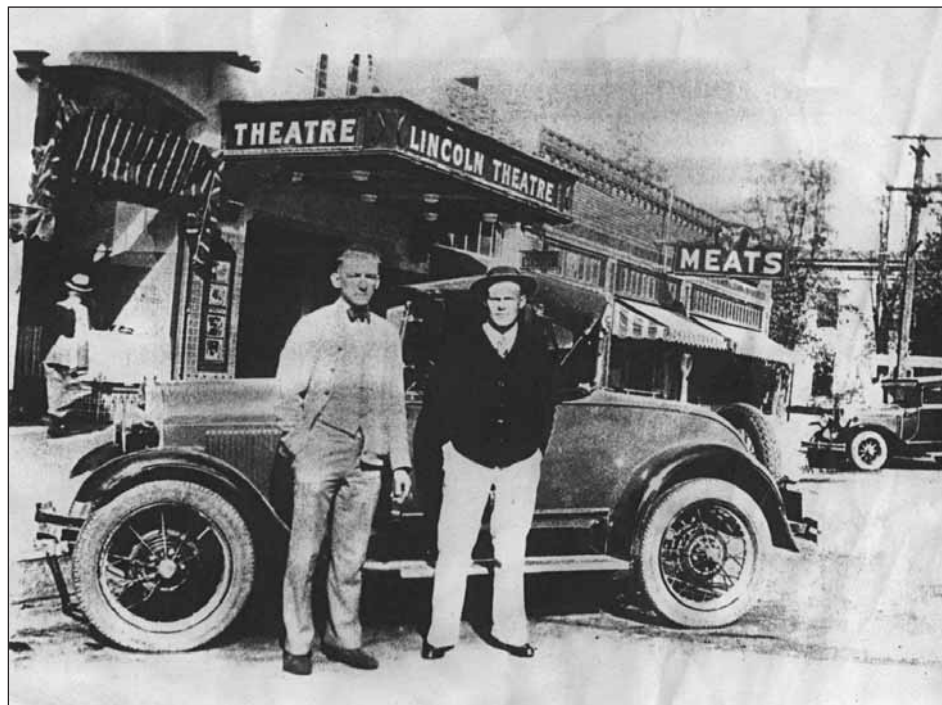
DOWNTOWN
not another bank!

We've been informed that the Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA) and the City's Economic Development Department are holding meetings to find ways to make downtown a stronger shopper and entertainment destination, and that on April 3 the Pleasanton City Council will decide if another bank will be allowed on Main Street and *"this is everyone's chance to chime in"*. Thank you for the opportunity.

Now the question for me is not "is downtown successful", the question is "How successful could downtown be"? I look at it this way. If you believe downtown belongs to everyone and the plan is to locate a business, or develop a project downtown in order to profit from what is already there, then that's the wrong plan. But if the plan is to build common value by restoring an old downtown and transforming it into a new town center with density, diversity and self-sustaining vitality then let's start with what we know.

We know that the most successful downtowns are predominately pedestrian-oriented, and that parking lots and 5 day 9 to 5 automobile-oriented businesses like low vitality banks create "gaps" in that pedestrian environment. The individual businesses may prosper but the street itself loses completeness and continuity. Pedestrian shoppers lose interest and turn back. Retail suffers. *"Life attracts life"*, wrote Jame Jacobs. We know that evening entertainment is easily understood as essential to downtown revitalization, and that restaurants and staged events are not enough. Now don't get me wrong, I live in downtown and I like staged events. However, staged events are much like dinnertime on Main Street. - when the event is over the vitality it created leaves with the event. It's lights out!

We know that downtown residents can walk to Main Street as pedestrian customers, but that the majority arrive by car. And we know and have known for decades where the ridged boundaries are that surround downtown's tiny, yet typical "one street" historical commercial district and the limited spaces within. Knowing all this, it seems to me the common sense approach would be to line Main Street with a continuum of pedestrian-oriented businesses and provide convenient nearby parking for those who would



drive in and become vitality creating, cash spending pedestrian customers themselves.

Now let's look at what we know about ourselves. We know that it's been more than a decade since we widened the sidewalks and planted trees to make Main Street more pedestrian friendly and we still don't have a definition for "pedestrian-oriented" or "automobile-oriented", or a clear understanding of how these terms relate to "our" downtown. We're still placing under-parked and no-parked automobile-oriented business along Main Street while residential developers use downtown's In-lieu Parking Fee Program to remove existing public parking spaces a block from Main Street's pedestrian-oriented businesses.

We know that during good times and bad times there has always been vacant 2nd floor office space downtown, yet we're still offering parking concessions to new "street level" offices. Some on Main Street, others a half a block from Main Street with private parking lots that now just sit there vacant evenings and week-ends when Main Street's pedestrian-oriented restaurant and retail businesses need parking the most. Some argue that complicated decisions like these should be left in the hands of the experts. Maybe, but every historical downtown in America is unique in its own way, so I keep wondering, what makes a person an expert on "our" downtown anyway - title, position, membership in the good ole boy's club... what? Because just by saying so doesn't make it true.

We know that "by the rules" some restaurants wishing to expand pay no sewer fees, are given no occupancy

limits and use unlimited numbers of downtown's public parking spaces. While "by the same rules" other restaurants also wishing to expand, and new entrepreneurs also wishing to offer the community the exact same services (food, drink, and entertainment) must pay \$10's, or even \$100's of thousands in fees alone just for the privilege to competing. And even then, that business' customer base and public parking usages are held to limits "by the rules". Whew!! Pretty soon I couldn't figure what the rules were. Sounds a little unfair to me.

So, with all sincerity and respect, if the PDA, the City, or our new Downtown Hospitality Taskforce really are interested in what the rest of us think our downtown needs to be a strong shopper and entertainment destination, then this citizen thinks downtown needs clear rules, fair competition, some form of street level pedestrian-oriented policy along Main Street, diverse nightlife and a historical preservation plan with teeth. A fresh look at downtown's long term parking plan (if there is one) and the "intent" of downtown's In-lieu Parking Fee Program probably wouldn't hurt either.

One thing downtown doesn't need is another bank on Main Street. But don't take my opinion for it, decide for yourself what you think your downtown needs to be as successful as it can be. And remember, if you decide not to decide, then in truth you have decided. You have decided to let government and their experts pick downtown's next generation of winners and losers for you. And I think we all know how those things can turn out.

Robert W. Byrd

THANK YOU PLEASANTON!

My family and I were touched by the outpouring of support for our effort to bring a grocery store back to the vacant Nob Hill Foods building in Meadow Plaza on Santa Rita Road.

Our Planning Commission and the Pleasanton community have spoken loud and clear.

I'm pleased to join the many small businesses in Meadow Plaza in welcoming Walmart Neighborhood Market to our community.

Dorothy Anderson
Owner, Meadow Plaza
MeadowPlaza@gmail.com

Main Street group hires mixed-use development expert

Firm recognized for rejuvenating downtowns

Main Street Property Services, a Lafayette firm that has business developments in downtown Pleasanton, has hired Stephen Lawton as a retail consultant to assist in leasing, developing and acquiring retail real estate.

Lawton will work with Craig Semmelmeier in navigating the financial, administrative, and community issues that accompany the development process.

Main Street Property Services

developed the popular Tully's Coffee Shop site at Main and Angela streets, and is now in the process of completing the leasing of the building at 234 Main St., which it recently restored. Athletic good retailer Fleet Feet



Stephen Lawton

has moved its store into that new building.

Lawton has 10 years of experience in government administration and economic development and 20 years of experience in private sector management. His background includes issues related land entitlement, rezoning, redevelopment, retail in mixed-use development, festival marketplaces, major public works construction and complex property transactions. ■

Goodguys honored at Pleasanton Chamber awards ceremony

Organization cited for making a positive impact in the Pleasanton community

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce honored the Goodguys Rod & Custom Association last Friday with its "Excellence in Business Award."

The award, which annually recognizes "businesses that have made a positive impact in the Pleasanton community," was presented to Goodguys president Marc Meadors at the chamber's the 49th Annual Community Service Awards ceremony, held in the Firehouse Arts Center.

It also came as the Goodguys was readying its 30th anniversary annual All American Get-Together car show at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, which drew thousands to the show last weekend despite heavy rains on Saturday.

In accepting the award, Meadors, son of Goodguys founder Gary Meadors, said that since 1983, Goodguys events have brought more than \$539 million in economic impact to the Tri-Valley region.

"Pleasanton is a premier destination for car people all over the world who come to Goodguys events at the Fairgrounds," Meadors said.

"Those who come always say what a special place Pleasanton is and how they look forward to returning each



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Thousands gather at the Alameda County Fairgrounds to look over cars on display at the Goodguys' 30th anniversary All American Get-Together car show.

year," he said. "We'd like to thank the city for treating our out of town guests so warmly with your great restaurants, comfortable hotels, hospitality and a sparkling clean city."

"We'd also like to thank the police department for 'going easy on our guys' and the road crews for keeping the streets so smooth," he

added to resounding chuckles and applause from the audience.

Goodguys will hold three additional events at the fairgrounds this year: the 19th Summer Get-Together June 2 and 3, the 26th West Coast Nationals Aug. 24-26 and the 23rd Autumn Get-Together November 10 and 11. ■

BJ's set to open April 23 in east Dublin

Popular chain offers signature pizza, handcrafted beer, exotic desserts

The award-winning, popular BJ's will open its new restaurant and brewhouse at Fallon Gateway in Dublin on April 23.

With seats for 280 patrons, BJ's will offer an extensive menu including BJ's signature deep-dish pizza, handcrafted beer and its famous Pizookie dessert.

BJ's highly detailed, contemporary decor and unique video statement, including BJ's 103-inch plasma display as well as several high-definition flat panel televisions, should make it a convenient gathering place for sports fans with a healthy atmo-

sphere for families, said Greg Levin, a BJ's Restaurant representative.

The restaurant is visible from I-580 and located across from Target at the Fallon Road exit. Signs on the building indicate the restaurant is now hiring in advance of a "soft opening" sometime in mid-April.

According to John Zukoski, who writes and publishes "Around Dublin" online, BJ's will have a full bar and will serve a wide variety of appetizers, entrees, lunch specials and handcrafted beers. The chain is best known for its slate of ambers, ales, porters, stouts, hefeweizens,

and lagers.

Aside from the traditional burgers and pizza, BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse has other entrees, such as Chicken A La Fresca, Garden Fresh Salads like the Seared Ahi Salad, and Culinary Creations such as Tuscan Chicken Limone.

Its Pizookie desserts are the stuff of legends, according to Levin. Hot out of the oven and topped with two scoops of vanilla bean ice cream, the freshly baked cookies are served in their own deep dishes and are the perfect capstone to every signature meal at BJ's. ■

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Welcome to a new era of recycling water

State Superintendent of Schools Tom Torlakson no doubt remembers stopping by the Pleasanton City Council some 10 years ago to introduce himself as a newly elected state Senator. There, just a few feet away from his front row seat in the council chamber, was a working model toilet positioned in front of the lectern, flushing away as protestors objected to a plan under consideration to pump treated wastewater into the ground instead of sending it to the Bay.

The protestors won their argument, with both the council and the Dublin San Ramon Services District backing off the plan insofar as Pleasanton was concerned. As for Torlakson, he stepped past the toilet and made his statement. He's never been back.

In those 10 years, as cities, including Livermore, turned to treated wastewater as part of a statewide water conservation effort, Pleasanton has opted out. We continue to use the precious and limited supply of regular drinking water to irrigate our parks, sports fields, even Callippe Preserve golf course. At one time, at the mayor's urging, drinking water spigots were turned on to raise the water level of the Arroyo del Valle to keep a small species of fish alive during a particularly dry summer.

Thankfully, those days may be gone. At last week's City Council meeting, Daniel Smith, director of operations services, presented a plan for working with Zone 7, the city's water supplier, to develop a recycled water system and expand the city's water conservation program. The recycled water system will reduce potable water use by converting a portion of irrigation connections serviced currently by regular drinking water. By 2020, this system is projected to service major commercial irrigation regions as well as city parks. Purple fire hydrants, like those seen in Livermore, will indicate that the water from these hydrants is no longer potable, although treated so thoroughly it's not a health hazard. As for Callippe Preserve, the city already has purple recycled water pipes underground along with potable water pipes. These purple pipes, quietly installed when the city rebuilt Alisal Street through Happy Valley to serve the golf course, have yet to be used.

Water is a precious natural resource that is in short supply in California. Population increases and efforts to protect the environment have reduced the reliability of our water supply. Without widespread development of additional water resources, the State Department of Water Resources predicts that by the year 2020, Californians will be short 7 million acre-feet of water per year during a drought and 2.9 million acre-feet in an average year. An acre-foot of water is enough to supply two families for a year. Water reuse projects are essential to the water resources management of the region.

Water recycling, practiced for decades in the arid regions of the U.S. and around the world, is becoming more and more common throughout California. The Dublin San Ramon Services District, whose plan Pleasanton rejected a decade ago, has joined hundreds of other agencies statewide in an effort to better manage our water resources through recycling. Because it began developing a recycled water system early, the DSRSD is already meeting the state mandate to reduce per capita water consumption 20% by 2020. Already, recycled water accounts for approximately 18% of the district's sales.

Smith's operations services plan is a step in the right direction to put Pleasanton in compliance with the state's goal and in sync with the efforts of both Zone 7 and the DSRSD to make better use of recycled water and preserve our potable drinking water supplies. ■

LETTERS

Don't understand cost

Dear Editor,

I don't understand why Foothill High School needs to rent any equipment for graduation. Doesn't Foothill already have the required equipment, chairs and everything needed for the graduation? Why are we having the graduating students pay for their own diplomas?

What happen to the days of having the graduation in the gym, parents seated in the bleachers, graduating seniors seated on the gym floor, with the school principal and district personnel facing the students? Then you won't need any bathroom, sound equipment, chairs or special decorations since they are already in the gym.

One can only surmise that either Foothill and the school district don't want a graduation or they are trying to please the parents. If the answer is pleasing the parents, then the students' parents are going to have to shut their mouths, not complain and just hand over the check.

Larry Jackson

'Unplanned' baby speaks up

Dear Editor,

Something is wrong with this picture: When Streetwise asked if people thought health care companies should be required to provide birth control, not only did four-fifths of the people want 100% coverage, but they also had no qualms in sharing their views of unexpected pregnancies: "Unwanted children would be a burden for everyone," and "Unwanted pregnancies are a problem."

I guess you could call me a "problem for everyone" because I was an unexpected baby. My parents never shared their wedding date with me and never celebrated an anniversary. Was I conceived out of wedlock? Was I unwanted? (Before "the pill," most children were unplanned.) In any case, I'm here and I love my unexpected life. I have been blessed to be a high school teacher in Australia and Pleasanton. I have been inspired to start fundraisers for brain-injured children and our nation's wounded warriors, to start a cooking school, become a dietitian and diabetes educator.

I've been married once and for 34 years to a wise and generous man. I've been healthy enough to run thousands of miles and explore backcountry in the Sierra. I've never had to enroll for food stamps, welfare, Medi-Cal or any other public monies that could be defined as "burdensome" to society — which is evidently the expected journey with unwanted pregnancies. Again counter to expectations, I have never been on drugs, in debt or arrested.

It seems foolish to automatically decide that anyone that comes to life "unplanned" is destined to be a burden and ultimately a life that

should be ended before it begins.

The slope is getting slippery for those who are "unwanted" and inevitably "burdensome." Thank God he does have a plan for every child conceived, a better plan than any one of us could ever imagine.

Candyce Roberts

Main Street character

Dear Editor,

I prefer the unwashed liveliness of Past Time Pool to the stone-cold presence of another Main Street bank. Consider how much (or little) character Comerica has contributed since it replaced Kolln Hardware. I support the Pleasanton Downtown Association's proposed ordinance if it draws creative retailers to draw us downtown.

Jim Brice

More to the story

Dear Editor,

You should have checked your facts before you put out such an irresponsible editorial ("Has it come to this? March 23). Yes, Foothill High Principal John Dwyer sent out a letter to parents asking for help for a ceremony that the district has not paid for in years, but if you had asked anyone involved you would have found out that there are a lot of people working very hard to try to come up with alternative funding sources in order to give Foothill graduates the ceremony they deserve.

There are folks looking into corporate donations and all three booster clubs on campus (athletics, band and academic and activities) are holding a fundraiser in April. Some of the funds raised will go toward the ceremony. I don't see anywhere in your editorial anything about those efforts. Why didn't you call anyone for more information?! You must have known that there was more to the story than a letter sent to parents. Please step up your quality of reporting in the future.

You also failed to report that Amador Valley High School has asked its parents to pay for graduation as well. It asked for the money from the senior parents at walk-thru registration in August. Based on the fact that you published an "opinion" without knowing both sides of the story I would request that you publish a "revised opinion" on your online edition ASAP and that the same revision appears in print next week.

Barbara Kirk, President,
FHS Academic and Activities
Booster Club

What's your opinion?

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

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Home & garden

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weather arrives **PAGE 17**

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The entryway to the 1895 home at 733 Division St. offers Victorian splendor, enhanced by the restoration and décor of current owners Linda and George Garbarino, who added the doors into the parlor, at right, and living room, straight ahead.

THE WITCH'S HOUSE

*It's a grand old dwelling
with no witches in sight*

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The rumor has persisted among Pleasanton children for more than 100 years: A witch lives in the old house at 733 Division St. You can tell by the witch's hat, a dark pointed turret that caps part of the roof.

Linda and George Garbarino, who bought the house in the '80s, said a neighbor recalled playing in the house as a child.

"She said they'd run up and say this is the room where the witch — or ghost — was," Linda recalled with a laugh recently, as she stood in the upstairs room with the tall pointed ceiling.

They've talked to neighbors to learn of the house's history through the years and looked at historic photos of Pleasanton. One old postcard features their house shortly after it was built in 1895.

"A gentleman came to the house one day and said he'd found the postcard in a box of old photos at the dump," Linda said. "People used to put photos of their houses on postcards and send them to their friends."

The house was designed by architect Charles Bruce for the Lewis family, she said. The Lewis brothers were owners of the Lewis Hardware, Tinware, Stoves, Watchmakers and Jewelers store, which was located in the landmark Victorian on Main and Division streets that was home for Kolln Hardware for many years and is now Comerica Bank.

"This is our second Victorian," Linda said. "Our first was on Ray Street. I was raised in San Mateo then we went to Fremont. We've lived 30 years in Pleasanton, 28 years in this house."

The Garbarinos have restored much of the home, refurbished the original floors and molding,

and added a trim near the 10-foot ceilings.

"Old Victorians are a challenge," Linda said, "but a good challenge."

They have decorated with their many collectibles and furniture of the Victorian period, which featured high ornamentation and bold colors. Persian carpets cover the polished pine floors.

"Chinese and Persian objects were used widely in Victorian décor," Linda remarked. "And I like it."

Amid the figurines and framed photographs are two dollhouses she made that their grandchildren, now ages 16, 14 and 12, would make a beeline for when they visited. This solved the problem of children visiting a house with so many "don't touch" objects.

A mahogany staircase to the second floor is an attractive feature of the spacious entryway, and a mannequin on the landing wears Linda's grandmother's wedding dress with a brooch at the throat.

"The wedding dress is from the early 1900s," Linda said. "The brooch was George's aunt's."

To the right of the entryway is the formal parlor and the living room is straight ahead. The parlor, with yellow walls, has its original fireplace with a mirror built into the mantle on the inside wall, typical for that era.

"The fireplace could work," Linda said. "We've toyed with the idea of using it again."

Since the Lewises, the house has been owned by the Kamps, the Fish family and the Petrocks.

"The Petrocks redid all the wiring and all the plumbing in the early '80s," Linda said. "They added forced air heating."

See **HOME** on Page 14

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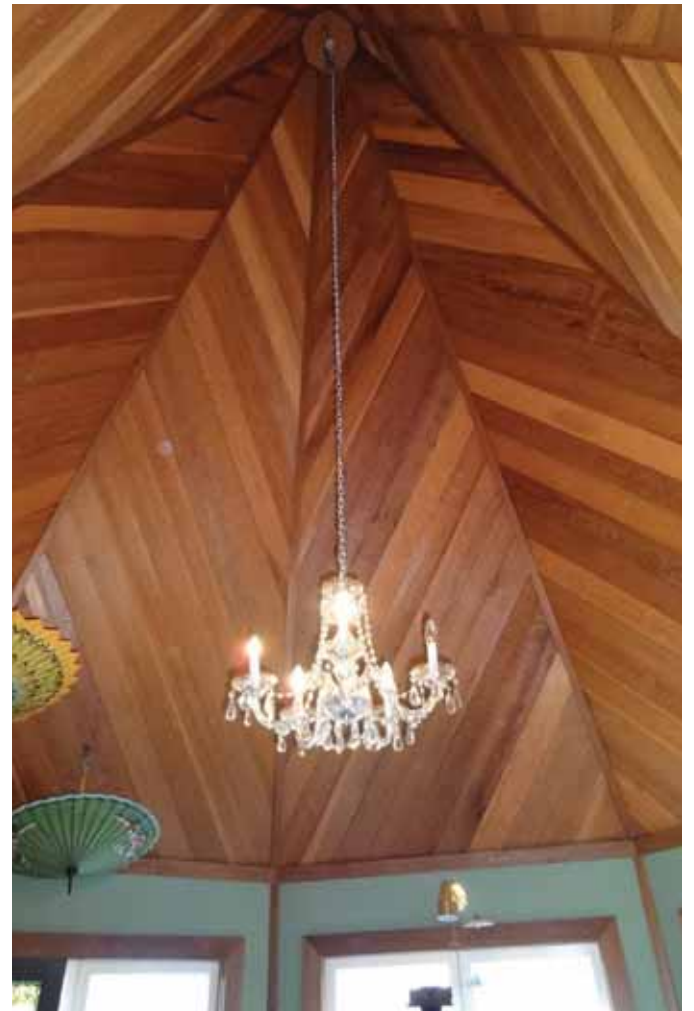
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HOME

Continued from Page 12

They also have had the house bolted down in preparation for an earthquake.

The living room dimensions are generous, even more so since they removed a huge wood-burning stove, Linda said. A flat panel television is barely noticeable amid the many antiques but the room, with green walls, is clearly a comfortable place to relax.

The adjacent dining room has the original cabinets with bead board walls and a window seat. The upper part of the wall has trompe l'oeil wallpaper trim for a three-dimensional effect.

A built-in buffet opens between the dining room and the large kitchen, which has a cozy nook to one side of a brick column.

"That's the flue for the heater that goes up to the second story to the bedroom closet," George explained. "There was a wood-burning stove here."

In the kitchen a huge island divides the cooking area from the breakfast room, which was originally a porch. A former owner who gave cooking classes in the kitchen installed the island and pushed out the wall to accommodate her students.

Now a smaller enclosed porch serves as a back entryway from the luscious garden. A nook to the other side of the kitchen is used as a small office.

At the front of the house to the left of the front entryway is a hall with a guest bathroom and leading right to the master bedroom and bath. The guest bath has the original sink, claw-footed tub and sculptured toilet, and the Garbarinos redid the tiny vintage tile when they remodeled the master bedroom and bath.

"The Lewises only had one bedroom," Linda said. It used to look out over a walnut orchard, which was later developed into condominiums.

They had no children, at least when they built this house, and never completed the upstairs, Linda explained.

Clockwise from above: Linda Garbarino's mother's wedding dress from the early 1900s is displayed on the staircase landing; upstairs is daughter Nora's girlhood bedroom with a trim of roses cut out by mother and daughter; the inside of the home's distinctive turret was lined with cedar by the last owner, and the room now serves as a studio for Linda's art projects; the staircase to the left of the home's entryway leads to the second story, which was never used by the original homeowners.

The Garbarino children, Josh Garbarino and Nora Garbarino Chavez, who were 8 and 6 when they moved in, quickly made themselves at home upstairs, which now has a spacious hallway with a seating area facing to Division Street and three rooms plus a bath.

Nora first slept in a small upstairs room, but when she was a young teen they converted a larger area into a spacious bedroom for her. Mother and daughter chose the flowered wallpaper, which keeps the vintage look of the home, and together they hand-cut large roses for the trim so it could seamlessly turn the corners.

The Petrocks removed the false ceiling in the turret room and lined the sides with cedar as they rise to the point. Recessed bookcases and windows surround the room, with a view of the Fairgrounds.

"This was my son's room," Linda said, recalling the children's excitement when they could spot their house from the Ferris wheel during the Fair.

The ceilings upstairs follow the contours of the roof, resulting in some places that do not offer a lot of headroom for Josh, who ended up being 6 foot 3, Linda said with a laugh, and going downstairs tall people must watch their heads.

Now Nora's room serves as a guestroom. Linda uses the turret for her art, which includes paintings and black and white sketches. She's also at work on a quilt made of old silk neckties.

"My sister, who's a sensitive, said there are two ghosts here but they are friendly," Linda noted as she looked around the room.

George uses the smaller upstairs room for his art and photography work.

The artistry of the couple shows throughout the house, as they've re-created the Victorian era but added their own colorful and



Linda Garbarino created this Victorian dollhouse for her grandchildren to play with in the parlor among myriads of collectibles.

whimsical touches. They've solved practical problems creatively, such as placing their cat Jessie's bed on an antique chair with a back decorated with cats and a lamp folding over the bed for gentle heating.

Linda currently serves as president of the Pleasanton Heritage Association, and their home has been opened to the public on tours to raise money for the Museum on Main.

For a visit to past times, be sure to avail yourself of the next tour. But don't expect to see any witches. ■



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Gone native

Two local homes on garden tour

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Pleasanton will have two residences included when folks visit East Bay homes for knowledge and inspiration at the eighth annual Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, being held this year Sunday, May 6.

Ward and Pat Belding, who live on Highland Oaks Drive, got the bug to go native in their garden after attending the tour in 2007. They hired Middlebrook Gardens to design and install a low-water, low-maintenance garden in place of their water- and energy-demanding lawn. The Beldings display their "before" and "after" water bills to show how effectively their new garden reduces the need for water, even in the hot Pleasanton summers.

Plus there are other advantages, Ward Belding explained.

"These include not having to mow your lawn ever again, and not having to put lots of chemical fertilizers and insecticides on it," he said.

The Beldings' yard is also designed to attract wildlife, with a bubbling fountain near the front door and two more in the back yard where a massive oak spreads its branches. The native fuchsia attracts hummingbirds, while bees buzz along the buckwheats, sages and California lilacs.

The Belding yard, in turn, inspired Colleen Clark, who lives in the corner house next door to them, and she installed her garden in 2010 after several years of planning.

She thought — correctly — that her five young children would like to spend time in a native plant garden and designed it with them in mind as well as to be drought-tolerant, low maintenance and attractive to birds, bees and butterflies.

"It's far less maintenance than grass," she said, plus her children enjoy playing and working among the native plants. It also has large rocks for climbing and a rock fountain.

Colleen will share her gardening adventures in talks at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the topic, "How to design and install a native plant garden: With research and patience, you can do it too!"

The free Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour is from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties. It covers more than 45 homes with gardens that contain 60% or more native plants. Talks will be offered throughout the day on selecting and caring for native plants, designing a low-maintenance garden, attracting butterflies, birds and bees, and gardening without pesticides.

Visitors must register at www.bringingbackthenatives.net to receive guides to the participating gardens, and the event is expected to fill up with more than 7,000 people. A dozen locations will host Native Plant Sale Extravaganzas on both Saturday and Sunday. ■



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

This year's Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour will again include the home of Pat and Ward Belding on Highland Oaks Drive. A huge old oak tree provides shade for the entire back yard, which is low-maintenance and needs little water. At right, Ward Belding points out six types of native sages in his front yard.



Work the tour

Volunteers are needed to greet participants and answer questions during this year's Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour on May 6. Benefits include Garden Soirees of tour gardens, a pre-tour meeting with the owner and a Garden Tour T-shirt. Check out www.bringingbackthenatives.net to choose your preferred garden and to volunteer.

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Tomato planting time

*Plan now, plant soon
for homegrown tomatoes*

Growing your own tomatoes can save money but, even better, your own garden can supply you with tasty produce. As the warm weather begins — and hopefully that will be soon — be ready to plant your seedlings.

- Choose the tomato variety — from among thousands! — that you like best and that will suit your needs. Beef tomatoes are meaty, and the little Sweet 100 cherry tomatoes burst with sugary flavor. Buy seedlings at a reputable nursery or farmers market or, if you prefer, buy seeds — they are cheaper but take more patience and attention.
- Replant seedlings soon, giving them as much space as possible. Be sure to choose an area with good drainage.
- Pick a sunny spot with lots of growing room for the vines and the roots. Tomatoes need at least six to eight hours of sun each day and full sun is best, especially in Pleasanton where evening temperatures are cooler. A south-facing wall where the ground doesn't get boggy would be ideal.
- For the first few weeks, watch out for birds pecking at the seedlings and be careful to water at least once a day, making sure that excess water drains away so the roots don't rot. The plants can be protected against birds by placing chicken wire over the top of the area but make sure it doesn't touch the seedlings. Slugs can be discouraged with salt barriers or beer traps.
- The tomatoes will be ready for picking around late summer. Until then, be patient and remember to water them more as they grow bigger. Tomato plants can get as large as 5 feet, and as the fruit appears the plants will need support to stay off the ground. It can be simple, just a couple of sticks and a few strings, but take care not to harm the branches.
- Picking the tomatoes depends on the type you have chosen but they should have some yellow and maybe a little red on them. If you pick one a little early, leave it to ripen on a windowsill and it will be ready to eat in two or three days.



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Plant tomato seedlings when the warm weather begins. The hardest part might be choosing which type to grow.

If you don't have room in your yard for a garden, consider Pleasanton's community garden program at Val Vista Park, where residents pay a nominal fee to grow vegetables and

fruits. Send in an application to be placed on a waitlist or call coordinator Kathy Southern at 997-3186.

—Pleasanton Weekly staff

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POLICE BULLETIN

Tires cut on more than two dozen cars

Pleasanton police are investigating the vandalism of 28 cars on four streets late Friday or early Saturday, March 24, according to police reports.

Suspects punctured the sidewalls of the victims' tires, making the tires unfixable. The vehicles were all parked on the road in front of the victims' homes; the puncture marks looked like they were caused with a half-inch knife blade in what police are calling apparent "random acts of vandalism."

Fourteen vehicles parked on Valley Trails Drive were damaged, along with 10 on Yellowstone Court, three on Cumberland Gap Court and one on Isle Royal Court. There are no suspects.

In other police reports:

- An Oakland man was arrested March 22 on multiple counts after using false identification while attempting to cash a \$7,094 tax return check at Walmart. James Lewis, 28, was charged with identity theft, forgery, possession of stolen property and burglary. He was taken into custody at about 2:12 p.m.
- Oakland resident Raul Ademar Puzul Roche, 23, was arrested for possession of stolen property after an incident at Cost Plus just after midnight March 24, in which cardboard and wood pallets were taken. Roche was taken into custody at about 12:36 a.m. in the 5500

block of Springdale Avenue.

• A Livermore woman was arrested March 25 following an incident in which three women ran after activating an electronic alarm while exiting Kohl's at about 7:30 p.m. All three women denied stealing clothing that had been taken from the store and Kohl's declined to prosecute. However, Mrianna Martir, 19, was taken into custody on an outstanding warrant.

• A random hotel check at 3:22 a.m. March 25 at Motel 6 in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road led to the arrest of a Modesto man on a felony warrant and possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance. A police check of license plates led to the arrest of Brian Paul Clark, 46, for possession of methamphetamine and an outstanding warrant for possession of controlled substance in San Jose.

• Natasha N. Barr, 26, of Oakland, was arrested at about 10:56 a.m. March 20 for grand theft and identity theft in connection with an incident at 1155 Santa Rita Road. No other details were available; the case remains under investigation by another agency.

• An auto burglary at ClubSport in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive netted a laptop, a \$400 iPhone, a \$300 purse, a \$200 briefcase, and a \$100 wallet. The theft took place at about 9:37 a.m.; a passenger window of the vehicle was smashed.

• A locking mechanism valued at about \$1,000 was damaged when someone tried to pick the drivers side door lock of a car parked in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue between 6 p.m. March 22 and 7 a.m. March 23. Nothing was stolen.

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

POLICE REPORT

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

March 21

Theft

- 10:31 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; identity theft
- 1:11 p.m. in the 5700 block of Johnson Drive; grand theft
- 1:13 p.m. in the 6400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; identity theft

Auto burglary

- 10:33 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

- 2:40 p.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

Driving with marijuana

- 2:04 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Main Street

March 22

Theft

- 2:12 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Dr; identity theft, forgery, possession of stolen property, burglary
- 4:59 p.m. in the 5100 block of Oakdale Court; grand theft
- 6:17 p.m. in the 8000 block of Regency Drive; identity theft
- 8:47 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard road; grand theft

Battery

- 1:45 a.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

Vandalism

- 9:47 a.m. in the 300 block of Rose Avenue
- 9:15 p.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Drug/alcohol violations

- 11:54 a.m. in the 5200 block of Johnson Drive; marijuana possession
- 5:39 p.m. in the 4400 block of Valley Ave; minor in possession of alcohol

March 23

Sexual abuse of a minor

- 1:58 p.m. in the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

Theft

- 9:15 a.m. in the 4400 block of Rosewood Drive; grand theft
- 10:50 a.m. in the 1500 block of Poppybank Court; identity theft

- 6:40 p.m. in the 4100 block of Crisfield Lane; identity theft
- 8:14 p.m. in the 8100 block of War Glory Place; identity theft
- 9:24 p.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court; auto theft

Burglary

- 1:43 p.m. in the 3600 block of Annis Cir

Auto burglary

- 11:13 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Child abuse

- 3:23 p.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Ave
- 3:39 p.m. in the 7400 block of Flagstone Drive

Vandalism

- 1:40 p.m. in the 5300 block of Case Ave

Drug/alcohol violations

- 5:52 p.m. in the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road; under the influence of a controlled substance
- 8:26 p.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Division Street; public drunkenness
- 9:10 p.m. in the 2400 block of Via de los Milagros; underage drinking on private property
- 11:55 p.m. in the 800 block of Division Street; public drunkenness

March 24

Theft

- 11:05 a.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue; auto theft
- 6:35 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; theft

Burglary

- 12:36 a.m. in the 5500 block of Springdale Avenue

Auto burglary

- 2:04 p.m. in the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road
- 6:26 p.m. in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue
- 7:37 p.m. in the 5000 block of Hopyard Road

Battery

- 11:58 a.m. in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

- 4:17 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Alcohol violations

- 1:14 a.m. in the 5700 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; DUI
- 2:15 a.m. at the intersection of First Street and Vineyard Avenue; DUI
- 2:21 a.m. in the 3200 block of Harvey

Court; public drunkenness

- 3:44 a.m. at the intersection of Randick Court and W. Las Positas Boulevard; public drunkenness

- 10:49 a.m. in the 6800 block of Santa Rita Road; DUI, leaving the scene of an accident

- 11:55 p.m. at the intersection of First Street and Neal Street; DUI

March 25

Theft

- 9:46 a.m. in the 2300 block of Santa Rita Road; grand theft
- 2:35 p.m. in the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; grand theft
- 2:47 p.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue; auto theft

Vandalism

- 12:09 a.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road
- 7:17 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall road

Drug/alcohol violations

- 3:33 a.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance
- 6:28 p.m. in the 800 block of Main Street; public drunkenness

March 26

Theft

- 9:09 a.m. in the 6700 block of Menlo Court; grand theft
- 3:08 p.m. in the 6100 block of Homer Court; grand theft
- 7:59 p.m. in the 4300 block of Dorman Court; grand theft

Burglary

- 11:34 a.m. in the 8000 block of Regency Drive
- 1:32 p.m. in the 800 block of Hopkins Way

Vandalism

- 9:39 a.m. in the 4700 block of Muirwood Drive

Public drunkenness

- 5:14 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Stanley Boulevard

March 27

Theft

- 3:46 p.m. in the 3600 block of Virgin Islands Court; grand theft

Driving with marijuana

- 3:16 p.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Mall Road and McWilliams Way

THE CITY OF

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: Adopt a resolution establishing Underground Utility District 12-01 on Stanley Boulevard between Santa Rita Road and First Street
- Public Hearing: UP-90-43/PCUP-273, George Mull (Appellant) – Consider an appeal of a Planning Commission decision modifying the existing Conditional Use Permits for the operation of Club Neo located at 4825 Hopyard Road, Suite F10
- Consider a work plan for implementation of the General Plan Housing Element
- **To be continued to April 17, 2012** – Public Hearing: PADR 2090, Rodney and Trina Lopez (Appellants and Applicants) – Consider an appeal of a Planning Commission decision denying modification of Condition No. 8 of City Council Resolution No. 11-420 regarding a skylight approved by Administrative Design Review for additions totaling approx. 1,118 sq. ft. at 6114 Homer Court (Continued from March 6, 2012)
- **To be continued to May 1, 2012** – 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 (Continued from March 20, 2012)
- **To be continued to April 17, 2012** - Public Hearing: BRE Properties – Consider applications for: (1) two PUD Development Plan approvals to construct: (a) a mixed-use high-density residential/commercial development containing 251 residential units, 4 live/work units, and approx. 5,700 sq. ft. of retail space located on the southeast corner of Owens Dr. and Willow Rd. (PUD-85-08-12D); and (b) a high-density residential development containing 247 residential units, 4 live/work units, and 55-acre public park located on the northern corner of Gibraltar Dr. and Hacienda Dr. (PUD-81-30-86D); and (2) an amendment to Phase I & Phase II Development Agreements with Prudential Insurance Company of America to: (a) extend the term of the Agreement to five years from the date of approval and (b) incorporate the Hacienda Transit Oriented Development Standards and Guidelines (P11-0856), and to accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration for said projects

Civic Arts Commission

Monday, April 2, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Selection of Date for the Civic Arts Commission Annual Workshop in 2012
- Approve the location of the public artwork "Comet" at the Firehouse Arts Center
- Review of FY 2012/13 Community Grant Process

Human Services Commission

Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Review of Commission Meeting Schedule for May through September 2012 and Consideration of Hosting a Joint Meeting with the Livermore Human Services Commission

Downtown Hospitality Guidelines Task Force Meeting

April 5, 2012, 6:30 pm

Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road

The City's Downtown Hospitality Guidelines Task Force will develop a set of guidelines that addresses key elements in creating a positive and responsible environment for downtown vitality. The task force's discussions will be focused on areas including public safety, music and entertainment, outdoor activities and transportation.

To be added to the email list for agenda packets and additional Downtown Hospitality Guidelines Task Force information, please email your request to tsnyder@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. For further information or questions, see our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/business/planning/DH/DowntownHospitality.html

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

Should you hire a personal trainer?

DEAR JIM: I finally took your advice and started an exercise program at my local health club. I'm enjoying some of the group exercise classes like yoga and tai chi, but I'm hesitant to try the exercise equipment. It looks very intimidating, and I'm afraid I might hurt myself if I try to use it on my own. My membership consultant says I should hire a personal trainer to learn how to use the equipment and design a program for me. I'm 74 and have some medical issues. What do you think? **HESITANT IN HAYWARD**



DEAR HESITANT: Congratulations on making the decision to begin an exercise program! Should you hire a personal trainer?

Dave Morrison, owner of Bay Area Family Fitness Center in Pleasanton, suggests that you ask yourself the following questions to help you arrive at the right decision:

- Do you know what "time under tension" means?
- Do you understand the "overload" principle?
- Do you know what "core training" is?
- Do you know what particular exercises you should do for your body type and physical condition?

If you don't know the answer to one or more of these questions, you should probably engage the services of a trainer, according to Morrison. "But," says Morrison, "if you want results from fitness, you first need a plan. Once you have a plan, write it down. Articulating your goals in writing will help you visualize a positive outcome and give your trainer the right direction."

You might want to meet with some of the trainers at your club individually to evaluate their "people" skills — their ability to communicate in terms that you can understand, their ability to relate to your age and medical concerns, and their ability to LISTEN. Ask for references and find out which trainers have experience working with older adults. Watch them working with current clients whenever you are at the club too. Are they staring vacantly into space, chatting on their cell phone, or texting their friends while their clients are exercising or are they really focusing on the needs of their clients?

Age and gender might also be factors in your decision. How will you feel if the trainer is the same age as your grandchildren? Will you feel comfortable working with a trainer of the opposite sex? These are just some of the reasons why a personal interview with each of the prospective trainers is important to determine your comfort zone.

Every reputable trainer should at least require you to provide your personal health history or PAR-Q (Physical Activity Readiness Questionnaire) to determine if you have any physical or medical concerns — including prescription medications — that would contraindicate certain activities. Some trainers may even want to consult with your physician before commencing with any specific course of exercise.

And, finally — price. Hiring a personal trainer is an investment, and it is not inexpensive. Most trainers charge by the hour. You may be able to purchase multiple sessions for a discounted rate. But, remember that you are entering a professional relationship where value — not price — is paramount, and value has many dimensions when it comes to hiring the right personal trainer.

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 jim@bayareaffc.com.



This column is brought to you by Bay Area Family Fitness Center, 4250 Rosewood Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

OBITUARIES

Ellen Irene Keele

Born September 16, 1915, passed on March 16, 2012.

Loving mother to four daughters; Geri (Keele) Vecchiarelli, Mariann (Keele) Roberts, Rita (Keele) Dort, Veronica (Keele) Plummer, 11 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren. Survived by her brothers, Thomas Smith, James Smith and her sister, Agnes Purvis. Preceded in death by her brother, Laurence Smith and her sister, Ann Salmon. Ellen passed peacefully in the loving arms of her daughter, after a short illness at age 96. Ellen was

born in New York, moved to Oakland and settled in San Leandro to raise her children. After successfully rearing her daughters, the entire family moved to Pleasanton over 25 years ago, to continue to raise the siblings together in a large family setting. The matriarch to a large clan, she and her daughters lived within 2 miles of each other and she will be missed by all.

A memorial service will be held at Graham Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St. Pleasanton, on Saturday, March 31st at 11:30 AM. A short reception will follow.

Dolores Jean Caffey

Dolores Jean Caffey passed away on March 18, 2012 in St. Helena, California. She was a remarkable woman that lived a very full life. Born in Great Bend,

Kansas to William and Ula Juergensen, she has lived in Clearlake for the last 22 years. She was formally a resident of Pleasanton, CA where she lived for 12 years, and had also spent time in Claremore, OK, with her husband when her children were grown.

Dolores had various careers throughout her lifetime. She was very proud of the fact that she worked for Philco Ford making electronic modules, thereby helping to launch the Apollo. In Pleasanton, she worked at Valley View School as the Cafeteria Manager. While in Oklahoma, she learned to be a taxidermist and to tan hides. She also raised many different farm animals. After moving to Clearlake, she started working for the Methodist Church in Clearlake managing their Thrift Store and volunteered there for the last 10 years. In her spare time, she loved her garden and to do needlepoint.

She is survived by her family; husband of 60 years, Ronald Caffey; children, Robert Caffey (Stella) of Vallejo and Lenard Caffey (Sandy) of Pleasanton; grandchildren, Cariann, Katrina, Jesse (Erica), Kyle and Cody; sister, Nancy and 3 great-grandchildren.

Dolores was a fantastic mother and an awesome lady who will be missed dearly. A Celebration of her Life will be held at Jones & Lewis Clear Lake Memorial Chapel, Lower Lake, on Saturday, March 31 at 1pm. Her family prefers that any donations in her name be made to the Paralyzed Veterans, a cause she has supported faithfully.

Services entrusted to Jones & Lewis Clear Lake Memorial Chapel, Lower Lake. Please sign the online guestbook at www.jonesandlewis.com



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Author Visits

COMIC CREATOR SIGNING Meet comic creator Adrian "Age" Scott, creator of the first and longest running hip hop comic. A 20-year comic veteran, Age Scott has a unique style and sense of humor that has something for everyone. Age will be presenting his newest release, "Won and Phil: Raising Heck." Free print to the first 50. Saturday, March 31 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free Heroes & Villains Comics, 264 Main St., Pleasanton. 399-5352. www.heroesvillainscomics.com

Clubs

GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL PLANT SALE

The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club's annual Plant Sale is from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, April 21, at the Amador Valley High School parking lot, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. All plants are from LAVGC members' gardens and sell at low prices. Garden Club members will assist you in choosing perennials, annuals, succulents, herbs and vegetables. Call Bev at 485-7812.

GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will host Nicholis Staddon Of Monrovia Nursery and present new plants for 2012. Visitors welcome. Wednesday, April 4 from 7-9 p.m. Free. Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club monthly meeting, 1454 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. 485-7812. www.lavgc.org

Concerts

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH - TRIBUTE TO JOHN DENVER

Ted Vigil and his Tribute to John Denver have developed into a national act, appearing at clubs, casinos, the John Denver Festival and the CMA Fan Fair Festival in Nashville, Tenn. Friday, April 6 & Saturday, April 7, 8-10 p.m. Adult: \$20, \$25, \$30; Child: \$12; Senior: \$20. Purchase online, by phone or at box office. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848. www.firehousearts.org

THE DUNWELLS

British pop/rock group, The Dunwells, will appear at 8 p.m., Friday, March 30, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. The Dunwells recorded their first album, "Blind Sighted Faith," in 2011. Their sound is a blend of acoustic and electric roots music highlighted by vocal harmonies. Tickets are \$12-\$18. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

WESLA WHITFIELD Whitfield's performance, accompanied by the Mike Greensill Trio, features familiar classics as well as her newest recording, "The Best Things in Life." Sunday, April 1 from 2-4 p.m. Adult: \$15, \$20, \$25; Child: \$12; Senior: \$20. Purchase online, by phone or at the box office. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848. www.firehousearts.org

Events

'HOP' INTO EASTER AT STONERIDGE SHOPPING CENTER

Kids and parents are invited to a family friendly Easter Photo Experience event,

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



TOM THURSTON

Bill Harley on stage tomorrow

Storyteller/musician Bill Harley returns to Pleasanton tomorrow with a new show for grown-ups added to his signature family-friendly fare. His 2 p.m. matinee will examine the fun and foibles of growing up in his own unique style. The 8 p.m. show will feature a more complex series of songs and stories, observing the world at a deeper, though still hilarious, level. Harley will perform at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

taking place from now through April 7 at Stoneridge Shopping Center, 1350 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Pleasanton. Kids will have the chance to visit with the Easter Bunny. For more information visit www.simon.com.

APRIL VIGIL AND WAR PROTEST

Pleasantonians 4 Peace is sponsoring a candlelight vigil at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 11, at Museum on Main, 603 Main St., to reflect on the human and monetary costs of the war, honor veterans who have sacrificed, and visualize ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. Call Cathie Norman at 462-7495 or email Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com.

DUSTY PAWS RESCUE ADOPTION EVENT

The adoption event will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, March 31, at Bay Area Family Fitness, 4250 Rosewood Rd., off Santa Rita Road, in Pleasanton. Stop by and meet and greet all the rescued animals and maybe give them a "forever home." Call 510-886-8925 or visit www.dustypawsrescue.org.

MOBILE GOURMET

The Mobile Gourmet presents Food Trucks at the Fairgrounds from 4-8:30 p.m., Saturday, March 31, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton, featuring Cabana Dave's, Shack Mobile, That's Sweet, Nom Nom and more. Indoor seating, warm and well lit. Come and enjoy the food and fun. visit www.gourmet-foodtruckfestival.com.

Fundraisers

FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL MEAT SALE

Premium quality meats at warehouse prices. Support Foothill athletics while getting quality meats. Filet, Rib Eye, New York, Top Sirloin, Ground Beef, Sausage, Ham, Bacon. All meat is USDA inspected Choice or Better. Sale is sanctioned by Alameda County Health Dept. Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Rd., Pleasanton.

VHS eWASTE & SHREDDING FUNDRAISER

Use your spring cleaning to support Valley Humane Society. Bring your electronic waste and obsolete documents to our eWaste and Shredding Fundraiser; drop off TV's, monitors, laptops, cell phones and more for free recycling. Small donation required for

other items; see website for details. Saturday, March 31 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St., Pleasanton. 426-8656. www.valleyhumane.org/index.php?s=news_announcements&sub=announcements&id=134

Holiday

SECOND SEDER

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will sponsor a Secular Progressive community second Seder potluck, featuring a non-religious telling of the Passover story with singing, poetry and traditional elements. Kids welcome. Reservations required. Saturday, April 7 from 5-8 p.m. \$10/adult non-member Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. 510-888-1404. www.trivalleyculturaljews.wordpress.com/

Kids & Teens

5TH ANNUAL LADYBUG RELEASE

Visit ladybugs and find out how they can help keep your garden safe and healthy. We'll release some at the Alviso Adobe Community Park and you can bring some home for your garden. Preregistration is required. Saturday, April 14 from 2-3 p.m. \$9 resident/\$12 non-resident Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road, Pleasanton. 931-3479. www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation/current-activities-guide.html

Live Music

JAZZ GUITARIST MIMI FOX

Internationally renowned guitarist/composer/recording art-

ist Mimi Fox will perform at 8 p.m., Saturday, April 7, at the Barbara Fracisco Mertes Center of the Arts, 3000 Campus Dr., Livermore. Tickets are \$12 for general admission, \$8 for students, and \$2 for parking. Call 424-1554 or visit www.laspositas-college.edu.

Miscellaneous

OCCUPY GOOD FRIDAY

Tri-Valley Cares will join the Ecumenical Peace Institute and Livermore Conversion Project for the annual Good Friday march and demonstration at the gates of the Livermore Lab to call for an end to violence and nuclear weapons. Gathering at 6:45 a.m., Friday, April 6, at Vasco and Patterson Pass roads; 7 a.m. worship followed by procession. At about 10 a.m., community gathering at Ashbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Call 510-655-1162.

Spiritual

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY

Centerpointe Church will hold Palm Sunday services at 9 a.m. (blended) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), Sunday, April 1; and daily lesson, meditation and communion at 9 a.m. April 2-6. Good Friday services will follow at 7 p.m. April 6. Easter Sunday services will be held at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Sunday, April 8; the services will be identical and include upbeat worship as well as choral pieces by the church choir. Call 846-4436. 3410 Cornerstone Ct., Pleasanton.

Volunteering

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Senior Support Program of Tri-Valley is looking for volunteer drivers to transport seniors to medical appointments outside of the Tri-Valley area (Walnut Creek, Palo Alto). Volunteers must have a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle, carry automobile liability insurance, and have a clean DMV record. Please contact Jennifer Cullen at 931-5387 or email jcullen@ssptv.org.

Check out Community Calendar at PleasantonWeekly.com for a complete listing of local events.



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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.

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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

Taste of Chinese culture

School celebrates three years training dancers

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Enjoy the Happy Childhood and Mini Lions dances and more at a performance celebrating the third anniversary of the Xiaopei Chinese Dance, at 7 p.m., Saturday, April 7, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road.

Xiaopei Chinese Dance was opened in Pleasanton with a dozen students on March 1, 2009, by Xiaopei He Gelb, a professional Chinese dancer who has lived in Pleasanton for nine years. She won the Gold Medal at Japan's Saitama International Creative Dance Competition in 2003 and was the solo dancer selected to represent Chinese women at 2004's "Year of China in France."

The school has a second location in San Jose for a total 200 students, with the mission of providing professional and authentic Chinese classic, folk and modern dance classes and programs. It also promotes Chinese culture through dance, and trains graceful and confident students and dancers.

This year's showcase students from 4 years old to adults performing 24 colorful dances, including Chinese classic, folk and modern dances. It will also feature teachers Meng Wang and Hunter Stephens.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission; \$10 for students and seniors. Call 487-8883. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Destination: Global Finals

Tricorns on Tricycles with (front, l-e) Tyson Payne, Mitchell Payne, Kyra Shah, (back) team manager Joy Iwata, Connor Iwata, Aidan Debernardi, team manager Linda Wu and Alyssa Wu were one of the five out of seven teams from Lydiksen Elementary School that progressed to this weekend's state finals after the regional Destination ImagiNation tournament held at Pleasanton Middle School last month. Competing in Best of the Bay were teams from Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties that put their heads together to solve open-ended challenges and present their solution. Winners from tomorrow's state tournament in Clovis will go on to the Global Finals being held in Knoxville, Tenn., in May.

Young artists on display

Ehan Shah of Walnut Grove Elementary paints in watercolor while Isabella Segundo of Hearst Elementary uses colored pencil and oil pastels, and Katie Nudelman of Walnut Grove paints with oil pastel in preparation for the "Young Artists' Spring Show" of artwork from Nancy Storch's Studio that will be on display at the Berry Patch gift shop, 350A Main St., Pleasanton, from tomorrow through April 15. The public is invited to a reception from 2:30 to 3:15 p.m. tomorrow.



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Sports

Rage ends successful season with tough loss

Places second at Association Cup

The Pleasanton Rage U16D3 Orange team completed its season with a second-place finish at the Association Cup last Sunday in Elk Grove.

In the finals, Rage Orange faced the Clovis Crossfire 98G, the winner of the other semifinal round. Rage Orange surrendered a goal early in the first half, but quickly locked down on defense while the Rage attack looked to create scoring chances on the other end of the field.

Neither team would prove able to convert throughout the rest of the game, however, and in the end the Crossfire outlasted Rage Orange to take the championship 1-0.

Despite the tough loss, the girls' success at the Association Cup capped off a tremendous season filled with noteworthy accomplishments:

- In reaching the finals, the Rage Orange advanced more deeply in the Association Cup than any other Rage Division 3 team has in the last ten years.
- Three first-place finishes and once second-place finish out of four tournaments entered.
- A second consecutive undefeated season in league play,



Rage U16D3 Orange team members are (back, l-r) Malcolm Cerri, Claire Hickel, Vanessa Villanueva, Tori Larsen, Ashlyn Harris, Kylie Cardozo, Danielle Leedeman, Katie Oross, Kayla Cerri, Cassie Santana, Joe Santana, (front) Laura Morgan, Patricia Norcross, Lauren Fan, Danielle Deike, Lindsay Curlett, Nikki Cerri and Molly Grozier.

with an uncapped goal differential of 45.

- A second consecutive District 3 league championship.

The team was coached by Joe Santana and Malcolm Cerri. ■



Pleasanton Seahawks at Ohio State Grand Prix (back row, l-r) Jason Chen, Nick Silverthorn, Head Coach Steve Morsilli, Katie Woods, Moriah Simonds, Marissa Brown, Allison Brown, (front) Kristine Doan, Celina Li, Rachel Knowles and Marissa Bergh.

Seahawks soar at Grand Prix

The Pleasanton Seahawks sent 10 qualifying champions to Ohio State University for the 2012 Columbus Grand Prix on March 9-11 in Columbus, Ohio. These outstanding competitors turned in many lifetime best swims including a new Olympic Trial Cut:

- Marissa Bergh — Lifetime Best Times (LBT) 50/100/200 free
- Allison Brown — LBT 400 free
- Celina Li — LBT 200 breast
- Nick Silverthorn — LBT 200 free (new Olympic Trials cut)
- Jason Chen — LBT's 100/200 back, 200 free
- Katie Woods — LBT's 50/100 free, 100 fly
- Moriah Simonds — LBT's 100/200/400 free

This was the fourth competition in the 2011-12 USA Swimming Grand Prix Series. ■

PREP LINE-UP

March 30

- Boys Baseball: 3:30 p.m., AVHS vs. Monte Vista, home
- Boys Baseball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Livermore, home
- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. San Ramon Valley, away

- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. San Ramon Valley, home
- Boys Swimming: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Livermore, home

April 3

- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Livermore, home
- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Livermore, away
- Boys Tennis: 3:30 p.m., AVHS vs. Monte Vista, away

Vista, away

- Boys Tennis: 3:30 p.m., Foothill vs. Livermore, away
- Boys Volleyball: 6 p.m., AVHS vs. San Ramon Valley, away
- Girls Softball: TBA, AVHS vs. Monte Vista, home
- Girls Softball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Livermore, home
- Boys Golf: 3:15 p.m., AVHS vs. Granada, home

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Advertise Truck Driver Jobs in 240 California newspapers for one low cost of \$600. Your 25 word classified ad reaches over 6 million+ Californians. Free brochure call Elizabeth (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)

PET OF THE WEEK

Stunning twosome

Georgia, at left, is a 2-year-old Calico cat with a calm demeanor and a beautiful face. She was discovered as a stray in April 2011 with four babies that were just days old which have all been adopted. Georgia is a quiet feline who loves napping and curling up with her favorite person. Her best friend is Tazzie, a 4-year-old tortoiseshell, who was surrendered to a county shelter in March 2011. Valley Humane Society rescued her the next month and she has been looking for a new forever home ever since. The two are the best of friends and get along great together. To learn more, call 426-8656 or visit www.valleyhumane.org. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada St. in Pleasanton.



MELISSA BONNEL

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Alamo

4 BEDROOMS		
140 Post Road	\$899,000	
Sun 1-4	Coldwell Banker	935-7100
6 BEDROOMS		
1311 Laverock Lane	\$2,694,000	
Sun 1-4	Michael Hatfield Broker	984-1339

Blackhawk

3 BEDROOMS		
306 Live Oak Drive	\$879,000	
Sun 1-4:30	Alain Pinel Realtors	314-1111
47 Tennis Club Dr	\$675,000	
Sun 1:30-4	Keller Williams Realty	855-8333
4 BEDROOMS		
85 White Pine Ln	\$1,199,000	
Sun 1:30-4	Keller Williams Realty	855-8333

Danville

3 BEDROOMS		
292 Windstream Pl	\$545,000	
Sun 1-4	Coldwell Banker	837-4100
4 BEDROOMS		
130 Camino Encanto	\$999,000	
Sun 1-4	Alain Pinel Realtors	314-1111

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS		
188 Heligan Ln	\$449,950	
Sun 1-4	J. Rockcliff Realtors	667-2100

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS		
5252 Genovesio Dr	\$650,000	
Sun 1-4	Alain Pinel Realtors	251-1111

4 BEDROOMS

2358 Greenberry Ct	\$750,000	
Sat & Sun 1-4	Valley Brokers	437-5830
5260 Ridgevale Way	\$980,000	
Sun 1:30-4:30	Moxley Team	600-0990
3435 Palmer Pl	\$1,105,000	
Sat/Sun 1-4	Andrea Rozran	858-4198
2020 Martin Ave	\$1,499,000	
Sun 1:30-4:30	Moxley Team	600-0990
3218 Melanie Cir	\$949,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams Tri-valley	397-4200
640 Varese Ct	\$1,950,000	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams Tri-valley	397-4200
2512 Tapestry Way	\$709,000	
Sat 1-4/Sun 11-5	Keller Williams Tri-valley	397-4200
1933 Palmer Dr	\$899,000	
Sat/Sun 1-4	Andrea Rozran	858-4198
3620 Ashwood Drive	\$647,000	
Sun 1:30-4:30	Moxley Team	600-0990

4444 Foothill Rd

Sat/Sun 1-4	Keller Williams Tri-valley	\$1,990,000	260-2220
5 BEDROOMS			
3623 Cameron Ave	\$1,319,000		
Sun 1-4	Moxley Team	600-0990	
1138 Mills Ct	\$1,049,000		
Sun 1-4	Tim McGuire	251-1111	
1619 Orvioto Ct	\$1,950,000		
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams Tri-valley	397-4200	

San Ramon

3 BEDROOMS		
2889 Sombrero Cir	\$557,500	
Sun 1-4	Keller Williams Realty	855-8333
10089 Foxboro Cir	\$599,500	
Sun 1-4	J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc.	648-5400

Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

Tom Selleck is voice for new Coldwell Banker campaign

New television commercials surrounds theme, 'Value of a Home'

By JEB BING

Emmy and Golden Globe award winner Tom Selleck is the voice for a new Pleasanton-based Coldwell Banker campaign highlighting the value of a home ownership.

Coldwell Banker's new national advertising campaign focuses on the deeper and intrinsic value of a home, said Michael Fischer, the real estate firm's chief marketing officer.

Voiced by Selleck, whose father retired as an executive vice president of communications for Coldwell Banker, the campaign reinforces the message that people value their homes as much for emotional and psychological reasons as for financial considerations.

"The Coldwell Banker brand has always meant something special to me," Selleck said. "My father worked for the company for 38 years. Over that period, my two

brothers and my sister worked both for and with Coldwell Banker."

"I was the one exception," Selleck added. "So it was indeed a proud moment when I was able to tell my mom that I was at last in the 'family business.'"

More than 4 million homes are expected to be purchased this year in the U.S., according to the National Association of Realtors.

"People's homes are so important because they are the setting for life's most meaningful moments," Fischer said. "While the economics of home buying are critical, we must remember there is much more to it: lifestyle, memories, family and pride of ownership."

The Coldwell Banker ad campaign debuts with a series of new television commercials surrounding the theme, "Value of a Home," Fischer added. ■

KW

KELLER WILLIAMS

TRI-VALLEY REALTY

Keller Williams would like to welcome these **12 amazing agents** who joined our family in the month of March

Alicia Hernandez

Janice Wells

Bret Fouche

Jenna Teyshak

Bruce Hunt

Jocelyn Twomey

Cathy Jackson

Lucille Olivas

Charlie Lui

Meetoo Dalal

Grace Lui

Patrick Donegan

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



5994 W. Las Positas, Suite 101, Pleasanton
459 Main Street, Pleasanton | www.KWTrivalley.com

BROKER LICENSE #01395362



Look for the open home guide on page 24.

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

Multiple-offer Specialist?

Open Sat & Sun 1-4



Cul-de-sac Remodeled Monterey Model

2358 Greenberry Ct.

LOCATION PLUS!

3 blocks to Walnut Grove and Harvest Park Schools. Great Corian kitchen. New carpets. New roof. Large, private rear yard with pool. Nice master suite. Squeaky clean! 2087 sft. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath. Offered at \$750,000



4558 Mohr Ave. **SOLD - 7 offers**



4887 Mohr Ave. **SOLD - 9 offers**



7633 Chestnut Way **PENDING - 5 offers**



4790 Sutter Gate Way **PENDING - 4 offers**

"We were astonished at how quickly and expertly Fred and his team prepared our home for sale. After going through months of languishing on the market last year with another firm, we were elated to have several offers to choose from and in less than a week!"

— Michael and Carrie Abney, Sutter Gate Way

Fred Hempy
Broker, Owner
437-5830
Fred@ValleyBrokers.net
DRE#00851294





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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>3678 Foothill Rd Pleasanton</p> <p>bd ba acres+/- 2,321 \$899,000</p> <p>Nice 5 acre parcel with Gorgeous Valley Views. West End of Old Foothill Rd. has black Gate entry to private road. 2 containers on property. Home at end of private road not included. Owner will finance, consider trades. All Services to front of parcel.</p>	<p>Weiner/ McDowell 925.251.2585</p> <p>3994 Pimlico Dr Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 2 ba 1 sqft+/- 897 \$209,900</p> <p>End-unit w/ a large family room with open kitchen and breakfast counter, Two bedrooms, One bathroom, Laundry closet FAIZ/CAC and an fenced in patio for privacy. The condo has laminate flooring thru out and the property comes with an assigned parking space.</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 \$985,000</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>Steve Mattos 925.426.7978</p> <p>7577 Brigadoon Wy Dublin</p> <p>bd 3 ba 2.5 sqft+/- 1,520 \$439,900</p> <p>No Rear Neighbors! Excellent location & upgrades! Hardwood flooring, tile, upgraded cabinets, all new bathrooms w/ slab granite, large kitchen w/ upgraded appliances & counters, large rear patio, views from master bedroom, Community pool/spa-walk to park trails.</p>	<p>Max de Vries 925.525.0116</p> <p>188 Heligan Ln #5 Livermore</p> <p>bd 3 ba 3.5 sqft+/- 1,548 \$449,950</p> <p>"Designer Home" Chef's Kitchen: Slab granite, mosaic tile backsplash, stainless appliances, great room and kitchen - balcony off of greatroom, sit up breakfast bar, surround sound, downstairs master suite, 2 car garage, Recreation Center, Activity Park (Pool, tot lot).</p>				
<p>David Azimi 925.251.2580</p> <p>5537 Satin Leaf Wy San Ramon</p> <p>bd 4 ba 3 sqft+/- 4,307 \$1,450,000</p> <p>Magnificent single story at the Pointe on the 7th hole of the Bridges Golf Course...views! Top of the line s/s kitchen appliances, large center island, master suite w/ sitting area, 2 way fireplace & huge custom walk in closet, 1200 bottle wine cellar!</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>247 East Vallecito Livermore</p> <p>bd ba acres+/- 19.47 \$1,799,000</p> <p>Build your Dream Custom Vineyard Estate Plus Tasting Room on this extremely private estate w/ breathtaking views. Easy to build-on desirable flat building pad. Pristine location adjacent to Sycamore Grove. Enjoy wine country living in the South Livermore wine country!</p>	<p>The Frazzano Team 925.735.7653</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>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</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>Krista Jarvis 925.855.4065</p> <p>Blackhawk East 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300</p>	<p>Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</p> <p>Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd. Danville, CA 94506 925.736.6000</p>	<p>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</p> <p>Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000</p>	<p>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</p> <p>Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette, CA 94549 925.385.2330</p>	<p>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</p> <p>Livermore 1983 Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 925.667.2100</p>	<p>Max de Vries 925.251.2514</p> <p>Montclair/Piedmont 6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200 Oakland, CA 94611 510.339.4800</p>	<p>Max de Vries 925.251.2514</p> <p>Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500</p>	<p>Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</p> <p>Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000</p>	<p>Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</p> <p>Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500</p>



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OAK MANOR

NEW LISTING



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 \$1,549,000

OAK LANE

JUST REDUCED



369 OAK LANE, PLEASANTON
Former Friden 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 1,479,000

OAK PARK

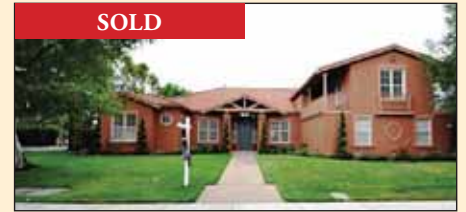
PENDING



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

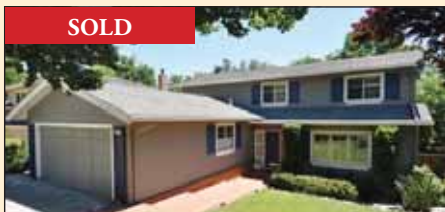
SOLD



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

SOLD



335 DEL SOL AVENUE, PLEASANTON
Location, location, location. Desirable downtown quiet court location! Beautiful upgraded home, 5 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms with 2350 square feet. Remodeled kitchen with granite slab countertops, custom backsplash and stainless appliances. Newer upgraded hardwood flooring, plantation shutters, dual pane windows, newer brushed nickel hardware and fixtures. Lots of upgrades including 30 year roof. Elevated lot with private secluded tranquil grounds includes TimberTech deck, mature trees. Walk around the corner at Neal and in one minute you are at the Farmers Market and can also enjoy all the other downtown amenities! Award winning schools!
SOLD FOR \$830,000

KOTTINGER RANCH

SOLD — REPRESENTED BUYER



1348 HEARST DRIVE, PLEASANTON
Excellent location!!! Panoramic views of surrounding hills. Backs to open space, no rear neighbors. Great condition, move in ready! Five bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, 3300 square feet. Recently updated gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops! Spacious master suite with fireplace & large bathroom. Open living room, family room and formal dining room. French doors, hardwood flooring. Three car garage. Beautiful, professionally landscaped grounds include, in-ground pool, spacious deck, gazebo, large lawn areas and 135 vine 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

SOLD



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

LAGUNA OAKS

SOLD



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

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



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DUBLIN
Open SAT/SUN 1-4 11367 VILLAGE VIEW COURT
GREAT COURT LOCATION! CALL FOR PRICING
4 BR 3 BA Updated Kitchen w/Granite w/walk-in pantry/Lrge island.Formal Living Rm.Mstr retreat-views 925.847.2200



LIVERMORE
645 LOYOLA WAY
LIVERMORE BEAUTY! \$529,950
4 BR 2.5 BA Home includes a bright and open flr pln w/formal living & dining rm.Bckyrd w/paved patio 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
1122 CONCORD ST
VINTAGE HILLS HOME \$819,000
5 BR 3 BA 1 Bed/Bath Downstairs.Hrdwd Flrs,Upgraded Kit.w/Granite & Oak Cabinets.Private Bkyd w/pool 925.847.2200



SAN RAMON
Open SAT/SUN 12-4 145 COPPER RIDGE RD.
CONDOS AVAILABLE PRICING STARTS IN LOWER \$300'S
2 bd condos, Vaulted Ceilings avail, w/Garages, Gated Community, Renovated/Upgraded 925.847.2200

BYRON

6600 ARMSTRONG RD.
40 ACRES, A-2 ZONING \$475,000
1 BR 2 BA All usable,zoned for 5 acre parcels. Country Cute Home,Barns,Fenced,Central location. 925.847.2200

HAYWARD

1457 MACATERA AVE #250
MANUFACTURED HOME! \$144,900
3 BR 2 BA Newer manufactured home.Kitchen with island,upgraded cabinets,flooring.Too many extras. 510-851-3551

MODESTO

3617 JARENA DRIVE
GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD! \$122,000
3 BR 2 BA Great Location! Tile Roof. Modern Home. 2 Car Garage. Landscaped Front Yard. AC/Heat 925.847.2200

CASTRO VALLEY

17244 ROLANDO AVE
SINGLE STORY HOME! \$260,000
2 BR 1 BA Beautifully landscaped yard.Gorgeous hrdwd flrs.Wood-burning fireplace.Dual Pane Windows 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

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

17065 COPPER HILL DR
HOLIDAY LAKES ESTATES \$615,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Beautiful Bkyrd.Open Flr Plan.Vaulted Ceilings.Lrge Family Rm w/Fireplace 925.847.2200

DUBLIN

8633 BRIARWOOD LN
BEAUTIFUL SPACIOUS HOME \$425,000
4 BR 2 BA Garage converted into large Family rm. Roof approx gyrs old. Remodeled Bath. Private Bckyrd. 925.847.2200

CALL FOR PRICING

2890 CHATEAU WAY
EXCLUSIVE VIEWING!
4 BR 3 BA Beautiful custom hm in South Liv. Gourmet kitchen w/granite,downstairs master,pool & more! 925.847.2200

SAN LEANDRO

942 WOODLAND AVE
UPGRADED CRAFTSMAN \$539,000
4 BR 3 BA Fabulous Kit.w/Granite,work island, commercial range SS, custom cabinets. Mstr Ste w/ deck. 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

558 MITCHELL AVE
Open SUNDAY 1:00PM-4:00PM \$428,000
3 BR 2 BA New Listing!Updated Kitchen & Baths. Dual Paned. Hrdwd Frs.vaulted Ceilings in Family Rm. 510-851-3551

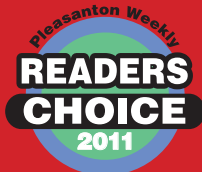
233 BEGIER AVE
BROADMOOR TUDOR REVIVAL \$395,000
4 BR 2 BA Short Sale. Hardwood Floors. Remodeled Kitchen/Baths. Front porch. Great Location. Call Today! 925.847.2200



Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122

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KELLER WILLIAMS
TRI-VALLEY REALTY

#1 OFFICE
IN PLEASANTON
IN VOLUME
AND SALES

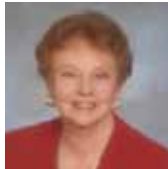
Open Sun 1-4



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

OPEN SUN 1-4



2248 Kamp Court, Pleasanton

3,369 sq ft on .3 acre, 4 BR + bonus, 3 BA, 3 car garage. Exceptional living, indoors and out — gorgeous designer kitchen remodel with mahogany stained cherry, granite and stainless surfaces. Amazing yard with pool & spa. Located in the Mohr School boundary area. Offered at \$1,128,000



The Fabulous Properties Team
Cunningham • Garrison • Schall



www.FabulousProperties.net
www.RubyHill.net

Fran & Dave Cunningham
925.202.6898
DRE # 01226296 & 00930892

Donna Garrison
925.980.0273
DRE # 01735040

Susan Schall
925.519.8226
DRE # 01713497

NEW LISTING - OPEN SUN 1-4



1988 Via di Salerno, Ruby Hill

Beautiful home, beautiful views! 4,616 Sq.Ft. 4 Bed/3.5 Ba
Offered at \$1,650,000



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One of a Kind!



Featured in "Wine Country Living," this authentic Santa Barbara style Ruby Hill home is 4,015 sq ft of Spanish Colonial ambiance. The 4 BR, 4.5BA plus office home has red paver flooring, french doors, red birch custom cabinets. 1/2 acre yard with spectacular golf course and mountain views, pool, spa, outdoor kitchen and fireplace. \$1,599,000



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

Coming Soon



Downsizing in Pleasanton

Isn't Easy until you see this fabulous one level Vintage Heights home! 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, almost 2900 sf with a 3 car garage. New cement roof, windows, central heat & air.



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



3429 Beecham Ct, Pleasanton

Great 3 BR home in Pleasanton Meadows, near the community greenbelt, new dishwasher, new 50-gal. water heater, newer carpeting & laminate floors. Offered at \$475,000



1405 Calle Enrique, Pleasanton

Immaculate 3 BR & 2 BA Patio Villa, end unit with no adjoining walls to neighbors, 2 bedrooms on the main level, walking distance to downtown. Offered at \$369,000

PEEL SANCHEZ



Danielle Peel
925.998.9692
DRE #01293873

Cristin Kiper Sanchez
925.580.7719
DRE #01479197



homes@peelsanchez.com | www.PeelSanchez.com

Open Sun 1-4



4444 Foothill Road, Pleasanton

4 BR and 2.5 BA. 3507 +/- sq. ft. Absolutely Stunning! Completely re-built in 2005, this custom, single story home offers a view from every window, including Mt. Diablo and the surrounding hills. Beautifully updated throughout with fantastic gourmet kitchen. Huge 2.26 +/- acre lot includes an entertainer's backyard with pool and spa.

Offered at \$1,990,000



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

1641 Vetta Drive.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
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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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