

Pleasanton Weekly

Ghost Walk shows history is very much alive » **11**



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Flash of inspiration

Tri-Valley photo contest winners announced



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AROUND PLEASANTON



BY JEB BING

Remembering JoAnn Koobatian

The Foothill High School campus is a sea of pink this week as students, faculty and parents pay tribute to the school's talented, fun-loving and much admired choir director JoAnn Koobatian, who died last Friday. And the tributes are continuing. The three choirs she taught will sing several of her favorite songs tonight at half-time during the football game between the Foothill Falcons and Granada High. The stadium, much like the rest of the campus, will be decorated in pink, which was her favorite color, with students wearing embroidered pink wrist bands hundreds of them have made this week. Next Saturday, Nov. 2, the 2013 Falcon Royale at the Pleasanton Hilton Hotel is being dedicated to her as parents hold their annual fundraiser, this year marking the 40th anniversary of the opening of Foothill High.

Ms. Koobatian, who was 46, will be remembered Monday at private services at Trinity Lutheran Church by her family, including her husband Richard and their 12-year-old daughter Amanda, who is in 6th grade at Harvest Park Middle School. Then a public memorial will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9 at Valley Community Church on Del Valle Parkway in Pleasanton. Again, those participating are encouraged to wear pink.

She majored in music at San Jose State and has made it her career ever since. A soprano, she sang with a quartet for many years, including in concerts at the Dean Leshar Center, before joining Foothill as a drama teacher in 1996. Three choirs she taught are now Concert, Chamber and Women's. She also spent extra time at lunch and after school working with students who couldn't fit choir into their schedules, but wanted to sing, and sing better.

Valerie Rossman, the school's visual and performing arts department chair, remembers that from the start, Ms. Koobatian was a star. "I could see right away that she was a completely dedicated, skilled teacher who knew her subject like no one else," Rossman said. "She had high expectations for her students and just never gave up on them. She always challenged them to do their best and they really appreciated her for it."

Along the way, Ms. Koobatian was honored to receive the 2nd annual Juanita Haugen "Women Making a Difference" award for



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JoAnn Koobatian, Foothill High School's longtime choir director, who died last Friday.

education from the California Women Lead organization and a Crystal Apple award, and in 2011 was named "Teacher of the Year" in the Pleasanton school district. Even after being diagnosed with a rare form of thymic cancer in 2005, she continued teaching through chemotherapy and radiation treatments which eventually damaged her voice. Even though she couldn't sing along with them, she listened to students' voices and knew immediately just what parts they should have in her choirs. Working with Mark Aubel, music and choir director at Amador Valley High School, she was part of a team that produced 18 musicals featuring students from Pleasanton elementary, middle and high schools.

Aubel was on the Foothill campus this week to help Rossman and Foothill's counselors meet with grieving students. He said that what made JoAnn Koobatian special "was that not only did she produce good musicians and good choirs, but she produced good people as well." Aubel, who is planning the Nov. 9 "celebration of life" service, is also coaching Foothill band director Josh Butterfield, who is taking over the choir's leadership position temporarily at Foothill. Music, band and choir directors at Pleasanton schools are a close-knit community, Rossman said. "They're grieving, too."

In a message to staff and teachers last Sunday, newly-hired Foothill principal Jason Krolkowski wrote: "I only knew JoAnn a short while, but her reputation grew with each day since I arrived at Foothill. Each story I heard about JoAnn was better than the previous one. I know she will never be forgotten at Foothill High School and in the Pleasanton school district." ■

About the Cover

"God Beams Over Danville" by Richard Valenti of Danville was awarded 1st place in its category and Best of Show in the first ever Tri-Valley Photo Contest, hosted by the Pleasanton Weekly and its sister publications.

Vol. XIV, Number 39

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



Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What have been the most significant moments (one or two) of your life?



Jordan River

Professional DJ/Entertainer/Event Photographer

First, the birth of my son, Joshua. Second, my first DJ event back in college over 20 years ago for a fraternity party at Berkeley. It was incredibly significant because it marked the real beginning of my career.

Ellen Kiefer

Synagogue administrator

Oh, that's an easy one. The births of my children and my grandson, Hunter. These moments were so pivotal, even more so than my wedding, because I knew my husband when I married him, whereas with the birth of children and grandchildren, there is that major surprise element and the anticipation of having to wait so many months to finally get to meet them.



Ernie Heilbrun

Retired

The day I received my divorce decree in the mail was a big moment for me, as it marked the beginning of a new, fresh start and the end of a period of my life that I viewed as one very big mistake.

Fotios Vassiliadis

Jeweler

There are two moments in my life I will never forget. The first is the electrifying moment I first had eye contact with my wife, 24 years ago. The second is the birth of our daughter, Athina. Everything else is secondary.



Kathy Fjerstad

Recruiter

The birth of my son was huge. So was moving to Pleasanton. We love this town and feel as though we chose the perfect place to live. Quitting my job temporarily was also momentous; it gave me a chance to catch up with my life.

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

The proverbial unsung hero: We all know one or two



The Pleasanton Weekly will honor eight groups or individuals this holiday season who have been selected as 2013 Tri-Valley Heroes.

The award recipients are "unsung heroes," the ones who keep doing what they do to make our community and lives better, but very rarely get the recognition they so richly deserve. Two Heroes will be profiled each week for four weeks, Nov. 22 to Dec. 13.

Awards will be given in the following categories:

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

We are still seeking sponsors for the program and for the individual awards.

Please contact Gina Channell-Allen at gallen@PleasantonWeekly.com or 925-600-0840 for information.

Thank you to Tri-Valley Heroes sponsors



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

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DIGEST

Get CERTified

Know what to do in a disaster? Want to help others in case of emergency?

Neighborhood volunteers will be conducting a drill at 9 a.m. tomorrow at Tawny Park on Tawny Drive.

Volunteers are trained by the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department in the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program. After an event like an earthquake, they survey neighborhoods, do light search and rescue and triage victims.

People are welcome to stop by to watch or be encouraged to get CERT training for themselves. For more information on the training, contact Emergency Preparedness Manager Genevieve Pastor-Cohen at 454-2317 or at gpastor-cohen@lpfire.org

Help Delaney

Friends of the Newton family will hold a fundraiser on Nov. 13 to help raise money for Delaney, a two-year-old diagnosed with a brain tumor.

While the youngster is being treated, her parents are living in hotel rooms and raising Delaney's one-year-old brother.

Sauced BBQ and Spirits in Livermore has offered to host the fundraiser, with 10% of all sales going to help pay for medical expenses. The event starts at 4 p.m.

For those who can't justify heading to a bar on a weekday afternoon, donations can also be made at www.youcaring.com/medical-fundraiser/team-delaney.

Vicious vegetable

If you can't get enough Halloween, check out "Little Shop of Horrors," a musical takeoff of 50s-era science fiction movies featuring a carnivorous plant from outer space that feeds on human blood, coming next month to the Firehouse Arts Center.

The Firehouse production by the Pacific Coast Repertory Company is the classic musical adaptation of the Roger Corman film of the same name.

The show starts Nov. 8 and runs through Nov. 24, with Friday and Saturday shows at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$17-\$38. Get them online at www.firehousearts.org, by phone at 931-4848 or at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Ave. ■

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

City leaders say no to higher affordable housing fees

'We're kicking the can down the road again,' Councilwoman Cook-Kallio says

By JEB BING

With the local economy still recovering and competition increasing for large new retail and commercial investments, the Pleasanton City Council joined with the city's Housing Commission Tuesday to keep current low income housing fees that are charged to developers in place.

That came as good news to developers after a consulting firm hired to review Pleasanton's fee structure recommended raising fees by thousands of dollars.

Builders of homes over 1,500 square feet in floor space must now pay \$10,713 into Pleasanton's lower income housing fund. Apartment developers must pay \$2,655 for every unit in the planned complex and even developers of large and small businesses, both industrial and retail, must pay \$2.83 per square foot.

Representatives of Economic & Planning Systems, Inc., the consulting firm, told council

and Housing Commission members in a joint meeting that current fees are inadequate for providing low income housing to meet state guidelines. Instead of \$10,713, EPS recommended charging \$27,187. Fees for apartment builders would go from \$2,655 to \$15,694 per unit, and fees for retail and commercial developers would nearly double to \$4.67.

"We're just coming out of a recession and vacancy rates in our office parks are going in the right direction," said Mayor Jerry Thorne. "We don't want to mess with that."

Councilwoman Karla Brown agreed.

"I'm not comfortable with the methodology used in this report," she said. "I don't think we'd have much growth in downtown Pleasanton with these kinds of fees."

Although the EPS study showed nearby cities are charging higher fees, it was also reported Tuesday that some of these cities, including Dublin and Livermore, are waiving all fees for

new commercial and retail developments.

"Dublin is getting Whole Foods, and we're not," Brown said in discussing the fee structure.

The fees collected in Pleasanton go into a special fund that the city uses to help finance housing projects for those with low- to very-low incomes. In recent years, these funds have been used to acquire land for rebuilding Kottinger Place, housing rehabilitation and second mortgage loans for lower income households and loans and grants for special needs housing such as REACH.

The state requires updated information periodically on what cities are doing in terms of providing affordable housing. Pleasanton often allows developers to pay cash into the affordable housing fund instead of actually building affordable units, which are often dedicated as

See **AFFORDABLE** on Page 6



Halloween round-up

Frightening, fun and family-friendly happenings around town this week

By SIERRA RHODES

It's that time of year again, when all the ghouls and goblins come out to play and ingest an excess of sugar. Whatever your plans may be, there are more than enough ghostly adventures and spooky, fun things to do this Halloween.

Bring the family in for the Halloween Fun Night, and be sure to come in costume! This annual trick-or-treat evening features the Haunted Hallway of Horror, games and activities for kids and adults, and yummy treats for all. From 6:30-8:30 p.m. tonight at Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park. Call 931-3449.

Want to learn the history behind the hauntings? Museum on Main will introduce you to the ghosts of Pleasanton's past at its Ghost Walk, where spirits will guide you on a haunted tour, from 6-10 p.m. on Oct. 25 and Oct. 26. Costumes are encouraged! Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$13 for 12 and under. Contact 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

Indulge in some extra spooky Halloween fun and brave the Haunted Garden Party.

This eerie attraction will start at sunset and end when the spirits go to bed on Halloween night, Thursday, Oct. 31 at 336 Sycamore Road, the second driveway on the left. Travel the crooked garden path and grab some treats if you dare!

You may have little ones who aren't up for a late night — or just love a good old-fashioned scavenger hunt — so check out the Halloween Scavenger Hunt, from 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Oct. 26. Kids can come in costume and pick up instructions, a Halloween bag and their first clue from the starting location at Towne Center Books. Visit pleasantondowntown.net/events.php for more information.

For some more family fun, bring your children to the Family Fall Festival, from 6-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31 at Pathway Community Church in Dublin. There will be carnival games, crafts, prizes, face painting, balloon art, food and more. Dress in your favorite costume. Call 322-1333.

Halloween is also a celebration of the har-

See **HAPPENINGS** on Page 6

Parents push school board for quick cuts to class sizes

Board discusses three ideas that could reduce class sizes over time

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

About 30 parents turned out at the Pleasanton school board on Tuesday night to push once again for smaller class sizes.

Three scenarios to reduce the size of classes were up for discussion at the meeting, and although no vote was scheduled, board members all said they were committed to "aggressively" pursue smaller classes.

"These are not recommendations, they are just ideas," Deputy Superintendent Luz Cazares told the board.

The main issue is funding. The state's target is to bring all students through third grade to 24-1 pupil-teacher ratios by 2020-21 school year. All three plans would do that well in advance of the state deadline, but with significant differences in cost.

Parents pushed for scenario three, a plan that would cut class sizes quickest and at the most cost.

"The difference I've seen between the 25 to 1 class and the 30 to 1 class is amazing," said Andrea Stokoe, a parent and board member of Pleasanton Partnerships In Education. "When there's 30 to 1 in a class, every child falls through the cracks."

Kelly Hilton, who is both a parent and a fifth-grade teacher at Walnut Grove Elementary School, said delaying an immediate move toward smaller classes wouldn't be just.

"We're not being equitable to our kids without smaller class sizes," Hilton said, adding she'd like the district to consider reducing class sizes for students in fourth and fifth grade.

"Give our students the same thing that other kids across the nation have," Hilton told the board.

Scenario three would keep class sizes at 25-1 for first graders and include second graders in

See **CLASS** on Page 7

School Board approves management raises

Also to consider \$12.7 million in tech upgrades

By **GLENN WOHLTMANN**

Administrators at the Pleasanton School District will get raises that match those given to other employees earlier this year.

No one spoke at a Pleasanton School Board public hearing about the raises, which include a 1.1% salary hike and a one-time bonus of 1% of annual pay. The board approved the raises, which will cost about \$170,000, on a unanimous vote.

The raises are the same received by the district's two unions, which represent teachers and school employees.

Meanwhile, the board will consider how to pay for technology upgrades across the district. A review by Director of Technology Services Chris Hobbs suggests the district needs to spend \$12.7 million on upgrades that includes \$5.4 million for new network infrastructure to improve online access for students, teachers and staff.

"I counted at least seven different vendors at different campuses across the district," Hobbs told the board at its meeting Tuesday night.

His report also includes \$4.6 million to be spent in classrooms: \$2.2 million for ceiling-mounted projectors, \$1.4 million for audio systems and about \$1 million for document cameras and laser printers.

Hobbs told the board the district needs to spend \$2.7 million for computer upgrades.

"We have a wide variety of devices that are in use at our district today. We have Macs and PCs, we have iPads and Chromebooks," he said.

Hobbs' report calls for spending \$900,000 for fixed computer labs. That includes one lab at each elementary school and one at Village High, two labs at each middle school and five each at Foothill and Amador Valley High.

It also suggests spending \$800,000 for mobile computer labs that can take the place of fixed labs while they're being used for new computer-based testing.

The report also calls for spending \$1 million on laptops for teachers and staff.

"All technology has a useful life," Hobbs told the board. "We should not expect teachers and students to be working with the same technology they had 10 years ago."

A complete technology plan will be presented to the board in December.

In the meantime, district officials have embarked on a listening campaign. A meeting with business leaders was held Wednesday night, with a parent and staff forum on Thursday night and another set for Oct. 30. A draft of the plan is to be presented at a Nov. 13 community forum.

The board will consider several options to pay for the new technology that Hobbs estimated would cost the district about \$2.7 million every five years.

Deputy Superintendent Luz Cazares said the district has recently been getting by with using some money from the general funds and from donations.

The district is putting together a spending plan to accompany

See **RAISES** on Page 7

AFFORDABLE

Continued from Page 5

low-rent, subsidized housing in perpetuity. Recent projects approved as part of a court-ordered rezoning in Pleasanton to allow more high density housing have mostly chosen to make the payments rather than tie up 15-20% of their apartment complexes with affordable units.

Steve Bocian, assistant city manager who has charge of the affordable housing program, said Pleasanton's fee structure was last evaluated in 2003. Prior to that, in 1989, a provision was incorporated to annually adjust the fee amounts based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). That was done in 1998 and 2003, but there have been no changes since then.

Affordable housing advocates have complained numerous times when new developments are under consideration that there are too few homes and apartments that are affordable to Pleasanton's workforce. But Bocian pointed out that by having developers pay into the city's special fund in lieu of build-

ing affordable units, the millions of dollars given allows the city to fund major projects, such as Ridge View Commons and the Promenade and Parkview. Those developments provide special housing for seniors, the disabled and individuals with dementia.

Today, Bocian pointed out, the affordable housing fund balance is \$7.9 million, which may not be enough to finance the redevelopment of Kottinger Place and Pleasanton Gardens, where cost estimates are at least \$8 million.

Although Tuesday night's joint meeting was considered a workshop with no formal action taken, the council and commission reached a consensus to keep fees as they are, but to ask city staff to review all the options in six months or so and report back.

Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio said the council has talked about affordable housing for the seven years she's been a member "and we still don't have a substantive plan for dealing with it."

"To some degree, we're kicking the can down the road again," she added. ■

RSVP Speech competition contestants 'just say it'

Participants deliver speeches, meet dignitaries at ceremony

By **JENN TEITELL**

RSVP Speech, a non-profit run by high school students who promote public speaking skills in youth, recently held its first annual Tri-Valley Speech Contest for local middle school students.

Amador Valley High School hosted the Tri-Valley Speech Contest and subsequent awards ceremony where participants met with local dignitaries, including Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne, Alameda County District 1 Supervisor Scott Haggerty and California Senator Ellen M. Corbett.

"It is so very important," Corbett told participants and their families. "Speaking is power, and people really do want to hear what you have to say." Contestants delivered a 3 to 5-minute speech with the theme "If I could change anything in the world, I would..." The RSVP Speech team judging criteria included eye contact, gestures, content and voice projection — all subjects of RSVP courses. The first, second and third place winners were honored at the ceremony and had the opportunity to give their speeches again.

Vikram Rajan, an eighth grader

at Fallon Middle School, took first place with his speech about autism awareness. Neil Bedi, another Fallon eighth grader, came in second with a speech about poverty. Shreyas Swaminathan, a sixth grader at Hart Middle School, won third, speaking about peace.

Between awards, the "VIP" attendees addressed the crowd. Congressman Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) was unable to attend the ceremony but filmed a video message for the contestants. The celebration concluded with a raffle for the contestants.

Founded in June 2012 by Amador DECA members Melody Huang, Alice Deng and Shilpa Krish, RSVP Speech is dedicated to helping community members improve their oratorical skills by overcoming anxiety and practicing. The program provides free lessons at the Pleasanton and San Leandro Public Libraries. While aimed primarily at elementary and middle school students, it is open to all ages.

"What I'd like to see is even more young people involved in speaking up and being part of government — local government,

what's done at the state level, even the federal level," Corbett added.

Since its inception, RSVP Speech has expanded throughout the Bay Area, reaching cities such as San Leandro, Berkeley and Oakland. Amador DECA also adopted the program as a chapter public relations project in 2013, and it went on to win top 10 at DECA Internationals Conference in April.

"As of fall 2013, RSVP Speech has continued with growth by expanding internationally to countries such as Canada, China and Hungary through virtual classroom teaching," Huang, an Amador senior, said of the program's growth.

The program will still continue after the founders graduate, Huang said.

"We have various middle school interns as part of the speech team," she said. "Next year, these interns — now high school students — will take over the program and teach weekly classes at the library. We'll also continue RSVP Speech as this year's chapter community service project."

To learn more about RSVP Speech, visit www.rsvpspeech.com. ■

It's rock & roll at Beth Emek installation

Guitar-playing Rabbi Milder leads festivities

By **JEB BING**

Rabbi Laurence Milder was installed as spiritual leader at Congregation Beth Emek in Pleasanton last weekend in a Shabbat service on Saturday presided over by Rabbi Avi Shulman of Fremont's Temple Beth Torah and then a special concert Sunday evening.

The concert in Milder's honor featured the Josh Nelson Project, one of the most popular acts in modern Jewish music. A multi-instrumentalist and prolific songwriter, Nelson's music is celebrated and integrated in congregations and communities around the world.

Milder, an accomplished guitarist himself, performed with Nelson for a few songs. Then Nelson filled the room with music for the next 75 minutes with Beth Emek packed with congregants rocking and rolling well into the evening.

Milder, a native of St. Louis,



RICK ALTMAN

Guitarist Josh Nelson joins Rabbi Laurence Milder at Beth Emek's installation ceremony.

took the Beth Emek post last July. Known for his exceptional pastoral and teaching skills, he had served congregations in Indianapolis, Bangor, Maine, and Westborough, Mass. He also served as

an assistant professor at the University of Maine, a lecturer at the Bangor Theological Seminary, and for two years was on the faculty at the Hebrew Academy, where he served as its "reform" rabbi. ■

HAPPENINGS

Continued from Page 5

vest, and Harvest Valley Christian Church will celebrate in style with its Harvest Festival. Bring the family for fun, games, prizes, face painting, puppet shows, music and more! The festival will be held today at Harvest Valley Christian Church. Event is free, food available for purchase. Contact Valerie

Fleming at 484-2482 or valerie@harvestvalley.org.

If the little princesses and ghouls aren't part of the picture, think about adding some adult spice to the holiday. The third annual Halloween Brew Crawl, presented by the Pleasanton Downtown Association, is a night of trick-or-treating for adults, specially created by downtown merchants and local breweries for a grown-up All

Hallow's Eve.

This other-worldly amount of fun will be from 5-8 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 in downtown Pleasanton. Tickets are available for \$30 presale, online at instagift.com/pda, or at Pleasanton Main St. Brewery, Redcoats Pub and Studio Seven Arts. Ticket price includes beer tastings at 25 downtown locations, a commemorative beer glass and tasting map. Call 484-2199. ■

DA to decide charges against teen driver who left crash

Father refuses to say where son is

It's up to the Alameda County District Attorney's Office to decide if charges will be filed against a teen driver who left the scene of a fiery crash last week.

Police originally received a call to a rollover crash in the 3400 block of East Ruby Hill Drive at about 12:21 a.m. Oct. 17, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Robert Leong.

On arriving, police found the car engulfed in flames, but no driver was in sight.

Leong said the initial

report of a rollover was mistaken.

"It looks like it hit some kind of curb," he said. PG&E was called out there, some water folks were called out."

While police were on the scene, a man arrived and told them his 19-year-old son was the driver, but refused to give the teen's whereabouts.

Police received a call at about 6:40 a.m. the same morning, telling them the 19-year-old had returned to his home.

—Glenn Wohltmann

RAISES

Continued from Page 6

the technology plan, she said. Some money could come from one-time state money to implement a new learning plan, Common Core. Other money could come by using reserve funds that came with the sale of land, known as the Sycamore

Fund.

But, she said, the district may need to look to voters to approve short-term borrowing through a bond issue. Some districts are using five-year general obligation bonds to pay for technology improvements, with the plan of going back to voters again as technology becomes dated. ■

Firefighters rescue man trapped in trench

No major injuries sustained in cave-in

By Glenn Wohltmann

A worker is safe after being trapped for more than 45 minutes when a trench collapsed on him last week.

The Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department was called to the scene on Blakemore Court at about 3:40 p.m. Oct. 17. The worker was up to his chest when the trench walls caved in on him; by the time rescuers arrived, his coworkers had dug him out to his stomach, but were ordered out of the trench because it was unstable.

"The walls of the trench were shored up using specialized equipment carried by the fire department," Jack Neiman-Kimel, LPFD battalion chief, said in a news release. "This equipment kept the walls from further sloughing off allowing the victim to be removed from the trench."

The victim did not sustain any major injuries and no firefighters were hurt in the rescue. In all, three engines, one truck, two

rescue units, one ambulance, one battalion chief, two deputy fire chiefs and a utility unit responded to the scene.

Neiman-Kimel said the man was on a crew brought in to dig out a pool that had been filled in, and that the trench was apparently not properly braced.

"Trenches at construction sites usually follow strict guidelines to make the work environment safe but can still become unstable and cave in," Neiman-Kimel said in the release. "Trenches are deeper than they are wide which is the reason the walls can cave in and injure someone inside the trench."

LPFD firefighters receive annual training in confined space rescues, as required by the state. Trench rescues are cited by national organizations as one of the most dangerous rescue operations firefighters face because of the possibility of further collapse. ■

CLASS

Continued from Page 5

the 2014-15 school year, then cut class sizes to 25-1 for third graders the next year. Kindergarten and transitional kindergarten would be added the next year, in 2016-17. Class sizes would be cut to 24-1 for all students in kindergarten through third grade the following year. That plan would cost the district \$5.5 million to bring class sizes to 25-1 and nearly \$8.2 million when classes are reduced to 24-1. By the 2020-21 state deadline, it would cost the district nearly \$17.7 million.

Scenario two is the least expensive. It would keep first graders at 25-1, then gradually reduce class sizes to 25-1 for all other classes by 2017-18, with class sizes reduced equally for all other grades during the shift. It would cost nearly \$5.2 million to reduce class sizes to 25-1 and almost \$10.1 million to cut classes sizes to 24-1 the next year. By the 2020-21 school year, it would cost the district nearly \$15.4 million.

The first plan would work gradually. It would keep class sizes at 25-1 for first graders and include second graders in the 2014-15 school year, then cut class sizes to 25-1 for third graders the next year. Kindergarten and transitional

kindergarten would be added the next year, in 2016-17 and class sizes would be cut to 24-1 for all students in K-3 the following year. That plan would cost the district \$5.5 million to bring class sizes to 25-1 and nearly \$8.2 million when classes are reduced to 24-1. By the 2020-21 state deadline, it would cost a total of \$16.1 million.

All three scenarios would also eliminate staggered reading over time — in the 2018-19 school year under the first alternative, in the 2019-20 school year in the second and in the 2017-18 school year in the third.

There's uncertainty about continued state funding for class size reductions, which could pose problems if the district starts cutting class sizes next school year.

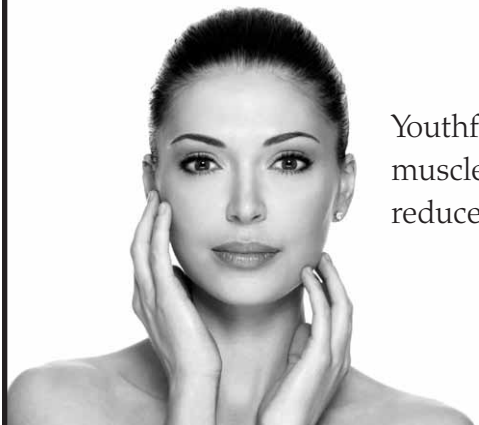
"We don't know what our budget is going to be for next year yet," Cazares said. A preliminary budget is released by the governor in January, and the final revision is made in May.

"We don't really know what we'll be receiving," she said.

Class sizes for first graders were reduced to 25-1 for the current year, thanks to a \$213,000 donation by PPIE, with the school board approving \$112,000 to make up the difference. ■

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PHOTOS BY JEB BING

Foothill High School's Principal Jason Krolikowski and Pleasanton school board member Valerie Arkin join chefs from Valley Catering (from left) Joseph Rodriguez and Sarah and Kevin Fead at Foothill's booth at Saturdays' culinary competition hosted by the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation.

350 join in PPIE's 'Toasts & Tastes of Fall' gala

10th annual culinary competition raises funds for schools

Business leaders, chefs and city civic and education organizations raised thousands of dollars for schools last Saturday at the 10th annual culinary competition hosted by the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation.

More than 350 enthusiastic "taste testers" filled the dining and assembly area at the California Center in Pleasanton for the "Toasts & Tastes of Fall" fundraiser.

In addition to ticket sales at \$75 each, PPIE generated additional funds from tables filled with special offers in a silent auction that lasted throughout the evening.

A total of 15 culinary teams competed in tasting categories. They included Almond's Kitchen, Eddie Pappa's, FAZ,

Forno Vecchio, Mangia Mi and On the Vine Catering in the Slow category; Baci Bistro & Café, Blue Agave Club, The Hopyard, Pans on Fire, The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards and Valley Catering in the Savory category; and Primrose Bakery, Sweet Freedom Bake Shop and Sweet & Savory in the Sweet category.

Sponsors of this year's event included the Pleasanton Weekly, Clorox, Fremont Bank, KKIQ, Oracle, Robert Half International, Black Tie Transportation, Kaiser Permanente, Ogden Costa Creative Group, Stoneridge Creek, Vulcan Materials, Balloons & Beyond, the Pleasanton Police Officers Charitable Foundation, New Leaf Market and Pleasanton Rentals. ■



Amador Valley High School Principal Tom Drescher and his wife Aimee (left) join Linda Wyner, owner and chef at Pans on Fire in Pleasanton and her associate Laura Stipic (right) at Amador's booth at Saturdays' PPIE culinary competition.



Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee

Monday, October 28, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.
Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

- Proposed Arroyo Mocho Trail Bicycle and Pedestrian Access Gate Near Intersection of Stoneridge Drive at Guzman Parkway.
- Trails Project Status Report

The City Council is currently recruiting for an At-Large member for the Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan Oversight Committee

The Pioneer Master Plan Oversight Committee is a seven (7) member ad hoc community committee who will provide ongoing dialogue and direction for the master planning process.

The Committee will work with City staff and a consultant to help direct the process. The role and expectations of the Committee members are:

- Be informed, collaborative and solution oriented
- Provide a forum for community discussion
- Provide input on draft products
- Keep commission and/or agency informed and up to date regarding Committee activity
- Provide recommendations as requested by City staff

The deadline for filing an application is Friday, November 1, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office, 123 Main Street. For additional information, contact Kathleen Yurchak, Assistant Director of Operations Services at (925) 931-5506 or by Email kyurchak@cityofpleasantonca.gov

The above represents a sampling of upcoming meeting items. For complete information, please visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar



Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne and New Leaf Markets manager Mark McKinney serve special "taste testers" at the PPIE's "Toasts & Tastes of Fall" fundraiser Saturday at California Center.



Developer Pat Costanza of Kiewit and his wife Wendy enjoy culinary specialties and Livermore Valley wine at PPIE's fundraiser.

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY



MIKE SEDLAK

The long-awaited Stoneridge Drive extension will open Friday with much fanfare.

At long last, Stoneridge Drive, Stoneridge Creek are opening

City, civic and business leaders will mark the completion of two multi-million-dollar projects in Pleasanton next Friday with the opening of Stoneridge Drive to El Charro Road and Stoneridge Creek, Pleasanton's new retirement community on Staples Ranch. Both projects were completed at little cost to Pleasanton taxpayers. Alameda County agreed to build the bridge over the Arroyo Mocho when the 124-acre undeveloped Staples Ranch was annexed into Pleasanton, and Continuing Life Communities of Southern California built and will operate Stoneridge Creek.

At the public ribbon-cutting at 10 a.m. Friday next to the new bridge, Mayor Jerry Thorne will lead a Pleasanton delegation and Livermore and Alameda County representatives will join in the opening day celebration.

The official opening of Stoneridge Creek retirement community will follow at 11:30 a.m. in the retirement complex. An invitation-only event, it will include Pleasanton officials, residents already living there and those soon to move in, Troy Bourne, chief executive officer, and vice president at CLC, and Francis X. Rodgers, executive director for Stoneridge Creek. The first phase of Stoneridge Creek's 635 independent living condos and homes is giving at least 200 seniors the opportunity to move into their new upscale homes this year.

The completion of these two major projects is long overdue. Bourne deserves credit for steering the retirement home developer's application process through an agonizingly long seven years of public hearings, workshops and environmental-impact discussions. Many of those who had registered for homes there spent several long nights at public hearings before the Pleasanton Planning Commission and City Council which were stymied by some very vocal opponents to development on Staples Ranch. For a time during the process, opposition to extending Stoneridge Drive threatened to see the property's owner, Alameda County, consider allowing Livermore to annex the land. There was also a sense of urgency since a requirement of being accepted into the retirement community is good health. During the years since deposits first were accepted, at least one applicant has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Even so, CLC has agreed to allow the applicant and his spouse to move in because of their deposit and the permitting delays by the city.

As for Stoneridge Drive, it took changes on the City Council and shifting views by then Mayor Jennifer Hosterman to finally gain an agreement to extend Stoneridge, which then also eased the permitting process for Stoneridge Creek. When the extended roadway opens next Friday, it will mark the end of an effort dating back to 1989 to provide a direct access between Livermore and Pleasanton to save motorists the agony of using I-580 or a more circuitous route on Stanley Boulevard. That's especially important for Livermore residents needing fast access to medical care and emergencies at ValleyCare Medical Center as well as for employees of businesses in both cities.

For the proponents of an upscale retirement community in Pleasanton and a direct way of getting there and to Livermore, Friday's celebration will show that perseverance pays off. ■



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

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

BY GINA CHANNELL-ALLEN

We are looking for Heroes, and one in particular

Ernest Hemingway said, "As we get older it is harder to have heroes — but because of that it is all the more necessary."

Few have understood the need for heroes more than Hemingway, author of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "The Old Man and the Sea" — though our readers certainly come close.

We are once again putting out a call for nominations and sponsorships for the annual Tri-Valley Heroes awards - our salute to the community members dedicated to bettering the Tri-Valley and its residents. After the typical flood of nominations rolls in, our panel of "hero" judges will bestow honors in eight categories:

Arts and Culture: For acknowledgment/recognition of achievements or contributions within the area of arts and culture.

Community Spirit: For selfless, tireless and largely unacknowledged actions that have enriched or improved the quality of life for the local community.

Courage: For an act of bravery or for determination and strength of character to triumph over adversity.

Environmental Stewardship: A group or individual committed to minimizing risks and conserving

and recycling, thereby reducing the impact of our business on the community and natural resources.

Innovation: A person, group or business that applies innovative ideas or programs to enhance the community.

Rising Star: An individual between 10 and 18 whose services directly benefit Tri-Valley citizens through outstanding volunteer work, serving as a community role model, mentor or demonstrating random acts of kindness.

Role Model: For displaying common sense, compassion and wisdom while teaching, coaching and mentoring others with a vision for people to strive to be the best they can be.

Lifetime Achievement: Recognizes an individual or group for contributions, leadership, enthusiasm, and tireless efforts on behalf of his or her community and neighbors.

Individuals who live or work in Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon, Danville, Alamo or Livermore are eligible, as are organizations and businesses headquartered in these communities. If you know a person, organization or group deserving of recognition, complete the nomination form at tinyurl.com/Tri-Valley-Heroes. Nominations can also be emailed directly to gallen@embarcaderomediagroup.com, but make sure all the information requested on the form is included. Nominations must be received by 5 p.m. Nov. 1.

Wanted: Name of the Hero who saved the life of a woman Aug. 26 on I-580

At approximately 5:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26, there was an auto accident on I-580 West just past the I-680 North ramp. A Volvo crashed into a barrier and the car was totaled. The driver of the Volvo had suffered a heart attack. Someone who was driving behind the Volvo stopped to assist and realized the driver had no pulse. By the grace of God, this man had a defibrillator in his trunk! He started the driver's heart and took her to ValleyCare Medical Center.

We want to honor this man for saving the life of a dear friend! Do you know who he is? Please contact me at 600-0840 or gallen@embarcaderomediagroup.com.

LETTERS

Hopes days of 'political brinkmanship' are over

Dear Editor,
Late Wednesday night (Oct. 16), I voted to reopen the government and pay our nation's bills. The 16-day shutdown was a waste of time and only served to hurt the American people and the economy. It was long-past time for House Speaker Boehner to allow a vote on a bipartisan bill that would reopen the government.

This deal means thousands of federal workers in my district and 7,500 scientists, researchers and other employees of Lawrence Livermore and Sandia National Laboratories in Liv-

ermore can breathe easier knowing they will no longer be furloughed without pay. It is not fair that our federal workforce and lab workers suffer because of a government shutdown that was no fault of their own.

Throughout the shutdown, I met almost every day with the United Solutions Caucus, a group I helped found of bipartisan, first-year members of Congress. We engaged in discussions on possible solutions to the crisis. I am proud to have led a statement signed by members from both parties in this Caucus endorsing the bipartisan Senate deal.

It is my hope that the days of political brinkmanship are over and we can get back to work growing our economy and creating jobs.

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

Armed man robs Comerica Bank

Displayed handgun, used bad French accent in robbery

By Glenn Wohltmann

Pleasanton police are searching for a man who held up Comerica Bank in the 600 block of Main Street Monday morning at about 9:15 a.m.

The man, a white male 45-50 years old, entered the bank, displayed a handgun and demanded money from a teller. He made off on foot with an undisclosed amount of cash, police said. No car associated with the holdup was seen by witnesses.

The suspect is described as 6 foot 3 inches to 6 foot 5 inches tall, weighing between 230 and 250 pounds. He is unshaven with a light-colored mustache and short brown hair. He was wearing a light green button up shirt, black pants and black-rimmed glasses.

Witnesses described the man as using a bad French accent to disguise his voice.

Anyone with information



is asked to contact the Pleasanton Police Department at 931-5100. ■

POLICE BULLETIN

Two busted for prostitution

A transient and a Stockton woman were arrested in connection with prostitution and other charges in separate incidents in recent days, according to police reports.

Lihuan Hong, 35, a transient, was arrested at about 8:30 p.m. Oct. 15 at Extended Stay in the 4500 block of Chabot Drive for prostitution and paraphernalia possession. Hong was arrested after police discovered an Internet ad suggesting sexual services in exchange for money; police also discovered a glass smoking pipe commonly used to smoke methamphetamine.

Stockton's Raonna Monet Hayes, 24, was arrested at about 10:16 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue on felony warrants from Pleasanton for identity theft, burglary, accessing a credit card, and grand theft. Hayes was also wanted on a misdemeanor warrant for prostitution from the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

In other police reports:

- More than \$75,000 in jewelry and other items were stolen in an Oct. 17 residential burglary that occurred at about 3:30 p.m. at a home in the 8200 block of Moller Ranch Road. Taken in the break-in were a \$25,000 gold Rolex watch, \$50,000 in miscellaneous jewelry, a wallet valued at \$2,000, a \$1,000 laptop, a \$700 iPad, two pairs of sunglasses valued at \$345 and \$170, a \$250 Gucci tote bag and a \$200 jewelry box, along with other items of lesser value. Entry was made by prying open a kitchen window. The burglary was reported at 7:27 p.m.
- Four people reported to police that they had been victims of felony fraud or identity theft in recent days.

A resident of the 3000 block of Badger Drive noticed funds in his checking account were significantly less than they should have been; he discovered numerous bank-to-bank withdrawals, five in all, totaling \$18,625.78 over the course of about a month. The felony fraud was reported at about 5:38 p.m. Oct. 19.

A resident of the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue told

police his identity was used to open several retail credit cards and charges at local stores as well as two other locations. Three local charges were made: \$1,790 was charged at JC Penney's, \$998 was charged at Kohls, and an account was opened at Macy's although the victim doesn't know how much was charged at that store. Other charges were made in San Jose and Livermore. The incident was reported at about 1:41 p.m. Oct. 18.

A resident of the 3800 block of Fairlands Drive reported someone used his checking account number to create and cash a fraudulent check for \$448.52 in an incident reported at about 7:39 p.m. Oct. 21.

A resident of the 1000 block of Vintner Way reported on Oct 18 that he'd received a letter from a collection agency in Las Vegas. The man had previously reported identity theft. Now bills say he owes \$330 for an energy account that was opened in his name.

- A commercial burglary at Centerpointe Church in the 3400 block of Cornerstone Court netted three computers worth a total of \$3,900, a TV worth \$1,500, a playground cart worth \$150 and a \$100 camera. The break in occurred between 12:30 p.m. Oct. 20 and 8:15 a.m. Oct. 21. There was no sign of forced entry.

- Two bikes worth \$1,020 and \$990 were stolen from a home in the 1500 block of East Gate Way, along with a \$400 portable compressor, a \$250 dolly and a \$50 wet/dry vacuum. All were taken from the victim's garage between 10:30 p.m. Oct. 18 and 10 a.m. Oct. 19.

- A laptop valued at \$1,000 and a \$49 computer bag were stolen from Campary in the 4300 block of Hacienda Drive between 5:30 p.m. Oct. 17 and 8:15 a.m. Oct. 18. It's unknown how the business was accessed.

- Nothing was taken in an Oct 16 residential burglary attempt in the 700 block of Gamay Court. The homeowner discovered a screen had been removed from his rear sliding glass door and the door was off its tracks, but a pole blocked the track from inside, preventing the would-be burglar from getting in.

- Sean Pressler, 43, of Pleasanton was arrested at about 12:32 a.m. Oct. 16 in the 3400 block of Smoketree Commons on a felony warrant for ammunition possession out of San Joaquin County.

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

OBITUARIES

PAID OBITUARIES

Elizabeth Anna Kopp

Dec. 20, 1925-Sept. 30, 2013

Elizabeth (Betty) was a long-time resident of Pleasanton until recently moving to San Jose. She is survived by daughter Deborah (Morris), son Dennis (Patty), grandchildren Aaron (Heather), Daniel (Jasmine), Suzanne (Alfredo), Jonathan, Chris-



topher, Rosie and Katherine (Franklin) as well as great grandchildren Roman, Isabella, Lilah, Loralai and Luci. Predeceased by Edwin Daniel (husband), David Daniel (son) and Milo Kopp (husband). Betty will be remembered as being a strong, loving, kind woman who was always ready to help family and friends. She was a long-time volunteer with Hope Hospice and The Valley Care Hospital Auxiliary and a member of the Pleasanton Presbyterian Church. Services were held at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery. Make a donation to: Hope Hospice, Attn. Gift Coordinator, 6377 Clark Ave. #100, Dublin, CA 94568; or to Vitas Healthcare, Attn. David Clarke, 607 N. McCarthy Blvd. Suite 220, Milpitas, CA 95035

ANNIVERSARY



Mark and Suzanne Floyd

Mark and Suzanne Floyd will celebrate their first anniversary on Saturday, Oct. 26. One year ago, they were married on Kapalua Beach in Maui and began their life together. Mark would like to send a special message to Suzanne in honor of this joyous occasion: "Happy First Anniversary to my beautiful wife. I love you with all of my heart."

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Oct. 16

Theft

- 6:31 p.m. in the 6100 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; shoplifting
- 6:59 p.m. in the 4700 block of Willow Road; theft from structure

Residential burglary

- 5:25 p.m. in the 700 block of Gamay Court

Oct. 17

Theft

- 7:18 p.m. in the 4700 block of Willow Road; theft from structure
- 8:31 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

Residential burglary

- 7:27 p.m. in the 8200 block of Moller Ranch Road

Auto burglary

- 7:09 a.m. in the 4300 block of Mirador Drive

Battery

- 4:25 p.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard

Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:01 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Pleasanton Avenue; driving with marijuana
- 12:48 p.m. in the 4300 block of Foothill Road; possession of marijuana on a school campus
- 2:08 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; public drunkenness

Oct. 18

Theft

- 9:29 a.m. in the 1000 block of

Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

- 1:07 p.m. in the 1000 block of Vintner Way; fraud
- 1:41 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; fraud
- 5:44 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Commercial burglary

- 10:42 a.m. in the 4300 block of Hacienda Drive

Auto burglary

- 12:52 p.m. in the 6100 block of W. Las Positas

Vandalism

- 3:35 p.m. in the 6300 block of Alford Way
- 11:15 p.m. in the 4300 block of Railroad Avenue

Marijuana possession

- 9:24 a.m. in the 1000 block of Harvest Circle

Oct. 19

Fraud

- 5:38 p.m. in the 3000 block of Badger Drive

Burglary

- 10:24 a.m. in the 1500 block of East Gate Way; residential burglary
- 4:38 p.m. in the 4400 block of Valley Avenue

Drug/alcohol violations

- 7:37 p.m. in the 5200 block of Hopyard Road; under the influence of a controlled substance
- 11:11 p.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Black Avenue; DUI

Oct. 20

Theft

- 7:00 a.m. in the 4300 block of Valley

Avenue; auto theft

- 7:56 a.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive; shoplifting

Battery

- 7:43 p.m. in the 8100 block of Arroyo Drive

Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:10 a.m. in the 3400 block of Stanley Boulevard; DUI
- 9:42 p.m. in the 300 block of Rose Avenue; possession of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession
- 11:12 p.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court; possession of a controlled substance

Oct. 21

Robbery

- 9:19 a.m. in the 600 block of Main Street

Theft

- 8:41 a.m. in the 5300 block of Case Avenue; auto theft
- 7:05 p.m. at the intersection of Old Vineyard Avenue and Vineyard Avenue
- 7:59 p.m. in the 3800 block of Fairlands Drive; fraud

Burglary

- 9:02 a.m. in the 3400 block of Cornerstone Court; commercial burglary
- 3:26 p.m. in the 6600 block of Riddell Street; residential burglary

Auto tampering

- 7:50 a.m. in the 1100 block of Quarry Lane

Possession of a controlled substance

- 12:19 a.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court

Pleasanton's passed and present

Ghost Walk shows history is very much alive

BY JESSICA LIPSKY

Pleasanton has long been a great place to live, and some long-lost residents still think so. During Museum on Main's annual Ghost Walk, brave souls visit historic hauntings and lingering spirits throughout downtown.

"Pleasanton has a lot of old buildings and it seems that when we renovate those buildings, we have more activity," said Museum volunteer Rebecca Bruner. "Sometimes ghosts stay because they want to see what's going to happen, because they want to care for somebody. Sometimes they die here suddenly and they don't know they're dead, so they stick around."

Bruner told Ghost Walk participants that lingering spirits may also be remnants of Native American culture. Local Ohlone tribes, which had settlements near Castlewood, would bury their dead near water so their souls could follow the stream.

"In Pleasanton, you're on water that's contained near an underground lake, did that keep the souls here? Possibly," she said.

Other causes for things that go bump in the night are underground tunnels and a long history of violence and crime, from when Pleasanton had just one lawman and many Wild West ways. Bruner said stories of other worldly activity have been passed down for generations then confirmed by ghost hunters, tracking equipment and psychics.

While forgotten mortuaries and ghostly sightings dot Main Street, a few well-known spots are visited by brave Ghost Walk participants every year:

Towne Center Books

This bright and friendly bookstore was a French laundry in the 1920s and is known to harbor ghosts from the era, including that of a young female employee who died of pneumonia. A fan used to blow the laundry's fumes outside is still there, and bookstore owners use it to blow spirits away.

Blue Agave

This restaurant was once home to the Arendt family whose members and employees have chosen to stay for eternity — often throwing parties at night,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MUSEUM ON MAIN
Lily, a working girl with a murderous suitor, was killed in the Pleasanton Hotel. She is known to haunt the second floor offices.

slamming doors and moving objects. One regular spirit is that of a children's caretaker who died of a cough in her early 20s. Taking care of the homeowner's children was the light of this ghost's life and she's often seen in what used to be her bedroom window.

Buildings behind Pleasanton Gas Station

A man named John Amaral built a few buildings behind the service station on Main at St. Mary Street. One of the buildings housed a bakery and after a day's work, employees would return in the morning to find the kitchen in disarray and only chocolate chip cookies remaining. In another building, employees would report heat coming from a broken, disconnected heater and a man resembling Mr. Amaral walking between the buildings.

Vacant lot/former site of Union Jacks

A psychic who came by the vacant lot noticed three Native Americans sitting in the corner, they said they were glad to see the lot empty and would leave as soon as something else was built. When the building was torn down, workers believe they found a collapsed entrance to the tunnel system.



Blue Agave was once home to the Arendt family whose members and employees have chosen to stay for eternity. A nanny (left) died of a cough and is often seen in what was her bedroom window.



Terri Carlson, owner of Milffleur, often sees orbs and spirits walking in her store, which was once a jail. She claims to have seen a jail cell appear in the middle of her shop.

Rose Hotel

These ghosts are known to have fun with guests, often banging on doors, violating rooms and opening suitcases. Ghost trackers once set up cameras in the hotel basement and filmed a row of employee lockers moving from the wall without any help — that the naked eye could see.

Kottinger Barn

John Kottinger's barn at 200 Ray Street became Pleasanton's first jail in the 1850s. Kottinger had a tunnel built for transporting criminals from the courthouse — his residence behind what is now Oasis Grill and Bar — to the jail. Now the site of Milffleur's, owner and clairvoyant Terri Carlson often reports seeing orbs and spirits in her shop. Carlson said she regularly sees 20 "disincarnate beings" in the corner of her shop, as well as several historical figures. Carlson believes Kottinger himself has visited and once saw a jail cell holding a criminal who stole livestock appear in her store.

Adamos Aldrin dentistry, 219 Division St.

Maybe there's more than one reason to fear going to the dentist — this office, built in 1882, is home to a ghost that is

reported to have locked a patient in the bathroom. This ghost is rather helpful, often bringing in newspapers before the office opens, stacking mail and organizing cabinets.

Pleasanton Station

Train tracks used to run through the park across the street from the Meadowlark Dairy and many men died while trying to walk along the tracks at night. Native Americans would follow the tracks to the bars (Meadowlark Dairy was a bar in those days) and then some would fall asleep on the tracks on their way back to their camp and be hit by the passing trains. Several of these ghosts are said to live in the second floor of the renovated Pleasanton Station, along with Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Sheffield, head of the train station.

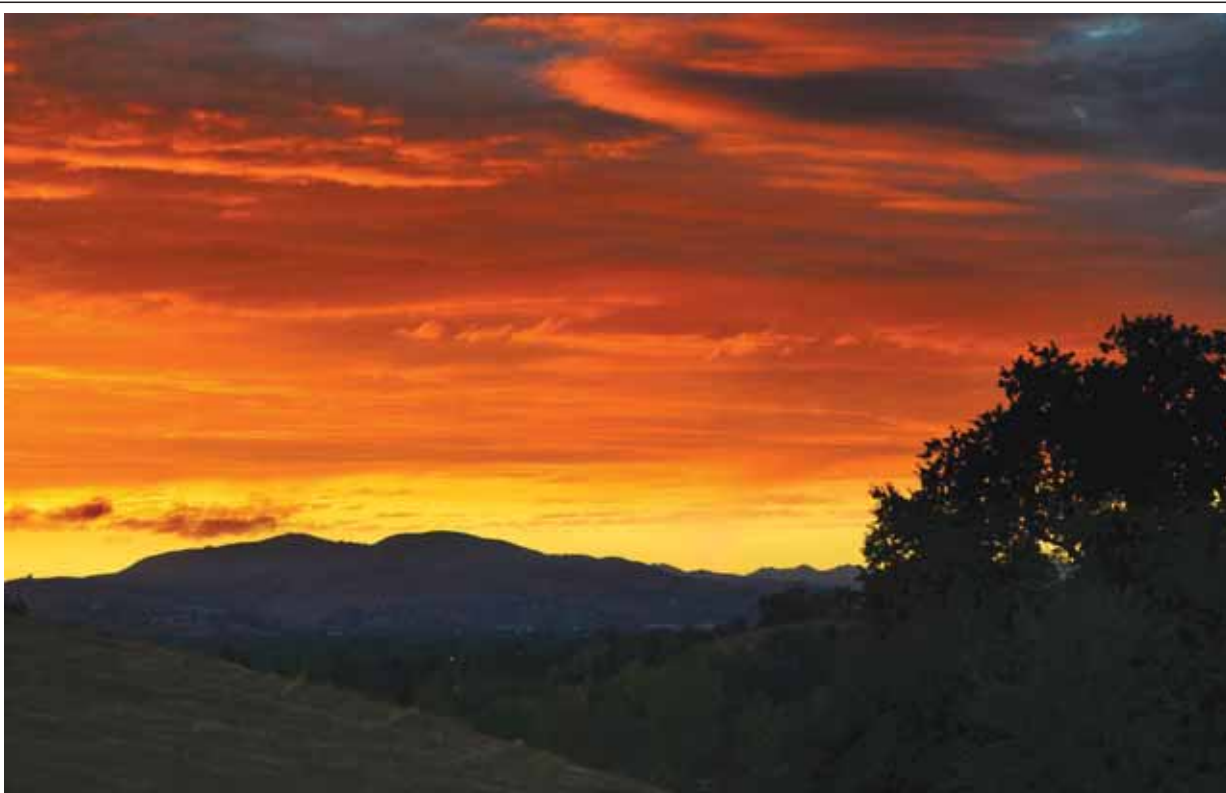
Gay 90s Pizza

The second oldest building in town has been used as a Wells Fargo stagecoach stop, a bar and a brothel. Many have claimed to see a "lady in blue" standing at the upstairs window and a psychic believes the woman was a prostitute during the time the upstairs was used as a brothel. The owner has never been able to get a plant to stay alive in this window. The owner once saw "BOO" written in a mirror inside the restaurant and, despite best efforts, has never been able to remove the words.

Additionally, Gay 90s' basement is longer than one might think and was once part of the city's tunnel system.

Next time you're strolling through downtown Pleasanton and feel a chill or catch something strange out of the corner of your eye, you might have just seen a piece of the past that hasn't quite passed over. ■

In focus



"Blazing Sky" by Matthew Schulze, Pleasanton - 1st place — Youth - Tri-Valley Images



"Twins" by Penn Viengxay, Dublin — 1st place—Youth — People

Inaugural Tri-Valley Photo Contest winners named

BY GINA CHANNELL-ALLEN

Judges selected Richard Valenti's photo "God Beams Over Danville" Best of Show in the inaugural Tri-Valley Photo Contest, hosted by the Pleasanton Weekly and its sister publications — Dublin TriValley Views, San Ramon Express and Danville Express. The image also earned first place in its category, and the cover of this week's edition.

The photo contest was open to amateur photographers — those who do not regularly receive payment for their photos — who live, work or attend school in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, San Ramon, Danville or Alamo. Photographers competed in two divisions, adult and youth (16 and younger), and in three categories: People, Tri-Valley Images and Pets & Animals.

First- and second-place winners were selected by a panel of three professional photographers: Sue Evans, Photography by Sue Evans; Christina Gray, Bella Luna Studios; and Gina Reuschel-Coomber, Fireboxgirl Photography. Entries were judged on impact and appeal, creativity and technical accuracy.

Giving "God Beams Over Danville" top honors was a unanimous decision by the judges. Comments from the judges included: "The beams of light, the textures of the clouds, along with just the right exposure of the ground make this image a first-place winner for me," and "This is a case where the sky speaks for itself creating a real 'wow' response from me. I like the field in the foreground with darker exposure so as not to detract from the sky, but it still adds to the feeling of grandeur."

Sponsors for the contest were Richard's Arts and Crafts — Livermore and Alamo and The Frame Company and Art Gallery in Dublin.

Winners by division and category are:

ADULT: PETS & ANIMALS

First place: Tom Cushing, Alamo: "Genghis Collie"

Comment: "The photo tells a story showing anticipation/excitement of... 'What's next?' My guess is it was a throw of a ball into the water, but that is an unanswered question which makes the viewer wonder."

Second place: Doina Vlasache, Danville: "Momentary Intrigue"

Honorable mention: Ray Wallace, Pleasanton: "Poindexter III"

ADULT: PEOPLE

First place: Ivan Johnson, San Ramon: "Twilight Love"

Comment: "Capturing true emotion is always a challenge for a photographer. Whether you are set up

in a studio or at a casual dinner out, timing is everything. It happens but in an instant, where body posture is perfect, the facial expressions are genuine, and emotion is at its peak. This is such a sweet image and really captures emotion well."

Second place: Scott M. Schroeder, Pleasanton: "Emma"

Honorable mention: Rachel Cilk, Pleasanton: "Silhouette of Love"

ADULT: TRI-VALLEY IMAGES

First place: Richard Valenti, Danville: "God Beams Over Danville"

Comment: "Being in the right place at the right time and knowing what to do with it is the main challenge of a good photographer. This person nailed it."

Second place: Barbara Reynolds, Livermore: "Pastoral Scene"

YOUTH: PETS & ANIMALS

First place: Paige Susie, Livermore: "Diving"

Comment: "This is an impressive use

of light, asymmetry, and motion. Capturing the ducks with the hint of their orange feet showing was essential; otherwise it would simply look like feathers in the water. I love how the ducks are off center and to the left, allowing for those beautiful ripples to carry your eyes across the image and almost sweep back around again."

Second place: Irina Vlasache, Danville: "Late Morning"

YOUTH: PEOPLE

First place: Penn Viengxay, Dublin: "Twins"

Comment: "Fabulous! It is so impressive to see this, and in the youth category no less. Subject matter, color, exposure, light, props, styling, expression (I can go on and on) are exceptional. This is well done in so many ways!"

Second place: Matthew Schulze, Pleasanton: "The Artist"



"Genghis Collie" by Tom Cushing, Alamo - 1st place – Adult - Pets & Animals



"Twilight Love" Ivan Johnson, San Ramon - 1st place – Adult – People



"Pastoral Scene" by Barbara Reynolds, Livermore - 2nd place – Adult –Tri-Valley Images



"Late Morning" by Irina Vlasache, Danville – 2nd place – Youth – Pets & Animals



"Momentary Intrigue" by Doina Vlasache, Danville 2nd place – Adult - Pets & Animals

YOUTH: TRI-VALLEY IMAGES

First place: Matthew Schulze, Pleasanton: "Blazing Sky"

Comment: "A great way to use the rule of thirds! Balancing out the amazing color transitions of the sky with a dark silhouette of the tree and landscape is very successful here."

Second place: Matthew Schulze, Pleasanton: "Blush"



"Diving" by Paige Susie, Livermore – 1st place Youth – Pets & Animals



"The Artist" by Matthew Schulze, Pleasanton – 2nd place – Youth - People



"Blush" by Matthew Schulze, Pleasanton – 2nd place– Youth – Tri-Valley Images



"Emma" by Scott M. Schroeder, Pleasanton – 2nd place – Adult – People



"Poindexter III" by Ray Wallace, Pleasanton – Honorable Mention – Adult – Pets & Animals



"Silhouette of Love" by Rachel Cilk, Pleasanton – Honorable Mention – Adult – People

ON THE TOWN



AMERICAN

Eddie Papa's American Hangout

4889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 469-6266. Winner of The Pleasanton Weekly's Reader Choice Awards for "Best American Food," "Best Meal under \$20" and "Best Kid Friendly Restaurant," Eddie Papa's American Hangout celebrates the regional food and beverage cultures of America. Bring the whole family to enjoy iconic dishes from across the United States, Old World Hospitality, and hand crafted artisan cocktails. www.eddiepapas.com.

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

Author Visits

WILLIAM PETROCELLI AT TOWNE CENTER BOOKS Bill will introduce his first novel, "The Circle of Thirteen," a provocative drama set in a turbulent future that follows one woman's investigation into the dark forces unleashing chaos around the world. Meet Bill at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 30 at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call 846-8826.

Book Clubs

GREAT BOOKS OF PLEASANTON The Great Books of Pleasanton book club meets at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Monday monthly at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call Sadie at 846-1658.

Classes

ACE CODING Free programming classes in Scratch and Java programming languages from 3:30-5:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the Pleasanton Library's large meeting room. All ages are welcome to attend. Contact Daniel Huang at 858-3958 or daniel.huang@ace-coding.org. Go to www.acecoding.org.

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 5-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays 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 Microsoft Excel is one of the main skills needed for job advancement. The Pleasanton Library will have Excel classes. Sign up for one or two sessions, both from 6-7 p.m. Beginners Excel will be on Wednesday, Oct. 21, and Intermediate Excel will be

on Thursday, Oct. 31. Call 931-3400 ext. 4.

Clubs

AWANA CLUBS AT PLEASANTON EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH Awana Club for children 3 years old through high school with a variety of active games, fun activities and awards for memorizing Bible verses. Meetings are from 6:50-8:30 p.m. every Wednesday, from Sept.-May at the Pleasanton Evangelical Free Church, 6900 Valley Trails Drive. Cost is \$1 per week plus materials. Call 484-0496 or go to www.pleasantonefc.org.

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY TOASTMASTERS Learn the art of public speaking in a fun-filled and supporting environment. Meetings from 7:30-9 p.m. every Tuesday at The Clubhouse, 4530 Sandalwood Drive. Attend meetings as a guest at no cost. Call 395-1234 or go to www.pleasantontostmasters.com.

PLEASANTON MOTHERS CLUB The mission of the Pleasanton Mothers Club is to provide a social, supportive, and educational outlet for moms and their families in the local community. They offer a variety of activities, children's playgroups, special interest groups, and more. For information visit pleasantonmothersclub.org. Contact membership@pleasantonmothersclub.org.

ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON The Rotary Club of Pleasanton since 1965 has been a leader in the community in helping make Pleasanton a great place to live. It has a luncheon meeting from 12:15-1:30 p.m., every Thursday, at Hap's Restaurant, 122 W. Neal St., Pleasanton. Cost for lunch is \$17. For information, visit www.PleasantonRotary.org.

ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON NORTH Pleasanton North Rotary invites anyone interested in making a difference. The membership includes 65 professionals, business owners, executives, managers and community leaders. The club meets from 12:15-1:30 p.m. Fridays at the Hilton Hotel, 7050 Johnson Drive. Call 580-7947 or visit www.pnr-rotary.org.

TRI VALLEY ROTARY MEETINGS Tri Valley Rotary is a small but energetic group, motivated and eager to make a difference in the community. Meetings are 6-8 p.m. every Thursday at Castlewood Country Club Grill, 707 Country Club Circle. There is a \$5 meeting fee plus cost of meal. Contact info@trivalleyrotary.org or go to <http://trivalleyrotary.org>.

UKULELE CIRCLE Come play ukulele with others and bring friends, noon-1 p.m., the second and last Saturday of the month, at Galina's Music Studio, 2222 Second St., Suite 2, Livermore. All ages and skill levels welcome. Please bring in some music to share with the group. Cost is \$5. Call 960-1194.

VIRTUALLY SPEAKING TOASTMASTERS Virtually Speaking Toastmasters club meets from noon-1 p.m. every Thursday at Electrical Reliability Services, 6900 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 415, Pleasanton. Everyone is welcome to come see what a posi-

tive change Toastmasters can make in their confidence. Call 580-8660.

Concerts

DIVISA ENSEMBLE BY DEL VALLE FINE ARTS The Divisa Ensemble is recognized for its engaging performances and eclectic programming. This quintet of flute, oboe, violin, viola and cello, will play at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Cost is \$25-\$39. Call 373-6800 or go to <http://www.bankheadtheater.org>.

GREG KIHN AT THE FIREHOUSE Rock Star and Radio Celebrity Greg Kihn, famous for hits "The Breakup Song" and "Jeopardy," and his band will play at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov. 2 at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$40-\$50 and available by calling 931-4848 or at www.firehousearts.org.

MICHAEL SECOUR ON THE ORGAN A recital of audience favorites from the past four centuries, this program includes "Battala Imperial" by Cabanilles, "Toccatina and Fugue in D minor" by Bach, Mendelssohn's "Sonata No. 2 for Organ" and more. The recital begins at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 3 at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road. Freewill offerings appreciated. Call 462-4802.

REILLY AND MALONEY Legendary folksing duo Reilly and Maloney will perform at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 27 at St. Bartholomew's Church in Livermore. Ginny Reilly and Dave Maloney have performed ballads, blues and their own acclaimed songs since 1970. \$20 donation requested. Call 447-3289.

Events

BRAVE THE HAUNTED GARDEN PARTY Bring your kids, friends and relatives to the Haunted Garden Party, from sunset until the spirits go to bed on Halloween Night, Thursday, Oct. 31 at 336 Sycamore Road, second driveway on the left. Travel the crooked garden path and grab some treats if you dare!

COWBOY HOOTENANNY FOLK FESTIVAL Come to a celebration of Sunol's pioneer and ranching heritage, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2 at Sunol Regional Wilderness, 1895 Geary Road, Sunol. Get your boots stomping and toes tapping with Gordy Ohlinger, the Banjo-ologist. \$5 parking fee. Call (510) 544-3240.

DANVILLE FALL CRAFTS FESTIVAL Celebrate the 22nd annual Danville Fall Crafts Festival on tree-lined Hartz Ave. Visit the talented 200 artisans, Glass Pumpkin Patch, Children's Costume Parade, Classic Car and BMX shows and much more. From 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 26-27. Call 837-4400 or go to www.mlproductions.com.

DISCOVERY SHOP FASHION SHOW The Pleasanton VIP Club is hosting a fashion show from 11:45 a.m.-2:15 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 28. This event is open to all. Lunch is \$3.50. Call the Pleasanton VIP Senior Club and Travel Desk at

484-3955, open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL Bring your children and enjoy an evening of family fun from 6-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31 at Pathway Community Church, 6533 Sierra Lane, Dublin. There will be carnival games, crafts, prizes, face painting, balloon art, food and more. Dress in your favorite costume. Call 322-1333.

FARMERS MARKET Visit the Pleasanton Farmers Market from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Saturday, on East Angela Street between Main and First streets. The Farmers Market is open every Saturday, year-round, rain or shine, to provide the season's freshest fruits and vegetables, sold by the very farmers that planted, nurtured and harvested the crop.

GHOST WALK Meet the ghost of Pleasanton's past. Let the spirits guide you on this haunted tour, from 6-10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 25 at Museum on Main. Costumes encouraged! Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$13 for 12 and under. Contact 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

HALLOWEEN BREW CRAWL The Pleasanton Downtown Association presents the third annual Halloween Brew Crawl from 5-8 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 in Downtown Pleasanton. Downtown merchants and local breweries will create a night of trick-or-treating for adults. Tickets available for \$30 presale, online at instagift.com/pda, or at Pleasanton Main St. Brewery, Redcoats Pub and Studio Seven Arts. Ticket price includes beer tastings at 25 downtown locations, a commemorative beer glass and tasting map. Call 484-2199.

HALLOWEEN FUN NIGHT Come in costume for this annual trick-or-treat evening! This free event features the Haunted Hallway

of Horror, games and activities for kids and adults, and yummy treats for all. From 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 25 at Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park, 5801 Valley Ave. Call 931-3449.

HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT The annual Halloween Scavenger Hunt will be from 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Oct. 26. Elementary-age children can come in costume and pick up instructions, a Halloween bag and their first clue from the starting location at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Go to www.pleasantondowntown.net/events.php.

PLEASANTON LIBRARY ANIVERSARY GALA The Pleasanton Friends of the Library will host the 25th Anniversary Gala Celebration of the present library building at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15 at the Pleasanton Library. There will be appetizers, drinks, and dancing to the Silver Moon Big Band. Cost is \$65 and includes food and drinks. Proceeds go to purchasing books for children's section. Tickets can be purchased at Towne Center Books or at the library. Call 931-3409.

TRICK OR TREAT AT THE EAST BAY SPCA Bring you little animal lover in their costume to Trick or Treat at the East Bay SPCA on Saturday, Oct. 26! There will be animals to meet, games to play and crafts to make. Kids will be able to "foster" an animal - get their animal treated, trained and much more! Cost is \$5 per child to "foster." Contact education@eastbayspca.org.

VETERANS DAY PARADE Join the annual parade to honor our veterans, "All Gave Some, Some Gave All," on Sunday, Nov. 3 in Downtown Pleasanton. Organizations interested in participating, go to <http://vfwpost6298.com>. Call (816) 225-1805.

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Before



After



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NORCAL

Weight Loss Center



Pleasanton
374 St. Mary St.
925 846-5614

San Ramon
2701 Crow Canyon Blvd.
925 837-6400

Walnut Creek

21 Broadway Ln. • 925 935-4863
Broadway Plaza – between Macy's and Nordstrom

Fundraisers

ADOPT A DOG/PUPPY: TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE (TVAR) Visit the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue's tent to meet puppies and dogs available for adoption! Speak directly with foster parents or find out how you can become a foster home. At the Pleasanton Farmer's Market from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturdays. Visit www.TVAR.org for more information.

BREAST CANCER FUNDRAISER AT SALON TERRA BELLA Salon Terra Bella and Tri-Valley SOCKs team up to fight Breast Cancer from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct.

26 at the salon, 101 E. Vineyard Ave., Livermore. Proceeds support local Breast Cancer education, research and prevention. Call Salon 485-4946 or Dina (650) 762-5722 for raffle tickets. Go to www.TriValleySOCKs.org.

COLORS FOR A CURE 5K RUN Join the second annual Colors for a Cure 5K! Help raise money and awareness for histiocytic disorders by participating as a runner or sponsoring a participant. Because histiocytosis is so rare, it receives virtually no government funding for research. The run will be at 10 a.m. with check in at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 10 at Shadow Cliffs. Cost is \$35 online, \$40 day

of the run. Call 989-3794.

HELP DELANEY NEWTON Delaney Newton, 2-year-old daughter of Janice and Merlin Newton of Livermore, was recently diagnosed with brain cancer. While she is being successfully treated, Sauced BBQ and Spirits in Livermore is hosting a benefit to help the family cope with medical expenses. This event will be at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 13. There will be an auction and raffles, and Crawdad Republic will hit the stage at 7 p.m. Call 895-1559 or go to [http://\\$nstagift.com/deal/team-delaney](http://$nstagift.com/deal/team-delaney).

JUST LIKE NEW FUND: HOLIDAY SALE Join for a book-signing by Fern Dahlstrom of "A Home For Charlie," animal-themed and holiday gifts, gift basket raffles and more. From 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11 at Feline Medical Center, 3160 Santa Rita Road. Benefits Valley Humane Society. Call 323-8517 or go to ValleyHumane.org.

PAWS IN NEED HALLOWEEN PHOTO SHOOT Bring your pet in costume or bring your children in their Halloween costumes for face painting and photography, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 at Milfleur, 200 Ray St. Photographs are \$15 each, face painting is \$4 per child. Benefits local animal nonprofit medical fund. Contact csmead@me.com or go to Paws-In-Need.org.

RED DRESS RUN LIVERMORE Hash House Harriers Livermore Red Dress Run will be at 11:15 a.m. on Saturday Oct. 26, starting at the First Street Ale House in Livermore. Held annually by hashers globally, this is your chance to dress up or down and raise money for local charities. Cost is \$15. Call 699-4926.

TRI-VALLEY HAVEN HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR Tri-Valley Haven, a local nonprofit providing support services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness, will host a Holiday Craft Fair from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 7 at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Call 449-5845 or go to www.trivalleyhaven.org.

TVAR'S THAT'S AMORE TVAR will hold their annual fundraising auction on Saturday, Nov. 2 at Castlewood Country Club. Help them save homeless puppies and kittens! Tickets are \$80 and can be purchased at www.tvvar.org. To volunteer or donate, contact Jo Gunderson at (415) 676-8514 or gundersonjo@gmail.com.

Kids & Teens

1776-ERA KIDS MARCHING BAND YAPs The Young American Patriots Fife and Drum Corps, a 1776-era band, meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Friday for rehearsal. Kids learn instrumental music, fife and drum with a Berkeley-trained drum instructor and 3-time US National Champion fife instructor. Free to try, \$7 per hour after. Contact Jason Giaimo at 484-0265 or yaps1776@aol.com. Go to www.YoungAmericanPatriots.com.

SHAKE YOUR SILLIES OUT Shake out those sillies every Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m. If you're 2 to 5 years old and want to sing, dance, and hear a story, the Golden Apple Learning Store, 4807 Hopyard Road, is the place for you. Weekly themes with crafts or games included. Call 460-5163 or go to www.goldenappletoys.com.

Miscellaneous

FREE JOB SEARCH COUNSELING The Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., offers free, 20-minute consultations with an employment recruiter. To make an appointment, call the Reference Desk at 931-3400, ext. 7.

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

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 list to receive information each Thursday about that week's walk, email walks@worldwalktowellness.org.

On Stage

'BLITHE SPIRIT' Researching material for a new novel, Charles engages Madame Arcati to conduct a seance in his home. By accident, she summons the spirit of Charles's first wife and cannot make the disruptive spirit go away. "Blithe Spirit" runs at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7, 8 and 9 at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for adults. Contact khartman@pleasantonusd.net.

'MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT' Come experience the hilarity of "Monty Python's Spamalot" at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays, from Oct. 19-Nov. 3 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Call 373-6800 or go to www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Seniors

DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER OFFERS MUSIC CLASSES Dublin Senior Center offers two music classes including Sing-a-longs with Judy Kufin and Merrill Ito at 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays; and Ukulele Beginning Instruction with Judy Kufin and Merrill Ito at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, both at the Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Cost is \$1.25 for each class. Call 556-4511.

DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS Dublin Senior Center offers different programs and activities including "ESL" which helps seniors practice their English conversational skills from 1-2:30 p.m. every Friday; a Reading Group that discusses new books every month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. on the fourth

Tuesday of every month; the Needle Arts Group that enjoys quilting, sewing and knitting from 1-4 p.m. every Monday; all at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Cost is \$1.25 for each activity. Call 556-4511.

FREE MEMORY SCREENING FOR SENIORS Caring Solutions is sponsoring free memory assessment on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Call 556-4511 for a 30-minute appointment. Preregister by the Monday prior to reserve an appointment. Informational materials are available at the Senior Center.

PEDDLER SHOPPE AT THE SENIOR CENTER The Peddler Shoppe in the lobby of the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., offers the handmade wares of talented local senior artisans. It's a great place to buy gifts. The Shoppe is staffed by volunteers and is open to the public 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

PLEASANTON SOLE MATES WALKING GROUP Do you love the outdoors and want a fun way to exercise? Walking is one of the easiest and most cost effective forms of exercise for adults. Join our weekly walking group from 8:45-10:15 a.m. Wednesday mornings at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Walks are approximately 2-3 miles. Call 931-5365 for weekly walk destinations or come pick up a schedule. Free.

Spiritual

PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN WORSHIP Lynnewood United Methodist Church at 4444 Black Ave. offers a friendly congregation of all ages and ethnicity. Worship at 9 or 10:30 a.m. on Sundays with Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. and childcare at both services. Contact Rev. Heather Hammer at 846-0221 or office@lynnewood.org. Go to www.lynnewood.org.

WEEKLY LDS BIBLE STUDY Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints hosts a weekly bible study from 7:30-8:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the church, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Refreshments served. For information, call 305-9468.

Sports

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The online editor must have a solid grounding in the basic principles of packaging, editing and writing for the Web; have excellent news judgment; and demonstrable headline writing, image selection and content packaging skills. The editor must be currently active on social media sites like Twitter and Facebook, have a passion for social media, news and have thorough knowledge of the industry.

Please send resume and letter of interest to gallen@embarcaderoediagroup.com by Nov. 4. We are part of Embarcadero Media Company; EOE.

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Eight Seahawks swimmers honored at banquet

By JESSICA LIPSKY

Eight members of the Pleasanton Seahawks were recognized Sunday at the annual Pacific Swimming awards banquet in Walnut Creek for exceptional accomplishments during the 2012-2013 swim season.

Nick Silverthorn was awarded most outstanding 17-year-old swimmer in short course yards.

Celina Li took home several awards for outstanding performance, including most outstanding 17-year-old swimmer in short course yards and long course meters, pre-collegiate, age-group and swimmer of the

year. Li graduated from Foothill High School last year.

Moriah Simonds was awarded most outstanding 15-year-old swimmer in long course meters while Erika Brown received the same award in the 14-year-old category.

The 200 medley relay team of Jonah Cooper, Timothy Yao, Tyler Lu and Christopher Jhong was voted relay of the year.

Seahawks Age Group Coach Todd Tucker was also voted coach of the year.

Maxime Rooney, Erika Brown and Nick Silverthorn were also nominated for additional categories. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(From left) Coach Todd Tucker, Moriah Simonds, Erika Brown, Tyler Lu, Christopher Jhong, Maxime Rooney, Timothy Yao and Nick Silverthorn.



COURTESY OF JOE CARLUCCI

Left: Jack Simmons' kick eventually led to the second goal of the game. Luis Garcia scored the first goal of the game.

Select tops Ajax

The under-19 BUSC Select traveled to Brentwood on Oct. 12 and brought their shooting shoes, coming home with a 5-2 victory. The game started slowly with each team probing, and Select high pressure paid off. Luis Garcia stole a throw-in and went to goal, going low left for the unassisted score in the 15th minute. In the 20th minute, Alex Williams made an alert quick restart on a throw-in and Drake Foote took it down the left all the way to goal and finished for the 2-0 lead.

In the 31st minute, Jack Simmons fed Ogb Kanu, whose drive was blocked. It shot up in the air and fell to Foote, who collected his second goal of the game, with Select ahead 3-0. Select

upped their lead in the 34th minute. Collin LaPorte started and finished a give and go with Foote and the Select went to the half up 4-0.

Juan Anaya made one tricky save, and the back line of Joey Repac, Zac Pinard, and Williams were solid. The Brentwood Ajax did not quit, and scored 3 minutes into the half on a floater, and in the 23rd minute off a corner kick scramble. But the Select finished off the game with a dagger goal. Garret Leone played a ball over the top to the corner to an onrushing Simmons. His cross found Arthur Kuo all alone back post and he finished with authority for the 5-2 final. ■

Rage White shuts out San Leandro

Pleasanton Rage White under-13 girls commanded their home field in a 4-0 shutout against the SACYSA California Northstars from San Leandro last weekend.

From kickoff, Rage's left forward, Lucia Castaneda, dribbled the ball to the Northstars' penalty box where she crossed it to Isabella Clark, who kicked a low shot toward the net. Blocking Clark's shot, the Northstars' goalie wasn't able to contain the ball. Isabella quickly seized her opportunity to shoot a second shot, this time finding the back of the net for the first Rage goal.

Rage mid-fielders Hunter Faria, Lauren Londono and Allison DeFazio demonstrated their possession skills by keeping the ball in the Northstars' half of the field until teammate Gabriella Smith, taking a shot from just outside the penalty area, scored Rage's second goal. The Northstars hustled the ball in the Rage half of the field, but Rage defenders Sarah McKeever, Emma Monsen, Ariyana Walling and Julianna Pereira proved to be impenetrable.

When the Northstars fired off a powerful shot in the 17th minute, Rage goalie Cierra Lofthouse-Wolf saved it. Jessica Stubbs and Ashley Lopez assisted by moving the ball back into Northstars' territory. In the 25th minute, Smith executed a textbook-perfect cross to Brooke Delaney, who was there to tap it in for Rage's third goal. In the 55th minute, Cierra, playing forward, crossed to Gabriella, who scored the fourth and final goal of the shutout game. ■



PATTY DIAZ

Rage sweep East Bay Bombers in away game

The Pleasanton Rage under-10 Orange team beat the Alameda East Bay Bombers 5-0 on Oct. 12. The first half opened with a great pass from Leah Allari to Maddie Benson for a goal. Hayden Jolley made an long shot in over the goalie's head for the second goal of the game. Maddie Benson had another goal before the half was over to bring the score to 3-0.

Ashley Belshe, Maggie Nosstrand, Isabella Guerrero and Kayli Shimanuki played great defensively throughout the game. At the start of the second half, Leila Lyons helped to take the ball down the field, passing to Sophia Minnite, who passed it to Caitlyn Currie for goal No. 4. At the end of the game, Leah Allari made another goal to finish the game 5-0. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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File No.: 483178-9
The following person(s) doing business as: 1) HYB BATTERY; 2) SHENZHEN ELITE ELECTRONIC, 5424 SUNOL BLVD. SUITE 10-209, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): TECKQUEST, 5424 SUNOL BLVD. SUITE 10-209, PLEASANTON, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Aakar Patel, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on

TAKE US ALONG



Spanish scenery:
Lori Bautista and son Kyle posed in front of a breathtaking view at The Alhambra in Malaga, Spain.

09/27/2013. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; 2013)

MDL HOME DESIGN FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 483046
The following person(s) doing business as: MDL HOME DESIGN, 3137 COCHISE WAY, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): MDL Home Design, 3137 Cochise Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Camy B. Doan, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 09/24/2013. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 25, Nov. 1, 8 15; 2013)

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Real Estate

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Home sales declined across state last month

But prices mark 15th straight month of double-digit annual gains

JEB BING

California home sales declined for the second straight month in September, following rising interest rates and economic uncertainty, which put the demand for housing on hold for buyers.

Meanwhile, housing supply conditions continued to loosen up as the housing market entered its off season, the California Association of Realtors reported.

"It's encouraging that housing inventory has been steadily improving since May, when housing supply hit its recent bottom," said C.A.R. President Don Faught, who is vice president and Managing Broker for Alain Pinel Realtors in Pleasanton.

"While inventory remains constrained in the lower-priced home segment and primary home buyers continue to compete with investors, the number of properties for sale overall has been rising since March 2013 and is at its highest level since mid-2012," Faught added.

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 412,880 units in September, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90 local Realtor associations and MLSs statewide.

Sales in September were down 5.1% from a revised 434,910 in August and down 2.6% from a revised 424,000 in September 2012.

The median home price declined in September for the first time since February but was still higher on a year-to-year basis. The statewide median price of an existing, single-family detached home was down 2.8% from August's median price of \$441,330 to

\$428,810 in September.

September's price was 24.4% higher than the revised \$344,760 recorded in September 2012, marking the 15th straight month of double-digit annual gains.

"The debate leading up to the expected tapering of the Fed's stimulus program caused interest rates to rise over the past several months and might have put some of the housing demand on hold," said Leslie Appleton-Young, C.A.R.'s vice president and chief economist.

"While interest rates have decreased since the Fed's decision last month to postpone the pullback, the government shutdown and debt ceiling discussions over the past two weeks are likely to have an adverse effect on October home sales," she added.

Other key facts of C.A.R.'s September 2013 resale housing report include:

- The available supply of existing, single-family detached homes for sale rose in September to 3.6 months, up from August's Unsold Inventory Index of 3.1 months. The index was 3.7 months in September 2012.

- The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home also increased to 29.6 days in September from 28.8 days in August, but was down from a revised 39.2 days in September 2012.

- Mortgage rates have been on the rise for the past five months, with the 30-year, fixed-mortgage interest rate averaging 4.49%, up from 4.46% in August 2013 and up from 3.47% in September 2012, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable-mortgage interest rates in September averaged 2.67%, up from 2.65 in August and up from 2.60% in September 2012. ■

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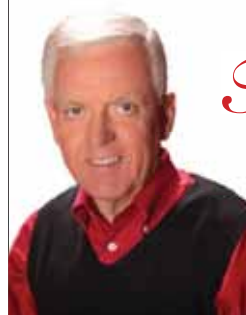
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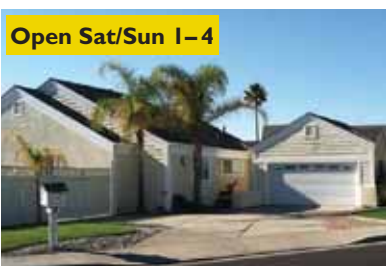
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Dorothy Broderson
REALTOR® DRE #01779623
925.963.8800

YellowBrickRoadHOMES.com

www.KottingerRanchNeighbors.com



OPEN SUN 1-4



Coming Soon!

1055 Nolan Court
4 Bedrooms, 3 1/2 Baths, Kitchen with Granite, Maple Cabinets, Built in 2008, Tile Roof, 2750 Square Feet



Colleen McKean, CRS
REALTOR® LIC #00868205
925.847.8880
www.colleenmckean.com



Coming Soon in Pleasanton

5 bedroom home in Vintage Hills with pool and no rear neighbors. Over 3400 s.f. in a great court location. Please call Lisa Sterling-Sanchez for more details at 925.980.9265



Lisa Sterling-Sanchez
REALTOR® LIC # 01012330
925.980.9265
lsterling426@gmail.com

COMING SOON!



35 Raccolio Way, South Livermore
Absolutely gorgeous home with tons of upgrades! 4 bed, 3.5 bath home in Prima! Includes downstairs bedroom and full bath, remodeled kitchen, 3 car garage. 2834 sq ft. 8140 sq ft lot. Built in 2001. **Offered at \$959,950**
Call Cindy for a private showing!

THE WILLIAMS
real estate group

Cindy and Gene Williams
REALTORS® LIC # 01370076 and 00607511
925.918.2045

www.WilliamsReGroup.com



Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with 1 bedroom and full bath downstairs, huge loft area, approx. 2,823 sq ft, gourmet kitchen with granite, center island & tile floor with a 3-car garage in Mountain House. **\$448,888**



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

Sellers!

I have buyers looking in all price ranges! If you are thinking of selling your home, please call me or email me for a complete market analysis of your home.

This is a great time to move up or down or out of the area!



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

Open Sat/Sun 1-4



1131 Mataro Court, Pleasanton

Vintage Hills II home on very desirable cul de sac street. 5 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms among 2821 +/- sq. ft. Beautifully updated kitchen

and bathrooms. Main floor bedroom and full bathroom. Newer carpeting. Large lot backs to open space. **Offered at \$1,199,000**



DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema

REALTORS® LIC # 01363180 and 01922957

925.260.2220 925.413.6544

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— Janice & Ryan Spuller





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Email: jmurtagh@apr.com

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Please see
reviews of
Julia on



Helping Sellers and Buyers in the Tri-Valley

JUST LISTED

4990 Monaco Drive

Pleasanton Hills

Enjoy this great location on a quiet street. This 4 bed, 3 bath, 3180 sq. ft. home, sits on a 9426 sq. ft. lot. Kids will love the large pool, spa, and grassy area. Large backyard includes a nice private patio and views of the Ridge. A quick walk to downtown, stores and award-winning schools. Easy freeway access.

LISTED FOR \$1,249,888

OPEN SAT 1-4 &
SUN 2-4:30



PENDING

4920 Treewood Ct

Highland Oaks

Stunning 4 bed and 2.5 bath has been remodeled from top to bottom. The home has wide plank flooring, gorgeous kitchen, with a great room. The home has 4 bedrooms

upstairs, with a den or office downstairs. Situated at the end of a court, walking distance to schools. **OFFERED AT \$869,000**



RECENTLY SOLD

SOLD OVER ASKING
W/ MULTIPLE OFFERS



4457 Arbutus Ct, Pleasanton

Great home on the west side, close to schools. 4 beds, 2.5 baths, 2267 sq. ft. on a court. Sold 11K over asking price.

SOLD FOR \$860,000

MULTIPLE OFFERS



7988 Applewood Ct, Pleasanton

This must see family home is 2243 sq. ft., with 4 beds, 2.5 baths on just under .5 acre. Court location, walk to schools.

SOLD FOR \$865,000

SOLD OVER ASKING
PRICE IN 5 DAYS



2761 Sanderling Wy, Pleasanton

Birdland home with 5 beds, 3.5 baths with a full downstairs suite. Features a beautiful pool and large backyard.

SOLD FOR \$1,072,000

Providing leadership, knowledge and support every step of the way



Watch video reviews from happy buyers and sellers at juliamurtagh.com

RECENT SELLER REVIEW

Julia Murtagh of Alain Pinel was absolutely amazing to work with. We listed and sold our home with her. She is knowledgeable, patient, helpful, ethical, and truly cared about what was best for us. Julia answered ALL of the loads of questions we asked, kept us in the loop each step of the way, and really made the process easy on us. We had a few curve balls thrown at us and she handled them with grace and ease. If you need to sell your home, I highly recommend Julia.

— Natalie Bering, 2013

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#1 IN CALIFORNIA



BRENTWOOD

Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4

1733 CHARDONNAY LANE

RARE PREMIUM LOT

\$799,000

2 BR 2.5 BA 55+ Resort Comm. Gourmet kitchen, granite counters, Jenn-Air SS Appl, wood & tile flooring. 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON

4453 COMANCHE WAY

SINGLE LEVEL HOME

\$325,000

2 BR 1 BA Central heat and air, dual pane windows, and laminate fl. 2 deeded park/space, 1 covered. 925.847.2200



SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

Open SUN 1 - 4

2058 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE

GREAT DUPLEX OPPORTUNITY

\$1,225,000

1 Up/1 Down, Hardwd & Parquet Floors, WD burn Fire Pl. Insid Laundry. 2 Car Tandem Garage. 925.847.2200



TRACY

Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4

2161 BRIDLE CREEK CIR

GREAT HOME!

\$295,000

4 BR 3 BA New Paint. Lrge Lot. One Bed/Bath on 1st Flr. New Kitch flrs. Lrge loft/bed rm. 3 Car garage. 925.847.2200

DUBLIN

11403 BETLEN DR

GREAT FLOOR PLAN

\$690,000

3 BR 2 BA many upgrades w/solar system. Ceiling fans in all bedrms fm rm. Kit w granite ctns, Hrdwd fl 925.847.2200

3240 MAGUIRE WAY #202

GORGEOUS HOME

\$420,000

2 BR 2 BA Designer paint throughout, granite slab counters, SS & black appliances, crown molding. 925.847.2200

FREMONT

39287 MARBELLA TERRAZA

TERRIFIC LOCATION-CENTRAL FREMONT

\$469,000

2 BR 2 BA Mstr Ste. Laminate Flrs. Formal Din. Liv w/ Fireplace. Kit. w/ SS Appl. Newer Carpet. Fresh Paint. 925.847.2200

HAYWARD

2246 EAST AVE

REMODELED HOME

\$685,000

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

23723 FAIRLANDS RD

REMODELED SINGLE STORY HOME

\$599,000

3 BR 2 BA Bright and open floor plan. Upgraded kit w/ Granite countertops. Custom paint & crown Molding 925.847.2200

Open SUN 1 - 4

1030 AVONDALE LANE

DARLING HAYWARD HOME

\$435,000

3 bd/ 2 ba Newer interior paint. Pergo Flrs. Remodeled Kit. SS Appl. Landscaped Yrds & Patio

LIVERMORE

SAN ANTONIO VALLEY

WOW! 423 ACRES

\$1,199,950

2 BR 2 BA 2 cabins, 2 barns 4 bass ponds. Swimming pool his/her cabana. Road frontage on paved road. 925.847.2200

5324 SANDRA WAY

LOVELY CUSTOM HOME

\$649,000

3 bd/ 2 ba Completely redone. 5" wd flrs & tile flrs. Lrge fam rm w/marble faced freplce. Landscaped yrd

PLEASANTON

6609 AMBER LN

ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS

\$1,575,000

4 BR 3 BA Plus-office. 3 remodeled baths. Gourmet kit. 3-car garage. Pebble Tech pool & spa. 925.847.2200

5719 BELLEZA

BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOUSE

\$595,000

3 BR 2.5 BA New Carpets, Limestone flooring in entry

& kit. A/C 2 car garage. Low HOA's, community pool. 925.847.2200

7835 CANYON MEADOW CIR

BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED

\$399,000

2 BR 2 BA Updated Kit & Baths w/new Cabs. Top line SS Appliances in Kit. New Fire Pl, vaulted ceilings 925.847.2200

SUNOL

900 KILKARE RD

FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY!

\$399,000

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

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

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 925.251.2550

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REALTORS

Pleasanton/ Dublin/ Livermore Valley Office
 5075 Hopyard Rd., Ste. 110, Pleasanton, CA. 94588

Just Listed in Pleasanton! Call us for more information about these beautiful new listings!

JUST LISTED OPEN SUN 1-4

Golden Eagle
7888 GOLDEN EAGLE WAY
 GOLDEN EAGLE, PLEASANTON

Beautifully designed single level home featuring 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 3,900 square feet on a gorgeous .60 acre lot with pool, spa and sport court in the exclusive gated community of Golden Eagle.

Offered at \$1,858,000

REAL REVIEWS REAL PEOPLE

"Prior to putting our home on the market we interviewed several well respected realtors to determine who would do the best job of marketing and representing our interests. After our first meeting with Peter and Phyllis we knew we had found the team with a great marketing plan and strategy for representing our home. Our goals were their first priority, not the sale. In the end we set a new sales record in terms of price for our area and feel this is due, in large part, to the effective marketing and representation offered by Peter and Phyllis. They are a great team to work with and we are happy to recommend them to anyone looking to sell their home."

Bob and Kathleen Holmgren, Kotingner Ranch, Pleasanton

JUST LISTED OPEN SUN 1-4

Raccoon Hollow
7930 RACCOON HOLLOW CT
 FOOTHILL KNOLLS, PLEASANTON

Beautiful private setting on .80 acre lot in West Side Pleasanton! Incredible floor plan with 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, (two bedrooms and full bath downstairs), large Bonus/Media Room upstairs, 3670 sq.ft. with pool, spa, park-like manicured grounds!

Offered at \$1,598,000

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Tri-Valley Real Estate Directory

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 www.davisandgrass.com
 CA LIC# 01149252, 01243081

kw. KELLER WILLIAMS
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Brett Junell REALTOR®
direct: 737-1000
 email: brett@teamjunell.com
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Teresa M. Connors
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Are the Holidays a Good Time to Sell?

It happens every year. The holidays. And every year we REALTORS get the same question: Are the holidays a good time to sell my home? For the record, I think the holidays are one of the best times to sell your home. Here are some of the reasons that the Fall and holiday season can be an excellent time to sell your home:

1. Strong activity. Most people believe that the real estate market dies in late October, and does not come out of hibernation until May or June. But this is just not true. Here is a chart of the % of closed sales for each quarter of the year for the last 3 years. As you can see, the fall is an excellent time to sell your home. In fact, it is typical for home sales to be fairly evenly distributed throughout the year, with a slight surge in the 2nd quarter, and a slower 1st quarter.

2. Less competition. Because many sellers believe the market will be slow, and decide to wait till the new year to sell, there is usually less competition during the last quarter. Fewer homes for sale means fewer choices for buyers, many of whom are motivated.

3. Buyers are motivated. Let's face it. Most people want to be eating turkey, drinking egg nog, and dressing up as vampires during the Fall months. But some buyers actually have to move, and are serious about

finding a home this time of year. For these buyers, finding a home is very important. And you get the bonus of not having to put up with dozens of showings from buyers who aren't serious. In short, you have an automatic filter to weed out only the serious buyers. Not a bad situation for any seller.

4. Ambiance. Homes often show very well during the holidays, with decorations, cozy fires, and a warm inviting atmosphere. Many homes look their best this time of year. You have a very good chance of your home connecting with the buyer on an emotional level, which is always the desired outcome for any seller. Bonus points for putting baking an apple pie right before a buyer looks at your home.

5. Flexibility. If you need a rent back, it is often easier to arrange one during the Go to www.680homes.com to read the rest of this article.

% of Closed Sales By Quarter for the Tri-valley				
Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
2010	19.5%	31.0%	25.2%	24.4%
2011	20.7%	28.2%	27.1%	24.1%
2012	20.4%	29.7%	25.7%	24.2%



Doug Buenz

The 680 Group

Office
925.251.1111

Direct
925.463.2000

680Homes.com

CA DRE# 00843458



Go to 680Homes.com for more information on these homes and other properties.



OPEN SUN 1-4

2818 Tudor Court
Fabulous Laguna Oaks home w/ 4 BR plus office & bonus room, 3 1/2 BTHS, vaulted ceilings, 4 car garage, & a private .29 Acre cul-de-sac lot with sparkling pool & spa! **\$1,600,000**



GOLF COURSE!

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**



PENDING SALE!

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! **\$1,629,000**



PENDING SALE!

Fabulous Sycamore area luxury home with 6 BR plus office & bonus room, 5 BTHs, over 6700 sq ft, featuring hardwood floors, huge granite & stainless kitchen, luxurious master suite, and a flat .94 Acre lot with pool! **\$2,275,000**



JUST SOLD!

Fabulous Ruby Hill Custom with 5 bedrooms plus office, 4 1/2 baths, bonus room, hardwood floors, custom granite kitchen, and private 2/3 Acre lot with pool, spa, and BBQ backs to open space! **\$2,250,000**



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**



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For a Real Estate Agent with an in-depth knowledge of both the area and market, call Blaise Lofland!



PENDING!

6191 SAINT ANDREWS WAY, PLEASANTON

Beautiful four bedroom, two and a half bath, 1,677 square foot single family home. Newer construction, this home offers custom tile floors, new carpet, vaulted ceilings and plantation shutters throughout. The remodeled kitchen offers granite slab counters, stainless steel appliances and a breakfast nook. The spacious master offers vaulted ceilings and walk-in closet. The two car attached garage includes a work bench and built in cabinets. The low maintenance rear yard has a garden area and exposed aggregate stone patio. Move in ready! Call for more information! **OFFERED AT \$479,000**



JUST CLOSED!

3962 FAIRLANDS DRIVE, PLEASANTON

This home is upgraded throughout and move in ready! Brand new 40 year roof, new carpets, and new hardwood floors. Beautifully and professionally landscaped front and rear yards. Four bedrooms, office/teen room, two and a half baths, 2,460 square feet all on a 6,489 square foot lot. The upgraded kitchen is open to the family room. A formal dining room is located just off the kitchen. The rear yard is private and serene offering a large grassy area and two decks. Close to schools and neighborhood Cabana Club! Call for more information! **OFFERED AT \$839,000 AND SOLD FOR \$839,000**



SOLD!

1185 LAGUNA CREEK LANE, PLEASANTON

With unobstructed views of the Pleasanton Ridge, this five bedroom, five and a half bathroom, 5,329 square foot home sits on a premium 16,321 square foot lot. The gourmet kitchen boasts a large island, granite counters, stainless steel appliances and a six-burner gas range. Grand entrance with large foyer, vaulted ceilings, formal dining room, spacious master suite, laundry room, three car and so much more. The resort-like back yard offers a pool, spa, pool house, outdoor kitchen, and gazebo. Easy access to I-680 and close to schools! **OFFERED AT \$1,897,500 AND SOLD FOR \$1,897,500**



SOLD!

10758 INSPIRATION CIRCLE, DUBLIN

This beautiful, model like upgraded home sits on a private lot with views. This floor plan is spacious and open with raised ceilings. The gourmet kitchen offers granite counters, island, and a gas range. Additionally, this newer home offers a spacious separate formal dining room. The master suite is expansive with walk in closets, an oversized tub and separate stall shower. The property has upgraded landscaping and the rear yard offers a large patio, a spacious grass area and a dog run. Call for more information! **OFFERED AT \$979,000 AND SOLD FOR \$1,014,000**



SOLD!

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. Four bedrooms plus a bonus room, 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! Sold in less than 30 days! **OFFERED AT \$1,549,000 AND SOLD FOR \$1,540,000**



SOLD!

1037 SUNSET CREEK WAY, PLEASANTON

Blaise represented the buyer in the purchase of this upgraded home on premium large lot with panoramic views, and superior privacy. The largest model in the desirable Sycamore Heights neighborhood, this home offers approximately 5,000 square feet, five bedrooms, five and a half baths on a 20,213 square foot lot. Gourmet kitchen and expansive master suite. Large rear grounds offers a pool/spa, sports court and a resort like experience. Convenient access to Downtown, Mission Hills Park, I-680, the A.C.E. Commuter Train Station and the amenities of Castlewood Country Club. **SOLD FOR \$2,050,000**

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REALTORS

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

LINDA GOVEIA BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$2,895,000
Elegant Craftsman Style home built by Matken Pacific. The finish work is extraordinary! 5bd/5.5ba, formal living room & library/office. Bonus room with large alcove, court location, private lot and views. 3654 PONTINA CT

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



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 DR

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,600,000
Fabulous 5bd/3.5ba + office, Laguna Model situated .29 +/-acre flat lot on cul-de-sac, sunny gourmet kitchen kitchen, sparkling pool, spa, BBQ & much more. 2818 TUDOR COURT

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

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,200,000
5BD + Large Bonus Room. Bedroom and Full Bath on main level. Updated Kit w. granite, gas cooking nook & island. Pool, spa private back yard. 2661 RASMUSSEN CT

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$870,000
3bd/2ba, 2,024 +/-sf, on a 6,500 +/-sf lot, custom remodel w/modern finishes. Vaulted ceilings, open floor plan with gourmet kitchen and formal LR and DR. Master suite with Jacuzzi tub & walk-in closet. Close to all schools. 4058 FRANCISCO STREET

MARK KOTCH BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$783,500
Great Pleasanton family home. 3 bds, 1 office, 2.5 bths, 1929 +/- sq ft. Updated kitchen and baths, dual zone A/C, plantation shutters. Lot 3,386. Close to everything Pleasanton offers. 5214 ZARO CT

TIM MCGUIRE OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4PM



PLEASANTON \$682,000
3bd/2bath, 1600sf +/- Updated Val Vista model with wood floors, new windows, carpet, paint, lighting and landscape. Walk to schools, parks and shopping. 6399 ALVORD WAY

ROBIN YOUNG BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$629,900
Scenic Links home offering open floor plan, neutral decor, granite counter tops, bdrm & bath on main level, private master w/sitting area, vaulted ceiling, beautiful landscaping, entertainers delight. 6165 AUGUSTA WAY

LINDA FUTRAL BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$549,950
Pottery Barn perfect, move in condition! New kitchen w/all the latest trends including silestone counters, stainless appliances, new bathrooms, built in wine bar, plus incredible room addition. Hurry! 356 CHURCH ST

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