

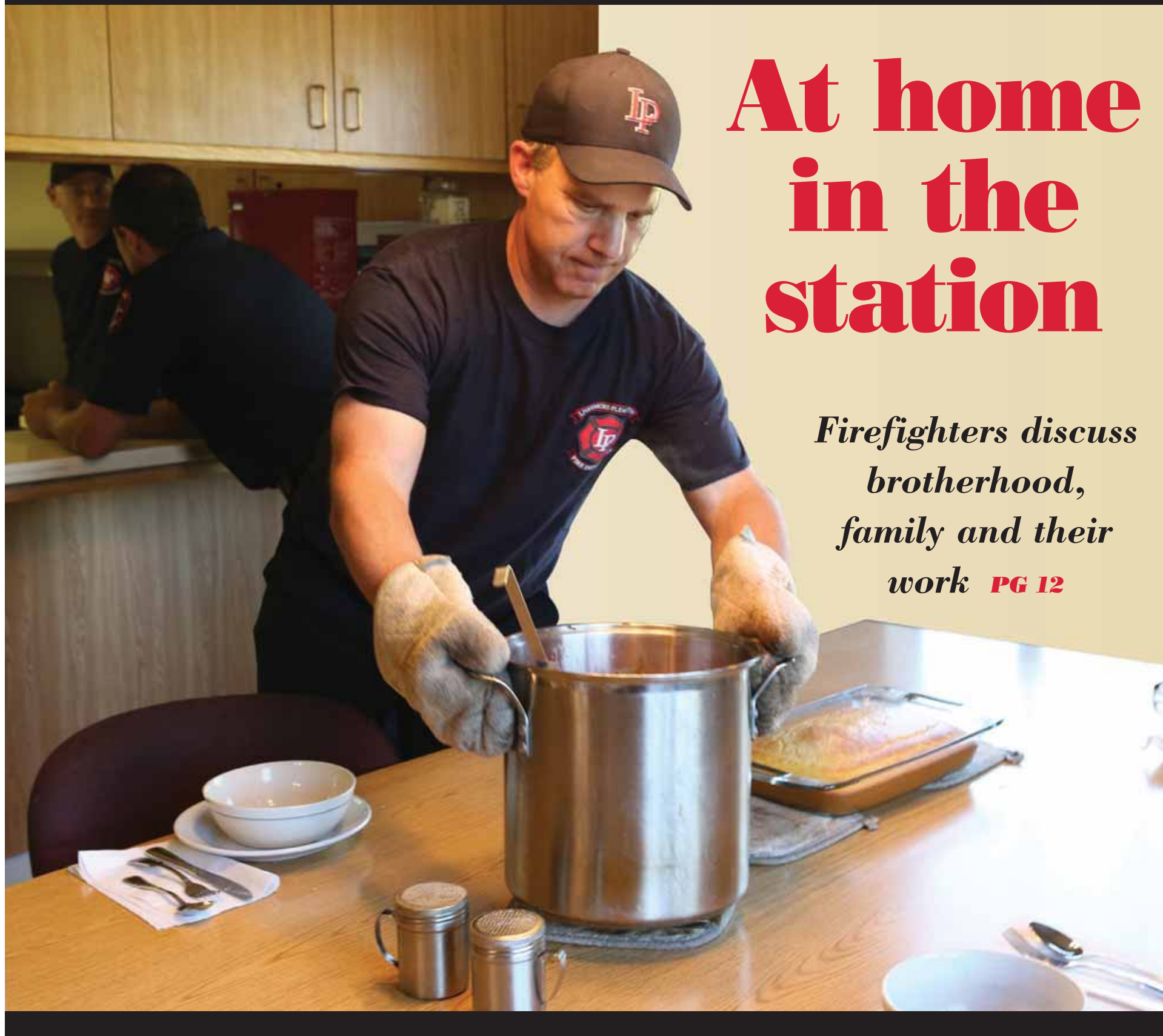
# Pleasanton Weekly

Pleasanton wins first game  
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VOL. XIV, NUMBER 27 · AUGUST 2, 2013

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## At home in the station

*Firefighters discuss  
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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Booming Pleasanton is good news for Realtors

In her recent report to a Tri-Valley Realtors group, Pleasanton's Economic Development Director Pamela Ott said the city weathered the recent economic downturn without layoffs and operating cutbacks and is now emerging at a fast clip with strong business growth, a residential building boom not seen here in years and new municipal projects. All this bodes well for the city's real estate market, where home prices and sales are climbing once again as Pleasanton keeps its top position as an appealing place for sellers, buyers and the Realtors who serve them.

Along with city revenue increases, Pleasanton's business community has also regained post-recession momentum, Ott said. Not counting the half-empty California (formerly CarrAmerica) Center, vacancies in the city's 12.5-million-square-foot of office parks is now "a pretty amazing" 5%. Vacancies are also low in downtown Pleasanton where new business are replacing empty store fronts. The Corner Creperies just opened at 399 Main St., and lines of customers have been standing outside the new Tara's organic ice cream store ever since it opened last month, filling the Tully's corner shop once occupied by Cold Stone. Also downtown, prospects are looking to buy and rebuild Past Time Pool and the owner of the long-gone Union Jack Pub are hoping to fill that empty space with a two-story structure shortly. Workbench Hardware will open its fourth store (the second one in Pleasanton) later this month on Main Street in the spacious retail center that Domus vacated earlier this year.

Also good news for those in the real estate and allied professions are the major high density apartment projects already approved by the City Council with more to come. These will bring several thousand renters to town, giving Realtors a captive audience for future home sales. Pleasanton Partners will build two-, three- and four-story buildings on part of the California Center's land with 305 apartments and two retail centers totaling 7,520 square feet at the Owens-Rosewood intersection. St. Anton Partners has approval to build a 168-unit, three- and four-story complex on West Las Positas Boulevard near Stoneridge Drive. BRE



JEB BING

Pleasanton's Economic Development Director Pamela Ott at Valley Real Estate Network meeting where she boosted the city's home sales and marketing opportunities.

is expected to start construction of a series of four-story buildings with 600 apartments early next year in the Hacienda Business Park. Next Tuesday, E.S. Ring will take its bid to build an upscale, all-rental apartment complex at Bernal Avenue and Stanley Boulevard to the City Council, where it is expected to be approved. That project also will include a retail center.

Ott also pointed out that the first families are now moving into the new Stoneridge Creek retirement community on Staples Ranch at the junction of El Charro Road and I-580, where several automobile dealers are looking at acreage there that is already zoned for car sales. An extension of Stoneridge Drive, which slices through Staples, will open in early October, providing easier access between Livermore and Pleasanton, including to Stoneridge Shopping Center and the Livermore Outlets, both owned by Simon Corp. Simon, Ott reported, just gained an extension from Pleasanton's City Council for a 340,000-square-foot expansion of its mall. New homes, apartments, stores and commercial buildings are also part of plans being considered by the East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force that will bring more opportunities for Realtors.

When Realtors asked how they can stay informed and also contribute to Pleasanton's growth and planning processes, Ott encouraged them to sign up to serve on some of the multitude of committees, task forces and commissions that are involved in the planning process. Openings currently exist for service on the city's Committee on Energy & the Environment and the Economic Vitality Committee, which Ott heads. Those interested can contact City Clerk Karen Diaz at [www.cityofpleasanton.gov/](http://www.cityofpleasanton.gov/). ■

## About the Cover

Come and get it! Firefighter Bob Myers sets food on the table for the shift's dinner. Shifts last 48 hours, so the firemen have almost as many meals together as they do with their families. Photo by Mike Sedlak. Design by Kristin Herman.

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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

**Have you ever broken anything  
in anger?**



**Nate West**  
*College student*

I must admit that I have. I once broke my cell phone because I got so angry that it wasn't working properly. I regretted it right away though, and recognized that was not one of my smarter moves.

**Madelyn Arthur**  
*Sommelier*

Yes, I broke my tennis racket once at practice. I was mad at myself because I was playing so badly. I was a teenager then and haven't broken anything since. Well, at least not in anger!



**Scott Tanns**  
*Sales*

I was once so furious with my kids that I broke a door. I knew it was a bad thing to do, but I figured better to bust a door than to lose my temper on the kids.

**Bob Britton**  
*Sales*

I sell, among other things, pickles, and I broke a jar of pickles once because it was a competitor's brand.



**Isabel Garrcia**  
*Student*

Yes, I broke a framed family portrait because I was so angry at my parents. They wouldn't let me go out with my friends during the middle of the night to a 24-hour diner.

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

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**Have a Streetwise question?** E-mail [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com) to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566. © 2013 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

# Newsfront

## DIGEST

### Gathering to promote peace

Tri-Valley CARES is gathering Tuesday, Aug. 6, at the gates of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for Hiroshima Day, 68 years after the United States dropped the atomic bomb, to commemorate the event and work toward banning nuclear weapons.

The group will gather at Vasco Road and Patterson Road at 7 a.m. The event will feature Daniel Ellsberg as well as a bomb survivor and other speakers and will include a procession to the Lab's West Gate.

### Kosher Awareness

Today about 20 supermarkets throughout the Tri-Valley are participating in "Tri Valley Kosher Awareness Day," sponsored by Chabad of the Tri Valley, a Pleasanton-based Jewish community center.

Each supermarket is highlighting its kosher selection, having drawings for kosher cookbooks, and providing educational materials. Teen volunteers from across the country are manning the "Kosher Table," answering questions and acquainting customers with the ins and outs of kosher products.

"When I first moved to the area 21 years ago, the supermarkets had hardly heard of kosher food and holiday selections were almost non-existent," said Pleasanton resident Judie Lawrence.

New stores have also brought more kosher products to the area, said Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, Chabad director.

### New season for Arts Center

Tickets are now on sale for the fourth season of the Firehouse Arts Center.

The 2013-14 season line-up includes rock, country, bluegrass, jazz, blues, classical, folk, cabaret, holiday and retro concerts. Some of the highlights are Paula Cole, Gregg Rolie Band, Faith Prince, Bo Bice, Special Consensus, December People and Starship.

Group discounts for 10 or more are available for all shows, and many performances offer \$12 youth tickets. Subscription packages are available for the season of Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, the venue's professional musical theater company in residence.

Learn more and purchase tickets at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), or in person at the Firehouse Box Office, 4444 Railroad Ave. Call 931-4848.

### Corrections

The Weekly desires to correct all significant errors. To request a correction, call the editor at (925) 600-0840 or e-mail: [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)



MIKE SEDLAK

### Pleasanton scores big at World Series

Evan Wolfe pitches a perfect game Monday night for Pleasanton National Little League, representing California District 57, against Georgetown Little League (Central) of Jenison, Mich., at the Little League World Series Intermediate Division. The final score was 12-0. At right, Drew Nobayashi runs for first base. Pleasanton went on to play Nogales National (West) of Nogales, Ariz., on Wednesday night for the Best of the West. Everyone is invited to attend the free games being played at Max Baer Field in Livermore this week through Aug. 5. Find the schedule online at [intermediate-worldseries.org](http://intermediate-worldseries.org).

## 2013 Foothill grad charged in death of Dublin bicyclist

Teen doing 83 mph when he lost control on Foothill Road

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

The 18-year-old who struck and killed a bicyclist on Foothill Road last month was doing 83 miles per hour, more than twice the legal limit, court documents show.

The speed limit on Foothill Road at the location of the crash is 40 mph.

Cody Hall was also passing another vehicle in a two-way left-turn lane and across double yellow lines, those documents say.

When Hall — who police said was driving a 2004 silver Dodge Neon — attempted to pull back into his lane, he lost control.

"Hall's vehicle continued northbound out of control, subsequently colliding with two bicyclists traveling northbound in the east bike lane of Foothill Road," according to a probable cause declaration filed with the court. "As a result of the collision with the two bicyclists, one bicyclist was severely injured and the other bicyclist was fatally injured."

The young driver, who graduated from Foothill High in June, was charged July 26 with vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence and reckless driving with serious injury. He was released on \$100,000 bail.

Hall made his first court appearance Monday, where bail was continued. He was also ordered not to get behind the wheel.

"I would like it ordered that he not drive," prosecutor Jim Meehan asked Judge Hugh Walker.

"I was going to do that anyway," Walker said, telling Hall that should he be caught driving, he'd be held in Santa Rita Jail without bail.

Hall did not enter a plea Monday. His next appearance has been set for Aug. 14.

Diana Hersevoort, 58, of Dublin was killed in the June 9 crash near Golden Eagle Way that occurred around 1 p.m. A police report from the crash said



GLENN WOHLTMANN

Cody Hall and his attorney, Timothy Rein, talk outside Superior Court in Pleasanton after Hall's first appearance on felony vehicular manslaughter and reckless driving charges.

Hersevoort was thrown from her bicycle and pronounced dead at the scene.

Her husband Joe was taken to a hospital where he was treated for injuries and released with a broken leg.

The bicycle ride was a weekly tradition of the couple, who rode together in various parts of the Tri-Valley region, their daughter, Heather Grimm said in an earlier interview. They had been together for 35 years.

Grimm confirmed that her family is pursuing a civil case against Hall, but said she'd been instructed

See **CHARGED** on Page 7

## 1st Wednesday to feature Pooch Parade

Popular event begins at park

The First Wednesday Street Party next week, with the theme "Dog Days of Summer," will feature the always popular Pooch Parade up and down Main, with dog tricks performed at Lions Wayside Park.

While the Pleasanton Downtown Association street party gets under way on Main Street, the pooches and their people — many in imaginative costumes — will gather at the First Street park for registration and to play on doggie ramps and slides erected for their enjoyment.

Pooches 4 months or older can be entered in any or all of the seven categories for prizes, with an entry fee of \$10 per category. All proceeds benefit the Tri-Valley Guide Dog Puppy Raisers.

The seven categories are Senior Pooch (8 and older); Cute Enough As Is (no costume), under 30 pounds; Best Team Outfit (human and pooch); Cute Enough As Is, over 30 pounds; Puppy Fun (pooches 4 months to 2 years); Most Creative Costume (pooches only); and Best Trick (pooches of all ages).

Registration and judging begins at 5:30 p.m. with dog tricks performing at 6:30 p.m. The parade begins at 7 p.m. Winners in each category as well as the drawing will be announced at 7:45 p.m. ■

## Grab-and-run ringleader in court

More than \$100,000 in thefts, including at Stoneridge Mall

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

A teen described by police as the ringleader of a grab-and-run gang that hit Victoria's Secret multiple times in recent months has been nabbed.

R'Mani Minard, 19, of San Francisco, was arrested on unrelated charges in Los Angeles County. He was brought back to Pleasanton and booked into Santa Rita Jail on July 25.

Minard made his first court appearance this week on 13 felony counts of commercial burglary and one felony count of robbery. He is being held without bail.

"The total number that the group has been involved in is unclear at this point. We have four incidents at Victoria's Secret in the mall," said Pleasanton Detective Brandon Stocking. "Other agencies have other incidents."

Stocking said at least one took place at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Livermore Premium Outlets, formerly known as the Paragon Outlets. Others occurred at NewPark Mall in Newark, the Great Mall in Milpitas, and other high-end retailers throughout the Bay Area, court documents show. Police say the theft ring is responsible for more than \$100,000 in thefts.

The method used in the thefts

was consistent: A group of three to 10 people "boldly entered the stores carrying empty bags and removed large amounts of merchandise from the shelves before fleeing," police said.

"Many of the involved individuals changed from incident to incident with the exception of Minard," Stocking said.

Minard was so well known at Victoria's Secret at Stoneridge Shopping Center that managers recognized him, according to court documents.

In one case, on May 21, a group of nine people entered the store. When confronted by a manager, Minard told her, "Watch this," and emptied an entire display of merchandise into his bag," court documents say. "As the thieves ran through Macy's, they continued to steal merchandise."

In that case, a woman was arrested May 21 after police were called to the mass shopliftings.

Brandy Denise Windom was arrested lying on top of or near the items recovered, but the other suspects got away. Windom, 18, of San Francisco was arrested at around 7:07 p.m. for burglary and receiving stolen property. Jackets and jeans valued at \$4,023 from Macy's were recovered, along with bras and underwear valued at \$654 from Victoria's Secret.

More than \$1,000 in bras and panties were stolen in a March 18 grab and run by two women and a man later identified as Minard. He was also identified in an April 15

incident in which an entire display of bras was stolen.

The most serious of the local incidents occurred April 20 when Minard and a group of six to eight others filled garbage bags with merchandise from Victoria's Secret. When Minard was confronted by an employee, he dropped his bag and left the store.

"A few seconds later, Minard aggressively re-entered the store as (the employee) was retrieving the garbage bag from the floor," court documents say.

He grabbed the bag from the woman's hands and struggled with her, saying, "This is my stuff. Give me my stuff," according to court documents, which say the woman "was overpowered and feared for her life."

That incident led to a count of robbery against Minard. He was also charged with conspiracy. Additional charges from other agencies are expected to be filed in the future.

It's unclear whether Minard was involved in a May 24 heist from the True Religion store at Livermore Premium Outlets.

Witnesses described those 10 suspects as four black men and six black women, all in their 20s. They took thousands of dollars worth of designer jeans, which can run up to \$400 a pair.

The gang escaped in a red 1980s Toyota Corolla and a silver car similar to a Ford Taurus. A spokesman for True Religion said the thieves made off with about \$5,000 in merchandise. ■



PDA

### Nice evening for a stroll

Steve and Michelle Meyers enjoy food and wine at the Pleasanton Downtown Association's annual Summer Wine Stroll along Main and adjoining streets last Saturday. The event drew more than 1,000 people, and 28 merchants participated, with 25 serving wine and three others serving non-alcoholic beverages, PDA spokeswoman Julie Vlahon said. All served treats and appetizers. A total of 20 wineries from the Livermore Valley and other East Bay areas showcased their wines.

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## Celebrating the Fire Department

Museum opens display, plans lecture and Fireman's Muster

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department will be celebrated this month with a series of events, including a Fireman's Muster on Main Street in downtown Pleasanton, "An Evening with Pleasanton Firefighters" at the Firehouse Arts Center, and "Courage Under Fire," an exhibit at Museum on Main.

The "Courage Under Fire" exhibit opened Wednesday and runs through Oct. 13. The display features historic photographs and artifacts from the founding of the all-volunteer Pleasanton Fire Department in 1888 through the incorporation of the joint Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and into the present day. The museum is located at 603 Main St., and there is no fee for this special exhibit.

"An Evening with Pleasanton Firefighters" will take place at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 13, with firefighters from the past and present sharing experiences and memories. Speakers will include retired Fire Chief George Withers, Fire Marshall Scott Deaver and Fire Chief Jim Miguel.

They will talk about historic fires, such as those at Castlewood Country Club and Ruby Hill Winery, along with other memorable, and sometimes humorous, emergency incidents. A reception on the outdoor patio will take place immediately following the talk. For tickets,



COURTESY MUSEUM ON MAIN

Pleasanton Volunteer Fire Department in parade in Livermore, July 4, 1902.

go to [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org).

The firefighting-themed events culminate with the Fireman's Muster on Saturday, Aug. 17, as antique and modern fire apparatus and equipment roll onto Main Street for a fun day of demonstrations, contests and food. Firefighting rigs and apparatus from across the state will be on display at the muster, including a 1928 Ahrens Fox Rig that was shipped to California in November 1963 through the Panama Canal from Ocean City, N.J.

Free activities will take place

throughout the day on Main Street, including music by Tommy and the 4 Speeds, a bucket-brigade competition, motorized and hand-operated apparatus demonstrations, and children's activities.

A pancake breakfast prepared by the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Foundation for donations will kick off the day at 8 a.m. at Museum on Main. Later in the day, a \$10 barbecue with tri-tip sandwiches will take place at Museum on Main from noon to 4:30 p.m. ■

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## Pleasanton-based Patelco names new CEO

Southern California credit union executive takes top post here

Erin Mendez, a senior executive with 35 years of experience in the financial services sector and other industries, has been named chief executive officer of Pleasanton-based Patelco Credit Union.

Mendez will assume leadership of the \$4 billion Patelco Credit Union in mid-August. Patelco, one of the nation's oldest and largest credit unions, is headquartered at 5050 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton.

Previously, Mendez was executive vice president and chief operating officer of Schools First Federal Credit Union, headquartered in Southern California. She has spent more than 25 years in the financial



Erin Mendez

services industry, including the last 10 years at Schools First and earlier at Retail Banking at American Savings Bank, Western Financial Bank, and Health Net Inc.

Patelco posted an 11.04% net worth ratio at the close of 2012, well above the highest ranking of "well capitalized," a weighted standard set by the National Credit Union Association, the regulatory agency for all credit unions.

"Throughout our nationwide search, Erin Mendez stood out as a trusted, seasoned leader with a passion for serving members," said Peter Hanelt, Patelco's board chairman.

"She possesses a balanced mix of leadership experience, proven and tested financial acumen and innovative thinking that will provide the blend of practical skills and vision we view as vital to the future

of Patelco."

In taking the post, Mendez said, "Patelco has long been known as an innovative leader in the financial services industry, and I am honored to join the ranks of the prestigious few who have shaped Patelco into the trusted, growing financial institution it is today."

Mendez has a bachelor of science degree in Business Administration and has completed executive development programs at California Institute of Technology and Harvard University as well as earning a Certified Chief Executive certificate at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, the Johnson School at Cornell University, and Darden University of Virginia.

She and her husband currently reside in Ladera Ranch, Calif., and have three children. ■

## Bicyclist suffers major injuries in fall off Ridge trail

Cyclist rushed to Edens Hospital by helicopter

By JEB BING

A bicyclist riding with his son-in-law suffered major injuries Saturday morning when he fell with his bike off the Thermalito Trail on Pleasanton Ridge.

Responding to a 911 call, firefighters on two off-road vehicles initiated a search for the victim from both the Augustine Bernal Park access through Golden Eagle and the Foothill Staging Area. A fire truck from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and a Paramedics Plus ambulance were then moved into positions on the trail to assist in aiding the injured man.

Joe Testa, the fire department's battalion chief, said the injured man was located on the west side of the ridge and was determined to have potentially life threatening injuries.

At the fire department's request, a Stanford Life Flight helicopter was called to the scene, landing on the trail approximately a quarter-mile from the bicycle crash site. The injured man was transferred to the helicopter and



COURTESY LPFD

A Stanford Life Flight helicopter lands on the Thermalito Trail on the west side of Pleasanton Ridge on Saturday morning as an emergency response team waits to transfer an injured bicyclist to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley.

transported to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley.

Testa said the man's son-in-law assisted rescuers in locating the patient and providing information. No other cyclists were involved in the crash.

"This incident serves as a remind-

er to always wear a bicycle helmet, as this rider was, and to know your location, especially when bicycling off of main roads," Testa said. "Carrying a map can be a very helpful way to identify your location in the event of an emergency or if you should become lost." ■

## CHARGED

Continued from Page 5

ed not to comment on the case.

Hall stopped at the scene and initially was cooperative with police, answering questions. He did not give a statement when asked.

The teen faces up to six years in state prison if convicted of the vehicular manslaughter charge and between 30 days and six months in jail for the reckless driving charge, along with a fine of between \$220 and \$1,000. In the criminal complaint filed against Hall, prosecutor Eileen McAndrew said he would

not be eligible for a lesser sentence — a year in county jail — on the manslaughter charge.

The teen's father was arrested after police served a search warrant at the Halls' home, looking for evidence as part of their investigation into the crash.

Aaron Hall, 43, pleaded not guilty last week to felony weapons charges after police said they discovered two illegal assault rifles and "thousands of rounds of ammunition" in a gun safe at the Halls' home in the 4200 block of Echo Court.

The elder Hall was charged with possession of a firearm by a con-

victed felon, possession of an assault weapon, possession of ammunition by a felon, and possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance. Police said they found four Daytrana patches, a stimulant used to treat ADHD that Aaron Hall had without a prescription.

Aaron Hall turned himself in July 13. He was released the same day after posting a bond of \$265,000.

Court records show he had two felony convictions from 1994 for assault with a deadly weapon and firing at an inhabited dwelling. A pretrial hearing on Aaron Hall's new charges has been set for Aug. 28. ■

THE CITY OF

PLEASANTON

## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### City Council – Special Meeting

Tuesday, August 6, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **Public Hearing: PUD-87 and P13-1981 Sares Regis/E&S Ring** – Consider (1) introduction of an ordinance approving a Planned Unit Development (PUD) Development Plan to construct 345 apartment units, an approximately 38,781 sq. ft. retail center consisting of four buildings, a new surface parking, and related site improvements on approximately 16 acres located at 3150 Bernal Avenue (southeast corner of Bernal Avenue and Stanley Boulevard); (2) introduction of an ordinance approving a Development Agreement; (3) an Affordable Housing Agreement; and (4) a Growth Management Agreement

### Civic Arts Commission

Monday, August 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Review FY 2012.13 Pleasanton Community Grant Final Performance Reports

### Parks & Recreation Commission

Thursday, August 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Review Veterans Memorial Building Joint Use Agreement Between the City of Pleasanton and The Veterans Organizations of Pleasanton (VOP)
- Review of the Alviso Adobe Community Park and Programs

\*\*\*\*\*

### Commission Vacancies Recruitment

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

Committee on Energy & the Environment

Economic Vitality Committee  
for the following groups:

Business at Large

Green Economy/Environmental Industry

Medical Technology

Residential Real Estate Developer

Youth Commission

Village High School (by fall 2013 freshman through junior)

Thomas Hart Middle School  
(entering 6th or 7th Grade by fall 2013)

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.

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

# Foster Homes Urgently Needed!

**You can make a HUGE difference!**

**Animals are pouring into your local shelters**

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Please join us in a rewarding volunteering experience!



Tri-Valley Animal Rescue is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization serving the homeless animal community in the greater Tri-Valley Area.

## Woodworking wizards

Projects earn top prizes at the Fair

BY JENN TEITELL

Students from the Castro Valley Adult and Career Education program took home a number of prizes in this year's Alameda County Fair woodworking competition. The program's woodworking course, taught by instructor Jim Vice, who began teaching woodworking at the Pleasanton in the 1990s, has classes for students with all levels of experience.

"Jim is a machinist by trade, so he's very precise, so I've learned how to properly use a lot of the tools. It's fine-tuning that you learn," said Judy Timmermans, a Danville resident and long-time woodworking student, praising Vice's workmanship and teaching abilities.

Timmermans won Best of Show with a plant stand made of ash and walnut as well as a second place with an octagon table, and fourth place with a Fourth-of-July-themed scooter. She typically gives her projects away to friends and family upon finishing them; in this case, she made the scooter as a present for her young grandson.

"I love it. I just love it," said Timmermans about woodworking, discussing her introduction to the hobby in 1999. "I had a high intensity job, so I'd come home from



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Woodworkers at the Fair included Linda McKeever of Pleasanton, who won first place for her coffee table and second place for her wagon; Chris Jarvis of Pleasanton, who won first place for her small cabinet; Judy Timmermans, who won first place and best of show for her plant stand, second place for her octagon table and fourth place for her scooter; and Dave Rauch with his scooter.

work, and I could go work with no telephone, I could play with tools, and I could work with my hands.

"When you go do something like that, you don't realize how you can relax and think about other things."

Originality is one of the five categories that judges use to evaluate pieces in the competition, the other four being appearance, artistry, suitability to purpose and craftsmanship. It's an entertaining challenge to modify the work and make it original, said Timmermans. However, she added that the most important part is improving her technique by learning something

new with every piece she makes.

Other class members who did well in the competition were Linda McKeever of Pleasanton, Chris Jarvis of Pleasanton and Dave Rauch of Castro Valley.

Vice holds new classes one to two times a year. A typical class is 15 weeks long and has up to 14 students per class. In the beginning class, those new to woodworking build a simple garden table, while the intermediate classes work on projects such as plant stand towers.

To register for woodworking classes or other adult education courses, visit [www.cvadult.org](http://www.cvadult.org) or call (510) 886-1000. ■

## WHIRLWIND OF CASH

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## EVENTS at Jackson Rancheria

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OUTDOOR CONCERT

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*on the*  
**TERRACE**

**BEER PAIRING ON THE TERRACE**  
AUGUST 22 - 6 P.M.

AN EVENING WITH

**TOTO**

**TOTO**  
SEPTEMBER 7 - 7 P.M.  
GRAND OAK BALLROOM

Events subject to change · Tickets available at the Casino Cashier's Cage or [JacksonCasino.com](http://JacksonCasino.com)

# Business News

Edited by Jeb Bing, jbing@pleasantonweekly.com

## Safeway receives 2013 Secretary of Defense Freedom Award

Military employees featured on Wall of Honor at Pleasanton corporate offices

Pleasanton-based Safeway Corp. is one of 15 recipients of the 2013 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. The Award is the DoD's highest recognition given to employers for exceptional support of National Guards and Reserve unit employees.

These employers distinguished themselves among the 2,899 nominations received from Guardsmen and Reservists, according to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel.

"I commend and thank the 15 recipients of the 2013 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award for providing exceptional support to our Citizen Warriors," Hagel said. "So many of our nation's employers are finding ways to contribute to our security, but these employers stand out for their commitment to our Guardsmen and Reservists."

"They have the gratitude and thanks of the entire Department of Defense," he added.

Safeway was nominated by a member of the Navy Reserve. The nominator praised the company's special intensive training program



WENDY GUTSHALL

Wall panel at Safeway headquarters in Pleasanton features photos of Safeway employees in the military and their families.

for National Guard and Reserve junior officers and non-commissioned officers to prepare them for management positions within the company.

To date, 81 National Guardsmen and Reservists have been promoted as a result of the program. Safeway's military employees are featured on a

Wall of Honor at the corporate office. The nominator said he would not have been able to serve his country without his employer's support.

The 2013 recipients will be honored at the 18th annual Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award ceremony in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 26. ■

## Steer clear of auto repair scams

Auto repair fraud ranks among top consumer complaints

By JASON ALDERMAN

If you feel frustrated or intimidated whenever you take your car in for repairs, you're not alone.

According to the Federal Trade Commission and the Better Business Bureau, auto repair fraud consistently ranks among the top consumer complaints they receive.

Although most auto repair shops are legitimate, some unscrupulous operators will rip off inexperienced car owners by performing unnecessary or unauthorized repairs, substituting counterfeit or used replacement parts, or even doing such shoddy work that lives are endangered.

Here are tips for becoming a more informed consumer and a few common scams to avoid: Try to have a trusted repair shop already lined up before you need one. Ask friends or your auto insurance company for recommendations, or search the Better Business Bureau's website ([www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org)) for accredited businesses. Also:

■ Ask the state Attorney General's office ([www.naag.org](http://www.naag.org)) whether any complaints have been filed against prospective mechanics.

■ Look for mechanics currently certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence ([www.ase.com](http://www.ase.com)) or who belong to your insurer's authorized repair network.

■ If your car's warranty is still in force, you may be required to use only authorized dealerships.

If your car needs major work,

gather several estimates for comparison. Once you've chosen a shop, ask for a detailed estimate (with no sections left blank) before you authorize repairs. Specify that you must be called to grant permission before additional repairs. Make sure the work order clearly specifies:

- Repairs to be done.
- All fees, including parts, labor, storage, loaner car, etc.
- Whether new, reconditioned or used parts will be used.
- Acceptable payment methods.
- Completion date.

■ Diagnostic or reassembly charges if you decide to get a second opinion or have the work done elsewhere.

Make sure the final repair bill itemizes all work completed and parts used. Ask the repair shop to show you the work done and replaced parts. Also have the bill spell out any guaranteed items (including exclusions), in case problems occur later and you need contractual proof.

Watch out for these common scams:

■ They give you a verbal estimate then charge a higher price. Always get it in writing.

■ A shop lures you in with low-cost specials (oil change, brake inspection, etc.), then pads the work order with other repairs you don't want or need. If in doubt, have the initial work done and get a second opinion on the rest, unless there's an immediate safety issue.

■ Charging for services that are covered under the car's warranty. (Always read your warranty carefully.)

■ Dishonest mechanics have been known to inflict intentional damage during an inspection in order to boost needed repairs.

■ They don't want to return replaced parts to you, which could mean the work wasn't actually done, or they used inferior parts. (Keep in mind that there could be discarded parts lying around that they could pass off as yours.)

■ Going against your car manufacturer's recommendations. If your manual recommends getting an oil change every 10,000 miles but the mechanic says every 3,000, make sure there's a good reason.

■ Offers to waive the deductible; for example, offering to install a used part and bill your insurance company for a new one. This insurance fraud could land you in a world of hurt.

■ High-pressure sales tactics.

Just because you don't completely understand what goes on under the hood doesn't mean you can't protect yourself against auto repair scams. To learn more, visit the FTC's comprehensive Auto Repair Basics site at [www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0211-auto-repair-basics](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0211-auto-repair-basics).

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney/](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney/)

**DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON**  
**CONCERT IN THE PARK**

**FRIDAYS 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**  
**JUNE 7 - AUGUST 30**  
LIONS WAYSIDE PARK (CORNER OF FIRST & NEAL)

**August Concert Line Up**

**August 2 - Finding Stella**  
Modern/Alt Rock  
SPONSOR - FIREHOUSE ARTS CENTER

**August 9 - Burton & Company**  
Jazzy Rhythm & Blues  
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# Opinion

## LETTERS

### Ban smoking at parks

Dear Editor,

I had the opportunity to attend a concert at the park this past Friday evening, and as we were leaving the park area toward our parked vehicle, there were two men sitting and smoking cigars.

Dug the entertainment, but is there an ordinance against smoking in public places such as the park? I have C.O.P.D. (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) — do I have to avoid the outings because of smokers in the park? There were many children around the two smoker's area of sitting.

I find this to be a very serious problem. Can you help me with this?

**Thomas D. Encinias**

### Connecting the Bay Area

Dear Editor,

The Bay Area's main rail and bus terminal belongs in Oakland at I-880/7th Street (near the Bay Bridge),

where BART crosses over the UP/Amtrak rail line. BART trains run every few minutes from there to San Francisco, the Peninsula, and all of BART's East Bay stations. Call this station "San Francisco Bay Rail Hub" — which it really could be.

Grade separate and multi-track the UP/Amtrak rail line — should High Speed Rail survive — north from Santa Clara via Mulford to this Hub station. ("Blended Rail" — HSR on Caltrain tracks — would be unsafe and prone to severe train delays, mocking the "Safe, Reliable" title of the 2008 ballot measure funding HSR.) Don't charge HSR for tunneling, a San Francisco station, Caltrain electrification, or a costly new trans-Bay tube. HSR this way won't need them.

Annex the Caltrain counties to BART. Plan a five-county ballot measure for BART around the Bay, to the Golden Gate and Carquinez bridges, to Brentwood, and to Livermore and beyond the Altamont, including cars and facilities.

Let the people vote, as they did for BART half a century ago.

**Robert S. Allen, BART Director, District 5, 1974-88**

### What's your opinion?

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

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## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY



AERIAL PHOTO BY MIKE SEDLAK

Stoneridge Drive bridge nears completion over the arroyo in Staples Ranch. Extended roadway will connect Livermore at El Charro Road to Foothill Road in Pleasanton when opened in October.

### Survey generating helpful data for Pleasanton commuters

A consulting group is wrapping up an extensive residential survey today to assess current commute patterns and commuter preferences. The survey, managed by Lisa Adamos, the city's economic development specialist, is conducted every three years and provides the city, businesses and transportation agencies with valuable, up-to-date information. City planners, street maintenance staff, traffic engineers, the Wheels bus agency, ACE and even BART use the data to adjust schedules and determine better and more efficient ways of serving Pleasanton commuters. The Park & Ride lot on Johnson Drive at Stoneridge Drive and I-680 was built based on survey data. It is already filled to capacity and a new Park & Ride lot is being considered for Bernal Avenue near 680.

This year's survey involved telephone calls to 350-400 residents asking how they travel to work and around town during weekdays. Separate questions dealt with their views on using public transportation, alternatives such as carpooling, bicycling and walking, and on what changes they'd like to see to make navigating Pleasanton streets safer and more desirable. With the adoption of the city's Clean Air plan and recent enactment of state laws on clean air and emission controls, the survey data will also prove useful in assessing how well the public is signing onto these new rules. The data will assist the city's larger employers in finding greener ways for their employees to travel.

The 2013 data will provide a benchmark that can be used in 2016 when the next three-year survey is conducted. This fall, the Stoneridge Drive extension to El Charro Road and Livermore will open, likely creating new commuter traffic patterns and adding a more direct way to drive between the two cities without using I-580 or Stanley Boulevard. In addition, at least four new high-density apartment complexes could be open by then, adding several thousand more residents in Pleasanton. The 2016 survey will give Adamos and traffic engineer Mike Tassano updated information on how those changes affect Pleasanton as a whole and the opportunity to reassess commuter needs, from new traffic signals to more parking lots to more frequent and additional public transportation options.

Pleasanton employers also have a role in this municipal transportation management program. This month, Adamos will be looking for similar survey responses from 15 of the largest firms on what they are doing to ease the commuting challenges of their employees. Safeway already has an active commuter bus system serving its employees, Apple has buses to serve its Tri-Valley-based employees who are allowed to park at the Fairgrounds, Google has an employee bus that stops in Pleasanton and the Hacienda Business Park is testing a shared vehicle program for those who need to make day trips to other locations. Kaiser Permanente, Oracle, Roche, Clorox and other large Pleasanton-based employers are among companies being surveyed on how they help employees handle commuting needs.

Those who weren't part of the survey can offer their comments on transportation needs in Pleasanton by sending an email to Lisa Adamos at [Ladamos@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:Ladamos@cityofpleasantonca.gov) or Mike Tassano at [MTassano@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:MTassano@cityofpleasantonca.gov)



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

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

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

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

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

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# POLICE BULLETIN

## Robber threatens to use pepper spray

No one was injured in a Tuesday morning robbery at the Verizon Store in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive, although employees at the store were threatened with pepper spray, according to police reports.

The lone male suspect entered the store at about 11:10 a.m. and took several cell phones from their display mounts, then grabbed a couple of Apple iPads.

When the suspect was approached by store employees, he threatened them with pepper spray. He then fled the store on foot carrying the phones and iPads, and was last seen running westbound on Johnson Drive toward the Hilton Hotel.

The suspect is described as a black male in his 20s, with a medium build. He was seen on foot near Home Depot in the same area, wearing a black hoodie over a light blue shirt, dark pants and a light blue baseball cap.

### In other police reports:

- Parrot Cellular reported an iPhone worth \$531 and a Galaxy S3 worth \$449 were stolen in a grab-and-run theft that occurred at about 6:19 p.m. July 24 in the 4700 block of Hopyard Road.
- Joseph Freeland Montgomery III, 27, of Livermore was arrested in the 5900 block of Laurel Drive at about 1:30 a.m. July 29 for receiving stolen property, violating a court order and a probation violation. A caller witnessed a man looking at cars and called police, who later found the vehicle, based on the description provided. A



GLENN WOHLTMANN

The Verizon Store in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive was held up Tuesday morning by a man who threatened to spray employees with pepper spray.

driver's license reported stolen in Oakdale was recovered from the car.

- A catalytic converter worth about \$4,400 was stolen from a vehicle parked in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road between 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. July 22 in a theft reported July 24.
- Furniture worth about \$4,000 was stolen from Callippe Preserve Golf Course in the 8500 block of Clubhouse Drive in a theft between 9:30 p.m. July 23 and 5:45 a.m. July 24. A leather couch set including a sofa, loveseat and chair were stolen. The furniture had been left outside overnight as the floors were being cleaned.
- Two bicycles — one valued at \$3,000 and a second worth \$700 — were reported stolen from an unlocked garage of a home in the

7400 block of Hillview Court in a residential burglary reported at about 8:10 a.m. July 24.

- Two laptop computers worth \$700 and \$800 were stolen in a July 30 residential burglary in the 6000 block of Sterling Greens Circle. Also taken was a \$750 Louis Vuitton purse in the burglary, reported at about 2:22 p.m. A sliding glass door was pried open to provide access.
- Two cell phones valued at \$600 apiece were stolen from a vehicle parked between 5:30 and 7 p.m. July 29 at Sports Park in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive, along with a \$250 wallet. A window was smashed to gain access.

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

—Glenn Wohltmann

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### July 24

#### Theft

- 12:27 p.m. in the 8500 block of Clubhouse Drive
- 4:42 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road
- 4:53 p.m. in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Burglary

- 8:10 a.m. in the 7400 block of Hillview Court; residential burglary
- 6:19 p.m. in the 4700 block of Hopyard Road; commercial burglary

#### DUI

- 1:16 a.m. in the 2600 block of Calle Morelia

### July 25

#### Theft

- 8:01 p.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive
- 8:36 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Vandalism

- 12:27 a.m. in the 1100 block of Kottinger Drive

#### Public drunkenness

- 12:33 p.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard

### July 26

#### Bicycle theft

- 4:08 p.m. in the 4500 block of Augustine Street

#### Vandalism

- 7:45 a.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive
- 6:57 p.m. in the 4500 block of Shawnee Way

### July 27

#### DUI

- 1:10 a.m. in the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road

### July 28

#### Alcohol violations

- 1:10 a.m. at the intersection of Vineyard Avenue and Mavis Drive; DUI
- 2:01 a.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; DUI
- 4:13 a.m. in the 7200 block of Valley Trails Avenue; public drunkenness

### July 29

#### Theft

- 1:25 a.m. in the 9500 block of MacDonald Court; fraud
- 12:22 p.m. in the 2800 block of Hopyard Road; shoplifting

#### Stolen property

- 12:10 a.m. in the 5900 block of Blessing Drive

#### Auto burglary

- 9:07 a.m. in the 2500 block of Santa Rita Road
- 6:57 p.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive
- 7:41 p.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

#### Vehicle tampering

- 1:41 p.m. in the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Vandalism

- 12:18 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 5:07 p.m. in the 5200 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness
- 10:26 p.m. at the intersection of First Street and Stanley Boulevard; DUI

### July 30

#### Theft

- 12:59 p.m. in the 1600 block of Whispering Oaks Drive

#### Residential burglary

- 2:22 p.m. in the 6000 block of Sterling Greens Circle

#### Vandalism

- 12:26 p.m. in the 1100 block of Kottinger Drive

# WEDDINGS

## Bachtel-Alegrete

Kimberly Michelle Bachtel and Wayne Andrew Alegrete are being married Saturday, Aug. 3, at St. Augustine's Catholic Church in Pleasanton with a reception to follow at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo.

Kimberly, the daughter of Dennis and Lou Ellen Bachtel, graduated from Foothill High in 2005 and Cal State East Bay in 2009. She is employed as a teacher at St. Bernard's Catholic School in Tracy. Wayne, the son of Kyle and Peggi Alegrete, graduated from Andrew Hill High in San Jose in 2005. He is employed as a UPS driver in San Jose.

The couple is honeymooning in Las Vegas and will live in Dublin.



# ANNIVERSARIES

## Skip and Norma Husbands

Skip and Norma Husbands will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary Aug. 11. High school sweethearts, they attended Huntington Park High in Southern California and moved to Utah, where Skip pursued his career as a football player at Utah State in Logan. After living in several states as well as in Southern California, they moved to Pleasanton in 1980 with their daughters, Shelly and Stacey. They currently enjoy retirement and their grandsons, Max, 15, and Mitchell, 9.



# BIRTHS

## Clark Aaron Olson

Erik and Laura (Gilpin) Olson of Pleasanton announce the birth of their son, Clark Aaron, born March 16. Clark was excitedly welcomed into the family by his big brother, Luke; his big sister, Charlotte; and his grandparents, John and Gail Gilpin of Pleasanton, and Ed and Leslee Olson of Danville.



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The men of the shift at Fire Station 2 stand proudly in front of their newly washed fire engine — (l-r) Capt. Jim Gill, Scott Otvos, Steve Davis, Bob Myers, and visiting Battalion Chief Joe Testa.



Bob Myers prepares dinner for the other men. All four men on the shift, Capt. Jim Gill, and each has his own specialty.

# At home in the station



*Firefighters discuss  
brotherhood, family  
and their work*

STORY BY  
**JENN TEITELL**

PHOTOS BY  
**MIKE SEDLAK**



At a time when most people are returning home to their families after work, the four men at Fire Station 2 on Stoneridge Mall Road are approaching hour 33 of their 48-hour shift, and they still have much to do.

A Boy Scout troop is taking a tour at 8 p.m., the firefighters are finishing dinner preparations, and they have to thoroughly clean the station for the new shift arriving the next morning. And that's just what's on the schedule — they could receive a call at any time, and no man here is a stranger to being awakened at 3 a.m. to rush out of the station and respond to an emergency.

For now, however, they are free to enjoy their meal together. Bob Myers and Scott Otvos are cooking tonight, and the smell of cornbread and barbecued chicken fills the air. The shift's other two members, Steve Davis and Capt. Jim Gill, talk at the dinner table, their conversation peppered with friendly insults and jokes.

"We're like a family," Gill says.

"You do realize that most murders are committed by family members," Myers chimes in.

Gill's statement is clearly true to the observer; the four men act more like fraternity brothers than co-workers, making fun of each other for everything from their cooking to the high school they attended — there are three Foothill alumni to one Amador graduate, if you're wondering. After spending countless hours working and living together at the station, they have bonded in the way that only a family can.

"It absolutely becomes more personal when you're with somebody for 48 hours," says Myers after taking a seat next to Otvos and piling broccoli onto his plate. "It's easier to provide a facade in a 9 to 5 atmosphere, whereas, after maybe 12 hours or 30 hours, it's going to come down. The real you comes out in here, which can actually be a benefit because, then, when I come to work, I don't have to provide a facade. They know exactly who I am, I know who they are, and it's much less stressful that way."

There is certainly plenty of time for the firefighters to get to know each other. In a typical shift, they work out, do training, maintain their tools, give station tours, do fire inspections and, of course, respond to emergencies. Those can range from the clichéd cat-stuck-in-a-tree situation to intense vegetation or structure fires that take hours and multiple crews to extinguish.

Other tasks are surprisingly domestic — they



Scott Otvos  
At left, Scott

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shift take turns cooking, said



Outside the station, Bob Myers makes adjustments to the fire engine. Keeping their various engines in top shape is a high priority for the firefighters.



Steve Davis stocks the engine with equipment, making sure it is ready for a call at any moment, even in the middle of the night.



Otvos performs daily maintenance, mowing the lawn and hosing down the fire engine. The firefighters do all their own lawn work and cleaning at the station. Bob Otvos, Bob Myers, Steve Davis and Jim Gill joke across the dinner table, enjoying dinner with visiting Battalion Chief Joe Testa.



shop for the food they will eat during a day shift, do lawn work, and clean the windows and bathrooms of the station. The stressful nature of the job also serves to bring them together. "I could be having an argument about something the minute the tones go on, all that is forgotten," says Gill. "You're not thinking about it; you're just thinking 'concentrate on what you got to do now.'" For any other family, they have traditions. When a new firefighter goes on a medical call for the first time, it is an unwritten firehouse rule that she must buy everyone else ice cream. The firefighter goes for structure fires, wildfires and other calls with the department. "I can't say the word 'first,'" Davis says. "This is the first time I drank out of a glass, and I'll have to buy ice cream."

Providing dessert or a nice meal for everyone is also expected on a firefighter's birthday and anniversary — not the day they were married, but rather the day they started working for the department. The men's actual families are strongly affected by their unusual schedule. Pleasanton-Livermore firefighters work 56 hours per week on average, but it's possible for them to be gone much longer. When a "strike team" is sent to a different region to help with large fires, they are gone for a week to 10 days. Firefighters can also be mandated to work overtime when members of other shifts are sick or on vacation. "You have to realize that 'I'm going to go to work for 48 hours,'" says Gill. "I'm going to miss little Johnny's birthday; I'm going to miss little Sarah's." You miss birthdays, you miss Christmas and holidays — you miss all this

stuff because you're at work. But somebody's got to be here." Gill's family situation is even more unusual than those of the others — his wife is also a firefighter. She works in Berkeley, and their shifts overlap by one day, during which time their 22-year-old daughter cares for their 10-year-old son. When both their children were younger, their niece lived with them and acted as a nanny on the days they were both working. All four men have children, and they have had to miss many important moments of their sons' and daughters' lives because of their job. "I missed my daughter's first steps," says Davis. "I missed all kinds of stuff. But I also made up for it by coaching my kids in sports, and we take trips and do a lot of family stuff." Many of them also have difficulty making

plans with friends and family. Particularly for those who have coached sports, like Davis and Myers, it is challenging getting other people to understand their unusual schedule. Life at the station, filled with confusing jargon — rigs, strike teams, type three engines, veg fires — is a realm foreign to the rest of society, one out-of-sync with the typical work week. "I think it's good and bad because the world is basically set up on a 9 to 5, Monday through Friday schedule, and so, when you try to make plans with your friends and family, sometimes it gets in the way. Other than that, there are some benefits to having some weekdays off to get things done. But that comes at a cost," says Otvos, pausing to give Myers a hard time about the corn bread he has made. Beneath the camaraderie and banter, however, lies an undercurrent of tension. The men could receive a call at any minute, and the warbling radio reports that occasionally interrupt the dinner-table conversation are a constant reminder of that. "They've done tons of studies about this. Even though there's nothing going on right now, it's just stressful knowing that, at any moment, the alarm goes off, and we're out doing something," says Gill. "And it doesn't help when we get a Southern California firefighter who stepped off the rig and was hit by a car and died, and the 19 guys in Prescott just died. You look at it, and you're going, 'Yeah, that could be us at any time.' It's always there in the back of your mind that you may not be going home." Gill, who will be retiring in December — or, as he thinks of it, in 56 shifts — says he will miss working with his shift and the crew of Station 2, but he will be glad not to deal with some of the things he has witnessed throughout 28 years on the job. Anything involving a sudden death in the field, particularly that of a child, "tears at your heart," he says. "We joke around a lot, which is how we deal with a lot of the stress. We see, frankly, some pretty crappy stuff out there. We'll talk about things with gallows humor; it helps us deal with the stress of what we've seen," he says. As dinner draws to a close, the firefighters continue to contemplate their uncommon job. "It has its good and bad parts," says Myers finally. "But I wouldn't give it up for the world." ■

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



## The World of Magic



Illusionist  
loves  
to create  
'moments of astonishment'

By ISABELLA OHLMEYER

Alvin Lui may seem like the average man on the street, but his career is far from ordinary. Lui is an illusionist with 18 years of magical experience.

Lui, who moved to Dublin in March, likes to immerse himself in magic, and on any given night, you can find him practicing and performing new tricks at hot spots in downtown Pleasanton.

He found his passion for magic at 14 when he saw American illusionist David Copperfield perform on television.

"David Copperfield is a living legend. The way he thinks about magic and goes about conquering a trick is inspiring," Lui said.

As a boy, Lui didn't know about the kits and ready made gimmicks that some children use to explore the world of magic. He began to invent his own tricks and illusions, and soon began to discover his love of performing with his audience close up and personal.

In 2003, Lui met his idol Copperfield on a few occasions. After one performance, Copperfield gave him simple, yet profound advice: "dare to be bad." The illusionist also told Lui that much of what he performs on television and in person, he first rehearsed at small venues and privately for two years.

Lui took Copperfield's advice seriously. "I work on illusions by myself for three to four months," Lui said. "After that, I perform the magic tricks privately for my trusted family and friends. Then, I move on to performing at local bars or restaurants for no pay. Finally, I perform at paid venues, which is the ultimate goal."

Lui said that when he has performed at various clubs, bars and restaurants for free, "never once has a person said 'no' after he asked random individuals if he could do magic for them."

Jason Lee, owner of Mokutanya in Burlingame, offered to hire Lui as a full-time entertainer for the restaurant.



PHOTOS BY UI ENTERTAINMENT

Illusionist Alvin Lui and his audience share a laugh during his performance at Barone's in Pleasanton.



Lui goofs around during a magic show for a private party at Barone's on July 6. He loves to perform up close and personal, and enjoys giving shows that are interactive.

"Alvin can talk to the customers well," Lee said. "I asked him to go table by table to perform for the customers and he did. He showed motivation and skill in his performances."

Lui said illusionists depend on the fact that, as human beings, we miss a lot of things throughout the day, and we start to make assumptions.

"We might assume that it takes us 15 minutes to get to work, when in actuality, it takes us a lot longer," Lui said. "As magicians, we try to live in that space where you miss things."

Although magic is an art form with a lot of history, Lui is determined to make magic and illusions new as well as relevant, to appeal to a broader audience.

"People love magic, but there is also a stereotype of magic," Lui said. "My goal is to bring magic to a more relevant art form so it resonates with people. Hopefully people will see magic in a whole new light."

He also believes in performances that are interactive, and he likes to combine his sleight of hand with psychology and humor. He thrives on creating "memories of astonishment."

Dependent on the time frame, Lui executes up to a dozen illusions for each event. On July 6, he performed for a private party at Barone's in Pleasanton.

"Alvin did a fantastic performance for my private party at Barone's Garden in Pleasanton," said Mike Pearce, who gave the party. "We had over 250 guests and all were very impressed."

"I'm looking to hopefully doing more shows in Pleasanton and get people to see my brand of magic," Lui said. "I strive to be the magician in this area, where people go to for a unique brand of entertainment."

He is performing at the Winemaker's Pour House in Livermore at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 9. To find more of his appearances, visit [www.luientertainment.com](http://www.luientertainment.com). You don't want to see him disappear. ■

# Don't miss 'Oliver!,' which ends this weekend

TVRT musical opens to standing ovation

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Little Oliver distinguished himself by asking for more at the orphanage run by Mr. Bumble, but the whole cast endeared itself to the audience as it romped skillfully through "Oliver!"

The British musical "Oliver!" opened in London in 1960, and on Broadway in 1963, where it received Tonys for Best Scenic Design, Best Original Score and Best Music Direction. The play has endured in the prevailing 50 years, thanks to the award-winning score and the opportunity for memorable characters to come to life on stage.

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, as usual, did not miss a chance to portray each character with verve, and deliver each song and dance number with energy and originality in its current production at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. The cast of children may have been the draw

for an audience of appreciative youngsters on opening night who joined in a standing ovation at the end of the evening.

The voice of Trevor Gomez rang true as the innocent boy was introduced rudely to life on the streets of London but he showed gumption as he escaped from one set of exploiters to another. Max DeSantis stole every scene he was in, playing the Artful Dodger, an adolescent worldwide con artist; his cheery countenance was a pleasure for the audience — if not for his onstage victims — to behold.

Julia Etzel portrayed the faithful Nancy, a wonderful character despite her appalling taste in men. Her rendition of "As Long As He Needs Me" probably didn't convince anyone that Bill Sykes was worthy of her, but her voice delivered stunning vibrato in this song as well as "It's a Fine Life," "I'd Do Anything" and "Oom Pah Pah,"



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"Oliver!" stars include (l-r) Max DeSantis as the Artful Dodger, Julie Etzel as Nancy, Sophia Delucchi as Bet, and Trevor Gomez as Oliver.

sung with other cast members.

Paul Plain presented a fascinating Fagin, the leader of the gang of boy thieves, who tries to accumulate enough booty to retire. His physical comedy made the old crook likable.

The entire cast and crew — with producer Kathleen Breedveld, director John Baiocchi, musical director Cary Litchford with his 12-piece orchestra, and choreographer Todd Aragon — made the production the quality performance we have come to expect from TVRT. Even the youngest children looked like old pros who enjoyed belting out the lively numbers.

Unlike the bowl of thin gruel at the orphanage, "Oliver!" was immensely satisfying.

This weekend is the last for "Oliver!" at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. For more information and tickets, visit [www.trivalleyrep.org](http://www.trivalleyrep.org) or call 373-6800. ■

## Youth Orchestra to present free concert

Culminating eight weeks of summer practice at the Bothwell Arts Center, the Livermore-Amador Symphony Youth Orchestra (LASYO) will present a free concert at 8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 10. The orchestra is in its fifth season and has 80 students from the Tri-Valley and beyond, ranging from sixth-graders through college students. It is sponsored by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association.

Next week's program will include American Salute by Morton Gould; Academic Festival Overture by Johannes Brahms; Overture to Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss; 1st Movement of Mozart's Symphony, No. 25; Prelude to the Holberg Suite by Edvard Grieg; Triumphal March from Aida by Giuseppe Verdi; Toccata by Girolamo Frescobaldi; Ohne Sorgen Polka by Josef Strauss; and Ghosts of Brandenburg by Richard Meyer. The public is invited to hear the future of classical music at this free concert at the First Presbyterian Church at the corner of L and 4th streets in Livermore.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## 40 cat beds equal gold

The Pleasanton Valley Humane Society cats are happier, more playful and ready to be adopted after they received elevated beds, the result of Amador Valley High student Katie Buote who tackled the project to earn her Girl Scout Gold Award. Katie herself designed the simple bed, which use less space in the cages, creating a better and more spacious environment. Under the bed, the kitties feel safer and protected. Lying on top, cats feel comfortable, as if they are on a hammock. Katie completed the project with help from a seamstress, a handyman and a group of friends. Proud of the results are (l-r) Allison Jones, Shayli Jones, Katie Buote, Alyssa Benson, Rachel Buehler and Ashlee Buote.



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**Classes**

**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.

**MICROSOFT EXCEL CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY** Learn Microsoft Excel and gain skills for career advancement with these free classes at the Pleasanton Library, from 6-7 p.m., on Wednesday, Aug. 14 for Beginners Excel; Wednesday, Aug. 21 for Intermediate Excel; and Thursday, Aug. 29 for Advanced Excel. Registration required. Call 931-3400, ext. 4.

**THURSDAY NIGHT TENNIS CLINIC** Drop in or preregister for this clinic to help you with your tennis matches, from 6:30-8 p.m., Thursdays, now through Sept. 12, at Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park, 5801 Valley Ave. Cost is \$15-

\$18. Call 931-3449 or go to www.lifetimetennis.com.

**Clubs**

**BIKE PARTY PLEASANTON** Bicycle riders of all ages, experience levels and bike types are encouraged to meet, ride and play together in the streets of Pleasanton the second Friday of each month. Riders meet at 7 p.m. For more information, go to facebook.com/bikeparty.pleasanton.

**Concerts**

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK: FINDING STELLA** Pleasanton Downtown Association's Concert in the Park presents Finding Stella, 7-8:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 2, at Lions Wayside Park, on the corner of First St. and Neal St. Free.

**THE WORLD OF WEBBER: A CABARET TRIBUTE TO THE SONGS** Come see this tribute to Andrew Lloyd Webber at 8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 10, at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Featuring songs from "Evita," "Phantom of the Opera," "Cats," and more. Cost is

\$15-\$25. Call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org.

**Events**

**HAPPY HOUR IN PLEASANTON** The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California invite you to join for Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 15, at the Sheraton Hotel. RSVP to Marge at 828-5124 or hskoog@comcast.net by Aug. 13.

**OUT AND EQUAL NETWORKING** Join the Out and Equal networking event from 5-7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 8, at the Clorox Campus, 4900 Johnson Dr. Special guest Selisse Berry will discuss LGBT issues and the workplace. All are welcome to attend. Registration required. Go to www.OutandEqual.org.

**Film**

**FREE MOVIE IN THE PARK: 'THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN'** Come see "The Amazing Spider-Man," the story of high school student Peter Parker, who transforms himself into Spider-Man after being bitten by a spider. Free at dusk on Thursday, Aug. 8, at Amador Valley Community Park. Make sure to bring a blanket or lawn chair.

**Fundraisers**

**PTSCA ANNUAL BARBECUE** The Annual Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association BBQ and Auction Fundraiser will feature the famous Tony Macchiano's Lickety Split BBQ dinner. Live and silent auctions include stays in Mexico and New Orleans, fine dining, a wine country limo trip and more. The event will be 5:30-11 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 10, at the Pleasanton Fairgrounds. Cost is \$30. Call 846-6463 or go to ptsca.org.

**SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE** Sleep Train is hosting its annual School Supply Drive to ensure foster children are prepared with the essential tools for a new school year. Drop off donations of new school supplies to any Sleep Train Location. Visit www.Sleeptrain.com for locations.

**Health**

**AFFORDABLE HEALTH SCREENINGS** Heart Watch will be conduct-

ing safe, certified, and affordable health screenings for cholesterol, diabetes, bone density, liver function, hepatitis C, and the top 10 allergies from 9 a.m.-noon, Thursday, Aug. 15, at New Leaf Market. Cost is \$15-\$64. Call Heart Watch at (800) 549-0431.

**Miscellaneous**

**FREE WINE TASTING** Join for a sampling of wines by Delicato Family Vineyards, a three generation family-owned winery committed to crafting high quality wines produced by sustainable winegrowing practices, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 9 at New Leaf Markets, 3550 Bernal Ave. You must be 21+ to taste. Visit www.newleafpleasanton.eventbrite.com.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ONLINE BOOK SALE** Did you know you could buy books from the Friends of the Library at Amazon.com? The Friends have a year round magazine and paperback book sale in the library and have two major book sales a year. To buy books, visit www.amazon.com/shops/ptwnfriends or call Nancy Bering at 462-4368.

**KNIFE SHARPENING AT NEW LEAF** Tired of dull knives? Bring your knives and other tools to the New Leaf parking lot to be sharpened by a local sharpening professional, from noon-6 p.m., Monday, Aug. 5 at 3550 Bernal Ave. Go to www.newleafpleasanton.eventbrite.com.

**WORLD WALK TO WELLNESS** Pleasanton's World Walk to Wellness group meets at 8:30 a.m. each Saturday to chat and explore while getting exercise. Most walks last 90 minutes; all are free. To be on the email list to receive info each Thursday about that week's walk, email walks@worldwalktownellness.org.

**Seniors**

**SENIOR IDENTITY THEFT AND PREVENTION PRACTICES** Officer Chu will discuss safe guarding your personal information like checks, credit cards, Social Security numbers, and mail at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 13, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Call 931-5365 or go to www.pleasantonse-niorcenter.org.

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**IN THE SPOTLIGHT**



**Amador alum to perform**

Remember Tony Furtado? He grew up in Pleasanton, graduated from Amador in 1986, and went on to win the national banjo contest. He started playing slide guitar, singing and writing songs, and touring and recording, and has now recorded 16 albums. He's playing the San Jose Jazz Summer Fest on Aug. 10, but first will perform at 8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 9, at Handles Gastro Pub in Pleasanton. Cost is \$15, call 399-6690 for advance tickets.

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# Sports

## Tri-Valley 14-year-old All Stars win first tourney

The Tri-Valley Babe Ruth 14-year-old all star team won the Northern California State championship July 21 in Woodland, the first of three tournaments as they compete in the Babe Ruth World Series. Tri-Valley was undefeated in the four games at Woodland, outscoring their opponents, 49-5. In the final game Tri-Valley defeated East Sacramento, 8-5. James Cowick, Jack Maloon, Nate White, Joshua Ott, Ryan Bowman, Zack Patterson and Jack Morgan pitched great throughout the four game tournament, and Saiki Roy and Jack Maloon hit home runs. Tri-Valley next competed in the Pacific Southwest regional tournament in Surprise, Ariz., July 29-Aug 1.

Team members are (front row, l-r) Saiki Roy, Ryan Bowman, CJ Malski, Jared Dawson, Nick Venezia, Jack Morgan, Zach Patterson, (back) Coach Rick Fryer, Joshua Ott, Jack Maloon, Nate White, Max Moore, Darroch Koel, James Cowick, Jack Fryer, Coach Mike Maloon, Clark Eder and Manager Sean Venezia.



## Tri-Valley 13s All Stars take NorCal

The Tri-Valley 13's All Stars went undefeated at the state tournament held at the College of Alameda to claim the NorCal State Championship, defeating other Northern California district champions including Woodland, North Bay, Palo Alto, and then Woodland again in the championship game. For the tournament, the Tri-Valley Babe Ruth team scored 23 runs, only yielding six to the opponents with a combination of strong pitching, hitting and defense. The team next traveled to Vernal, Utah, for the Southwest Regional Tournament starting July 29, which includes state champions from SoCal, Nevada, Arizona, Utah and Hawaii.

Team members are (l-r) Braden Jackson, Brandon Greim, Justin Clark, Zach Chalmers, Luke O'Brien, Jared Wilson, Jackson Taylor, Ben Wooldridge, Patrick Polcar, AJ Warford, Jack Powers, Robbie Funkhouser, Riley Shields, Sam York and Nick McCambridge.



## Phantom 8U wins at Last Chance

The Phantom 8-Under girls softball team had a successful outing at the Last Chance Tournament in Manteca recently. In four games, the girls finished with three convincing wins and a tie to clinch the championship. Team members are (front, l-r) Rachel Tanis, Hailey Simons, Ella Gervasoni, Kaitlyn Lemus, Natalie O'Sullivan, (middle) Andrea Gregory, Sophia Youngberg, Isabel McElroy, Kate Sanders, Samantha Madsen, (back) coaches Tim Freitas, Mark Tanis and Rick Mayer.

**Share your local sports news & photos**

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## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

**US MOBILE MARKETING**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 479475  
The following person(s) doing business as: US MOBILE MARKETING, 3294 CURTIS CIRCLE, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Steve Mallory, 3294 Curtis Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Steve Mallory. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 06/12/2013. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 12, 19, 26, Aug. 2, 2013)

## TAKE US ALONG



**Bridge above the clouds:** Warren and Debby Wettstein stand on a bridge above the Cloud Forest in Monte Verde, Costa Rica. Let's hope these Pleasantonians don't have a fear of heights!

**SUPER SLOW ZONE**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 480255  
The following person(s) doing business as: SuperSlow Zone, 6654 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Get Fit in 20 Inc., 328 Alden Lane, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 06/24/2013. Signature of Registrant: Donald S. Svedeman, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 07/08/2013. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 2013)

**BLACK ROCK ENTERPRISES**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 480926  
The following person(s) doing business as: BLACK ROCK ENTERPRISES, 2843 HOPYARD ROAD SUITE 141, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sharon Kay Irizarry, 6318 Hansen Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Sharon Kay Irizarry. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 07/24/2013. (Pleasanton Weekly, Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2013)

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## June home sales slip, but prices continue to soar at double-digit rates

Median price of homes sold in the West jumps 19.9% from June 2012

By JEB BING

Existing-home sales across the country declined in June but have stayed well above year-ago levels for the past two years, while the median price shows seven straight months of double-digit year-over-year increases, according to the National Association of Realtors.

Total sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family homes, town homes, condominiums and co-ops, dipped 1.2% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.08 million in June from a downwardly revised 5.14 million in May, but are 15.2% higher than the 4.41 million-unit level in June 2012.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said there is enough momentum in the market, even with higher interest rates.

"Affordability conditions remain favorable in most of the country, and we're still dealing with a large pent-up demand," he said. "However, higher mortgage interest rates will bite into high-cost regions of California, Hawaii and the New York City metro area market."

According to Freddie Mac, the national average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage rose to 4.07% in June from 3.54% in May, and is the highest since October 2011 when it was also 4.07%. The rate was 3.68% in June 2012.

Total housing inventory at the end of June rose 1.9% to 2.19 million existing homes available for sale, which represents a 5.2-month supply at the current sales pace, up from 5.0 months in May. Listed inventory remains 7.6% below a year ago, when there was a 6.4-month supply.

"Inventory conditions will continue to broadly favor sellers and contribute to above-normal price growth," Yun remarked.

The national median existing-home price for all housing types was \$214,200 in June, up 13.5% from June 2012. This marks 16 consecutive months of year-over-year price increases, which last occurred from February 2005 to May 2006.

Distressed homes, foreclosures and short sales, were 15% of June sales, down from 18% in May, and are the lowest share since monthly tracking began in October 2008. They were 26% in June 2012. The decline in sales of distressed homes, which typically sell at a reduced price, accounts for some of the price growth.

Eight percent of June sales were foreclosures, and 7% were short sales. Foreclosures sold for an average discount of 16% below market value in June, while short sales were discounted 13%.

NAR President Gary Thomas, broker-owner of Evergreen Realty in Villa Park, Calif., said some owners who were hurt by the downturn are now in the market.

"Rising values have improved the position of homeowners, and 16% of Realtors surveyed in June report they worked with

a client that previously had an underwater mortgage," he said.

"Of those previously underwater owners, 53% were planning to buy another home and 22% intend to rent, but 25% weren't sure what they'd do," he added. "In addition, 47% of Realtors report they have potential sellers who are waiting for additional price appreciation before they sell."

The median time on the market for all homes was 37 days in June, down from 41 days in May, and is 47% faster than the 70 days on the market in June 2012. Short sales were on the market for a median of 68 days, while foreclosures typically sold in 39 days and non-distressed homes took 35 days. Some 47% of all homes sold in June were on the market for less than a month.

First-time buyers accounted for 29% of purchases in June, compared with 28% in May and 32% in June 2012.

"First-time buyers should be closer to 40% of the market, but they're held back by the frictions of tight credit and very limited inventory in the lower price ranges in most of the U.S.," Yun said.

All-cash sales made up 31% of transactions in June, down from 33% in May. They were 29% in June 2012.

Individual investors, who account for many cash sales, purchased 17% of homes in June, down from 18% in May and 19% in June 2012.

Single-family home sales slipped 1.1% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.50 million in June from 4.55 million in May, but are 14.5% above the 3.93 million-unit pace in June 2012. The median existing single-family home price was \$214,700 in June, which is 13.2% above a year ago.

Existing condominium and co-op sales fell 1.7% to an annualized rate of 580,000 units in June from 590,000 in May, but are 20.8% higher than the 480,000-unit level a year ago. The median existing condo price was \$210,200 in June, up 15.4% from June 2012.

Regionally, existing-home sales in the West declined 1.6% to a pace of 1.21 million in June but are 11.0% above a year ago. With ongoing supply constraints, the median price in the West was \$282,000, a jump of 19.9% from June 2012.

Existing-home sales in the Northeast declined 1.6% to an annual rate of 630,000 in June but are 16.7% above June 2012. The median price in the Northeast was \$270,400, which is 6.8% above a year ago.

Existing-home sales in the Midwest were unchanged in June at a pace of 1.21 million, and are 17.5% higher than a year ago. The median price in the Midwest was \$170,100, up 8.9% from June 2012.

In the South, existing-home sales slipped 1.5% to an annual level of 2.03 million in June but are 16.0% above June 2012. The median price in the South was \$186,300, which is 13.7% above a year ago. ■

## HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

2604 CAMINO SEGURA, PLEASANTON, \$1,050,000



This wonderful semi-custom 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom home features glistening oak hardwood floors and a completely renovated granite kitchen with stainless appliances. A full bedroom/bathroom are located downstairs. The large master bedroom features a sitting area, and a completely renovated granite master bath with oversized tub and shower. The hall bath offers a new granite dual vanity with a custom tile shower. The newly landscaped front and back yards include a flagstone and aggregate patio plus a side yard putting green and views of the Pleasanton Ridge.

Listed and sold by Tim McGuire of Alain Pinel Realtors (925) 895-9950.

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### Alamo

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**987 Kirkcrest Lane \$1,289,000**  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 457-6960

### Blackhawk

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**28 Canyon Oak Court \$1,299,000**  
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 890-2315  
**5159 Blackhawk Drive \$1,695,000**  
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 736-4155

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**559 Blackhawk Club Drive \$1,995,000**  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 683-0488  
**3675 Deer Trail Drive \$1,349,900**  
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 890-2315

### Castro Valley

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**37789 Palomares Rd \$1,495,950**  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200  
**19983 Santa Maria Ave \$420,000**  
Sun 2-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

### Danville

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**44 Pulido Ct \$1,095,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200  
**462 Sycamore Hill \$619,000**  
Sun 1-4 Robin and Chris Dickson 251-2507

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**104 Club Terrace \$1,010,000**  
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 935-7100  
**796 Danville Blvd \$1,299,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

### Dublin

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**2327 Capistrello St \$899,900**  
Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 895-9950

### Livermore

#### 2 BEDROOMS

**194 Selby Ln \$429,000**  
Sun 1-4 Bhq Tri-Valley Realty 463-9500

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**12540 Doubletree Lane \$1,149,000**  
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200  
**1604 Peridot Dr \$824,900**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

### Pleasanton

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**3541 Norton Way \$499,000**  
Sat 1-4 Tim McGuire 895-9950  
**272 Rachael Place \$525,000**  
Sun 1-4 Maeri Gilbert and Joyce Jones 251-1111

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**4876 Merganser Ct \$969,900**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 895-9950  
**6315 Inglewood Dr \$650,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-3 Dave and Sue Flashberger 463-0436  
**5168 Independence Drive \$1,170,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Claudia Colwell 323-5031

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**1178 Vintner Way \$832,800**  
Sun 1-4 Liz Venema and DeAnna Armario 413-6544  
**551 Montori Court \$1,155,000**  
Sat 1-4 Linda Goveia 251-1111

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**1939 Foxswallow Circle \$999,000**  
Sun 1-4 Emily Barraclough 251-1111  
**858 Castlewood Place \$2,395,000**  
Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2544  
**7230 Clubhouse Drive \$1,879,000**  
Sun 1-4 Doug Buenz 463-2000  
**510 Santel Court \$1,725,000**  
Sun 1-4 Donna Garrison and Susan Schall 980-0273

#### 6 BEDROOMS

**6059 Sycamore Terrace \$1,598,000**  
Sun 1-4 Liz Venema and DeAnna Armario 260-2220

### San Ramon

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**2581 Basswood Drive \$929,000**  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 997-5120  
**18 Lakeridge Court \$699,950**  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 683-6873

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**2836 Bethany Rd \$1,120,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 934-1111

**BUYING & SELLING August 16, 2013**

To reserve your space today contact Carol Cano  
at [ccano@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:ccano@pleasantonweekly.com) or call (925) 699-5793

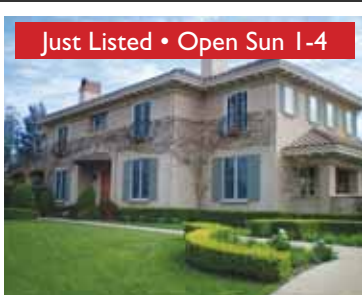


# KELLER WILLIAMS

## TRI - VALLEY REALTY



4 YEARS IN A ROW



**Just Listed • Open Sun 1-4**

**510 Santel Court, Ruby Hill**  
Richly detailed villa designed in classic Northern Italian architectural style. 5 bedrooms, 4 and 1/2 baths, 4,288 sq. ft., .54 acre corner lot with views. Pool and spa, 3 car garage and motor court. Built in 1991.  
**Offered at \$1,725,000**

**FABULOUS PROPERTIES**

**Donna Garrison, REALTOR®** 925-980-0273  
**Susan Schall, REALTOR®** 925-519-8226

www.FabulousProperties.net CA Lic#s 01735040, 01713497

**3306 Smoketree Commons, Unit D, Pleasanton**  
Beautiful one bedroom condo in desirable Pleasanton complex – close to shopping and downtown! Top schools!  
**Offered at \$298,000.**  
Call for details.



**PENDING!**



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



**SOLD! Represented Buyer**

Absolutely gorgeous, meticulously maintained home with high end upgrades throughout including full custom tile floors. Beautiful custom stone work in all bathrooms. Kitchen features granite counters, stainless appliances, and faux-finished cabinets. Open kitchen/family room with custom fireplace. You won't be disappointed!  
**Sold for \$1,260,000**



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



**37789 Palomares Road, Castro Valley**  
This private secluded hide-away is the best of resort style living in the country. 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 2772 square feet on 22 3/4 acres. Bring your horses and ride the endless miles of trails from your own ranch. Store your RVs and enjoy the sparkling pool surrounded by nature. Shown by appointment only. Call listing agent Natalie (925) 580-5963. **Offered at \$1,495,950**



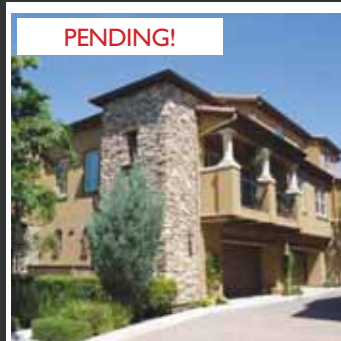
**Natalie Kruger & Lisa Sterling**  
REALTORS® LIC # 01187582 and 01012330  
925.847.7355 925.980.9265  
www.krugergroup.com



**5550 Corte Sonora, Pleasanton**  
Highly Upgraded Home Shows Like a Model. 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 2,197 sq ft of Living Space. Hardwood Floors, Crown Molding, Amazing Kitchen, Great Del Prado Location. Beautiful Yards. **Offered at \$899,000**



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

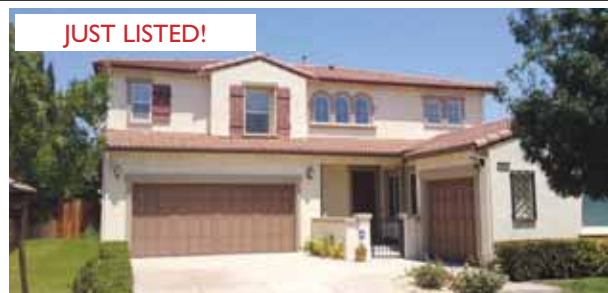


**PENDING!**

**524 Dovecote Lane Unit #1, Livermore**  
Stunning townhouse, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car attached garage. 1639 sq ft. granite slab counters, Travertine tile floors, upgraded stainless steel Bosch appliances. Crown molding, marble slab counters. Beautiful location, outside unit. Exclusive listing.  
**Offered at \$525,000**

Call Gene & Cindy for details. 510-390-0325

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



**JUST LISTED!**

4 Bedroom, with Loft, 2,823 Sq Ft. in Mountain House  
**\$448,888**



**Mike Chandler**  
REALTOR® LIC #01039712  
925.426.3858  
MikeChandler.kwrealty.com



**Open Sun 1-4**

**1178 Vintner Way, Pleasanton**  
**New price!** Single story with 4 beds, 2 baths, 1728 +/- sq. ft. Updated kitchen and baths. Family room and master suite. Beautiful hardwood floors. Large 7132 +/- sq. ft. lot. **Offered at \$832,800**

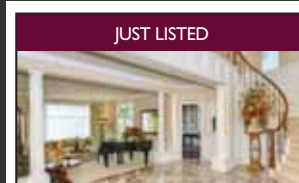


**Liz Venema & DeAnna Armario**  
REALTORS® LIC # 01922957 and 01363180  
925.413.6544 925.260.2220  
Liz@ArmarioHomes.com DeAnna@ArmarioHomes.com  
ArmarioHomes.com



**Open Sun 1-4**

**6059 Sycamore Terrace, Pleasanton**  
Brand new custom home upgraded throughout! 6 beds, 4 baths among 4027 +/- sq. ft. with 2 fireplaces and a 3 car garage. **Offered at \$1,598,000**



**JUST LISTED**

**4 Grey Eagle Court, Pleasanton**  
Charm and elegance radiates from this beautiful Grey Eagle Estate. This custom estate is over 5000 sq ft with 4 bedrooms, 2 dens and a media room that could also be a wonderful au pair or in law set up. Gourmet granite slab kitchen with old world hardwood floors. Stunning views from almost every room! 4 car garage. **Offered at \$1,740,000**



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



**OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN 1-3**

**6315 Inglewood Drive, Pleasanton**  
Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Sunny kitchen with granite slab counters, stainless steel appliances and tile floors. Wonderful step down family room with cozy fireplace. Large living room and spacious master bedroom. Lots of upgrades. **Offered at \$650,000**



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AGreenwell@kw.com

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— Janice & Ryan Spuller





**Jennifer BRANCHINI**

CA BRE#01232520

925-577-6113

jbranchini@gmail.com

www.jenniferbranchini.com

2010 REALTOR of the Year



**6876 Rayland Court Pleasanton**

Offered at \$639,900

Exceptional cul-de-sac location offering ample parking & spacious yard. Open kitchen w/ center island & granite counters. Featuring 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Updates include tile flooring, newer carpet, recessed lighting, upgraded windows, roof & more. Beautiful stamped concrete patio, lawn area, planted border.



**SOLD at \$1,661,000**

Offered at \$1,595,000

3737 Nicole Ave., Pleasanton



**SOLD at \$460,000**

Offered at \$449,000

4175 Alba Court, Pleasanton

**Looking for more? I have more listings coming soon.**



**Claudia Colwell**

BRE #00933313

(925) 323-5031

claudia.colwell@bhghome.com

4733 Chabot Dr., Suite 100

Pleasanton, CA 94588

**OPEN Sat. 8/3 & Sun. 8/4 - 1-4 p.m.**



**5168 Independence Dr., Pleasanton**

**Wonderful Gibson model in desirable Ventana Hills neighborhood**

JUST LISTED! Spacious 4 bdrm., 2 ba., plus large bonus room offers over 3100 s.f. of living space. Great open floorplan with cathedral ceilings in the living room and formal dining room with lots of windows for natural light and cozy fireplace in the living room. Kitchen has been updated with granite countertops and newer appliances, lots of cabinets and counter space including an island, double ovens, gas stove, and eating area which opens to a nice family room with a fireplace. Expansive master bedroom with cathedral ceiling and nice sitting area with fireplace and walk in closet, large secondary bdrms., with one downstairs and bonus room upstairs (could be 5th bdrm. if closet added). All three baths have been updated with granite counters and tile showers, master bath has a jetted tub and separate shower, one full bath downstairs. Freshly painted inside and out. Nice backyard with pool and sideyard access. Wonderful location within walking distance to downtown, elementary and middle schools. **Offered at \$1,170,000**

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#1 IN CALIFORNIA



**CASTRO VALLEY**

**5364 CAMINO ALTA MIRA ENTERTAINER'S DELIGHT**

**\$849,000**

4 BR 3 BA Spacious/remodeled home in cul-de-sac Newer roof.Views vaulted ceilings. Formal Din/Liv rm 925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**

Open SUN 1-4

**INCREDIBLE VIEWS!**

**12540 DOUBLETREE LN**

**\$1,149,000**

4 BR 2.5 BA Remodeled kitchen w/granite counters/ SS Appl. Hrdwd flrs. Formal Din/Liv w/Vaulted Ceilings 925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**

**6843 RIDGE CT**

**\$525,000**

**SINGLE STORY MILLCREEK HOME**

3 BR 2 BA Tile at entry,kit & ba.Vvd laminate flrs, Spacious kit, cntr island, SS stove, pantry. 925.847.2200



**PLEASANTON**

**2415 POMINO WAY**

**HIGH QUALITY HOME!**

**CALL FOR PRICING**

6 BR 5 full BA + 2 half Ruby Hill Stunner w/Nanny Ste, Lg.Mstr Ste., Office, Rec/Game Rm,Wine Cellar, Interior Ctyrd. 925.847.2200

## DISCOVERY BAY

**124 GALLEY CT**

**GREAT CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION**

**\$320,000**

4 BR 2.5 BA 3-car garage. Large backyard. Minutes from local farms and Byron airport. 925.847.2200

## FREMONT

**43200 PASEO PADRE PKWY**

**ONE STORY MISSION SAN JOSE HOME**

**\$969,000**

3 BR 2 BA New countertops & upgraded baths. Hrdwd flrs/dual-pane windows. Fireplace in Fam. FWY access 925.847.2200

## HAYWARD

**2246 EAST AVE.**

**REMODELED HOME**

**\$715,000**

4 BR 2.5 BA Separate family & dining rm. Plantation shutters. Updated kitchen. Hardwood floors.Views. 925.847.2200

## LIVERMORE

**2089 N. LIVERMORE**

**MEDITERRANEAN VILLA**

**\$1,499,950**

4 BR 5 BA Spectacular entry from huge circular brick driveway.Tile Flrs.Lrge Kit w/granite. Library. 925.847.22

**1419 SAYBROOK DRIVE**

**WONDERFUL HOME!**

**CALL FOR PRICING**

3 BR 2 BA Remodeled.Refinished hrdwd flrs. New gourmet kitchen. Dual pane windows. Landscaped. 925.847.2200

**1370 ROSELLI DRIVE**

**LOCATION-LOCATION**

**\$479,000**

4 BR 2 BA Good Sized Lot w/Side Yd Access. Newer roof, gutters, attic insulation. Great Potential. 925.847.2200

## OAKLAND

**8132 UTAH ST**

**CITY VIEWS!**

**\$275,000**

2 BR 1 BA Hrdwd Flrs.Formal Din Rm; Updated Kit Cabinets; 2 yr old roof/gutters; dual pane windows. 925.847.2200

## PLEASANTON

**3253 VERDE CT**

**BEAUTIFUL TWO STORY TOWNHOME**

**\$590,000**

3 BR 2.5 BA 2 car garage. Hrdwd flrs. Crown molding, formal din,Private rear courtyard. Close to BART. 925.847.2200

## SAN JOSE

**896 CATKIN CT**

**MOVE IN READY CONDO!**

**\$389,000**

2 BR 2 BA Kitchen w/granite counters & stainless steel appl.& ample cabinet space. Close to schools. 925.847.2200

## SAN LEANDRO

Open SUN 1 - 4

**ESTUDILLO ESTATES**

**364 HAAS AVE.**

**\$489,000**

3 BR 1.5 BA Large Lot.Hardwood flrs.2 fireplaces. Dual-pane windows. Updated kit w/granite counters 925.847.2200

## SAN RAMON

**6981 WISTERIA ST**

**SENIOR COMMUNITY 55+**

**\$499,900**

3 BR 2 BA Kit w/granite counters.Open flr plan. Newer roof.Nice patio.Creamic tile in entry/kitchen. 925.847.2200

## SUNOL

**900 KILKARE RD**

**FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY!**

**\$465,000**

Lot/Land. Rarely available 3.2 acre (approx). Lot close to Downtown Sunol. 925.847.2200



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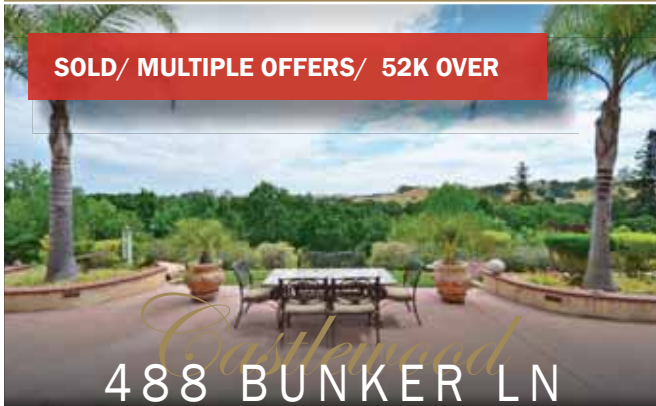
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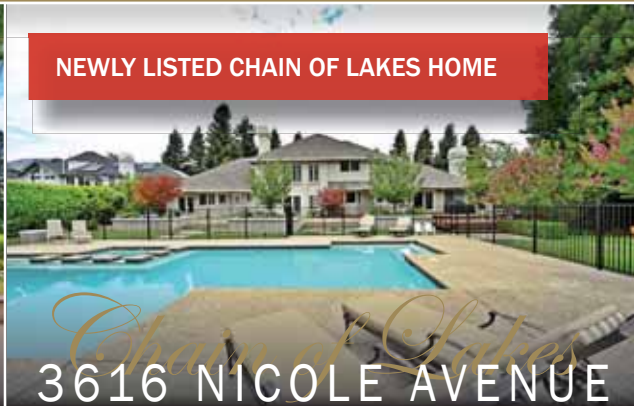


**488 BUNKER LN**

CASTLEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB, PLEASANTON

5 bedrooms plus Bonus Room, 3,886 sq ft.  
Wonderful Mediterranean style semi-custom home on 2/3 acre with gorgeous views! Feels like your own tropical paradise, featuring Master Suite plus another large Guest Suite on the main level, plus 3 more bedrooms, & huge Bonus/ Rec Room downstairs. **Offered at \$1,598,000 Sold for \$1,650,000**

**NEWLY LISTED CHAIN OF LAKES HOME**



**3616 NICOLE AVENUE**

CHAIN OF LAKES, PLEASANTON

5 bedrooms 3.5 Baths, 4,460 sq ft., 0.70 acre lot  
Gorgeous custom home on an amazing flat and private .70 acre lot in desirable area! Lives like a single level home with Master and one additional bedroom on main level. Brazilian cherry flooring, crown molding, gated pool, spa, lawn, deck and patio areas. **Offered at \$1,948,000**

**COMING SOON IN PLEASANTON MEADOWS**



**3698 CHILLINGHAM CT**

PLEASANTON MEADOWS, PLEASANTON

5 bedrooms and 3 baths, 3,100 sq ft.  
Fantastic unique remodeled home on a great court in Pleasanton Meadows; two separate living areas. Perfect home for multiple family or grown children. Wonderful yard with pool, spa, treehouse, more! Call for a private showing!  
**Offered at \$899,950**

[weinermcowell.com](http://weinermcowell.com)

CA BRE #00673849 / 01361481

### Can a Seller Cancel a Contract?

If you have practiced real estate for any length of time, you have likely encountered situations where sellers want to cancel a purchase contract during escrow. Sometimes sellers have a change of heart and simply decide they don't want to move any more. Other times, there are circumstances that change such as a job relocation getting canceled or a home the seller has purchased suddenly falling through. No matter what the reason, when a seller decides they would like to cancel a contract, it is a very stressful situation for all involved.

In simple terms, a real estate contract is a bilateral contract. For the seller, there are provisions in the contract dealing with non-performance on the part of the buyer. If the buyer fails to remove a contingency or take other actions that the contract stipulates, the contract can provide the seller the opportunity to cancel the agreement after giving the buyer proper notice. These contingencies are in virtually every contract.

But what if the seller just changes their mind and decides they do not want to go through with the sale? There are generally no provisions in the standard agreement that allow the seller to unilaterally cancel a contract. There are three exceptions to this that come to mind.

One exception would be a seller contingency to locate a re-

placement property. If this contingency is included in the contract, then the seller would have the right to cancel the agreement if they are unable to locate and secure a replacement property.

This is commonly known in the industry as a "reverse contingency", and it is not very common. The reason is simple... most buyers do not want to expend time, energy, and effort on a property if the sale is conditioned on the seller finding another home. And in situations where this does arise, there is usually a fairly tight time frame included to avoid >> **Go to [www.680homes.com](http://www.680homes.com) to read the rest of this article.**



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REALTORS

**Doug Buenz**

The 680 Group

Office  
925.251.1111

Direct  
925.463.2000

[680Homes.com](http://680Homes.com)

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*Go to [680Homes.com](http://680Homes.com) for more information on these homes and other properties.*

**JUST LISTED!**



Exquisite Bridle Creek home with 4 BR plus office & bonus room, 4 BTHS, 4 car garage, hardwood floors, and .28 Acre private lot with pool, spa, & views! **\$1,799,000**

**OPEN SUN 1-4**



**7230 Clubhouse Drive**  
Elegant custom home with 5 BR plus office & loft, 5 1/2 BTHS, hardwood floors, granite & marble, hand painted murals, and private .47 Acre lot backing to open space! **\$1,879,000**

**JUST SOLD!**



Luxurious single story home in the Castlewood area featuring 4 BR, 4 BTHs, gourmet kitchen, 7+ car garage, and a private almost 3 acre lot with sweeping views! **\$2,450,000**

**JUST SOLD!**



Custom home on Incredible 70 acre site on top of the Pleasanton ridge with sweeping views of oak studded canyons. 3 BR, 2.5 BTHs, guest house, 7 car garage, and more! **\$2,620,000**

**JUST SOLD!**



Stunning Sycamore Heights former model home with 5 BR, 4.5 BTHs, spacious granite/stainless kitchen, custom wood work & trim, and private yard with panoramic views of the Pleasanton Ridge! **\$1,729,000**

**JUST SOLD!**



Fabulous 4 BR, 3.5 BTHs luxury home backs to open space with hardwood floors, granite & stainless kitchen, soaring ceilings, and private 1/3 acre lot with pool & spa! **Sold for \$1,300,000**



[apr.com](http://apr.com) | PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



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900 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566

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**AVAILABLE**



**9480 BLESSING DRIVE**  
PLEASANTON

193+/- acre privately owned land, known as Blessing Ranch, offers privacy and amazing views. Close to 580/680 interchange. Options for development are possibly a handful of single family residence homes or a large estate.

**OFFERED AT \$4,000,000**

**JUST SOLD!**



**7755 COUNTRY LANE**  
PLEASANTON

4 BD + Office, 4.5 BA + .5 in Pool House, 4,496+/- sq. ft. on a 38,194+/- sq. ft. lot. Recently updated kitchen, new carpeting and move in ready! This exquisite custom home sits on just under an acre of land. Offering vaulted open beams ceilings, hardwood floors and sky lights.

**SOLD FOR \$1,800,000**

**COMING SOON**



**GOLDEN EAGLE**  
CALL FOR PRIVATE SHOWING

Nestled in the highly sought after setting of Pleasanton's gated community of Golden Eagle. This 2,500 sf. single story 3 bedroom 3 bath home offers vaulted ceilings, open floor plan and generous natural light. French doors open to the peaceful patio areas. A Community pool, club house and walking trails enhance the homes charm.

**OFFERED AT \$979,000**

**PENDING IN 5 DAYS!**



**2538 LARRIQUET COURT**  
PLEASANTON

Single Story ~ 3 bedroom and 2 baths with 1,722 sqft, with a formal dining room, vaulted ceilings, spacious bedrooms and a gated side yard access on a 8,204 lot. Located in the heart of Pleasanton in the neighborhood and close to Schools, the Sports Park and Woodthrush Park.

**OFFERED AT \$795,000**

**PENDING IN 6 DAYS!**



**1235 LOMITAS AVENUE**  
LIVERMORE

Single story home has it all ~ 5 bedrooms ~ 2,300 sqft of living space offering a spacious and open floor plan with vaulted ceilings, wood floors, pool/spa nestled in a private yard, side yard access and a 8,164 corner lot. Located close to schools and shopping.

**OFFERED AT \$754,000**

**COMING SOON**



**PLEASANTON VALLEY**

6BD 3BA with 2,560sf. on a 9,554sf. lot. A Heritage model located within a court offering a bedroom and full bath on main level. Formal Living room, dining room, family room and breakfast nook off kitchen. Walking Distance to Walnut Grove and Harvest Park.



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**AVAILABLE**



**BRIDLE CREEK — 831 SUNSET CREEK LANE, PLEASANTON**

This highly sought after location offers views of the Pleasanton Ridge and Mt. Diablo on a private approximate 12,131 square foot lot. Five bedrooms (the fifth bedroom is currently used as a bonus room) and three bathrooms. The open floor plan with volumed/coffered ceilings offers a gourmet kitchen and expansive master suite. The expansive and professionally landscaped rear yard offers several fruit trees and raised garden beds. Close to schools and library, walking distance to downtown Pleasanton and quick access to 680. Call for more information! **OFFERED AT \$1,549,000**

**PENDING IN 5 DAYS!**



**MOHR PARK — 2226 KAMP COURT, PLEASANTON**

Quiet court location, this beautiful home offers four bedrooms and upstairs plus room/office, three and a half bathrooms and is approximately 3,099 square feet. The formal dining room and living room offers vaulted ceilings and high windows with lots of natural light. The private lot offers a newer Pebble Sheen pool with mosaic inlays, waterfall, solar heat and quality Jandy pool equipment. Rear yard also offers a spa, outdoor shower and cabana/patio. Close to schools and Nielsen Park! Call for more information! **OFFERED AT \$1,269,000**

**SOLD!**



**WALNUT GLEN ESTATES — 2556 WILDE AVENUE, PLEASANTON**

Blaise represented the buyer in the purchase of this expanded single level home with upstairs bonus room in Walnut Glen Estates. The premium estate lot includes a private rear yard with a pool, spa and sports court offering a resort-like experience. The open floor plan includes vaulted ceilings and a gourmet kitchen that opens to the family room. Walking distance to award winning schools and parks! **OFFERED AT \$1,599,000 AND SOLD FOR \$1,665,000**

**SOLD!**



**SYCAMORE HEIGHTS — 5731 DAKIN COURT, PLEASANTON**

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! **SOLD FOR \$1,729,000**

**SOLD!**



**RUBY HILL — 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 FOR \$1,450,000**

**SOLD!**



**SOUTH LIVERMORE — 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**

**PLEASANTON 900 Main Street**



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**ALAIN PINEL**  
REALTORS

PRESENTING THE PROPERTIES OF OUR *Pleasanton & Livermore* OFFICES...

DOUG BUENZ SUN 1-4



**PLEASANTON \$1,879,000**  
Newer 5bd+bonus+office, 5.5ba custom home situated on private .50+/-acre lot backs to open space, gourmet kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors, designer touches and finishes throughout. 7230 CLUBHOUSE DRIVE

DEAN WAGERMAN BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$1,860,000**  
Majestic Oak home situated on large pvt. lot in one of Pleasanton's finest areas! 5bd/4ba, 5,120 +/-sf., kids family room downstairs, views from most every room, large wine cellar, easy freeway access. 23 DEER OAKS CT

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$1,799,000**  
Fabulous Bridle Creek home, 4bd + office & bonus room, 5ba, hardwood floors, plantation shutters, designer upgrades throughout, large private yard with sparkling pool, spa, and views. 809 SUNSET CREEK LN

BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$1,549,000**  
Premium lot; panoramic views of the Ridge and Mt.Diablo! Private expansive rear yard-professionally landscaped! 4BD, 3BA, bonus room, 3,230 sqft. Gourmet kitchen. Excellent location. Great schools! 831 SUNSET CREEK LANE

DAN GAMACHE BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$1,499,950**  
Immaculate and rare property! 3332+/-sf single story home, excellent condition, 1800+/-sf basement, 1800+/-sf shop/garage/apt., endless views! 5800 EAGLES RUN RD

SUSIE STEELE BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$1,489,000**  
Court location, 5bd + bonus room, 1 bed downstairs, gourmet kitchen with all amenities a chef could desire. Large backyard, firepit, jacuzzi, an entertainers dream. 240 NAPIER CT

LINDA GOVEIA SAT 1-4



**PLEASANTON \$1,155,000**  
Ruby Hill - Premia. San Marco model. Beautiful home with 4 beds/3 baths, 3-car garage. Updated kitchen with stainless appliances. Ideal court location with mature trees and landscaping. 551 MONTORI CT

EMILY BARRACLOUGH SUN 1-4



**PLEASANTON \$999,000**  
Stunning home in the desirable Birdland. Fabulous open floor plan, light & bright, upgraded gorgeous kitchen, one bedroom downstairs, half bath, laundry room. Large beautifully landscaped backyard. 1939 FOXSWALLOW CIRCLE

MARTIN GROUP BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$995,000**  
Custom 4 bdrm/2.5 bath home. Expansive kitchen w/ granite. Vaulted ceilings. Lrg mstr w/bay windows. Backyard has deck, covered patio & grass. Close to downtown, schools & close to Highway 84 & 680. 664 ROWELL LANE

LANCE & KELLY KING BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$989,950**  
Largest model in beautiful "Visanto", southside Livermore, boasting 3,700+/-sf, 5bd/3ba, chef's kitchen, designer paint, custom touches and more! 2811 SAN MINETE DR

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$979,000**  
Nestled in highly sought after "Golden Eagle" gated community, single story 3bd/3ba, vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, generous natural light, community pool, club house, walking trails and more! 7808 LAQUINTA

TIMOTHY MCGUIRE SAT&SUN 1-4



**PLEASANTON \$969,900**  
Situating on a quiet court includes beautiful detached 1bd/1ba in-law unit, new concrete driveway, Corian kitchen, inside laundry, large private backyard, fruit trees and more! 4876 MERGANSER CT

TIMOTHY MCGUIRE BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$949,900**  
Renovated Heritage model in Birdland! 1 bd/ba downstairs, eat-in kitchen, new cabinets, granite counters & frig, dual paned windows, new professionally landscaping and so much more! 2115 RAVEN RD

DANIEL ALPHER BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$920,000**  
Elegantly customized throughout this 2750 sq ft, 4 bed, 3 bath, 3 car garage home shines! Resting on a 8875 sq ft lot with vineyard views, custom molding, casing, lighting, and so much more! 2281 MEZZAMONTE DR

KAREN CROWSON BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$625,000**  
Highly sought one story in Murrieta Meadows. 3/2.5 with bonus room. 1838 sq. ft. of living space, 7969 sq. ft. lot. In ground pool and spa, rock climbing wall and covered patio with outdoor kitchen. 577 SUMMERTREE DR

JO ANN LUISI BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$600,000**  
Investors welcome. Beautifully expanded 4 bedroom home with pool. Currently leased until April 2014 at \$2550 per mos. 825 DAKOTA CT

SCOTT MENDES BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$595,000**  
Quintessential Cape Cod salt box in the heart of highly desirable Old Southside! Total rebuild in 2007 with permits, too much to list, must see! 1707 FOURTH ST

MAERI GILBERT/JOYCE JONES OPEN SUN 1-4



**PLEASANTON \$525,000**  
THIS IS IT! Walk to downtown Pleasanton, nicely updated townhome, custom closets, wired for surround sound, industrial garage floor and more! 272 RACHAEL PL

TIMOTHY MCGUIRE BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$499,000**  
Newly remodeled, granite kitchen, ss appliances, new granite bathrooms, cherry cabinets, custom tile, inside laundry, new carpet, paint, private patio, 2 car garage and much more! 3541 NORTON WAY

JO ANN LUISI BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$415,000**  
Modern condo w/2 masters. Located block from Transit Center, theaters, restaurants, schools, and shopping. Quaint, quiet, development with playground, pool, and adjacent to community garden. 2878 4TH ST #1403

LUXURY PORTFOLIO INTERNATIONAL

PLEASANTON/ LIVERMORE VALLEY | 900 Main St 925.251.1111

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