

# Pleasanton Weekly

GRIP junior golfers are  
the 2012 PGA Jr. League  
Champions » 19

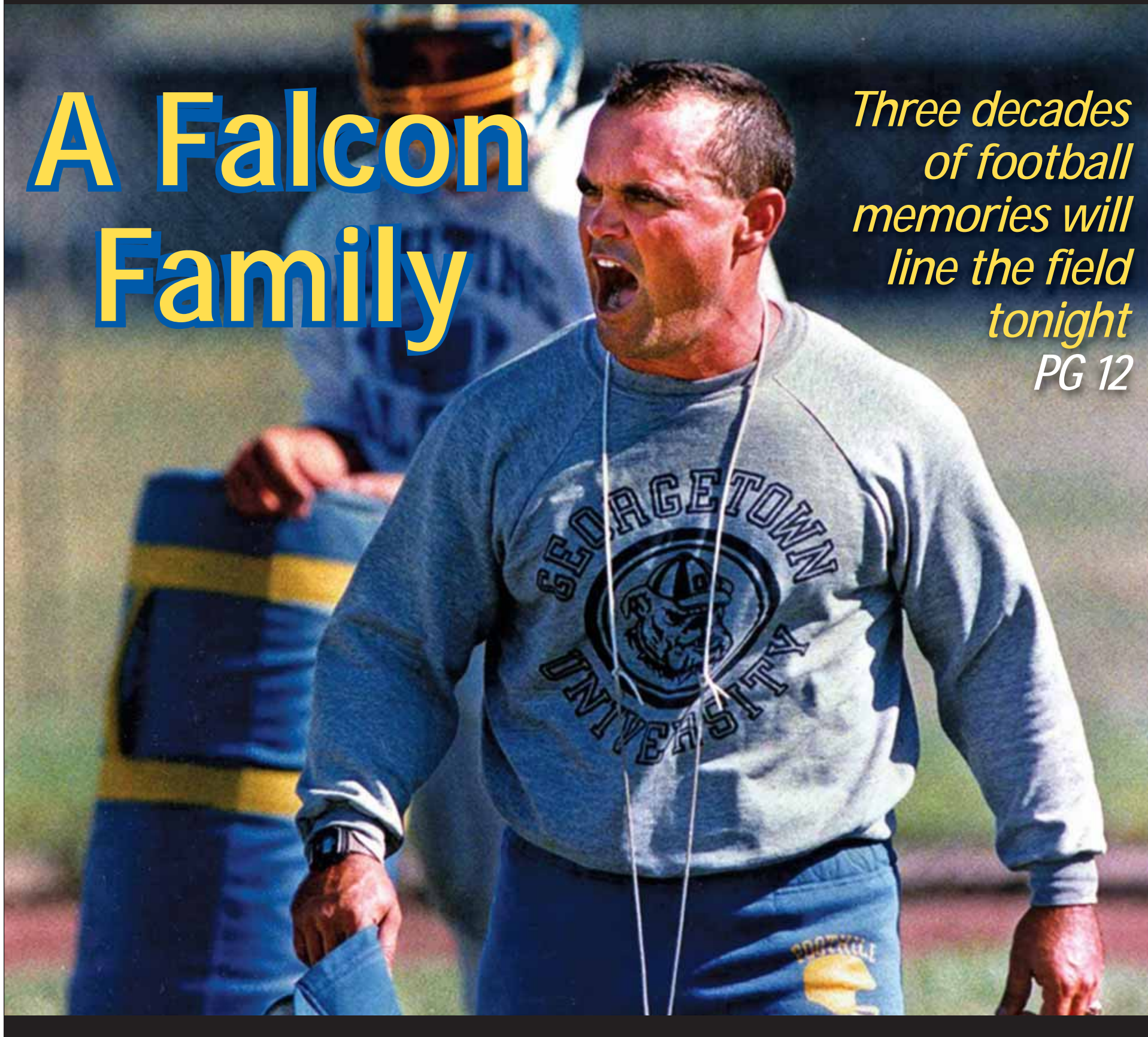


VOL. XIII, NUMBER 36 • SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

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## A Falcon Family

*Three decades  
of football  
memories will  
line the field  
tonight*  
PG 12



### INSIDE THIS WEEK

- **NEWS:** City OKs \$15 million Bernal Community Park project 5
- **NEWS:** 4-day East Bay Stand Down helps homeless veterans 6
- **LIVING:** Teens, too young to vote, still interested in politics 15

# *The Next Generation Hospital*

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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Mayors play a bit of Jeopardy

Tri-Valley mayors played Jeopardy in front of more than 300 of their constituents Wednesday, but it was hardly the fun and game version that's popular on TV.

Speaking at the annual Tri-Valley Mayors Summit held in Dublin, the mayors talked mostly about taxes and transportation, although the Jeopardy-like format bundled with fast and fairly easy questions from David Stark, government affairs director of the Bay East Association of Realtors, livened the presentation. In the past, these annual sessions involving the mayors of Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and San Ramon have been a bit boring.

The questions ranged from "What does your crystal ball tell you about pensions for public employees?" to "How would your city cope with a financial crisis?" Fortunately, none of the Tri-Valley cities is facing bankruptcy and the mayors agreed that the economy is looking better, not great, but better. Danville's Mayor Newell Arnerich pointed out that with his town's budget well under those of the mayors next to him, "every penny counts, and not only that it's easily seen."

Mayor John Marchand boosted iGATE, the regional public-private partnership that is working closely with the Lawrence Livermore and Sandia national laboratories and Tri-Valley cities. Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti and Mayor Jennifer Hosterman of Hosterman, who are on the board of directors of iGATE, praised the collaborative opportunities and entrepreneurial education and assistance the technology upstart is already bringing to their cities.

The Alameda County mayors also endorsed Measure B1, the \$7.7 billion countywide sales tax measure on the Nov. 6 ballot that would add another 1/2-cent sales tax to support transportation projects. Hosterman, who has been leading the effort to see Measure B1 passed, said that as important as the added revenue would be



JEB BING  
Mayor Jennifer Hosterman at Tri-Valley Mayors Summit Wednesday.

to completing key transportation projects here, approval of the measure also will enable the county and cities to receive additional matching funds from other sources. "It will enable us to add more hot (toll) lanes on our freeways and reduce congestion," Hosterman said.

Arnerich, president of a successful architectural firm, said he knows voters don't like to approve tax measures. But he urged them to look at a tax proposal just as they would an investment they might consider. Will it help in their children's education, make traffic in their town a little bit lighter, will it help improve their quality of life? If they like those kinds of investments, then they should vote for the tax.

Marchand urged his fellow mayors to support efforts to extend BART to Livermore. The plan, which underwent another environmental review Wednesday, would extend the tracks to a new station at Isabel Road, and then later farther east. "We're very close to getting the money we need to finally make this happen," he said.

Correction: I wrote last week in my column "Wind Song" offers a whimsical break for commuters," that Nancy and Gary Harrington's first major contribution to Pleasanton came in providing funding for the large studio called the Harrington Art Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center. That was wrong. The gallery was named to honor them for their public art contributions. ■

### About the Cover

Matt Sweeney, who has been varsity football coach at Foothill High for 25 years, shouts instructions at players during practice. He only yells at practices, he says, because that time is for preparation while games are supposed to be fun. Photo courtesy Sweeney family. Design by Kristin Herman.

Vol. XIII, Number 36

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# Streetwise

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Now that Domus is closing, what would you like to see take its place?



**Gordon Campbell**  
Project manager

I think downtown has enough restaurants and bars, so it doesn't need those businesses. I just bought a new house and I spend a lot of time in hardware stores, so I'd like to see a hardware store here.

**Sue Capella**  
Medical assistant

I didn't know it was closing! I really enjoy home décor stores, so I'd like to see another one in the same location. I often shop on Main Street for housewares.



**Jeff Mellen**  
Software engineer

I live in San Francisco, and we have an upscale pizzeria, Patxi's, that specializes in deep-dish pizza. It's really good, and I think it would do well here.

**Alice Dolan**  
Retired

I'd like to see a nice clothing store for women, because there are already quite a few stores that cater to the younger crowd.



**Chris Miller**  
Retired

I like Domus, and I'm really sad to see them go. A Restoration Hardware or something like that would probably fit well.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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

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### GUEST SPEAKERS:

**Nicole Jeffrey-Starr, MD**  
"Importance of Breast  
Clinical Exams"

**Ruby Chang, MD**  
"MRI of the Breast.  
Is it the Best Test?"

**Rakhee Shah, MD**  
"New Paradigms in  
Surgical Management  
of Breast Cancer"

**Rishi Sawhney, MD**  
"Personalized Breast  
Cancer Therapy and  
Survivorship: One  
Size Doesn't Fit All"

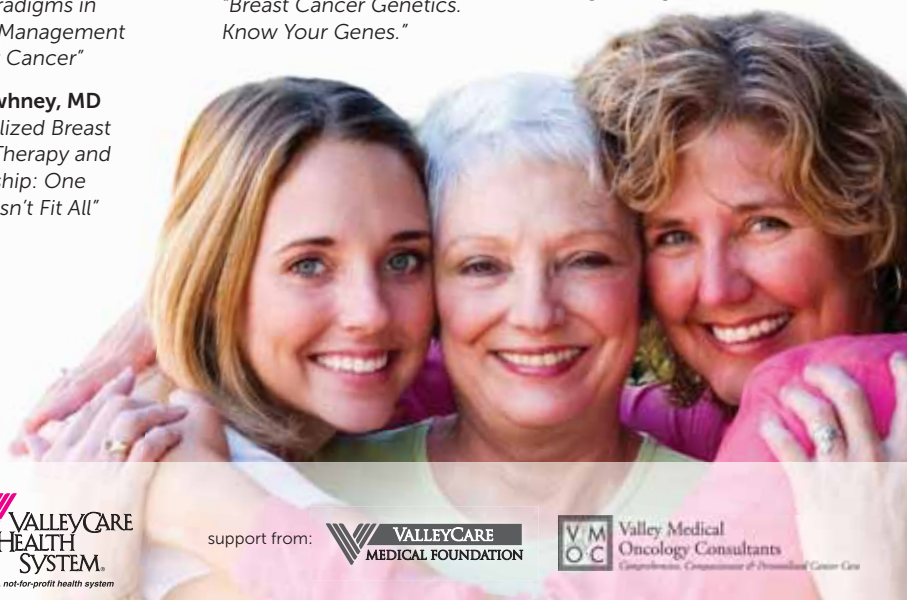
**Rakesh Patel, MD**  
"Radiation Therapy:  
Less May Be More"

**Vanni Manthiram, MD**  
"Should I Have  
a Mastectomy?"

**Kavitha P. Raj, MD**  
"Breast Cancer Genetics.  
Know Your Genes."

**Angela Byars, OTR**  
"Understanding and  
Preventing Lymphedema"

**Mary Prishtina, RN, OCN,  
CBPN-IC**  
"Facing Cancer Together.  
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## DIGEST

### 2,601 pets adopted

The third annual Maddie's Matchmaker Adoptathon found homes for 2,601 dogs and cats throughout Alameda, Contra Costa and San Francisco counties on June 9-10. This year, 965 of the animals adopted were seniors and/or had been treated for a medical condition.

The first adopter at Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) in Walnut Creek arrived at 4:30 a.m., and by 9 a.m. 25 people were in line waiting for the doors to open.

Maddie's Fund will provide more than \$1.9 million in funding to the 63 participating shelters and rescue groups for all the adoptions completed during this year's Maddie's Matchmaker Adoptathon. Each adoption affords the groups a mini-grant, which helps to care for more animals throughout the year.

### Turn in drugs to police

Unused and expired prescription drugs can be dropped off at the lobby of the Pleasanton police station, 4833 Bernal Ave., from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 29, for safe and environmentally friendly disposal.

The free drug drop-off, hosted with the U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), is to avoid substance abuse since studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including the home medicine cabinet; more than 7 million American abuse prescription drugs; and approximately 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time.

Call police at 931-5100.

### Walk & Roll to School Day

Kids (and their parent escorts) are encouraged to put their feet to the pavement or the pedals during Walk & Roll to School Week on Oct. 3-5.

Walk & Roll to School celebrates health, helps the environment and boosts school spirit. A week before the event, BikeMobile will be on the Foothill High School campus from noon to 3 p.m. for a bike fix-a-thon. Students who need bike tune-ups or basic work can bring their bikes to school at that time for free repairs.

For those who live too far away to walk, the SchoolPool website can help set up a carpool for the neighborhood.

Members of the school district administration and the school board will be out to offer encouragement to the walkers.

## Council OKs \$15 million Bernal Community Park project

Plans call for new sports fields, wooded enclave

The good times are back, or so it seems in Pleasanton.

The City Council on Tuesday night approved a plan to add more sports fields and create a wooded area to be called Oak Woodland on Bernal Community Park, a 318-acre mostly barren parcel where a lighted baseball field was built two years ago.

The project, when completed, will cost an estimated \$15.8 million and is the first major capital improvement program since a city freeze went into effect after the Firehouse Arts Center was completed.

Part of the funding will come from a Bernal Community Park Reserve that the city government has maintained during the recent recession when sales and property tax revenue tapered off. Another \$810,000 would be available from a Capital Improvement Program reserve, also maintained by the city.

City Manager Nelson Fialho said he expects to receive another \$3.2 million from the East Bay Regional Park District through funds approved by voters when they passed the district's Measure W bond issue.

That would still leave a funding gap of more than \$5 million which could be raised through a combination of fee assessments for users of the

sports fields, contributions from sports organizations, corporate sponsors and a community fundraiser similar to the one that raised more than \$1 million for the Firehouse Arts Center.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman endorsed the project, which would be completed by 2015, and said it will serve as a legacy for the current City Council where she and two others are termed out and will leave their posts on Dec. 4 after voters select their replacements in the Nov. 6 municipal election.

Besides Hosterman, council members Cindy McGovern and Matt Sullivan also will be stepping down after serving eight years on the council.

"The three of us who are leaving the City Council shortly have a huge interest in this project," Hosterman said. "It's a great opportunity for our community."

Although Sullivan also supported the Bernal park plan, he urged those sitting on the next council to review the plans carefully when they come back for a more detailed review next year to make sure the city can still afford it.

With regard to the economy, Sullivan said, "I don't think we're out of the woods yet."

"This is kind of thing politicians love to do, but moving forward I ask the future City Council to look at this in 2013 and look at what the

economy looks like," he added. "If we can't make up the \$5 million shortfall, I'd be concerned about going forward."

But Councilman Jerry Thorne urged the council to approve the plan.

"Due to lack of space here, I've found that some of our sports teams have to use fields in neighboring cities," he said. "There's really a need in our community for this project."

Susan Andrade-Wax, director of community services, told the council that the planned expansion on the Bernal Park would closely adhere to the overall master plan prepared by San Francisco landscape architect Michael Fotheringham in 2004. Phase 1 of that plan, the lighted baseball field with parking, a restroom and children's play area, has been completed and those facilities are now in use.

The new plan would add three lighted multi-purpose fields in the same section of the park and, eventually, another lighted baseball field, outdoor amphitheater, a cultural arts center and a park maintenance facility.

The multi-use fields will be designed to accommodate soccer, lacrosse, rugby and football, she said.

The Oak Woodland, which will cost \$4.2 million, will be completed in 2013.

See **COUNCIL** on Page 7



GLENN WOHLTMANN

### Serving up a Meatless Monday

Gina Ervin serves up meals sans meat for first- and second-graders at Valley View Elementary in the district's new Meatless Monday program. The meatless lunches are designed to encourage healthier eating habits, said Frank Castro, director of child nutrition services. The district uses a nutrient-based menu, in which nutrient values are averaged over a week and not based on a single day's menu. Over the last two years, the district has had themed menu days in elementary schools. Schools are also encouraging kids to eat more fruits and vegetables, and have seen a 30% increase in those choices.

## Harris drops out of City Council race

Decision too late to take name off Nov. 6 ballot

By JEB BING

Mike Harris, a Pleasanton resident and software engineer, said Wednesday that he is suspending his campaign for the Pleasanton City Council for "personal reasons."

Harris, who has never held a political office, was also the least known in Pleasanton political circles.

Still, his cancellation of his candidacy comes too late to have his name removed from the ballot. Others campaigning for election to the City Council are Karla Brown, Erlene DeMarcus and Jerry Pentin.

In a "Greetings all" message to the Pleasanton Weekly and other candidates in the Nov. 6 municipal election, Harris said:

"Unfortunately, I decided that it is best if I suspend my campaigning for City Council Member.

Due to upcoming personal reasons, I will not be able to serve as a City Council Member for Pleasanton. I will still be on the ballot, since that cannot be changed now. If I am elected, I will be required to resign."

"Good luck to everyone," he added. "I enjoyed participating in the forum sessions with you."

He added: "FYI, I already terminated the cell phone that I acquired for the purpose of the campaign, 925-998-2085. If you need to reach me, email is best. My existing cell phone is not currently working, but will be in a day or two. (It's a company phone which I'm encouraged to use as much as possible and was recently upgraded, but has not been fully activated yet.) That phone number is 925-858-0351." ■

## Service scheduled Saturday for Patricia Martin, 17

Village High School teenager died last Friday

A service celebrating the life of Patricia Martin, 17, a Village High School student who died last Friday, will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at the Graham-Hitch funeral home, 4167 First St. in Pleasanton.

Born in Walnut Creek, Tricia Martin is survived by her mother Kathleen Martin, who is the front office coordinator at the Pleasanton Weekly. She was preceded in death by her father, Brian Martin.

Grief counselors have been on hand at Village High school since news of Tricia Martin's death was heard late Friday night.

She enjoyed trips to the beach and Disneyland, and cruises to the Caribbean, Mexico, Alaska and Hawaii. She loved listening to music, creating art, watching scary movies and hanging with friends.

She also loved animals, including her three cats Sparklie, Herbie and Zephyr and her dog Kimmy. See Obituary, page 11.

The Newark Police Department found Ms. Martin and a 24-year-old adult believed to be James Shanelec of Livermore in a Newark motel room last Friday morning. Ms. Martin had been reported missing Monday, Sept. 10.

Both died of gunshot wounds, according to the Newark police who are investigating the incident as a murder-suicide or double suicide.

Donations may be made in her memory to SuicidePreventionLifeLine.org or Tri-Valley Animal Rescue (TVAR). ■



# East Bay Stand Down wraps up 4-day, biannual event

Fairgrounds event held to provide services, a bit of cheer

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

Volunteers at last weekend's East Bay Stand Down at the Alameda County Fairgrounds outnumbered the participants by more than three to one, with more than 1,900 people coming out to help 390 homeless veterans — including 21 women and 16 family members — from across the Bay Area.

The vets were brought in by bus on Sept. 13 and left Sunday after being lodged in a huge tent city while receiving everything from dental and medical care to shots and shampoos for their pets.

"They're registered from VA (Vet-

erans Affairs) offices in advance, so we know who's here," said Sandee Wiedemann of Pleasanton, a five-time Stand Down volunteer.

While Stand Down is all about the veterans, it's the volunteers that make the event what it is. Some, like Linda May of Dublin, have done multiple tours as Stand Down volunteers.

Last weekend was May's third time to volunteer; her daughter and son also volunteered again.

"My Dad was in the Navy but didn't see active duty," May said. "I have not been by touched by war or the loss of someone close to me."

Wiedemann has been working Stand Down events for more than a decade.

"My first time, I was the shoe lady, handing out shoes," she said. "It was a bonding experience."

Assistant Logistics Director Mike Weber was responsible for coordinating literally tons of items, everything from food to generators to golf carts and tents.

"There's no other community in



GLENN WOHLTMANN

Veterans, including 353 men, 21 women and 16 family members spent four days camping in tents at the East Bay Stand Down, held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds every other year. In addition to "three hots and a cot," veterans received health and legal services, recovery meetings and help with benefits, employment and transitional housing.

this nation that can pull this off," Weber said. "Everything you see is borrowed — I just ask people for stuff."

While here, the veterans were offered a wide range of services not readily available where they're living. These included medical

exams, legal advice, haircuts and help finding housing.

Among those served this year were a woman and her granddaughter. The grandmother served 28 years in the Air Force and left in 2007. They came for the event from Oakland after hearing of it the

day it began while waiting in line at the V.A. hospital.

The pair were put into Operation Dignity, which offers emergency and transitional housing for homeless vets, and came to Stand Down for

See **STAND DOWN** on Page 8



COURTESY TVAR

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue volunteers took care of the dogs of homeless veterans while they availed themselves of the East Bay Stand Down services. The dogs were bathed, groomed and treated for health problems.

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## Haggerty, 2 other County supervisors, endorse Cook-Kallio for Pleasanton mayor

Candidate's list of supporters includes former Pleasanton mayors, council members

By JEB BING

Alameda County Supervisors Scott Haggerty, Richard Valle and Nate Miley have endorsed Pleasanton City Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio for mayor.

In a statement sent to the Weekly, Haggerty credited Cook-Kallio for gaining the council's majority approval of extending Stoneridge Drive to El Charro Road and Livermore, a plan Haggerty had strongly supported for a number of years. He also noted that she is supporting voter approval of Measure B1, a transportation tax measure on the Nov. 6 ballot, while her opponent for mayor, Councilman Jerry Thorne, is recommending voters reject it.

"Cheryl Cook-Kallio has shown courage and leadership since the day she was elected to the Pleasanton City Council," Haggerty

said. "(She) was the driving force behind the approval of the connection of Stoneridge Drive and she is the only mayoral candidate in Pleasanton who voted to support placing the County Board of Supervisors' Transportation Expenditure Plan on the ballot."

He praised her for working on transportation issues "that matter to Pleasanton residents."

Besides Haggerty and the two other county supervisors, Cook-Kallio has picked up endorsements by a number of other re-

gional politicians, including Congressman Pete Stark, State Superintendent of Schools Tom Torlakson, Senate Majority Leader Ellen Corbett, Assembly members Joan Buchanan, Bob Wieckowski and Susan Bonilla, and the mayors of Dublin, Fremont and Union City.

Pleasanton political and commission endorsements include former mayors Ken Mercer and Tom Pico, former council members Becky Dennis and Karin Mohr, school board member Jeff Bowser, Angela Ramirez Holmes of the Zone 7 Water Board, David Nagler of the Pleasanton Human Relations commission, and Justin Probert, a member of the Pleasanton Housing commission.

For more information, sign on to [www.votecook-kallio.com](http://www.votecook-kallio.com). ■



Cheryl Cook-Kallio

### COUNCIL

Continued from Page 5

lion, will offer a new open space amenity to Bernal Park, she said.

When fully expanded, the new sports fields, with parking and other public facilities, will comprise 50 acres of the 318-acre Bernal Park. By comparison, Pleasanton Sports Park, one of the largest in the area, occupies 100 acres.

Assistant City Manager Steve Bocian, who described the financing plan for building the new project, told the council that the most controversial part of proposed fund measures might be a plan to have sports groups assess a fee as one of the components of their registration fee that would then be pledged over a number of years to reimburse the city for any "upfront" money used to meet park construction costs. With those pledges in place, the city would then loan funds from its various reserves to meet immediate park construction needs.

Potential sponsorships from local corporations also could be solicited in return for "minimal" posting of their support of the park improvements, Bocian added. A specific field could even be named in recognition of a corporate contributor.

That brought a complaint from Sullivan who said he didn't like the idea of corporate sponsors.

"I certainly don't want to see a 'JPMorgan Chase' field in the community park," he said.

With the council's approval, Bocian said he and Andrade-Wax will finalize their strategies for moving the Bernal project forward at a council meeting in December, return again in January with design development plans, and then work to start construction next fall.

They hope to open the park in 2015, he said.

—Jeb Bing

## Join the Pleasanton Weekly for a debate and candidates forum!

Find out where the mayoral and city council candidates stand on a range of issues

### Mayoral

Jerry Thorne  
Cheryl Cook-Kallio

### City Council

Karla Brown | Erlene DeMarcus  
Jerry Pentin

6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4  
Doors open at 6 p.m.; Debate begins at 6:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers  
200 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton

### Moderators:

Pleasanton Weekly Publisher Gina Channell-Allen  
and Editor Jeb Bing

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Oncologist & Hematologist

Michael Wynn, M.D., FACS  
General Surgeon

Lisa Berman, MSPT, CLT  
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Vanessa Cotton, R.N., M.S.N.  
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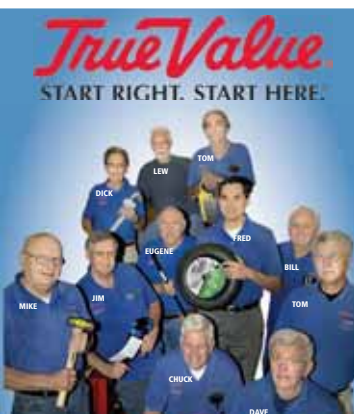


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## Tuskegee Airman speaking at Las Positas College

Captured in Italy, he was POW in Poland

Tuskegee Airman retired Lt. Col. Alexander Jefferson will speak to students and interested community members at Las Positas College on Oct. 3. Jefferson is best known as a member of the 332nd P-51 Red Tail Fighter Group, celebrated as the "Tuskegee Airmen," and as the author of "Red Tail Captured-Red Tail Free," his personal World War II story.



Jefferson, 91 years old, first spoke at Las Positas in 2010, discussing his experiences as a member of the "greatest generation." He received his pilot's wings in July 1944 and was based in Ramitelli, Italy. While on his 18th combat mission on Aug. 2, he was

shot down over southern France. After being held in a prisoner-of-war camp in Poland he was freed by Gen. George Patton's Third Army.

"The campus is honored to welcome back Lt. Col. Jefferson to share his remarkable experience with us and to educate a new audience about one man's historic contribution in World War II," said history instructor Teri Ann Bengiveno, who has organized Jefferson's visit with the assistance of the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley.

Jefferson will speak at 12:30 p.m. in the Main Stage auditorium of the College's Mertes Center for the Arts. There is no charge for admission but the campus has a \$2 parking fee. Daily tickets are available from vending machines in the campus parking lots. The College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore. ■



GLENN WOHLTMANN

Assistant Director for Logistics Mike Weber talks to Public Relations Coordinator Sandee Weidemann at the East Bay Stand Down, held Sept. 13-16 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

## STAND DOWN

Continued from Page 6

medical and dental services while that housing was set up for them.

While the veterans were being helped, organizations such as the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue and Dogtopia cared for their pets with bathing, grooming and socialization. Veterinarians such as Tracey Williams of D.V.M., Dr. Raj of the ABC Animal Clinic, as well as staff from the Four Paws Veterinary Clinic and the Alisal Pet Clinic, were on hand to treat problems and, if necessary, perform surgery.

The pets included a parakeet and a snake, said former Judge Ron Hyde, who supervised Saturday night's dinner for the homeless men and women.

The East Bay Stand Down organization also offered new clothing, boots and other basic needs.

Starting in 2000, the group has put on the event every two years. It is aimed at breaking the cycle of problems facing many Bay Area vets.

"Stand down" is a war term that refers to the practice of removing combat troops from the battlefield so that they can be cared for in a safe area, according to the group's website.

"We provide what we call a 'one stop shop,'" said Jerry Yahiro, who is on the board of directors for the East Bay Stand Down.

The goal is to end homelessness among veterans. Yahiro said the last numbers he has seen indicate that there are an estimated 15,000 homeless veterans living in the nine-county Bay Area.

Although many of the services offered at the Pleasanton event are available to veterans on a daily basis, Yahiro said they are often scattered and difficult to find.

Since the first Stand Down held in San Diego in 1988, Stand Downs have taken place in over 200 cities nationwide. Over 100,000 veterans and their families have benefited from Stand Downs. These events have proved to be very effective in helping to break the cycle of homelessness. ■

## PAWS IN THE PARK



Lace up your sneakers and leash up your dog for a day in the park!

**September 23, 2012**

11am-3pm

AMADOR VALLEY COMMUNITY PARK  
4301 Black Avenue  
(Behind the Aquatic Center)



### Animal Festival

- Pet Contests
- Animal-Themed Vendors
- Gourmet Food Trucks
- Fun for the Whole Family
- Canine Demos: Frisbee/Disc Catch, Flyball, Rally Obedience, K9 Nosework, and Performing Dogs



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## TAKE US ALONG



**Fountain facts:** Staci Valdix, Julie Parkinson and Marie Ghiringhelli visit former Pleasanton resident Susan Harman (left) in Kansas City, Missouri, last September and take a break from shopping to catch up on hometown news in front of one of the city's many fountains. Rome, Italy, is the only city in the world with more fountains than Kansas City, Valdix reported.



JEB BING

Margaret Smith is closing her popular downtown kitchen and home accessories store to spend more time with her husband and extended family.

## Domus closing its Main Street store, again

Owner says it's time to retire, spend more time with her Los Altos family

Domus, the popular kitchen and home accessories retailer on Pleasanton's Main Street, will close next month just 13 months after its owner Margaret Smith reopened it to the cheers of both city officials and the Pleasanton Downtown Association.

Smith, who is in her 60s, said she plans to retire to spend more time with her husband in their Los Gatos home and their extended family on the Peninsula.

The closing means that Pamela Ott, Pleasanton economic development director, and Laura Olson, executive director of the PDA, will start all over to find tenants for the large 11,000-square-foot building.

When Domus opened its Pleasanton store in September 1998, it was part of Smith's Las Gatos store. Then she sold the Pleasanton business to John Maloney and his wife Cathy, who were allowed to continue using the name. The Maloneys later closed their business to pursue other interests, and the building was empty for more than a year until Smith closed the Los Gatos store and reopened the Pleasanton store Aug. 27, 2011.

Smith said that although her business here has been flourishing, it was time to retire. Starting yesterday and in the coming weeks, all merchandise in Domus and even its fixtures are for sale.

During the time Ott and Olson were looking for tenants before, a problem they found was that the large Main Street building is either too big for most small retail businesses or too small for a drug store, fitness center or other possibilities that were considered. Banks

also have become unsuitable tenants downtown with both the City Council and Planning Commission ruling that two of them can't be located on the same block and, in fact, discouraging any more from opening downtown.

Smith has not decided if she will keep open a smaller Domus store in the Willow Glen section of San Jose. ■

## When seniors need financial assistance

Thousands of assistance programs can help

By JASON ALDERMAN

When the last national census was taken in 2010, 48% of the population was classified as poor or low-income (earning less than 200% of the poverty level).

Anyone who's ever tried to live on a low income knows how difficult it can be to make ends meet when cost increases for essentials like health care, housing, food and energy outpace their earnings. This can be especially challenging for seniors living on a fixed income.



Jason Alderman

The good news is there are literally thousands of federal, state and private assistance programs designed to help seniors and others cover their basic needs. Your challenge might be finding ones for which you're eligible. Here are a few suggestions:

- The nonprofit National Council on Aging offers BenefitsCheckUp (www.benefitscheckup.org), a free, confidential web-based service that helps seniors and their caregivers find financial assistance for health care, housing, food, utilities, in-home services and much more. After answering several questions, you're issued a personalized report describing programs and services for which you may be eligible, including links to its websites and applications.
- Several government-sponsored programs help people with lim-

ited income and resources pay for medical coverage, including Medicaid and Medicare. For a good round-up of these programs, go to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) and click on "Get Financial Help."

- Most pharmaceutical companies offer patient assistance programs (PAPs) that provide uninsured and low-income people access to prescription drugs they couldn't otherwise afford. Ask your doctor, pharmacist or health clinic for details. Other good resources include: Medicare's alphabetical list of drugs available through PAPs ([www.medicare.gov/pap/index.asp](http://www.medicare.gov/pap/index.asp)); Partnership for Prescription Assistance ([www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org)); RxAssist ([www.rxassist.org](http://www.rxassist.org)); and NeedyMeds ([www.needymeds.com](http://www.needymeds.com)).

In addition, as a result of the Affordable Care Act, Medicare Part D participants who reach the so-called doughnut hole coverage gap now receive a 50% discount on brand-name prescription drugs and a 14% discount on generics. (These discounts will gradually increase until 2020 when the doughnut hole will disappear altogether.)

The IRS tax code includes several benefits that target seniors (and often, other lower-income taxpayers), including:

- A higher standard deduction amount for most people who don't itemize deductions if they and/or their spouse are over 65 or blind.
- An additional tax credit for lower-income people who are over 65 or disabled and file a 1040 or 1040A tax form. (For full details and eligibility, see IRS Publication

524 at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).)

- Free tax return preparation assistance and counseling from IRS-trained volunteers is available to people over age 60, as well as low-to-moderate income folks and military families.

- IRS Publication 554 provides comprehensive help for seniors to prepare their tax returns.

Many government-sponsored benefits, grants and financial aid programs exist to help seniors, low-income families and others pay their bills, including:

- LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) provides grants to help pay utility bills. To see if you qualify, go to [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap).

- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) helps millions of lower-income Americans buy nutritious food each month. Visit [www.fns.usda.gov/snap](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap) for qualification requirements.

- Rental assistance for low-income families is available from several U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development programs as well as other state and local agencies (see [www.hud.gov/renting/index.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/renting/index.cfm) for details).

- Go to [www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Benefits.shtml](http://www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Benefits.shtml) for a comprehensive overview of additional aid programs.

And of course, don't forget to ask about senior discounts whenever you shop, travel or buy insurance — 10% here and there can really add up.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

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## LETTERS

### Thorne best for mayor

Dear Editor,

Thank you, Jerry Thorne, for voting against putting Alameda County Measure B1 on the ballot. Unfortunately, you were in the minority and we will be voting on Measure B1. If it passes, it will add 1/2 cent to the current sales tax rate, moving it up to 9.25%. This 1/2 cent increase would remain "in perpetuity," according to the plan.

Alameda County sales tax is already one of the highest in the state. If California's Proposition 30 also passes, it will raise our sales tax another 1/2 cent to 9.75%. That's not only one of the highest rates in the state, but one of the highest in the nation.

California and Alameda County don't have a tax problem, they have a spending problem. California's tax rates are forcing people and businesses to leave our state and they are crushing the California taxpayer. When is enough, enough?

Please vote for Jerry Thorne for mayor of Pleasanton. He is not running to "go along and get along." He is not afraid to take a hard stand against taxes and public employee wages and benefits. His No. 1 concern is: "What's best for the citizens of Pleasanton?"

**Frank Capilla,**  
43-year resident

### Commitment remains strong

Dear Editor,

On Nov. 6, there will be no election for the three open seats on the Pleasanton school board. Our three seats were not contested and we will be serving another four years. We, Trustees Arkin, Grant and Hintzke, would like to reaffirm and assure the community that our commitment and passion is as strong as ever.

During these uncertain times with the lack of education funding, the continuity of board members with experience and historical knowledge of the district will help to ensure that our school district continues to move forward. We truly appreciate the community's continued support and confidence in our leadership. Four years ago, you entrusted us to be stewards of the school district's policies, budget and what matters most — the future of our children. We pledge to continue to represent the community with integrity and honesty. Please feel free to contact us at any time.

**Trustees Valerie Arkin,  
Chris Grant, Jamie Yee  
Hintzke**  
**Pleasanton Unified School  
District**

## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY



JIM BRICE

Volunteers serve evening meal to homeless vets at Stand Down in Pleasanton.

## Homeless vets find care, smiles in Pleasanton

It was quite a sight last weekend to mingle with and help serve the 350 homeless veterans who were at the Alameda County Fairgrounds for a four-day event called "Stand Down." The event, held every two years, is a profound and life-changing experience with lasting impacts for the veterans as well as the volunteers who spent the weekend helping them. While here, the veterans were offered free medical, dental, social and legal services, even special care for their pets which many brought with them. When they left by buses last Sunday to go back to where they live, they sported haircuts, new clothes and luggage, even a few new walking sticks.

Stand Down is a war term that refers to the practice of removing combat troops from the battlefield so that they can be cared for in a safe area. It's estimated that there are more than 180,000 needy and homeless veterans throughout the country on any given night and as many as 10,000 in Northern California alone. The 350 who registered to come to the East Bay Stand Down obviously are just a small part of this group, but at least they now have not only the advantage of gaining a few friends among the hundreds of volunteers who served them, but also reference materials as to where they can go for follow-up care, even jobs.

The first Stand Down was held in San Diego in 1988 and now these events are held in more than 200 cities in addition to Pleasanton. The care, counseling and personal contacts they make help to break the cycle of homelessness. Somebody cares, they now know.

Typically, a homeless person must spend inordinate amounts of time and energy going from one service agency to another. Often, duplicate efforts cause frustration and alienation from the very agencies and processes designed to help them. Fearing arrest or a fine, a veteran may not attempt to seek help of any type because of a minor offense. At last week's Stand Down, each veteran was interviewed, counseled and provided legal advice. Moving through the tent city that was set up at the Fairgrounds, specialists checked each veteran and steered them to doctors, dentists, judges and others who volunteered their services on the Fairgrounds. Active and reserve military slept in the same tents and led the veterans to the service areas.

When we saw the veterans coming off the buses that brought them here a week ago, there were many smiles of anticipation that at last someone cared. When they left at noon Sunday with their clean belongings and a few packed sandwiches for an evening meal, there were more smiles and thanks, even embraces by those who cared and who needed care. ■

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## What's your opinion?

Write a Letter to the Editor at [Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com) or put your opinion on Town Square at [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com). Letters must be 250 words or less.

## We're looking for a few good men and women

*The proverbial unsung hero: We all know one or two.*

These are the individuals or groups who keep doing what they do to make our community and lives better, but very rarely get the recognition they so richly deserve. These true, yet often anonymous, Tri-Valley Heroes will be honored this holiday season through a series of feature articles. Awards will be given in the following categories:



- ▲ Arts and Culture
- ▲ Community Spirit
- ▲ Courage
- ▲ Environmental Stewardship
- ▲ Innovation
- ▲ Rising Star
- ▲ Role Model
- ▲ Lifetime Achievement

### Nominate a hero today!

Complete the form at <http://tinyurl.com/Tri-ValleyHeroes>. We are also looking for sponsors for the program and for the individual awards. Please contact Gina Channell-Allen at [gallen@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:gallen@PleasantonWeekly.com) or 925-600-0840 for information.

# POLICE BULLETIN

## Motel registry check nets prostitution arrest

A Sacramento woman was arrested for prostitution at about 2:04 a.m. Sept. 16 after a routine registry check at Motel 6 in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road, according to police reports.

Police regularly check license plates at the motel parking lot and the names of those registered for outstanding arrest warrants. In this case, a check of the motel's registry turned up a probation violation for Amber Christine McCains, 26, who had a prior prostitution arrest.

The new prostitution arrest was made after police found an ad soliciting sex for money that had been posted on a website.

### In other police reports:

- Glasses and frames worth a total of \$15,000 were reported stolen from Hom Optometry in the 5600 block of Gibraltar Drive. In all, 250 pairs of prescription glasses were taken, along with \$50 cash. Entry was gained through prying open the rear emergency entrance; the report was filed at about 10:18 a.m. Sept. 14.
- Mohammad Dawud Nayl, 40, of Richmond was arrested at about 5:09 p.m. Sept. 15 in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive for felony shoplifting in the attempted theft of clothes valued at \$140 from Kohl's. After he was taken into custody, he was arrested for paraphernalia possession, a parole violation and attempting to smuggle methamphetamine into Santa Rita Jail in his socks.
- A check for \$1,500 was reported stolen on Sept. 14 in the 1100 block of Navalle Court. A trust fund check

had been mailed to the daughter of the resident but never arrived. JP Morgan Chase reported the check had been cashed.

- A resident of the 3600 block of Portsmouth Court reported on Sept. 18 that her debit card number had been used to make 13 charges totaling about \$1,200 over a 10-day period.
  - Two hundred dollars in cash was reported stolen from a wallet at the Law Offices of Toby, Sherman and Doyle in the 4300 block of Hacienda Drive after a suspicious man was discovered inside the offices in a place not open to the public. The theft was reported at 9:32 a.m. Sept. 13.
  - Three counterfeit \$20 bills were accepted by a Motel 6 employee, according to a report filed at about 10:45 a.m. Sept. 15. It was unknown who had passed the fake bills.
  - A Sept. 14 auto burglary in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road netted a \$2,000 laptop computer, a \$350 iPhone and a \$60 Swiss Army backpack. The incident occurred between 5:15 and 6:45 p.m.
  - A flat screen TV valued at \$500 was stolen in a commercial burglary at Big O Tires in the 3600 block of Washington Street, reported at 10:08 p.m. Sept. 15. The front door of the business has been smashed in.
  - A Sept. 13 garage burglary in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive netted dog seat covers valued at \$150, a \$100 tent and an \$80 stepladder, along with two pillows and a comforter worth \$50, \$40 tennis shoes, a \$30 umbrella stand, a \$10 plastic tub and 10 picture frames worth \$10; there was no sign of forced entry in the burglary, reported at about 6:52 a.m.
  - A Sept. 14 residential burglary netted mail but nothing else from an apartment in the 500 block of St. John Street. A kitchen window was broken and a screen pulled off in the burglary, reported at 11:28 a.m.
- Under the law, those arrested are considered innocent until convicted.

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Sept. 12

#### Theft

- 11:01 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive; theft from structure
- 3:07 p.m. in the 5000 block of Hopyard Road; theft from structure
- 3:52 p.m. in the 4600 block of Chabot Drive; theft from structure

### Sept. 13

#### Auto theft

- 5:14 p.m. in the 7600 block of Stoneridge Drive

### Sept. 14

#### Auto theft

- 5:30 p.m. in the 7600 block of Stoneridge Drive

#### Drug violation

- 12:47 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; possession of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

### Sept. 15

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:29 a.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Rose Avenue; DUI
- 11:17 p.m. in the 4600 block of Itchica Way; possession of a controlled substance, possession of a prescription in another's name, paraphernalia possession.

### Sept. 16

#### Theft

- 4:40 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### DUI

- 1:19 a.m. at the intersection of Black Avenue and Santa Rita Road

### Sept. 17

- 11:42 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from structure

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:40 a.m. at the intersection of Stanley Boulevard and Main Street; DUI
- 2:31 a.m. in the 4700 block of Orangewood Court; possession of methamphetamine, paraphernalia possession

### Sept. 18

#### Theft

- 1:41 p.m. in the 6600 block of Owens Drive; theft from structure

- 4:06 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Avenue; shoplifting

#### DUI

- 2:39 p.m. in the 4700 block of Augustine Street

# OBITUARIES

PAID OBITUARIES

## Robert Allen Wright

Robert Allen Wright, loving husband, father, and friend, passed away peacefully on Saturday, September 15.

A celebration of his life will be held Saturday, September 22 at The Pleasanton Senior Center at 4:00 pm on 5353 Sunol Blvd.

He was born in Temple City, California on February 5, 1943 to Barbara and William Wright. His family moved to Lafayette in 1950 where he graduated from Pleasant Hill High School. He went on to attend Chico State where he met some of his life long friends.

He proudly served in the National Guard from 6 years. Through the guidance of his father in law, Stephen



Roark, he learned the trade of Electrician. He had a passion for his work and excelled at everything he did. He retired from the Electrician's 595 in 2002 and went on to teach in the Apprenticeship program.

He married the love of his life, Marilyn, in 1966 and they moved to Pleasanton in 1971 where they established roots within the community that he loved and together raised their children Laura, Stephen and Michael. While in Pleasanton Bob was involved with the City Planning Commission and the Rotary Club.

Bob and Marilyn recently celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary.

He enjoyed being with his family and friends, traveling, golfing, tending to his yard, movies, tinkering with cars and working around his house. He was always happy and willing to lend a helping hand.

Bob was preceded in death by his loving parents and twin brother Tom.

The family would like to thank Hope Hospice for their kind and sensitive care over the past two months. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Hope Hospice at 6377 Clark Avenue in Dublin, Ca.

## Patricia 'Tricia' Martin

Patricia M. Martin (Tricia), 17, moved on to paradise on Sept. 14, 2012. Born in Walnut Creek, CA, she is survived by Kathleen Martin (mother) and preceded in death by Brian Martin (father). Tricia's short life was filled with trips to the beach and Disneyland, and cruises to the Caribbean, Mexico, Alaska and Hawaii. She loved listening to music, creating art, watching scary movies and hanging with friends. Tricia also loved animals including her three cats Sparklie, Herbie and Zephyr and her dog Kimmy (big black kitty).



A celebration of her life will be held on Saturday, Sept. 22, 2012, at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton, CA.

Donations may be made in her memory to SuicidePreventionLifeLine.org or Tri-Valley Animal Rescue (TVAR).



## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### Housing Commission

Thursday, September 27, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Discussion of Draft Predevelopment Report for the Kottinger Place Redevelopment Project and Recommendation to Approve the Findings and Recommendations for Consideration by the City Council

### Energy & Environment Committee

Wednesday, September 26, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.  
Operations Services Center, 3333 Busch Road

- Climate Action Plan implementation update
  - Discuss CAP goals and City vision
- Sustainability Partners Award – finalize guidelines and application
- Sub-committee report out
- Community outreach update
  - Provide update on Green Scene Fair activities

### Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee

Monday, September 24, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.  
Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

- Relocation of Valley Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail between Sunol Boulevard and the Alameda County Transportation Corridor
- Paving of the Arroyo Mocho Trail
- Trails Project Status Report

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

Civic Arts Commission – 2 Members, 1 Alternate Member  
Economic Vitality Committee – 1 representative from each of the following categories:

- Commercial Services Firm
- Commercial Real Estate Developer
- Green Economy/Environmental Industry
- Financial Services
- Medical Technology
- Professional Services Firm

Human Services Commission – 1 Alternate Member  
Library Commission – 1 Member, 1 Alternate Member  
Youth Commission – Representatives from each of the following categories:

- Village High School Freshman/Sophomore – 1 Member
- Thomas Hart Middle School 6th or 7th Grade – 1 Member

Youth Master Plan Oversight Committee – 1 Middle School Parent Representative

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

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office, 123 Main Street, or on the City's web site at

<http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/newcommapp.pdf>. For additional information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

**Applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 5, 2012.**

If you are interested in serving on a commission or committee that has no current vacancies listed, you may register your interest in future vacancies by contacting the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027 or by completing an interest card on our website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us)

**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)

# A FALCON Family

*Three decades  
of football  
memories will  
line the field  
tonight*

BY CATHY JETTER



PHOTOS COURTESY SWEENEY FAMILY

The name Sweeney is synonymous with football and Foothill High, where Matt Sweeney has been varsity football coach for 25 years and his dad Neil was the first principal when it opened in 1973. Clockwise from above, Matt and Neil Sweeney, who never misses an opportunity to see his son coach; Trish, Kelly and Matt Sweeney celebrate after winning the 2007 NCS Softball Championship; Sweeneys start young to cheer for Foothill; the Sweeney Athletic Complex was dedicated in 2002 in honor of Neil and Matt Sweeney. Danny Sweeney, in the upper left corner, is his brother's "eye in the sky"; 1984 JV baseball champions celebrate with Coach Matt Sweeney.

From 1986-2012 would make this Matt's 26th year of leading Falcon football. But there was one year when Matt thought he was ready to hand over his playbook.

In 2007, Sweeney's oldest daughter, Danielle, was tearing it up on the soccer field at the University of Oregon while his younger daughter, Kelly, was playing softball and getting ready to graduate from Foothill. Wanting to concentrate on his time with them and knowing the program would be safe under the guidance of his longtime assistant and good friend, John Mannion, Sweeney retired from the gridiron.

"That was a bad year," remembered Kelly. The rest of the family agrees.

"I thought he would be ready," said Trish. "It wasn't a decision he made lightly. For two or three years he talked about it, so I thought he understood how it would be. But he really was unhappy."

"I had no idea how hard it would be," Sweeney said wryly. "During football season I would meet Kelly on the (softball) fields to practice and I would park my car around the back, on the street, and walk up so I wouldn't have to see all the cars back there (on campus), knowing they were practicing."

Sweeney waited till the season was over then admitted to Mannion how much he missed the program. Mannion insisted that Sweeney should take back his old position the following season.

"I can't be here and not be a part of football," Sweeney acknowledged. "If I'm ever going to leave the program, I'm going to have to leave Foothill."

Kelly insists it will never happen, that her dad will end his days on earth at the Falcon football field, but Matt can imagine finishing his coaching career with the freshman team.

"At that level it's all about developing the players," he said. "That is where the game is at its purest."

Sweeney said his family made it easy for him for return to the

**T**onight, just before kickoff in the season-opening game against Monte Vista, Foothill High School will honor Matt Sweeney's 25 years as head coach of the Falcon football team.

Family and friends will gather in the stands, and former players and alumni representing nearly three decades of football memories will line the field. Beverly and Neil Sweeney will be cheering for their son from the bleachers, sitting beside Matt's wife, Trish, and plenty of longtime Pleasanton friends. More than a few of Matt's 20 nieces and nephews are likely to be chasing around the track while any number of his seven brothers and sisters watch from the sidelines, analyzing Foothill's prospects for the season.

They'll be there to celebrate Matt and all his accomplishments, but for the Sweeney clan, this is not so different from most football Friday nights under the lights of the Sweeney Athletic Complex.

The Sweeney family connection to Foothill began in 1973, which was 13 years before Matt's 1986 appointment as head football coach. That was the year Matt's father, Neil, left Amador after 22 years of teaching, administration and, yes, coaching football, to take the position as principal of Pleasanton's new high school.

Intrigued by the opportunity to help create the philosophy and policies that would shape the new school for decades, leaving for a cross-town rival was an easy decision for Neil. For his wife, Beverly, the transition was not so comfortable.

"I wore purple socks to the games and chewed sunflowers seeds to keep from making too many comments," she recalled with a laugh. "But I've given over my loyalties; it's all Foothill, now."

It would be hard to blame Bev if she still has a couple pairs of purple socks hidden in a drawer. All eight of the Sweeney children graduated from Amador, the youngest, Danny, in 1983.

"That's 33 years of Sweeneys at Amador," noted Neil.

The year 1983 is, coincidentally, when Matt was hired to teach at Foothill.

Matt's allegiance has been with the Falcons since the day he stepped on campus as a U.S. history teacher.

"I guess I was an Amador coach for one day," he admitted, smiling. "I was coaching (Foothill) freshman football and JV baseball in 1985 and Amador called to offer me the head baseball job there. I took it, but it bothered me all night long. I called them the next day and told them I just couldn't do it."

The following summer the Foothill varsity football coaching position opened up and the Sweeney football legacy began.

For those doing the math, the numbers don't quite add up.

## Matt Sweeney career highlights

- Head varsity football coach, Foothill High School, 1986-2006; 2008-present  
Record: 214-73-5  
Four NCS Championships  
13 Conference Championships
- 2002 — Foothill High School dedicates Sweeney Athletic Complex in honor of Neil and Matt Sweeney
- Head varsity softball coach, Foothill High School, 2006-08  
2007 — North Coast Section Championship  
2008 — Conference Champions

game, pointing out he couldn't have coached for as long as he has if they didn't support him. Trish agrees. An accomplished athlete in her own right, Trish's love of sports rivals Matt's and she understands his dedication.

"I bought into this a long time ago and we made it our way of life," she said. "Before children, Matt and I went to all of Foothill's games, all of the sports. There's a lot of special traditions in it for us and we have great memories because of it."

Matt concurred, recalling weeks of weight training and summer passing league when he'd bring the girls down and just let them go.

"They were all over that campus on their bikes," he recalled. "Kelly had the key to the snack bar — she'd load up with candy bars and I wouldn't see her for hours."

Both girls were in close contact with their dad's coaching style and Matt believes they are better for it.

"I didn't pull any punches when they were around," he said.



"I think that's what makes the sons and daughters of coaches the best athletes. They understand what it takes to be successful and they are prepared to go out and make the right impression. They get the work done, no questions asked."

Kelly was more than prepared when her father became coach for her varsity softball team, sophomore year.

"I loved it. I knew what kind of coach he is," she said. "I got to have the same experience all his football players had."

That included exceptional success. Kelly's team won North Coast Section her junior year and took East Bay Athletic League her senior year.

"If I could have had him coach me when I played at Boise State, I would have wanted him there, too," she added. "He's a great coach — he knows how to get the very best out of his players and he's willing to change his game plan to make that happen. He really loves to coach."

That love has certainly been passed on; every member of

Matt's coaching staff is a former player, as are Foothill teachers Angelo Scavone and Willy Brown, who head the baseball and basketball programs, respectively.

"You can see the closeness and the intimacy on the sidelines every Friday night," pointed out Dennis Miller, who spent years reporting on high school sports. "Matt is a great football coach, but the key thing for the players at Foothill is that they are better people, having played for him."

Miller, and any Sweeney you talk to, attribute Matt's coaching philosophy to growing up in a family of eight fiercely competitive kids with parents who believe in a real work ethic.

"There was no boys work, no girls work," explained Matt. "We shared a room, we did dishes, we did yard work, we ate every meal together. There was no room to be selfish. There was no middle child, all of us were raised as first children — to be leaders. That gave us self confidence and that transitions to coaching."

That shared work ethic may be what brings Matt's brothers,

Tim and Danny, to the games each week, every season. For 24 years Danny has been an "eye in the sky," as their father puts it, sitting in the press box, analyzing the field and reporting what he sees to his brother below.

"There aren't many people you can be completely frank with and know they won't take it personally," Matt said. "But you can do that with brothers. On Friday night, that's who I want in my ear, that's who I listen to. I trust Dan implicitly."

There's a new Sweeney on campus this year — Dan's son Ryan is playing on the freshman football team, happy to finally be on the other side of the white line. Tim's son, John, is just a few years behind, literally following in his cousin's footsteps as he watches his uncle's team take the field.

Tonight they will both be at the game, the next generation of Sweeneys to be a part of the future of Foothill High School, celebrating their Uncle Matt's quarter century of Falcon football. 📺

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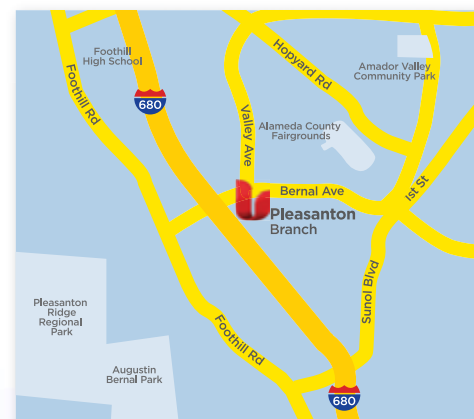


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WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE VALLEY — MUSIC, THEATER, ART, MOVIES AND MORE

## Teens take interest in politics, too

TOO YOUNG TO VOTE, BUT NOT TO BE INFORMED BY KATIE LYNESS

As the November election approaches, Pleasanton residents await the opportunity to vote Nov. 6. But those 18 and older are not the only ones interested — this town has quite a few teen political enthusiasts.

Saira Grewal, 15, a sophomore at Amador Valley High, is re-launching the Political Ideas Club this month along with senior Roshan Agrawal. She said it used to be a popular club but when the politically enthusiastic students graduated, the club “just sort of died.”

She hopes that by starting it back up, interested students can be educated about the U.S. government system.

Amador Principal Jim Hansen encourages the Political Ideas Club.

“This club is important,” he said. “Young people need a way to be involved in the political process and to have an avenue to discuss issues.”

The subject of much debate is whether a civics class should be mandatory. Mary Cassidy, a Pleasanton mom, said she is overjoyed when she talks to young teens with an interest in civics and politics, and, as the daughter of a retired civics teacher, she believes civics should be a mandatory class.



Katie Lyness

“Democracy, by its nature, requires involvement by its citizens. Therefore, in order for democracy to continue to function at its best, it is imperative that everyone has a voice,” she said. “Hopefully, when individuals become involved in politics at a young age, this interest in and sense of responsibility towards democracy will continue through their entire lives.”

Grewal agreed.

“Civics should be taught in school because it is important for students, who are future voters, to know how our country works. This way they can make accurate decisions for our country in the future,” she said.

Likewise, Roshan Agrawal, 17, believes civics classes are important because they inform students about how the U.S. government is structured and “what our role within that framework is.”

“The ability to think for yourself coupled with the knowledge of the world around you is by far the strongest tool you take going out of high school,” he said.

Teens in Pleasanton enjoy developing their own ideas about government. Saira's personal political beliefs lean toward the Democratic Party.

“The state of our nation's economy is most troubling to me,” she said. “President Obama is doing his best to fix it. However, if we elect someone like Mitt Romney the economy will only be further impaired, because it was people like him who put America in this position about eight years ago.”

She also hopes that the president elected in November will increase the acceptance of gay marriage, and focus on the importance



Saira Grewal, 15, shown with her sister Nisha visiting the White House, is re-launching the Political Ideas Club at Amador Valley High to help teens be informed about the American system of government.

of education and the necessity to become a more eco-friendly country.

Saira thinks her parents may have influenced her views because she looks up to them as role models and she trusts their decision-making.

She indulges her political fancy by watching the Colbert Report, the Daily Show with Jon Stewart, and the Rachel Maddow Show. Four years ago she campaigned with her mom, family and friends for President Obama.

“We did things from having a phone bank to holding up signs on busy street corners. The experience was incredible, and I cannot wait to do again this year,” Saira said.

Roshan, on the other hand, does not involve himself in political rallies or protests, but he acknowledges these events allow people to articulate their thoughts and ideas.

He considers himself to be moderate but leaning more toward the left side, as he believes most young people do. He said he likes to keep an open mind when analyzing the issues facing America.

“I consider not only what a conservative or liberal would say about an issue, but why they would say that,” he said. “When coming to a decision on something, for example same-sex marriage, I think about the reasoning behind a stance and then objectively determine which side has better merit.”

“Though most people define their political stance by the views they hold, I prefer to focus on the thought process which produces those views,” he added.

Roshan also is interested in the role of satire in political commentary.

“Satire overemphasizes to make the point

that we shouldn't take everything we hear or read at face value and that people have biases that need to be addressed,” he said.

He always makes an effort to listen to opinions of those he respects but is never fearful of questioning them and coming up with his own opinion, he explained.

Jenni L., a Pleasanton teen, considers herself a Republican and plans to campaign a bit for Mitt Romney.

“Fellow classmates usually assume instantly that I am intolerant of others when I tell them I'm a Republican, but that actually stands far from the truth,” Jenni said.

In fact, she said she simply believes in the conservative values of a Republican, that “big government hurts our nation more than it helps.”

She is a strong proponent for smaller government, but believes that there must be a basic government system to prevent people from “acting inharmoniously and unjustly on this planet, such as proceeding to go through with an abortion.”

Jenni also opposes high taxes, the imposition of welfare, and questions whether or not it is ethical for the government to take away the right to firearms. However, she emphasized that she is not at all anti-homosexual.

“I believe that love is love, whether it is with a man or a woman, and no one should disallow for a loving couple to be together,” she said.

Henry Person, a senior at Amador, affiliates himself with one of the more uncommon political parties: He is an avid Libertarian. He believes in a federal government “that exists to fulfill its original purpose: protection and civil liberties.” Henry also believes in a free market and that “adults should be allowed to do anything so long as it does not infringe on the rights of others.”

Henry said that he studies the U.S. Constitution “fairly intensely” in Comp. Civics class. From his experience in the class he has developed the belief that civics should be mandatory so long as it is nonpartisan.

He added that all Americans “should be informed on current events and engaged in ongoing debates.” Henry said he learns of current events through reading the Economist and tries to limit his use of traditional media outlets, such as Fox News and the Wall Street Journal.

Henry actively participates in political activity. Several months ago, he watched Ron Paul speak in Berkeley and has received job offers to work on Ron Paul's campaign full time as a high school senior.

At the end of the day, opinions are subject to change, but it still makes sense for teens to be politically active. It keeps them involved in the community and the country, plus it acts as a connection between teens and adults. They have time to change their mind — over and over again — before they actually have the chance to vote.

—Katie Lyness is a youth correspondent for the Pleasanton Weekly. She is a sophomore at Amador Valley High School.

## Basket-making traditions and more

Museum event being held in conjunction with Indian Basketry exhibit

Learn more about basket making by the early Bay Area Indians at a special event tomorrow being hosted by the Museum on Main. Experts will make presentations on regional basket-making traditions, the uses of various types of baskets and the ceremonies surrounding basket making.

Dixie Rogers, who is of Karuk descent, will kick off the Saturday event at 11 a.m. with a presentation on the collection and traditional preparation of basket weaving materials, and she will demonstrate weaving techniques from 1 to 2 p.m.

At noon there will be a speech by Brian Bibby, guest curator of the exhibit and author of its catalog, "Essential Art: Native Basketry from the California Indian Heritage Center."

This event is being offered in conjunction with the current exhibit, "American Masterpieces: The Legacy of California Indian Basketry," which is on display through



Miniature beaded baskets, Pomo, around 1900 from Mendocino and Napa counties, are on display in the American Masterpieces exhibition at Museum on Main.

Oct. 14. The exhibit was originally developed for the California Museum in Sacramento; California Indian basketry is one of the greatest textile traditions of the world, extending some 5,000 years into the past.

The exhibit features over 30 ex-

amples of the finest artistic and utilitarian basketry from the collections of the California Indian Heritage Center. Also on display is the rare Ohlone Omron basket.

The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main St. Visit [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org) or call 462-2776. ■

## Valley Concert Chorale announces 2012-13 season

'We'll sing songs of joy, laughter, serenity,' says artistic director

The Valley Concert Chorale, celebrating 49 years as the Tri-Valley's premier chorus, has announced its

2012-2013 concert season entitled "Sharing the Joy of Song."

"Our season features songs for every emotion," said John Emory Bush, artistic director and conductor of the Chorale. "We'll sing songs of joy, laughter, serenity and celebration. I am certain that audiences will experience the same emotions that the lyrics and melodies portray."

Opening the season is an afternoon of the silly songs of Gilbert and Sullivan, a performance to benefit the Chorale.

"The first time we performed this program it was a sold-out event, a huge success and extremely popular with our audiences," said VCC President Dave Brunswick. "As we did before, we will serve tasty British treats and teas, so tickets will again sell quickly."

Another highlight of the season will be the April performance, "Songs of Serenity," featuring the music of contemporary choral masters, French composer Maurice Duruflé and American composer Morten Lauridsen.

"We will perform the Duruflé 'Requiem and Lauridsen's 'Lux Aeterna,' (Eternal Light), two of the most deeply moving contemporary choral pieces ever written," Bush said. "These two pieces are favorites of choral singers and audiences all over the world, and whether you are a fan of choral music or not, after experiencing

these two pieces, you will be."

Closing out the season in May, the Chorale will help the Livermore-Amador Symphony celebrate its 50th anniversary season in performing the ever-popular Beethoven's Ninth Symphony at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore.

"We are very excited to perform Beethoven's masterpiece with the LAS symphony," Brunswick said. "Performing in the Bankhead Theater is always a treat for us as it is a wonderful theater with great acoustics. Together, we will raise the roof with an 'Ode to Joy.'"

For more information, visit [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org) or call 866-4003. ■

### 2012-2013

#### Concert Season:

■ Songs of Laughter — An Afternoon with Gilbert and Sullivan: 3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 21

■ Holiday Songs of Joy with Cantabella Children's Chorus: 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 2

■ Sing-It-Yourself Messiah: 7:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 14

■ Songs of Serenity: 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 13

■ Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Livermore-Amador Symphony: 8 p.m., Saturday, May 18

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Photos by Marc Davis

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Auditions

**'THE FULL MONTY'** The Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre invites you to audition for "The Full Monty" on Oct. 21 and 22 at 7 p.m. at 1020 Serpentine Lane, Suite 101, in Pleasanton. Prepare 16 bars up tempo Broadway, pop or rock; accompanist provided; no a capella. Bring resume, headshot, conflict calendar. Be prepared and dressed to dance. Complete and bring audition form with you; download form at <http://www.trivalleyrep.org/>.

Classes

**BEGINNING CONVERSATIONAL GERMAN** Las Positas College Community Education offers Beginning German on Thursdays starting Sept. 27 from 7:15-9:15 p.m. For more information or to register, call 424-1467 or visit [www.laspositascollege.edu/communityed](http://www.laspositascollege.edu/communityed).

**COMPUTER TUTORING** Need help with downloading E-books from the library to your E-Reader, sending e-mail attachments, social networking, blogging, general Internet questions? Drop-in classes are from 6-8 p.m. Thursdays at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call Mary Luskin at 931-3400, ext. 7. Free and open to all.

**CONVERSATIONAL GERMAN CLASSES** Enrollment is open for Intermediate and Advanced German classes at Livermore Adult Education. Intermediate begins Tuesday, Sept. 25 from 7-9 p.m. and Advanced begins Wednesday, Sept. 27 from 7-9 p.m. For more information or to register, call 606-4722 or visit [www.livermoreadulted.org](http://www.livermoreadulted.org).

**PARENT PROJECT** Axis Community Health & Dublin Police Department present the Parent Project, a nationally acclaimed program that gives parents the tools they need to prevent or change problematic adolescent behavior. The classes are from 6-9 p.m., Sept. 26 through Dec. 12, at Valley High School, 6901 York Ave., Dublin. Cost: \$100 per person, \$150 per couple. Call 201-6210 or visit [www.axishealth.org](http://www.axishealth.org).

Clubs

**NOSTALGIA DAY CAR SHOW** Altamont Cruisers Classic Car Club is holding its 23rd Nostalgia Day Car Show, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 30, in downtown Livermore, from First Street to Third Street. The event is free to the public. Call 461-2020 or visit [www.altamontcruisers.org](http://www.altamontcruisers.org).

Concerts

**COUNTRY SINGER MINDY SMITH** Join Mindy Smith, known for her rendition of Dolly Parton's "Jolene," as she celebrates the release of her first independent album, at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. "Come to Jesus" was Smith's second single and biggest hit, receiving airplay on country music, Christian and adult contemporary radio. Tickets are \$18-\$28. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**FOURTEENTH ANNUAL PIANO RECITAL** A piano recital co-sponsored by the Alameda East branch of the Music Teachers' Association of California and the Asbury United Methodist Church will take place from 7:30-9 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, at the church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Jessie Wang, 17, will perform treasures of the piano repertoire by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Ravel, Scriabin and Schumann. Refreshments served. All ages welcome. Call 443-2514 or email [accoll@comcast.net](mailto:accoll@comcast.net).

**MARK ANDERSON, CLASSICAL PIANIST** Asbury Live Presents concert series is proud to host Professor Mark Anderson at the piano. Anderson also owns the New World Music Academy in Pleasanton. The concert is at 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 30, at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. Call 447-1950 or visit [www.asburylivepresents.com](http://www.asburylivepresents.com).

Events

**'SPLATTER'** "splatter" - not your ordinary food, wine and art festival - will take place on Saturday, Sept. 22, in beautiful Emerald Glen Park in Dublin and will feature the world class wines, diverse cuisine and unique creative culture of the Tri-Valley area. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Free Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway, Dublin. 925-556-4500. [www.dublinsplatter.com](http://www.dublinsplatter.com)

**CLASSIC FORD MUSTANGS COMING YOUR WAY** Take a trip back to the 60s and 70s at a free Ford Mustang Car Show from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22. Bring the family. For more information, visit [www.missiontrailmustangs.org](http://www.missiontrailmustangs.org), email [info@missiontrailmustangs.org](mailto:info@missiontrailmustangs.org) or call 487-4748. Quail Garden Assisted Living, 813 South J St., Livermore. (925) 487-4748. [www.missiontrailmustangs.org](http://www.missiontrailmustangs.org)

**COME-IN-UNITY CARNIVAL** St. Mary & St. John Coptic Orthodox Church invites the Community from 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sept. 22 & 23, to its second annual Come-in-Unity Carnival, at St. Mary & St. John Coptic Orthodox Church, 4300 Mirador Dr., Pleasanton. The family event will have fun games, Mediterranean cuisine, and live music. A portion of the proceeds will go to orphans in Africa. Free shuttle service from downtown every 20 minutes at Main & Neal streets. Call 216-9298 or visit [www.facebook.com/come.in.unity](http://www.facebook.com/come.in.unity).

**EARLY BIRD DINNER** The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California would like to invite you to join them at an early bird dinner at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 26, at Sweet Tomatoes, 4501 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Special Senior Event Cost is \$6.99. RSVP to Hilda by Monday, Sept. 24, at 398-8808.

**GARDEN TOUR FEATURING QUILTS OF LINDA SCHMIDT** The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club is offering a garden and quilt tour of 10 beautiful and unique gardens from 11 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, and Sunday, Sept. 23. The quilts are made by master quilter Linda Schmidt. Tickets are

\$25 and will give access for both days. Proceeds go to the Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club to support various community services projects. Tickets with maps may be purchased in advance and on the tour weekend at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. Call 485-7812.

**INVESTOR'S WORST ENEMY** UC Berkeley's Professor Terrance Odean will present his extensive research on behavioral finance and why the average investor is his own worst enemy. The lecture is from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27, at the Hilton Hotel, 7050 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton, presented by Tri-Valley Cal Alumni & EB Haas Alumni. Open to the general public. To register, visit [www.odean.eventbrite.com](http://www.odean.eventbrite.com).

**PAWS IN THE PARK** Join Valley Humane Society for Paws in the Park, a charity dog walk and free community animal festival from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23, at Amador Valley Community Park, 4301 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Enjoy pet contests, K9 demos, shopping and gourmet food trucks. Register to walk as an individual, or form a dog pack for added fun. Proceeds benefit VHS. \$10-\$25 dog walk registration, festival is free to all. Call 426-8656 or visit [www.pawsinthepark.valleyhumane.org/valleyhumane/default.asp](http://www.pawsinthepark.valleyhumane.org/valleyhumane/default.asp).

**SENIOR CENTER WESTERN BAR-B-QUE** The VIPs are holding their 11th annual Western Bar-B-Que from 11:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., Monday, Sept. 24, at the Senior Center, 5353

Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Live music, barbecue and prizes. Cost is \$10. Call Marsha Becker at 202-6905. Everyone old and young is welcome.

**TRI-VALLEY WOODCARVERS 40TH ANNUAL SHOW** Enjoy beautiful carvings, wood-burned and turned pieces of art, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sept. 22-23, at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St., Pleasanton. There will be soap carving for youngsters. For adults, demonstrations on carving, painting, whittling contest, silent auction and more! Meet the artists, and shop a little. Stop by the country store for great bargains. Call 829-0310.

Exhibits

**PLEASANTON ART LEAGUE** The Pleasanton Art League (PAL) members' exhibit, featuring local artists' work in a variety of media, will run Sept. 15 through Oct. 20 at the Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Also on exhibit will be the Pleasanton community drawing, "Alphabet Soup," drawings made out of initials of children who attended the Farmers Market on July 14. The drawing will be sold by a silent auction during the exhibit to benefit PAL's youth scholarship fund. Gallery hours are noon-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; and for one hour prior to each Firehouse Arts Center performance and during intermission. Donations are appreciated. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

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## Fundraisers

**'A STARRY NIGHT' AUCTION AND GALA** "A Starry Night" is an annual evening gala with dining, dancing, silent auction and charitable giving to benefit RAGE soccer, First Tee of The Tri-Valley and School of Imagination. Hosted this year by KTVU Channel 2's Mark Ibanez, the event is from 5-11 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 29, at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, 410 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$150. Call 462-6007 or visit [www.astarrynight.org](http://www.astarrynight.org).

**4TH ANNUAL PARTY PALOOZA TO HELP CANCER PATIENTS** Party Palooza is coming to the Tri-Valley

in Sept., Oct. and Nov. to benefit the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation. The non-profit organization will have 10 individual events to raise money to help local cancer patients. Donations do not go to research and development or to finding a cure. All proceeds go toward providing pain relief to someone suffering with cancer - today. These special events are smaller-scale social events, hosted by Tri-Valley residents and companies, each raising funds to support this 100% all volunteer foundation. A full list of events and details is available at [www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org/palooza](http://www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org/palooza).

**FALL 2012 BOOK SALE** It's time for the huge Friends of the Pleasanton Library Book Sale from 6-9 p.m., Friday, Sept. 21; 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22; and 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 23, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Friday night sale is for Friends only. Purchase memberships at the door for \$10. To help with volunteer set up call Marilyn at 462-4395; to sell call Nancy at 462-4368. Visit [www.friendsofthepleasantonlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofthepleasantonlibrary.org).

**SHOP FOR THE CAUSE VENDOR FAIRE** NAMI Tri-Valley (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will host a Shop for the Cause Vendor Faire from 1-6 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6, at 522 South

L St., Livermore, to raise funds for programs benefiting those whose lives are affected by mental illness. The fair will feature commercial vendors, arts, crafts and drawings. Visit [www.nami-trivalley.org](http://www.nami-trivalley.org).

**YOUTH & GOVERNMENT RUMMAGE SALE** Search for treasures at the Tri-Valley YMCA Youth and Government Program's rummage sale from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, at Tri-Valley YMCA, 6693 Sierra Lane, Dublin. Lots of great items and all at bargain prices! Call 263-4444 or visit [www.trivalleyymca.org](http://www.trivalleyymca.org).

## Lectures/ Workshops

**3RD ANNUAL BREAST CANCER SYMPOSIUM** ValleyCare Health System is presenting its third annual Breast Cancer Symposium, with a lecture from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 4, at Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Call 800-719-9111 or visit [www.valleycare.com/education-seminars](http://www.valleycare.com/education-seminars).

**SIDEKICKS** Practical Principles for Intentional Parenting by Duffy Robbins. The lecture is from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27, at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton. A free seminar to help assist you to be the best parent possible to your student. Ideal for parents of middle and high school aged children. Call 846-6622 or visit [www.vcclive.org/event-list](http://www.vcclive.org/event-list).

## Live Music

**NIGHT OF JAZZ WITH GAUCHO** Gaucho, a gypsy jazz sextet, will perform gypsy jazz of 1930s Europe at a fundraiser from 6-9 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, in the parking lot at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd. Gaucho is a first rate ensemble playing with boundless energy, passion and humor. Tickets are \$40 for adults and include BBQ, salad, beer, wine. \$25 for children includes BBQ and salad. Call 462-4802 or visit [www.stclarespleasanton.org](http://www.stclarespleasanton.org).

## Miscellaneous

**'LAWYERS IN THE LIBRARY'** Members of the Alameda County Bar Association visit the Pleasanton Public Library on the third Tuesday of each month to give free 15 to 20 minute consultations, in a program co-sponsored by the Alameda County Bar Association. Appointments are by lottery. Register from 5:30-5:45 p.m.; names will be selected at 5:50 p.m. and people must be present when names are drawn. Appointments begin at 6 p.m. and end at 8 p.m. Call 931-3400, ext. 7.

## On Stage

**COUNTRY JOE McDONALD** Country Joe McDonald will pay tribute to Woody Guthrie at 8 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Firehouse

Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. McDonald will open with "This Land is Your Land" and continue with Guthrie's famous Dust Bowl ballads, children's songs, country songs and union songs. Tickets are \$15-\$25. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Political Notes

**7TH ANNUAL WINE AND LIBERTY CELEBRATION** Alameda County Libertarian Party is holding a harvest celebration Sept. 30 at Westover Vineyards where you can meet with Libertarian Party leaders, invited candidates and special guests for port and wine tasting, and barrel tasting with the winemaker. Cost includes Souvenir Lady Liberty glass, hors d'oeuvres and drawings. RSVP by Sept 23. 1-4 p.m. \$30 (\$20 for students and non-drinkers) Westover Vineyards, 34329 Palomares Rd, Castro Valley. (510) 482-3521. <http://eblp.org/wineandliberty/>

## Spiritual

**BIBLE & BREW** St. Clare's Episcopal Church would like to invite anyone in the community who is interested to join them for heartfelt fellowship, Bible Study, and a good cup of coffee from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. every Wednesday at 3350 Hopyard Rd. You don't need to be a member of St. Clare's to attend. Their hope is you will find this time of day convenient. Call the church office at 462-4802 or visit [www.stclarespleasanton.org](http://www.stclarespleasanton.org).

**CHRISTIAN VOCALIST LARA MARRIOTT** Lara Marriott will be debuting her first full length CD at 7 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, at Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Ct. The concert will feature Marriott's own compositions as well as songs that the "Not Just on Sunday Band" leads in worship on Sunday mornings. Admission is a can of food or dry goods to be donated to the Alameda County Food Bank. Call 846-4436 or visit [www.centerpointechurch.org](http://www.centerpointechurch.org).

## Volunteering

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** Pleasanton Nursing and Rehab Center and American Red Cross are hosting a blood drive from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday, Sept. 24 at Pleasanton Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 300 Neal St., Pleasanton. The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients. Call 621-5042 or email [lisafoster@lifegen.net](mailto:lisafoster@lifegen.net).

## TV30

**TRI-VALLEY SPORTS FINAL** "Tri-Valley Sports Final" is back for its eighth season of covering team and individual high school sports in the Tri-Valley. Join hosts Ian, "Dr. B" and Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti as they provide up to the minute sports reporting. Show airs on TV30 at 3:30, 7 and 10 p.m., Monday - Friday, and at [www.trivalleytv.org](http://www.trivalleytv.org).

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# Sports



Celebrating their win are (back row, l-r) Mariana Meirelles, Cassie Balducci, Claire Williams, Jonelle Balducci, Sanjana Seth, Emily Hovanessian, Stacy Ahn, (middle row) Haley Howard, Vera Smekalina, Brookey Villanueva, Niki Mohebi, Rachel Yang, Meghana Manne, (front row) Janavi Kumar, Varsity Coach Chris Anne Olenic and Varsity Coach Claire Chinn.

## Lady Dons win tennis tourney

First time win at James Logan tournament

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Amador Valley High girls varsity tennis team won the James Logan Tennis Tournament last Saturday for the first time ever. James Logan placed second; Northgate, third; and Miramonte, fourth.

The victory meant a lot to the Lady Dons because they beat Foothill and Monte Vista, two teams they've struggled against in the past. Also, Amador has seven

seniors on the team so it is their last season as Lady Dons.

The team is coached by Claire Chinn and Chris Anne Olenic.

"We have amazing coaches and they are trying to help these girls be better people on and off the courts," said Cindy Williams, mother of player Claire Williams. "The girls understand that holding themselves up with integrity is what their coaches and parents

expect of them."

Williams noted that the girls don't play tennis with the attitude "let's win at any cost."

"While it is great to be a champion and enjoy the feeling of reaching the top, these girls have the attitude that playing the game fairly and with fun is much more important," Williams said. "I am proud of the way they win and lose." ■



REBECCA HARPER

## Go team!

Cheerleaders hold tight to a Packers poster at the Pleasanton Junior Football League Packers vs. Jaguars game Saturday as the team members break through it. The game was the second of the season for PJFL, which has flag and contact football league for ages 8-14, as well as cheerleading for girls ages 8-14. The Packers and Jaguars are in the Junior Varsity Division, fifth-sixth grades.

## Youth cricket launched locally

The East Bay Youth Cricket Association, in partnership with the San Ramon Cricket Association, kicked off a new branch in San Ramon during the summer. The youth league will play games twice a month against other associations.

The program is designed for children ages 6-15, who will learn cricket skills like batting, bowling, fielding, catching, throwing and different rules and strategies used during the game.

"Many benefits come with this new addition for the youth: exposure of cricket to a larger community; a new type of sport for kids; and most importantly it will help young kids stay healthy because it encourages them to play outside," said Deepak Singh, a member of the

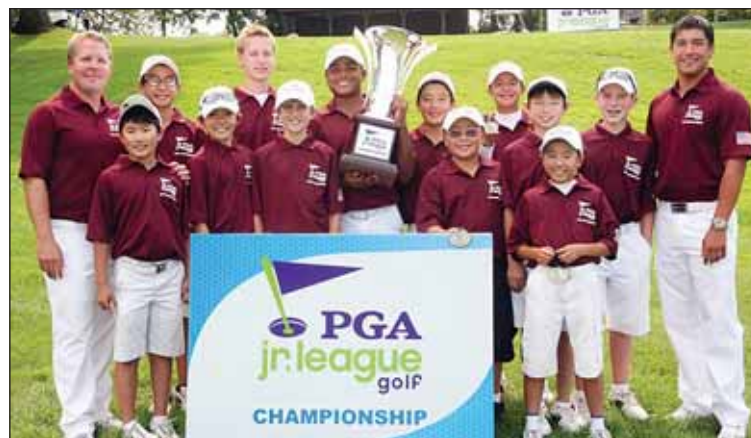
Pleasanton Lords, a cricket team in Pleasanton that competes in the San Ramon Cricket Association.

Although the Pleasanton Lords does not have a youth team, members are looking to add one in the coming years.

"I believe our team has the true capability to attract more youth players to build onto our existing team. There are a lot of young talented kids out there who want to play cricket," said Vishal Narayanan, Pleasanton Lords team manager.

The San Ramon branch is the third youth cricket organization in the Bay Area. The others are located in the Fremont/Union City area and in Sunnyvale/Santa Clara.

—Nicole Doi



## GRIP golfers tee to the top

The Tri-Valley's GRIP junior team, representing the state of California at the championships last weekend at the Dog Hill Golf Club in Chicago, was crowned the 2012 PGA Jr. League Champions. The golfers train at Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore under PGA professional Andy Nisbet. Team members are Alex Chin, Brendan Hopkins, Noah Woolsey, Travis Mitchell, Kirabo Reed, Matt Lloyd, Hayden Hui, Bradley Lu, Alan Chen, Ethan Chen, Jared Khoo, Jared Khoo, Michael Shaw and Drew Kim. Assistant coach is Tony Guerrero; team mom is Sophia Hui.



SCOTT SCHROEDER

## Going for the Crush

Noe Jue of the U12 Orange Crush, wearing the gray top, prepares to kick the ball while playing the Out-Rage-Ous on Sept. 8 at Aquatic Park North. The Crush won the game, 4-1. Jue was one of the top defensive Crush players, along with Lindsey Schroeder and Alyssa Wu. Top offensive players were Megan Gee, Mollie McKay and Gracie Ose.

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## INDEX

- BULLETIN BOARD  
100-155
- FOR SALE  
200-270
- KIDS STUFF  
330-355
- JOBS  
510-585
- BUSINESS SERVICES  
600-690
- HOME SERVICES  
700-799
- FOR RENT/  
FOR SALE  
REAL ESTATE  
801-860

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## PET OF THE WEEK

### Meet Gino

American Staffordshire Terrier fans, the East Bay SPCA has a rare treat for you. Gino is a purebred "staffy" — a big, handsome boy wrapped in a beautiful brown and white coat. Gino is strong and charming, 6 years old, and weighs in at 60 pounds. He is a great candidate to be a Constant Companion. Dogs of this breed tend to be loyal, affectionate and trustworthy. If you are looking for a mutually satisfying, low maintenance relationship, let this fellow sit at your feet and walk by your side. Meet gorgeous Gino at the East Bay SPCA Dublin Adoption Center, 4651 Gleason Drive in Dublin. To see other animals available for adoption, please visit www.eastbayspca.org or call 479-9670.



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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR ORDER DECLARING STATUS OF NEWSPAPER AS ONE OF GENERAL CIRCULATION

(Gov C §6021)

No. HG12646076

Superior Court of California,

County of Alameda.

In the Matter of the Petition of EMBARCADERO MEDIA To Have the Standing of the Pleasanton Weekly as a Newspaper of General Circulation Ascertained and Established.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 11, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in Dept. 31, Law and Motion Department of the above-entitled court, located at 201 13th Street, Oakland, California, Petitioner intends to apply for an Order declaring the Pleasanton Weekly to be a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Pleasanton, County of Alameda, State of California.

Dated: August 30, 2012

WILLIAM S. JOHNSON, Petitioner

VERIFIED PETITION TO ASCERTAIN AND ESTABLISH STANDING AS A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION

(Gov. C §6008, §6020)

No. HG12646076

Superior Court of California,

County of Alameda.

In the Matter of the Petition of EMBARCADERO MEDIA To Have the Standing of the Pleasanton Weekly as a Newspaper of General Circulation Ascertained and Established.

Petitioner WILLIAM JOHNSON alleges:

1. Petitioner is the President and Chief Executive Officer of EMBARCADERO MEDIA.  
2. EMBARCADERO MEDIA is a California corporation and owner of the newspaper known as the Pleasanton Weekly.

3. Said newspaper is a newspaper of general circulation published for the dissemination of local or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character in the City of Pleasanton, having a circulation of approximately 14,000.

4. Said newspaper has within said city for which it seeks adjudication as a newspaper of general circulation, a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers which constitutes a substantial distribution to paid subscribers in Pleasanton, California.

5. The Pleasanton Weekly has been established, in existence under the specified name, Pleasanton Weekly, and published, issued from the place where the newspaper is sold to or circulated among the people and its subscribers, at regular intervals of not less than weekly in Pleasanton, California, for more than 12 years prior to the date of the petition.

6. The Pleasanton Weekly has maintained a minimum coverage of local or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character of not less than 25 percent of its total inches during each year of the three-year period prior to the date of this petition.

7. The Pleasanton Weekly has only one principal office of publication and that office is 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, California 94566, which is in the city for which it is seeking adjudication.

WHEREFORE, PETITIONER PRAYS for judgment ascertaining and establishing Pleasanton Weekly as a newspaper of general circulation, as defined in §6008 of the Government Code, for the City of Pleasanton, County of Alameda, State of California.

DATED: August 29, 2012 at Palo Alto, California.

WILLIAM S. JOHNSON

Petitioner

#### VERIFICATION

I, WILLIAM S. JOHNSON, declare: I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of Embarcadero Media, the publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly, and I am duly authorized to make this declaration.

I have read the foregoing petition and know the contents thereof are true and correct.

If called upon to testify, I could competently attest to all of the facts stated in the petition.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on August 29, 2012 at Palo Alto, California.

WILLIAM S. JOHNSON

Petitioner

## Home sales drop across state, but prices rise

By JEB BING

California home sales declined in August but continued to maintain a strong pace, recording five consecutive months of year-over-year sales gains while the median price reached a four-year high, the California Association of Realtors reported this week.

"A lack of inventory remains an issue, as the housing supply fell more than 30% from last year," said CAR President LeFrancis Arnold.

"Inventory levels are at the lowest levels we've seen in seven years, and we are starting to see the supply shortage conditions having a negative impact on sales in the Central Valley and the Inland Empire, where REO properties are in short supply."

August marked the fifth consecutive month that sales were higher than the previous year, with closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaling a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 511,240 units, according to information collected by CAR from more than 90 local Realtor associations and MLSs statewide. Sales in August were down 3.4% from a revised 529,430 in July but up 2.3% from a revised 499,880 in August 2011.

The statewide median price of an existing, single-family detached home rose 3% to \$343,820 in August, up from July's \$333,860 median price. The August figure was up 15.5% from a revised \$297,660 recorded in August 2011, marking the sixth consecutive month of both month-to-month and year-to-year price increases.

August's median price was the highest since August 2008, when the median price was \$352,730. The year-to-year increase was the largest in more than two years.

"The median price is gaining in part because of a shift in the mix of what is selling," said CAR vice president and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton.

"The increasing share of sales in higher-priced coastal markets at the expense of the inventory-scarce distressed markets has been the primary factor in fueling the statewide median price," Young added.

"While higher-priced markets with a robust economy are experiencing a strong demand in equity sales and posting double-digit year-over-year price increases, sales in lower-priced markets that rely more on distressed properties were stagnant or even declined, as the inventory of REO properties continues to wane," she said.

Other key facts of CAR's August 2012 resale housing report include:

- California's housing inventory continued its downward trend in August, with the Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes declining to 3.2 months, down from a revised 3.5 months in July and a revised 5.2 months in August 2011. The index indicates the number of months needed to sell the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate. A six- to seven-month supply is considered normal.

- Interest rates edged up slightly in August after four consecutive months of decreases. Thirty-year fixed-mortgage interest rates av-

eraged 3.60% during August 2012, up from 3.55% in July, but down from 4.27% in August 2011, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable-mortgage interest rates edged down in August, averaging 2.67%, down from 2.69% in July and down from 2.93% in August 2011.

- Homes moved faster on the market in August, with the median number of days it took to sell a single-family home falling to 41.1 days in August 2012 from 43.2 days in July and down from a revised 52.5 days for the same period a year ago. ■

### OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

#### Alamo

##### 5 BEDROOMS

**1653 Livorna Rd \$1,399,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc 855-4000

#### Blackhawk

##### 2 BEDROOMS

**34 Tennis Club Drive \$625,000**  
Sun 4-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

##### 3 BEDROOMS

**871 Redwood Dr \$798,000**  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc. 280-8500

#### Danville

##### 4 BEDROOMS

**5 Windover Ter \$1,295,000**  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc 855-4000

#### Dublin

##### 2 BEDROOMS

**3456 Palermo Way \$455,000**  
Sun 1-4 Moxley Team 600-0990

#### Livermore

##### 3 BEDROOMS

**420 North I Street \$495,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

##### 4 BEDROOMS

**565 Rachelle St \$495,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273

##### 5 BEDROOMS

**1444 Milan Ct \$925,000**  
Sun 12-3 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

#### Pleasanton

##### 3 BEDROOMS

**5730 Belleza Dr \$489,000**  
Sun 1-4 Sonali Sethna 525-2569

##### 4 BEDROOMS

**803 Bonde Ct \$769,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Mike Carey 963-0569

##### 5 BEDROOMS

**176 Prato Wy \$869,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

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



*Julia Murtagh*  
2011 Top Producer

**925.997.2411**

Email: [jmurtagh@apr.com](mailto:jmurtagh@apr.com)

DRE #01751854

*"Bringing Integrity to Your Front Door"*



**ALAIN PINEL**  
REALTORS

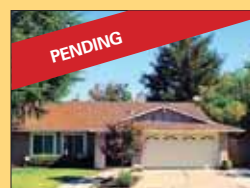
Please see reviews of Julia on



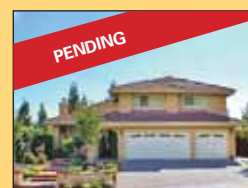
## If you're thinking of selling, NOW is the time!

Give me a call today to find out how I can help you.

### PENDINGS



**3147 Catawba Court Pleasanton**  
Charming Vintage Hills single story home with 1527 sq. ft. 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms on a nice quiet court. Upgraded bathrooms. Offered at \$669,000



**5029 Forest Hill Dr Pleasanton**  
Beautiful 5 bed/ 3 bath, 3440 sq. ft. home on .25 acre. Great layout for family living or entertaining. Offered at \$1,049,000



**4213 Payne Road Pleasanton**  
Great Single Story in "Val Vista" Walking to schools and shops. Offered at \$484,000 Short Sale

### RECENT SOLDS



**7011 Corte Rosa Pleasanton**  
Spacious 4 bed/3 bath, 2800 sq. ft. home with pool in Country Fair. Upgraded kitchen, excellent floor plan, 3 car garage. Sold for \$855,000



**7703 Cottonwood Lane Highland Oaks**  
2000 + sq. ft. 4 bed / 2 bath desirable west side single story. Sold for \$675,000



**5637 Shadow Ridge Drive, Castro Valley**  
Charming Home, with great views. This 4 bed / 2.5 bath-room had multiple offers. Sold for over the asking \$610,000

### BUYER NEEDS

- Large Family Home, over 3000 sq ft, 4/5 beds, large lot, up to 1.8k
- Single Story home, or Townhome 3 bedrooms, up to 650k
- Small home 3 bedrooms, nice size yard, under 600k

### SELLER REVIEW

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

### DISTRESSED SELLERS

The Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007 is due to expire on Dec. 31. Please contact me if you think you may need to do a Short Sale, as time is running out.

Please call me and or review my dedicated website.

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





**DANVILLE**  
**2112 SHOSHONE CIR**  
**GATED COMMUNITY!** **\$527,000**  
 3 BR 3 BA Open Flr Plan.Spacious Kit.Formal  
 Din.&Liv Rm.Mstr w/jetted tub & huge walk-in closet.  
 925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**  
**1275 NICE COURT**  
**GREAT LOCATION!** **\$550,000**  
 4 BR 3 BA Cul-De-Sac Location! Full Bed/Bath on  
 main floor.Lrge Eat-In Kit.,wood flrs,and much more!  
 925.847.2200



**PLEASANTON**  
**463 MONTORI CT.**  
**RUBY HILL COUNTRY CLUB** **\$1,070,000**  
 5 BR 3 BA Lush & Private Backyard. Friendly Court  
 Location.Walk to Community Pool & Tennis!  
 925.847.2200



**PLEASANTON**  
**3627 ANNIS CIRCLE**  
**LOTS OF EXTRAS!!** **\$635,000**  
 3 BR 2 BA High ceilings/Recessed Lighting in most  
 rms.Built-In Wk center/bookshelves.Side Yrd Access  
 925.847.2200

## BRENTWOOD

**6600 ARMSTRONG ROAD**  
**40 ACRE W/BARN** **\$349,950**  
 1 BR 2 BA 1124 Sq.Ft.Home.Trees,Outbuilding,A-2  
 Zoning.Possible Split lot.Kitchen updated.Got Horses  
 925.847.2200

## CASTRO VALLEY

**Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4** **3743 SEPTEMBER CT**  
**SOUTHWESTERN STYLE HOME** **\$913,900**  
 6 BR 4.5 BA 3,553 Sq.Ft.Remodeled w/Permits.Kit.w/  
 Fam.Rm Combo & Fireplace.Hot Wtr Recirculation  
 Sys. 925.847.2200

## DANVILLE

**1250 COUNTRY LANE**  
**CUSTOM RANCHER W/POOL!** **\$1,448,000**  
 5 BR 3.5 BA Upgraded home w/In-law Apt.Kit/Ba  
 w/Granite.Formal Liv/Din Rrm.5 Stall Barn & raised  
 garden 925.847.2200

## LIVERMORE

**4706 BEL ROMA RD.**  
**LOVELY RANCH HOME!** **\$1,799,500**  
 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

## LIVERMORE

**2479 CHARDONNAY WAY**  
**BEAUTIFUL ESTATES HOME** **\$1,187,000**  
 5 BR 3.5 BA pl/spa/putting green in bckyrd,1/3 acre  
 lot,2 bds down,master w/freplce,loft area upstairs  
 925.847.2200

## LIVERMORE

**852 OLD OAK RD**  
**SOUTH LIVERMORE HOME!** **\$934,900**  
 5 BR 4 BA Like New!Large Chef's Kit,Dual Staircase,  
 3 Car grg.Landscaped.Exceptional Home & Location!  
 925.847.2200

## PLEASANTON

**5403 CARNEGIE LOOP**  
**BEAUTIFUL HOME W/POOL & SPA** **\$789,000**  
 6 BR 4 BA Open Flr Plan.Gourmet Kit w/granite  
 & island,SS appl.,Hrd Wd Flrs,Lrge Mstr.Pool & Spa.  
 925.847.2200

## PLEASANTON

**5464 MAYBECK LN**  
**CRAFTSMAN STYLE HOME!** **\$710,000**  
 4 BR 3 BA Hrdwd Flrs.Formal Dining rm.Downstairs  
 bd rm or office.Lrge Mstr w/views.Private backyard!  
 925.847.2200

## PLEASANTON

**2254 FOURTH STREET**  
**WONDERFUL 1920'S HOME!** **\$455,000**  
 3 BR 2 BA Residential,Live/Work,commercial/Busi-  
 ness.Lrge Rms w/Oak Flrs.Antique Drs.Fireplace in  
 Fam 925.847.2200

## PLEASANTON

**Open SAT/SUN 1:30-4:30** **420 N. I STREET**  
**GREAT OPPORTUNITY** **\$215,000**  
 3 BR 1 BA Oversized Lot.Many possibilities and just  
 mins to downtown w/Entertainment & shopping.  
 925.847.2200

## SAN JOSE

**1234 FLICKINGER AVE**  
**PRIME LOCATION!** **\$635,000**  
 4 BR 2 BA Move-In Ready!Hardwood Flrs.New  
 Paint,Carpet & 2 Car garage door.Landscaped Back-  
 yard. 925.847.2200

## SAN LEANDRO

**2546 LONGVIEW DR**  
**SPACIOUS HOME!** **\$579,950**  
 3 BR 2 BA Single Story,Bayovista.Sweeping Bay & Hill  
 Views.Remodeled.New Roof.Quiet top of the hill.  
 925.847.2200

"If you are a licensed realtor interested  
 in joining our real estate office please contact  
 Will Butler, Manager at 925.847.2257. We look  
 forward to welcoming you to Coldwell Banker!"

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

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**Tim McGuire**

Realtor®  
 DRE 01349446  
 925-462-SOLD (7653)  
 tmcguire@apr.com



Beyond Full Service  
 A Concierge Approach  
 To Real Estate

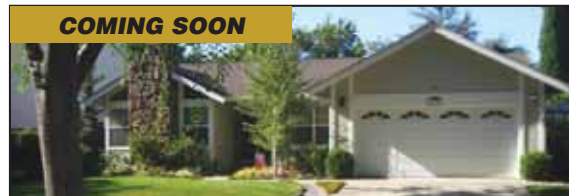


## BUYERS NEEDS

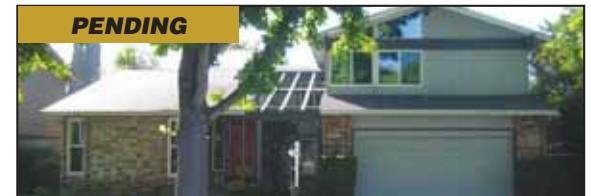
Family of 4 seeks 4ba/2ba, 2000+/-sq.ft with side yard access and large yard up to \$875,000



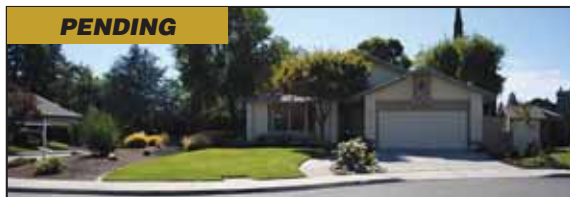
**NOT ON MLS**  
**Autumn Glen, Pleasanton**  
 4bd/2.5ba, 1802+/-sq.ft Updated kitchen and baths, new  
 windows, plantation shutters, walking distance to K-12  
 schools, parks and shopping. CALL FOR DETAILS.



**COMING SOON**  
**4730 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton**  
 3bd/2ba, 1,722+/-sq.ft, Granite kitchen with Travertine  
 floor, remodeled baths, Pella windows, Cathedral ceiling,  
 Hardwood floor. Offered at \$749,000



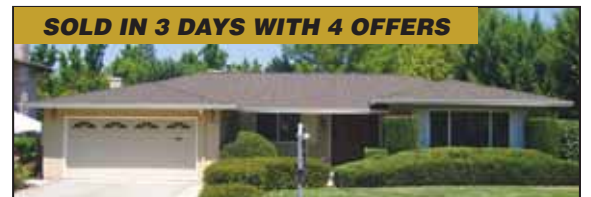
**PENDING**  
**4862 Woodthrush Road, Pleasanton**  
 4bd/3ba, 2,146+/-sq.ft "Gallery" model, Granite kitchen  
 and baths, Hardwood floors, walk to schools, parks and  
 shopping. Offered at \$795,000



**PENDING**  
**3847 Phoebe Court, Pleasanton**  
 4bd/2ba, 1,900+/-sq.ft, Granite kitchen and baths, vaulted  
 ceilings, large yard, walk to K-12 schools, shopping and  
 parks. Offered at \$749,000



**SOLD IN 5 DAYS**  
**4844 Merganser Court, Pleasanton**  
 4bd/2.5ba, 2,087+/-sq.ft "Monterey" model.  
 SOLD FOR \$849,000



**SOLD IN 3 DAYS WITH 4 OFFERS**  
**5063 Blackbird Way, Pleasanton**  
 4bd/2ba, 2,167+/-sq.ft "Holiday" model  
 REPRESENTED SELLER & BUYER  
 SOLD FOR \$755,000



# BLAISE LOFLAND



**925.846.6500**  
 www.blaiselofland.com  
 blaise@blaiselofland.com  
 DRE# 00882113  
 apr.com

## PRIMA

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



**176 PRATO WAY, PLEASANTON**  
 Upgraded 5 bedroom, 3 bathrooms, approximately 3325 Square Foot Centex Home. Spacious Gourmet Kitchen with Granite Countertops, Stainless Steel Appliances, Island, Breakfast Bar, and more! Expansive Master Suite with Spa Tub and Walk-in Closet. Plantation Shutters, Crown Molding, Custom Tile and Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors Throughout Downstairs. Dual Heating & Air Conditioning. Beautifully Landscaped Front and Rear Yards, In-Ground Pool/Raised Spa and also Private Courtyard Area, Three Car Garage with Electric Gated Private Driveway. Great Home for Entertaining! Close to Golfing, Ruby Hill Country Club, Renewed Downtown and Adjacent to The Livermore Wine Country!  
**OFFERED AT \$869,000**

## OAK LANE

PENDING!



**369 OAK LANE, PLEASANTON**  
 Former Friden Estate Hunting Lodge - "Moonlight Oaks." Private Driveway included in this 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 \$1,399,000**

## DANBURY PARK

JUST CLOSED!



**1431 GROTH CIRCLE, PLEASANTON**  
**Premium location**, two bedroom, two bathroom, approximately 1345 square feet, extensively upgraded single level home with open floor plan, adjacent to park. Kitchen has new granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Bathrooms are upgraded with granite countertops, new plumbing fixtures and hardware. Vaulted ceilings, new window blinds, new tile flooring, private atrium area, & upgraded landscaping. Conveniently located near Downtown, Mission Plaza Shopping Center, Amador Shopping Center, The Aquatic Center, and Amador Valley Community Park.  
**OFFERED AT & SOLD FOR \$839,500**

## MURIETTA MEADOWS

SOLD - REPRESENTED BUYER



**27 ROCKROSE STREET, LIVERMORE**  
 SWEET!!! Stoneybrook Estate Home-shows nicely! Great curb appeal-sparkling clean. Hardwood and tile flooring downstairs. Vaulted ceilings in Living room & Dining room. Dramatic circular staircase. Large Master bath with separate shower and tub. Park like backyard with large patio and beautifully manicured lawns. 1 Bedroom/1 Bathroom downstairs. **SOLD FOR \$520,000**

## HIDDEN OAK

SOLD!



**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. **SOLD FOR \$640,000**

## CUSTOM HOME

SOLD!



**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. **SOLD FOR \$1,130,000**

## BRIDLE CREEK

SOLD!



**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 in-ground 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 Mission Park & Downtown Pleasanton! **OFFERED AT AND SOLD FOR \$1,399,000**

## PLEASANTON VALLEY - "BIRDLAND"

SOLD!



**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. "Gateway" 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 AND SOLD FOR \$819,000**

## LIVERMORE

SOLD!



**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. **SOLD FOR \$425,000**

## VALENCIA

SOLD!



**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.  
**SOLD FOR \$825,000**

## SUNOL

SOLD!



**680 KILKARE ROAD, SUNOL**  
 Most beautiful — shows like a model home. Best kept secret in the Bay Area. Five acres of woods, Sinbad Creek, close to town, 680, Pleasanton & Fremont. Excellent schools, iron fenced yard for play and pets, water fall, fire alarm, surround sound, work area in garage. Bedrooms have doors to outside.  
**SOLD FOR \$1,095,000**

## 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**





3 YEARS IN A ROW!



KELLER WILLIAMS  
TRI-VALLEY REALTY

#1 OFFICE  
IN PLEASANTON  
IN VOLUME  
AND SALES



**5750 Belleza Drive, Pleasanton**  
Gorgeous end-unit loaded with upgrades! Kitchen w/ laminate floors, new stainless appliances, convection micro. Living rm built-in wood cabinets & gas fireplace. Full driveway for extra parking. Remodeled baths incl. marble master bath, CA closet organizers, marble entry. **Offered at \$429,000**  
[www.williamsteam.net](http://www.williamsteam.net)

**Cindy and Gene Williams**  
REALTORS®  
DRE # 01370076 and 00607511  
925.918.2045

**Thinking Of Selling Your Home?  
Inventory Is Low And Many Buyers Moving  
To This Area! Please Call If You Would Like  
A Complimentary Market Analysis.**



**Gail Boal**  
REALTOR® DRE # 01276455  
925.577.5787  
[www.gailboal.com](http://www.gailboal.com)

**Coming Soon in Laguna Oaks!**



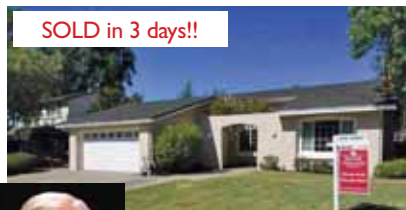
Nestled on a wonderful court with views of the Pleasanton Ridge. With over 3800 sq ft this home boasts 4 bedrooms, a bonus room and a den. Beautiful granite kitchen overlooking a private and serene yard. Expanded family room has room for everything. One bedroom and full bath downstairs. Offered at \$1,375,000

**Dave & Sue Flashberger**  
925.463.0436  
[www.SoldinaFlash.com](http://www.SoldinaFlash.com)



**6270 Camino Del Lago, Pleasanton**  
Highly sought after Ponderosa, 4 bedrooms with bedroom and bath downstairs. Great floor plan with bonus room. Charming low maintenance back yard. Walking distance to tennis park and shopping. **\$789,900**

**Lisa Sterling & Ingrid Wetmore**  
DRE # 01012330 and 00923379  
925.980.9265 925.918.0986  
[www.krugergroup.com](http://www.krugergroup.com)



**SOLD in 3 days!!**



**Dennis Gerlt**  
Broker Associate DRE # 01317997  
925.426.5010  
[www.buytrivalleyhomes.com](http://www.buytrivalleyhomes.com)

**2703 Corte Bandera, Pleasanton**  
Curb appeal! Must see 4 bedroom 2 bath home in popular Del Prado; quick access I680S/I580W. Great backyard; corner lot in a court. Exterior just painted with new flooring throughout. Both baths remodeled with tile, vanities and fixtures - walk to pool/cabana.



**Melissa Pederson**  
REALTOR® DRE # 01002251  
925.397.4326  
[www.melissapederson.com](http://www.melissapederson.com)

**1368 Bordeaux St, Pleasanton**  
Unique 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath home w/ 3,864 sq ft. Home features an amazing custom gourmet kitchen, first floor master suite plus 2 more bedrooms, upstairs 2 additional private bedroom suites, an office, playroom and beautifully landscaped backyard. Walking distance to Vintage Hills Elementary School. Part of the Kottinger Ranch HOA w/pool, tennis courts and walking paths. **Offered at \$1,329,000**



**Ventana Hills in Pleasanton**  
**1042 Nelson Court**  
Home is 3179 sqft. / Lot size is 9227 sqft. 5 Bedrooms, 3 Full Baths, 3 Fireplaces, 3 Car Garage. One Bedroom on Main Level, New Garage Doors. Pool, Nice Court Location. Walking Distance to Schools, Mission Park & Downtown. **Listed at \$925,000**



**Danielle Peel**  
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[www.DaniellePeel.com](http://www.DaniellePeel.com)

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**The Fabulous Properties Team**  
Donna Garrison & Susan Schall  
925.980.0273 925.519.8226



[www.FabulousProperties.net](http://www.FabulousProperties.net) CA Lic #s 01713497, 01735040 & 01395362

**565 Rachele Street, Livermore**  
4 bed/2 bath plus craft room, 1796 sq. ft. single-story home. Great curb appeal on quiet street. Built in 1982 with fresh updates, features large kitchen w/ sliding doors that open to large deck with shade overhang. Other features include high ceilings, brick fireplace and newer fence. **Offered at \$495,000**



**Fran & Dave Cunningham**  
925.202.6898  
[www.RubyHill.net](http://www.RubyHill.net)  
DRE #01226296 DRE#00930892

**3266 Novara Wy., Ruby Hill**  
Beautiful home of 6,450 sq.ft., 5 BR, 5.5 BA, office & bonus, quality architectural detail throughout, pool/spa and views from this golf course lot. Located on one of Ruby's most sought after cul-de-sacs. **Offered at \$2,690,000**



**SOLD!**  
1908 Rheem Drive  
3 Bed, 2.5 Updated Baths  
Approx. 1,481 sq ft  
Updated Kitchen with Cherry Wood Cabinets and Granite Counter



**Mike Chandler**  
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**4444 Foothill Road, Pleasanton**  
4 BR and 2.5 BA. 3507 +/- sq. ft. Absolutely Stunning! Completely rebuilt in 2005, this custom, single story home offers a view from every window, including Mt. Diablo and the surrounding hills. Beautifully updated throughout with fantastic gourmet kitchen. Huge 2.26 +/- acre lot includes an entertainer's backyard with pool and spa. **Offered at \$1,750,000**

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Five Star Professional conducted research to determine the real estate agents in the East Bay area who rated highest in overall satisfaction. I am honored to be chosen - many thanks to my clients. My passion & commitment is HELPING BUYERS, SELLERS, INVESTORS & SENIORS achieve all of their Real Estate dreams & goals.

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