

# Pleasanton Weekly

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elegant, talented dancers

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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



JEB BING

Firefighters from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department prepare the flag to raise at half-staff during last year's ceremony commemorating 9/11.

## A day to remember

Yesterday, like Pearl Harbor and the Challenger disaster, was a day we remember — where we were, what we were doing, the terrible emotions we felt as terrorists destroyed the two World Trade Center towers, a part of the Pentagon and crashed United Airlines Flight 93 into a field near Shanksville, Penn., killing the 40 passengers and crew aboard, including Tom Burnett, the chief financial officer of Thoratec in Pleasanton. The attacks killed almost 3,000 people and caused at least \$10 billion in property and infrastructure damage.

And again yesterday, on the 13th anniversary of the terrorist attacks, Pleasanton again held its annual commemorative event with a flag-raising, bell-ringing ceremony at the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department headquarters.

Keynote speaker, Fire Chief James Miguel, expressed his own and his department's continued grief over the tragedy and their remembrances of the event. His comments were followed by the ceremonial ringing of the bell in honor of those who died in the line of duty, and then the playing of bagpipes.

Many of us have participated in these observances since the night of Sept. 11, 2001 when we gathered at the Fairgrounds for an ecumenical service involving most of the churches and synagogues in the Tri-Valley. There were few

dry eyes among the hundreds of us who left the special service to go back home and watch and read more about the tragedies.

During that day, firefighters held buckets on Main Street where we contributed to the Red Cross and other nonprofits busily working to help those injured, families who lost their breadwinner, and the families of New York City firefighters and police who also died while trying to save others.

Since then and every year, firefighters here, and their chief, have hosted the morning tribute on Sept. 11. Danville held its remembrance ceremony last night at the All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park. There were ceremonies in San Francisco, on the Peninsula, and in most large American cities, including, of course, New York, where Freedom Tower has been built on the World Trade Center site. As Miguel noted, these annual observances are important to publicly remember what happened and those who died, were injured, and families broken apart by the tragedies.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt called the Pearl Harbor attack on Dec. 7, 1941, a day that will live in infamy. 9/11 now does, too. Thanks to Chief Miguel and many others like him across the country, these annual ceremonies will help to keep the focus on stopping terrorist attacks before they can happen again. ■

## About the Cover

Selena Hu, who studies at Xiaopei Chinese Dance Inc. studio in Pleasanton, performs a classic Chinese dance called "Flying Ribbons of Dun-Huang" at the Pleasanton Senior Center this summer. Photo by Maria Akhter. Cover design by Lili Cao.

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# Streetwise

ASKED ON MAIN STREET

## What is the best decision that you made within the last year or so?



**Alexa Ferrante**  
*Middle school student*

I decided to always be nice to people and to have a positive attitude toward them, even when it looks like they are not going to be so nice to me. I think it sets a good tone and makes me the better person.



**Dana Kimel**  
*Retired*

My best decision was to move to Pleasanton, from Livermore, with my dog Pugsy. This is just such a great town, and I really enjoy living here.



**Rachel Hawes**  
*High school student*

I decided to become more involved in school activities so that after I graduate and move on, I won't have any regrets that I should have participated in things that I missed out on.



**Stephen and Cherie Schorr**  
*Property and quality assurance manager*

Great question. For both of us, it was definitely, absolutely, the decision to get married.



**Amanda Taylor**  
*College student*

The best decision I made this past year was to move to Pleasanton from Minnesota, and to go to college out here. The only bad part about it is that I miss my family.

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

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# Newsfront

## DIGEST

### Youth art contest

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and local nonprofit Tri-Valley Haven invites all Tri-Valley area students to help raise awareness about family violence by participating in its 18th annual Student Art Contest.

This year's theme is "Family Peace." The contest is open to youth of all ages and experience levels.

Artworks must be original, and students may use up to four colors. Pictures cannot be larger than 14 inches by 14 inches. Deadline for submissions is Sept. 29.

The winner receives \$100 cash prize, and the winning artwork will be featured on the T-shirt for Tri-Valley Haven's Pace for Peace 5K/10K walk/run in October. In addition, the winner will receive a commemorative T-shirt and be presented with prizes at the Pace for Peace event.

For more information, contact Jessie at 667-2727.

### Hope Hospice board

The Hope Hospice Board of Directors has elected Pleasanton resident and police captain Craig Eicher as president.

Eicher serves in the Pleasanton Police Department's operations division. He has 25 years of law enforcement experience and community involvement, and he recently completed training at the FBI National Academy at the University of Virginia. He has a master's degree in public sector leadership from Saint Mary's College and a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from Cal State East Bay.

The board also recently elected Danville resident Patrick Brown as treasurer.

Hope Hospice, headquartered in Dublin, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, community-based agency that offers compassionate care, insight and guidance during a life-limiting illness.

### Motown — and more

Top Shelf returns to the Firehouse Arts Center at 3 p.m. Sunday, this time with a hit-filled musical journey through the sounds of Motown and beyond, featuring songs from Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Smokey Robinson and many more.

Tickets, from \$13.50-\$25, are available at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), 931-4848, or at the box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

Top Shelf is a Bay Area musical and entertainment cornerstone, known for its high-energy performances, engaging personalities, soul-stirring vocals, and audience participation. ■

## School board sticks with new calendar

### Boardroom filled to capacity with parents

BY AMANDA AGUILAR

The Pleasanton school board voted 3-2 against the motion to rescind June's approval of the "modified lite" calendar for the 2015-16 school year.

Trustees Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke voted in favor of the rescission Tuesday night, stating they would like to see the community more involved in the decision-making process.

"There probably isn't a right answer but it's about how we get to it together, because that's the right thing to do," Hintzke said to a packed boardroom during the standing-room-only meeting.

The board heard from 18 speakers — with 16 asking the board to rescind its previous vote. Par-

ents who wanted a rescission cited a lack of data presented, parent involvement, communication and transparency.

"We desire to work with you in making these kinds of decisions," parent Kevin Benson said.

Pleasanton parents Mary Madir and Susana Lopez-Kruevitch said they thought too much time had already been invested in the calendar issue and the board should stand by its previous vote.

The adopted "modified lite" calendar would schedule school to begin in early August and end in late May. The calendar also includes a one-week break in October, a nine-week summer break



AMANDA AGUILAR

Parents and community members fill the boardroom at Tuesday night's Pleasanton school board meeting during a discussion of the "modified lite" calendar plan for next school year.

See **SCHOOL** on Page 6



JEB BING

## Soccer season opens with Main Street parade

Hundreds of youngsters paraded down Main Street in Pleasanton last Saturday to mark the opening day of games among the Ballistic United Soccer Club for boys and the Pleasanton RAGE for girls.

Team volunteers and coaches, many of them dressed to match

the colorful costumes worn by their teams, walked alongside the groups as hundreds more watched from the sidewalks.

Teams were encouraged to exhibit creativity, fun and to bring a little "Mardi Gras" in September to downtown Pleasanton. And most did, with teams dressed as

barracudas, dancers, mermaids and dandelions.

Games in the 2014 soccer season got underway after the parade and are now continuing into the fall on scores of fields at Ken Mercer Sports Park and middle and elementary school fields. ■

—Jeb Bing

## PPIE raises record \$330,000 during school registration

### Third consecutive year foundation saw increase in donations

Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation raised \$330,000 — a record amount of donations — during the launch of the 2015-16 Giving Fund Campaign.

The one-week donation period started Aug. 15, the first day of school registration at the different school sites.

The foundation has seen an in-

crease in donations since participating in on-site registration. In 2012, the foundation raised \$170,000, and it raised \$275,000 in 2013.

However, for the first time this year, parents at some schools were able to register their student online — which included having the opportunity to donate to PPIE and parent clubs through a new donation

application called "Future Fund," designed by Pleasanton parent and local software designer Darian Shimy.

"Nearly all sites using Future Fund saw an increase in support, with a few experiencing an increase of over 50% from last year," said Andrea Stokoe, PPIE board member

See **PPIE** on Page 6

See **FORUMS** on Page 7

## Weekly, TV30 hosting candidate forums

### Separate free forums for mayoral, council hopefuls Oct. 2

BY JEB BING

The Pleasanton Weekly and TV30 will host two free public forums for Pleasanton mayoral and City Council candidates starting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2.

The forums will be held in the council chambers and will be taped by Tri-Valley Community Television for broadcast at various times and days leading up to the Nov. 4 municipal election on TV Channel 30. A video of the forums also will be shown on the Pleasanton Weekly website.

Moderators at the forum will be Tom Morrison of Tri-Valley Television along with Weekly publisher Gina Channell-Allen and editor Jeb Bing.

The mayoral forum will start first, at 7 p.m., featuring incumbent Mayor Jerry Thorne, who is seeking re-election to a second two-year term, and challenger Matt Morrison, a Pleasanton attorney. Both candidates will have two minutes for opening remarks and then will respond to questions for the next 28 minutes.

At 7:40 p.m., City Council candidates will be ushered into the chambers for a full one-hour forum. They, too, will have two minutes for opening statements followed by questions.



## SCHOOL

Continued from Page 5

and has the first semester ending before winter break.

However, for the 2015-16 school year, school will start Aug. 11, 2015, end May 27, 2016 and have no October break. This will allow for a 10-week summer going into the 2016-17 school year.

For the 2016-17 school year, school will start Aug. 9, 2016 and end June 2, 2017, with an October break.

In previous board meetings, students and parents addressed the board about how high school students would not have the opportunity to take SAT prep classes with the "modified lite" calendar.

Pleasanton schools superintendent Parvin Ahmadi told the Weekly that the district has already started working with Kaplan, a company that provides student-testing preparations, to hold SAT prep classes for Pleasanton students at one of the Pleasanton school sites.

She added that the district will continue to work with local communities to accommodate Pleasanton students in areas such as sports, internships and jobs.

"We're working together to support the students and the families," Ahmadi said.

In other business Tuesday, Amador Valley High School registrar Linda Pipe and her husband, Ennis, addressed the board with words of disappointment and anger during community comment on non-agendized items.

"Over the last six-plus months, it has become abundantly clear that I work for a district that uses lying, cheating, intimidation and stealing as standard protocol," Pipe said.

During a district investigation into allegations against former Walnut Grove Elementary principal Jon Vranesh, Pipe's name — along with Walnut Grove health clerk Mary Snell — were used in witness statements in the investigation led by Shon Davidsen. However, they told the school

board March 11 that they were never interviewed.

In June, Pipe filed a formal complaint to the district, but the district legal counsel's preliminary findings stated there was no slander or privacy violation in Pipe's case.

"The arrogance you exhibit is astounding," Pipe said.

Also during community comment, senior Ally Hintzke addressed the board about Amador Valley's dress code policy.

In other actions, the board unanimously approved a waiver application requesting Diane Anderson to teach American sign language at Foothill High School.

Trustee Jeff Bowser recognized two employees who recently died — former Alisal Elementary teacher Patricia Allison and Village High School math teacher Sandy Sansoe.

During closed session, the board appointed Janet Gates as vice principal of Lydiksen and Hearst elementary schools, and Patty van Looy as business services administrative assistant. ■

## Local artist donating 100% of Harvest Festival sales to charity

Art and Craft show opens Sept. 19 at Fairgrounds

BY JEB BING

The Pleasanton Harvest Festival will welcome a new, local artist this year, one who has been committed to both art and community service for over six decades.

Ann Garske, 82, of Pleasanton, is the matriarch and visionary of Steel Confetti, an art company that urges people to "Tell Their Story" using personalized tiles.

But aside from promoting hands-on crafts and fostering creativity, one of the most important aspects of the company is that it donates 100% of its proceeds back to the Good Tidings Foundation, a nonprofit charity aimed at improving the welfare of under-served youth.

In collaboration with major Bay Area sports teams, city representatives and companies like Steel Confetti, the Good Tidings foundation helps to breathe new life into challenged neighborhoods.

"To date, Good Tidings has opened five art centers for under-served youth, and we have two that are slated to open this year in both the Tenderloin and East Palo Alto," said Larry Harper, president of the Good Tidings Foundation.

"Steel Confetti is one of our primary fundraising sources for these efforts and has raised well over \$20,000 for the Good Tidings Foundation," he added. "It has been instrumental in bringing the arts to the forefront in communities all across the Bay Area."

Garske and her two daughters, Laura Elmore and Suzanne Haendel, make up the core team for Steel Confetti and are always on the look-out for fairs and com-

munity events such as the Pleasanton Harvest Festival because it is essential to their fundraising model.

Customers can visit the Steel Confetti booth at the Pleasanton Harvest Festival and choose a metal canvas, typically a picture frame, mirror or a necklace, and then select from a multitude of over 10,000 tiles in over 100 categories.

Garske, Suzanne and Laura source, hand-glaze and fiberglass each tile by hand, and together they create nearly 600 tiles each week. Their tile selection features a wide array of designs, including names, zodiac signs, nationalities, favorite movies, foods, bands and famous icons, sports teams, car brands, vintage posters and much more.

Steel Confetti will also be bringing a special "Tri-Valley" tile series to the Pleasanton Harvest Festival which includes local ties to Pleasanton area high schools, police/fire departments, restaurants, shops, parks and even media outlets.

The Pleasanton Harvest Festival Original Art and Craft Show opens Sept. 19 for a three-day run at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. The event, one of the largest indoor arts and crafts shows on the West Coast, features thousands of American hand-made arts and crafts, including jewelry, ceramics, blown glass, clothing, art and photography, specialty foods and more.

For tickets, festival times and more information, visit [www.harvestfestival.com](http://www.harvestfestival.com) or call 800-346-1212. ■



SHARON COHEN

Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, spiritual leader of Chabad of the Tri Valley, holds a new kosher 2012 Livermore Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, set for release this weekend.

## New local kosher wine ready for start of Jewish New Year

BY JEB BING

A new kosher 2012 Livermore Valley Cabernet Sauvignon named "Alef" will be released this Sunday in time for the Jewish New Year, which begins this year at sundown on Sept. 24.

Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, spiritual leader of Chabad of the Tri Valley, said the new wine will be introduced at a special evening

event that will also celebrate the 10th year of the Chabad's Jewish Community Center.

"This process has really brought our local wine culture and the Jewish community together," said Resnick, who has overseen the process and certified the kosher wine. "It's been the fusion of heaven and earth. Having a locally grown and produced kosher wine

will add so much to the New Year's dinner table this year."

Daniel Kozak of Livermore, a member of the Jewish community with wine-making experience, coordinated the production of "Alef."

"We're sure people will enjoy its fruity flavors and we're already looking forward to next year's production," he said. ■

## PPIE

Continued from Page 5

and registration committee chair.

"It was important to get clear information out in advance of registration day so there was time to make decisions at home about participation. Future Fund sites saw the most benefit from this," she added.

"This was a very encouraging

launch for the 2015-2016 Giving Fund Campaign," PPIE executive director Susan Hayes said. "The \$330,000 raised during registration week reflects our community's commitment to providing quality education for all our students. But our work has just begun."

According to the foundation, proceeds from the 2015-16 Giving Fund will be used to fund technology and

student support needs at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

Last year, the Giving Fund funded a district-wide technology coach, technology needs at middle and high school levels, and placed a Chromebook in each of the 230 elementary classrooms. The funds also contributed to smaller class sizes in transitional and regular kindergarten. ■

—Amanda Aguilar

## Buchanan hosting small business forum

State, federal representatives to provide advice, resources

Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan (D-16th District) will host a free public meeting this Wednesday (Sept. 17) in Dublin for small business owners as well as individuals interested in starting a business.

The town hall event will include resources and presentations from state and federal agencies that provide advice and support to businesses.

"I am pleased to be able to provide information to small businesses in my district about the wide range of services and supports available to them at

both the state and federal level," Buchanan said. "Small businesses are critical to our communities, providing local jobs as well as needed products and services."

Besides Buchanan, representatives of the following agencies and organizations will be on the program: Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, Small Business Development Center, Board of Equalization, Employment Development Department, U.S. Small Business Administration and state Franchise Tax Board.

The meeting will be held from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the Dublin Civic Center on Dublin Boulevard.

For more information, visit the 16th District website at <http://asmcdc.org/members/a16/district/upcoming-events>. ■

—Jeb Bing



Joan Buchanan



## Red Cross launches online app for blood donors

Allows users to schedule blood donations, track donations

By JEB BING

The American Red Cross is launching a first-of-its-kind Blood Donor App this week that puts the power to save lives in the palm of donors' hands.

The Blood Donor App allows users to schedule blood donations, track their total donations, earn rewards and invite friends to join them on a lifesaving team. The new app is free and available for download now in app stores.

"The app makes it easier, faster and more convenient for users to schedule and manage their donation appointments, track the lifetime impact of their donations, and recruit friends and family to roll up a sleeve with them," said Sara O'Brien, Red Cross communications manager.

In addition to scheduling and managing blood donation appointments, other features of the app include:

- A blood drive or blood donation locator
- The ability to sync a blood donation appointment with the user's calendar
- Personalized "selfies" donors can use as they share their donation experience through social media

- Special badges donors can unlock as they interact with the app, make donations and spread the word

- A chance for donors to come together to form blood donor teams and track team results

- Donor and blood recipient stories that show the power of rolling up a sleeve to help save lives.

O'Brien said the Red Cross has become a leader in putting vital safety information in the hands of people who need it during emergencies, with its award-winning disaster and preparedness apps downloaded more than 5 million times over the past two years. The new Blood Donor App takes it one step further by helping people save lives through blood donations.

The Blood Donor App, along with the others, can be found in app stores by searching for American Red Cross or by visiting [redcrossblood.org/bloodapp](http://redcrossblood.org/bloodapp).

Eligible blood donors do not need a smartphone to schedule an appointment to give blood. Appointments can always be made by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or by visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). ■

## FORUMS

Continued from Page 5

The moderators will ask the questions, including those submitted by the audience in advance of the forums, with candidates given 1 1/2 minutes at the most to respond.

Four candidates are seeking two available seats on the council. They are incumbent Councilwoman Kathy Narum, who was elected in a special ballot-by-mail election in May 2013 to fill Thorne's unexpired term on the council after he was elected mayor. She is seeking re-election to a full four-year term.

Also campaigning for election are George Bowen, Arne Olson and Olivia Sanwong.

Bowen, who has never held an elective or appointed office in Pleasanton, is perhaps best known for his work with veterans' organizations in promoting a Wente Concert fundraiser last October that raised funds to support wounded soldiers. Recently, he also led the formation of a citizens' coalition, Pleasanton Voters for Smart Growth, an organization that is opposed to adding more apartment houses in the city.

Narum, who holds a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from UC Davis, served five years on the city's Planning Commission before her election to the council. Earlier, she served on the city's Parks and Recreation Commission for five years. She is also past president of the Pleasanton

Seahawks swimming organization, and served on the city's East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force and as chairwoman of the city's Heritage Tree board of appeals.

Olson, a retired bank executive, has lived in Pleasanton for 28 years. He stepped down in May from the Pleasanton Planning Commission, where he served eight years including a term as the commission's chairman.

Sanwong, is a longtime member of the city's Economic Vitality Committee, where she is this year's chairwoman. A global biotechnology analyst at a Fortune 500 firm, she is a graduate of Amador Valley High and holds a master's degree in business administration from the Simmons School of Management in Boston. Sanwong, who ran unsuccessfully for council two years ago, lives in downtown Pleasanton.

In the mayor's race, Thorne served seven years on the City Council before being elected mayor in 2012. He previously served 10 years on the Parks and Recreation Commission. A retired executive from Hewlett Packard, he has lived in Pleasanton for more than 30 years.

During his years on the council and as mayor, Thorne serves or has served on dozens of Tri-Valley and regional committees and commissions, including the Association of Bay Area Governments, the League of California Cities, the Livermore Amador Valley Transportation Authority and the Livermore Amador Valley Water Management Agency.

Morrison, who has lived in Pleasanton since 1969, has been an activist on environmental, growth and preservation issues. Like Bowen, he has never held an elective or appointed office in Pleasanton, although he is treasurer of the Sierra Club's San Francisco Bay Chapter executive committee and has held other volunteer roles that focus on water issues.

He worked 11 years for Triad Systems in Livermore and 7.5 years for ProBusiness/ADP in Pleasanton. A graduate of Foothill High, he received his law degree from the University of San Francisco.

Doors to the council chambers will open at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 2. Question cards will be available at that time. Once the forums have started, there will be no questions allowed during the television taping.

The chambers are located in the Pleasanton Civic Center, 200 Old Bernal Ave. ■

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Gina Channell-Allen, Ext. 119

### EDITORIAL

#### Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

#### Tri Valley Life Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli

#### Associate Editor

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 111

#### Staff Reporter

Amanda Aguilar, Ext. 121

#### Interns

Maria Akhter, Cierra Bailey

#### Contributors

Jay Flachsbarth, Cathy Jetter,  
Jerri Pantages Long, Mike Sedlak,  
Kate Lyness, Nancy Lyness

### ART & PRODUCTION

**Marketing and Creative Director**  
Shannon Corey

**Design and Production Manager**  
Lili Cao

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### BUSINESS

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Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 126

#### Circulation Director

Zachary Allen, Ext. 141

#### Front Office Coordinator

Sierra Rhodes, Ext. 124

### HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

**Phone:** (925) 600-0840

**Fax:** (925) 600-9559

#### Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com  
calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

**Circulation email:** circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

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## EDITORIAL

### First Pleasanton candidates forum not a ‘zinger’

In their first public candidates forum together, those seeking votes for mayor and City Council gave a ho-hum performance. It may not have been their fault. The dated meeting room at Pleasanton Gardens, a 1960s senior living facility on Kottinger Road, is dark, the seats are uncomfortable and the sound system in the lectern is inadequate.

Also, fewer than 10 attendees were from Pleasanton Gardens or Kottinger Place, a similar facility across the street, with the others mainly supporters of one or two of the candidates who had heard it all before.

That's a shame for two reasons. Pleasanton Gardens has traditionally hosted the first public debate for Pleasanton candidates and was usually a stage-setter for future political forums — and usually with a room reasonably filled with seniors who live there or come to hear how candidates will help them.

Second, this will likely be the last forum at Pleasanton Gardens for quite some time. Both Kottinger Place and Pleasanton Gardens are slated to be torn down in stages in the coming year with a new two- and-three-story Kottinger Gardens senior living facility to replace them. Later, a new, larger and modern meeting room with all the bells and whistles politicians like will accommodate future candidate forums.

Another reason for the dull debate is that the six candidates, all sitting together, seemed to be talking from the same script. This was no President Barack Obama at last Sundays “Meet the

Press,” pounding his fist as he responded in Chuck Todd's inaugural episode. Nor was it like recent City Council and Pleasanton school board meetings with sitting members and those in the audience shouting a bit, pounding the gavel or pointing in a slightly threatening way.

Instead, everybody's friend and Museum on Main advocate Chuck Deckert, the moderator, calmly went through a list of questions on housing (the candidates all said we've built enough high-density apartments), on water (they agreed that we have a crisis), on ridgeland protection (no one wanted to allow housing on the hillsides), and aging (they want more facilities, services and care for seniors).

The six candidates, by the way, are incumbent Mayor Jerry Thorne seeking re-election and Matt Morrison, who wants the job, and City Council candidates Kathy Narum, an incumbent seeking re-election, and George Bowen, Arne Olson and Olivia Sanwong, first-timers to the municipal election scene who also want one of two seats available on the council in November.

There was some disagreement. Bowen promises to turn down campaign contributions from “developers.” Sanwong supports public financing of municipal elections. Morrison is paying all the costs of running by himself.

More candidate forums are coming, including the televised forums hosted by the Pleasanton Weekly and TV30. Let's hope these will be more spirited. ■

## YOUR TURN

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

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

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

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

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY



JEB BING

Chuck Deckert, moderator of candidate forum at Pleasanton Gardens, poses a question to three of the candidates (from left) City Councilwoman Kathy Narum, mayoral candidate Matt Morrison and council candidate Olivia Sanwong.



## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### City Council

Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Drought and Water Supply Update:
- (a) Consider adoption of the initial study/mitigated negative declaration for the City of Pleasanton Recycled Water project, and adoption of a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
- (b) Update on Stage 3 water shortage and local emergency declaration; authorize administrative reduction of excess use penalties based on water supply and climatic conditions
- Consider selection of Below Market Rate Affordable Housing Units or a cash payment in the amount of \$4.5 million for the recently approved E&S Ring 345 unit multi-family housing development (PUD-87) located at 3150 Bernal Avenue
- **Public Hearing:** PUD-106, John Gutknecht for Habitec Architecture – Consider introduction of an ordinance approving a PUD Development Plan for the construction of an automobile dealership consisting of an approximately 31,792-square-foot building with a 2,175-square-foot service canopy and 1,250-square-foot car wash, and related site improvements on the Auto Mall site at Staples Ranch

### Human Services Commission

Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal

- Discuss and Recommend Changes to Fee Assistance Program
- Review and Selection of Committee and Meeting Assignments

### Economic Vitality Committee

Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Operations Services, 3333 Busch Road

- Presentation on Stoneridge Shopping Center
- Presentation and discussion regarding Innovate Pleasanton
- Background information for future discussion regarding EVG recommendations for City Council Work Plan

### Housing Commission

Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal

- Discussion of Housing Commission Work Plan for 2014-15
- Appoint Representatives to East Pleasanton Task Force, Kottinger Place Task Force, Consolidated Plan Subcommittee, and Tri-Valley Housing Scholarship Program Board

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



# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Man arrested in domestic violence incident

Pleasanton police arrested a 32-year-old man on charges of domestic violence against a woman in her home on Francisco Street on Sept. 4.

Police responded to a phone call from a resident requesting a welfare check on a woman who had reportedly been battered by her boyfriend. The boyfriend was also alleged to have held a gun against the victim's head.

Officers met the woman outside of her home in the 4000 block of Francisco Street. She told officers that her boyfriend, Michael Bousquet, 32, hit her several times throughout the day. He also held a gun against her head while threatening to kill her as he pulled the trigger, according to police.

The woman reportedly sustained minor injuries during the assault.

Bousquet was located at the scene and arrested without incident. The gun was located inside the home and found to be a pellet gun, similar in appearance to a semi-automatic firearm.

Bousquet was booked into Santa Rita Jail on suspected

charges of domestic violence, assault with a deadly weapon and criminal threats.

In other police reports:

- An unknown man allegedly stole 13 pairs of high-end sunglasses from Lens Crafters in Stoneridge Mall on Sept. 3.

The female employee reviewed surveillance video and saw a that black man, who she helped earlier in the day, had taken several pairs of glasses — which includes six Maui Jim frames, six Ray-Bans and one pair of Oakley glasses, police said.

The unknown man came into the store around 11:15 a.m. asking for an appointment for he and his son — the son had yet to arrive.

According to police reports, the man sat on the bench for a few minutes and began looking at the glasses before the employee had him fill out exam forms for he and his son.

A police officer also viewed the surveillance video and allegedly saw the man select some glasses and put them into his pocket, then leave the store without paying. Police said the officer contacted mall security, who was able to locate the suspect on camera but not in the parking lot.

The man used the name Clar-

ence Mitchel on eye exam forms, but the officer was unable to locate anyone with that name and spelling. The address he provided in San Francisco does not exist, police said. The man also appeared to use a fake name, address and phone number on forms for his son.

The suspect is described as a black man, bald with a goatee, wearing tan shorts with a black polo shirt with a white undershirt, police said. According to Lens Crafters security, the same individual is suspected of stealing from several other stores.

- Verizon Wireless on Johnson Drive was reportedly the victim of a break-in on Sept. 4, police said.

An officer responded to a burglary in progress at the business around 12:36 a.m.

According to police reports, the rear door was cut in half — resulting in \$1,000 worth of damage. It is unknown whether the culprit(s) entered the business, said police.

Fingerprints and tool marks were found on the rear door and will be used as evidence in the case, police said.

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

—Amanda Aguilar

### William J. Bruton

July 27, 1947 — August 27, 2014

Bill Bruton died at Hospice of the Foothills in Grass Valley on Wednesday, August 27, 2014 following a long battle with cancer. He was 67.

Bill grew up in Sunol and Pleasanton, graduating from Amador High School in 1965. He served in the U.S. Army and spent three years stationed in Germany. In 2000 he fulfilled a long-time dream when he and his wife Linda moved to a small ranch in Grass Valley, which they shared with their daughter and granddaughter. Bill loved the rural life and could only be coaxed back to Pleasanton occasionally to visit his family.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Barbara Bruton. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Linda; daughters Kim Hunter and husband, Jason; and Jennifer Goodwin; grandchildren, Hayden and Jake Jackson, Anthony, Christian and Jonathan Hunter, and Kinsey Goodwin; brother, John Bruton and wife, Elena; sisters, Diane Larsen and husband, Gary; and Bonnie Bruton. He was a very special uncle to his many nieces and nephews, who called him Uncle Silly Billy.

At his request no services will be held.

PAID OBITUARY

### Roy Edward Niedt

November 7, 1922 - August 15, 2014

Roy Edward Niedt of Milton-Freewater, Oregon passed away on August 15, 2014, at Regency at the Park in College Place at the age of 91 years.

Roy was born in Dublin, California, to John and Amelia Niedt on November 7, 1922. Roy grew up in Dublin attending Murray School and graduated from Amador High School in Pleasanton. Roy served in the 1504th Army Air Force base unit for five years during World War II. He was an airplane mechanic and was stationed in India, Burma and the east Indies. Roy married Virginia (Susie) Renick on August 26, 1946. The couple lived in Dublin and then Pleasanton. Roy owned and operated an auto parts store in Castro Valley, California until his retirement. Roy enjoyed golf, fishing and woodworking. He was a good and generous friend to everyone he met. Virginia passed away in 1994. In 1996, Roy moved to Milton-Freewater to reside with his sister, Bertha Berry. In 2009 Roy's health caused him to move to Quail Run Retirement Home and then to Pioneer House in Walla Walla. In July of 2013, he moved to the Regency at the Park in College Place. Roy was a member of Grace Presbyterian Church in Milton-Freewater, where he was baptized, proclaiming his faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. He was a member of the American Legion, a master mason of the Masonic Lodge and the Shriners' Scottish Rite. Roy is survived by his nieces, Judy (Ernest) Johnson of Milton-Freewater and Yanette Schimmelfennig of Laramie, Wyoming, great nieces and nephews, Wayne (Julie) Johnson of Pleasanton, Laurie (Chris) Busk of Prescott Valley, Arizona, Dave (Carolyn) Carter of Milton-Freewater, Kathryn (Arron) Gundlach of Renton, Washington, Steve (Gayle) Carter of Pasco, Washington, Kim (Mike) Garcia of Milton-Freewater, Brandon (Lisa) Schimmelfennig of Ceres, California, Stephanie Emanuel of Thornton, Colorado and numerous great-great nieces and nephews. Roy was preceded in death by his parents John and Amelia, his wife, Virginia, his sister Berta, two brothers, William and Robert Niedt, nephew, Howard Hilton and great nephew Kenneth Carter.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, September 13 at 11 AM at the Dublin Cemetery, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin, California.

Memorial donations may be made to Dublin Heritage Park and Museums, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin, Ca 94568.

PAID OBITUARY

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made this information available.

### Aug. 24

#### Domestic battery

■ 7:09 p.m. in the 7500 block of Ivy Court

### Aug. 25

#### Battery

■ 2:19 a.m. in the 1600 block of East Gate Way

■ 3 a.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

■ 10:56 a.m. in the 1600 block of East Gate Way

#### Vandalism

■ 4:22 a.m. in the 800 block of Main Street

#### Theft from auto

■ 11:36 a.m. in the 1200 block of Chianti Court

■ 7:06 p.m. in the 1100 block of Lund Ranch Road

■ 8:59 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### Aug. 26

#### Drug violation

■ 12:11 a.m. in the 6300 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard

#### Theft

■ 2:51 p.m. in the 5500 block of Black Avenue

■ 6:02 p.m. in the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Battery

■ 4 p.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue

#### Residential burglary

■ 10:25 p.m. in the 1100 block of Kottinger Drive

Rosewood Drive

#### Drug violation

■ 12:09 p.m. in the 4300 block of Foothill Road

### Patricia Allison

Resident of Pleasanton, CA

Pat Allison died peacefully on Aug. 9, 2014, surrounded by her family. She died at Parkview Assisted Living Memory Care after 5 years of vascular dementia. She was preceded in death by her husband Wayne Allison in 1978 and their son Keith in 1960.

Pat was a resident of Pleasanton since 1946 and had resided in the house she and her husband had built until May 2009 when she entered an assisted living facility. All old time Pleasanton folks who knew Pat and Wayne are invited to attend also.

If people wish to donate, please consider Hope Hospice, Valley Care Medical Library, Pleasanton Museum on Main, any animal rights organization, Tri-Valley Haven, Guide Dogs for the Blind or The Lindsay Wildlife Museum. These were all places where Pat volunteered or had strong connections.

Pat is survived by her two daughters Sherry Williams (Frank) and Terry Awtrey (Don), and granddaughters Gina Clem, Allison Williams and Samantha Williams, and great granddaughter Kathryn Clem.

Pat taught in Pleasanton Unified School District from 1968 to 1987 at Alisal School. We would like to invite all her previous students and their families as well as Pleasanton USD colleagues to her memorial services. Her Celebration of Life will be at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

PAID OBITUARY





## PREP LINE-UP

### Sept. 16

- Girls Volleyball: 6 p.m., Foothill at Pittsburg
- Girls Volleyball: 6 p.m., Amador at Washington
- Girls Golf: 3:15 p.m., Granada at Amador

### Sept. 18

- Girls Volleyball: 6 p.m., Amador at Miramonte
- Girls Golf: 3:15 p.m., Monte Vista at Amador
- Girls Tennis: 3:30 p.m., Amador at California
- Boys Water polo: 6 p.m., Amador at San Ramon Valley
- Girls Water polo: 5 p.m., Amador at San Ramon Valley
- Girls Tennis: 3 p.m., Monte Vista at Foothill
- Boys Water polo: 6 p.m., Foothill at California
- Girls Water polo: 5 p.m., Foothill at California

### Sept. 19

- Football: 7 p.m., Castro Valley at Foothill
- Football: 7 p.m., El Cerrito at Amador

### Sept. 20

- Amador and Foothill Cross Country: 8:45 a.m., Nike Invitational at Newhall Park, Concord

### Sept. 23

- Girls Volleyball: 6 p.m., Monte Vista at Foothill
- Girls Volleyball: 6 p.m., Amador at California
- Girls Golf: 2:45 p.m., Foothill at Amador
- Girls Tennis: 3:30 p.m., San Ramon Valley at Amador
- Boys Water polo: 6 p.m., Logan at Amador
- Girls Water polo: 5 p.m., Logan at Amador
- Girls Tennis: 3 p.m., California at Foothill

### Sept. 24

- Boys Water polo: 6 p.m., Liberty at Amador
- Girls Water polo: 5 p.m., Amador at Liberty

## Tri for Real triathlon set for Sunday

By JEREMY WALSH

A field of 500-plus triathletes are expected to participate in the Tri for Real triathlon event this Sunday at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton.

The Tri for Real event is the capstone of this summer's 27th annual Tri for Fun triathlon series, which also featured three non-competitive, shorter-length triathlons.

"We have made so many wonderful friends through the years because of the Tri For Fun," said Mark Aiton, co-principal of organizer On Your Mark Events. "There are now literally thousands of people who cut their triathlon teeth with the Tri For Fun, and they keep com-

ing back as well as take part in our other longer-distance triathlons."

Sunday's timed event, which will offer ribbons and trophies to top finishers in gender and age groups, will feature a 700-yard swim, 19-mile bicycle ride and four-mile trail run.

Entry fee is \$75 in advance and \$85 on race day. Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, snacks and beverages, and they can take part in the awards ceremony and raffle.

Trophies will go to overall male/female and masters (45 years and older) top finishers. Medals will be awarded to the Top 3 in age groups: 13 years old and younger, 14-18, 19-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59,



JONATHAN LANCE/ON YOUR MARK EVENTS

Runners complete the third leg of last year's Tri for Real timed triathlon event. The 2014 installment is set for Sunday at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park.

60-64, 65-69, and 70 and older.

For each race, check-in and registration will begin at 5 a.m., with the

first wave hitting the water at 7 a.m.

To register, call 209-795-7832 or visit [www.onyourmarkevents.com](http://www.onyourmarkevents.com).



COURTESY OF TRI-VALLEY KARATE

## Local dads take home karate medals

Three local fathers who instruct and train at Tri-Valley Karate in Pleasanton earned five medals in the USA-NKF National Championships and Team Trials this July in Reno, Nev. Left to right: John Crose won bronze medals in the Advanced Goju Ryu Kata and 35+ Advanced Kata categories, Sanjit Mandal won gold in Men's Advanced Japanese/Okinawan Kata, and Johnpaul Williams won silver in Advanced Goju Ryu Kata and 45+ Advanced Kata.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Ballistic United wins Summer Classic

The Ballistic United U13 Academy team went undefeated and took home the first-place trophy in the U13 Super Division of this year's Ballistic Summer Classic. Shown (back row, left to right) Andrew Salas, Nate McGinty, Zane Kolia, Juian Hodis, Kamran Matin, Zion Kiehle, Shanth Gopalswamy, Erik Moore and coach Doug Murray, and front (left to right) Jacob Akanyirige, Ben Brathwaite, Joseph Lemus, Vinay Srinivasan, Josh Wilner, Jacob Lovell and Davis Wollesen.

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Jane Jacobs wrote in 1958, "The remarkable intricacy and liveliness of downtown can never be created by the abstract logic of a few men. Downtown has had the capability of providing something for everybody only because it has been created by everybody. So it should be in the future; planners and architects have a vital

► See **DOWNTOWN MATTERS**, page 2

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## DOWNTOWN MATTERS

► Continued from page 1

contribution to make, but the citizen has a more vital one. It is his city, after all; his job is not merely to sell plans made by others, it is to get into the thick of the planning job himself." Her words seem today to have been written

with our Downtown in mind.

Perhaps what's more important to consider is that Downtown is a place where people can come together, to be a part of our city—to feel connected to it. In Downtown we can bind closer to each other and ultimately strengthen the fabric of our community. We can develop

close and more meaningful interactions.

What we really want, maybe most of all, is to feel joined to the people around us and the place we inhabit—to walk down the street and say to ourselves: "These are my people. This is my home." And that is what you can do in our Downtown.

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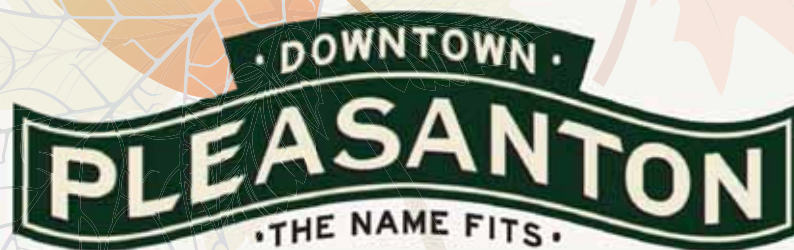
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- Sizzling Saturdays, September 13, 20 & 27, 6-9pm
- Antiques & Collectable Faire, October 12, 8am - 4pm
- Halloween Brew Crawl, October 25, 5-8pm
- Magical Holiday Evening, November 22, 4-7pm
- Holiday Spirit Stroll, November 22, 5-8pm
- Hometown Holiday Parade, December 6, 5-8pm

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# Chinese dance: Classic to contemporary

Studio promotes cultural heritage as it develops elegant, talented dancers

By DOLORES FOX GIARDELLI



MARIA AKHTER  
Young students from Pleasanton's Xiaopei Chinese Dance Inc. studio perform at the Pleasanton Senior Center in August.

The graceful dancers seem lighter than air as their limbs flow elegantly in this direction and that. They leap and swirl, seemingly not limited by the usual constraints of the human body.

Up close, watching the practices at the Xiaopei Chinese Dance Inc. studio in Pleasanton, it becomes clear that the effortless motions are the result of years of continuing hard work, the gracious smiles part of the intricate performance.

Here young dancers are developed in the Chinese tradition. From a young age, girls work at flexing and training their muscles to be able to interpret traditional and contemporary music as it tells the story.

Chinese dance has four main categories, founder Xiaopei He Gelb explained: classic, folk, ethnic and contemporary.

"Classic is similar to ballet," she said, but without the point. "Like tai chi but faster."

Folk dances often are done with fans and long ribbons. And ethnic embodies age-old dances that have evolved among the 55 ethnic minorities in China.

When Xiaopei attended the dance academy in Beijing, the classical ballet was Russian.

"And my school was good with folk dances," she said.

Xiaopei was a renowned dancer in China in 2003 when she trav-

eled to San Francisco to visit some friends and met her future husband, Andrew Gelb, at a museum. It was the height of the SARS epidemic, so her family urged her to prolong her visit to avoid the illness, Andrew recalled, which gave the two of them time to become acquainted.

When Andrew visited her in China, he became aware of her celebrity.

"She was principal dancer for a major dance company in Beijing. She was the real deal," he said. "We became engaged in China, on the Great Wall."

Xiaopei was with the China Central Song and Dance Company of Nationality, and a member of the Chinese Dancer Association and the Chinese Ethnic Minority Dance Association. She won the gold medal at Japan's Saitama International Creation Dance Competition in 2003 and was the only dancer chosen to represent Chinese women at the 2004 Year of China in France.

"Dance has been my wings, allowing me to fly across land and sea, to chase dreams of beauty and love," Xiaopei noted poetically.

The couple married in 2004, and Xiaopei moved to Pleasanton.

"It was very hard for me to give up my career in China until I met my future husband," Xiaopei said. "Then, I realized I was ready to start a new life."

She continued to perform and

directed the Cow Palace's 2008 Gala for the Beijing Olympics. She also was executive director of the 2009 special "Overseas Edition" of "The Same Song Concert," a popular TV show in Chinese produced by China Central Television and broadcast from the Cow Palace. She was also a judge and organizer of the 2007 and 2010 Sing Tao Chinese Dance competitions.

When members of the local Chinese community realized the celebrity lived in their midst, they began to ask for performances and requested lessons for their children. Eventually Xiaopei began to think about starting a dance studio.

"She feels strongly about sharing her passion," Andrew said. "Because of who she is, she can attract good teachers."

Xiaopei began her school in 2009 with the mission of providing authentic Chinese dance classes and promoting Chinese culture. She also prides herself on training strong and confident students.

At first, she used classroom space at other dance schools, but she opened her own location in December 2012 (on 12/12/12). Xiaopei Dance also offers ballet and Latin classes, which often draw adults.

A recent visit on a warm afternoon to the studio on Owens Drive found it cool inside, where mirrors line two walls of the large room.



MARIA AKHTER  
Xiaopei studio dancers performed a variety of routines for attendees at the "Joyful Connection" event at the senior center.

Heather Jackson, 15, and Holly Cheek, 16, were preparing for a competition being held at James Logan High in Union City to pick Americans to travel to Beijing and appear on Chinese television.

"They will do mostly Chinese dancing, but Chinese television wants it to have a U.S. character," Xiaopei said.

Over and over the teens danced through a story of friendship.

"Show feeling. That's important," Xiaopei instructed. "Ready? Do your best."

She took to the floor to demonstrate some movements, and her star stature shone through, even in her practice garb.

As Heather and Holly were finishing their workout, girls from 7 to 9 began to trickle into the studio dressed in pink and red tights and leotards. They were Level 4, and had been dancing since they were about 4 to 7 years old.

"We get to exercise to help our bodies be healthy," one little girl said when asked what she liked about Chinese dancing.





"Dance has been my wings, allowing me to fly across land and sea, to chase dreams of beauty and love," says Xiaopei He Gelb.

STONE

"It's fun," said someone else.

"Sometimes the costumes can be itchy, or too big or too small," offered another girl, which made the others giggle.

Students come to this studio from Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon; Xiaopei Chinese Dance Inc. also has another location in San Jose, with 200 students in all.

The little girls attentively watched Heather and Holly perform before they took to the floor to begin their exercises.

Holly attends Amador Valley High in Pleasanton, where she is in the school's color guard.

"Dance experience really helps in color guard," she said. "There is an energy with the audience."

She and Heather, a Dublin High student whose mother is Chinese, both said it is special to do Chinese dance.

"When I was 4, my mom enrolled me in Chinese class," Heather said. "It's really cool to learn the different arm movements, what they mean, like the water dance."

"Not everyone can express their culture through dance," Holly said. "My mom enrolled me in ballet at first, then brought me here."

They both noted that ballet is core to their dance, and the slower dances show a lot of emotion. But when the beat steps up, it is similar to hip hop and the mood becomes electric.

Heather leads a program called Joyful Connection, where she brings young dancers from the studio to senior centers to perform. They recently danced at the Pleasanton Senior Center, and the cafe served a chicken stir fry that day to carry out the Chinese theme.

"I'm connecting young and old," Heather explained.

Now they were looking forward to the competition and perhaps going to China. They were chosen to participate in the tryouts based on a tape they had submitted. A seamstress met with them and sent their measurements to China where their authentic costumes were made.

"I went to China two years ago for a competition," Heather said, along with Michelle Zhang and Samantha Lu. "We were exposed to all these

great dancers, amateur and professional. Everybody was so good, and there were dancers from all over, from Indonesia and Malaysia."

They also visited Chinese dance academies, where the students rise at 5 a.m., run, stretch and dance all morning and study all afternoon.

Xiaopei makes sure that her students get many opportunities to perform. In April they presented the Xiaopei Chinese Dance Fifth Anniversary Celebration Showcase, with performances at the Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center in San Ramon and the Visual and Performing Arts Center at De Anza College in Cupertino.

"We do a lot of performances," Heather said, comparing them to the upcoming competition. "It's more fun to perform."

"It's different," Holly said. "You have an audience when you are onstage performing."

"In competition there are just a couple of people, who are the judges," Heather explained.

Holly, Heather, Michelle Zhang and Eva Wang won first place at the International Chinese Dance Competition Western U.S. Regional in the group category. Heather's solo, "Her Reflection," won first place in the "Solo, Duet and Trio" category. Another student, Jasmine Tsui, won overall first place at the World Dance Competition 2014.

During the past five years, the students at Xiaopei Chinese Dance have learned more than 138 dances and performed more than 50 times at community events throughout the Bay Area and in China.

"Our region benefits from the high quality of instruction that your business brings to the region," Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne wrote to Xiaopei when the dance school celebrated its fifth anniversary this year. He noted that it is the first Chinese dance company based in the Tri-Valley and called its fifth anniversary a "significant milestone."

Upcoming performances include the Silicon Valley Fall Festival, and at China Night at 3 p.m. on Sept. 21 at Chabot College in Hayward. For more information, go to [www.xpdance.com](http://www.xpdance.com) or call 487-8883. ■



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Level 4 students train with teacher Xiaopei He Gelb at the Xiaopei Dance studio in Pleasanton.

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COURTESY OF REMY DATO



COURTESY OF REMY DATO



COURTESY OF REMY DATO

A taste of the cakes made by Pleasanton resident Remy Dato as part of her post-retirement business, Cakes by Remy. She said the most memorable cake she ever created was for her daughter's bridal shower (right).

## Retirement hobby turns into beautiful business

Pleasanton woman makes  
tasty cake creations  
almost too pretty to eat

By KATE LYNESS



COURTESY OF REMY DATO

Dato (shown) creates elaborate cakes that are entirely edible, including ones in the forms of buckles, shoes and purses that she constructs from sugar paste.

Pleasanton resident Remy Dato may be retired from her career as a principal scientist with Johnson & Johnson, but she certainly is not finished with her business endeavors.

In the summer of 2011, Dato accompanied a friend to an introductory cake-decorating class and was surprised to discover she really enjoyed it. She continued to take other cake-decorating classes, thinking it would be a hobby to pursue in retirement.

She quickly mastered all of the techniques and began to search for more sophisticated classes in cake decorating and baking, to produce not only an attractive cake but also one that tasted great.

Dato then attended more advanced classes, including baking courses at a culinary school in the Philippines, where she is originally from.

She practiced by making and decorating cakes every Sunday for family dinners, dabbling in techniques and experimenting with ideas. As she progressed, she gave cakes to friends and family as gifts, and eventually they began making requests.

Her friends offered to pay, knowing that making the cakes could be costly and time consuming. Dato was hesitant to charge until she had a legitimate business, and she thought about starting one in her home. But research showed this meant getting a business license and health permits, using a commercial kitchen, becoming incorporated, and procuring liability insurance.

A friend from her cake-decorating club introduced her to a

kitchen rental organization in Fremont, which she now uses for her flourishing business, Cakes By Remy.

Dato keeps busy, baking a variety of custom-made cakes, including fondant-decorated, buttercream and ganache. She appreciates clients who clearly let her know what they want, while allowing her to use her own creativity.

"I like to surprise and delight my customers," Dato said. "Seeing the surprised look on their faces and how happy they are with my cakes is quite rewarding."

However, because each of her cake creations is a unique piece of artwork, Dato said she does not enjoy watching when her cakes are cut.

Dato also specializes in a Filipino pastry called ensaymada. It is her top seller because it tastes better than any bought in a store.

"I get a lot of ensaymada orders and sometimes have to decline or ask customers to wait until I have finished a cake order, since cakes always take priority," Dato said.

The intricate detailing in Dato's cakes is the result of spending a tremendous amount of time on each one, since she strives for cakes that are entirely edible.

For example, her shoe- and purse-shaped cakes require "hardware" that she needs to prepare at least a week in advance — handles, clasps, buckles, zippers and other purse accessories made with sugar paste that needs time to form and dry. Sugar paste flowers, such as roses and orchids, are particularly labor intensive, she said.

Dato calculates that a complicated cake on average requires three to four days to make. She said the most memorable cake she ever created was for her daughter's bridal shower, shaped like a bridal gown and covered in delicate roses. She had just learned to make flowers and tiered cakes.

"It was truly a labor of love, considering I had little experience at the time," she said. "With only limited decorating skills, I ultimately really liked how the cake turned out."

Most importantly, my daughter loved it and her friends were amazed with it."

Dato also remembered making a cake for a friend of a friend who requested a surprise groom's cake for her son to be served at the rehearsal dinner. The customer requested a climbing tower design to represent where the couple had met.

Dato researched climbing towers and the specific location, then designed sugar figures of a blonde young woman and a tall young man, and added a Jeep (the groom's favorite car) that she molded out of chocolate.

"This is totally unexpected. I don't think they will want to slice this tonight," she recalled the customer saying when she delivered it.

Weeks later, the same customer sent Dato a message telling her that the groom's cake was the centerpiece at the wedding reception and that it tasted great.

Never making the same cake twice, Dato finds inspiration on Pinterest and Google, and consults her numerous cake-decorating books. To scale accessories such as sea animals, bags and golf clubs to proportion, she looks at pictures.

In the end, the idea is always unique to Dato, and the ultimate product is always highly memorable and appreciated.

She said she thinks cake decorating is certainly one of the most interesting and satisfying pursuits a person could take up in retirement.

"I get so much pleasure and instant gratification after a cake is completely decorated," she said. ■

Kate Lyness is a senior at Amador Valley High School.



# Firehouse kicks off season of world-class headliners

Bay Area is discovering what Pleasanton has to offer



COURTESY OF FIREHOUSE  
Comedian Will Durst

The Firehouse Arts Center has kicked off its 2014-15 season, featuring Grammy and Tony Award winners, Broadway headliners, rock and jazz legends, and award-winning theater companies.

The Firehouse is turning 5, and has become a "destination venue" for the greater Bay Area, said its publicist Jane Onojafe.

"We are seeing our audiences increasingly coming from San Francisco, the

South and North Bay, as well as all over the East Bay and valley," she noted. "Our Theater Supervisor Rob Vogt is doing a fantastic job bringing in world-class headliners across a broad range of offerings, and we are now getting more and more repeat patrons from across the Bay who have discovered our sophisticated programming and intimate venue, with great strolling and wining-dining options right out our front doors. Word is getting around."

The season opened last week with singer and songwriter Lisa Loeb and continues with "Walking in Memphis" Grammy winner Mark Cohn; jazz guitarist and "godfather of fusion," Larry Coryell; Will Durst with his brand new comedy act, Boomeraging; the hit fusion group QUATTRO; and Ireland's foremost tenor, Mr. Anthony Kearns.

Larger productions include some new acts, including the No. 1 Neil Diamond tribute show, Super Diamond; Kit and the Kats; and the Swingle Singers from London — one of the top large a cappella groups around.

Returning entertainment includes the famous good-

times band Pablo Cruise performing tonight; multiple Grammy winner David Lanz; Jim Anderson and the Rebels in their Elvis birthday weekend concert; and the Swingin' Blue Stars on Memorial weekend. December People, the rock 'n' roll holiday blow-out concert, will take place at Amador Theater.

Three distinct theater companies call the Firehouse Arts Center home: Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre is the professional



SHANNON BROOKE

Kit and the Kats

Plaid," "Fiddler on the Roof," "Dr. Doolittle Jr.," "Pinocchio," and "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe."

Vogt said he is especially excited about QUATTRO, a group that combines Latin, pop, jazz and classical.

"They are just so much fun, so much energy — everybody I run into, I end up talking about them," he said.



COURTESY OF FIREHOUSE

Good-times band Pablo Cruise

He also raved about the Swingle Singers, who he happened to snag on the West Coast leg of their USA tour.

"Folks may not recognize their name, but they are simply world-class, multiple Grammys, and they're coming to Pleasanton," Vogt said.

The Firehouse Arts Center offers three membership programs to enjoy ticket discounts, drink vouchers, downtown merchant discounts and other perks. For information, visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), call 931-4848, or go to the box office at 4444 Railroad Ave. Box office hours are noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, and two hours prior to performances. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



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## Wedding Announcement

**Kimberly Brown and Andrew Joyce**  
Married May 31, 2014

We are pleased to announce the marriage of Kimberly Brown, daughter of Dale and Eleanor Brown of Pleasanton to Andrew Joyce, son of Robert and Chetna Joyce of San Jose on May 31, 2014. The bride's sister, Courtney Rubin, was matron of honor, and the best man was Michael Joyce, the groom's brother. Kimberly graduated from Foothill High School in 2007 and University of Southern California in 2010. She currently works for Teach for America. Andrew graduated from Bellarmine College Prep in 2006 and University of Southern California in 2010. He recently earned his medical degree from USC Medical School. He is currently doing his internship at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. The couple honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico, and currently live in Mountain View, California until Andrew begins his residency at Harvard in Boston, Massachusetts next year.



PAID ANNOUNCEMENT



## Auditions

**AUDITION FOR VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE** The Valley Concert Chorale, the Tri-Valley's premier chorus, is scheduling auditions for experienced singers with sight-reading skills who enjoy singing exciting and challenging music, on Monday, Sept. 15 at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore. Call 462-4205.

## Clubs

**AAUW WELCOME TEA** Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch of the American Association of University Women will host a Welcome Tea for current and prospective members from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13, at Lynnewood United Methodist Church. Scholarship and Tech Trek participants invited. Call 484-3321 or go to [lpd-ca.aauw.net/](http://lpd-ca.aauw.net/).

**TRI-VALLEY WRITERS CLUB PRESENTS SHELDON SIEGEL** Sheldon Siegel is the New York Times best-selling author of seven critically acclaimed legal thrillers. He will be the guest speaker for the California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20 at Four Points by Sheraton. Cost is \$12 for members, \$17 for non-members. Contact reservations@trivalleywriters.org or go to [trivalleywriters.org](http://trivalleywriters.org).

## Concerts

**PABLO CRUISE IN CONCERT** Pablo Cruise will perform their mega hits "Whatcha Gonna Do When She Says Goodbye," "Love Will Find A Way," and many more at 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 12 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Founding members Dave Jenkins, Cory Lerios, Steve Prince, and Larry Antonio. Tickets are \$36-\$50. Call 931-4848 or go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**TOP SHELF: MOTOWN AND MORE** See this high-energy, hit-filled show of Motown and beyond, featuring songs of Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, Smokey Robinson, and many more, from 3-5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 14 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Tickets are \$13.50-\$25. Call 931-4848 or go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Events

**2014 PLEASANTON HARVEST FESTIVAL** The Pleasanton Harvest Festival is one of the top rated craft shows in the country, offering over 24,000 handmade American arts and crafts, live music and entertainment, delicious foods and fabulous prizes. The festival will be from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Friday-Sunday, Sept. 19-21 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. For tickets and more information, go to [www.harvestfestival.com](http://www.harvestfestival.com).

**DUBLIN LIBRARY BOOK SALE** Friends of Dublin Library invite you to the Fall Used Book Sale. Most prices are \$1 or less. Funds from sales go towards purchasing the Library's materials and supporting its programs. The event runs from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 12 with a Members-only Night, Memberships available from 5:30 p.m.; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13; and 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 14. Sunday is Bag Day: fill a paper bag (provided) for \$4. Bag Day Special: 1/2 off on selected audio-visual, vintage and specially priced items. Call 828-1315 or go to [www.dublinfriends.org](http://www.dublinfriends.org).

**GNON NETWORKING EVENT** Girls Night Out Networking and Renee Huber of State Farm Insurance want to invite women to a networking opportunity from 5-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17 at State Farm Insurance, 320 St. Mary St. Raffle prizes, socializing, great food, and wine by White Crane Winery. RSVP and prepay by Sept. 14. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. Go to <http://www.gnon.org/rsvp.html>.

**VFW AFTERNOON TEA DANCE** VFW Post 6298 presents a Benefit Tea Dance featuring The Mellotones, a seven piece jazz combo playing music from the great American songbook. The afternoon includes a light lunch and a drink. The event runs from 1-3:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the Memorial Hall, 301 Main St. Cost is \$10. Call 443-2224.

## PETS OF THE WEEK



MADDIE'S FUND



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### Smooth cat

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## Film

**'MAE BRUSSELL IN SANTA CRUZ'** This film is a tribute to a deep political researcher known for her articles in "The Realist" in the 70's and a radio show in Monterey in the 80's. It weaves the UC Santa Cruz speech in 1987 with a bio. Meet and greet potluck at 6:30 p.m., with a discussion following the film, on Saturday, Sept. 13 at IBEW Hall in Dublin. Call 462-3459.

## Fundraisers

**'WALKING THE CAMINO' FUNDRAISER FOR OPEN HEART KITCHEN** The Livermore Weekday Hiking Meetup group presents a special screening of "Walk the Camino" at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 18 at Vine Cinema in Livermore. \$15 includes pre-show wine tasting. All proceeds go to Open Heart Kitchen. Contact Stacey at 292-9470 or go to [vinecinema.com/special-events](http://vinecinema.com/special-events).

**FLEA MARKET FUNDRAISER FOR SENIORS** Get bargains galore at this flea market that helps raise funds for seniors, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20 at Ridge View Commons, 5200 Case Ave. Includes videos, puzzles, crafts and many miscellaneous household items. Coffee and donuts will be served. Free parking at Pleasanton Middle School across the street.

**HEALING HANDS FOR ARTHRITIS** Join Massage Envy Spa and the Arthritis Foundation on Wednesday, Sept. 17 for the fourth annual Healing Hands for Arthritis, a one-day

event to build awareness and raise funds to fight arthritis. \$10 from every one-hour massage or facial will benefit the Arthritis Foundation.

**PAWS IN NEED: PAWS AND OUTLAWS BARBEQUE** Bring your appetite for mouthwatering Western Barbeque with all the fixin's at the Paws and Outlaws Barbeque from 3-6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20 at Olivina Olive Ranch in Livermore. Win raffles and dance to the Blue House band. Proceeds benefit Paws In Need's programs for local animals. Tickets are \$45 for adults, \$20 for children. Call 551-1877, go to [Paws-In-Need.org](http://Paws-In-Need.org) or send a check to PO Box 3436, San Ramon, CA 94583.

**SWING FOR CANCER THERAPIES 2ND ANNUAL GOLF EVENT** You're invited to a full day of fairway fun at the Hill Course at Castlewood Country Club to help raise funds for the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation on Monday, Sept. 15. Registration at 10:30 a.m., box lunch at 11:30 a.m., tournament starts at noon, awards, appetizers and cocktails at 5 p.m. To register and for more information go to <http://sjwhtf.golfreg.com>.

## Kids & Teens

**SCIENCE OF ENGINEERING AND STRUCTURES** Come get some hands-on exploration into the complex science of building at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Pleasanton Library. Observe, experiment and answer key questions. Space is limited. 100 free tickets distributed beginning at 1 p.m. in the Children's

## Lectures/Workshops

**'UNCORK YOUR CREATIVITY' AT TEDxLIVERMORE** Leaders from Cal. Academy of Sciences, GoldieBlox, and other organizations will reveal their moment of creative discovery and its impact on their community from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20 at the Las Positas College Black Box Theater. Cost is \$95, includes lunch. Contact Jill Miller at (310) 384-2305 or [info@tedx-livermore.com](mailto:info@tedx-livermore.com). Go to [www.tedx-livermore.com](http://www.tedx-livermore.com).

**AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS MEETING** Lindy Munday will speaker this month at Amador Valley Quilters meeting, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13 at Pleasanton Middle School. Lindy teaches quilting, appliques, is a quilt appraiser, and is constantly taking classes to keep herself up to date on the latest quilting techniques. Go to [Amadorvalleyquilters.org](http://Amadorvalleyquilters.org).

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES** Explore parenting strategies for success. Anne Ehresman, MSW, will present on Developmental Assets from 7-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the Pleasanton Library. You will gain knowledge and understanding of the developmental assets framework, Understand the power of assets to prevent high risk behaviors, and promote thriving outcomes for your child. Call 931-3474.

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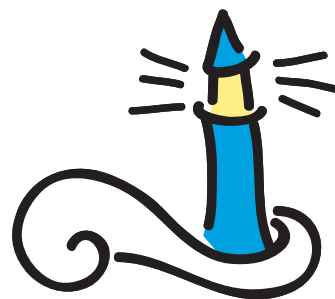
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## Bulletin Board

### 115 Announcements

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## Jobs

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#### Drivers

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### 550 Business Opportunities

#### AVON - Earn Extra Income

with a new career! Sell from home, work, online. \$15 startup. For information, call: 877-830-2916. A (Cal-SCAN)

### 560 Employment Information

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#### Drivers: Attn: Drivers

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#### Drivers: Start With Our

training or continue your solic career. You Have Options! Company Drivers, Lease Purchase or Owner Operators Needed. 888-891-2195 www.CentralTruckDrivingjobs.com (CalSCAN)

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## Business Services

### 605 Antiques & Art Restoration

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For 14 Years  
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### 624 Financial

#### Big Trouble with IRS?

Are you in BIG trouble with the IRS? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, & resolve tax debt FAST. Seen on CNN. A BBB. Call 1-800-761-5395. (Cal-SCAN)

#### Do You Owe \$10,000

Do you owe over \$10,000 to the IRS or State in back taxes? Get tax relief now! Call BlueTax, the nation's full service tax solution firm. 800-393-6403. (Cal-SCAN)

#### Identity Protected?

Is Your Identity Protected? It is our promise to provide the most comprehensive identity theft prevention and response products available! Call Today for 30-Day FREE TRIAL 1-800-908-5194. (Cal-SCAN)

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by as much as 75 Percent. Stop Levies, Liens and Wage Garnishments. Call The Tax DR Now to see if you Qualify. 1-800-498-1067. (Cal-SCAN)

### 636 Insurance

#### Health and Dental Insurance

Lowest Prices. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 888-989-4807. (Cal-SCAN)

### 640 Legal Services

#### EEO/CPA Claim Denied?

Diagnosed with cancer or another illness working for DOE in U.S. Nuclear Weapons Program? You may be entitled to \$150,000 to \$400,000. Call Attorney Hugh Stephens 855-957-2200. 2495 Main St., Suite 442, Buffalo, NY. (Cal-SCAN)

#### Suffered a Stroke?

If you or a loved one suffered a stroke, heart attack or died after using testosterone supplements you may be entitled to monetary damages. Call 877-884-5213. (Cal-SCAN)



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## Home Services

### 751 General Contracting

#### A NOTICE TO READERS:

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

## Real Estate

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### 850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

#### West Texas: 20 Acres

\$15,900 \$0 Down ONLY \$119/mo. No Qualifying-Owner Financing. Money Back Guarantee. Beautiful Mountain View. 877-284-2072  
www.texaslandbuys.com (AAN CAN)

## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

#### PRIMROSE BAKERY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 494981

The following person(s) doing business as: PRIMROSE BAKERY, 350 MAIN STREET #D, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jesse Eiland, 3696 Lily Street, Oakland, CA 94619. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Jesse Eiland. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 08/13/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12; 2014)

#### PRECISE PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 494926

The following person(s) doing business as: PRECISE PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC., 8814 OLIVER PLACE, DUBLIN, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Precise Physical Therapy, Inc., 8814 Oliver Place, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 08/24/2009. Signature of Registrant: Tony Lo, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 08/12/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12; 2014)

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pleasanton Prudential California agents who will collect food next Friday for the Alameda County Food Bank are (from left) Lois Cox, Rich Novotny, Jennifer Hosterman, Liz Fast, Teri Pohl, Steve Fast and Jo Gibbons.

## Prudential agents holding food drive next Friday

By JEB BING

The Pleasanton Prudential California office will join the firm's 29 other offices next Friday for Prudential Community Service Day.

Volunteers will be collecting food for the Alameda County Food Bank with the theme of "Hunger Has No Season," highlighting that traditionally there is a shortage on the food bank shelves at this time of year, just prior to the holiday giving season.

Collection stations will be at the Safeway stores at the Gateway Center at Bernal

and Valley avenues and in Amador Plaza at Valley and Santa Rita Road. Prudential volunteers also will be at New Leaf Community Markets in the Vintage Hills Center at Bernal and Concord.

Most needed are canned fruit juice, rice, vegetables, soups, pasta, whole grain cereals and peanut butter, and canned poultry, beef and fish and rice. No expired or glass containers will be accepted.

Collection hours are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at New Leaf and the Safeway stores. ■

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Aug. 13-21

### Pleasanton

**8185 Arroyo Drive** T. Abels to S. Mashhoon for \$320,000  
**1345 Chatham Court** Ponderosa Homes to J. & M. Stout for \$1,038,000  
**973 Clinton Place** Larussi Trust to F. Saleh for \$810,000

**4268 Dundalk Court** Jollette Trust to J. Lekkala for \$818,500  
**380 East Angela Street E.** & A. Orozco to M. Bowman for \$748,000  
**581 East Angela Street** Lutes Trust to J. & M. Baker for \$999,000

**2130 Fairfield Road R.** Ferguson to D. Bermudez for \$870,000  
**2761 Hartley Gate Court R.** & D. Beddow to A. Finucane for \$840,000  
**2088 Olivia Court R.** & D. Camacho to S. Prakash for \$830,000

**3866 Picard Avenue D.** & M. Needham to M. & H. Torres for \$1,465,000

**1288 Pineto Place B.** Cheng to S. Juger for \$2,638,000

**5263 Riverdale Court** Z. Altamimi to J. Nelson for \$660,000

**264 Spring Street R.** & S. Rai to Garcia Trust for \$987,000

Source: California REsource

## SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during Aug. 13-21

### Pleasanton (Aug. 15-20)

**Total sales reported:** 15  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$320,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$2,638,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,083,900

**Livermore (Aug. 15-20)**  
**Total sales reported:** 16

**Lowest sale reported:** \$349,500  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,401,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$690,281

Source: California REsource

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### Dublin

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**7581 Brighton Drive** Sun 1-4 George McKean **\$689,950** 998-1798

**5989 Hillbrook Place** Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors **\$835,000** 251-1111

### Livermore

#### 1 BEDROOM

**1085 Murrieta Blvd. #318** Sun 1-4 Teri Pohl **\$250,000** 588-8300

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**4889 Charlotte Way** Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley **\$535,000** 397-4200

**91 Diamond Drive** Sat 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors **\$635,000** 251-1111

**261 Northwood Commons** Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker **\$519,950** 847-2200

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**123 Cascade Ave.** Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors **\$599,000** 251-1111

**1657 Placer Circle** Sun 1-4 Anni Hagfeldt **\$819,000** 519-3534

**6485 Tiffany Common** Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker **\$634,000** 847-2200

**5668 Jacqueline Way** Sat/Sun 1-4 Cindy and Gene Williams **\$650,000** 918-2045

### Pleasanton

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**4456 First St.** Sat 11-2/Sun 1-4 Beth LaGrant **\$729,000** 924-0444

#### 4 BEDROOMS

**2450 Foothill Road** Sun 1-4 Louise Davis **\$1,650,000** 200-2457

**6785 Rancho Court** Sat 1-3 Dave and Sue Flashberger **\$750,000** 463-0436

**303 Neal St.** Sat 11-3/Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland **\$1,995,000** 846-6500

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**9459 Blessing Drive** Sun 1-4 Cindy Gee **\$1,898,000** 963-1984

### San Ramon

#### 3 BEDROOMS

**266 Lander Place** Sat 1-4 Coldwell Banker **\$674,500** 847-2200

# Windermere REAL ESTATE



Highly desirable location. Beautiful panoramic backyard views of Pinole Valley. Completely Remodeled One of a kind single story with lots of attention to detail. NEW Kitchen, Hardwoods, Carpets, Raised panel doors, Trim work & more. Nicely updated baths. New Hvac and roofing system.  
**2547 Silvercrest Ct. Pinole. 3Bd/2Ba \$499,950**



This beautiful single level ranch located on quiet court has it all! Newer remodeled kitchen w/ granite, appliances, flooring & cabinets. Amazing backyard w/ new custom paver patio w/ view of inviting solar heated pool. Too much to list. A must see!!  
**455 Ann Ct. Livermore. 3Bd/2Ba \$599,950**



Gorgeous Single Story in popular Canyon Crest!! This spacious home backs to permanent open space, and features new tile floors, new paint, new carpeting, a gorgeous gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, double ovens, and a large kitchen nook with views of the hill. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings, formal living room and dining room, beautiful family room with wet bar and views of the hill. No rear neighbors, the home backs to the hills, and features a wonderful, relaxing backyard. Wonderful location, walk to park and elementary school!!!!  
**5290 Canyon Crest Dr. San Ramon. 4Bd/2Ba \$899,950**

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**Warren Oberholser**  
**REALTOR®** BRE#01861944  
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warren@TheDemarinisGroup.com



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**REALTOR®** BRE#01378667  
(925) 551-3040  
(925) 984-0550  
john@TheDemarinisGroup.com



Windermere Select Properties

4637 Chabot Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566 | 925-551-3040





# KELLER WILLIAMS

## TRI - VALLEY REALTY

### OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



#### 2450 Foothill Rd. | West Side Custom Hacienda

One of a kind 4 bedroom, nestled in Pleasanton's west side hills. Spanish tile roof, tile floors, privacy gates, circular drive, fully landscaped yards. Newly updated kitchen, baths, interior paint, plantation shutters. Spacious formal living room and separate dining room. Family room made for entertaining, featuring slump stone floor to ceiling fireplace. **Offered at \$1,650,000**



**Louise Davis**  
REALTOR®  
Lic. # 00551850  
925.200.2457  
www.LouiseDavis.com

**Tom Fox**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE  
Lic. # 00630556  
925.872.1275  
www.TomFox.com



### OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



#### 4889 Charlotte Way, Livermore

Darling Duet... updated and spacious! 1,410 SF with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Up-dated Kitchen and Bath. Private backyard and 2 car garage.

**Offered at \$535,000**

## FABULOUS PROPERTIES

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925-980-0273



**Susan Schall, REALTOR®**  
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www.FabulousProperties.net CA Lic#s 01735040, 01713497, 01395362



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### Open House Sat & Sun 1-4



#### Best Location — Pleasanton Valley

Walk to schools and downtown. 4 bedroom, 2 bath updated, 1,675 sq foot single story home includes hardwood floors, french doors and so much more. Larger private yard with play structure, flagstone patio and arbor.

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### SOLD \$1,049,000



#### 630 East Angela

One of a kind remodel! Gorgeous Eichler! 4 bedroom, 3 bath plus den

### SOLD! \$920,000



#### 307 Mavis Dr., Pleasanton

Beautiful 4 bed/2 bath single story with remodeled kitchen, huge lot! Huge side yard access, located within minutes to top rate school, downtown, parks, shopping, and dining.



### Gail Boal

REALTOR® LIC # 01276455  
925.577.5787  
www.gailboal.com

### 1ST TIME OPEN SAT 1-3PM



#### 6785 Rancho Court, Pleasanton

Spacious one level home with 4 bdms, 2 baths and over 1800 sq ft. Remodeled granite kitchen and bathrooms. Expanded family room!

**Offered at \$750,000**



## Dave & Sue Flashberger

REALTORS®, GRI, CRS, SRES  
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### FABULOUS FOXBROUGH ESTATES



#### Coming Soon in Pleasanton....

Truly a Rare Find! Custom 7 bdrm estate with over 7100 sq ft of luxury. A backyard oasis with a black bottom pool, slide, & water fall covered grotto. Beautiful stone patios and fireplace.

**Price upon request**

### COMING SOON



7149 Dublin Meadows #A, Dublin  
3BD, 2BA 1,215 Sq. Ft.  
1-Car Garage  
Call for Price

### COMING SOON



2740 Chocolate Street, Pleasanton  
Desirable Stoneridge Square  
4BD, 2.5BA, 2738 Sq. Ft.  
**\$3600**

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### PENDING



839 E. Angela Street, Pleasanton

Amazing opportunity! Brand new construction in sought after Pleasanton Heights neighborhood! Single story home with 4 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. 2800+/- square feet of living space.

**Offered at \$1,399,000**



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

### 5668 Jacqueline Way Livermore

If you are looking for a park-like backyard and garden, Here it is! 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 1858 sq ft, Side access for boat/RV.  
**\$650,000**

### OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



## THE WILLIAMS real estate group

### Cindy and Gene Williams

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### DOWNTOWN



**OPEN SATURDAY 11-3 & SUNDAY 1-4**

#### 303 NEAL STREET, PLEASANTON

One of Downtown Pleasanton's Crown Jewels...Location, Location, Location! Become a Part of Pleasanton's Rich History and Own This Historically Designated Charming Queen Anne Victorian Home on Property Once Owned By the King of Spain. This Unsurpassed Hilltop Location Overlooking Downtown Pleasanton is Located at the Historic Corner of Neal and 3rd Street. Enjoy the Space, Quiet and Privacy Provided By This Large & Unique Over One Half-Acre Beautiful Downtown Estate, Conveniently Located Just 3 blocks From Main Street.

**OFFERED AT \$1,995,000**

### DISCOVERY BAY



#### 621 BEAVER COURT, DISCOVERY BAY

A world of small town living where the pace is little slower, but the adventure is right out of your back door. Take a deep breath, smile, and feel your body decompress as you arrive in this family community where you can live where you play. Enjoy water sports and country club living minutes from the Bay Area. Let us share the Bay Area's best kept secret and this quality-built custom estate home, and we are sure you will make both your own. Call Blaise Lofland or the Prince Team for a private showing of this approximately 10,000 sq.ft. custom home with 250 feet of waterfront, built on .55 acres over three lots, and only 3 minutes to fast water! Go to [www.visit-621beavercourt.com](http://www.visit-621beavercourt.com) for more information!

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#### CUPERTINO

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**BEAUTIFUL NORTH POINT HOME \$680,000**  
End unit w/loft. Vaulted ceilings. Dual pane windows.  
Fence patio. 2 car garage. HOA.  
Nancy Sutorius, CalBRE #00628232 925.847.2200



#### HAYWARD

**Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4** 22135 SEVILLA RD #32  
**JUST LISTED! \$340,000**  
2 BR 2 BA High ceilings. Upper level. Bay View; Fitness center, pool, spa. Near frwys, shopping, Bart.  
Lucy Luo, CalBRE #01816677 925.847.2200



#### LIVERMORE

**Open SUN 1 - 4** 6485 TIFFANY CMN  
**ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS! \$634,000**  
4 BR 2.5 BA Maralisa Courtyard, backs to trail w/hill views. Updated home is pristine! Community pool.  
Kathleen Waelde, CalBRE #00885285 925.847.2200



#### SAN RAMON

**Open SAT 1 - 4** 266 LANDER PL  
**JUST LISTED! \$674,500**  
3 BR 2 BA Premium end of court lot, new flooring.  
Light and bright contemporary interior!  
Kathleen Waelde, CalBRE #00885285 925.847.2200

### LIVERMORE

**WELCOME HOME!** 3103 BELMONT CT  
**\$1,650,000**  
4 BR 4.5 BA Cul-de-sac location. In-law unit above garage huge kitchen perfect home for entertaining.  
David Beville Jr., CalBRE #01954597 925.847.2200

**5975 COLLIER CANYON RD**  
**IN LOVELY COLLIER CANYON \$1,295,000**  
3 BR 2.5 BA 3-car garage. 9.86 acre lot. Pool w/diving board. Solar panels. Large barn. Caretaker Unit.  
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**5450 BETTY CIR**  
**JUST LISTED! \$639,000**  
4 BR 2.5 BA Located in quiet neighborhood.  
Cathedral ceilings, master suite w/sitting area, side yard access.  
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CalBRE #01936944/01928160 925.847.2200

**Open SUN 1-4** 261 NORTHWOOD CMNS  
**CHARMING TOWNHOME! \$519,950**  
3 BR 2.5 BA Kitch w/granite, breakfast bar. Many upgrades. Private yard w/deck, garden & grass.  
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**1087 MURRIETA BLVD #241**  
**JUST LISTED! \$225,000**  
1 BR 1 BA 2nd floor unit. Huge patio, SS appls, updated kitchen & BA. Close to dining & shopping!  
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**6980 FOXTAIL DR**  
**CALL FOR PRICE**  
3 BR 2 BA Single story home w/open floor plan on 10,000+ sq ft corner lot.  
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**5652 NINA WY**  
**JUST LISTED! \$790,000**  
4BR 3BA Tile counters, newer gas range, upgraded floors, vaulted ceilings, lush yard & 3 car garage.  
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### MOUNTAIN HOUSE

**952 ANTIGUA CT**  
**STUNNING SHEA HOME IN QUESTA \$625,000**  
5 BR 4.5 BA Separate Bed/Ba downstairs. Gourmet kitchen. Exquisite pool & spa. Huge lot. End of Cul-De-Sac.  
Kay Stromgren, CalBRE #00890085 925.847.2200

### PLEASANTON

**8268 REGENCY DR**  
**GORGEOUS LAGUNA OAKS HOME \$1,328,000**  
4 BR 3 BA Huge bonus room. Hardwood floors, corian countertops, professionally designed landscaping!  
Sharon He, CalBRE #01810593 925.847.2200

**5342 ELMRIDGE CT**  
**JUST LISTED! \$939,000**  
4 BR 2.5 BA Gorgeous upgraded home w/hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen & BAs, huge lot & a sports court!  
Shannon Shepherd, CalBRE #01350212 925.847.2200

### SAN RAMON

**527 WYCOMBE COURT**  
**MAGNIFICENT HOME ON PREMIUM LOT \$2,968,000**  
6 BR 7.5 BA Loaded w/upgrades-Mahogany flooring, Solid cherry cabinets, Library, Wine cellar & much more!  
Sharon He, CalBRE #01810593 925.847.2200

**1215 NANCY LN**  
**BEAUTIFUL CONDO! \$525,000**  
2 BR 2 BA Spacious Floor plan. Living Room w/built-in surround sound. Ceiling fan. Master Bedroom w/ walk-in closet.  
Karen T, CalBRE #009628800 925.847.2200

### TRACY

**302 W MOUNT DIABLO AVE**  
**NICE 1-ACRE LOT! \$250,000**  
Could be subdivided into 2 lots. Live on one & sell the other! Close to elementary school. Suzan Gladieux,  
CalBRE #01245705 925.847.2200

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**Charming downtown Pleasanton bungalow with approx. 1288 square feet of living space features 3 bedrooms, 1 bath and a single car detached garage. Rear yard offers grass area, gardens, patio and spacious deck. Close to all that downtown Pleasanton offers: restaurants, shopping, parks, farmer's market and enjoy the summertime concerts from your front porch!**

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BRE#01233731



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REAL ESTATE  
& ASSOCIATES**

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**COMING SOON**



**Pleasanton**  
4 Bedroom with 2 Master Suites  
**\$779,000**

**COMING SOON**



**Foothill Rd Area**  
4 BR One Story on 1.1 Acres  
**\$1,750,000**

**COMING SOON**



**West Side**  
Elegant Estate on 6+ Acres  
**\$4,500,000**

**JUST SOLD**



**Bridle Creek**  
4 BR + Bonus on 1/2 Acre Lot  
**\$1,588,000**



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**925.463.2000**

**Doug@680Homes.com**

BRE #00843458

## Pleasanton Market Update — Market Tightens

The Pleasanton real estate market got tighter in August, with less inventory and more pending sales, reversing the trends of the past few months. August was the first month with a significant drop in inventory since December. Fewer sales closed but the median sales price increased.

August's median sales price of a single family detached residence was \$962,500, which was 4% or \$37,500 higher than July's \$925,000. August's median price was \$107,000 (12.5%) higher than a year ago (\$855,500).

Closed sales fell 30% in August, from 77 in July to 54. That was the fewest closed sales since April. It was 33% lower than a year ago, when 80 sales closed.

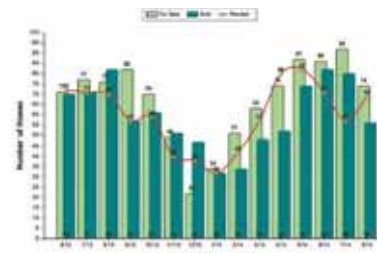
After falling sharply for the past two months, pending sales rebounded in August. 69 sales went to contract in August, 12 more (21%) than July's 57. By comparison, 70 sales closed in August 2013. Inventory, on the other hand, fell 20% from 92 in July to 74 in August, a loss of 18 units. August also had two fewer home on the market than a year earlier.

The combination of more pending sales and less inventory cut in half the number of months of inventory on the market, from 2.0 months at the end of July to 1.0 month at the end of August. One year ago, 1.5 months of inventory was available.

Sales that went to contract in August were on the market and average of 23 days, unchanged from July and one more day than in August 2013.

Analysis by Price Range

Homes priced under \$1 million led the market changes in Pleasanton, with a sharp decline in inventory and increase in sales. 15 fewer homes were actively  
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# WELCOME HOME



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Susan Kuramoto | 925.251.1111  
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303 Neal Street | 4bd 2ba  
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111  
By Appt



**PLEASANTON \$999,888**

5816 San Juan Way | 3bd 2ba  
Sylvia Desin | 925.251.1111  
By Appt



**PLEASANTON \$999,000**

1420 Parkview Ct | 4bd 3ba  
Tim McGuire | 925.251.1111  
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**LIVERMORE \$799,000**

1657 Placer Cir | 4bd 2(1)ba  
Anni Hagfeldt | 925.251.1111  
Open Sat & Sun 1:00-4:00



**PLEASANTON \$752,000**

4270 Krause Court | 3bd 2(1)ba  
Moxley Team | 925.251.1111  
By Appt



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Kelly King | 925.251.1111  
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