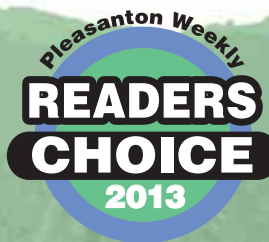


Pleasanton Weekly

Vote for your favorites
around town » 16



VOL. XIV, NUMBER 14 • MAY 3, 2013

WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Council election to be decided Tuesday

*Vote-by-mail-only contest
seeing fewer votes >> 15*



INSIDE THIS WEEK

- **NEWS:** Amador Valley 'We the People' team places 2nd in D.C. **5**
- **BUSINESS:** Walmart hiring for July market opening **10**
- **LIVING:** Art Made Easy classes celebrate 20 years **20**

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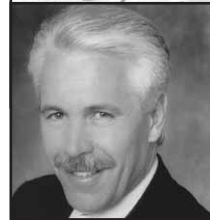
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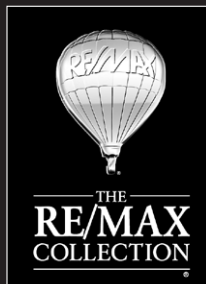
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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



SHERRY WIGGINS

Air Force Lt. Jonathan Leetch (center) is surrounded by his family including (from left) brother Brian, sister Michelle, mother Laurie and dad Greg at the parents' Valley Trails home Sunday. Leetch logged more than 700 combat flight hours in Afghanistan.



SHERRY WIGGINS

Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne welcomes home Marine Cpl. Marc DePretis and Army Spc. Nathaniel (Nate) DePretis, sons of Cindy and Matt DePretis, whose return from active duty in Afghanistan was cause for a flag-waving, cheering celebration by more than 100 well-wishers last Saturday.

A weekend of welcomes for Pleasanton GIs back from Afghanistan

Several hundred well-wishers, military families and friends turned out last weekend in blistering heat to welcome home three more Pleasanton GIs who have just returned from Afghanistan. Waving flags and cheering in what are becoming more frequent celebrations as more military from Pleasanton come home, our group included two Congressmen, Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) and Jerry McNerney (D-Stockton), Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne, two candidates for City Council in next Tuesday's election — David Miller and Kathy Narum — and, thankfully, Pat Frizzel, co-chair of the Pleasanton Military Families organization. I say "thankfully" because Pat circled through the crowd spraying bottles of water mist on us as the temperatures hit 90 degrees.

Sunday's homecoming was at the home of Laurie and Greg Leetch on Menlo Court in Valley Trails to celebrate the safe return of their son Air Force Lt. Jonathan Leetch,

a Foothill High School graduate. Leetch logged over 700 combat flight hours in Afghanistan.

Last Saturday, we joined with Cindy and Matt DePretis to welcome home from Afghanistan their sons Marine Cpl. Marc DePretis and Army Spc. Nathaniel (Nate) DePretis. Another son, Army Spc. Christopher DePretis, returned earlier.

Marc grew up in Pleasanton, joined the Marines in 2008, and was subsequently deployed three times, twice to Southeast Asia, and then, last year, to Sangin, Afghanistan. He completes his service in August. Nate DePretis joined the Army in January 2011, was sent to the Army Airborne School at Ft. Benning, then was assigned to the 173rd Airborne based in Vicenza, Italy. He was a paratrooper for nearly two years, earning his Canadian Jump wings by jumping with the Canadian Army in Poland. Last July, he was deployed to Afghanistan, where, within 10 days of arriving, his unit was attacked and two of his close friends were killed. He received a commendation for his effort to rescue fellow soldiers while under fire. He has another year to serve.

More celebrations are coming, including one next Wednesday for a career Navy seaman coming back from Afghanistan duty. We'll be there to say "welcome home." ■

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Our website has become the place residents turn to for breaking local news, to post their own stories and photos, and to discuss news and events in the community.



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About the Cover

Four candidates are vying in the special City Council election that ends Tuesday, when mail-in ballots are due. Design by Kristin Herman.

Vol. XIV, Number 14

Streetwise

ASKED AT SOMEWHERE

What is your favorite day trip from Pleasanton?



Laurie James
Teacher

I like to go to Groveland out by Yosemite. It's a beautiful spot and a trip there and back makes for a very nice day.

Meghan Yu
Store manager/student

I love to take BART into San Francisco because it is so beautiful and exciting and there's so much to see and do. It's so close to home, yet when you're there you feel as though you are a million miles away. It's like a mini-vacation.



Dean Meier
High school math teacher

My two daughters love going down to Gilroy Gardens, and then my wife and I take them to Monterey afterwards for Ghirardelli ice cream.

Carol Zhou
Software engineer/bioinformatics analyst

My favorite get-away spot, even though it is so close by, is the Pleasanton Ridge. We enjoy going for family walks up to the top of the Ridge, where the views are beautiful and you can get a great perspective of the Tri-Valley area.



Angela Zhou
Elementary school student

I love to spend a day playing tennis and swimming at the Ruby Hill Golf Club.

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

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

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DIGEST

Man found dead at Pleasanton Ridge

Foul play is not suspected in the death of a man whose body was found Tuesday morning at Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park.

A search for the man, reported missing Monday night, forced the Foothill staging area to be closed for about four hours, according to a news release from the Pleasanton Police Department.

"Ultimately, late last night, the man's car was located in the parking lot of the Pleasanton Ridge Park, which is East Bay Parks Police Jurisdiction," the report says. "The two agencies worked together to try to locate the missing man."

At around 8:30 a.m. Tuesday morning, the man's body was discovered in the hills at the park. The Alameda County Coroner's office will conduct an investigation to determine the official cause of the man's death.

His name has not been released.

Missing link opens

The Iron Horse Trail's last Pleasanton link, which connects Santa Rita Road to the Pleasanton/Dublin BART station, was formally dedicated Wednesday.

The 1.5 mile link is part of the East Bay Green Transportation Initiative, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's TIGER II grant; the East Bay Regional Park District Measure WW park bond; the Caltrans Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation program; the Alameda County Transportation Commission; and the city of Pleasanton.

The Iron Horse Trail is a paved pedestrian and bicycle trail located primarily within the former Southern Pacific Railroad right of way established in 1891 and abandoned in 1977. In 1998 a license agreement was entered into by and between EBRPD and Alameda County for the purpose of constructing a trail within this right of way.

When completed, the trail will offer a continuous multi-use pathway extending from Martinez on the Carquinez Strait to the San Joaquin County line near the Altamont Pass.

Help for job searches

The Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., offers free 20-minute consultations with an experienced employment recruiter, to include help with resume writing, finding employment websites, and applying for jobs online. For an appointment, call the Reference Desk at 931-3400, ext. 7.

Amador Valley 'We the People' team places 2nd in D.C.

Grant High of Portland takes top honors

By JEB BING

Amador Valley High School's "We the People" team returned home to cheers and congratulations from parents and supporters at the school's campus at 9 p.m. Tuesday night, ending a six-day trip to Washington, D.C., where Amador placed second in national finals out of schools from 44 other states and the District of Columbia.

The students, all part of the Competition Civics class, and those in the welcome home celebration thanked their social studies and civics teachers Brian Ladd and Mairi Wohlgemuth for their many hours of coaching since last September, leading up to Monday night's awards ceremony.

Then they left for home with Advanced Placement tests and final exams ahead as their graduation days approach.

With this year's champion Competition Civics class over, it will be up to another class and new students to re-start the program next August. New teacher-coaches will also have to take over since both Ladd and Wohlgemuth have said this would be their last year to head up the "We the People" program at Amador. The school's principal, Jim Hansen, a long-time supporter of the We the People program, also is retiring this year.

This was the 12th time Amador Valley has represented California in the We the People national competition. The school's team won the state championship in Bakersfield on Feb. 9, and since has been meeting after school, on weeknights and weekends preparing for the national finals.

Amador won the nationals in 1995, but this year that top honor went to students from Grant High School of Portland, Ore., who won first place.

The competition results were announced at an awards ceremony Monday evening before an audience of more than 1,900 students, teachers, coordinators, judges and other program participants.

The students had just completed three days



ARICK LITTLE

Amador Valley High social studies and civics teachers Mairi Wohlgemuth (standing, far left) and Brian Ladd (back row, far right) join their "We the People" students for a final photo at Monday's national competition in Washington, D.C.

of simulated congressional hearings that tested their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.

During the competition, students demonstrated their knowledge of the Constitution before simulated congressional committees made up of state supreme court judges, constitutional scholars, lawyers, public officials and We the People alumni. The first rounds of the hearings took place Saturday and Sunday. Monday, the top-10 schools competed in actual congressional hearing rooms on Capitol Hill.

Amador Valley seniors who made presentations in Washington were Dena Behnam, Grant Bonham, Sara Borchers, Grant Cohen, Courtney Dickson, Will Dormann, Teresa Duddy, Blair Guilfoile, Mekhala Hoskote, Shubhanker Kapoor, Bobby Lee, Mitchell Mayo and Sabrina McGraw.

Also making presentations were Adriana Morton, Sri Muppidi, Jordan Nally, Jon Nieman, Alexis Orozco, Dhiraj Pangal, Henry Person,

Jena Pianin, Nick Powell, Anika Riley, Adit Sinha, Arany Uthayakumar, Eric Yang, Yves Yang, Kashyap Yechuri and Ke Zhao. ■

2013 We the People award winners

National winner: Grant High School, Portland, Ore.

2nd Place: Amador Valley High School

3rd Place: Denver (Colo.) East High School

4th Place: Vestavia Hills High School, Vestavia Hills, Ala.

5th Place: Cathedral High School, Indianapolis, Ind.

6th Place: Corona del Sol High School, Tempe, Ariz.

7th Place: Tahoma Senior High School, Covington, Wash.

8th Place: Trumbull High School, Trumbull, Conn.

9th Place: Maine South High School, Park Ridge, Ill.

10th Place: Plainfield High School, Plainfield, Ind.

10 seconds to stop a crime

'It's about limiting opportunities to commit crimes'

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

It takes about 10 seconds to break into a car. It takes about as much time for the owners to place items out of sight in a locked trunk.

That's according to Pleasanton Crime Prevention Officer Archie Chu, who demonstrated recently how quickly a thief can get access to a locked car if there's something that could be valuable inside.

Chu said about a third of the thefts that occur in auto break-ins in Pleasanton are from cars that are left unlocked or with their windows open.

"When you make it that easy, you make it too easy for the bad guys," Chu said.

It's a simple fix to stop those crimes: Take a few moments and put valuables somewhere they can't be seen.

"It's about limiting opportunities to commit crimes," Chu said.

Hiding things under a jacket or bag doesn't work, he added.

A recent tour of a Pleasanton parking lot with Chu showed no obvious items in sight, but about a half dozen cars had bags, jackets and other items used to keep valuables out of view.

"One of the mistakes people make is hiding things under a jacket. That doesn't fool anyone," Chu said. He pointed out one case where a bag was used to hide electronics that had been left plugged in to charge.

Crime statistics from the Pleasanton Police Department show 53 auto burglaries through the end of March, while at the same time last year, there had been 56, a drop of about 5%.

There were 100 thefts from unlocked vehicles through March of this year, while there had been 80 thefts from unlocked vehicles as of the end of March 2012, a



GLENN WOHLTMANN

Hiding items under a jacket or coat, as pictured above, does little to deter a thief, police say.

rise of about 25%. Chu described the majority of the thefts from unlocked vehicles as crimes of opportunity.

Most were in residential neigh-

borhoods, but a significant number were from cars at Stoneridge Shopping Center or parked along commercial streets. Chu said to take

See **CRIME** on Page 9

Local activist Jack Dove dies at 89

By JEB BING

Memorial services will be held for Pleasanton community activist Jack Dove on May 25, on what would have been his 90th birthday. He was a former executive with the old Montgomery Ward department store company, and he died April 24 in his home at Ridge View Commons.

Mr. Dove served on city and civic commissions and committees after he and his late wife Polly moved here in 1986. He may be best remembered for his days sitting in the "adjunct" City Hall, a one room wooden building that long sat at the edge of Lions Wayside Park, where he and his close friend, the late Roger McLain, would meet with civic leaders and sometimes just those waiting for the bus to discuss municipal, state and national issues.

Over the years, Mr. Dove became a credible resource on Pleasanton politics and politicians, and he was welcomed in almost every office without an appointment, which he seldom made.

Born May 25, 1923, he met his future wife at the Aberdeen Proving Ground medical cen-

ter in Maryland, where he was a soldier recovering from pneumonia. The couple moved to Bethlehem, Pa., where he completed his college degree in chemical engineering at Lehigh University.

His career took his family to Itasca and Olympia Fields, near Chicago; Louisville, Ky.; overseas to Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, England; and Danville, San Mateo, and Fullerton here in California. They lived in Alamo before moving to Pleasanton.

His memorial service will take place at 2 p.m., Saturday, May 25, at Lynnwood Methodist Church in Pleasanton, where he was a member.

He is survived by his daughter Suzanne Dove of Berkeley; sons Jay of San Diego and Bill of Carlsbad; and grandsons Christopher Altieri-Dove of Berkeley and Cameron Dove of Carlsbad. ■



Jack Dove

Foothill parents discuss what they hope for in a new principal

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Parents of Foothill High School students are looking for a "strong leader" in a new principal, someone with "demonstrable experience in improving test scores."

At a meeting on April 24, 16 parents talked about what they want in a new leader at the school. Students and staff provided their input at separate sessions.

Parents said they want someone who will "look at the whole school," and someone who's willing to "take responsibility for the school's success" in a new leader to replace Principal John Dwyer.

Dwyer is leaving the district in June to take a job as principal in the Fremont Union High School District.

They don't want someone who sees the school as a stepping stone toward a new position. Parents also said they don't see the job as one for someone who's a new principal, but don't want "someone who's going to retire in a couple of years" either.

Ideally, they said the new principal should be a parent of a child who's been through high school, but "not 20 years ago."

They also want the school's new principal to be able to strike a balance, "someone who's willing to have the tough conversations," but also "someone with a heart for the children, someone who's the mom and dad when we're not there."

Parents also want someone who'll be visible, attending football games and school activities, for example. And they want the new principal to reach out to booster groups, to support athletics and the band program, and to have high school spirit.

"Morale and spirit are kind of low at the school at this point," one parent said.

Parents are also hopeful that whoever is hired will understand changes in education, using Common Core State Standards and new technologies as examples. Common Core, which is being implemented throughout the district, moves students to do more critical thinking, focusing on depth of knowledge rather than memorizing facts.

One parent wanted to be sure that whoever is hired understands "the uniqueness of our community," adding "we're an educated community."

They also want to keep some programs, such as restorative justice, which uses dia-

log instead of punishments, and best buddies, which pairs disabled students with general education students.

But they also want some policies re-examined, such as what one parent called "the tardy police." The school recently instituted a crackdown on students who arrive late to school.

"That causes a lot of stress on kids," a parent said.

One parent with two students in special education said she wants a principal "who understands the parents' needs as well as the students' needs."

One said she sees the school doing a great job for both high-achieving students and special needs students.

"I'd like to see a little focus on the average kids," she said.

For the most part, parent and student requests echoed one another.

Students are looking for a principal who cares about kids, both as individuals and as a school group, and someone who will build school spirit and the Foothill community.

They also want someone who will interact with students, someone who is visible, and a great communicator, a principal who motivates kids to learn and is willing to try new things.

Staff comments were held in a closed-door session and were not available.

The district has received applications from as far away as Texas, Illinois and Minnesota. The applicant pool will be winnowed to about 10 finalists who will meet with two groups.

One of the groups is a community group, with parents, staff, possibly a principal and members of the California School Employees Association and Association of Pleasanton Teachers. The second group will be made up of district staff, other administrators and sitting principals.

Each group will make its recommendations, leaving two to four candidates for a final decision.

The school board is expected to make a final decision later this month, although Human Resources Director Mark McCoy said if no one is clearly right for the job, the district is prepared to begin the application process over again. ■



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Protesters against plans to cut Social Security

Chant 'No cuts' in front of Swalwell's local Congressional office

By GLENN WOHLTANN

Ten people, largely senior citizens, showed up at the Pleasanton office of Congressman Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) on April 26 to protest proposed cuts to Social Security.

The cuts are part of a compromise package offered by President Barack Obama to Republicans in an effort to balance the budget.

The 10 chanted, "No cuts to Social Security," and "Jobs not cuts."

After the short protest at Swalwell's office at 5075 Hopyard Road, the group went to meet with Swalwell's office staff.

The local organizer of the event, Frank Burton, said, "We met with Josh Huber, who's his senior staffer."

Burton called Huber noncommittal, adding that Swalwell has not issued a statement. Swalwell also hasn't said whether he'll sign a letter to Obama, signed by Reps. Mark Takano (D-Riverside) and Alan Grayson (D-Fla.), warning against cuts to Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security benefits.

The group also delivered a petition with 560 names that was begun by MoveOn member, Kevin Reynolds.



GLENN WOHLTANN

Protesters gather outside the Pleasanton office of Congressman Eric Swalwell, urging him to fight a plan to reduce benefits to Social Security.

The Dublin congressman does support raising the ceiling on contributions, which could extend the date that Social Security would become insolvent, currently estimated to be 2033, according to Burton.

"Congressman Swalwell opposes any cuts to Social Security. In order to ensure the long-term viability of Social Security, he believes we should raise the cap on wages subjected to Social Security tax," said Allison Bormel,

Swalwell's spokeswoman. "As a policy Congressman Swalwell does not sign pledges. A 'non-pledge pledge,' he likes to call it."

Obama doesn't actually plan to cut the program; his plan calls for smaller cost-of-living increases, beginning in 2015.

Some, including U.S. Sen. Nancy Pelosi from California, said not increasing the amount people receive is the same thing as a benefit cut. ■

Help solve the Big Draw Monet Mystery: Clue 4

Judge Harris decided to call on Eva Kottinger Burnett to see if she was the artist who had drawn the bridge and flowers. He found her outside in her yard, painting a scene of her garden and asked her if the pencil sketch of the flowers was done by her.

"No," replied Mrs. Burnett, "I think this may have been done by my student, Angela La Fleur, a talented, 12-year-old artist and a student at Pleasanton Grammar School on Knowledge Hill."

"Thank you Mrs. Burnett. I'll head over there right away," he said.

As Judge Harris was galloping down Main Street, he saw the volunteer fire truck racing ahead of him — the school was on fire! The children and teachers watched as the firefighters struggled in vain to save the school. The judge jumped off his horse and asked if anyone knew Angela La Fleur.

"Sure do," one of the girls said. "She was my best friend. Her family moved to France last week. They got a big inheritance and now she'll have lessons with the fancy artists over there."



"Do you know if she did this pencil drawing?" The judge held out the pencil picture of the flower arbors.

"Oh yes. That's Angela's. She copied it from a crazy painting she borrowed. She kept complaining that people shouldn't pay money for Monet."

"Do you know where that painting is now?" the judge said urgently.

"She left it in the school basement with the other art she used for practice. I guess she won't be able to return it anymore. But here's the copy she made. I liked it so I saved it from the fire." And she handed Judge Harris a brightly painted watercolor of arbors covered in flowers. ■

Find a copy of the flower arbor painting hidden in downtown Pleasanton and find out how you can win one of the fabulous prizes from The Big Draw: A City-Wide Arts Celebration on May 11. This mystery combines fact and fiction. Go to www.The-Big-Draw.com to learn more about the modern day creator of the watercolor, "Monet's Garden." To learn more about Pleasanton's history, go to The Museum on Main or Towne Center Books to read up.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Pacific West Capital Group: Alternative Investment Opportunities

STAFF REPORTS

Los Angeles — Are you looking for a way to invest your money but the stock market seems a bit too uncertain for you? Pacific West Capital Group may have the answer you are looking for to strengthen your financial resources.

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to invest their money into something more stable than the stock market or other ventures.

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Pacific West prides themselves on exceptional customer service and as a member of the Better Business Bureau for the past eight years, has received zero consumer complaints.

to get double-digit returns."

Life Settlements, themselves, are regulated as a security by the State of California and as an extra level of protection for their investors, Pacific West works with only the most respected brokers and reputable insurance companies. Investor funds are also not handled directly by Pacific West, rather all money goes directly to an escrow company and then implemented into

the policies held in a trust for investors. The source of the payout on investment is an "A" rated or better life insurance company.

To find out more about Life Settlement investments, please call Daven Sharma (CA Insurance License# 0C09851), an independent authorized representative of Pacific West Capital Group, at 925-400-8333 or send an email to info@abundanceadviser.com.

Centerpointe teacher won't face charges

'We conducted a thorough review of the evidence'

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

The teacher who taped a toddler's hands and feet at Centerpointe Christian Preschool in Pleasanton will not face criminal charges, a spokeswoman for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office said Tuesday.

"We conducted a thorough review of the evidence presented and declined to file charges," said D.A.'s Office spokeswoman Teresa Drenick. "We don't go into further details."

Angela Calcagno, a former employee at the school, showed a photo on her cell phone to the mother of the 2-year-old at a social gathering the two attended in early March.

That led to a citation against the preschool from the state Department of Social Services and an investigation by the Pleasanton Police Department, which sent the evidence surrounding the case to the D.A.'s office for review.

According to a DSS report, filed March 7, "(a) staff member who is no longer employed at the center told the child that if she did not take a nap, that the staff member was going to tie her up. The child continued to refuse a nap, and the staff member tied up the child's ankles with masking tape."

The photo was shared with both current and past staff members from Centerpointe — including the girl's mother — the DSS report stated.

"It was confirmed that the photograph showed the girl with her ankles and wrists tied with masking tape while sitting on her cot at the facility."

A police report was filed March 4, and Centerpointe reported the incident to DSS on March 5.

Although there will not be a criminal prosecution, Calcagno and Centerpointe have been named in a civil lawsuit filed by

the girl's parents.

The civil case was filed in Martinez on March 21 alleging that Angela Calcagno was unlicensed and unlawfully employed by the school.

The lawsuit claims the girl was bound because Calcagno viewed nap time was her personal time, "and punished and restrained any non-napping child to ensure this."

According to the lawsuit, the child's parents are seeking psychiatric intervention after her behavior changed following the incident.

The girl's behavior, the lawsuit says, "included an inability to sleep more than a few hours consecutively before waking up in a panic." She also began "exhibiting signs of stress," and became "inexplicably frightened and inconsolable."

The lawsuit also says Calcagno "tormented" the girl's mother at a social event in March, showing off a picture of the restrained girl and "bragging that she was the one who tied up the toddler."

The lawsuit claims false imprisonment, battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress and negligence against the child by Calcagno. It claims Centerpointe is liable because it hired her.

The allegations made in the lawsuit are not facts, just claims. Any possible fines will be determined by a judge or jury, should it go to trial. The lawsuit seeks an unspecified amount of compensation and punitive damages, and asks for a jury trial.

Calcagno, who quit Centerpointe Christian Preschool in February, was ordered by the state not to have any contact with clients or to be "physically present" at the school.

She has since filed an appeal of the DSS order. ■

CRIME

Continued from Page 5

extra precautions when headed out to shop.

At the mall or downtown, he said, "Move things to the trunk before you get to your destination."

The Pleasanton Police Department is starting a new campaign to help stop auto burglaries and other property crimes. The program is similar to the "If I Were A Thief" program in Danville. There, volunteers leave a card if they find an opportunity for a crime.

In Pleasanton, volunteers and

patrol officers will leave a tri-fold pamphlet on a car window or in a door jamb.

The pamphlet will contain the time police or volunteers were there, with items checked off to let a resident know the opportunity at the site for a crime, such as property left inside a vehicle, doors or windows or a garage doors left unlocked or open, or newspapers or mail accumulating at a home.

The tri-fold was specifically designed not to look like a citation, and states that it is a courtesy notice from the Police Department. ■



ALAN GRETH

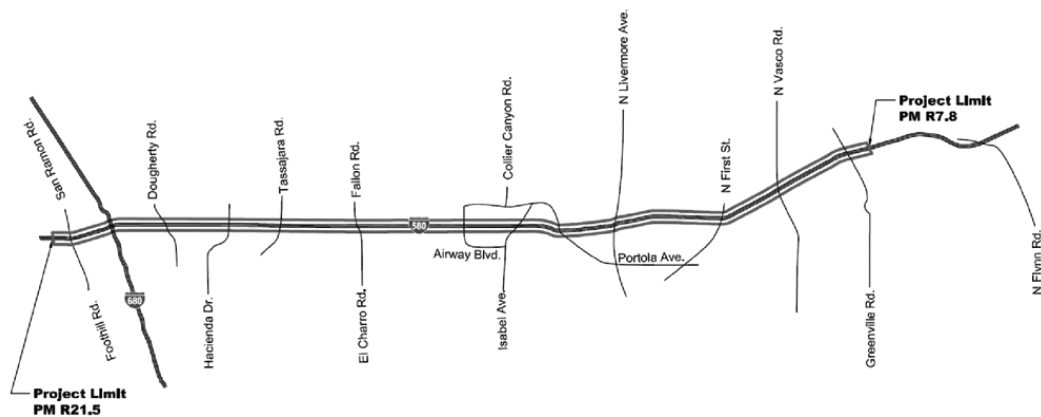
Running for fun — and funds

Walnut Grove Elementary School second-graders leap off the starting line during the annual Fun Run, running laps on the school playground last Friday. The students and teachers raised thousands of dollars for the school through sponsorships. Walnut Grove PTA organizes several fundraisers throughout the year to support critical personnel and programs that are not fully funded by the state, according to the school website. The money raised on this year's Fun Run will go toward literacy, math and technology. One of the goals is to fund a second iMac lab for the 2013-14 school year.

Public Information Meeting for the I-580 Westbound Express Lane Project

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) are holding a public meeting on May 14, 2013, to discuss the upcoming I-580 Westbound Express Lane Project.

WHAT IS BEING PLANNED? Caltrans and Alameda CTC propose to convert the planned high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane on I-580 westbound in Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore to an express lane. The express lane will allow carpools, vanpools, motorcycles, buses, and eligible clean-air vehicles to travel without a fee while also giving solo drivers the option to pay to use the lane to avoid congestion. The total length of the proposed project is approximately 13.7 miles.



The purpose of the proposed project is to provide additional congestion relief, provide enhanced operational and safety improvements, expand the mobility options in the corridor, and maintain consistency with the provisions defined in Assembly Bills 2032 (2004) and 574 (2007) to implement express lanes in the I-580 corridor.

WHY THIS AD? This notice is to inform you that a public meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2013, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the Regional Meeting Room at the Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA. The meeting will be an open house for the public to learn about how the proposed express lane will work and to talk with members of the project team.

FOR MORE INFORMATION. Visit the 580 Express Lanes website at www.alamedaexpress.org or www.alamedactc.org/app_pages/view/10969, the Caltrans website at www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm, or call Gary Sidhu, Alameda CTC, at (510) 208-7421.

Share your opinion with us

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words or guest opinion pieces up to 500 words to Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com or post it on Town Square at PleasantonWeekly.com.



Job seekers file applications as Walmart readies Neighborhood Market for July opening

Store manager, others on scene to interview for 65 positions at new Pleasanton store

By JEB BING

Applicants were waiting in line as Walmart opened a temporary hiring center this week to fill about 65 full- and part-time positions at its new store in the Meadow Plaza shopping center on Santa Rita Road near West Las Positas Boulevard in Pleasanton.

The 34,000-square-foot store will open in mid-July in the building once occupied by Nob Hill supermarket, a unit of Raley's that was closed three years ago. Meadow Plaza is connected to Santa Rita Square, which is at the corner of Santa Rita and West Las Positas.

Store manager Alton Wheeler opened the hiring center and other Walmart representatives joined him in greeting applicants. They included store managers from other Neighborhood Markets already open in San Ramon, Vacaville and south San Jose.

After completing applications on computers at the center, those

applying for jobs will be notified if their bids are accepted. Some will be asked to start within a month for company training and then will start working at the new grocery store once renovations are completed.

Wheeler said he anticipates hiring people across a broad range of skill levels and compensation for the new store, but that most essential are prospective associates — as Walmart employees are called — who have “people skills and know that our customers always come first.”

“We are excited to add the first Walmart Neighborhood Market to Pleasanton and bring good jobs with great career opportunities to the area,” he added.

He said that Walmart provides a benefits program to eligible full- and part-time associates. For example, it provides a variety of affordable health and well-being benefits including health-care coverage with no lifetime

maximum.

The average wage for full-time hourly associates in California is \$12.93 per hour. Walmart also offers eligible associates matching 401(k) contributions of up to 6% of their pay, discounts on general merchandise, an Associate Stock Purchase Program and company-paid life insurance. Additionally, eligible associates receive a quarterly incentive based on store performance.

Wheeler, who has been with Walmart for 12 years, said the Neighborhood Markets are considered a small format store and designed for customer convenience. The Pleasanton stores will offer a full supermarket line of fresh produce and groceries, as well as household products, pet supplies and pharmacy services.

Besides bringing renewed economic activity to Meadow Plaza, Walmart's increased presence in Pleasanton, where a full service regular Walmart store is just a mile away, could add to the company's community involvement here.

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation announced \$958.9 million in cash and in-kind contributions around the globe during the fiscal year ending Jan. 31, 2012. The company's U.S. giving grew nearly 20%, largely due to increased donations of produce, meats, poultry and other nutritious food to local food banks



JEB BING

Walmart veteran Alton Wheeler has been chosen general manager of the company's new Neighborhood Market grocery store in Pleasanton, which will open in mid-July.

from Walmart stores, Sam's Club locations and distribution centers.

In the U.S., Walmart and the Walmart Foundation gave \$872.7 million in cash and in-kind gifts in the fiscal year ending 2012, including 28,980,368 in cash and in-kind donations in

California.

In the Pleasanton area, those benefiting from Walmart contributions included Tri-Valley Haven Food Bank, Open Heart Kitchen, Alameda County Food Bank, Valley Humane Society, Foothill High School and Alisal, Fairlands and Donlon elementary schools. ■

Safeway names its current president to succeed Chairman Steve Burd on May 14

Burd has been president of Safeway since 1992

Pleasanton-based Safeway Corp. has announced that its president, Robert Edwards, will succeed Steven A. Burd as chief executive officer when Burd retires May 14.

Edwards, who is 57, will also join the company's board of directors.

At the same time, it was announced that Gary Rogers, currently the company's Lead Independent Director, will become non-executive chairman of the board.

Edwards joined Safeway in 2004 as executive vice president and chief financial officer. In April

2012, he was named president, with overall responsibility for the company's retail operations, marketing, merchandising, corporate brands, manufacturing, distribution and finance functions. He continued as chief financial officer until Pete Bocian succeeded him in that role in February of this year.

Prior to joining Safeway, Edwards served as a senior executive at Maxtor Corp., Imation Corp. and Santa Fe Pacific Corp. He serves as a director on KKR Financial Holdings, LLC and on Blackhawk Network Holdings Inc., a subsidiary of Safeway Inc. He holds a Masters in Business Administration and a bachelor of sciences degree in Accounting from Brigham Young University.

Rogers has been a member of

the board since March 2011. He is the former chairman and chief executive officer of Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream Inc., where he led the development of the country's largest ice cream company from 1977 to 2007. He later served as non-executive chairman of Levi Strauss & Co. and of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

A Safeway spokesman said the company's board of directors undertook a thorough search and concluded that Edwards is the best candidate to lead Safeway.

Burd has been president of Safeway since October 26, 1992, and CEO since April 30, 1993. He joined the board of directors on Sept. 7, 1993 and has served as chairman of the board since May 12, 1998. He also sits on the board of directors of Kohl's. ■

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Community of Character awards fitting tribute to Juanita Haugen

In a fitting tribute to its founder, Pleasanton's Community of Character Collaborative has selected three prominent residents and a local service club for its prestigious 2013 awards. Those being honored at a May 16 luncheon in the Veterans Memorial Building are Pam Yeaw, a Pleasanton Police Department volunteer; Jim Ott, who started the Poet Laureate program in Pleasanton and is a former school board member; Tom Fox, a local Realtor who has traveled on 17 medical missions around the world at his own expense; and The Rotary Club of Pleasanton, best known for its downtown Spirit runs on Father's Day and Halloween to raise money for scholarships for Pleasanton students and to provide and distribute wheelchairs to the needy in Latin America.

Founded by the late Juanita Haugen, a long-time school board member and a nationally recognized booster of education programs, the Community of Character Award program was established in 2008 to recognize Pleasanton citizens who consistently model high ethical and moral standards of behavior. Recipients are chosen each year for their adherence to the principles the collaborative advocates: Responsibility, Compassion, Self-Discipline, Honesty, Respect and Integrity.

In choosing Pam Yeaw for this year's award, the collaborative cited her 50 to 80 hours of volunteer work each month for the Pleasanton Police Department since the Citizens Academy began in 2007. Most often she works patrol duty, which requires her to drive a squad car and write tickets for handicap and parking violations. Pam also works special events on foot patrol and spends time working with youths who have committed minor offenses. Yeaw has lived in Pleasanton for 32 years, where she and her husband have raised their children. She is a great example of a citizen taking personal responsibility to make Pleasanton a wonderful and safe place to live and work.

The Community of Character Collaborative chose Jim Ott for this year's award in recognition of his work in starting the Poet Laureate program in Pleasanton, where he also served as poet laureate for two years. He also served one term on the Pleasanton school board and has been heavily involved with the Pleasanton Partnerships In Education (PPIE) Foundation, the Pleasanton Youth Master Plan Implementation Committee, the Pleasanton Library Strategic Plan Committee and, for more than 25 years, as a member of the Pleasanton North Rotary Club. An adjunct professor of English at Las Positas College, Ott also hosts a monthly program on community broadcast station TV30 called "In a Word." Over the past five years, he has helped to raise over \$25,000 for local school programs.

This year's award recipient Tom Fox volunteers his time and money to support those in need at both local and global levels. He has been a director on the Chamber of Commerce board and also its foundation arm, president of the downtown Rotary Club, and active as a church volunteer and a nationally recognized volunteer for Rotoplast, a Rotary-affiliated program. At his own expense, he has taken more than 17 Rotoplast trips around the world on medical missions. Fox also supports Pleasanton's Military Families organization, almost always participating in homecoming celebrations for returning Pleasanton GIs from Afghanistan.

This year's Community of Character award to a nonprofit organization is going to the Rotary Club of Pleasanton, often called "Downtown Rotary" and one of three Rotary organizations serving Pleasanton. The downtown club has been active in Pleasanton more than 48 years. The club's dedication to youth is demonstrated through its fundraising efforts that have contributed more than \$320,000 in scholarships to over 240 students based on financial need. Each December, the club also serves holiday dinners to some 350 seniors.

The luncheon is open to the public with tickets costing \$40. Reservations must be made by next Friday, May 10, and can be delivered or mailed to the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94566 or the Community of Character, P.O. Box 21, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ■



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

LETTERS

Flat tires for cyclists

Dear Editor,

I live in Lafayette but often ride my bike through Pleasanton en route to Livermore. I pick up your newspaper whenever I pass through Pleasanton and consult your website from time to time.

Sometime before the afternoon of Saturday, April 27, someone shattered fluorescent light bulbs onto the Iron Horse Trail a little bit east of Santa Rita Road. I have a few photos of the mess. I phoned East Bay Regional Park District police immediately after I rode through the mess.

This seemed to be an intentional effort to cause flat tires to cyclists. It looked to me like it was shattered plastic until after I rode through it. Once I realized it was shattered glass, I stopped and pulled sharp large shards out of my bicycle tires, so fortunately I did not suffer a flat tire 20 miles from home. However, if I had kept riding, the glass likely would have penetrated into the inner tube.

Cyclists in Pleasanton need to beware of the fluorescent blub incident as the culprit possibly will repeat it elsewhere. It was shattered in such a way that there was no good way to avoid the shattered glass.

Jason Bezis, Lafayette

Narum's qualities

Dear Editor,

This week we cast our votes for Kathy Narum for Pleasanton City Council. This was a very easy decision for all three voters in our family.

We believe that Kathy brings the very best qualities to the table, intelligence, experience, dedication and a true love for the city of Pleasanton.

We watched Kathy as she worked tirelessly in her term as president of Pleasanton Seahawks. The team gained a secure financial footing and doubled in size. She brought the same dedication to RAGE, the Parks and Rec Commission, the various task forces she has served on.

She is a dedicated researcher, and looks at all sides of an issue before forming an opinion. She is always open to civil debate to move the cause forward and welcomes understanding from diverse viewpoints. She most definitely will make herself available to the people of Pleasanton.

Finally, she loves Pleasanton, she will fight for this city to keep it healthy economically and to preserve the wonderful quality of life that we all enjoy.

Laura Darrow

Miller for council

Dear Editor,

I believe that David Miller is the

best candidate for City Council. He has 25 years of experience in Silicon Valley technology companies. As a computer designer he was awarded nine patents for his inventions and now he leads teams of engineers to deliver extremely complex projects for his company. We need the same leadership and problem solving abilities on Pleasanton's City Council to bring accountability and results orientation.

David has already demonstrated this ability on many issues facing the city. I was particularly impressed by the way David advocated on behalf of the citizens for a solution to the city's unfunded pension liability that was fair to the taxpayers along with ensuring that the city can meet its obligations to our valued employees.

Tough decisions need to be made that are fair to everyone. Numerous cities are going through bankruptcy proceedings, suing Calpers, etc. We need David's no-nonsense, business oriented approach on the Pleasanton City Council. I am glad he is running for this office.

Please join me in voting for David Miller for the City Council.

Vaidyanathan Venkatesan

Olivia has vision

Dear Editor,

A great City Council is comprised of good people who want to do great things and have the vision to be proactive. We need diversity of opinion in order to have the critical conversations to make the best decisions possible. I am supporting Olivia Sanwong for City Council because she possesses skills that don't exist on the council now, nor with any of the other candidates. She has current 21st century business experience. She is solution driven and she represents a demographic that currently has little voice on the council, young families. Importantly, she is not connected to any interest group. What drives Olivia is civic engagement. She is a product of our educational system. She understands our history and she has a vision for our future. Join me in voting for Olivia Sanwong by dropping your ballot off at 123 Main St. by 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 7.

Cheryl Cook-Kallio

'Why I'm voting for Miller'

Dear Editor,

Dave Miller gets my vote for two primary reasons. First, he appreciates what makes Pleasanton special and understands the need to protect those foundational elements from special interests that would distort them for their own benefits. Second, David has proven that he does his homework to take a fact-based approach to making

See **LETTERS** on Page 13

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LETTERS

Continued from Page 12

decisions that balance the needs of all stakeholders. This is what promotes lasting compromise — the type that makes Pleasanton the great community that it is.

While I may have different perspective on topics from David from time to time, I have found him very open to alternative views. He seeks to understand alternative perspectives and ultimately lets his search for the unbiased facts dictate his positions. Pleasanton needs more independent and engaged leaders such as David. This is why he gets my vote.

Bart Hughes

Supporting Narum

Dear Editor,

I am supporting Kathy Narum for the open seat on the Pleasanton City Council. Kathy has years of leadership experience in the community, including the Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission. Because of her involvement, there will be no learning curve for her on the council. Kathy is a person who is accessible and listens to all people in the community. I can personally attest to the fact that she considers all viewpoints before making a decision. She is an independent thinker and she stands up for what she thinks is right.

Kathy is very supportive of our

schools and I know she will work with the school district in doing what is best for our children. Please join me in voting for Kathy Narum for Pleasanton City Council.

Valerie Arkin, School Board Trustee, Pleasanton Unified School District

Miller understands

Dear Editor,

As a Pleasanton Unified School District parent, I feel it is time we put someone on the City Council that has children in Pleasanton schools. David Miller is that candidate. Why is that important? With three daughters in public schools, he understands the impact that high density housing projects, 30 units per acre, will have on our already overcrowded classrooms.

David is running for the right reasons. He is not running for political gain or to serve special interests who want to urbanize Pleasanton. He is not running to use city government to push an agenda that continues unsustainable fiscal practices. Like many of us, he moved to Pleasanton for the great schools and the small town atmosphere and great community spirit. He wants to protect and preserve our unique Pleasanton lifestyle.

It is time we elect someone who will truly look out for the people of Pleasanton, ensure we grow at a sensible rate, understands the

impacts projects will have on our community before they are approved, and will fight for open government that truly serves the citizens of Pleasanton.

If you feel the same way, then please vote for David Miller.

Mindy Mahoney

Narum works hard for us

Dear Editor,

It is easy to label someone. Her opponent has labeled Kathy Narum as a "bureaucrat." These personal attacks have no place in our community and, in the case of Kathy, nothing can be farther from the truth. I have known Kathy for several years having served with her on the Planning Commission. She has a clear track record of accomplishment. She works hard for the citizens of Pleasanton, and her contributions to the success of the commission and the task forces upon which she serves are well documented. Check her documented record of accomplishment yourself.

Kathy has volunteered literally thousands of hours in the service of this community. She takes the time to learn and fully understand the issues that affect our city. She understands the practicality of what can and cannot be done under the law and, frankly, gets it done.

How has her opponent served our city? In short, other than being

a resident, he hasn't. But when you don't have a track record, you resort to a label to try and divert attention from that fact. Don't be fooled by a disingenuous label. Vote for Kathy Narum for City Council.

Phil Blank

Miller will look out for me

Dear Editor,

Most of us are too busy dealing with the things life is throwing us to pay much attention to local city politics. This is why it is important that we elect someone like David Miller who will watch out for the interests of the average citizen. David is someone I can trust to do the right thing for the citizens of

Pleasanton.

There appears to be several special interest groups who are trying to gain an advantage over city government by influencing their elected officials who are in office for their benefits and raises for their members. Developers have already backed a candidate who has already agreed to allow them to cram more apartments into Pleasanton. I am voting for David Miller because I feel he will look out for me, an average hardworking citizen of Pleasanton. He has not accepted contributions from any special interests.

I urge the citizens of Pleasanton to vote for your candidate, David Miller. He will do a great job as our City Council member.

Sara Volking

YOUR TURN

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

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

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

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

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Concurrent City Council/Pleasanton Joint Powers Financing Authority Item: Authorize the Payoff of the Outstanding 2003 Certificates of Participation for the Golf Course/Senior Center Project
- Approve the allocation of Housing and Human Services Grant (HHS) and Community Grant Program Funds for the Fiscal Year 2013 Grant Funding Cycle (FY 2013-14)
- (B) Approve the Annual Action Plan (FY 2013-14) for the Use of Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds
- Continued from April 16, 2013 – Adopt a resolution to expand the residential permit parking program to include Walnut Drive

Library Commission

Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Library Conference Room, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

- Summer Reading Program
- Report on Tulancingo Libraries
- Commission retreat
- Library Foundation
- Building's 25th Anniversary

Please visit our website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov to view the meeting information for the following:

Planning Commission

Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Civic Arts Commission

Monday, May 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Youth Commission

Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission

Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Historic Preservation Task Force

Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Commission Vacancies Recruitment Extended

The City Council is accepting applications for the following Commission vacancies:

Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee

Civic Arts Commission

Committee on Energy & the Environment

Economic Vitality Committee
for the following groups:

Green Economy/Environmental Industry
Financial Services
Medical Technology
Residential Real Estate Developer

Human Services Commission

Planning Commission

City representative to the Alameda County
Mosquito Abatement District

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

Application deadline Friday, May 3, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

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 completing an interest card on our website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

**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

Community Pulse

By Glenn Wohltmann, gwohltmann@pleasantonweekly.com

POLICE BULLETIN

Pot package leads to bust

A Danville man was arrested for shipping nearly a pound of marijuana after a UPS driver noticed a package with an odd smell and brought it to the Pleasanton Police Department, according to police reports.

The shipper, George Richard Stauffer, 50, was arrested at about 7:37 p.m. April 25 for possession of marijuana for sale and sales or transport of marijuana. Police seized 14.3 ounces of pot from the package.

In other police reports:
• A Cupertino man was arrested for sexual battery and public drunkenness during the early morning hours of April 25.

Paritosh R Kulkarni, 26, was intoxicated when he arrived at the home of an acquaintance in the 4100 block of Vineyard Avenue; the resident told police he attempted to grope her, and was kicked out of the home.

Police found Kulkarni passed out in a flower bed outside. He was arrested at about 2:54 a.m.

• Police have no suspects in an arson reported at about 5:48 p.m. April 29 near the intersection of Main Street

and Del Valle Parkway along the arroyo trail. The small fire burned about 100 square feet of brush and was quickly extinguished.

• Two women made off with about 20 canisters of powdered baby formula in an incident reported at about 1:02 p.m. April 26 at Safeway in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road. Police recovered four canisters that had been dropped outside.

• Two Pleasanton residents reported being victims of felony identity theft in separate incidents over recent days.

In one, a resident of the 4100 block of Alvarado Street told police his debit card has been used to make a purchase of \$574.29 at Walmart.com. That was reported at about 3:56 p.m. April 29.

In the other, a resident of the 1900 block of Brooktree Way told police someone had used his credit card to make Internet purchases of \$76.98 and \$135.96. That was reported at about 11:04 a.m. April 26.

• Richard Duane Rand, 30, of Sacramento was arrested at about 10:23 p.m. April 27 at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Pickens Lane on a felony warrant for parole violation out of Yolo County.

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

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

April 24

Child abuse

■ 7:16 p.m. in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

Theft

■ 11:40 a.m. in the 4300 block of Rosewood Drive; auto theft

■ 5:16 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 6:20 p.m. in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from structure

Battery

■ 2:15 p.m. in the 100 block of Spring Street

■ 5:25 p.m. in the 600 block of St. Mary Street

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 4:02 p.m. in the 7500 block of Driftwood Way; possession of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

■ 5:32 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness

■ 7:33 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; paraphernalia possession

April 25

Sex offense

■ 2:54 a.m. in the 4100 block of Vineyard Avenue

Theft

■ 10:27 a.m. in the 3900 block of Valley Avenue

■ 9:33 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Auto burglary

■ 8:02 a.m. in the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive

■ 7:20 p.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 12:13 a.m. at the intersection of Johnson Drive and Stoneridge Drive;

possession of marijuana

■ 10:03 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; DUI

April 26

Theft

■ 3:06 a.m. in the 5500 block of Johnson Drive; auto theft

■ 11:04 a.m. in the 1900 block of Brooktree Way; fraud

■ 2:37 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting

■ 9:13 p.m. in the 7600 block of Glenbrook Court; bicycle theft

■ 10:20 p.m. in the 5200 block of Genevesio Drive; fraud

Commercial burglary

■ 1:02 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

Auto burglary

■ 8:56 p.m. in the 7600 block of Highland Oaks Drive

Battery

■ 4:33 p.m. in the 4200 block of First Street

Under the influence of drugs

■ 5:46 p.m. in the 6400 block of Owens Drive

April 27

Theft

■ 7:34 a.m. in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive; bicycle theft

■ 12:33 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 7:06 p.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 12:45 a.m. at the intersection of Golden Road and Hopyard Road; DUI

■ 5:51 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Koll Center Drive; under the influence of a controlled substance

■ 7:49 p.m. in the first block of Stoneridge Mall Road; possession of marijuana

■ 10:32 p.m. in the 600 block of Main Street; DUI

■ 10:41 p.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Del Valle Parkway; DUI

April 28

Battery

■ 6:07 p.m. in the 3400 block of National Park Road

Vandalism

■ 5:05 p.m. in the 1500 block of Chatham Place

Marijuana possession

■ 6:24 p.m. in the 6600 block of Johnson Drive

April 29

Arson

■ 5:48 p.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Del Valle Parkway

Theft

■ 3:56 p.m. in the 4100 block of Alvarado Street; fraud

■ 5:44 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 7:59 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Auto burglary

■ 12:20 p.m. in the 3800 block of Keneland Way

Battery

■ 1:39 p.m. in the 4400 block of Willow Road

■ 8:35 p.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Public drunkenness

■ 11:24 p.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

April 30

Theft

■ 12:26 p.m. in the 1500 block of Loganberry Way; bicycle theft

■ 8:19 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 9:23 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Auto burglary

■ 4:12 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

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Council election to be decided Tuesday

Vote-by-mail-only contest seeing fewer votes

BY JEB BING

It's election time again and four candidates — Mark Hamilton, David Miller, Kathy Narum and Olivia Sanwong — are seeking election to the one open Pleasanton City Council seat next Tuesday in what appears to be a lively, robust and heavily promoted contest.

There's just one problem: Very few seem to be voting.

Those who have not yet mailed their ballot to the Alameda County Registrar may want to reconsider dropping the envelopes in the mailbox. Postal service between Pleasanton and Oakland can take several days and ballots must be in the Registrar's office no later than 8 p.m. next Tuesday to be counted.

But not to worry, as the candidates, themselves, are now advising. Pleasanton City Clerk Karen Diaz can accept hand-delivered ballots at her office in the Civic Center complex until 5 p.m. Tuesday, when a representative of the registrar will whisk them to the downtown Oakland office in time to be counted.

Because this election is by mail only, no polling places will be open Tuesday, officially known as Election Day. The council election ballots were sent to each of Pleasanton's 42,485 registered voters on April 8 and voters could choose their candidate and mail them in starting that date.

So far, though, only 12.5% of registered voters have voted, an historically low percentage and well under the 47% of voters who cast their ballots by mail in last November's national and local election.

There's no minimum number of votes that must be cast and it's anybody's guess whether a low turnout, as this election is seeing, helps one candidate over another. Bolstered by flag waving cheerleaders, computer-generated phone calls, door-to-door canvassing and costly campaign promotions and signs, candidates have been hoping to "bring out the votes."

Some of them will make a "last gasp" effort to generate votes tomorrow at Farmers Market in Pleasanton, on sports fields and again at busy street corners.

The special election was called by the council last fall after Councilman Jerry Thorne was elected mayor, leaving two years of his unexpired term as councilman. The candidate chosen to succeed him Tuesday will serve until the 2014 municipal election, and can then seek re-election to that post for a four-year term.

The campaign started in earnest with each of the four candidates answering voters' questions and discussing their governing strengths at a public forum April 9, hosted by the Pleasanton Weekly in the City Council chambers and also broadcast repeatedly in the weeks following by TV30, the community's public broadcast system.

At that forum and in materials made available in their campaigns, each of the four candidates provided information about themselves and their candidacy, which follows in alphabetical order:



JAY FLACHSBARTH

Candidates for the one vacant seat on the City Council — (l-r) Mark Hamilton, David Miller, Kathy Narum and Olivia Sanwong — answer questions at the Pleasanton Weekly forum.

Mark Hamilton

Mark Hamilton, 52, is a 25-year resident of the Bay Area and Pleasanton, where he raised his two sons, who attended Pleasanton schools. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Purdue University and an M.B.A. from Golden Gate University. He is the Financial Services Director at ADP Inc. in Pleasanton, where he has worked for the past 15 years. He also served 24 years as a senior officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. He has been deeply involved in community affairs with a focus on youth groups and athletics. His priorities would include: fiscal management, planned growth, protection of schools, police and fire safety. More information on Hamilton is available at www.HamiltonforPleasanton.com/.



David Miller

David Miller comes from humble beginnings and grew up in small town America. His wife, Laura, is a Chinese immigrant. They have three young daughters and live in Pleasanton. A successful Silicon Valley businessman for 25 years, Miller has helped grow Nvidia from 500 employees to 7,500 with

over \$4 billion in sales annually. Miller said he was encouraged to run for City Council to give business owners, homeowners and taxpayers a greater voice in city government. His priorities include resolving Pleasanton's pension liabilities without raising taxes, fighting special interests that want to create barriers to new business development, and finding new ways for Pleasanton schools to control their budgets without compromising classroom performance. More information is available at www.votedavidmiller.com/.



Kathy Narum

Kathy Narum is an experienced civic leader. Currently in her fifth year as Planning Commissioner, she's also served as a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission and on numerous city task forces and volunteer groups. In addition, she has been a small-business owner and chemical engineer. Her priorities



are to listen to the concerns of all residents and work to maintain Pleasanton's quality of life and small town feel, maintaining fiscal responsibility by reducing the city's unfunded pension liability while increasing revenues, ensuring responsible growth, maintaining Pleasanton's excellent schools, and preserving and creating more parks and open space. More information is available at www.kathynarum.com/.

Olivia Sanwong

Olivia Sanwong represents multiple segments of Pleasanton's population, which she states is the most important reason why she is inspired to run for City Council. Sanwong, who has lived in Pleasanton since 1981, attended schools here, has worked as a high tech professional, and is a member of the city's Economic Vitality and Cultural Plan committees. She was recently appointed by Congressman Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) to the Women's Advisory Committee for California's 15th Congressional District. Her priorities include bringing "fresh new ideas" to the City Council, advancing the city's economy, schools and infrastructure, and holding on to Pleasanton's cultural values. More information is available at www.vote4olivia.com/. ■





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- Best Bank
- Best Commercial Real Estate Service Provider
- Best Computer Repair
- Best Credit Union
- Best Dry Cleaner
- Best Financial Planning Firm (Non-brokerage)
- Best Financial Planning Brokerage
- Best Insurance Agent
- Best Mortgage Company
- Best Mortgage Professional
- Best Photographer
- Best Real Estate Agent
- Best Real Estate Team
- Best Real Estate Office
- Best Title Company

Health & Fitness

- Best Acupuncture
- Best Chiropractic Office
- Best Health Club
- Best Hearing Services
- Best Massage
- Best Martial Arts Studio
- Best Optometrist
- Best Place to Buy Fitness Equipment & Apparel
- Best Place to Walk, Jog or Bike
- Best Yoga / Pilates

Beauty & Style

- Best Consignment Store
- Best Day Spa

- Best Hair Salon for Men
- Best Hair Salon for Women
- Best Jewelry Store
- Best Nail Care
- Best New Retail Store 2012
- Best Place to Buy a Gift
- Best Clothing Store for Women

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- Best American Food Restaurant
- Best Atmosphere
- Best Bakery
- Best Barbecue
- Best Breakfast
- Best Brew Pub / Sports Bar
- Best Burger
- Best Burrito
- Best Chinese Restaurant
- Best Coffee House
- Best French Fries
- Best Grocery Store
- Best Health Food Store
- Best Ice Cream / Yogurt Shop
- Best Italian Restaurant
- Best Kid-Friendly, Non-Chain Restaurant
- Best Main Street Restaurant
- Best Meal Under \$20
- Best Mediterranean / Middle Eastern Restaurant
- Best Mexican Restaurant
- Best New Restaurant 2012
- Best Pizza
- Best Romantic Restaurant
- Best Seafood Restaurant



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- Best Sushi / Japanese Restaurant
- Best Take-out Restaurant
- Best Thai Restaurant
- Best Vegetarian Cuisine

Kids & Pets

- Best Party Place for Kids
- Best Pet Groomer
- Best Pet Store
- Best Place for Dance Lessons
- Best Toy Store
- Best Tutoring School
- Best Veterinarian

Home & Vehicle Maintenance

- Best Antique/Collectibles Store
- Best Art Gallery
- Best Auto Dealership
- Best Auto Detail
- Best Car Wash
- Best Carpet Cleaning Service
- Best Carpet / Flooring Store
- Best Deck and Fencing
- Best Domestic Car Repair
- Best Florist
- Best Foreign Car Repair
- Best Hardware Store
- Best Homebuilder
- Best Home Contractor
- Best Home Furnishings
- Best Nursery / Garden Center
- Best Outdoor Furniture Store
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Rest & Recreation

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WEDDINGS ● ENGAGEMENTS ● OBITUARIES ● BIRTHS

OBITUARIES

PAID OBITUARIES

Ashley Cligny

Feb. 16, 1991-April 28, 2013

Ashley Cligny took her last breath peacefully early Sunday morning with her mother and father by her side. Ashley was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor in October of 2011 while attending the University of California at Davis after transferring from Washington University at the end of her sophomore year. Ashley was described as an "old soul" and enthusiastically lived the typical life of a college student - attending class, playing soccer, making and nurturing friendships and always wanting to spend time with family. In many ways, Ashley will be remembered most for her courageous battle with the disease that would take her life but not conquer her spirit, as she taught us to be positive not negative, lov-

ing not bitter and to marvel at the power of her spirit to overcome her circumstances.

Ashley leaves behind her mother and father, Tani and John Cligny; Sisters, Jonalin McCollum and Janelle Cligny, brother-in-law Matt McCollum; niece Alice McCollum; father James Loughmiller, brother Chase Loughmiller as well as grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

A celebration of Ashley's life and Mass is planned for Friday May 3rd at 11:00 AM at Saint August-

tine's Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Ave, Pleasanton. A reception will immediately follow in Parish Hall. Ashley's interment at Saint Augustine Cemetery in Pleasanton will be private.

Ashley was fortunate to have a world-class medical team at UCSF Medical Center and was especially fond of her therapeutic horseback riding at Hoofprints on the Heart in Livermore. John and Tani ask that in lieu of flowers and in support of those less fortunate that you make generous contributions to: Hoofprints on the Heart, <http://www.hoofarc.org/> and the UCSF Foundation at <https://makeagift.ucsf.edu>. If you can, direct your gift to the Brain Tumor Research Center (B0628) or Child Life Services (B0948). Please make your gifts in Ashley's name.



WEDDINGS

Schuett-Ricci

Kristina Marie Schuett and Stephen Thomas Ricci were married March 23 at the Croatian American Culture Center in Sacramento, where they also had a reception.

Kristina is the daughter of Kathy and Dale Schuett of Pleasanton. She graduated from Amador Valley High in 2005, and from California State University, Sacramento, in 2009. She is employed as a development manager at United Way California Capital Region in Sacramento.

Stephen is the son of Nina Ricci and the late Lino Ricci of Chico. He graduated from Durham High in Chico in 2001, and California State University, Chico, in 2006. He is employed as a senior store manager at Rent-A-Center in Citrus Heights.

The couple honeymooned in Lake Tahoe and are making their home in Sacramento.



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

Art Made Easy — FOR 20 YEARS & COUNTING

*Students tap
inner talents,
take break
from worries*

By Dolores
Fox Ciardelli



Pleasanton artist Charlotte Severin and her students are holding their annual spring exhibit next week, but this time they'll be celebrating a special anniversary. This is the 20th year Severin has been teaching Art Made Easy through the city.

"I started at the Senior Center, 20 years ago," Severin recalled.

Now she teaches in the expansive new art rooms at the Firehouse Arts Center on Railroad Avenue. The exhibit will show works from her fall and winter quarters as well as the spring students.

"I taught beginning classes but people were wanting a more advanced class," Severin said.

Now her classes are for intermediate and advanced students. Her beginner classes are on a set of DVDs at the all three libraries in the Tri-Valley and for sale from her.

"The four DVDs range from the very beginning — how to hold your brush, Chinese brush painting — then moving into flowers, then into the color wheel and still life and about mixing colors, how to hold the brush and control it," she said.

The lessons also include contour drawing, landscapes, mountain scenes, a hypothetical and imaginary desert scene, then on to Mount Diablo.

"If people go through that series then they can come to this class," Severin said.

She encourages people to try her art classes.

"You never know what talent is lying untapped inside of you," she said. "You'd be surprised how many people never thought they had talent. If you stick with it, you can make it successful."

Severin's students rave not just about the painting techniques they learn from her but the therapeutic value of the sessions. Severin agrees.

"Painting is a meditative experience," she said. "It helps a lot of people get through problems. For those three hours your mind is completely off any troubles

you may be having. While doing art, it allows yourself a vacation from worry."

Although Severin works in multimedia, she teaches watercolors in her city-sponsored classes.

"I started as an oil painter when I was 12 but now use acrylics, pastels, drawing with charcoal but primarily do watercolor because I am a plein air artist," she said. "We take trips all over the world — China, Tibet, France Italy, Sicily — so for traveling I bring a block of watercolor paper and I can peel each page off."

"My pull-on cart sits under the seat. It has all my paints, blocks, brushes, even some clothing. It's never away from me. And the handle pulls up and serves as easel. It works wonderfully for traveling all over the world."

She studied at the California College of Arts and Crafts, then earned a nursing degree at Stanford University because her parents didn't think she could earn a living painting.

"But I always had a love of people, and I've always been grateful for my education in nursing," she said. "It helped me be a good mother, and when I had breast cancer in 1976."

Severin's classes include many older people, she said, which is a joy.

"It opens a new world to people, especially as people get on in life," she said. "We have some painting until the very end of life."

She also has middle-aged and younger adults in her classes, which accepts students 13 and older.

"Art is very healing," agreed Steffi Gross, who has painted with Severin on and off while raising her two daughters, now 24



and 20.

"I joined the class with an extensive art and photo background," Gross said. "My kids were little and I needed to get out after dealing with breast cancer. For three hours you think only of painting and leave your worries at home."

"After joining the class I found out Charlotte also had dealt with the disease," Gross added. "She brought in a breast examination chart kit during Cancer Awareness month — still a nurse at heart."

"She is very encouraging for those who are new to being creative," Gross said.

Severin is going to demonstrate painting on Yupo paper in Niles from 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, May 8, sponsored by the Fremont Art Association. She'll also be teaching a course in Mendocino from Aug. 18-23. Contact her for more information at 846-6382. In the fall, Severin's classes will resume from 1-4 p.m. Thursdays for six weeks.

"Celebrating 20 Years of 'Art Made Easy'" will be on display from May 6-13 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. An opening reception will take place from 7-9 p.m., Monday, May 6. ■



Members of the cast enact the abduction of Sita by Ravana: Madhumitha Krishnan, Sika Lonner, Sara Jeffrey, Leigh Hooks, Michelle Fomin, Daniel Golubchik and Aaron Guerra.

Centuries-old Indian tale comes to Firehouse

Epic compared to Greek mythology, 'Lord of the Rings'

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

The Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company is presenting "Ramayana," the stage adaptation of the ancient epic tale from South and Southeast Asia, at the Firehouse Theater for two weekends, May 10-12 and May 17-19.

The production is based on a centuries-old Sanskrit legend of Prince Rama, who would like to be a peaceful man but finds that some evils are so great, he must fight against them.

The story of Prince Rama spans seven books and 24,000 verses, according to some sources. The tale is said to have been passed down through generations via oral tradition, until it was written down by the poet Valmiki more than two millennia ago.

"There is a reason it's been popular in South Asia for thousands of years," said Artistic Director Ennals. "It has a little bit of something for everyone — adventure, romance, questions of right and wrong and what it means to be human."

"The themes of the story are still relevant today," she added.

Over the centuries, "Ramayana" has been retold thousands of times in countless regional languages and dialects. It continues as a living tradition in India, Nepal and Southeast Asia, with its story tightly woven into the fabric of family life, and continues to inspire works of art and literature.

The production's director is Michael Truman Cavanaugh with San Francisco Shake-

speare Festival and a graduate of the Dell'Arte School of Physical Theater. Cavanaugh compares the story to Greek mythology or epic tales like "The Lord of the Rings" saga.

It's a physical event, incorporating partner acrobatics, also known as AcroYoga, which involves simple lifts and sharing weight using acrobatic positions and movement.

Choreographer and movement director Amelia Adams taught cast members from age 7 to senior citizens how to perform moves that represent everything from soaring vultures to terrifying demons to Hanuman, the flying monkey god.

The ensemble for the show, the final production of the season, is made up of young people primarily from the Tri-Valley area, with a number of returning actors as well as many performing with the company for the first time.

The prince is portrayed by guest artist Salim Razawi, a national theater and debate competition award winner. Rama's nemesis, Ravana, King of the Demons, is played in alternate casts by local actor Jeff Zolfarelli and Oakland-based guest artist Leighland Hooks.

The role of Princess Sita is shared by Avery Clinton, who recently played Annika in "Pippi Longstocking," and Madhumitha Krishnan, who is performing her first role with Civic Arts Stage Company.

Aaron Guerra and Daniel Golubchik share the role of Rama's faithful brother and side-kick

Lakshmana. Hanuman, Rama's devoted servant, is played by Sika Lonner and Michelle Fomin.

Shows are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; and at 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, at the Firehouse Theater, 4444 Railroad Ave.

Tickets are \$10, \$15, \$18; child or senior, \$6, \$9, \$12. Purchase online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 931-4848, or in person at the Box Office. ■

'Broadway Bash'

Enjoy a romp through Broadway's best party songs

Love those Broadway songs?

Join Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre's 80-member Broadway Chorus next weekend as it presents "Broadway Bash," a lively romp through some of Broadway's best party songs. Selections include "The Life of the Party" from "The Wild Party"; "Hostess with the Mostess" from "Call Me Madam"; "Masquerade" from "Phantom of the Opera"; "Raise the Roof" from "The Wild Party"; and "Dancing through Life" from "Wicked."

The show will also include the Broadway Kids Chorus, made up of local children in grades 1-8, directed by Jenny Matteucci and Glen Riggs. The show is directed by Jenny Matteucci, accompanied by Daniel Lockert, and produced by JoAnn Loitz.

Three performances will be held, at 8 p.m., Friday, May 10; 8 p.m., Saturday, May 11; and at 2 p.m., Sunday, May 12, which is Mother's Day. The show takes place at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road.

Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$17, seniors; \$10, under 18. There is a 10% discount when tickets are purchased at the door by those who hold a Broadway Chorus "business card" available from any Broadway Chorus member.

For more information visit www.broadwaychorus.org or call 462-2121. ■

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<p>Desserts Cheese Cake, Fresh Fruit, Creme Brulee</p>		

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



Author Visits

BOOK CELEBRATION WITH HELENE WECKER Join Towne Center Books and Pleasanton author Helene Wecker as they celebrate her debut novel "The Golem and the Jinni," at 4 p.m., Saturday, May 4, at 555 Main St. Call 846-8826.

Classes

BEGINNING DRAWING Want to draw but don't know where to begin? Let this class show you the way, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays, May 4-25, at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Cost is \$89. Contact Frances Deniso at 424-1467 or commed@laspositascollege.edu.

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.

Clubs

CLUTTERLESS SPECIAL SPEAKER Sandy and Jim Trout will discuss "Setting Up Your Plan of Action" and "Organizing Your Project" at a special open ClutterLess meeting, at 7 p.m., Monday, May 13, at St. Mary and St. John Coptic Orthodox Church, 4300 Mirador. RSVP at 525-3992, or ClutterlessPleasanton@hotmail.com.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION The Jose Maria Amador Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, NSDAR, meets at 10 a.m., the second Saturday of each month Sept. through May. It is a social gathering and time to explore the history of our American roots. For more information contact the chapter's regent Diane Groome at dggroome@comcast.net.

DBE (DAUGHTERS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE) Welcome to ladies of British or British Commonwealth Heritage. DBE holds monthly meetings at 11 a.m. on the third Thursday at Castlewood Country Club. Members focus on philanthropy, enjoy social interaction and form long-lasting friendships while contributing to local charities and supporting retirement homes in the USA. Call Edith at 998-3500.

TRI-VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED PRESENTATION Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated presents Mimi Steel, founder of Bay Area Citizens for Sustainable Liberty, at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 9, at Cattlemens Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Road, Livermore. Cost is \$26 members, \$30 non-members. Contact coupclan1962@pacbell.net or 462-4931. RSVP by May 1.

Concerts

PACIFIC CHAMBER SYMPHONY The Pacific Chamber Symphony concert, featuring pieces by Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven, will begin at 8 p.m., Saturday, May 11, at Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Cost is \$30-\$45, students \$7. Call 373-6800.

WINGS GUITARIST LAURENCE JUBER Acoustic guitar virtuoso and composer, two-time Grammy winner and former lead guitarist for Wings Laurence Juber will perform a solo concert at 8 p.m., Saturday, May 4, at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Cost is \$15-\$25, group discounts available. Call 931-4848.

Events

'THE BIG DRAW' The city of Pleasanton is sponsoring an arts day, "The Big Draw," from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, May 11, which will take place downtown. The organizers are looking for people who are interested in showing off all different types of art forms to the public, including dance, literary, music and visual. The event will emphasize the talent of our youth, and money raised will go toward supporting art programs in our schools. Contact the city of Pleasanton at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/contact/.

5TH ANNUAL A RUN TO REMEMBER The California Peace Officers Association presents this 5K and 10K walk/run honoring those who've lost their lives in the line of duty while making our lives safer on Saturday, May 11, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area. Cost is \$20-\$40. Contact (209) 795-7832, onyourmarkevents.com, or active.com.

COME SHOP AND NETWORK GNON (Girls Night Out Networking) is offering ladies a chance to mingle and shop at Kali Kouture, from 5-8 p.m., Thursday, May 16, at 1883 Second St., Livermore. \$10 for members; \$15, non-members. RSVP by May 14 at gnoners@gmail.com.

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY Come to Free Comic Book Day at Heroes and Villains Comics, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, May 4, at 264 Main St. Meet special guest artists and the best Bay Area cosplayers. Contact Jim at 399-5352 or pleasantoncomics@gmail.com.

MEETING FOR VFW POST 75 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., Post 75, will next meet at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 15, at the Veterans Memorial Building, 400 Hartz Ave., Danville. Contact Post Commander Ernie Petagara at 362-9806.

PLEASANTONIANS 4 PEACE Pleasantonians 4 Peace sponsors a candlelight vigil at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main St. The group reflects on the human and monetary costs of the war, honors veterans

who have sacrificed, and visualizes ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. They plan to continue this monthly event as long as necessary. Contact Cathe Norman at 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or visit www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org.

PLEASANTONIANS 4 PEACE WAR PROTEST Pleasantonians 4 Peace will hold a peaceful war protest from 5-6 p.m., Wednesday, May 22, at the corners of First and Neal streets. Call Cathe Norman at 462-7495 or visit www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org.

SAY GOODBYE TO MR. JIM HANSEN Amador Valley High School PTSA invites you to say goodbye to departing principal Jim Hansen, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 15, at The Wine Steward, 641 Main St. Enjoy a glass of wine with Mr. Hansen and light hors d'oeuvres at the wine bar. Cost is \$20 before May 8, \$25 after. Contact robceg@yahoo.com to RSVP.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY SPRING TEA The Faith Chapel Women's Ministry presents the Water into Wine theme at the annual Spring Tea with guest speaker Kim Dunn, from noon-2 p.m., Saturday, May 18, at Faith Chapel, 6656 Alisal St. Cost is \$20. Call 846-8650.

Film

'MAKING A KILLING' "Making a Killing" is the untold story of the psychotropic drug industry. Meet and greet potluck at 6:30 p.m., film from 7-9:30 p.m., Saturday, May 4, at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy., Dublin. Contact 462-3459 or flickknight@gmail.com.

Fundraisers

24-HOUR-LIVE-IN-YOUR-CAR-A-THON Shepherd's Gate of Livermore, which provides shelter for battered and homeless women and children, is seeking participants and sponsors for its "24 In Your Car" event May 18-19, in which participants live in their car for 24 hours. The event is designed to bring awareness to the issues of homelessness, and funding to support the programs helping homeless women and children at Shepherd's Gate. Visit www.24inyourcar.com to find out how you can help.

FOOTHILL CHEER CAR WASH Got dirt? Come get your car hand-washed by cheerleaders and support the Foothill High School Cheer Program, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, May 4, and Sunday, May 5, at Goodyear Tire Center, 2 California Ave. \$10 donation.

HIDDEN GARDENS OF THE VALLEY TOUR This unique fundraiser features a self-guided, rain-or-shine tour of 10 beautiful private gardens throughout Pleasanton, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, May 19. Cost is \$35 to benefit the Valley Humane Society. Contact Charli Hyden at 918-0799 or charlihyden@comcast.net.

JUST LIKE NEW FUND - SPRING FLING BOUTIQUE The Spring Fling Boutique will be 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, May 4, at Feline Medical Center, 3160 Santa Rita Road. New arrivals for spring and Mother's Day include garden art, home decor, and animal-themed gifts. Drawings for gift baskets. Benefits the Just Like New Fund, a Valley Humane Society medical fund for community animals. Contact Cindy Ferrin at 323-8517 or visit ValleyHumane.org.

PLEASANTON HALF MARATHON Come to the annual Pleasanton Half Marathon and 5k Family Fun Run, on Sunday, May 5, starting at Pleasanton Sports and Recreation Park. Proceeds go to athletic booster clubs for Amador and Foothill High Schools. Contact ryan@usaproductions.org for more information.

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PRIMAVERA DINNER DANCE The Italian Catholic Federation Branch presents this fundraiser for Tri-Valley Scholarship programs at 6 p.m., Saturday, May 4, at St. Michaels Hall, 372 Maple St., Livermore. Cost is \$35. RSVP required. Call 373-4821 or 846-4227.

THE HIKE FOR HOPE Gather your family, friends and co-workers or come solo for The Hike for Hope to benefit Hope Hospice, on Saturday, May 4, at Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore. Check-in is from 8:30-10 a.m. Registration fee is \$25 before April 18, \$35 after. Go to TheHikeForHope.com or call 829-8770.

TIMMY CHALLENGE GOLF TOURNAMENT Raise money to help families struck by tragedy while enjoying meals, golf, on-course beverages, games, auctions and more. Event takes place noon-8 p.m., Monday, May 6, at Castlewood Country Club. Cost is \$150. Call 216-4863 or go to www.timmychallenge.com.

VALLEY PREGNANCY'S WALK FOR LIFE Come enjoy a two-mile walk to support a great cause. Valley Pregnancy Center is sponsoring a walkathon with the goal of raising \$100,000 to support its free services, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Saturday, May 4, at Amador Recreation Center, 5776 Stoneridge Mall Road., Ste 200. Call 425-0414.

Kids & Teens

FIESTA ADOBE Come to the Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road, 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, May 4, and explore the traditions of the California Rancho period with crafts and games. Ages 5-12. Cost is \$5. Preregistration required at www.pleasantonfun.com using the code 54774. Call 931-3483 for details.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL Using time tested recipes and human energy, you can concoct yummy ice cream the old fashioned way. Come 12:30-1:30 p.m., Saturday, May 11, at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Rd. Ages 5-12. Cost is \$3. Preregistration required at www.pleasantonfun.com using the code 54769. Call 931-3483 for details.

STROLLER PATROL Bring out your little ones, a sense of adventure, and a stroller for some outdoor adventure and fun, 9-10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 18, at Bernal Community Park. Ages up to 4. Cost is \$3. Register online at www.pleasantonfun.com. with code 54767. Contact 931-3483.

Lectures/ Workshops

ADDRESSING PROBLEM BEHAVIORS AND STRESS FOR CAREGIVERS Learn practical techniques for problem solving challenging behaviors common in dementia and practical techniques for addressing caregiver stress, from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 28, at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5365.

FORMER AMBASSADOR TO VATICAN ON PAPAL ELECTION Ray Flynn, former U.S. Ambassador to

the Vatican, will be sharing his insights on the recent Papal election at May's Catholics@Work monthly breakfast, 7-8:15 a.m., Tuesday, May 14, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Dr., Danville. Cost is \$20-\$25. Contact 525-0272 or Info@CatholicsAtWork.org.

LOSE YOUR LAWN This how-to talk will provide design and plant selection advice, a sheet mulching demo, and a free copy of the Bay-Friendly Gardening Guide. From 10-11:30 a.m., Saturday, May 18, at Western Garden Nursery, 2756 Vineyard Ave. Contact (510) 859-8026 or info@BayFriendlyCoalition.org.

Live Music

AFRICAN DANCE AND DRUM Enjoy an unforgettable evening with the Chinyakare Ensemble at 6 p.m., Thursday, May 9, at Las Positas College Amphitheater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Contact programs@chezanami.org.

BONFIGLIO-BEDROSSIAN-ANDERSON TRIO Enjoy a Mother's Day treat with Bonfiglio-Bedrossian-Anderson Trio performing music by Beethoven, Muczynski, Bruch and Brahms at 2 p.m., Sunday, May 12, at Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Road, Livermore. A suggested donation of \$15-\$25 will benefit the Unitarian Universalist Church Youth Program.

Miscellaneous

OPEN MIC NIGHT Poets, prose and songwriters, come to the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., at 6 p.m., Monday, May 13, for open mic night. Contact Jordan Bernal at openmic@trivalleywriters.org or 931-3400, ext. 7.

VFW-AL COFFEE AND DONUTS Every Saturday morning from 7:30-9 a.m., the VFW and American Legion host coffee and donuts for all veterans at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. All veterans are welcome. Visit www.vfwpost6298.com.

Seniors

PEDDLER SHOPPE AT THE SENIOR CENTER The Peddler Shoppe in the lobby of the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., offers the handmade wares of talented local senior artisans. It's a great place to buy gifts. The Shoppe is staffed by volunteers and is open to the public 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; 6 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday evenings; and 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday monthly.

SENIOR HOUSING AND SERVICES IN PLEASANTON Get information on current and future senior housing opportunities, including below-market rents, low-income housing, and assisted living, from 10:30-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 14, at Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Contact 931-5365 or astatham@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

WALKING SOLE MATES Join the Pleasanton Senior Center as we kick off our new walking group. Get out and meet new people while

walking the Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail with them. Meet at the staging area or register to ride over on Paratransit. For more information please contact the Senior Center front desk at 931-5365. 8:45-11 a.m. Wednesdays. Free. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. 931-535. www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org

Support Groups

BREAK AWAY RESPITE Spring time is a time to renew and refresh. If you have a special needs child in grades K-8, join 1-4 p.m., Saturday, May 11, at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valley Pkwy. Contact Shelly Welsh at 580-4392 or welshx4@att.net.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP The American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Support group meets from 7:30-9 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at LifeStyleRx, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Call 833-2784 or visit www.valleycare.com. 7:30-9 p.m. Free

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP Caring for a loved one is challenging physically and emotionally. Join this support group to explore resources and generate problem solving ideas from 1-3 p.m., on the second Monday of every month at 5353 Sunol Blvd. Get the support you deserve at the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. Call 931-5389.

CHILD LOSS Hope Hospice is holding eight-week sessions to provide a way to explore grief in a safe and supportive environment. Sessions will be held 7-8:30 p.m., Mondays, May 6-July 1, at 6377 Clark Ave., Ste 100, Dublin. Call 829-8770.

EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR SUPPORT GROUP If you have recently been diagnosed with ET or would like to learn more about this common movement disorder in a safe and supportive environment, please join us from 10 a.m.-noon on the third Saturday of each month, in the Blackhawk A and B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Rd. For more information, view their blog at www.eastbayet.com or call 487-5706 or email eastbayet@comcast.net.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI) NAMI Tri-Valley Parent Resource and Support Group meets twice a month for parents with children to age 17 diagnosed or suspected of having bipolar or other mood disorders. It meets from 7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month at Pathways To Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 114, Pleasanton. The group is drop-in, no registration required and is free. For more information contact Suzi Glorioso at 443-1797 or email glorios4@comcast.net.

PARENT LOSS Hope Hospice is providing free support groups as a way to explore grief in a safe and supportive environment. Sessions will be held 7-8:30 p.m., Wednesdays, May 8-June 26, at 6377 Clark Ave., Ste. 100, Dublin. Call 829-8770 or visit www.hopehospice.com.

Camp Connection

GUIDE TO 2013 SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS

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Pleasanton, CA 94588
(925) 600-7267
www.pansonfire.com
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enGAGE! Summer Enrichment Camp inspires kids to stretch themselves beyond grade level standards and use higher order thinking skills to become creative problem solvers. enGAGE! students thrive with time and encouragement to deeply investigate topics of interest and learn to ask questions that will lead to a lifetime of discovery. Two-week or four-week options for incoming 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th graders. Courses include Creative Writing Through Creative Reading, Brain Fitness Through Art, Creative Problem Solving, Music Production, Digital Arts & Animation, Basic Programming, LEGO NXT Robotics and Kinesiology for Kids. Session 1 is June 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, July 1, 2 & 3 and Session 2 is July 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17 & 18. Hours are 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.

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www.KidzKraftz.com

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Pleasanton, CA 94566
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(925) 846-6363
Register: www.trinitypleasanton.org

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For more information about these camps, see our online directory of camps at PleasantonWeekly.com/Camps.



Parent photographers

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

BUSC U15 Premier heads to State Cup final this weekend

BUSC U15 Premier will meet the Stockton Monarcas Aztec Warriors at 11 a.m. Sunday in Turlock in a soccer match for the NorCal State Cup.

The BUSC team returned to the soccer State Cup quarterfinal for the second year in a row April 20, determined to change the results from last year. Their opponent was the two time defending State Cup champions from Redwood City, Juventus Heat 1. BUSC won, 2-1.

The next day, BUSC faced the PAC Indios. The half ended 0-1 for Indios. The second half got under way with BUSC stepping up the line of defending.

Indios caused some trouble by blasting the ball and chasing it, only to be thwarted on each attempt by the BUSC center backs Nick Tucker and Armon Ojuola. BUSC attacking midfielder Zachery Connelly gained control of the ball just outside of the Indios penalty box, and sprinted toward the goal. He was about to shoot, and an Indios defender made a foul from behind. A penalty kick was awarded to BUSC. Sam Molz stepped to the spot and smashed the ball into the back of the net to even the game, 1-1.

Because this is a knockout tournament, the game continued into two five-minute Golden Goal Overtime periods, meaning sudden death. Ryan Racer hit a low hard ball that made it to the far side of the goal mouth. Jamal Dessouky then struck the ball into the top of goal. The game ended here, 2-1, with BUSC winning Golden Goal.

This team has been on a roll this year. In the fall, it finished second in the prestigious NorCal National Premier League, losing out on first place by one goal.

The core of the team has been together since they played in U9s and 10s. ■



BUSC U15 Premier, jubilant after winning the State Cup soccer semifinals, are (back row, l-r) Coach Josh McKay, Sam Molz, Julian Dessouky, Cameron Ritchie, Ryan Racer, Jamal Dessouky, Jackson Still, Youki Chiba, (front) Geoffrey Wiederecht, Jeffrey Klei, Armon Ojoula, Tim San Ford, Omeed Ziari, Nick Tucker, Rodrigo Diaz and Mitchell Wilson.

AVHS basketball wins scholastic award

Varsity has top GPA in North Coast Section

By DOLORES FOX GIARDELLI

The boys varsity basketball team at Amador Valley High has bragging rights that go beyond the court, where it reached the first round of North Coast Section finals in February. The team was awarded an NCS Scholastic Championship Team Award for Division 1, due to the 3.51 GPA of its members.

"I've never had a team that has such a strong GPA so this was a new experience for me," said head coach Ralph Fields. "It's definitely something to be proud of."

Fields has been coaching basketball for 15 years, the last five at Amador.

"As a coach you're always worried about one or two guys, but this year not at all," he said. "All of our seniors are going off to college, nice colleges. The award is a nice thing for the community, for the school and for the basketball program."

Fields surprised the varsity with the award at the end of the season basketball banquet, which was held with the JV and freshman teams also.

"They set a very high standard," Fields said. "It's nice that the younger guys got to see that and know it's important."

He said team members may have been surprised to find out that their fellow players also receive top grades.

"Guys don't know the guy's GPA next to them — it's not typical locker room talk," Fields said.

"I think this is not just about the basketball program," he added. "It's about the staff at Ama-



CONTRIBUTED

Members of the Amador Valley High's varsity basketball team celebrate their NCS Scholastic Championship Team Award for Division 1.

dor, the administration, our athletic director Lou Cesario, our parents all working together. It's a total team effort."

Team members are Anthony Adams, Brad Carbine, Stockley Chafee, Jamaun Charles, Jeros Domagas, Glenn Leininger, Mat Macapagal, Max Molz, Austin Piscotty, Scott Rasnick, Nick Reyes, Brandon Ruotolo, Josh Slaton, David Wang and Josh Weiman. Assistant coaches are Steve Cain, Dave Goldman, Chris Norwood and Bill Martin.

Other Division 1 basketball teams that received the award are Mission San Jose High School in Fremont, with a 3.68 GPA; and San Ramon Valley High in Danville, with a 3.38 ■



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OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Alamo

6 BEDROOMS

100 Bridges Ct **\$2,750,000**
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 837-4100

Danville

3 BEDROOMS

1605 Brush Creek Place **\$748,888**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

4 BEDROOMS

1610 Fountain Springs Circle **\$779,000**
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

3601 Country Club Terrace **\$2,650,000**
Sat 1-4 Tom Slape 209-915-5638

575 Grimsby Lane **\$899,950**
Sun 1-4 Bob & Deb Cilk 487-8734

Dublin

2 BEDROOMS

3360 Maguire Way **\$439,900**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

3 BEDROOMS

4727 Fawn Way **\$660,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Mark Kotch 989-1581

4665 Newhaven St **\$710,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Andrea Rozran 858-4198

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS

4063 Page Court **\$625,000**
Sat/Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

4149 Cristobal Way **Call for price**
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3276 Northampton Ct **\$769,000**
Sun 1-4 Katie Moe 216-9083

6828 Corte Salcedo **\$775,000**
Sat 1-4/Sun 2-5 Julia Murtagh 997-2411

7755 Country Lane **\$1,850,000**
Sun 1-4 Moxley Team 600-0990

1582 Poppybank Ct **\$710,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

4728 Amanda Place **\$1,295,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Gail Boal 577-5787

5 BEDROOMS

959 Oak Manor Way **\$2,149,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Tom Fox 872-1275

8005 Regency Drive **\$1,438,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Cindy Gee 963-1984

3785 Smallwood Ct **\$2,499,000**
Sun 1-4 Weiner McDowell 251-2585

San Ramon

5 BEDROOMS

30 Satin Leaf Ct **\$1,630,000**
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Luxury homes sales in Pleasanton nearly doubled in March

Sellers receive average of 103.5% of asking price, up from 98.4% a year ago

By JEB BING

Luxury home sales in the East Bay nearly doubled in March compared to February levels as the high-end market continued to surge with the spring home buying season under way.

In a report by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, based on Multiple Listing Service data of all homes sold for more than \$1 million last month in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, a total of 162 homes sold for more than \$1 million in March, up from 83 transactions in February.

Sales were also up 46% from last March, when 111 luxury sales were recorded.

The median sale price of a luxury home last month rose 5.2% from a year ago to reach \$1,304,000 in March. On a monthly basis, the median edged down 3% from February.

The upper end of the market showed particular strength in March with 15 sales of more than \$2 million, up from just four a year ago and 10 in February.

All other key indicators for the luxury market improved last month from the previous month and a year ago. Homes on average sold in fewer days, and sellers received a

higher percentage of their asking price.

"The East Bay's luxury market has continued its upward momentum with the spring home buying season in full swing," said Rick Turley, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "We're gradually getting more inventory on the market, but it's still not enough to meet the strong buyer demand."

Some key findings from this month's report:

- The most expensive sale in the East Bay last month was a five-bedroom, seven-bath approximately 6,500-square-foot home in Danville that sold for \$4 million;

- Lafayette boasted the most million-dollar sales with 19, followed by Fremont with 18, Danville and Pleasanton with 17, Oakland with 13, Alamo and San Ramon with 10, and Orinda, Moraga and Berkeley with nine each;

- Homes sold in an average of 25 days, down from 57 days a year ago and 43 days the previous month;

- Sellers received an average of 103.5% of their asking price, up from 98.4% a year ago and 101.5% the previous month. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

Dublin Mar. 13-25

Total sales reported: 8
Lowest sale reported: \$350,000
Highest sale reported: \$935,000
Average sales reported: \$616,000

Livermore Mar. 13-25

Total sales reported: 11
Lowest sale reported: \$224,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,225,000
Average sales reported: \$535,318

Pleasanton Mar. 13-25

Total sales reported: 9
Lowest sale reported: \$345,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,450,000
Average sales reported: \$897,000

San Ramon Apr. 9-18

Total sales reported: 18
Lowest sale reported: \$150,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,148,000
Average sales reported: \$733,889

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This weeks data represents homes sold during Mar.13-Apr.18

Dublin

4710 Chestnut Court M. & S. Kim to S. Chandrasekaran for \$935,000
6971 Dublin Meadows Street #C Montano Trust to M. Shays for \$350,000
3420 Finnian Way #426 Toll Dublin Limited to E. Jo for \$358,000
4737 Mangrove Drive #57 Schonenberger Trust to C. & N. Ball for \$470,000
6877 Maple Drive R. & C. Strope to J. & C. Romero for \$540,000
7611 Red Hills Court Y. Liu to M. Gu for \$905,000
4858 Swinford Court S. Sundararajan to J. & H. Kim for \$500,000
2912 West Castle Pines Terrace M. & R. Lucas to A. Poghosyan for \$870,000

Livermore

739 Alden Lane J. & J. Burton to N. & D. Desai for \$972,000
6421 Almaden Way J. Smith to D. Stephenson for \$465,000
713 El Caminito Newport Murrieta Land Company to M. & G. Montalvo for \$480,000
168 Gillette Place #104 Signature at Station

Square to L. Pedro for \$372,500
548 Heligan Lane #1 Shea Homes to J. & M. Factora for \$473,000
619 Jade Place US Bank to M. & K. Cranney for \$437,000
397 Marie Common Mckay Trust to C. Marcroft for \$350,000
1267 Meadow Drive Willis Trust to Hajduk Trust for \$560,000
2257 Minerva Court Ahrendt Trust to R. & E. Hoogner for \$1,225,000
1087 Murrieta Boulevard #152 N. Ramirez to H. Nga for \$224,000
1117 Olivina Avenue C. & C. Haupt to Grace Property Investment for \$330,000

Pleasanton

2156 Alexander Way C. Yu to E. Andres for \$500,000
5742 Belleza Drive Q. Le to R. Suvasubramanian for \$560,000
232 Birch Creek Terrace M. Meschitehrani to F. Habibian for \$345,000
3274 Burgundy Drive Diez Trust to B. & T. Olson for \$856,000
6376 Hansen Drive Y. & P. Kang to G. Pai for \$780,000

See SALES on Page 28

Love Where You Live



Pending in 6 days!

6821 Payne Ct,
Pleasanton

Walking distance from schools and parks, this move-in ready home is ready for your family!
Price \$709,000

Just Listed in the Pleasanton Meadows

3276 Northampton Ct,
Pleasanton

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Open House Sun 1-4

Contact Katie for additional details!



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4063 Page Ct., Pleasanton
Cute as a button! 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on a rare 10,000 sq ft lot with side access! Build a detached garage...the possibilities are endless. Beautifully remodeled kitchen and bathrooms, cozy family room with fireplace.
\$625,000

COMING SOON



On a Clear Day You Can See Forever!
Magnificent views from this 5 bdrm, 3 bath home nestled in the peaceful hills of Pleasanton. Gourmet Cherry & Granite Slab Kitchen with every upgrade a chef can dream of! Over 2800 sq ft in Vintage Hills...Call for more details!



5102 Bianca Way, Livermore

1775 sq ft, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bathrooms. Great backyard with spa and firepit, 13,000+ sq ft lot. Work in progress. Offered at \$620,000

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granite counters,
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Pending in 5 days with multiple offers!



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liz.venema@comcast.net

Open Sat/Sun 1-4



New on the Market — 959 Oak Manor Way, Pleasanton

Beautiful one of a kind, custom built home on a gated, private court. 5 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms, approx 5,389 sq ft. Secluded lot is over 59,000 sq ft w/ absolutely breathtaking views. Gourmet kitchen, 3 fireplaces & an elevator. Professionally landscaped yard w/pool and spa. Offered at \$2,149,000



Tom Fox
Broker Associate LIC # 00630556
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New Listing
1121 Via Di Salerno,
Pleasanton
(Ruby Hill)

6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths
6774 SF on .56 acre
lot. Stunning French
Country home on
the golf course.
Offered at
\$2,550,000



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4728 Amanda Pl,
Pleasanton

Gorgeous 4 bed/3
bath Shapell home
in desirable Bonde
Ranch! One bed/
bath downstairs,
gourmet remodeled
kitchen, upgrades
throughout, fun
backyard with pool/
spa/waterfall/built-in BBQ. Offered price is \$1,295,000

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



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3710 Smallwood Court, Pleasanton

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SALES

Continued from Page 26

- 2145 Rheem Drive** N. Zamora to S. Hong for \$517,000
 - 294 Trenton Circle** R. & K. Ayala to J. Zan for \$505,000
 - 1313 Via Di Salerno** Warren Trust to Mcpherson Trust for \$2,450,000
 - 1916 Via Di Salerno** Anderson Trust to A. & D. Reddy for \$1,560,000
- ### San Ramon
- 158 Arapaho Circle** K. & D. Knowles to A. & C. Auyeung for \$905,000
 - 9804 Belladonna Drive** Q. Ouyang to H. Athikayala for \$685,000
 - 1120 Bellingham Square** B. Memarzadeh to T. & C. Hughes for \$1,032,000
 - 9531 Davona Drive** L. & K. Porter to R. & V. Mutupuru for \$610,000
 - 2213 Dewberry Drive** C. & N. Chon to C. & A. Byers for \$831,000
 - 135 Fallbury Court** A. McCoy to C. Xu for \$900,000

- 6061 Hedgecrest Circle** J. Kendall to W. Sung for \$835,000
- 612 Kyler Court** G. Chen to V. & S. Bala for \$1,148,000
- 716 Lakemont Place #9** A. & M. Kayoumy to T. & K. Johnson for \$699,000
- 107 Medinah Place** R. Tessandori to K. Martin for \$635,000
- 181 Norris Canyon Terrace #A** Oconnor Trust to L. Ling for \$360,000
- 726 Pradera Way** Nationstar Mortgage to S. Chu for \$820,000
- 130 Reflections Drive #16** D. Rudkoff to S. Swebston for \$150,000
- 60 Sota Place** M. & K. Symons to R. Spratling for \$701,000
- 922 Springview Circle** Federal Home Loan Mortgage to W. Grizzell for \$450,000
- 755 Watson Canyon Court #131** H. & U. Gangadhara to D. Ames for \$377,000
- 4 Westside Place** Steinger Trust to S. & L. Sivaswarupan for \$1,067,000
- 3560 York Lane** T. Vanbui to P. Lee for \$1,005,000

HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

4667 WHITING STREET, PLEASANTON, \$510,000

This adorable bungalow is the quintessential downtown Pleasanton home and is located on a quiet street just a few short blocks from Main Street. It will soon undergo an extensive remodel and expansion. When completed, it will be a true modern classic; artfully combining today's amenities and comforts with the original downtown feel and charm of Pleasanton's past. Keep an eye out for it late this summer or feel free to track the progress at: www.PleasantonRealEstate.com/4667-whiting-street-pleasanton. Sold by Gina Piper at Better Homes and Gardens Tri-Valley Realty (925) 200-0202



TOP PRODUCER Caring Professional Hardworking



Just Listed
Open Sat/Sun 1-4

8005 Regency Dr.
Laguna Oaks beauty! Granite, hardwood, stainless, huge master suite with VIEWS of the ridge, updated baths and more. Must see!

Coming Soon

7985 Paragon Cir.
Updated 1 story beauty in Laguna Oaks. 4 bed, 3.5 bath. Large lot! Call Cindy for details!



Cindy Gee Realtor, Notary
925.963.1984
cindy.gee@bhghome.com



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All I can say about Julia Murtagh's ability to sell a home is WOW! We had lived in our home over 20 years and were overwhelmed with the amount of cleanup that would be required to get our house to market. Her top priority in selling our home was to get us "top dollar." She made us timelines, provided professional contacts, and assisted in all our difficult decision making. Julia will take you by the hand and stay by your side through every step of selling your home. Thank you Julia for helping us receive \$21K over asking price!

—The Terry Family

Please see more reviews of Julia on



Helping Sellers and Buyers in the Tri-Valley

JUST LISTED

Listed at \$775,000
6828 Corte Salcedo, Pleasanton

Here is a gem of a home situated in the "Del Prado" neighborhood on a quiet court. This single story home, has 4 bedrooms and 2 baths, with just under 2000 sq ft of living space. Enjoy a great

layout, with a park-like back yard. Sit back and enjoy the beautifully landscaped yard on a large deck off the family room/kitchen.



COMING SOON

LISTED AT \$749,000



7109 Valley Trails Drive, Pleasanton

This home is a A+, with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, plus a play room, completely upgraded. Sellers bought the home in 2011 and have put over \$75K into the home in last 2 years. Enjoy an amazing back yard retreat with stunning pool, fire pit, pergola all just redone and new. There is also RV parking. Walk to top-rated school, the sports park, shops and restaurants.

2 HOMES ON 1 LOT IN DOWNTOWN

Listed at \$988,000
475 E. Angela Street and 4619 Whiting Street, Pleasanton

Wow, get 2 homes in prime downtown Pleasanton! One home was just built in 2011: 2 BR & 1 BA, 1000 sq. ft. 2nd home is 3 BR & 1 BA, 1000 sq. ft. and has been completely remodeled. Both homes are single story. One car garage and 2 other parking spaces – a must see! By appointment only.



RECENTLY SOLD



1938 Clover Ct, Pleasanton
Stunning home, in "Golden Eagle" Estates. 5 BR/4.2 BA, 5784 sq. ft. stunning views, on just under 1 acre. **JUST SOLD FOR \$1,830,000**



7131 Valley Trails Dr, Pleasanton
Single story home. 4 BR & 2 BA, 1549 sq. ft. Newer roof, & windows, painted inside and out. **SOLD FOR \$720,000 — \$70K OVER ASKING PRICE**



1485 Chianti Ct, Livermore
Wonderful home in Livermore, 3126 sq. ft. 4 BR/3 BA on 16,000 sq. ft. lot. Huge backyard with custom pool and spa. **JUST SOLD FOR \$925,000**



2573 Secretariat Dr, Pleasanton
3 BR Duet with Master loft. 1421 sq. ft. of living space, with upgraded features throughout. Walking distance to downtown. **SOLD FOR \$590,000**



4718 Pheasant Ct, Dublin
4 BR/2.5 BA, 2390 sq. ft. Built in 1997, fantastic location, good condition. **SOLD FOR \$701,000 — \$51K OVER THE ASKING PRICE**



28 Pinkerton Ct, San Ramon
Large family home on a large court in "Inverness Park." 4 BR, 3 BA, 3367 sq. ft. Fully upgraded. Park like back yard. Never hit MLS. **JUST SOLD FOR \$875,000**

BUYERS NEEDS

Family looking for swimming pool, with a 4 bedroom home, updated, prefers West Pleasanton up to \$1.6 million

Family in need of a large lot plenty of room for kids to play, prefers 4 bedrooms, up to \$1.1 million

Family would like central Pleasanton location, 4 bedroom or 3 plus office/loft, up to \$800,000

DISTRESSED SELLERS

- Are you underwater on your Mortgage?
- Are you experiencing job loss, job transfer, sickness, or divorce?
- Have you missed mortgage payments?

There are incentives and programs to help this transition. I have helped many sellers through this process. Please call me and or review my dedicated website.

www.JuliaHelpsDistressedSellers.com



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1605 BRUSH CREEK PLACE
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 3 BR 2.5 BA Upgrades: Hrdwd flrs, Gourmet Kit w/SS Appliances, Surround Sound Speakers. Open Flr Plan. 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
2415 POMINO WAY
HIGH QUALITY HOME! **\$2,650,000**
 6 BR 5 full BA + 2 half Ruby Hill Stunner w/ Nanny Ste., Lg. Mstr Ste., Office, Rec/ Game Rm, Wine Cellar, Interior Ctryrd. 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
3322 SANTA RITA RD
LOADED W/UPGRADES! **\$375,000**
 2 BR 1.5 BA Custom designer touches. Private balconies in both bd rms & Spacious Patio. 1-Car Garage. 925.847.2200

CONCORD

3530 NORTHWOOD DR
CUTE & WELL MAINTAINED CONDO **\$155,000**
 2 BR 1.5 BA Near shops, schools and transportation. It has easy access to freeway. 925.847.2200

DANVILLE

1026 MCCALULEY RD
HIDDEN VALLEY HOME! **\$1,358,000**
 4 BR 3.5 BA Bonus Rm/Office. Fireplace in Liv, Fam, & Mstr. Private 1/3 acre lot. Open Space. Valley Views 925.847.2200

DISCOVERY BAY

2238 PRESTWICK DR
DISCOVERY BAY-GOLF COURSE HOME **\$489,000**
 4 BR 3 BA Features new carpeting/paint. Kitchen has SS Appl & granite counters. Lrg bckyrd w/pool. 925.847.2200

DUBLIN

3360 MAGUIRE WAY
TOWNHOME VIEWS OF PARK **\$439,900**
 2 BR 2.5 BA Montefrio Elite flr pln w/upgrds, across from prk, 2 car atchd garage. Comm pl/fitness cntr 925.847.2200

FREMONT

4397 JESSICA CIRCLE
CORNER LOT IN ARDENWOOD! **\$750,000**
 4 BR 2.5 BA Award Winning Schools. New carpet, tile, appliances, light fixtures, dual pane windows and more 925.847.2200

38724 CRANE TER
BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOME! **\$519,000**
 3 BR 2.5 BA Wd Laminate Flrs on 1st Flr. Updated Kit w/Granite Counters/newer Appl. Fireplace in Fam Rm. 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

10 ROLLINGSTONE COMMON
OPEN FLOOR PLAN! **\$550,000**
 3 BR 2.5 BA Separate living rm & family rm. Corian kit. counters. Lrg Mstr Ste. Corner Lot! 925.847.2200

2089 N. LIVERMORE
MEDITERRANEAN VILLA **\$2,999,950**
 4 BR 5 BA Spectacular entry from huge circular brick driveway. Tile Flrs. Lrg Kit w/granite. Library. 925.847.2200

1695 GENOA STREET
WONDERFUL SINGLE STORY HOME **\$555,000**
 3 BR 2 BA Open Liv. rm w/wood burning fireplace. Eat-In kitchen. Fruit trees. Lrg yard w/RV Access. 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON

701 MONTEVINO DR
BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM HOME **\$969,000**
 4 BR 2.5 BA Open Floor plan w/Kit & Fam Combo. Hardwood Flrs. Mt. Diablo Views from Mstr. 925.847.2200

Open SUN 1 - 4 **1582 POPPY BANK CT**
GREAT COURT LOCATION **\$710,000**
 4 bdrm & 2.5 + 1 bdrm & 1 bath on 1st floor. Remodeled kit & baths! Designer paint. Large backyard w/patio. 925.847.2200

SAN LEANDRO

354 LILLE AVE
NEW LISTING! **\$399,000**
 3 BR 2 BA Expanded Home in Best Manor. Hrdwd Flrs. Updated Kit. Close to Bart. Side Access. 925.847.2200

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488 Bunker Lane

Beautiful Mediterranean style home on 1/2 acre view lot. Two Master Suites on main level, total of 5 bedrooms, plus huge bonus room, 3,889 sq.ft. Offered at \$1,598,000



496 Bunker Lane

Exceptional Traditional style home with 4 bedrooms plus bonus room, 3,606 sq.ft. on gorgeous 2/3 acre view lot with infinity edge pool, spa and more! Offered at \$1,550,000

30 Satin Leaf Court
 The Bridges in San Ramon



Open Sunday 1-4

\$1,630,000 4,578+/- sq.ft. 5 Bed 4.5 Bath

3785 Smallwood Court
 Kottlinger Ranch, Pleasanton



Open Sunday 1-4

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SYCAMORE HEIGHTS

PENDING!



5731 DAKIN COURT, PLEASANTON

Just Listed! Newer Summerhill home on premium private lot in Sycamore Heights. Secluded location with private backyard and panoramic views! Professionally landscaped! 5BD, 4.5BA, activity/hobby room, 4,021 sq. ft. Lots of custom woodwork, including fully wrapped windows, wainscoting and built-ins. Gourmet kitchen open to large family room includes granite counters and stainless steel appliances. Large master suite, spacious bathroom with large tub and separate shower. Great location, walk to downtown and neighborhood park! Less than 5 minutes to Castlewood Country Club. Don't miss this one! **OFFERED AT \$1,729,000**

DANVILLE

PENDING!



752 TURRINI DRIVE, DANVILLE

Remodeled, upgraded single level on a premium .35 acre lot with in-ground pool and outdoor kitchen. Four bedrooms, three baths, 3,114 square feet, side yard access and three car garage with extra workshop area. Upgraded gourmet kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. Remodeled bathrooms with custom tile flooring. Spacious family room, living room and master suite. Separate studio in rear yard with sink. Beautiful views of the ridge and a ten minute walk to Downtown. Great schools!
OFFERED AT \$1,169,000

STONERIDGE PARK

SOLD!



2812 GARDEN CREEK CIRCLE, PLEASANTON

Beautiful Pleasanton single level close to great neighborhood parks & award winning schools. Open floor plan with three bedrooms, two updated bathrooms, 1720 square feet. Excellent condition, remodeled kitchen and master bathroom, spacious family room/kitchen area. Newer dual pane windows, wood flooring, updated fixtures, vaulted ceilings, completely finished garage. Large private rear yard with mature trees and concrete stamped patio. 6264 square foot lot. Convenient to Downtown.
SOLD FOR \$712,000

RUBY HILL

SOLD!



4355 CAMPINIA PLACE, PLEASANTON

Gorgeous custom single level on .60 acre premium lot in desirable Ruby Hill private gated community. Beautiful views of surrounding hills and vineyards. Five bedrooms, three bathrooms, custom gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops. Extensive crown molding, Brazilian cherry hardwood flooring, expansive master suite. Completely finished three car garage. Beautiful grounds include mature professional landscaping, built-in BBQ, viewing/sitting area, large covered patio and extensive lawn area. Ruby Hill community amenities include country club, golf course, swimming pool, tennis courts, dining and greenbelt. **SOLD AT \$1,450,000**

CUSTOM

SOLD!



3834 ORION COURT, PLEASANTON

Quiet court location near downtown, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2800 plus square feet. Lot size is 9074 sq. ft. Highly upgraded custom home, gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances, expansive master suite with retreat, fireplace and upgraded bathroom. Large family room with fireplace, plantation shutters and crown molding. Newer landscaped private rear yard with built-in BBQ, refrigerator, sitting area, fire pit and beautiful stone patios and landscaping! **SOLD FOR \$958,000**

SOUTH LIVERMORE

SOLD!



1210 SANTORINO COURT, LIVERMORE

Blaise represented the Buyer in the purchase of this beautiful South Livermore home located next to Independence Park. Large five bedroom, four and a half bath, 4,149sf. house with Brazilian wood, tile and carpeted floors. Large kitchen with granite, cherry cabinets and Wolf appliances. Spacious family room, full bath/bed 1st floor, large master suite with sitting area. Three car garage all on a spacious 12,686sf. lot located in a small private court location.
SOLD FOR \$1,055,000

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

PRIMA

SOLD!



176 PRATO WAY, LIVERMORE

Upgraded 5 bedroom, 3 bathrooms, approximately 3325 square foot Centex home. Spacious gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, island, and breakfast bar! 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 private courtyard area, three car garage with electric gated private driveway. Close to golfing, Ruby Hill Country Club, renewed downtown and adjacent to the Livermore Wine Country! **SOLD FOR \$850,000**



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MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$4,000,000
193+/- Acres privately owned known as Blessing Ranch. All utilities run to edge of property offering numerous buildable pad options. Perfect for escaping city life while being only minutes from town. 9480 BLESSING

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$2,699,000
Incredible 70+-acre parcel on top of the Pleasanton Ridge, sweeping views of oak studded hills, unique home, gated entry, 8+ car garage, detached guest house and more! 9745 SANTOS RANCH RD

MOXLEY TEAM SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,850,000
4 bd + office, 4.5 ba + 1/2ba in pool house, 4,496+/-sf, vaulted ceilings, private setting, and more! Call for appointment. 7755 COUNTRY LANE

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,450,000
5 bd plus bonus room. Bed & full bath on main level. Updated throughout with high end finishes. Large corner lot with 3-car garage, sideyard, sparkling pool/spa and huge lawn area. 3806 PICARD AVE.

SALLY MARTIN BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,300,000
3 bed/3.5 baths & office. Cedar closets throughout. 2 car garage has workshop & bonus rm w/full bath. 2nd 4 car tandem garage. Fantastic patio with a pool, aviary & gazebo. Close to downtown & 680. 6249 Alisal Street

LINDA FUTRAL BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$950,000
Eichler style home custom home near downtown with unbelievable views! You'll want to see this one quick as this street rarely has a neighbor move Very retro and ready to move in. 825 ABBIE ST

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$839,000
Beautiful upgraded "Fir" model in the Gates, 4 bd/3 ba, 1897 +/-sf. Custom marble entry floor, updated granite kitchen, remodeled granite baths, plantation shutters, gorgeous backyard, sparkling pool&spa. 2740 LARAMIE GATE CIR

ANNI HAGFELDT BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$659,000
Wonderful opportunity to make this home your own. Close to parks, downtown, award winning schools, easy access to 580/680. 3 bd/2.5 ba, 1651 sq.ft. 3110 HALF DOME DR

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$660,000
Single level in Pleasanton's west side. Open floor plan w/ large island/breakfast bar overlooking family room. Formal dining room and living room with vaulted ceilings. Expanded master suite w/ walkin 5185 Springdale Ave.

MARK KOTCH SAT&SUN 1:00-4:00



DUBLIN \$660,000
Great one story home in Dublin. New to market, regular sale. 3 bed 2 baths with open floor plan. Large back yard move in ready. 4727 Fawn Way



73rd Annual Pleasanton Rose Show

Saturday, May 11, 2013

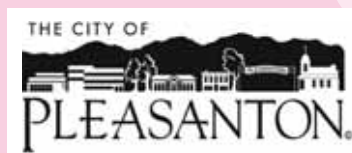
Pleasanton Senior Center
5353 Sunol Boulevard

Rose Show Exhibitor Registration	8:00 am - 10:00 am
Judging	10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Open to Public	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Awards Ceremony	2:30 pm

Open to the public | Entry is FREE

For more information visit
www.PleasantonRoseShow.com

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