

# Pleasanton Weekly

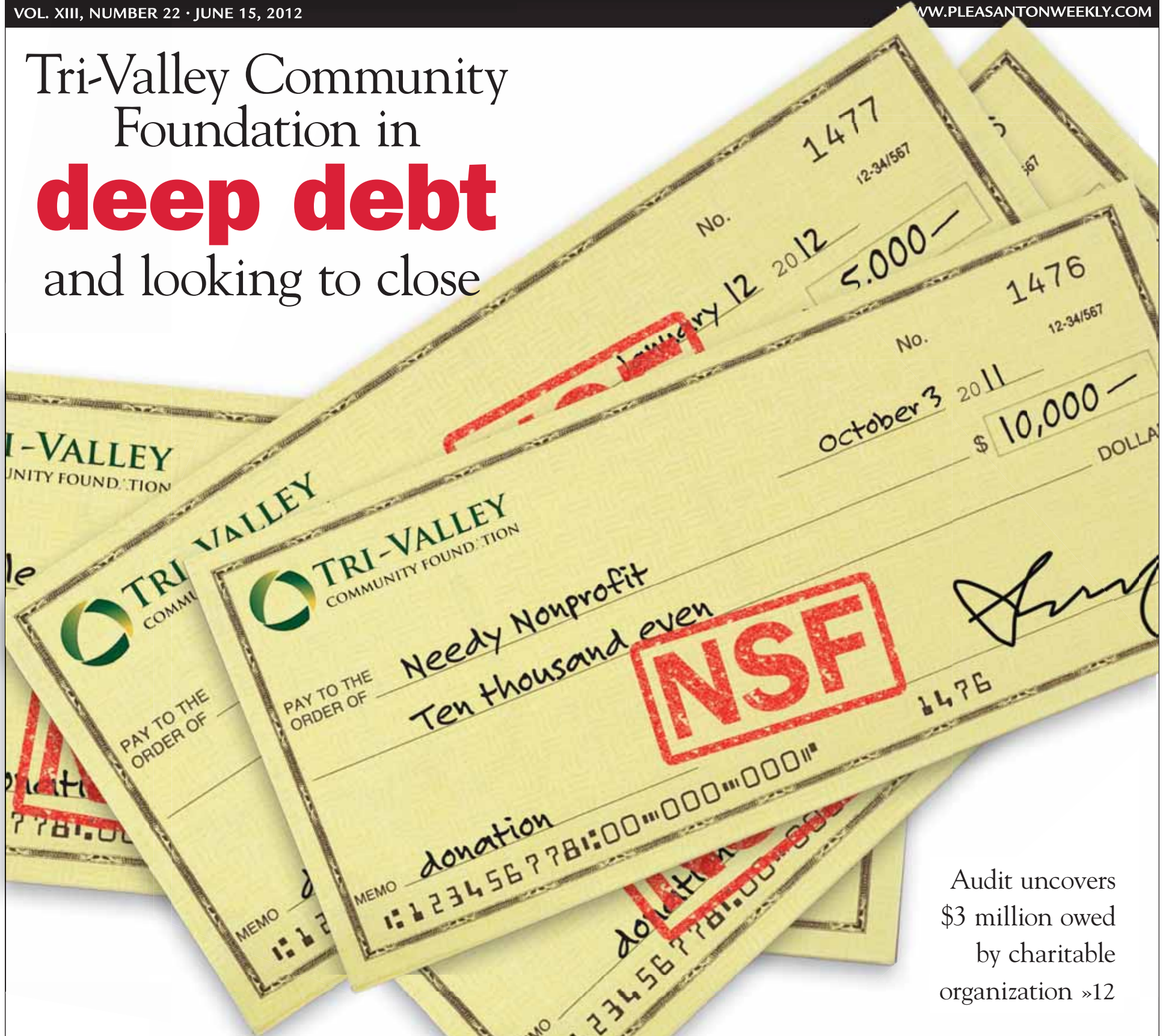
Reservoir swim offers  
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Tri-Valley Community  
Foundation in  
**deep debt**  
and looking to close



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THIS SUMMER SAN RAMON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER WANTS TO HELP PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN AND TEACH THEM SAFETY. SUMMER IS THE PEAK ACCIDENT AND INJURY SEASON FOR CHILDREN. THE MOST FREQUENT INJURIES ARE DROWNINGS, FALLS, AND BICYCLE, CAR AND PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS.



# Summer Safety FOR YOUR KIDS.

## WATER SAFETY

- Never leave children unattended around a pool or water – not even for one minute. Accidents occur quickly.
- Flotation devices are not drown-proof.
- Children should always wear a life vest while boating and near open water.
- Always close your pool gate. Double-check the gate after people have been in the pool area.
- Review your pool rules and safety with family, friends and babysitters.
- Learn CPR. You could save a life.

## SUN SAFETY

- Always use sunscreen and wear protective clothing.
- Make sure youngsters drink enough water.
- Watch for signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke: dizziness, nausea, rapid heartbeat.

## PREVENT BURNS

- Watch toddlers closely near barbecues, campfires or outdoor fireplaces. Burns are common injuries.
- Install screens or some type of barrier where appropriate.
- Metal playground equipment can get hot enough to cause burns on hot days.

## PREVENT FALLS

- Move beds and chairs away from windows. Children may jump and play, and could fall through open windows.
- Make sure low windows are closed to prevent young children from falling out.
- Install gates at the top of stairs or decks to prevent falls.

*If you should have an emergency, San Ramon Regional Medical Center is prepared to treat you and your children in our newly expanded Emergency Department. A pediatrician from Children's Hospital Oakland is in the San Ramon hospital 24-hours a day.*

## ROAD SAFETY

- Always wear helmets and protective gear while biking, skating or skateboarding.
- Discuss bicycle and road safety with your children.
- Review pedestrian safety with children as well as adolescents.
- Never leave a child alone in a car. Temperatures quickly reach over 100 degrees.
- Drive cautiously, especially when backing up. Children move quickly and may be difficult to see. You may not see toddlers and older children playing behind a car.
- Always put your children in car seats or seat belts.

Our Pediatric Department at San Ramon Regional Medical Center recommends these safety tips:

Cynthia Hahn, M.D. *Pediatric Department Chair*

Nick Giardini, M.D. *Medical Director, Inpatient Pediatric Services*

Viki Haro, R.N., CPNP *Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist & Director of Education*



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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Making the Tri-Valley a 'destination'

Grant Raeside has been executive director of the Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau for just six months but he's already moved aggressively and successfully in promoting the region. Last week, the organization worked with the San Francisco Examiner to produce an eight-page special section promoting the Tri-Valley. In San Jose, the CVB is running 1,500 30-second spots on local portions of the Travel and Food networks. In July, it will sponsor a 12-page promotional section in the San Francisco Chronicle. Raeside also plans local promotions, but for now his goal is to sell the Tri-Valley to those who don't know much about us, and to build the Valley's image as a preferred meeting, event and tourism destination.

It's already happening to some extent. Raeside told members of the Valley Real Estate Network earlier this month that there's been a 6.5% increase in the occupancy rate of the Tri-Valley's 38 hotels with Danville's one hotel, the Best Western, leading the way at 85% occupancy. The increase is greater than the post-recession rates reported by San Jose, Oakland and even the wine country areas of Napa and Sonoma. In terms of increased occupancy rates in the last six months, the Valley is second only to San Francisco.

But those represent occupied hotel rooms during the business weekdays of Sunday through Thursday nights. Hotel parking lots on Friday and Saturday nights are often empty after the restaurants and bars have closed with too few rooms filled overnight. Raeside hopes to change that with promotional campaigns, special weekend discounts coupons and corporate-sponsored programs that urge those who travel here on business to bring their spouses and stay an extra night.

The CVB is spending \$500,000 on that campaign with 100,000 copies of a new Visitors' Guide that is being sent outside the area, even outside California, to travel agencies and corporate travel planners responsible for upcoming meetings. It is also launching a major campaign Sept. 1 with an advertising insert in the San Francisco Business Times promoting the "stay an extra day" push. Special wine, romance and golf promotions also are being planned with restaurants and hotels that will include entertainment and shopping discount packages. Even the organization may have

a name change. Raeside told Realtors that with limited space for conventions, the CVB should really focus on making the Tri-Valley a destination for visitors where weekend room rates go for under \$100, compared to a low of \$175 in San Francisco. With incredible wineries, golf courses, hiking trails, unmatched vistas of Mount Diablo and historic downtown Pleasanton, business people and their spouses can take a relaxing break from travel and work, all to the advantage of retailers here. His choice for a new name, which he'll take to the CVB board shortly: the Tri-Valley Destination Council.

The CVB is funded by the Tourism Service Improvement District, a special joint-powers agency set up by the cities of Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and San Ramon. Hotel guests pay a \$2 tourist assessment fee when they check out, with the annual "contribution" now totaling \$2 million annually. Recently, the San Ramon City Council complained that its hotels, namely the San Ramon Marriott, were paying far more into the CVB assessment than San Ramon was benefiting. Raeside hopes to change that to San Ramon's satisfaction before his three-year contract runs out.

As the CVB's new leader, Raeside brings a proven track record of more than 30 years in sales and marketing to the organization. He led marketing efforts with the Atlanta Downtown Partnership during the 1996 Summer Olympics games and most recently led the San Luis Obispo and Sonoma Valley Vintners and Growers to record-breaking years of visitors. He also knows the media, having anchored his own radio show, written columns for local newspapers, and has appeared on local TV numerous times to support the organizations he represented.

Also on the CVB staff now is Tim Toonen, director of marketing and branding, who has 20 years of experience in creating promotions for Marriott, Doubletree, Sony Music and Village Voice Media. Geoff Sarabia-Mason, vice president of tourism sales and development, has 30 years of industry experience. Jamila Qayum is the CVB's tourism relations manager, moving there from the Pleasanton Marriott where she was an account executive specializing in corporate and government sales. Rachel Christie Simmons, CVB's public relations and communications manager for the last two years, has PR agency experience with restaurants, nonprofits and in the entertainment field. ■



Grant Raeside

## About the Cover

The Tri-Valley Community Foundation is \$3 million in debt and expected to close by the end of the month, due largely to money spent by former president David Rice without knowledge of the TVCF board. Design by Lili Cao.



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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

## Do you have a garden?



**Thia Brown**  
*Hair stylist*

Yes. I've never had one before, and now I have a nice sunny patch in my yard that I've filled with food-bearing plants. I have tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers, and I think everyone should have lettuce. It's awesome for lazy people, because you can pick it as it grows and have a fresh salad every night. I do it for my sanity, and my family reaps the benefits.

**Chayse Mattos**  
*Second-grader*

I have a garden on my ranch. We grow vegetables, fruit and grass. I love the tomatoes and bell peppers. I help plant them and I weed them. It's really fun and it's good to eat, too.



**Karen Olivero**  
*Owner, Sunday Morning Bakery*

Yes. I grow mostly herbs, but I have tomatoes that I roast for my frittatas and quiches that I sell at Juice and Java. Meadowlark Dairy carries my garlic and pesto butter that I make from my herbs. I also have an apple tree, and I dry my own apples for my homemade granola.

**David Herrera**  
*Farmers market worker*

My dad does, and I help take care of it. We grow tomatoes, strawberries and peppers, and we use all the veggies to make a delicious salsa.



**Samantha Leon**  
*ValleyCare employee*

I live in an apartment, so I can't have a garden. Even if I had the space to grow plants, I doubt I would do it. I buy all of my produce at Safeway.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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

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## DIGEST

### USF opens campus in Pleasanton

The University of San Francisco has announced the opening of its USF Pleasanton campus at 6120 Stoneridge Mall Road, accessible to interstates 580 and 680, within walking distance of BART and near the Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) station.

The campus has six classrooms with integrated networking, audio-video equipment and wireless Internet, plus a staffed library and computer lab.

USF has had an East Bay campus for 30 years, formerly in San Ramon. Classes at the Pleasanton campus are primarily held nights and weekends for adults to complete their bachelor's degree, earn a teaching credential or a master's degree. The programs are offered through the School of Management, School of Education, and School of Nursing and Health Professions.

### Adoptathon for pets a success

The preliminary adoption number for the 2012 Maddie's Matchmaker Adoptathon last weekend is more than 2,600 dogs and cats, including 30% senior and/or treatable animals. The goal of the Adoptathon is to find homes for all shelter dogs and cats, especially those that are usually hard to place.

Sixty-three rescue groups participated this year, offering the animals for free and being paid from \$500 to \$2,000 per adoption from the \$3 million that Maddie's Fund pledged to empty the shelters.

In Pleasanton, Stoneridge Shopping Center hosted eight rescue groups and shelters, and Valley Humane Society on Nevada Street adopted out 75 animals. It reports that it still has a number of kittens and older cats available.

### BART riders like vinyl

A random sample of more than 1,200 BART customers found that its train riders prefer the new vinyl seat covers compared to the fabric seats, validating the decision to outfit 100 more cars with the easier-to-clean material. When asked if BART should change more seat covers because the vinyl is easier to clean, 90% responded favorably.

More than 50 cars have been converted to the new seat covers, and BART expects to increase that number to 100 by the end of July. By early next year, 200 train cars should have the new seat covers. Some train cars have decals near the door stating: "New Seats on Board." Cars with the new seats have posters giving customers directions on how to provide feedback.

## Reopen the waterslides, residents urge

Engineers evaluating facility before Park District seeks proposals

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Pleasanton residents and officials pushed for the reopening of the waterslides at Shadow Cliffs in a joint meeting held midday Monday with city and East Bay Regional Park District representatives at the Vets Hall.

"I feel the waterslides will be missed this summer," said Councilwoman Cindy McGovern, noting that she herself has gone down the slides — and loved it. "If there is anything the city can do, be in touch with us."

The waterslides were opened in 1981 by Glenn Kierstad under a 25-year contract. After its expiration, the operation continued with year-to-year agreements.

Inspections this winter led the Park District to conclude that the waterslides had too many safety issues to open for the 2012 season; administrators recommended to the board at its March meeting that the slides be closed permanently in light of the fact that the district's long-term land use plan called for them to be phased

out in another 10 years.

The Park District board instead instructed staff to reevaluate the site and put out bids for its renovation/rebuilding and operation. Engineers are currently reviewing the concession, which will take until the end of the summer, said Mimi Waluch, revenue and administration manager with the Park District.

She said the district has estimated it would cost \$6,352,000 to replace the facility.

"The delay of the process is what bothers me," Pleasanton resident Vaughn Wolffe told the committee. "This is a theft from our community."

He noted that many teens have had their first jobs at the waterslides, plus it is a place kids can reach on their bikes.

"There are ways to get this done soon," he said.

Concessionaire Kierstad also addressed the committee.

"We're very proud of our safety record," he

said. "For over 30 years, we've worked very hard to keep the facility safe."

He noted that he could not afford capital improvements while on a year-to-year lease, and he estimated it would cost \$280,000 to bring the facility up to snuff.

The concession area is about 3.5 acres and includes the four waterslides, a maintenance building, office, storage, separate men's and women's restrooms with dressing areas and lockers, and a picnic area with a shade structure, picnic tables and barbecues. Structures also must be made ADA compliant.

Kierstad said that Rapids Waterslides brought \$90,000 per season in concession and parking fees to the Park District.

"If this is going to be successful, the Park District is going to have to share some of the parking fees with the concessionaire," Kierstad said. The waterslides sold 28,000 tickets last season, he added.

See **WATERSLIDES** on Page 6



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Representatives of the Leadership Pleasanton Class of 2012 at the unveiling of "Comet" are (l-r) Jennifer Pierce, Joe Testa, Julie Lewis, Gary and Nancy Harrington, and Justin Probert.

## 'Comet' lands behind Firehouse Arts Center

Sculpture unveiled in garden patio

By NICOLE DOI

With the help of the Leadership Pleasanton Class of 2012, the Harrington Art Partnership unveiled its latest contribution of artwork to the city of Pleasanton on June 2 at the Pleasanton Firehouse Arts Center.

"Comet," a 12-foot tall, 30-inch wide sculpture, created by Max Demoss, joined a variety of pieces in the garden patio that Pleasanton residents Nancy and Gary Harrington hope will become a part of the "Pleasanton Art Walk," which they envision extending from the Arts Center to the Pleasanton Senior Center on Sunol Boulevard.

Sculptor Demoss, who lives in Hemet, used

silver on red granite to construct "Comet," and the Harringtons came across it at an art gallery in Big Sur.

"A couple of years ago, we went down to the Hawthorne Gallery in Big Sur. They have a lot of art there; we mentioned the art to the city of Pleasanton staff," Gary Harrington recalled.

"Then we went back with four staff members and looked around the gallery to select pieces that we liked. We went through the whole process of getting the piece approved by various committees. It's been in the works for the past few years," he continued.

See **COMET** on Page 6

## PUSD brings back staggered reading programs

Policy will create smaller classes for young students

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

The Pleasanton school district is looking back to move ahead, re-instituting a policy of staggered starting times that it had in place 16 years ago.

Meanwhile, parents are upset with what they say was little warning about the change in the schedule for kids in first through third grades next year.

Parents on Pleasanton Weekly's online Town Square forum have accused the district of slashing instructional time for students in secret, and arbitrarily eliminating a month and a half of instruction time.

But it's no secret — the board has had discussions at its meetings for weeks — and it's not even new.

People who've lived in Pleasanton since the 1990s may be familiar with the district's early- and late-bird programs designed to give young readers a boost. Cindy Galbo, assistant superintendent of educational services, said the new plan would bring back a modified version of that plan, cutting the school day for students in first, second and third grades by 45 minutes a day.

The tradeoff is smaller classes, Galbo said.

"The purpose behind this is that we will have a class of 15 as opposed to 30 for reading instruction," she said.

The students will all have the same amount of classroom time, with some starting earlier and leaving earlier, others arriving later and leaving later. The teachers' hours will remain the same.

Galbo explained that when class sizes were reduced in the late 1990s, the district dropped staggered reading but added time in school.

"The state requirement for instructional minutes for grades one through three is 50,400 minutes (per student) for each grade. This will give us, with this reduction, 50,515 minutes," she said. "We're still ahead. We're over the minimum requirement for the year by 115 minutes."

Since eliminating staggered reading, those students were above state minimums by nearly

See **PUSD** on Page 7

## TAKE US ALONG



**Columbus day:** Michelle Horton shares her Weekly with friends Ashley Rippolone and Carlos Oliva near the Christopher Columbus statue in Barcelona, Spain, where she is studying abroad.

### COMET

Continued from Page 5

"We needed to get another piece and decided that there was nothing like 'Comet.' It's beauty in itself."

The sculpture was originally named "Platter 173" but the Harringtons asked the artist for permission to rename it, due to its comet-like features.

Demoss used bronze casting for this piece of artwork that, according to its description, "implies motion suggesting transition from the artist's imagination to reality."

"My wife and I select various pieces of art and media from artists that we believe challenge the children of Pleasanton to think outside of the box," Harrington said.

Harrington, Demoss and gal-

lery owner/artist Greg Hawthorne, along with the city of Pleasanton, worked to create a payment plan for "Comet." A lease-purchase agreement has been established between the artist and the Harrington Art Partnership.

The Leadership Pleasanton Class of 2012 contributed \$3,500 to cover the first year's payment and then some. In recognition of their contribution, "Leadership Class of 2012" will be engraved on a plate on the sculpture.

The Harringtons still are looking for partners to share in its total cost, with the final payment due in February 2015. To help finance "Comet" or to partner with the Harringtons for future public art, contact them at 846-9757. ■

## It's Fair time! Starting Wednesday

100 years celebration offers \$1 rides and kissing contest

By JAMIE ALTMAN

The Alameda County Fair opens Wednesday and this year observes its 100th anniversary with new rides, activities and special discounts. Plus anyone 100 years or older will get free admission.

The 2012 County Fair runs from June 20 to July 8. People can save 33% on tickets purchased until June 19, being sold downtown at Berry Patch, Juice & Java Express, Round Table Pizza, Sincerely Yours Cards & Gifts, and Yolatea.

Festivities begin with the annual Pleasanton Parade downtown. They continue with \$1 rides on the first day of the Fair, and a kissing contest on June 24 where couples must kiss for 100 consecutive sec-



FILE PHOTO

The carnival is a colorful part of the Alameda County Fair.

onds and then eat cotton candy placed between their mouths.

A new log ride, the White Water Flume, is being introduced to the Fair this summer, expected to be popular on hot days for those who don't mind a little splash.

Concerts this summer include, among others, Salt-N-Pepa on June 24; Jars of Clay, June 27; Hoobastank, July 6; and Kellie Pickler, July 8.

Fireworks shows will take place each Friday night during the Fair, starting around 9:30 p.m.

From horse races and baking contests, to Ferris wheels, fireworks and funnel cakes, Pleasanton residents are anticipating a great centennial celebration. ■

### WATERSLIDES

Continued from Page 5

"I was very proud when I built it in 1980," he added. "Many people and families have thanked me. I would like to see someone continue to operate the slides."

"For over 30 years it's been a fantastic resource and has not cost the community a dime," said resident Julie Testa.

"The Park District is disconnected to think it wouldn't be missed," she added. "There has been a tremendous dialog among people

concerned about this loss, not just to Pleasanton but to the Tri-Valley."

Someone asked why annual inspections suddenly found it necessary to close the waterslides.

"Inspections were done when the water was running, and it was pretty and clean. This year we did a dry inspection," Waluch said. "I believe each year there was a list of things to fix on the four flumes. One has not been used for at least two seasons. You can pass portions and open the facility with conditions."

Park District Board Member Ayn Wieskamp, who represents Pleasanton, said although the Park District's land use plan included only 10 more years for the waterslides that she is open to having them operate for longer if that is what it takes to get the investment necessary to reopen the facility.

"I would like to add my encouragement to keep the operation open if at all possible," Councilman Jerry Thorne said. "My kids used it, and it would be very welcome for future generations." ■

## From the Foothill High School Senior Parents Class of 2012

Thank you to all our generous donors for helping us provide a safe Grad Night and Senior Events for our Foothill High School Class of 2012

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## Rotary's 19th annual Spirit Run set for Sunday

Popular family event raises money for scholarships

By JEB BING

More than 1,300 runners are expected to be downtown Sunday for the 19th annual Father's Day Spirit Run, hosted by the Rotary Club of Pleasanton.

Main Street will be closed from 5 a.m. until about 11 a.m. between Del Valle Parkway and Neal Street to accommodate the runners.

The Rotary Father's Day tradition has continued to grow as runners, their children and families participate in either a 10K run or 5K walk or run, as well as a kids' challenge.

The 10K run will start promptly at 8 a.m. under the Pleasanton Arch, followed by the 5K run at 8:20. The courses wind through Pleasanton neighborhoods, the Alameda

County Fairgrounds and on trails along the Arroyo del Valle.

Traffic also will be slowed by partial lane closures along the race courses, affecting part of Valley Avenue, Paseo Santa Cruz, Del Valle Parkway, Division Street and St. Mary Street between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m.

Three separate Kid's Challenge Races, for children ages 2-8, include a number of 100-yard dashes on Main Street, finishing right underneath the Arch.

Trophies will go to the top male and female finishers in designated age groups.

Registration will take place in the Round Table Pizza parking lot starting at 7 a.m. June 17. Fees are \$40 for adults and high school stu-

dents; \$30 for those in elementary and middle school; \$15 for ages 2-8 in the Kid's Challenge; and \$30 each for families of four or more.

Proceeds will go to support the Rotary Club of Pleasanton's scholarship program. In the last 12 years, more than \$350,000 has been raised for scholarships to deserving Pleasanton graduates who need financial help to attend college. This month, club representatives presented \$24,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors at Pleasanton high schools during an awards ceremony.

The Father's Day Spirit Run is sponsored by Sensiba San Filippo LLP, a Bay Area accounting firm with an office in Pleasanton. ■

## Hole-in-one history

Surprise ending at ValleyCare golf tournament

By NICOLE DOI

It was a win-win for golfer Andrew Searcy at the 28th annual ValleyCare Charitable Foundation Golf Tournament on June 1. Not only was he golfing on behalf of a charitable cause, he was also the winner of the hole-in-one Lexus challenge, sponsored by Lexus of Pleasanton.

The tournament was held on the course at Wente Vineyards in Livermore. Andrew Searcy along with three co-workers from Indoor Environment Services — Mike Camper, Mike Potts and Phil Butts — started the course unaware of the great historical event to come.

Searcy, a Livermore resident, made tournament history when he hit a hole-in-one on the seventh hole, winning himself a brand new Lexus ES250.

"There was so much excitement



Andrew Searcy with his brand new Lexus ES250.

around the course after the hole-in-one. You could hear the buzz all afternoon and many of the golfers who know Andrew have all said it couldn't have happened to a nicer guy," said Shelley Despotakis, manager of the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation.

Searcy was so excited about his golf shot that he had forgotten about the prize offered.

"I was so excited about my first ever hole-in-one, I completely forgot that the prize was a new Lexus ES250," said Searcy.

After a day of golfing on the championship course, participants attended a dinner and silent auction. Proceeds from the day's events benefit the ValleyCare System Emergency Room Expansion Campaign. ■

## PUSD

Continued from Page 5

6,000 minutes with a total of 56,030 minutes per year, she added.

"It's four days a week. It'll be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We'll continue with the same late start Wednesday program that we already have," Galbo said.

Many parents have said they were surprised by the notification at the end of the school year. Galbo said the hope was to get the information out quickly so parents could make arrangements over the summer and not at the beginning

of the school year.

"We wanted to give parents as much notice as we could," Galbo said. "We're working with daycare providers for additional support, the way we had it 16 years ago."


Like much of what occurs in districts across California, Galbo said part of the issue is state funding.

"It's all connected to decisions that were made (by the school board) on June 5," she said. "One of the cuts was to reduce the P.E. section. If we had reduced that section, we would not have had enough minutes of instruction. The other piece was we didn't know what would happen with class-size

reduction. We didn't know we were going to be able to have a staggered schedule until the board made its decision on June 5."

While it may look like the old early- and late-bird schedule, Galbo said there's one important difference: There's no stigma attached to being in one group or the other.

"We are going to have a variety of instructional levels at all times of the day. What if you put a student in a group and they do better? If somebody needs to be moved to a higher group or if somebody needs more intensive instruction, we don't have to change their times," she said. ■



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# Business News

Edited by Jeb Bing, jbing@pleasantonweekly.com

## Father's Day financial advice from a dad

Show by example, make saving a habit

By **JASON ALDERMAN**

Since Father's Day is Sunday, let me share a few things dads can do to teach their kids sound financial habits that will last them a lifetime — and point out a few bad behaviors you may not even be aware of. Ask yourself:

- Do you avoid conversations about money with your kids because that's how you were raised? Or because you don't feel qualified to give advice?
- Do you pay your bills on time to prevent late fees and possible dings to your credit score?
- Do you balance your checkbook regularly to avoid overdrafts and bounced checks?
- Have you set up an emergency fund — and are you disciplined enough not to tap it for everyday expenses?
- Are you sometimes caught off-guard by bills you should anticipate?
- If your family is experiencing financial difficulties (layoff, foreclosure, massive bills), are you hav-



Jason Alderman

ing age-appropriate, non-traumatic discussions about the need for everyone to make sacrifices?

- Do you complain about your job within their earshot or say you'd rather stay home with them but need to earn money? You could be setting them up to resent both work and money.
- If college is on the horizon, have you had frank discussions about how it will be financed? Have you started a college savings fund, explored student loan programs or discussed contributions they'll be expected to make?
- When your kids constantly break or lose expensive items or run through their allowance early, do you repeatedly bail them out with no consequences?

OK, that's a lot of potentially negative outcomes. Let's concentrate on a few positive actions you can take that will encourage responsible financial behavior in your kids:

Use allowances to teach your kids how to handle money wisely, not as a tool to reinforce good behavior. Track their discretionary (toys, candy) and non-discretionary (school supplies, clothes) expenses. Depending on their ages and maturity, decide which expenses they should be responsible for managing, and dedicate a reason-

able amount for each category in their allowances.

- A few other suggestions:
    - Use allowances to teach important life lessons. For example, build in dedicated percentages they must set aside for savings, charity and investments — then involve them in choosing how the money is spent.
    - When you use an ATM explain that it's not free money but rather has been earned and saved by you.
    - To encourage saving during these times of low interest rates, offer to match their savings at 50%.
    - Teach by example. If money is tight and you have to deny your kids non-necessary items, give up something of your own that they know you'll miss.
    - Open a 529 Qualified State Tuition Plan or a Coverdell Education Savings Account to start saving for your children's education — and let them know about it well before you start discussing college choices.
- Father's Day is when children traditionally express love for their dads. Show how much you care in return by starting them out with a healthy, realistic attitude toward personal finances.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

## Safeway's prostate cancer fundraiser under way

12th year of campaign that's raised \$68 million for research

Pleasanton-based Safeway Inc. and the Safeway Foundation are continuing their effort to fund ground-breaking research and the pursuit of a cure with a month-long Prostate Cancer Awareness campaign in June.

The campaign, which is in its 12th year, is designed to raise funds and increase awareness for the fight against the disease, which currently affects more than 2 million American men and remains the second-leading cause of cancer death for men in the U.S. One in six men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime, studies show.

To date, Safeway and its foundation have raised more than \$68 million for the Prostate Cancer Foundation, the world's largest

philanthropic source of support for prostate cancer research. Those donations, provided by Safeway's customers, are accelerating game-changing research and discovery at some of the most prestigious cancer centers and research institutions in North America.

The outcomes of the nearly 1,600 Safeway-funded research projects include the identification of more than 27 cancer-causing gene fusions, new biomarkers for diagnosis and treatment response assessment, and the development of new drugs to deliver more effective treatments for patients with advanced stages of the disease. The death rate has dropped roughly 40% in the U.S. alone, meaning

nearly 200,000 American men are alive today because of improved treatment.

"The commitment from Safeway, its customers and the Safeway Foundation is moving us closer to the ultimate goal of over-treating less and curing more," said Dr. Jonathan Simons, president and CEO of the Prostate Cancer Foundation. "When people donate at any of Safeway's nearly 1,700 stores, they can know beyond a shadow of a doubt that their money is helping to save lives."

A limited-edition, reusable shopping bag, embossed with the words, "It starts with a wish; it can end with a cure," is available for purchase at all Safeway locations. ■

## Cyber research facility opens at Sandia

New lab provides 'enhanced collaboration' with industry, academia, international partners

Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore opened its new Cybersecurity Technologies Research Laboratory this week, a facility that offers an open, yet controlled area, for cybersecurity professionals to meet and discuss critical cyber research issues.

The new laboratory is located at the Livermore Valley Open Campus, located off Greenville Road

near East Avenue.

Over the last 40 years, Sandia has built a foundation for cybersecurity. Now, that lab is bringing that technology to a special facility situated in an open environment that will allow for enhanced collaboration with industry, academia and international partners.

Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory oper-

ated by Sandia Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Co., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration. With main facilities in Albuquerque as well as Livermore, Sandia has major R&D responsibilities in national security, energy and environmental technologies and economic competitiveness. ■

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# Sports

## Open water offers change of pace

Local swimmers compete at the 2012 Del Valle Open Water Festival

By NICOLE DOI

Swimmers entered Del Valle Reservoir's 67 degree water early both days last weekend for the annual Del Valle Open Water Festival hosted by the Tri-Valley Masters.

"It was fun to take a break from the walls and the pool," said Jordan Reznick, a swimmer from Tri-Valley Aquatics.

In years past, the festival was a one-day event featuring the 3/4 Mile and 2.5K races. This year, in addition to the traditional events held Sunday, swimmers were given the opportunity to participate in 5K and 10K races on Saturday.

"In 2008, the 10K became an Olympic event. Two years ago I had this vision for creating the 10K at our Del Valle Open Water Festival during the 2012 Olympic year," recalled Tri-Valley Masters swimmer and race director Bill McCracken.

With the inclusion of the 5K and 10K races on Saturday, the event attracted more than 600 swimmers affiliated with US Masters and USA Swimming. Among them were professional marathon swimmer Heidi George and Barton Wells, Stanford swim alum and founder of Athletic Director.

"It was definitely a record turnout. The overall interest in the open water swimming community has increased tremendously over the past 10 years," said McCracken.

"There really aren't too many opportunities for swimmers to swim the 5K and 10K in open water," said Adam Conway, Tri-Valley Masters board president. "This year we



SYDNEY WAGNER

Natalie Tang, a TVA swimmer, finishes the 5K race on Saturday at the 2012 Del Valle Open Water Festival.

had five different states represented during the weekend's races."

"It's a great opportunity for a change of pace. Every year I enjoy seeing so many members of the swimming community come together to swim side-by-side," continued Conway.

Medals were awarded to the first three finalists in each sex/age division. Swimmers from local USAS and USM teams were represented in all of the weekend's races.

"Overall it was a fun event. It was inspiring to be able to swim alongside all of the older swimmers. I liked seeing how they were able to keep swimming a part of their lives. It was definitely fun to be a part of such a big event," said Nate Borchers, a Tri-Valley Aquatics swimmer and first place finisher in the Boys 15/16 3/4 Mile and third place finisher in the Boys 15/16 2.5K races on Sunday. ■

### Top local 5K finishers

Pleasanton Seahawks: Eva Chung; Thomas Neufeld; Jeffery Tang; Regis Lachance; Hanna Bergh; Bernadine Martin; Natalie Wong

Tri-Valley Aquatics: Maria Carlson; Natalie Tang; Sydney Wagner; Julian Wagner

Tri-Valley Masters: Devon Farmer; Markus Paene; Jorge Angel; Bill McCracken

### Top 10K finishers

Pleasanton Seahawks: Rachel Knowles

Tri-valley Masters: Mary Ann Nygren; Janet Kaehms

### Top 3/4 Mile finishers

Pleasanton Seahawks: Danielle Zacharias; Shawn Kim

Tri-Valley Aquatics: Thomas Gjerde; Jason Lau; Nate Borchers

Tri-Valley Masters: Jonathan Malapira; Karin Laberge; Bill McCracken; Ron Emhoff

### Top 2.5K finishers

Pleasanton Seahawks: Michael Martin; Andrew Seitz

Tri-Valley Aquatics: Nate Borchers; Julian Wagner

Tri-Valley Masters: Vicki Espiritu; Mary Ann Nygren; Karin Laberge; Ron Emhoff



### Undefeated in PGSL

The McElroy Orthodontics Tigers completed the only undefeated season in the Pleasanton Girls Softball League this year with a 15-0-1 record, wrapping up their outstanding season with a 13-4 victory in the Minor Teal championship game June 2. Team members are (standing, l-r) Coach Dave Buscheck, No. 13 Jillian Witt, No. 8 Emily McElroy, No. 10 Jorie Fanfa, No. 9 Nicole Witters, Coach Matt Ciesielski, No. 12 Chloe Beidleman, No. 11 Hailey Fanfa, No. 6 Paige Scofield, Coach Gregg Witters, (sitting) No. 5 Jordan Ciesielski, No. 2 Gianna Lyng, No. 1 Zoey Castillo, No. 4 Avni Patel, No. 7 Sammi Buscheck, (in front) No. 3 Jamison Gray with team mascot.

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## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### Long-serving council nearing an end

With the primary behind us and a few weeks remaining before the local November election campaigns begin in earnest, this may be the quietest time politically speaking to praise the work and composition of the Pleasanton City Council that will undergo a major change come Dec. 4. That's the date a new council with a new mayor and two new council members will be sworn in following their victories in the Nov. 6 municipal election. All but two on the council, Jerry Thorne and Cheryl Cook-Kallio, have been together since 2004, an eight-year run of elected leaders that is precedent-setting in itself. Given Thorne's election in early 2005 and Cook-Kallio's election in 2006, that's six years of reasonable solidarity in an elective body that is usually more frequently disrupted in its ongoing deliberations by newcomers.

Even though there have been split 3-2 votes with a council majority prevailing on controversial issues, such as Oak Grove and more recently Walmart, this council has voted 5-0 on a number of major policies affecting Pleasanton's future. These policies include affordable housing, ridding the General Plan of an illegal housing cap and agreeing to extend Stoneridge Drive, an action that by itself improved relations with neighboring Dublin and Livermore and led to Alameda County's approval for the city to annex the 126-acre Staples Ranch on the city's far northeast side.

Unlike some nearby cities where the election to the council of candidates with little municipal service has sometimes stalled or reversed earlier decisions affecting regional unity, Pleasanton's current City Council includes leaders with vast experience in local, state and national affairs. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman served two years on the council when she was elected as the city's first woman mayor in 2004. She co-chaired the Bernal Task Force before that, developing an action plan that voters approved to keep the 350-acre site as public parkland in perpetuity. During her tenure as mayor, she has become nationally known for her work with the U.S. Conference of Mayors while also holding key positions with regional and Alameda County committees and commissions.

Cook-Kallio, an award-winning history teacher at Irvington High in the Fremont school district, coaches that school's "We the People" civics team. Active in the Democratic Party, she has close-working relations with both state educators and legislators.

McGovern, a long-serving member of the Pleasanton school board before her election to the council in 2004, serves on the school-council liaison committee and is the council's watchdog on housing and population issues that might have an impact on school and students.

Sullivan is a dedicated environmentalist and the eyes and ears for Pleasanton neighborhoods. Even though his votes on the council have been occasionally out of sync with his council colleagues, he has won the respect of many in Pleasanton who look to him as their voice for constituents who have been displeased with actions by the council majority.

Thorne's years in public service include serving as chairman of the city's Arts and Recreation Commission before being elected to the council. He has extensive experience as a business executive, where he dealt with benefits and pension issues, a background that he has used to advance pension reform issues for municipal employees, one of his top priorities.

Come Dec. 6, because of term limits, McGovern, Sullivan and Mayor Hosterman will step down after completing their eight years of service. Both of the two remaining council members — Cook-Kallio and Thorne — are seeking election as mayor. If they continue to be the only candidates for the office, whichever one wins would leave an additional vacancy on the council that would be filled in a special election, probably next March. That's how Thorne won his seat on the council, in a special election in March 2005 to fill the seat vacated by Hosterman when she was elected as mayor. So far, only Jerry Pentin, currently the chairman of the Pleasanton Planning Commission, has filed for election to one of the two seats that will open on the council this year. More candidates are likely, but still the new mayor and council members to be sworn in Dec. 6 will represent a new era in a City Council that has served for the last six years and longer. ■



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

## LETTERS

### Thanks for Holiday Fund

Dear Editor,

On behalf of all associated with Hope Hospice, the patients we serve and their grieving families, thank you to those who contributed to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. It is a privilege to be among the nine organizations who received funds through the Holiday Fund. The generous community outpouring is evidence that we are fortunate to be members of a community that supports one another.

Although individual patients and families served by Hope Hospice won't necessarily be aware of your contributions, they can feel secure and safe knowing that our community cares about them at this critical time in their lives.

Hope Hospice's mission is to ensure that every end-of-life experience is patient-centered, based upon individual choice, and lightened by hope, comfort, and dignity, regardless of the ability to pay. We rely on contributions such as those raised by the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund to fulfill our mission.

**Janie Eddleman, RN**  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

### Canceled program

Dear Editor,

The Pleasanton School District canceled the Home School program to save money. Each month, 50 students meet for two hours, the district receives State ADA money for 20 days. The district has 1.5 teachers to administer the program. The teachers were not given the required layoff notice so their salaries will continue; as they should. I cannot get the math to work in the district's favor.

The district is expecting to place the students in already crowded classrooms but have yet to notify the parents as the district told Home School teachers they would.

Dublin Unified School District Home School program is modeled after Pleasanton's. Tuesday we completed Inter District Transfer paperwork. My sons' 20 days of ADA money will go to Dublin

USD for two hours of their time beginning September.

Why Home School? My sons were at the NASA Ames Exploration Center at Moffett Field watching the Transit of Venus on Tuesday; they just finished second grade, but are in grade 3.5 per the Pleasanton USD curriculum, and so forth. Who could ask for more! Thank you, Amy Delema and Kathy Kindred, Home School teachers. Matt and Jack love you.

Pleasanton USD — shame on you.

**Lynn Martin**

### Solar is way to go

Dear Editor,

We want to thank the city of Pleasanton and its Energy and Sustainability manager, Laura Ryan, for the generous solar electric homeowners rebate we recently received. A year ago, we were spending a fortune on PG&E electricity. At the Pleasanton Solar Expo last November, we discovered the price of solar panels has come down dramatically, and we could benefit from a total of four rebates (from federal, state, city and the installer, Solar Universe). These combined rebates paid for 50% of our system cost.

If you install at least three kilowatts, PG&E will put you on a Time Of Use Net Metering tariff, whereby you can sell surplus electricity during summer days at 30 cents per kilowatt hour, and power your home during the night for 10 cents per kilowatt hour. Battery storage is unnecessary — the grid banks your surplus and consumption. We sized our five-kilowatt system large enough to power the house, swimming pool and 50 miles per day of future electric vehicle driving.

If you are wondering where to invest for retirement, going solar is a great alternative — you know exactly what you're getting back. Over a 25-year lifespan, our micro-power-plant will prevent carbon emissions equal to the weight of a fully loaded 737-passenger jet. Solar electric ranks as one of the best purchases we've ever made. Thank you, Pleasanton.

**Pierre and Sondra Pierre**

## YOUR TURN

The Pleasanton Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or issues of local interest.

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words and guest opinion pieces up to 500 words with a short bio to [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com). Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Pleasanton Weekly and Embarcadero Media to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information contact Editor Jeb Bing at (925) 600-0840.

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## POLICE BULLETIN

### Scammer bilks woman out of nearly \$2,000

A con artist claiming to be the victim's grandson swindled a woman out of \$1,900 last week, police reports said.

The man said he was calling from Colombia, South America, and, posing as the victim's grandson, said he'd been in an accident that had broken his nose, damaged a vehicle and sent a friend to the hospital. The woman, who lives in the 1000 block of Via di Salerno, wired the \$1,900 in her grandson's name via Western Union. The incident took place between 10:20 a.m. June 7 and 2 p.m. June 8, but was

reported June 9.

A wire transfer can be picked up anywhere with a code word arranged in advance between the sender and recipient. Police have been warning about a scam that targets the elderly with claims of relatives hospitalized or in emergency situations who need cash immediately.

In other police reports:

- No one was injured when a trash can was set on fire June 10 near Zorn's Restaurant in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road. Two witnesses reported a barely coherent homeless man told them of a fire in the parking lot. They were then told by juveniles that the man was near the can just before the fire started. The man was not identified.
- Three sets of tires were slashed overnight June 7. Three vehicles parked at Stoneridge Mall apartments in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road reported tires slashed,

between 9:50 and 10:30 a.m. June 8. It's at least the fourth set of slashed tires in the last few months; several juveniles were arrested in one of the earlier cases.

- Brandon Troy Stanberry, 20, of Dublin was arrested at about 11 p.m. June 7 for possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell. Stanberry was taken into custody at 10:25 p.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road after an officer recognized him at 7-Eleven. A search turned up six painkiller pills and \$17 cash.
- Rebecca Kathleen Anderson, 44, of Pleasanton was arrested at 8:37 p.m. June 6 on a Pleasanton felony warrant in an elder abuse case involving the theft of about \$491.
- Roxanna Kay Eberhard, 41, of Pleasanton arrested at about 3:45 a.m. June 7 for identity theft. Mail in another person's name was found on the passenger seat of her car after a traffic stop at the intersec-

tion of Black Avenue and Santa Rita Road at 3:03 a.m.

- Michael Robert Ornelas, 20, of Pleasanton was arrested June 12 in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road at about 3:49 p.m. for auto theft and petty theft. Police say he took a car that had been owned by his family, removed a \$300 stereo and returned the car to where it was parked.
- A residential burglary took place in the 4400 block of Holland Drive, but it's unknown at this time exactly what was stolen. The door to the laundry room at the rear of the home was pried open, as was a walk-in closet of the bedroom of the home, which had been dead-bolted. A list is being compiled; the report was filed at 8:42 p.m. June 10.

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

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### June 5

#### Identity theft

- 1:25 a.m. in the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Burglary

- 5:31 p.m. in the 5300 block of Sonoma Drive; burglary, petty theft

#### DUI

- 4:20 a.m. at the intersection of Northway Road and Valley Avenue

### June 6

#### Theft

- 9:20 a.m. in the 1600 block of Greenwood Road; identity theft
- 5:15 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; embezzlement

#### Battery

- 9:47 p.m. in the 200 block of Spring Street

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 11:32 a.m. in the 2500 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness
- 9:40 p.m. in the 500 block of Main Street; under the influence of a controlled substance
- 11:03 p.m. at the intersection of Muirwood Drive and Foothill Road; public drunkenness
- 11:24 p.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street; public drunkenness

### June 7

#### Identity theft

- 3:03 a.m. at the intersection of Black Avenue and Santa Rita Road
- 5:12 p.m. in the 8500 block of Lupine Street

#### Vandalism

- 7:54 a.m. in the 4300 block of Black Avenue

#### Prank calls

- 10:05 p.m. in the 3800 block of Brockton Drive

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:13 a.m. in the 1800 block of Crestline Road; DUI
- 1:23 a.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness
- 1:55 a.m. in the 4300 block of First Street; DUI
- 10:25 p.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road; possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell

### June 8

#### Vandalism

- 9:53 a.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 10:21 a.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 10:23 a.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:31 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and W. Las Positas Boulevard; minor transporting alcohol

- 1:46 a.m. at the intersection of Francisco St and Santa Rita Rd; DUI

- 2:21 a.m. in the 4300 block of Black Avenue; underage drinking and driving

- 3:04 p.m. in the 6100 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; public drunkenness

- 5:15 p.m. in the 2900 block of Hopyard Road; paraphernalia possession

- 6:01 p.m. at the intersection of Olive Drive and Columbine Drive; marijuana possession

### June 9

#### Grand theft

- 11:56 a.m. in the 1000 block of Via di Salerno

#### Auto burglary

- 9:02 a.m. in the 4400 block of Holland Drive

#### Battery

- 6:55 p.m. in the 6100 block of Homer Court

- 11:25 p.m. in the 3200 block of Bolla Court

#### Vandalism

- 6:56 a.m. in the 4800 block of Woodthrus Road

#### Alcohol violations

- 2:54 a.m. in the 3900 block of Valley Avenue; DUI

- 8:54 p.m. in the 4200 block of Valley Avenue; public drunkenness

### June 10

#### Arson

- 9:32 p.m. in the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

#### Theft

- 7:04 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Burglary

- 8:42 p.m. in the 4400 block of Holland Drive

#### Auto burglary

- 11:21 a.m. in the 4600 block of Mohr Avenue

#### Vandalism

- 10:37 a.m. in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue

### June 11

#### Theft

- 10:11 p.m. in the 1500 block of

Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Vandalism

- 8:14 a.m. in the 2300 block of Meadowlark Drive

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 6:29 a.m. in the 4400 block of Valley Avenue; public drunkenness

- 1:05 p.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Mall Road and Springdale Drive; DUI

- 2:49 p.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road; public drunkenness

- 4:10 p.m. in the 1300 block of

Stoneridge Mall Road; possession of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession, petty theft

- 7:58 p.m. at the intersection of St. Mary Street and Peters Avenue; public drunkenness

- 11:05 p.m. at the intersection of Greenwood Road and Raven Road; DUI

### June 12

#### Theft

- 12:12 p.m. in the 2600 block of Curry Street; identity theft

- 3:44 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft, petty theft

- 3:22 p.m. in the 1000 block of Zinfandel Court; grand theft

- 4:11 p.m. in the 4400 block of Rosewood Drive; identity theft

#### Drug violations

- 7:25 a.m. in the 7700 block of Driftwood Lane; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance, paraphernalia possession



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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: Adopt resolutions approving 2012-13 annual assessments for Lighting and Landscape Maintenance Districts 1984-1 (Ponderosa); 1993-1 (Windsor); 1993-2 (Bonde Ranch); 1994-1 (Oak Tree Farm); and 1995-1 (Moller Ranch)
- Adopt a resolution accepting the 2012/13FY Mid-Term Operating Budget
- Adopt a resolution approving the Capital Improvement Program
- Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with the Alameda County Regional Communications Center (ACRECC) and the City of Pleasanton for Emergency Dispatch Services for the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LFPD)
- Concurrent City Council / Library Board of Trustees item: - Approve Fiscal Year 2012/13 Mid-Term Budget for Library Services
- Public Hearing adopt resolutions approving the annual assessments for the Geologic Hazard Abatement District (GHADS) for Oak Tree Farm, Moller Ranch, Laurel Creek Estates (The Preserve, Oak Hill Estates, and Kolb Ranch Estates), and Lemoine Ranch Estates

Housing Commission

Thursday, June 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Appoint Representative to Serve on the East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force

Human Services Commission

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

- Please visit our website at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov) to view the agenda for this meeting.

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](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar)



# Tri-Valley Community Foundation in **deep debt** and looking to close

STORIES BY GLENN WOHLTMANN



## Unfulfilled promises

TVCF's website makes claims that never materialized

The Tri-Valley Community Foundation seems to have been offering more hype than help to the area. The foundation's website claims a number of things that are either exaggerations or falsehoods. It claimed, for example, to fund "initiatives that sustain and promote the pursuit and enjoyment of the arts," listing the Alamo-Danville Arts League as one of its recipients.

There's no such organization. There is a group called the Alamo Danville Artists' Society.

"We've never received anything from them," said

Thomas Lemmer, the artists' society treasurer.

The TVCF also claims to support the Livermore Opera but is not listed as a sponsor on the opera's website. It could not be confirmed if the foundation contributed, as it claimed, to the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center and Bankhead Theater.

The foundation did donate at least \$11,000 to the fundraising campaign for the Firehouse Arts Center, however, buying a recognition brick and two \$500 theater chairs in its name.

The website also claims to offer "leadership, research and grant writing assistance" to help the fundraising effort at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Danville that recently completed a massive renovation at a cost of \$8.1 million.

That never happened, according to Karen Stepper, who was on the committee that raised money for the building project.

"They came to some of our meetings and gave us advice, how to follow up, how to involve businesses in the campaign. It was just one person who came. It was David Rice," Stepper said, explaining that Rice accompanied the fundraising group on a visit to one business.

"We never received research and grant writing assistance. They helped us early on with respect to a media approach," she said.

The TVCF also said it was assisting the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District "by receiving grants, contributions and contracts" to develop an iPhone app that notifies those trained in CPR when a person nearby has suffered an apparent heart attack.

San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District Chief Richard Price said that didn't happen either.

"Very early on, before the PulsePoint Foundation had its 501(c)(3) status, the Tri-Valley Founda-

The Tri-Valley Community Foundation is more than \$3 million in debt, and is looking to close and file liquidation bankruptcy by the end of June. It is also seeking criminal prosecution against its former president, David Rice.

"We owe probably \$3 million-plus, everything included," said TVCF board Chairman Ron Hyde. "There's no 'there' there."

He added that he had been hopeful at first that the organization could survive.

"I was optimistic that we could pull it together," said Hyde, who stepped into the role of foundation president with the ouster of Rice, who was with the foundation from at least 2000 until he was fired earlier this year.

"When I first came here, I was able to cut about \$600,000 in overhead the first week. As things grew grimmer, I became less convinced that we were going to survive," Hyde said. "By early May I was convinced that we weren't going to survive."

Hyde is recommending that the board opt for Chapter 7 liquidation bankruptcy at its next meeting.

"I believe they'll decide to dissolve the organization," he said.

Hyde said he's also contacted two inspectors with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office's consumer and environmental protection division, one of them a forensic analyst.

"We asked them to investigate. I believe there's enough evidence — pending investigation — for a criminal prosecution," said Hyde, a former Superior Court judge. "I cannot find any evidence that he took any money for himself. (However) there is a scenario that could raise the specter that kickbacks were involved."

Hyde said conditions were "ripe" for that to happen.

"I'm not saying that happened, I'm just saying there's a number of instances that could be possible. The skeleton seems to be there," he said.

The debt and closing of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation is troublesome enough, but Hyde said its end could also mean the end of a number of smaller charities.

He explained that the foundation is the umbrella organization for about 25 "mom and pop" charities with roughly \$230,000 that was being held by the foundation.

"If we go under, they'll probably lose their 501(c)(3) status. I've been trying to find somebody to take them, but no one will take a 501(c)(3) without any money. There's a reason they don't have any money — David spent it," he said. "It's sad that so many people could have

been kind of a resource for h... worked and if we wanted to take any... Pretty early on we got our own statu... never dealt with them again," Price said.

The foundation also claims to offer programs for high-risk teens at Village... zon high schools in Pleasanton. Those... are called the Youth Achievement Servi... (YAS) and Youth Employment Plus (Y... the Youth Employability Skills (YES... elsewhere on the TVCF website.

YAS is described as a "classroom-bas... to-career program," and YEP is calle... round program (that) helps youth be... ages of 16 to 21 reach their education... cupational goals."

Village Principal Greg Giglio said... schools did get money for career and... education from the TVCF, but it was n...

## Audit uncovers \$3 million owed by charitable organization

been hurt by one person's actions."

Hyde said that Rice is now working for a nonprofit in Coppel, Texas. Repeated attempts to reach Rice have been unsuccessful.

Even without criminal action on the part of Rice, Hyde said the former president used the foundation as an ego-feeding proposition. He pointed to one situation involving Rice's Rotary Club as an example.

"I asked for a list of donations David made," Hyde said, explaining that most of the donations ranged from \$2,000 to \$5,000, with one exception — a single \$33,000 donation.

"Two weeks later, I get a call from the small Rotary club in town, Tri-Valley Rotary," Hyde said. He said TVCF records showed the foundation was holding \$10,000 for that club, but the Tri-Valley Rotary's records showed it had \$43,000 with TVCF.

"In short, Mr. Rice, in a moment of egotistical largess, pulled \$33,000 from the little rotary club and gave it to his rotary (Pleasanton Rotary, which meets downtown) under the guise of an anonymous donor," said Hyde, who himself is a member of Pleasanton Rotary North. "I talked to a number of individuals that are in the leadership of the larger club. To a person, they said, 'The right thing to do is to return the money to the little rotary club.' Even in this pile of garbage, there is a shine of bright light."

Steve Brozosky, president of the Pleasanton Rotary Foundation — a different entity from the Pleasanton Rotary Club — said that's not a done deal. Brozosky explained there are legalities involved.

"They are completely different organizations. We are a legal 501(c)(3) and we are required by law to keep them separate entities," Brozosky said. "We are currently in discussions with the other club and the Tri-Valley Community Foundation."

No one knew about that \$33,000 donation for five years, which, Hyde said, is problematic when it comes to filing insurance claims for the foundation's losses. He said it's unclear whether the TVCF should use the date of the loss or when the loss was discovered in its claim.

He said board members are protected from being sued personally, unlike a case in Los Angeles, where the director of a bankrupt charity is facing the seizure of her home.

"We have officers and directors insurance," Hyde said. "David Rice, that's a different story."

Both Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory have asked for the return of the money donated by employees but spent elsewhere by Rice; Hyde said, "That's part of the claim."

An internal memo from Sandia said it had asked for an accounting of TVCF spending for the last four years.

"TVCF misapplied a portion of the contributions sent to it for distribution on behalf of Sandia employees," the Sandia memo said. "We do not yet know the extent of this problem, and we have asked TVCF for immediate clarification and documentation of the past four campaigns dating back to 2008."

Tax returns show a pattern of overspending on the part of the TVCF that began in fiscal year 2006-07, when it brought in nearly \$1.36 million, but spent more than \$1.6 million, drawing down existing assets. That's been a consistent pattern since, leading to a deficit of more than \$172,000 in July 2010, the last year returns were available.

It was also recently disclosed that among the missing

money is \$243,000 held in trust for GWF Energy, which operates a power plant in Tracy.

That money was earmarked for organizations including Tracy Interfaith Ministries, McHenry House Family Shelter and Boys & Girls Clubs of Tracy. Renee Reece, the chairwoman of Tracy Interfaith, said the organization was counting on \$18,000 this year.

"We are very sad that this happened all the way around to everybody," Reece said. "It will hurt, in this economy, the numbers (of people in need) continue to increase."

She said the money would have gone for food, for people who have had their power cut off, were in danger of losing their apartments, and even for funerals.

Hyde said he's working on sorting that out now.

"I just had lunch with the owner of GWF in Tracy and fully explained what happened," he said.

GWF, Sandia and Lawrence Livermore are among the 17 or so insurance claims being made by the TVCF that remain in limbo, Hyde said. That's not counting at least \$65,000 in outstanding promises that were made by Rice, which include the Pleasanton school district, Open Heart Kitchen, and \$5,000 promised to the Rotary Club of Pleasanton for its Father's Day Spirit Run.

Brozosky said the club hoped for, but didn't bank on, that \$5,000.

"We've gotten it for years. Sometimes it's come through, sometimes it hasn't," he said, adding that Rice sometimes made commitments but didn't follow through with the money — part of the reason, Brozosky said, for Rice's \$33,000 "anonymous" donation.

Glen Sparks, the school district's director of adult education, said Rice pledged \$50,000 on behalf of the TVCF in the fall of 2001.

"We received \$25,000, but unfortunately did not receive the rest of it," Sparks said.

Problems with the TVCF's spending came to light when the board switched auditors, which Hyde said led to a request for a forensic — deep — audit.

"It appeared that money was being spent without board approval or board knowledge. It was areas like fund-raising. ... They weren't line items like they were meant to be," he said, explaining that Rice had the power to write checks without a cosigner. In many other organizations, two signers are required as a balance.

"I think it's a community tragedy that this happened, and the whole board feels bad that we were on the watch and couldn't see what was happening. We were given glowing details about what was going on," Hyde continued. "It's sad that so many people could have been hurt by one person's actions. We had no clue during the annual audits and our bookkeeper going through accounts."

The Pleasanton Weekly's Holiday Fund was among those working with the TVCF, but donations made to the Weekly's fund were tracked in-house and donors were named every week in the newspaper. Checks cut to cover charities included in the Holiday Fund were among the last issued by the foundation.

Hyde said he's actively working on shutting down the foundation by the end of the month in anticipation of a Chapter 7 vote by the board.

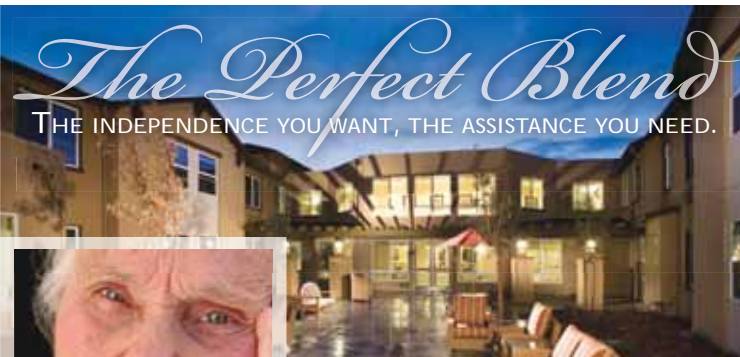
"I'm working on a closing list, what's to be done, who needs to be notified, pulling together files to try to figure out what the heck happened and how," Hyde said. ■

Cooking Matters, which offers school-based food training classes for parents with children at Junction Avenue School in Livermore.

Cooking Matters is sponsored by other groups, and there's no documentation that either Smart Choices or the Marilyn Avenue outreach project ever began.

The foundation also claimed it was committed to creating a permanent endowment for the Tri-Valley area. In the 2008-09 fiscal year, the TVCF had put aside \$61,274 for that purpose, but that fund was apparently wiped out by the next year.

The California Secretary of State links Rice to two other organizations, Tri-Valley Community Services and the Youth Achievement Program. Tri-Valley Community Services never filed with the state's registry of charitable trusts, and there's no indication that the Youth Achievement Program was ever begun. ■



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

## Critique & coffee

Artists gather each week to exchange ideas

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Stan Vierk walked to the front of the small gathering and pulled the dark plastic bag off the canvas, revealing a portrait of — himself. He painted it from a photo, he said.

The dozen or so artists looked at the portrait with a critical eye.

"I like the way you took care with the creases in the clothing," said Claudette McDermott, adding, "I'd like to see shadowing of you behind, on the wall."

"There are no wrinkles in your face," noted another artist.

Vierk laughed and said he's sensitive about adding wrinkles after a neighbor didn't like his realistic portrait of her.

These artists have turned Coffee Ali at the Vintage Hills Shopping Center into an art gallery and gathering place. Ten to 20 of them meet at 10 a.m. each Friday to share their latest works for a gentle critique that helps them fine-tune the pieces.

"It's fun to get together. It helps to motivate us," said McDermott, an impressionist who heads up the group and curates the displays under the name Poetry on Canvas. "If we are working on something and know something doesn't feel right we bounce it off each other, then pick and chose what works for us."

One wall of the coffee shop displays their artwork, which changes and follows a different theme each month. The left side has a featured artist; in June it is Gregg Skuce with his contemporary landscapes done in warm colors.

At this meeting June 1, the May exhibit of Flower Power came down, and June's Art in Public Places went up — these are paintings done "en plein air" recently when the group descended on Milfleur in the old Kottinger Barn on Ray Street.

When Mahesh Baishya stood up with two framed landscapes of scenes from local parks, Skuce commented: "You're an artist, man."

"I like that red shirt," McDermott said, noting a person in each painting wearing bright apparel. "I notice you always put in a red shirt."

John West showed the group an unframed watercolor with wavy edges that he had just sold.

"I'm wondering whether I should frame it to show the rough edges," he told the others, who agreed they were an important part of the piece.

When Alka Vaidya held up a watercolor of an inviting park scene, she described it as a study in trees and water.

"Where is it?" someone asked.

"Nowhere," answered Vaidya. "It could be anywhere."

The title "Walk in the Park" came to her mind, she added.

Antonia Wennink, who paints her contemporary works in oils and acrylics, showed a vivid canvas with varied shapes in bright colors.

"Is it finished or not?" she asked her fellow artists.

She'd showed them the work previously and added lines according to their suggestions.

"I like the colors," Skuce told her.

Wennick pulled out another painting, explaining she'd created it quickly with paints she happened to have.

"Now I'm stuck because I don't have an underpainting," she said.

"I'd introduce the colors again," Skuce advised. "Then compositionally it works."

Others suggested a fixative to hold the bare canvas tone, and Wennick asked whether that was against the rules.

"Since when do you care about the rules?" McDermott asked her with a laugh.

"I like it and it irritates me at the same time," Wennick said about the painting.

Someone suggested that she add a vase to the bottom, which would then turn the vague shapes into flowers.

"Keep working on it until it makes you feel good," McDermott said.

Loralee Chapleau shared two works so recent that they weren't yet dry. One portrayed the wall at Milfleur where she'd painted with the group. The other impressionistic painting depicted a man and child at Point Isabel in Richmond with San Francisco in the distance.

"He's a father figure, and she's got the whole world out there," she said.

Someone suggested the two figures have shadows on the sand, and a discussion ensued as to whether their faces needed definition.

"I wanted the faces to be extremely loose, more universal," Chapleau said.

After everyone shared, the artists began to take down the May paintings and make plans on how to best display those for June.

Throughout the proceedings Steve Curry, a relative newcomer, sat to one side with his sketchbook but declined when asked if he had anything to share.

"I sit here and listen and learn," he said. "They're a great group of people to get you motivated to do more. And they're very encouraging." ■



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Loralee Chapleau presents her latest works — a wall at Milfleur on Ray Street in Pleasanton, and a little girl and her grandfather at Point Isabel in Richmond — while fellow artists, with Claudette McDermott at far left, offer suggestions, during a recent Art, Critique and Coffee meeting at Coffee Ali.



Girl Scouts set out to change the world while earning their Gold Awards: (l-r) Christina Mitine, Rebecca Rodriguez, Sri Muppidi and (front) Alison Boswell.

## Girl Scouts shine with Gold Awards

Projects improve lives from Pleasanton to Tanzania

BY JAMIE ALTMAN

Four Pleasanton girls prepared to take action in improving the world as, on June 1, they received the greatest recognition in Girl Scouts: the Gold Award. The award is a multi-step process that requires hours of research, a detailed plan and goal, and most of all, motivation to better the world.

■ Sophomore Christina Mitine realized that these days teenagers and seniors are not always able to connect with each other.

“Having an amazing connection with my maternal grandma,” Mitine explained, “I aimed to create a special bond between teens and the seniors.”

In her project, Lasting Memories, teenagers and Parkview Assisted Living Home residents collaborated on a scrapbook that contains memories of each senior’s life. Mitine shared that it was “incredible to see a warm-hearted connection between teens and seniors grow within a week of sharing photos and stories with one another.”

■ As part of her project, Safety Smarts, Rebecca Rodriguez used her love of martial arts to help teens become more aware of their surroundings and prepared to defend themselves.

“After starting martial arts,” Rodriguez said, “I realized how much (safer) I felt wherever I went, know-

ing that I could defend myself.”

Rodriguez said that she wanted to “share that confidence” with others, so she organized a safety awareness fair where she educated teens on the importance of self-defense, as well as fitness and first-aid.

■ When Sri Muppidi learned that 50% of the Tanzanian population lacks access to sanitary drinking water, she started planning an African culture show, Taste of Africa, to educate others about these hardships and how to be part of the solution. She then went to Tanzania and helped build water retention systems.

“It’s amazing to see how a small effort on my part was able to translate into such a big impact on the villagers,” Muppidi said.

■ In Alison Boswell’s Gold Award project, she strived to include everyone in the Pleasanton community by planning a holiday party for underprivileged children in early December.

At the party, these kids got to take pictures with Santa and make gingerbread houses, ornaments and stockings. They also received goody bags containing school supplies, coats, fleece blankets and miscellaneous stocking stuffers.

The four girls of this Pleasanton Girl Scout Troop had diverse projects and goals, but one thing

they all had in common was their devotion to Girl Scouts, and more importantly, in making the world a better place. ■

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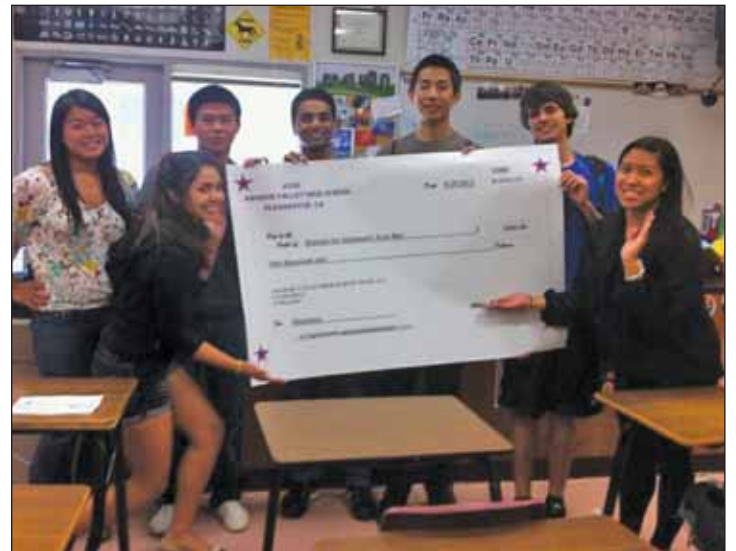
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J.C. Dala, volunteer coordinator for Habitat for Humanity East Bay, accepts a check from Amador Valley High School’s Habitat for Humanity club May 29, after the students held a fundraiser as part of their awareness campaign about providing affordable housing to low income families. The students baked and sold cookies, and raised \$1,000 in one month.

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**Auditions**

**'WEST SIDE STORY'** Tri-Valley Repertory will be auditioning for roles for men ages 14 and older and women 16 and older for its upcoming production of "West Side Story." All roles open/no pay/no AEA/character breakdown and audition form. Prepare 16-32 bars upbeat Broadway standard or ballad. Accompanist provided, no tapes, no a capella. Be dressed and prepared to dance. Bring head shot, resume, and conflict calendar. Saturday, June 23 at 11 a.m. Free Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, 1020 Serpentine, Suite 101, Pleasanton. 462-2121. [www.trivalleyrep.org](http://www.trivalleyrep.org)

**Author Visits**

**MEET ROBERT DUGONI** Robert Dugoni will discuss his new book, "The Conviction," a gripping thriller about a father forced to take the law into his own hands to save his son. at 7 p.m., Monday, June 18, at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., Pleasanton. Dugoni, an attorney-turned-author, will talk about making such a drastic transition and how his legal background affects his writing. Call 846-8826. Dugoni will also teach a 4 p.m. writing class at the store.

**Careers**

**COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR BOSS** Effective communication is critical to professional success - especially when it comes to working with the boss - plus it can increase your job satisfaction, confidence level and marketability, and pave the way to a successful career. The lecture is from 5:30-8 p.m., Wednesday, June 20, at Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Cost for dinner and the program is \$20 and for the program only is \$10. Call 294-8451 or visit [www.iaap-laspositas.org](http://www.iaap-laspositas.org).

**WHY MANUFACTURING IS STILL KEY TO AMERICA'S FUTURE** TriValley Democratic Club meeting with speaker Ro Khanna, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce 2009-11, speaking about his new book, "Entrepreneurial Nation: Why Manufacturing is Still Key to America's Future." Discussion - Q&A - Refreshments. Monday, June 18 from 7-9 p.m. Free IBEW 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. 925-451-4303. [www.trivalleydems.com/Calendar.htm](http://www.trivalleydems.com/Calendar.htm)

from 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, June 16, at Museum on Main, 603 Main St., Pleasanton. Families can create their own yummy (decaf) tea flavor, design a fan and learn the language of fans, make a fancy necklace to wear, and enjoy special treats. Call 462-2766 or visit [www.museumon-main.org](http://www.museumon-main.org).

**Lectures/ Workshops**

**WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS, CARS ARE FROM MARS** Do you know how to check your car's oil level? If not then join GNON (Girls Night Out Networking) from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Monday, June 25, at Rick's Performance, 3295 Bernal Ave. Suite A, Pleasanton, for a hands on approach of basic car care for women. Free to members; \$10 non-members. RSVP to [gnoners@gmail.com](mailto:gnoners@gmail.com) by June 22.

**Live Music**

**AFRICAN DRUMMING** Join Cheza Nami for an afternoon of African drumming and dance at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 24, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Explore African dance moves as demonstrated by Cheza Nami artists. This fun, inclusive, educational and interactive program is free and open to all ages. Call 931-3405.

**Miscellaneous**

**CHIT CHAT CHAAT AND CHAI** An Exclusive Afternoon Just For The Ladies. Relax, make new friends, share laughs and enjoy a fruitful Discussion with attorney Anu Peshwaria on marriages and legal responsibility, Gynecologist Dr. Meena Shankar and Psychiatrist Dr. Vasanta Giri. Mingle with friends and enjoy chaat and chai. Sunday, June 17 from 2-4 p.m. Free Livermore Temple Assembly Hall, 1223 Arrowhead Ave., Livermore. 449-6255.

**Seniors**

**ALL ABOUT HORSE RACING** John Stoker, retired thoroughbred race horse trainer talks about his experiences growing up in England on the Queen's Estate in Sandringham. The lecture is from 10:30-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, June 19, at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. He'll trace his career from young jockey and trainer to stable manager and local stable owner. You will be captivated by this insiders look at the this sport. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

**Volunteering**

**BLOOD DRIVE** The American Red Cross will hold a public blood drive at Wells Fargo, 5000 Hopyard Drive, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Friday, June 22 at the American Red Cross Bus, 5000 Hopyard Dr., Pleasanton. Use sponsor code WELSFARGOP when scheduling an appointment. Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

**Classes**

**CLASSES IN MICROSOFT EXCEL** The Pleasanton Library is offering Excel classes in June for intermediate level. Sign up for a one-time session on Tuesday evenings from 6-7 p.m. on June 19 and June 26. Registration is required; call 931-3400 ext. 7. Classes are held at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

**Events**

**OLIVE OIL OPEN HOUSE** Free olive oil tastings, soap making demonstrations, self-guided tour of the historic orchard, stunning views. Come to Foothill Road and ride up to the ranch, or park at the Foothill Road Staging Area of the Pleasanton Ridge East Bay Regional Park and hike in. Saturday, June 16 from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Free Hillcrest Ranch Sunol, 11901 Foothill Rd., Sunol. 209-7702. [www.hillcrestrancholiveoil.com](http://www.hillcrestrancholiveoil.com)

**RELAY FOR LIFE TALENT SHOW!** The Pleasanton Relay for Life taking place July 21 is having a talent show for ages 11-18, and there are 12 spots available. Do you sing, dance, play an instrument, juggle, perform magic or have another talent? Act should be for all ages and be less than five minutes. Applications due by June 15. For more information, call Larry at 650-773-1263. Free

**Fundraisers**

**PLEASANTON HERITAGE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SALE** Pleasanton Heritage Association will have its annual yard sale featuring clothing, furniture, antiques, collectible, toys, tools, dishes and many many more interesting and unique items. Also, free ice cream and fun. Saturday, June 16 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Free 303 Neal St., Pleasanton. 998-7997.

**Kids & Teens**

**OLD TIME TEA PARTY** Kids are invited to an Old time Tea Party

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[www.LaViteRestaurant.com](http://www.LaViteRestaurant.com)

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NEW in Pleasanton



Full Service Oil Change Special **\$24.99**  
Includes 22pt. inspection and tire rotations  
Exp. 8/31/12

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Phone (925) 846-0660  
[www.truevalue.com/pleasanton](http://www.truevalue.com/pleasanton)

Check out Community Calendar at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) for a complete listing of local events.

# Marketplace

To advertise in the Marketplace call Karen Klein at 925.600.0840 x122 or email [kklein@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:kklein@pleasantonweekly.com)

**Real Estate**



**Mike Fracisco**  
REALTOR®  
Fracisco Realty  
Residential, Commercial & Property Management  
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[www.MikeFracisco.com](http://www.MikeFracisco.com)  
DRE#01378428

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**FREE ESTIMATES**  
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Get daily local stories and hot picks sent to your email  
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## fogster.com THE TRI-VALLEY'S CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE

TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS GO TO **FOGSTER.COM**



**BULLETIN BOARD**

**115 Announcements**  
**PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION?** Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 866-413-6293 (Void in Illinois) (AAN CAN)  
**SHARPEN UP AT THE FARMERS' MRKT** Tri-Valley CAREs

**120 Auctions**  
**Advertise Your Auction** 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)

**130 Classes & Instruction**  
**Attend College Online** from Home. \*Medical, \*Business, \*Criminal Justice, \*Hospitality. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV certified. Call 888-210-5162 [www.CenturaOnline.com](http://www.CenturaOnline.com) (Cal-SCAN)  
**Aviation Maintenance Career** Airline Careers begin here - Aviation Maintenance Tech. FAA approved training. Financial aid if qualified - Housing available. Job placement assistance. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance (888) 242-3382. (Cal-SCAN)  
**High School Diploma!** Graduate in 4 weeks! FREE Brochure. Call Now! 1-866-562-3650 ext. 60. [www.SouthEasternHS.com](http://www.SouthEasternHS.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**152 Research Study Volunteers**  
**Moms/Daughters for Paid Research**  
Moms/Daughters Needed for Paid Research at Stanford: Stanford University, A&S Psychology Department is currently seeking mothers with a history of depression and their 10 to 14-year-old daughters for a paid research study at Stanford. Following a 20-30 minute phone screening interview, eligible participants will be asked to come to Stanford University for up to 3 sessions, each lasting approximately 3.5 hours. Eligible pairs will be compensated \$40/hour and researchers will schedule sessions at your convenience: evenings and weekend sessions are available. For more information, please email or call Hannah Burley at [mood@psych.stanford.edu](mailto:mood@psych.stanford.edu) or (650) 723-0804, and mention where you saw this ad.

**201 Autos/Trucks/Parts**



**SOLD FOR SALE**

**201 Autos/Trucks/Parts**

**ferrari 2007 F1-430 coupe**  
Exceptional like new 9200 low mile F1 this is one of a kind loaded 430 coupe. lots of carbon fiber w grade factory sound system with ipod compatibility. recently certified by ferrari power warranty. blue/tan interior blue exterior lots of extras amazing head turner. one of a kind call 727-424-7283. can email pics

**202 Vehicles Wanted**  
**CASH FOR CARS:**  
Any Car/Truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 [www.cash4car.com](http://www.cash4car.com) (AAN CAN)

**Donate Your Car, Truck, Boat** to Heritage for the Blind. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. 888-902-6851. (Cal-SCAN)

**I Buy Any Junk Car**  
\$300 Flat Rate \*Includes Pick-Up. 1-888-889-5670. (Cal-SCAN)

**Sell Your Car, Truck, SUV** Today! All 50 states, fast pick-up and payment. Any condition, make or model. Call now 1-877-818-8848. [www.MyCarforCash.net](http://www.MyCarforCash.net) (Cal-SCAN)

**235 Wanted to Buy**  
**Sell Your Gold Jewelry** and Get Cash! Ranked #1 on NBC's Today Show - SellYourGold. Call to Request a Free Appraisal 1-888-650-1019. (Cal-SCAN)

**Wanted: Diabetic Test Strips**  
Up to \$26/Box. Prepaid Shipping Labels. Hablamos Espanol! 1-800-266-0702. [www.SellDiabeticStrips.com](http://www.SellDiabeticStrips.com). (Cal-SCAN)

**245 Miscellaneous**  
**Cable TV-Internet-Phone** Packages start at \$89.99/mo (for 12 months.) Options from all major service providers. Call Acceller today to learn more! Call 1-888-897-7650. (Cal-SCAN)

**Mantis Deluxe Tiller**  
New! FastStart engine. Ships FREE. One-Year Money-Back Guarantee when you buy DIRECT. Call for the DVD and FREE Good Soil book! 888-815-5176. (Cal-SCAN)

**Omaha Steaks**  
Thrill Dad THRILL DAD with 100 percent guaranteed, delivered to the door Omaha Steaks! SAVE 69 percent - plus 2 free gifts. Thrill the Grill only \$49.99. Order Today 1-888-525-4620 or [www.OmahaSteaks.com](http://www.OmahaSteaks.com)/family16 use code 45069TVH. (Cal-SCAN)

**Steel Buildings**  
JEFconstruction.com Monthly Specials! Authorized builder in Steel Buildings (Arenas, Barns, Airplane Hangers, Storage Units, Shops, Warehouses and MORE!) Contact: 209-605-6838 [james@jefconstruction.com](mailto:james@jefconstruction.com) Lic#945547 (Cal-SCAN)



**KID STUFF**

**330 Child Care Offered**  
**Experienced, Reliable Babysitter**  
I am a 19 year old college student looking for full/part-time babysitting job. Available June 1 - August 20. I drive and have my own car.



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Sufferers: Clinically proven all-natural supplement helps reduce pain and enhance mobility. Call 877-217-7698 to try Hydralflexin RISK-FREE for 90 days. (Cal-SCAN)

**Sleep Apnea Sufferers** with Medicare. Get free CPAP Replacement Supplies at No Cost, plus FREE home delivery! Best of all, prevent red skin sores and bacterial infection! Call 888-699-7660. (Cal-SCAN)



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**560 Employment Information**  
\$\$\$HELP WANTED\$\$\$  
Extra Income! Assembling CD cases from Home! No Experience Necessary! Call our Live Operators Now! 1-800-405-7619 EXT 2450 <http://www.easywork-greatpay.com> (AAN CAN)

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**Drivers: New to Trucking?**  
Your new career starts now! \*\$0 Tuition Cost, \*No Credit Check, \*Great Pay and Benefits. Short employment commitment required. Call: 1-866-275-2349. [www.JoinCRST.com](http://www.JoinCRST.com) (Cal-SCAN)

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Class A CDL Driver Training. We train and employ! Ask about our New Pay Scale! Experienced Drivers also Needed! Central Refrigerated. 1-877-369-7126. [www.CentralTruckDrivingJobs.com](http://www.CentralTruckDrivingJobs.com) (Cal-SCAN)

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Make money Mailing brochures from home! FREE Supplies! Helping Home-Workers since 2001! Genuine Opportunity! No experience required. Start Immediately! [www.the-workhub.net](http://www.the-workhub.net) (AAN CAN)



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Computer problems? Viruses, spyware, email, printer issues, bad internet connections - FIX IT NOW! Professional, U.S.-based technicians. \$25 off service. Call for immediate help. 1-888-865-0271 (Cal-SCAN)

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Ever Consider a Reverse Mortgage? At least 62 years old? Stay in your home and increase cash flow! Safe and effective! Call Now for your FREE DVD! Call Now 888-698-3165. (Cal-SCAN)

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**Wage Law Violations?**  
Do you work over 8 hours per day or 40 hours per week? Denied wages, overtime pay, or meal and rest breaks? You may be owed money. Call Class Action Attorney Michael Carver Toll-Free (877) 219-8481. (Cal-SCAN)

**645 Office/Home Business Services**  
**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)

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Reach Californians with a Classified ad in almost every county. Experience the power of classifieds! Combo-California Daily and Weekly Networks. One order. One payment. Free Brochures. [elizabeth@cnpa.com](mailto:elizabeth@cnpa.com) or (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)

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Advertise in 140 California newspapers for one low cost of \$1,550. Your display 3.75x2.25 ad reaches over 3 million+ Californians. Free brochure call Elizabeth (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)



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**751 General Contracting**  
**NOTICE TO READERS** >It is illegal for an unlicensed person to perform contracting work on any project valued at \$500.00 or more in labor and materials. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs that total less than \$500.00 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board



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

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Advertise your vacation property 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)



**The online guide to Pleasanton businesses**

### PET OF THE WEEK

#### Life of the party

This gorgeous guy with the bedroom eyes is Dylan, who's approximately 1-1/2 years old and the life of every party he's invited to. Dylan arrived at a local animal shelter with a dislocated hip; in order to avoid his living a life of discomfort, the decision was made to remove one of his back legs at the hip. We've never told Dylan that he only has three legs, and we swear that he's never noticed! He can run, jump, climb and play with the best of them, and his enthusiasm for life is totally infectious. He's got a sweet disposition and loves to give and receive loads of attention. If you're looking for a gregarious companion who will charm you and make you smile, Dylan is just the guy for you. Of course, we're going to be looking for an indoors only home for Dylan; children are fine as long as they're gentle and cat savvy. If you would like to know more about Dylan, please contact Terri at [terrilduncan@yahoo.com](mailto:terrilduncan@yahoo.com) or call 487-7279.



## Growth rate indicates economic slowdown, says mortgage broker

By JEB BING

A Pleasanton mortgage broker said this week that the downward revision of the first quarter economic growth rate to 1.9% is a real indication of an economic slowdown, which is also reflected in the disappointing employment report released last Friday.

Still, according to Dave Walden, a mortgage broker at Diversified Mortgage Group in Pleasanton, the news for real estate so far in 2012 is still favorable. Walden said that fixed rates on home loans hit record lows again this month and that was before the employment report was released. Freddie Mac announced that for the week ending May 31, 30-year fixed rates fell from 3.78% to 3.75%. The average for 15-year loans fell to 2.97%, the first reading ever under 3.0%.

Adjustable rates also were stable, Walden noted, with the average for one-year adjustables remaining at 2.75% and five-year adjustables up slightly to 2.84%. A year ago 30-year fixed rates were substantially higher at 4.55%.

According to Frank Nothaft, Freddie Mac's vice president and chief economist, market concerns over tensions in the Eu-

rozone have led to a decline in long-term Treasury bond yields, helping to bring fixed rates to new record lows this week. For example, Walden said, compared to a year ago, rates on 30-year fixed rates are almost 0.9% points lower, which translates into nearly \$1,200 less in annual payments on a \$200,000 loan.

Meanwhile, Walden cited an S&P/Case-Shiller 20-city composite home price index that showed annual home-value gains in March in seven cities and a monthly gain in 12 cities.

The Federal Housing Finance Agency reported that U.S. home prices climbed 1.8% in March, the largest monthly gain in at least two decades as housing recovery gains steam. The rise from the previous month topped analyst estimates, which ranged from a 0.2% decline to a modest improvement of 0.7%. Such factors as all-time-low rates and a dearth of properties for sale in many markets are working together to bolster demand for homes.

In addition, Walden reported, sales of new homes rose to a seasonally adjusted

See **SLOWDOWN** on Page 21

### OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

#### Alamo

**6 BEDROOMS**  
**1311 Laverock Lane \$2,599,000**  
 Sat 1-4 Michael Hatfield Broker 984-1339

#### Danville

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**30 Bordeaux Ct \$849,950**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111  
**414 Cliffside Dr \$1,399,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333  
**31 Vista Dr \$875,000**  
 Sun 1-5 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333

#### Dublin

**2 BEDROOMS**  
**4743 Perugia St \$466,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Serafino Bianchi 858-0649

#### Livermore

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**567 Amberwood Way \$645,000**  
 Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**2370 Mahogany Ct \$1,079,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200  
**3046 Verdala Dr \$999,950**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

**4493 Edgewood Wy \$899,000**  
 Sat 1-4 Melissa Pederson 858-1984

#### Pleasanton

**3 BEDROOMS**  
**3126 Half Dome Drive \$539,888**  
 Sat 1-4/Sun 1:30-4:30 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200  
**539 Bonita \$669,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Mike Carey 963-0569  
**8080 Canyon Creek Circle \$624,950**  
 Sat 1-4 Sonali Sethna 525-2569  
**236 Birch Creek Terr \$559,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario 260-2220

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**3881 Foothill Rd \$1,378,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Bhg Tri-valley Realty 463-9500  
**2730 Spinosa Ct \$730,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Bhg Tri-valley Realty 463-9500  
**1541 Whispering Oak Wy \$949,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200  
**2189 Pomezia Court \$1,149,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Dan Gamache Sr. 200-8941

#### San Ramon

**3 BEDROOMS**  
**1119 Vista Pointe Circle \$535,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Bhg Tri-valley Realty 463-9500

Find more open home listings at [pleasantonweekly.com/real\\_estate](http://pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate)

## Who's Selling in Your Neighborhood

### ACTIVE, PENDING AND RECENTLY SOLD LISTINGS BY LOCAL REALTORS

8226 REGENCY DR., LAGUNA OAKS — \$1,468,888



SOLD!

EXCEPTIONAL HOME IN THE WONDERFUL LAGUNA OAKS COMMUNITY, featuring 5 spacious BR plus office and bonus room, 3 1/2 BA, with 4106 sq ft of luxurious living space. One of the best lots in Laguna Oaks, with a spacious and private backyard with a pool, spa, waterfall and slide system.



**WMG**  
 WEINER MCDOWELL GROUP  
 WMGHOMES.COM

REPRESENTING YOUR INTERESTS  
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 PETER MCDOWELL 925.251.2550  
 CADRE #00673849 / 01361481  
 J. Rockcliff  
 Real tors

971 SUMMIT CREEK CT., BRIDLE CREEK — \$1,665,000



SOLD!

WELCOME TO THIS HIGHLY UPGRADED HOME IN THE DESIRABLE BRIDLE CREEK COMMUNITY. This luxurious 4455 sq ft home features 5 BR, 5 full BA, plus library and media room, including a private guest suite downstairs. Incredible backyard with pool, spa, gazebo, outdoor kitchen and sports court, with views of the ridge.



**WMG**  
 WEINER MCDOWELL GROUP  
 WMGHOMES.COM

REPRESENTING YOUR INTERESTS  
 PHYLLIS WEINER 925.251.2585  
 PETER MCDOWELL 925.251.2550  
 CADRE #00673849 / 01361481  
 J. Rockcliff  
 Real tors

993 SUMMIT CREEK CT., BRIDLE CREEK — \$1,638,000



SOLD!

WELCOME TO THIS EXCEPTIONAL HOME IN THE BRIDLE CREEK COMMUNITY. The "Avalon" model features 5 spacious BR, 4 1/2 BA, with 4434 sq ft of luxurious living space plus a separate "cabana" studio home. One of the very best locations in all of Bridle Creek, at the top of a private, quiet court, with wonderful views.



**WMG**  
 WEINER MCDOWELL GROUP  
 WMGHOMES.COM

REPRESENTING YOUR INTERESTS  
 PHYLLIS WEINER 925.251.2585  
 PETER MCDOWELL 925.251.2550  
 CADRE #00673849 / 01361481  
 J. Rockcliff  
 Real tors

To advertise contact **Andrea Heggelund**

Cell: (707) 363-1934 or

E-mail: [aheggelund@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:aheggelund@pleasantonweekly.com)

Initiatives: Who's Selling in your Neighborhood, Buying and Selling (Aug. 17), and Pleasanton Life 2012-13 (Sept. 21)

Ask about online and email ads!



# Who's Selling in Your Neighborhood

## ACTIVE, PENDING AND RECENTLY SOLD LISTINGS BY LOCAL REALTORS



**7943 PARAGON CIRCLE, PLEASANTON — OFFERED AT \$1,389,000**

**SOLD IN LAGUNA OAKS**



Gorgeous updated Laguna Oaks beauty! Master and office downstairs, 4 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom, and bonus room. Hardwood, granite, tile, travertine entry, stainless appliances. The huge rear yard features a sparkling pool. Must see. Close to shopping, schools and freeway!



**Cindy Gee** DRE#1307919

Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley Realty

**(925) 963-1984**

[www.bhghome.com/cindygee](http://www.bhghome.com/cindygee)

**811 SUNNY BROOK WAY, PLEASANTON — BRIDLE CREEK - BUILT IN 2002**

**PENDING**



5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, approx. 3445 sqft. Kitchen features cherry cabinets, granite counters, built-in stainless steel appliances. Great location, large lot approx. 11,000 sqft. Close to shopping, schools and freeways.

For more information on this home or to see more listings like this call Delores Gragg.



**Delores Gragg**

Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty

DRE#01206964

**(925) 989-6500**

[www.deloresgragg.com](http://www.deloresgragg.com)

**5219 CRESTLINE WAY, PLEASANTON — OFFERED AT \$739,000**

**PENDING WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS**



Gorgeous home located close to schools, parks & shopping. Fabulous floor plan with a sunny open kitchen with a breakfast nook. Upgrades include hardwood floors throughout the home and a stunning upgraded master bathroom. Fantastic yard for entertaining or relaxing. Home is approximately 1854 sq ft with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms on a 6500 sq ft lot.



**Emily Barraclough**

ALAIN PINEL REALTORS

DRE#001479356

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**5211 RIDGEVALE WAY, PLEASANTON — OFFERED AT \$745,000**

**PENDING WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS**



Fabulous floor plan with a sunny open kitchen with a breakfast nook. Upgrades include hardwood floors throughout the entry, kitchen, guest bath & dining room, granite counter tops in kitchen & guest bathroom. Great location! Home is approximately 1854 sq ft with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms on a 6500 sq ft lot.



**Emily Barraclough**

ALAIN PINEL REALTORS

DRE#001479356

**(925) 621-4097**

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**2490 SKYLARK WAY, PLEASANTON — OFFERED AT \$729,000**

**ACTIVE**



'Rivershore' model, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1,722+/-sq.ft, remodeled granite kitchen with stainless appliances, new windows, HVAC system, backs to Pleasanton Sports Park with gate access.



**Tim McGuire**  
REALTOR®

DRE#01349446

**Alain Pinel Realtors**  
462-SOLD (7653)  
[www.timmcguire.net](http://www.timmcguire.net)

**5204 HUMMINGBIRD ROAD, PLEASANTON — \$750,000**

**SOLD BEFORE GOING ON MLS**



'Holiday' model, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2,167+/-sq. ft, remodeled granite kitchen with commercial grade appliances, hardwood floors, custom tile baths, newer roof, stamped concrete patio with decorative arbors and pool.



**Tim McGuire**  
REALTOR®

DRE#01349446

**Alain Pinel Realtors**  
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**5286 BLACKBIRD DRIVE, PLEASANTON — \$740,000**

**SOLD IN 3 DAYS**



'Miramar' model, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 2,100+/-sq. ft, updated kitchen, dual pane windows, HVAC equipment, newer paint and popcorn ceiling removed, private backyard with covered patio, walk to Sports Park and Woodthrush Park.



**Tim McGuire**  
REALTOR®

DRE#01349446

**Alain Pinel Realtors**  
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**5010 BLACKBIRD WAY, PLEASANTON — \$810,000**

**SOLD IN 4 DAYS**



'Portico' model, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 2,235+/-sq.ft, renovated eat-in kitchen with stainless steel appliances, updated baths, new carpet and paint, Florida sunroom and large yard with heated pool.



**Tim McGuire**  
REALTOR®

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925.667.2100

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510.339.4800

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925.251.2500

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Orinda, CA 94563  
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**Walnut Creek**  
1700 N. Main St.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
925.280.8500

## 2730 Spinosa Court, Pleasanton

Open Saturday & Sunday 1-4



OFFERED AT  
**\$730,000**

Gorgeous home in desirable Stoneridge Place. 4 beds, 2.5 baths & approx 2051 sf living space. Hardwood flooring, granite kitchen, designer paint throughout. Community pool! Close proximity to award winning Mohr Elementary School.



**CINDY WHITEHAND**

6111 Johnson Drive  
Pleasanton, CA 94588

(925)-200-4102

cindy.whitehand@bhghome.com

DRE #01339527

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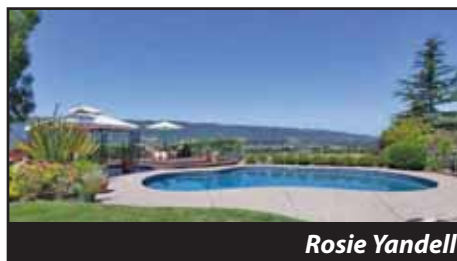
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Mike D'Onofrio

**1605 Locust St. – Livermore – \$ 259,990**  
Regular Sale!! Charming home in established neighborhood! Newer roof! Updated kitchen w/ dining area, tile flooring! Updated bath! Large corner lot! Walk to stores and park! Side yard access.



Rosie Yandell

**433 Los Rios Ct. – Pleasanton – \$1,229,000**  
Must see to believe! One of the most spectacular lots in town — views forever, newly resurfaced pool & lovely gardens compliment this sought after South Pleasanton property. Walk to town from this highly upgraded single story home. Seldom see homes available on this court. Rare opportunity!



Gina Piper

**1388 Mustang Dr. – Danville – \$899,000**  
Stunning remodel! Huge back yard backing to Iron Horse Trail w/gate. Very open and light floor plan. High ceilings. Newer roof & windows. Extraordinary kitchen w/island & wine fridge, granite, pantry. Incredible & huge master suite w/walk in closet and designer bath. Large workshop. Don't miss this!



Jennifer Branchini

**25 Rio Del Ct. – Danville – \$959,000**  
Desired Westside location. Updated rancher on private lot with many amenities. Updated kitchen with granite, tile, breakfast nook and more. Master suite features updated and expanded master bath with walk-in closet. Resort like yard with sparkling pool and spa, gazebo, patio and deck.



Open Sat/Sun 1-4

Cindy Whitehand

**2730 Spinosa Ct. – Pleasanton – \$730,000**  
Well maintained home in sought after Stoneridge Square. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms and approx 2051sq.ft. Designer paint throughout, hardwood flooring, tile flooring, wood blinds and ceiling fans.



Linda Newton

**668 Tanager Rd. – Livermore – \$430,000**  
Spacious home and well maintained! Entertaining family room & kitchen, opens to the side yard patio. Built in hutch, cabinets & desk in kitchen area. 2 master bedrooms. Sideyard access w/gate & extended driveway. Regular sale!



Open Sun 1-4

Carol Beck

**1119 Vista Pointe Cir. – San Ramon – \$535,000**  
Welcome to Vista Pointe! Desirable gated community with spa, pool and clubhouse. You will be greeted at a private gated entry to the home with lush landscaping. Open floor plan with all bedrooms upstairs. Landscaped backyard with fruit trees. Great location!



Chris Kamali

**4325 Westport Way – Dublin – \$620,000**  
Move-in ready 4 bed/3.5 bath home featuring granite counters, stainless steel appliances and tile flooring. Spacious bedrooms with additional suite upstairs containing private full bathroom. Clean, sunny Southern exposure! Walk to Safeway, Emerald Glen Park or top rated James Dougherty!

**SLOWDOWN**

Continued from Page 18

annual rate of 343,000 units in April, up 3.3% from March and 9.9% higher than a year earlier, the Commerce Department reported. The median price of a new home hit \$235,700 last month, a gain of 4.9% from April 2011. The data provides additional evidence that the housing market is starting to rebound, according to reports in Crain's New York Business and The New York Times.

With rising rents, more renters are being swayed into home ownership, Walden said. Renters are starting to see that buying may be a better option for them.

Rents are increasing at about the same pace that home values are dropping, said

Stan Humphries, Zillow's chief economist, who said, according to their surveys, home prices have dropped 3.1% year-over-year whereas rents have increased 2.5%.

"Herein lies the seeds to eventually more interest in buying on the part of consumers, which will help put a floor under home prices," Humphries told Investors Business Daily.

Recent housing surveys, including Zillow's, are showing home prices are starting to rise in recent months. Affordability in housing has been at record highs from the combination of falling home values and record-low rates. Humphries said that housing prices have rolled back to 2003 levels.

"That increased affordability in the face of rising rental prices will begin to get buyers off the fence this year," Humphries said. ■

**#1 Top Producer in 2011 for Better Homes and Gardens Tri-Valley Real Estate**

**PLEASANTON WESTSIDE HOMES**

**Oak Tree Farm**



**337 Yearling Ct., Pleasanton**

Gorgeous, Updated, Wine Cellar, Executive office, Sparkling Pool, Entertainers delight 5800+ sq ft. Must see, call for appt. Offered at \$2,250,000

**3881 Foothill Road, Pleasanton**

Gorgeous custom, walk to Foothill High School, updated kitchen, granite, hardwood, sparkling pool. Approx. 3900 sq. ft. Must see. Offered at \$1,378,000

Just Listed! Open Sun 1-4



**Cindy Gee**

Realtor, Notary  
925.963.1984

cindy.gee@bhghome.com

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an update on what is  
coming soon!!



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**Coming Soon**



**861 Chateli Court, Pleasanton**

4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Wood floors, remodeled kitchen, sparkling pool, court location! \$799,000.  
Call 925.413.1912 for more information.



**Sylvia Desin**

Direct: 925.621.4070

Cell: 925.413.1912

sdesin@apr.com



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**DUBLIN**  
**11640 LUNA CT**  
**REMODELED & UPGRADED!!** \$575,000  
4 BR 2 BA Completely Remodeled Kit., Baths, Bkyrd, Pool, Crown Molding, Hrdwd Flrs. Bkyrd Oasis!  
925.847.2200



**ALAMEDA COUNTY**  
**Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4** **440 CHERRY MANOR CT**  
**NEW CONSTRUCTION!** \$928,000  
5 BR 3.5 BA Bed/Bath on Main Flr. Granite Counters, Tankless Water Heater, Hrdwd Flrs, Dual Pane Windows. 925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**  
**Open SUN 1 - 4** **2370 MAHOGANY CT**  
**BEAUTIFUL HOME! S. LIV HILLS** \$1,079,000  
5 BR 4.5 BA Gourmet Kit. Wood Flrs First Level. Custom Paint. Amazing Yard. Heater. Pool/Patio.  
925.847.2200



**SAN RAMON**  
**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

**BRENTWOOD**  
**6600 ARMSTRONG ROAD**  
**40 ACRE W/BARN** \$399,950  
1 BR 2 BA 1124 Sq.Ft. Home. Trees, Outbuilding, A-2 Zoning. Possible Split lot. Kitchen updated. Got Horses 925.847.2200

**2468 ALLEGRO ST.**  
**WELL MAINTAINED HOME** \$842,950  
5 BR 4.5 BA Upgraded Cherry Cabinets. Kit w/double ovens, gas burner, built-in refrig. Mstr w/retreat.  
925.847.2200

**PLEASANTON**  
**Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4** **1541 WHISPERING OAK WAY**  
**BEAUTIFUL HOME** \$949,000  
4 BR 3.5 BA Granite Counters, Lg Bdrms & Master w/Retreat, 3 Car Gar, 750 sq ft Studio w/ Kit & Full Bath  
925.847.2200

**1400 CARPENTIER ST**  
**GREAT GROUND UNIT** \$128,000  
2 BR 2 BA Near Pool/clubhouse w/view from patio/courtyard. Newer appliances. Close to BART, 580/880 FVY 925.847.2200

**FREMONT**  
**Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4** **34552 PUEBLO TER**  
**LUXURY TOWNHOUSE** \$380,000  
2 BR 2.5 BA Liv Rm w/Freplce, Kit w/Brkfst Bar, 2 Mstr Stes w/Balconies, 1 Car Garage/ Bckyrd Patio  
925.847.2200

**2254 FOURTH STREET**  
**WONDERFUL 1920'S HOME!** \$495,000  
3 BR 2 BA Residential, Live/Work, commercial/Business. Lrg Rms w/Oak Flrs. Antique Drs. Fireplace in Fam 925.847.2200

**6243 CAMINO DEL LAGO**  
**UPGRADED PONDEROSA HOME! CALL FOR PRICING**  
5 BR 3 BA Corner Lot! Remodeled Kit. w/granite & cabinets, Crown Molding, Travertine Flrs, Solar Pool.  
925.847.2200

**SAN RAMON**  
**458 PINE RIDGE DR**  
**UPGRADED TOWNHOME!** \$399,000  
2 BR 2 BA Upstairs laundry, Wood & Tile Flrs. Kit w/granite slab & all appliances. Spacious Family Rm.  
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. Lovely Kit w/granite. Pool. 925.847.2200

**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

**SAN LEANDRO**  
**14960 CROSBY ST**  
**QUIET TREE LINED STREET** \$369,000  
3 BR 1 BA Recently Replaced Roof, gutters, central heat, & Hrdwd Flrs. Detached In-Law w/Kit & Bath.  
925.847.2200

**TRACY**  
**10801 W CLOVER RD.**  
**GREAT PLACE!** \$599,950  
Wow!.58 acres right next to a motel & backing to FVY 205 w/768 square foot, 2 Bed/1 Ba Home.  
925.847.2200

**PLEASANTON** 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122

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# Joyce Jones

REALTOR® • DRE#01348970  
925.998.3398  
joycejones@apr.com  
www.joyceandrick.com



**NEW LISTING! OPEN SAT 1-4**

**567 Amberwood Way, Livermore**  
Beautiful Amber Ridge Neighborhood  
Expanded 4 bd (3 up/1down), 3 ba, gourmet kitchen w/ large island, walk in pantry, off expanded family room. 3 car garage w/storage, solar panels (PG&E savings), near playground, shopping, wineries & MORE!  
**Offered at \$645,00**



**PENDING**

**357 Knottingham Circle, Livermore**  
True Pride of Ownership!  
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, built in 1993, updated kitchen with granite counters, hardwood floors, walk-in pantry, pool, beautifully landscaped yards.  
**Offered at \$679,950**



**COMING SOON**

**3272 Royalton Court, Pleasanton**  
Single story home located at the end of the cul-de-sac in Pleasanton Meadows. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, with open floor plan. Backs to green belt with walking trail, community pool, tennis courts, playground and MORE. Needs TLC but is a great location. Call for more details.



**COMING SOON**

**3275 Royalton Court, Pleasanton**  
Cul-de-sac location in highly desirable Pleasanton Meadows. 4 bd (3 up/1 down), 3 full ba, large kitchen for entertaining, wet bar in family room, large backyard with pool (perfect for entertaining). Green belt with tennis courts, playground, community pool and so much more.



**COMING SOON**

**3298 Monmouth Court, Pleasanton**  
Location, Location, Location! This Pleasanton Meadows beauty is located at the end of a long cul-de-sac backing to the green belt. 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, French doors leading to large plush yard with lots of room to roam. Just move in and enjoy! Call for further information.

apr.com | PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



**9480 BLESSING DR, PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN THE PRESERVE



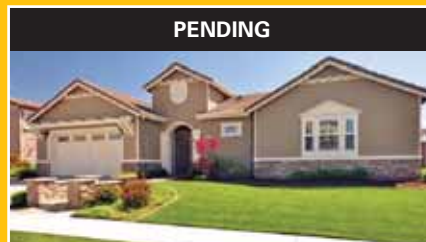
This 193+/- acre privately owned land, known as Blessing Ranch, offers privacy and views. Close to 580/680 interchange. For more information contact the Moxley Team.  
**\$4,000,000**

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



1 ACRE lot, 5 BD, 3 BA. Updated kitchen w/ granite counters, breakfast bar & dinette area. Dual side yards offer room to expand! A private well, pool; a rare opportunity in the heart of Pleasanton.  
**PRICE UPON REQUEST**

**3351 SAGEWOOD CT, PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN IRONWOOD ESTATES



**PENDING**

4 BD, 3.5 BA 3,182sf. on a 12,068sf. lot. Highly upgraded on a private court. The kitchen offers granite counters & stainless steel appliances. Front & rear yard are professional designed.  
**\$1,295,000**

**3314 HUDSON CT, PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN PLEASANTON MEADOWS



4 BD, 2.5 BA, 2,142sf. on a 9,985sf. lot. Charming home on a spacious lot w/beautiful landscaping. Rear yard offers pool, spa expansive grassy area and **SIDEYARD ACCESS**.  
**\$774,000**

**365 MIRAMONTE LN, LIVERMORE**  
LOCATED IN AMBER RIDGE



**JUST LISTED**

4 BD, 2.5 BA, 2,553sf. on a 10,698sf. lot. This beautiful home offers an open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. The kitchen is highly upgraded. The rear yard is spacious & peaceful.  
**\$645,000**

**6070 INGLEWOOD DR., PLEASANTON**  
LOCATED IN VAL VISTA



4 BD, 2 BA 1,607sf. on a 6,507sf. lot. Single level home is move in ready w/many upgrades! New tile floors, new carpet, newer air system & furnace.  
**\$575,000**

**JUST LISTED**



**841 KOLLN ST, PLEASANTON**  
JENSEN NEIGHBORHOOD  
3 BD, 2 BA, 1,160sf. on a 6,500sf. lot. This charming single level is open & welcoming. Spacious rear yard kept private with ivy covered fences. Close to schools, shopping & downtown!  
**\$545,000**

**COMING SOON**



**885 KOLLN ST, PLEASANTON**  
JENSEN NEIGHBORHOOD  
3 BD, 2.5 BA, 1,728sf. on a 6,000sf. lot. Close to schools, downtown & shopping!  
Call for more information.

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## BRIDLE CREEK

COMING SOON



### 5206 SELENA COURT, PLEASANTON

Check out this Double Sized Lot (.56 acre). Premium Private Court Location for this Quality Built Greenbriar Home (2000), Includes 4 bedroom (1 down), 3 baths, and Bonus Room. Beautiful Professional Landscaping with Inground Pool/Spa in this Expansive Private Backyard Including Multiple Sitting Areas, Adjacent Beautiful Heritage Oak Tree, Elevated Ridge Viewing Deck. Upgraded Gourmet Kitchen, with Granite Counters, Marble Heated Flooring and Stainless Appliances. Comprehensive Audio/Video System Included. Three Car Garage. Great Home for Entertaining! Attendance Area for Great Schools. Walk to Nearby Large Mission Park & Downtown Pleasanton!  
**OFFERED AT \$1,399,000**

## HIDDEN OAK



### 1010 LAMB COURT, PLEASANTON

Former model home, upgraded throughout, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2029 sq. ft. Built in 1999. Premium 3654 sq. ft. Corner lot. Upgraded contemporary kitchen, adjacent family room, formal dining & living rooms, wood burning fireplace, two car garage, walk to downtown (1 minute walk to main street). Crown molding throughout, dual pane windows downstairs, triple pane windows upstairs (most), upgraded carpeting, dual zone heating & air conditioning, ceiling fans/lights in all bedrooms, two inch wood blinds in kitchen & family room. **OFFERED AT \$679,000**

## ROSEPOINT



### 6513 ARLINGTON DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Enter this secluded .56 acre estate through the long, private driveway! This mostly single level custom home includes an upstairs spacious second master suite. Five bedrooms, three full bathrooms, and two half bathrooms. Approximately 4003 total square feet, large remodeled kitchen with stainless steel appliances. Expansive rear grounds with views of open space and Pleasanton Ridge, includes ten person spa, built-in fireplace, expansive lawn area and stamped concrete & brick patios. Great home for entertaining! Three car garage with adjacent bonus room. **OFFERED AT \$1,195,000**

## OAK LANE



### 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**

## PLEASANTON VALLEY - "BIRDLAND"

PENDING!



### 2449 MINIVET COURT, PLEASANTON

"The heart of Birdland" Location, Location, Location! Quiet court is walking distance to Wood-thrush Park, all levels of schools, two shopping centers, Aquatic Center & Sports Park! Premium .28 Acre Lot (12,125 sq. ft.) Single Level-4 bedrooms & 2 Bathrooms with 2112 Sq. Ft. "Gatewood" model in excellent condition. Granite countertops in kitchen. Remodeled master bathroom. Expansive front yard with private gated courtyard. Beautifully landscaped! Large backyard, great for entertaining, with in-ground pool/spa & refinished deck!  
**OFFERED AT \$819,000**

## VALENCIA

PENDING!



### 5019 RIGATTI CIRCLE, PLEASANTON

Newer upgraded Valencia home. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2321 Sq. Ft. Downstairs bedroom/office (5th). Spacious master suite. Large family room with built-in entertainment center. Formal dining room. Modern gourmet kitchen has granite counter tops, maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances. Community amenities include Club House, Greenbelt, Playground, Pool/Spa, and Tennis Court(s). Close to Owens Plaza Park, BART, & 580/680 access.  
**OFFERED AT \$839,000**

## LIVERMORE

PENDING!



### 5598 BERWIND AVENUE, LIVERMORE

Highly upgraded single level home on premium cul-de-sac, 9927 square foot lot! Three bedroom, two bathrooms, with approximately 1500 square feet. Upgraded kitchen and bathrooms, wood flooring and new carpet. Large park-like private rear yard with extensive custom stamped concrete work and custom patio overhead structure with fan. Spacious grass areas, Side-yard access and separated storage area with spacious shed. **OFFERED AT \$469,000**

## OAK MANOR

SOLD!



### 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.  
**SOLD FOR \$1,550,000**

## OAK PARK

SOLD!



### 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.  
**SOLD FOR \$527,175**

## NORTHWAY DOWNS

SOLD - REPRESENTED BUYER



### 2534 SECRETARIAT DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Great central Pleasanton location that's close to schools & all conveniences. Three bedroom, two bath, 1421 square foot duet. Open family room with vaulted ceilings and cozy fireplace, dining area, & breakfast bar. Expansive master suite with plantation shutters. Private backyard with mature landscaping.  
**SOLD FOR \$465,000**

## VINTAGE HILLS

SOLD - REPRESENTED BUYER



### 1320 BORDEAUX STREET, PLEASANTON

Completely remodeled, gorgeous custom home with loads of special features. Brazilian cherry hard wood floors & cabinets, granite counters, & stainless steel appliances. Family room, library, large master suite with luxurious bath. Entertainer's backyard with pool & BBQ.  
**OFFERED AT \$1,190,000**

## WALNUT GLEN ESTATES

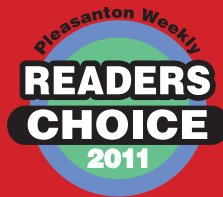
SOLD!



### 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**





**KELLER WILLIAMS**  
TRI-VALLEY REALTY

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AND SALES**

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REALTOR® DRE #01363180  
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www.armariohomes.com

**236 Birch Creek Terr., Pleasanton**  
Nicely upgraded town home within walking distance to Downtown. Built in 2007, with 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms. 1850 +/- square feet. Hardwood floors, granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, master bedroom suite, 2 car garage.  
**Offered at \$559,000**




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

**3203 Glenda Ct., Pleasanton**  
New on Market! Desirable Parkside single story 4 bedroom home w/ 3 car garage. Formal dining, fireplace in living and family room. Charming, private yard & 3 car garage. Great court location near sports park, close to excellent schools, shopping, Bart & downtown.  
**Offered at \$815,000**




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

**2272 Crestline Road, Pleasanton**  
Gorgeous 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with pool and spa! 2,047 sq. ft! Completely updated with granite counters, hardwood floors and designer paint. Call for private showing!

**COMING SOON!**




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

**3031 Boardwalk, Pleasanton**  
Park like backyard, huge lot with beautiful pool and spa. Gorgeous Brazilian floors on 1st floor. Call for more details!

**Exclusive Listing!**




**Dave & Sue Flashberger**  
925.463.0436  
www.SoldinaFlash.com

**Watch the Fireworks** from the deck of this 4 bdrm, 3 bath Vintage Hills home in Pleasanton. Beautifully updated with over 2500 sq ft. Sunny granite kitchen, large great room, dual pane windows and hardwood floors. Sparkling pool and spa.  
**Priced in the high 800's**

**New on the Market!**




**Lisa Sterling & Natalie Kruger**  
DRE # 01012330 and 01187582  
925.980.9265 925.847.7355  
www.krugergroup.com

**1015 Zinfandel Court, Pleasanton**  
Desirable Vintage Hills court location. 4 bedrooms (huge master suite). 2nd upstairs bedroom with private bath (could be 2nd master). 3 full baths and 3 car garage. Sparkling pool for summertime fun. **\$899,950**

**COMING SOON!**




**Dennis Gerlt**  
Broker Associate DRE # 01317997  
925.426.5010  
www.buytrivalleyhomes.com

Beautifully upgraded 3 bedroom, 3 bath condo in the Meritage neighborhood of Livermore! This must see home features granite countertops and high end appliances in the kitchen and a two car garage. HOA amenities include club house, gym and exercise facility, playground, pool and spa! Don't miss it!

**Open Saturday 1-4**




**Melissa Pederson**  
REALTOR® DRE # 01002251  
925.397.4326  
www.melissapederson.com

**Country Living in the City**  
**4493 Edgewood Way, Livermore**  
RV Access, 460 sq ft workshop plus a three car garage come with this spacious 5 BD, 3 BA, 4038 sq ft home on a corner lot. Yard features a sparkling pool, arbors, built in brick bbq, beautiful plants and trees.  
**Offered at \$899,000**

**PENDING MULTIPLE OFFERS**




**Danielle Peel**  
925.998.9692 DRE #01293873  
**Cristin Kiper Sanchez**  
925.580.7719 DRE #01479197  
homes@peelsanchez.com | www.PeelSanchez.com

**2561 Glen Isle Ave, Pleasanton**  
Great Open Floorplan. 2330+ Sqft. Plus Large Loft. 4 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths. Hardwood Floors, Neutral Paint Décor; Stainless Appliances. Back Yard Includes: Garden Area, Pool & Spa w/Outdoor Shower. Please Call for a Showing. **Offered at \$699,000**




**Fran & Dave Cunningham**  
925.202.6898  
**Donna Garrison**  
925.980.0273  
**Susan Schall**  
925.519.8226  
www.FabulousProperties.net

**1041 Germano Way, Ruby Hill**  
8300 SF on a gorgeous flat .61 acre lot with incredible views. Three levels, 5 bedrooms, 5 full baths and 3 half baths. Media, bonus and wine room. Breathtaking views for outdoor loggia. Exquisite!  
**\$2,975,000**

**Coming Soon**




**Fran & Dave Cunningham**  
925.202.6898  
**Donna Garrison**  
925.980.0273  
**Susan Schall**  
925.519.8226  
www.FabulousProperties.net

**Valley Trails Charming**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1326 sq ft on one of the neighborhoods most charming courts. Top schools, walk to parks. Call Susan Schall for more information at 925-519-8226.




**Mike Chandler**  
DRE#01039712  
925-426-3858  
MikeChandler.kwrealty.com

**COMING SOON at \$589,000!**  
1908 Rheem Drive  
3 Bed, 2.5 Updated Baths  
Approx. 1,481 sq ft  
Updated Kitchen with Cherry Wood Cabinets and Granite Counter

**Jill Denton**  
DRE#01804876  
925-998-7747  
JillDenton.kwrealty.com



**Technology  
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**It's all about YOU!**

**Andrew Greenwell**  
Team Leader/CEO  
AGreenwell@kw.com

**Amazing Vendors...  
Doing Amazing Things**

Our heartfelt APPRECIATION to the vendors who supported our Red Day efforts this year! An enormous THANK YOU to Old Republic Home Warranty, Specialty Termite, and Fidelity Home Warranty for stepping up. With Gratitude from Your KW Tri-Valley Family

