

# Pleasanton Weekly

Daylight Saving Time is ending

Set your clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. this Sunday.



VOL. XV, NUMBER 40 • OCTOBER 31, 2014

WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Re-Elect  
**Joan Catharine LAURSEN**  
FOR SCHOOL BOARD

**Baker**  
for Assembly  
www.bakerforassembly.com

**OLIVIA Sanwong**  
City Council  
www.voteforallia.com

**George Bowen**  
4 Council  
BOWEN4COUNCIL

**Arne OLSON**  
City Council 2014

**Kathy NARUM**  
CITY COUNCIL  
FPFCA 136487

**Mark Miller**  
Pleasanton School Board  
Fresh, Inclusive, Transparent

**Hugh Bussell**  
FOR CONGRESS

**Paige WRIGHT**  
for SCHOOL BOARD

**Eric SWALWELL**  
CONGRESS  
New Energy. Working for you.

**NO BB on Highways**

**RE-ELECT MAYOR THORNE**  
Keeping Pleasanton Strong

**VOTE YES BB**  
BETTER BART | BETTER BUS | BETTER ROAD  
www.YESonBB.org

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**HELEN K. FOSTER**  
ALAMEDA COUNTY SCHOOLS  
SUPERINTENDENT

**PLEASANTON Slow Growth MORRISON**  
for MAYOR

POLLS OPEN 7 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

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# VOTE TUESDAY

- 5 | **NEWS** Ex-principal files lawsuit against PUSD
- 12 | **TRI VALLEY LIFE** Halloween hits downtown
- 22 | **REAL ESTATE** New-home sales edge up slightly

V O T E

# Arne OLSON



**Because Results Count. Vote for Experience, Vote Olson.**

## Pleasanton City Council 2014

Arne has been endorsed by the following elected officials, organizations and individuals:

**Elected Officials:** Jerry Thorne - Mayor, Jerry Pentin - Vice Mayor, Sharrell Michelotti - Former Council Member  
Nate Miley - Alameda County Supervisor

**Organizations** Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce PAC, Pleasanton Weekly, Tri Valley Times, Firefighters Local 1974

**Citizens:** Jack and Jan Batcheller, Mark and Denise Shawver, Brock and Anne Roby, Bob and Joyce Shapiro, Brian and Michelle Dunkel, Brad and Sandra Hirst, John and Maryanne Sensiba, Mark and Marsha Sweeney, Frank and Muriel Capilla, Greg O'Connor - Planning Commission Chair, Herb Ritter - Planning Commissioner, Jack Balch - Planning Commissioner, Jennifer Pearce - Former Planning Commissioner, Gina Piper - Planning Commissioner

[www.OlsonCampaign2014.com](http://www.OlsonCampaign2014.com)

FPPC 1368719

# SOME CANDIDATES JUST DON'T MEASURE UP...

## Re-Elect Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne

- ◆ 2 Years as Mayor of Pleasanton, 7 Years on City Council, and 10 Years Parks and Recreation Commissioner
- ◆ Successful track record of **Sensible Leadership and Fiscal Responsibility**
- ◆ Advocating for **Local Control of Local Issues**, particularly land use
- ◆ **Will not support** issuing more building permits than required by state law
- ◆ **Will not support** a plan for the East Side that has not been approved by the voters of Pleasanton
- ◆ Advocating for **sufficient water** infrastructure to avoid future mandated reductions

## Matt Morrison

- ◆ **No experience** in Public Service
- ◆ Active in **lawsuit against Taxpayers** over the *spearscale*, **delaying construction of Stoneridge Creek and Stoneridge Drive Extension** by over one year and resulting in a **buyout of \$925,000** Taxpayer dollars!
- ◆ Claims to be "against special interest" donations yet accepts **\$5,000 from a local quarry owner and \$1,000 from a real estate professional**
- ◆ **Dead last of 7 candidates** in June 2014 election for Zone 7 Water Agency... *now he wants to be your mayor?*

# RE-ELECT MAYOR THORNE

"Thorne best choice for Pleasanton mayor."

- Tri-Valley Times 10/16/2014

**Make an informed choice!**

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

"Thorne's an easy choice for re-election."

- Pleasanton Weekly 10/10/2014

Paid for by Jerry Thorne For Mayor 2014, FPPC #1337409

# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



## See you at the parade Sunday

As an Army veteran, I'm especially honored to be asked again to serve as the parade announcer for Sunday's annual Tri-Valley Veterans Day parade on Main Street. My cohort at the reviewing stand will be Tracey Buescher, co-chair of the Pleasanton Military Families organization, which sponsors community homecomings for the men and women returning from harm's way, particularly from Afghanistan.

These homecomings are a special tribute that Pleasanton Military Families began as a community salute to our returning veterans that now many other American cities embrace. In the coming months as our involvement in Afghanistan winds down and more of our troops come home, I hope you'll join the hundreds of us who make these homecomings part of our patriotic commitment.

Some may remember that we used to call this Armistice Day, a federal holiday that was started to mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of that war were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the armistice with Germany went into effect. Since 1954, the name has been changed and its significance expanded to celebrate all veterans, not just those who died in battle.

And what a celebration it will be with Sunday's annual Tri-Valley Veterans Day parade putting Pleasanton's patriotism on display. More than 100 marching, walking and motorized units will fill Main Street starting at 1 p.m., making this the largest observance in Northern California.

Pleasanton's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298 and American Legion Post 237 host the parade, traditionally holding it ahead of the actual holiday so that our veterans and civic leaders can represent our city in other celebrations on Nov. 11.

This year's event will feature military and veteran color guards, march-

ing bands, horses, jeeps, Humvees and other military vehicles. Marching along the way also will be Girl Scout and Boy Scout organizations, Scottish pipe and drum units, the Alameda County Sheriff's Posse, elected officials from Tri-Valley cities, and veterans from Afghanistan, Iraq, Vietnam, Korea and even World War II.

The U.S. Army's 191st band as well as bands from Foothill High School, Oakland Military Institute and the Piedmont Bagpipe Band will play patriotic music along the parade route. A new feature this year will be flyovers by Korean War era helicopters.

The parade Grand Marshal will be retired Army Sgt. Shawn Coe, who was critically injured two years ago by a suicide bomber while on patrol in Afghanistan. He was medically retired from service last July and earned a scholarship from the Sentinels of Freedom to continue his education at Las Positas College.

On the reviewing stand with Tracey Buescher and me will be this year's reviewing officer, Lt. Col. Christopher Gerdes, garrison commander at Camp Parks in Dublin. A 24-year serviceman, Gerdes' assignments have taken him to Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Honduras, Germany and the Pentagon.

Immediately following, the veterans groups will host a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Building at 301 Main St. with a guest speaker and patriotic music provided by the Pleasanton Community Concert Band.

This year, the U.S. Marines and members of the P-Town Pushrods car club will collect Toys for Tots before, during and after the parade along the parade route, at the review stand in front of the Museum on Main and at the Veterans Memorial Building. Donors are asked to give only new, boxed toys as their contributions.

The parade will start next to the Veterans Memorial Building on Old Bernal Avenue and then continue north on Main Street to St. Mary Street. See you at the parade. ■

# Re-elect



# KATHY NARUM

## City Council

### Experience Matters

City Councilmember

- ★ Former Planning Commissioner
- ★ Past Parks and Recreation Commissioner



Preserve *HIGH QUALITY* of life

"...she wins our endorsement for re-election." Pleasanton Weekly 10/10/2014

- ★ Promote Sound Fiscal Policies
- ★ Support Vibrant Downtown
- ★ Sustain Strong Schools and Public Safety
- ★ Ensure Transparency in Government

"Narum best choice for Pleasanton City Council" Tri Valley Times 10/16/2014

### ENDORSEMENTS INCLUDE ORGANIZATIONS

The Pleasanton Weekly  
The Tri-Valley Times  
Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce  
Bay East Association of Realtors  
Lincoln Club of Northern California

### ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Nate Miley, Alameda County Supervisor  
Scott Haggerty, Alameda County Supervisor  
Robert Storer, Mayor of Danville  
John Marchand, Mayor of Livermore  
Bill Clarkson, Mayor of San Ramon  
David Haubert, Dublin City Council  
Ayn Weiskamp, EBRP Director  
Georgean Vonheeder Leopold, DSRSD Board Member  
Jerry Thorne, Mayor of Pleasanton  
Karla Brown, Pleasanton Councilmember  
Jerry Pentin, Pleasanton Councilmember  
Valerie Arkin, Pleasanton School Board Trustee  
Dave Melander, Former PLS School Board Trustee  
Tom Pico, Former Mayor of Pleasanton  
Frank Brandes, Former Mayor Pleasanton  
Bob Butler, Former Mayor Pleasanton  
Bob Philcox, Former Mayor Pleasanton  
Sharrell Michelotti, Former Council Member  
Nancy Allen, Planning Commissioner  
Jack Balch, Planning Commissioner  
Greg O'Connor, Planning Commissioner  
Gina Piper, Planning Commissioner  
Herb Ritter, Planning Commissioner  
Anne Fox, Former Planning Commissioner  
Jennifer Pearce, Former Planning Commissioner  
Phil Blank, Former Planning Commissioner  
Joyce Shapiro, Former Planning Commissioner  
Brad Hirst, Former Planning Commissioner  
Harvey Kameny, Former Planning Commissioner  
Larry Lindsey, Former Planning Commissioner  
Mary Roberts, Former Planning Commissioner  
Ted Kinzer, Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
David Lambert, Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
Joe Streng, Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
Deb Wahl, Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
Kurt Kummer, Former Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
Howard Seebach, Former Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
Jim DiBiase, Former Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
Karen Ellgas, Former Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
Mike Sedlak, Former Parks & Recreation Commissioner  
Prashant Jhanwar, Human Services Commissioner  
David Nagler, Human Services Commissioner  
Brock Roby, Human Services Commissioner  
Roz Wright, Human Services Commissioner  
Chuck Deckert, Former Human Services Commissioner  
Sandra Jellison, Civic Arts Commissioner  
Heidi Massie, Civic Arts Commissioner  
Stephanie Wedge, Civic Arts Commissioner  
Dave Wright, Former Civic Arts Commissioner  
Margene Gerton-Rivara, Former Civic Arts Commissioner  
Rudy Johnson, Former Civic Arts Commissioner  
Joan Nibert, Library Commissioner  
Tracy Dunne, Library Commissioner  
John Casey, Housing Commissioner

Ann Welsh, Housing Commissioner  
Joseph Butler, Former Housing Commissioner  
Justin Probert, Former Housing Commissioner  
Christine Steiner, Former Housing Commissioner  
Bryan Bowers, Economic Vitality Committee  
Al Lombardo, Economic Vitality Committee  
Janice Sangster-Phalen, Economic Vitality Committee  
Jay Galvin, Economic Vitality Committee  
Julie Casamajor, Former Trails Ad Hoc Committee  
Sue Compton, Former Trails Ad Hoc Committee  
Ursula Goldstein, Former Trails Ad Hoc Committee  
Peter MacDonald, Former City Attorney  
Angela Ramirez-Holmes, Zone 7 Board Member  
Dick Quigley, Zone 7 Board Member  
Bob Shapiro, YMCA Board Member

### COMMUNITY LEADERS

Angi Queenan  
Anne Roby  
Art Dunkley  
Barbara Pitl  
Bob Lane  
Bob Russman  
Bob Tucknott  
Brenda Sauter  
Brian Arkin  
Brian Damiani  
Bruce Jones  
Candy Wilbur  
Carol Moberg  
Carol Olson  
Carol Marshall  
Cathy Ritter  
Chris Ritter  
Chris Grider  
Chris Miller  
Connie Cox  
Daryn Oxe  
Dave Cunningham  
David Stark  
Derek Kvistad  
Dolores Bengtson  
Doug Christison  
Ed Meyer  
Ellen Pensky  
Eric Helmgren  
Esther Becker  
Erin Kvistad  
Erin Vanderzee  
Flo Bras  
Frank Capilla  
Gail Fairfield  
Gary Knowles  
Gene Pons  
Gisele Stickler  
Glen Haendel  
Holly Sander  
Jack Bras  
Jaclynn Shurtleff  
Jan Batcheller  
Jan Pegler  
Janeen Brumm  
Janet Yarbrough  
Jeff Narum  
Jennifer Amiel  
Jennifer Oxe  
Jenny Buck  
Jerry Hodnefield  
Jim Jellison  
Jim Lotz  
Jim Vlamis  
Joanne Gunson  
Joanne Meyer

John Shurtleff  
Jon Palleson  
Josine Pentin  
Judy Lloyd  
Judy Symcox  
Julie Eckroat  
Julie Nostrand  
Karen Pico  
Karl Hsu Kai Yang  
Kathi Vermont  
Kay Huff  
Kelly French  
Ken Mano  
Ken Petersen  
Kim Beatty  
Laura Darrow  
Les Duman  
Leticia Hyde  
Liz Streng  
Lori Skoglund  
Lou Rivara  
Lyn Walker  
Marianne Sensiba  
Marilyn Duman  
Marty Birk  
Marty Miller  
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Robin Dias  
Ron Capilla  
Ron Hyde  
Ronnie Heller  
Sandi Thorne  
Sandi DiBiase  
Sarah Warnick  
Sherri Hodnefield  
Shirley Wilson  
Stacey Flaming  
Steve Wahl  
Sue Shiller  
Susan Fox  
Susan Houghton  
Susan Miller  
Ted Fairfield  
Terry Beatty  
Tim Massie  
Tina Martin  
Todd Moberg  
Todd Tucker  
Tom Fox  
Tom Gallagher  
Tony Macchiano  
Tuny Dunkley  
Vaidyanathan Venkatesan  
Vera Revelli

### About the Cover

Campaign signs are posted across Pleasanton ahead of Tuesday's general election. Photos by Jeb Bing. Cover design by Lili Cao.

Vol. XV, Number 40

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

Paid for by Kathy Narum For City Council 2014 FPPC#1354971

The political arm of Pleasanton's Chamber of Commerce spent more than \$23,000 to elect Mayor Thorne to office.

The Chamber's political organizers supported Measure QQ, designed to thwart Permanent Protection of the hillsides and ridgetops surrounding Pleasanton.

*Mayor Thorne voted to put QQ on the ballot.*

The political arm's spending didn't buy Mayor Thorne's vote. The Chamber arm spent their money because Mayor Thorne already thinks like they do!

In 2012 the California Real Estate Independent Expenditure Committee (CREIEC) spent over \$23,000 on Mayor Thorne's behalf. CREIEC favors policies such as "flexible zoning" and "density bonuses".

*Does Mayor Thorne think differently?*

**RESIDENTS DESERVE A MAYOR THAT FIGHTS FOR THEM!**

**Not to fight against a City Hall that favors developers' interests above Pleasanton's neighborhoods.**

**VOTE  
MORRISON**

**for MAYOR**

**[www.electmorrisonmayor.com](http://www.electmorrisonmayor.com)**

# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND DOWNTOWN

## Do you believe that ghosts come to downtown Pleasanton for Halloween?



**Gayle Furukawa**  
*Retired*

Well I do believe in ghosts, and what better day for them to come out than on Halloween? And I think they come out on other days, too, not just on Halloween.



**Mahbob Yar**  
*Chemist*

I'm a scientist, so naturally I won't believe in ghosts until I actually see one, and I have yet to ever see one. So I guess my answer would have to be that I do not believe ghosts come to downtown Pleasanton on Halloween, or at any other time of year.



**Lisa Ma**  
*Elementary school student*

I think ghosts come to downtown Pleasanton on Halloween, but I think they are all fake and just wearing ghost costumes because my mom says real ghosts don't live in Pleasanton or even anywhere else in California.



**Juan Hernandez**  
*Middle school student*

Yeah, sure. Just like Santa Claus shows up with presents on Christmas.



**Byron Holmes**  
*Records department clerk*

I know there is a rumor that ghosts hang out all year round near Gay Nineties. I'm superstitious, so I believe it. I am planning to go out looking for them on Halloween night.

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

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

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## DIGEST

### Common Core forums

The Pleasanton Unified School District is hosting two Common Core math parent forums in November.

- Wednesday, 6:30-8 p.m.

Alisal Elementary School multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road. Focus: How to support your child in Common Core math at home, including an overview of the instructional models in mathematics.

- Nov. 12, 7-8:30 p.m.

Hart Middle School multipurpose room, 4433 Willow Road. Focus: How does Common Core prepare students for college, including the instructional practices that are supporting student success in 21st century college and career readiness.

Both meetings will be facilitated by the Alameda County Office of Education. Parents are encouraged to bring laptops or other devices for the interactive meeting. Chromebooks will also be available.

### Weekend voting

The Alameda County Registrar of Voters will be open this Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to allow voters to vote early for Tuesday's general election.

The office is open for voting today and Monday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Election Day voting hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Registrar of Voters office is located inside the Rene C. Davidson Courthouse at 1225 Fallon St. Room G-1 in Oakland. Weekend voters will access the office through the courthouse's 12th Street entrance. For more information, call the office at (510) 272-6973.

### Haugen scholarship

The Community of Character Collaborative invites all high school seniors in Pleasanton to apply for the annual Juanita Haugen Memorial Scholarship, which was created to honor longtime school board member Juanita Haugen.

The annual \$1,000 scholarships will recognize students who have a strong record of civic engagement and have demonstrated exceptional character by role-modeling the traits of compassion, honesty, respect, responsibility, integrity and self-discipline.

The deadline to apply is next Friday (Nov. 7). Selections will be made in mid-November to allow finalists to include the award on their college applications.

Applications are available at the school district Student Services Office located at 4665 Bernal Ave. or online by visiting [www.communityofcharacter.org](http://www.communityofcharacter.org) and clicking on the "Scholarship Info." tab. ■

## Ex-principal files lawsuit against PUSD

Civil complaint also names superintendent, deputy superintendent

BY AMANDA AGUILAR

Former Walnut Grove Elementary School principal Jon Vranesh has filed a lawsuit against the Pleasanton Unified School District but has not yet specified the amount of monetary damages sought.



Jon Vranesh

Vranesh, who was placed on administrative leave in October 2013 stemming from allegations he created a "hostile work environment" at the school site, has asked for "economic and non-economic

damages according to proof, reinstatement to his position with back pay, and punitive damages against the individual defendants ... according to proof," plus attorneys' fees.

A 165-page civil complaint filed Oct. 17 and obtained by the Pleasanton Weekly, names the Pleasanton school board, Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi and Deputy Superintendent Luz Cazares as defendants in Vranesh's "complaint for money damages and injunctive and declaratory relief."

On April 16, Vranesh filed a claim against the district, which is usually done before a lawsuit is filed. The 17-page letter informed the board members and Ahmadi of

Vranesh's "claims for money damages and injunctive and other relief against your local public or other entity, for amounts totaling significantly in excess of \$10,000 ..."

Vranesh's lawsuit outlines 14 sets of allegations against some or all defendants, including gender discrimination, breach of contract, wrongful termination, invasion of privacy, and violation of free speech and due process rights.

Regarding one allegation of "waste of public funds," Vranesh's complaint contends that unless "the unraveling of mismanagement and dysfunction at the Walnut Grove Elementary site is stopped, a further sum in excess of \$1 million will be expended on account of it."

Ahmadi declined to comment about the lawsuit.

"I regret that it has taken a filed claim for the superintendent and the board to address the matters I reported approximately two years ago," Vranesh said in a statement to the Pleasanton Weekly.

"I hope that my lawsuit will, in the end, have a positive impact on the district as we learn openly what events and actions have transpired in the district to cause this uneasiness and discontent," he added. "As a native to Pleasanton, I returned to my community as an educator to give back and make a positive impact on our community's youth,

See PUSD on Page 6



GOODGUYS

Over 2,500 vintage and custom cars will fill the Alameda County Fairgrounds during the Goodguys 25th Autumn Get-Together Nov. 8-9. American-powered show cars of all years, makes and models, such as these, will be featured outdoors as well as inside the Young California Building, Exhibition Hall and Hall of Commerce.

## Goodguys Autumn Get-Together to pay tribute to veterans

Nov. 8-9 event at Fairgrounds will be Goodguys final show for 2014

California hot rodders and classic car aficionados from all over the West will take over the Alameda County Fairgrounds Nov. 8 and 9 for one last fling before it's time to put the cars away for the winter.

The Goodguys 25th colorful, patriotic weekend celebration in recognition of Veterans Day will feature more than 2,500 candy-colored American vehicles and custom cars of all years, makes and models.

The Goodguys AutoCross will also feature fast-paced action as cars race the clock around the tight and twisty track on the blacktop.

As in past years, Goodguys will salute veterans and active military members during the weekend.

On Saturday, Nov. 8, a special ceremony is planned beginning at 12:30 p.m. with the Color Guard from Pleasanton's American Legion Post 237 posting the colors at the awards stage, followed by an invocation and live singing of the National Anthem.

Then the Goodguys organization will present a special Vette's for Vets parade. The parade route will take approximately 20 veterans up Palm Ave (the main drag inside the fairgrounds) riding in a string of convertible Corvette roadsters.

Goodguys is offering free admission to all current active duty military personnel as well as retired military personnel on Sunday, Nov. 9. Valid military ID will be required.

Paying tribute to veterans and active military has been a theme at the Autumn Get-Together for more than a decade, said Andrew Ebel of Goodguys.

"This is our chance to honor and celebrate our Freedom Fighters and Veterans," he added. "Seeing the classic cars waving American flags and saluting our military is as patriotic a scene as you'll ever see. It's always a special weekend for everyone involved."

The event also will feature specialty automotive exhibits. Inside the spacious Young Cali-

fornia Building will be a display of show trucks, featuring more than 50 special trucks including huge customized semi tractors, hot rod trucks and classic trucks.

The Hall of Commerce will have displays of elaborate Lowriders, courtesy of Deadend-Magazine.com.

Outdoors, the public will see show vehicles from early Ford hot rods to late model American muscle cars like the new Dodge Challenger Hellcat. Car clubs from all over the region will fly their banners and join the fun.

For the kids, Goodguys will offer free fun like the Model Car Make & Take (free model kits to kids), face painting and other games.

Show hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. General admission is \$18, kids 7-12 \$6. Fairgrounds parking is \$8.

For more information, sign on to the Goodguys website at [www.goodguys.com](http://www.goodguys.com) or call 838-9876. ■

—Jeb Bing

## City closes 2013-14 budget with optimism

Extra \$2.8 million in property, sales tax revenues allow added funds to reduce pension obligations

BY JEB BING

The Pleasanton City Council has closed the books on its 2013-14 fiscal year operating budget, revising projections for the current year upward based on better-than-expected revenue.

City Finance Director Emily Wagner told the council that the city is seeing revenue growth after years of belt-tightening on expenditures during the recession.

City Manager Nelson Fialho expressed "cautious optimism" about revenue growth, and said his focus will continue on controlling costs in the near-term.

"The local and regional economies, financial markets and employment costs remain unpredictable," Fialho said. "While our employee headcount is lower than at pre-recession levels, personnel costs are higher than four years ago in addition to the cost of materials, supplies and services."

"Our goal as a city is to sustain that impact going forward through conservative fiscal policies that will minimize future disruptions in service delivery to our community," he said.

In her presentation, Wagner also pointed out that the city's reserve fund should be replenished following the 2012 pay-off of the \$20 million debt of the Callippe Reserve Golf Course.

As a result of that payment, the

See CITY COUNCIL on Page 7

## PUSD

Continued from Page 5

and hope to continue to do so with this filing.”

The school board called a special closed-door meeting Oct. 22 to discuss the lawsuit filed by Vranesh, however no action was taken.

Vranesh, originally reassigned to an “itinerant principal” position last January, said he has held a special education teaching position at Village High School since being transferred there in late May.

He spoke publicly at the Oct. 14 school board meeting about the allegations made against him and criticizing what he called the district’s lack of honesty and accountability.

Vranesh argued that the district has not shown him any proof that he has done anything wrong or to justify paying him, a public employee, \$95,000 per year “to sit home and do nothing.” ■

*Editor’s note: A copy of the civil complaint can be viewed on the Pleasanton Weekly website by following this link: <http://bit.ly/1tBWCuQ>.*

**express**

Sign up today at  
[PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com)

## Mayors, regional leaders celebrate completion of Highway 84 phase

Widened Tri-Valley throughway now 4-6 lanes from I-680 to Stanley Boulevard

By JEB BING

Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne joined other city, civic and regional leaders this week in officially marking the completion of the first phase of widening State Highway 84 between the I-580 and I-680 freeways.

With this widening project, the Isabel Avenue segment of Hwy. 84 is completed as a four- and six-lane throughway from I-580 to Stanley Boulevard.

The next phase of improvement will widen the roadway to four lanes to the Ruby Hill Eastgate entry point at Pleasanton’s eastern edge. Eventually, plans call for widening Hwy. 84 to I-680, turning the thoroughfare into a junior expressway.

“This project will build a vital connection between Interstate 580 in Livermore and Interstate 680 through Pleasanton to Sunol,” Thorne said at Monday’s ceremonies. “These projects improve public safety and efficiency and provide multiple community benefits.”

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty said that with the improvements to Hwy. 84, the roadway reaches expressway standards of 55 mph drive speeds.

“These investments benefit Tri-Valley residents and Bay Area commuters alike,” Haggerty said. “A

healthy economy depends on a reliable transportation system and it is in our best interests to see that people and products move safely and efficiently throughout Alameda County. These projects help us meet that goal.”

Other speakers included Mayors John Marchand of Livermore and Tim Sbranti of Dublin, Caltrans District 4 Director Bijan Sartipi and Alameda County Metropolitan Transportation Commission chairwoman Amy Rein Worth.

Citing the Measure BB transportation tax measure on Tuesday’s Alameda County ballot, Thorne said the county’s transportation commission “has made its case with its 25-year track record of delivering projects efficiently and cost-effectively.”

“I’m proud that the Pleasanton City Council unanimously supported the 2014 transportation expenditure plan on next week’s ballot,” Thorne added.

“We know that economic growth happens when we invest in infrastructure,” Thorne said. “The 2014 plan will provide \$8 billion, yielding \$20 billion in economic activity for our region, and 150,000 jobs. That’s a strong return on our investment.”

The expressway widening proj-



JEB BING

Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne (left) joins other local representatives at ceremony marking the completion of the first phase of widening Highway 84 (Isabel Avenue). They are (from left) Maria Henderson, district representative for State Sen. Mark DeSaulnier; Christy Stanker, field representative for Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan; and Josh Huber, senior district representative for Congressman Eric Swalwell.

ect is the third of five in a series of projects to improve Hwy. 84. The first four projects, beginning with the I-580/Isabel Avenue interchange completed in March 2012, are funded by a combination of local Measure B, state and federal funds.

If voters approve the Alameda County 2014 Transportation Expenditure Plan next Tuesday, the final segment will be funded, completing the entire corridor between I-580 and I-680, Haggerty said. ■

# VOTE George Bowen <sup>4</sup>City Council

**My Vision** is to protect our historic small town identity from over-development and strengthen the attributes of Pleasanton that make it uniquely great. I will:

**EASE SCHOOL OVERCROWDING** through slow growth policies and working in partnership with our school board

Work with local water agencies to ensure **SUSTAINABLE CLEAN WATER**

**REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION** by minimizing cut-through traffic and widening Highway 84

**ATTRACT DESIRABLE BUSINESS** to our city, especially downtown

#### MY SUPPORTERS INCLUDE:

The Independent Newspaper  
The California Association of Highway Patrolmen  
Karla Brown (City Council member)  
Kay Ayala (former City Council member)  
Tom Pico (former Mayor)  
Frank Brandes (former Mayor)  
Steve Brozovsky (former City Council member and Vice Mayor)  
Matt Sullivan (former City Council member)  
Cindy McGovern (former City Council Member)  
Jamie Yee Hintzke (PUSD School Board President)  
Valerie Arkin (PUSD School Board Trustee)  
Nancy Allen (Planning Commissioner)  
Jack O’Connell (former California Superintendent of Public Instruction)

Karen Ellgas (former Parks & Recreation Commissioner)  
Dorene Paradiso (former Human Services Commission & Land Use Committee)  
Julie Testa (former City Commissioner)  
Kelly Cousins (East Pleasanton Specific Task Force member)  
Brad Hottle (East Pleasanton Specific Task Force member)  
Barry Cass (Housing Commissioner)  
Doug Miller (County Commissioner)  
Jody & Dan Wallem  
Ingrid & Stu Wetmore  
Sandy Fujino  
Tracey and Chris Buescher  
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George Bowen

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## TV30 broadcasting new episode of 'Tri-Valley Youth View'

Program represents work of students who attended summer camp

By JEB BING

A new edition of "Tri-Valley Youth View," a special TV program produced by middle and high school students who attended TV30's Summer Camp, is currently airing on TV30 and TV28.

For the sixth summer, Tri-Valley Community Television offered this unique TV Camp. Ten campers from Pleasanton, Danville, Dublin, Livermore and San Ramon participated in the five-day camp. This episode of "Tri-Valley Youth View" represents the work of students who attended the camp.

"This camp gives students the opportunity to talk with high level officials and other professionals in

the Tri-Valley," said Melissa Tench-Stevens, TV30 executive director. "The students developed questions for their guests with answers that are informative and interesting to any age group."

The hands-on TV Camp provided an introduction to the technical and talent aspects of studio and field production. The program was written and produced by students who range in age from 12-17 years old. Students researched and wrote questions, acted as crew for all the production positions and were the talent for the program.

Guests on the current hour-long shows included Mike Harris,

Livermore police chief; John Lawrence, assistant general manager of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District; Art Dao, executive director of the Alameda County Transportation Commission; Terick Albert, special projects officer of Fremont Bank in Pleasanton; Mark Davis, KKIQ radio personality, and Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne.

Tri-Valley Youth View is being broadcast on Comcast channels TV30 and TV28 and on AT&T U-Verse TV channel 99. In addition, the show may be viewed via Video on Demand anytime on the station's website at [www.tv30.org](http://www.tv30.org). ■

## CITY COUNCIL

Continued from Page 5

city is now construction-debt free for the first time in a decade.

The council concurred with her recommendation to apply \$2 million toward that goal, resulting in the city's General Fund reserve ending the fiscal year with a balance of \$15.1 million.

The council also adopted Wagner's recommendations to apply \$2.8 million in additional property and sales tax revenues toward the following:

- The city's unfunded pension obligation (\$928,584) to mitigate the impact of smoothing the negative amortization of the city's unfunded pension liability by the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)
- Additional funding for the repair and replacement funds for the city's infrastructure, equipment and parks (\$939,546)
- Additional funding for the Worker's Compensation Reserve for non-firefighting employees.

Although the city streamlined its

workforce with a hiring freeze and through attrition during the recession, benefit premiums for CalPERS have gone up, offsetting any savings.

The city's Replacement/Renovation Funds provide ongoing replacement and repair to equipment such as vehicles, traffic signals and streetlights, as well as major repairs and renovations to city facilities, parks and medians, in order to extend their useful lives.

For the first time since 2007, that fund is now at sustainable levels, Wagner said. ■

## Pleasanton police open medication disposal site

Those who want to dispose of outdated or unwanted prescription drugs will no longer have to wait for a National Drug Take-Back event.

The Pleasanton Police Department and the city of Pleasanton, along with the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD), have announced the opening of a new pharmaceutical disposal site at the Pleasanton Police Department, 4833 Bernal Ave.

The pharmaceutical collection bin is located in the lobby and is accessible to the public 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Both controlled and non-controlled prescription medications and over-the-counter medications will be accepted.

Police officials say there has been a growing concern about expired and unused pharmaceuticals in homes because they're susceptible to accidental ingestion, theft, misuse and abuse.

According to the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, almost 6.8 million Americans currently abuse pharmaceutical controlled substances — more than those abusing cocaine, hallucinogens, heroin and inhalants combined.

In addition, nearly 110 Ameri-

cans die every day from drug-related overdoses, and about half of those overdoses are related to opioids — a class of drug that includes prescription painkillers.

Additionally, the American Water Works Association said exposure to certain pharmaceuticals results in abnormal development and reproduction in fish and other wildlife, even at very low levels.

Pleasanton police, along with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, host regular National Drug Take-Back events.

Pleasanton has collected more than 2,700 pounds of unwanted pharmaceuticals from the public.

When disposing unwanted pharmaceuticals, follow these guidelines:

- While at home, pour unwanted pills (no sharps or aerosols) into a plastic bag and seal the bag.
- Recycle prescription bottles after removing or blacking-out all labels containing personal identifying information.
- Bring bags to the police department and drop them in the collection bin.
- Leave liquid medications in their original containers, removing or blacking-out personal identifying information, and drop in the collection bin. ■

—Amanda Aguilar

# MEASURE BB is RIGHT for the TRI VALLEY.



**Measure BB** provides funds for improvements on the I-580/I-680 interchange, SR-84 and other critical Tri-Valley commute corridors.



**Measure BB** doubles the funding for Tri-Valley street and road repairs. This means millions more for filling potholes and reducing local traffic.



**Measure BB** will make it possible to expand BART service along the 580 to Livermore.

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### SCOTT HAGGERTY SAYS YES ON BB!

"Measure BB will reduce traffic, protect our seniors with accessible and affordable transportation and bring BART to Livermore! Yes on BB."

— **Scott Haggerty**, Alameda County Supervisor



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## School board delays vote on textbook sufficiency

Resolution to be brought back at next board meeting

By AMANDA AGUILAR

After holding a public hearing on the sufficiency of textbooks, instructional materials and laboratory science equipment Tuesday, the Pleasanton school board agreed to hold off on deciding on the issue until the next school board meeting.

In addition, Trustee Valerie Arkin asked school district staff to provide information about any new state legislation related to whether online resources or photocopies meet Education Code Section 60119 — which currently states, “Sufficient textbooks or instructional materials as defined (here) does not include photocopied sheets from only a portion of a textbook or instructional materials copied to address a shortage.”

Trustees Arkin and Jeff Bowser expressed concerns that the district might not be in compliance with the code section.

However, staff recommended the board approve the resolution declaring text sufficiency because staff had been given sufficient instructional materials for mathematics, science, history-social science, English/language arts (which includes the English language development component of an adopted program), world language and health.

Three parent speakers, as well as Trustees Arkin and Jamie Hintzke, addressed the board about some students not having a mathematics

textbook to take home.

Pleasanton parent Paige Wright, a school board candidate, contended that at a middle school, a teacher told students that there was no textbook and to “just take notes.”

Parent Lisa McMasters said her seventh-grader and high school sophomore have not been provided any textbook and are referred to an online resource for math.

“I’m tired of hearing ‘Change is hard,’” McMasters said. “Change is only hard if we are not implementing it correctly. Let’s embrace this change and make it work for our students, teachers and community.”

According to coordinator of curriculum and special projects Lisa Hague, the online or photocopied materials should be used as a supplement to the district-adopted textbooks — especially while the district is piloting materials to align to the Common Core State Standards.

In addition, teachers have been told to give textbooks out to their students, according to district officials. Pleasanton schools superintendent Parvin Ahmadi said that if this is not happening, parents are encouraged to let the district know so officials can respond.

District officials agreed that there was some miscommunication that needs to be followed up on, and said they would continue to find ways to communicate better with parents and teachers about the

transition process.

In other business Tuesday:

- The board approved 4-1 in closed session the appointment of Marcel Baker as Hart Middle School’s vice principal. Arkin dissented.

- Baker comes from the Oakland Unified School District where he was a middle school assistant principal at Alliance Academy. He replaces Tom Domer, who accepted a vice principal post at a San Carlos middle school in September.

- The school board recognized five students for demonstrating this month’s character trait of responsibility.

- Mabel Song, fifth grade, Fairlands Elementary School

- Addison Johnson, fifth grade, Walnut Grove Elementary School

- Natalie Gatzke, seventh grade, Pleasanton Middle School

- Jalyssa Raygoza, 11th grade, Village High School

- Caroline Lopez, 12th grade, Horizon High School.

- Two women from the Hayward branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) addressed the board during the community comment session about their concern over blogs saying negative things about the school district and superintendent.

“The superintendent and school board are doing a great job,” Othella Jordan told the trustees. “Don’t fix what isn’t broken.” ■

## Livermore Lab seminar at Las Positas College to deal with explosives

Free public program to feature veteran researchers, scientists

Two Livermore Lab scientists will discuss energetic materials and explosives next Wednesday in the second of this year’s annual Science and Engineering seminars at Las Positas College.

Jon L. Maienschein, director of the Energetic Materials Center at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Sabrina C. DePiero, deputy group leader for the lab’s Energetic Materials Group, will explore the overall issue of “Theory to Practice: How Science Gets Done.”

The discussion will start at 6 p.m. Nov. 5 in the college’s Multi-Disciplin-

ary Building Lecture Hall, Room 2420.

The seminar is part of an ongoing joint effort of Las Positas College and Lawrence Livermore Labs to bring the lab to the greater community so that it can share its research.

In their presentation, Maienschein and DePiero will explain how energetic materials really work. They will show some of the research techniques used to study them today at the lab, highlighting several current activities, including the study of homemade explosives.

Maienschein has held a variety of technical and management posi-

tions for over 30 years. His areas of study include hazards response, detonation performance, thermal characterization, aging effects, explosive safety and worker training energetic materials handling.

DePiero has worked at the lab for the last eight years doing explosives research. Her focus has been primarily on formulation and characterization of homemade explosives.

Although the seminar is open and free to the public, visitors are reminded that the campus has a \$2 parking fee. ■

—Jeb Bing

## Hearst Elementary teacher struck by vehicle

Incident prompts safety warning for student drop-off/pick-up

A school resource teacher was struck Monday by a slow-moving vehicle in the crosswalk area near the Hearst Elementary School multi-use building, school principal Elias Muniz said in a notice sent out that afternoon.

Lisa Kobb was hit before school in the drop-off area, located on Case Avenue.

The teacher did not appear to have suffered major injuries, ac-

cording to Muniz. Pleasanton police were called, and Kobb was transported to the hospital for treatment observation.

“We are continuing to gather information about the accident this morning in order to determine the cause and determine what, if any, additional safeguards are needed,” said Muniz.

The principal has asked teachers to review pedestrian and bicycle

safety rules with their students in class this week.

In addition, he has also asked parents to review some rules for drop-off and pick-up procedures.

- Low speed
- No cell phones
- Keep eyes on the road
- Look for pedestrians
- Respect and follow directions of staff members on duty. ■

—Amanda Aguilar

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## TAKE US ALONG



**Such great heights:** Geoff and Penny Johnson, and Jan and Tom Pappas enjoyed a rest with the Pleasanton Weekly after a helicopter ride from Juneau, Alaska to Mendenhall Glacier. The aerial adventure was part of their cruise on the Star Princess, where Geoff celebrated his 75th birthday and Jan celebrated her 67th birthday.

## Do you need ID theft insurance or credit monitoring?

By JASON ALDERMAN

You'd have to be living under a rock not to be concerned about identity theft. It seems like every other month there's a new report about another massive data breach somewhere in the world.

Not surprisingly, a thriving industry has sprung up around helping to protect consumers from identity theft. Most of these services are pretty expensive and many consumer organizations argue that they merely take actions you could easily carry out yourself for free. But if you don't have the time or wherewithal, you may want to enlist a professional to help unravel the mess.

Following are some of the identity theft prevention services being marketed, as well as questions to ask when considering them.

ID theft insurance is commonly offered as a rider to homeowners or renters insurance and typically costs \$25 and \$60 a year. Note: it doesn't protect you from being victimized in the first place nor does it cover direct monetary losses resulting from identity theft. Rather, it reimburses costs associated with reclaiming your financial identity (e.g., phone calls, making copies, mailing documents, wages lost when pursuing resolution and hiring an attorney).

Questions you should ask:

- What are the policy's limits?
- Is there a deductible?
- If lost wages are covered, what limits apply and what triggers this coverage?
- If legal fees are covered, what limits apply and must the insurer pre-approve the work?
- How much personalized assistance will you get — will they assign a case manager to execute on your behalf or merely give you a checklist to follow?

Credit monitoring services track your credit reports and contact you whenever key changes occur, things like new accounts opened in your name, address changes, credit inquiries and increased credit limits. They usually cost from \$10 to \$30 a month, and services provided are all over the map.

For example:

- Some monitor and provide credit reports from all three major credit bureaus; but some only track one.

- More expensive plans provide additional services including monitoring public records, black market website surveillance, and computer protection programs like antivirus and keystroke encryption software.

- Some provide one or more free (or low-cost) credit scores.

Keep in mind when considering whether to buy credit monitoring:

- Many creditors report information to all three credit bureaus, but some only report to one, so your three credit reports may contain different information.

- Because many lenders only report activity to credit bureaus monthly, it could take weeks before your monitoring service spots fraudulent behavior.

- Ask how you'll be notified of flagged changes (email, text and/or mail) and how frequently (daily, weekly, monthly).

- You can order one free copy of each credit report from [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) per year, so by staggering them, you could get a different report every four months.

If you know, or fear that an account has been compromised but don't want to fully block access to your credit reports through a credit freeze, you can place a free, 90-day initial fraud alert with the three credit bureaus. This means businesses must verify your identity with you before opening new accounts.

You can renew the alert after 90 days. If you don't want to be bothered remembering, some monitoring services will file your renewals for a fee.

For more tips, see the Federal Trade Commission's "Privacy and Identity" page at [www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/privacy-identity](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/privacy-identity).

Bottom line: Do you want to monitor your own credit (which is free but time-consuming) or hand off the task to a third party and pay hundreds of dollars? Either way, make sure it gets done. ■

*Editor's Note: Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. Follow him on Twitter, @PracticalMoney.*



Jason Alderman

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## Amador Valley High's marching band to host 'March-A-Thon'

The Amador Valley High School marching band and its 330 student members are hosting a March-A-Thon to raise funds for the band's 2014 competitive season.

Now through next Tuesday (Nov. 4), the public is invited to sit in on the band's last half-hour of practice to hear and witness the students' hard work, dedication, camaraderie and professionalism.

The band's performance can also be seen tonight at its pre-game show

when the Dons play De La Salle and again at the band's halftime show.

Amador will perform again at 8:30 p.m. Saturday during the Dublin High School Irish Band Show.

The March-A-Thon is a primary fundraising event for the marching band, sponsored by Amador Friends of Music Band Boosters. Band promoters said the band will march more than 34 hours in practice and at football games this season. ■

—Jeb Bing

## California ranks third worst on business taxes

California has the 48th best (or third worst) tax climate in the U.S. according to the latest edition of the State Business Tax Climate Index, released this week by the nonpartisan Tax Foundation.

The Golden State's rank remains unchanged from its 48th place ranking last October.

The index, now in its 11th edition, measures how well-structured each state's code is by analyzing over 100 tax variables in five different categories: corporate, individual income, sales, property and unemployment insurance taxes.

States are punished for overly complex, burdensome and economically harmful tax codes but are rewarded for transparent and neutral tax codes that do not distort business decisions. A state's ranking can rise or fall significantly not only because of its own actions, but also because of changes or reforms made in other states.

The breakdown of California's ranking this year is as follows (first is best, 50th is worst):

- California's overall State Business Tax Climate ranking: 48th
- Corporate tax structure: 34th
- Individual income tax structure: 50th
- Sales tax structure: 42nd
- Property tax structure: 14th

- Unemployment insurance tax structure: 14th

"The federal government is gridlocked, but state policymakers on both sides of the aisle are enacting truly fundamental reforms," said Scott Drenkard, Tax Foundation economist and manager of state projects. "States are doing their part and it's time that Washington (D.C.) steps up."

The report's key findings include:

- The 10 most competitive states (listed from first to 10th) are: Wyoming, South Dakota, Nevada, Alaska, Florida, Montana, New Hampshire, Indiana, Utah and Texas.

The 10 least competitive states (listed from 50th to 41st) are: New Jersey, New York, California, Minnesota, Vermont, Rhode Island, Ohio, Wisconsin, Connecticut and Iowa.

The most notable ranking changes occurred in North Carolina, Nebraska, North Dakota, New York, Wisconsin, Maine and Kansas.

The goal of the State Business Tax Climate Index is to start a conversation between taxpayers and policymakers about how their states fare against the rest of the country, according to the foundation. ■

—Jeb Bing

## Supermarket workers' union reaches deal with Lucky, Save Mart stores

UFCW 8-Golden State, the union that represents supermarket workers in Northern and Central California including Raley's and Safeway, has reached a tentative contract agreement with Save Mart Supermarkets, a Modesto-headquartered company that also owns Lucky stores in Pleasanton.

"This tentative agreement is a model for aligning labor and management's interests to create a 'win-win' approach toward serving everyone's needs: our members, our customers and the company," said Jacques Loveall, president of UFCW 8-Golden State.

"It provides top wages and the finest health care and pension benefits in the grocery industry," he said.

The settlement caps more than a year of negotiations and affects some 5,500 union members at

approximately 110 Save Mart, S-Mart and Lucky stores.

The agreement will be submitted to union employees for ratification. Members will receive mail ballots and materials explaining the details of the tentative agreement in the next few weeks.

The parties have agreed not to release full details of the tentative agreement until union members have had the opportunity to review and ratify the tentative agreement. Members' ballots will be counted in November.

"Thanks to the unity of our members, we were able to reach a solid agreement for employees of Save Mart Supermarkets," Loveall said.

Negotiations are continuing with representatives of Raley's and Safeway, Inc. ■

—Jeb Bing

## State calls Anthem Blue Cross rate hikes 'excessive, unreasonable'

In a blistering attack on Anthem Blue Cross, California Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones said last week that the health insurer's average 9.8% premium increase on 120,000 members in small group health insurance policies is unreasonable.

This latest increase is the fourth consecutive rate increase by Anthem on small employers that the Department of Insurance found excessive and unreasonable.

This fourth-quarter rate increase for Anthem's small group policyholders imposes an average rate increase of 9.8%, while over the last 24 months Anthem has raised rates on members in these small group policies an average of 24.9% "Anthem Blue Cross is once again imposing an unreasonable rate increase on its small employer members, while continuing to make excessive profits of over 20%," Jones said.

"Small employers continue to struggle in this recovering economy and only dream of having the level of profits that Anthem and

other health insurers have as they continue to increase their rates each year," Jones added. "Unfortunately, California does not have the authority to reject excessive health insurance rates, unlike 35 other states which have this authority."

The Department of Insurance's finding that Anthem's rate increase is unreasonable is based on Anthem's return on equity or profits, its pre-tax pricing margin and what Jones said is its "unjustified high-pricing trend of 8.6%, which includes a prescription drug trend of 21.4%, and its failure to adjust the rate for the better health status of its remaining members."

Jones added, "For the fourth consecutive time, over two years, Anthem has decided to implement an excessive and unjustified rate increase on small employers. This pattern and practice of excessive premium increases has a cumulative impact on the bottom line for California small businesses and yet, we are powerless to stop it."

"Anthem's refusal to lower this excessive rate increase means that

small businesses will be charged \$33 million in excessive premium and their only choices are to drop coverage or shop for other coverage, which often means a change in benefits or medical providers for their employees."

The department's conclusion that Anthem's rate increase is excessive and unreasonable is based on data provided by the company and a comprehensive analysis by the department's actuaries. The department's health actuaries reviewed all aspects of the rate filings, including past claims history, utilization trends, medical and administrative costs, return on equity, and many other elements of the rate, and determined it was unreasonable.

However, Jones' authority is limited to reviewing rate filings, with no authority to stop excessive health insurance rates from being imposed on policyholders. Neither state nor federal law makes the commissioner's determination binding on the health insurers. ■

—Jeb Bing

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## Halloween takes over downtown

Pleasanton residents come together for Scavenger Hunt, Brew Crawl

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KATE LYNSS



Jason and Liz Jennings dressed up for the downtown Brew Crawl on Saturday.

**D**owntown Pleasanton was crowded with costumed residents of all ages last Saturday for the annual Scavenger Hunt and Brew Crawl in advance of Halloween.

The Scavenger Hunt started at 10 a.m. at Towne Center Books on Main Street, where children 10 and younger were invited to come in costume to pick up instructions, a Halloween bag and their first clue.

From there, children traveled up and down Main Street and other areas of downtown, searching for clues and winning small prizes and treats from local vendors. More than a dozen downtown businesses participated in the family-friendly event.

The Kenney family of Pleasanton participated in the scavenger hunt for their

fifth consecutive year. Blake Kenney, a fifth-grader at Walnut Grove Elementary, said "some of the clues are really hard, but some are very easy."

His younger brother Landon, a second-grader at Walnut Grove, commented that "every year, we love to solve all of the clues and get lots of candy."

The annual hunt is a popular downtown event for families and business owners alike.

Later Saturday, older Halloween fans got in on the fun with Brew Crawl.

Some 33 locations — spanning from Handles Gastropub and the Main Street Brewery on the north end to McKay's Taphouse, which plans to open to the public by the

end of the year, on the south end — opened their doors to "crawlers" who made their way from establishment to establishment, sampling local craft beers.

Brew Crawlers Keely Cork and Tony Guerrero, who dressed in costume as a police officer and her prisoner, said they enjoyed the opportunity to "try new things and see the different downtown businesses. We try to get to all the locations and enjoy spending time with our friends and each other while doing it."

Another costume-coordinated pair, Jason and Liz

Jennings, who attended the event for their second time, said they appreciated "seeing everyone getting into the holiday spirit a week before Halloween. It provides a fun activity for the community."

Business owners also commented about enjoying the event.

Dean Mancini, the owner of specialty pet supply store Murphy's Paw, said that though the Brew Crawl provides extra publicity for his business, "it's more important that this event is for the community."

"I host a brew location as my way of being an active participant in the downtown," Mancini said. "I don't do it for the sales, but rather for the community's good will, and I enjoy that aspect of it. If it helps out our sales, that's just an additional perk." ■

*Editor's note: Kate Lyness is a senior at Amador Valley High School.*



Young Scavenger Hunt participants (from left): Keaton Franklin, Annalisa Couture, Coleson Franklin and Gavin Couture.

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# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Suspected prostitutes arrested for robbery at Motel 6

Two women and a man were arrested in Pleasanton on Oct. 22 after police allege the trio robbed a San Ramon man who had arranged to meet in a hotel room for paid sex.

Pleasanton police said they responded to the Motel 6 on Hopyard Road just after 4:30 p.m. that day after receiving a report about a possible robbery.

When officers arrived on scene and contacted the San Ramon man, he reported that he had solicited adult services for \$200 on a website called " backpage.com" — a site police say is commonly used to solicit prostitution.

The man, whose name was not released, arrived at the room, was contacted by three people and then decided he did not want to follow through with the online arrangement, according to police reports.

But the trio demanded he pay the \$200, according to police.

Police allege that when the man refused to pay, one of the women — later identified as 25-year-old Alexis Venable — shot the man with a stun gun while continuing to demand the \$200.

The second woman, later identified as 25-year-old Harmony Peters, produced a second stun gun and threatened to assault the man if he did not pay the money owed to them, according to police.

Investigators allege that while the male victim was being stunned, the third assailant — identified as Daniel Castrillo — stole the man's cellphone.

Venable, Peters and Castrillo were arrested on suspicion of robbery and booked at the Santa Rita Jail. Pleasanton police warned citizens that soliciting adult services on websites such as backpage.com can often lead to being victimized by criminal activity.

In other police reports:

- Pleasanton police detectives have arrested two Pleasanton men in connection with a stabbing that occurred in the Pleasanton Plaza parking lot on Oct. 20.

Detectives detained Franco Estay, 21, as they served a search warrant at his home Oct. 25, said police, who allege Estay was the person who stabbed the male victim several times in the upper body in front of the Plaza Speed Wash.

The investigation revealed that the victim had been involved in some type of dispute with Estay, which led to the stabbing, according to police.

Earlier this week, detectives also arrested 24-year-old Arturo Sanchez Jr., who was identified as having driven Estay away from the scene after the assault, police said.

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office has filed charges against Estay for attempted murder and against Sanchez for being an accessory to the crime, according to police.

The identification of the defendants was made possible, in part, by high-quality surveillance cameras located in the area the crime occurred, police officials said.

Both men were booked at Santa Rita Jail. The victim has been released from the hospital.

- Pleasanton police made two arrests Oct. 25 after a man was spotted apparently trying to remove a catalytic converter from a car in an apartment complex near the Zone 7 Arroyo pumping station located south of Owens Drive.

Police were called by a resident who saw a man crawling under his Toyota Sequoia. Since the car owner previously had his catalytic converter stolen and had installed additional security measures to prevent another theft, the culprit was unable to remove the device, according to police.

Investigators reported that the suspect was found underneath another nearby Toyota when officers arrived.

Police Lt. Scott Rohovit said officers found 29-year-old Eduardo Labitoria under the Toyota attempting to remove a catalytic converter. Officers ordered him to come out from under the vehicle, but when he did, he took off running and climbed over a fence into Zone 7 property.

Rohovit said police surrounded the area and eventually apprehended Labitoria without incident.

Further investigation revealed Labitoria's vehicle on Hopyard Road had five catalytic converters inside — all believed to have been stolen. They also found a second person, 47-year-old Diana Cabaccang, in the car. Police allege Cabaccang was in possession of methamphetamine.

Labitoria, who also had an outstanding felony warrant, was arrested on suspicion of tampering with a vehicle, possession of burglary tools, and delaying and obstructing an officer. Cabaccang was detained on suspicion of possession of a controlled substance.

The two Stockton residents were taken to Santa Rita Jail.

- A Livermore woman was arrested Oct. 26 when a probation search following a jaywalking stop allegedly revealed she was in possession of drugs, stolen mail and others' personal information.

An officer reportedly contacted Leanna Leal Geiger, 25, after she crossed the roadway on a red pedestrian signal at the intersection of Owens and Johnson drives, according to police. The officer conducted a records check and discovered Geiger was on probation with a search clause, police said.

Investigators allege that when the officer conducted the search, a large amount of methamphetamine, stolen mail and personal information for many people were found in Geiger's purse.

Geiger was subsequently arrested on suspicion of identity theft, mail theft, possession of methamphetamine and receiving stolen property.

- Sorenson Communications on Hacienda Drive was reportedly burglarized some time between Oct. 23 and 24, said police.

The unknown culprit broke a glass window, climbed through the window, and stole a Sony Handy Cam video camera, which is worth approximately \$300, according to police reports.

Police were able to obtain a fingerprint from the window sill and a shoe sole impression from a piece of broken glass — both have been entered as evidence in the case.

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

—Amanda Aguilar



## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### Civic Arts Commission

Monday, November 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Selection of One (1) Commissioner to Serve on a Cost Recovery and Pricing Plan Committee
- Approve Civic Arts Funding Criteria for FY 2015/16 Community Grant Program
- Review Two (2) Designs for Project Paint Box

### Human Services Commission

Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley FY 2013/14 Service Agreement and Final Performance Report
- Discuss FY 15/16 Housing and Human Services Grant Statement of Priorities
- Selection of One (1) Commissioner to Serve on a Cost Recovery and Pricing Plan Committee
- Review of Commission Meeting Schedule for 2015

\*\*\*\*\*  
The City Council is currently accepting applications for a vacancy on the Tri Valley Conservancy. The Tri-Valley Conservancy is a community organization whose mission is "to permanently protect the fertile soils, rangelands, open space and biological resources, and to support a viable agricultural economy in the Tri-Valley area." For more information visit <http://www.trivalleyconservancy.org/>. If you are interested in applying, please visit our website at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov).

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)

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made this information available.

### Oct. 19

#### Domestic battery

- 8:55 a.m. in the 4400 block of Valley Avenue

#### Shoplifting

- 1:18 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### DUI

- 11:55 p.m. at the intersection of Tanager Drive and Tahoe Court

### Oct. 20

#### Theft

- 11:10 a.m. in the 1000 block of Kolln Street; theft from auto

- 2:12 p.m. in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Drive; theft from auto

- 11:18 p.m. in the 4300 block of Black Avenue; bicycle theft

#### Embezzlement

- 11:28 a.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

- 4:45 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Battery

- 6:03 p.m. in the 4200 block of First Street

### Oct. 21

#### Theft

- 7:51 a.m. in the 1200 block of Greenwood Road; theft from auto

- 10:59 a.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from structure

- 11:32 a.m. in the 7400 block of Hillview Court; theft from auto

- 1:01 p.m. in the 1300 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from structure

#### Drug violation

- 7:52 a.m. in the 3500 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Burglary

- 7:53 a.m. in the 7400 block of Hillsdale Drive

#### Vandalism

- 1:08 p.m. in the 2500 block of Secretariat Drive

- 11:08 p.m. in the 1800 block of Valley Avenue

### Oct. 22

#### Theft

- 10:40 a.m. in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

- 8:16 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from structure

#### Graffiti

- 11:12 a.m. Street information not disclosed.

#### Robbery

- 4:31 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

### Oct. 23

#### Theft

- 1:09 p.m. in the 2800 block of Hopyard Road; theft from auto

- 2:23 p.m. in the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue; bicycle theft

- 6:30 p.m. in the 5800 block of Owens Drive; auto theft

#### Missing person report

- 4:53 p.m. in the 5600 block of Springhouse Drive

#### Residential burglary

- 8:20 p.m. in the 7600 block of Hillsdale Court



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## Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

By JEB BING

**A**lthough much of the attention in next Tuesday's national election is in the U.S. Senate where many independent observers give the GOP a better-than-decent chance of winning enough seats to take back the majority in the upper chamber, the outcome is far from a sure thing. And while Pleasanton voters will be watching the national returns, the excitement locally will focus mainly on a number of too-close-to-call races for State Assembly, Pleasanton City Council and the school board.

It's estimated that nearly half the voters have cast their ballots already, meaning that county registrars, who have already tabulated those votes, can start reporting vote-by-mail results when the polls close at 8 p.m. Tuesday. But still, as always, it's likely the votes cast at polling places across the city and region, which are counted last, will determine who's won.

Some analysts are predicting high margins of victory for Gov. Jerry Brown and Congressman Eric Swalwell, whose opponents are lesser-known Republicans in a state that is largely Democratic. But there the sure-fire predictions end.

Certainly the race between Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti and Republican Pleasanton attorney Catharine

Baker, also a Dublin resident, appears to be a dead heat in their bid to replace termed-out Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan in the 16th State Assembly District. The two are facing off after winning an expensive primary contest where Baker finished with more than 36% of the vote to Sbranti's 30% in the district that runs from Pleasanton north to Lafayette and Walnut Creek.

Sbranti, a teacher at Dublin High School, has the backing of local Democrats and the California Teachers Association, which helped raise more than \$1.5 million for his primary campaign.

A wild-card in that primary campaign was Steve Glazer, a Democratic councilman from Orinda, who campaigned on a promise to seek legislative action to block future BART strikes. Baker has picked up that clarion call in hopes of generating some of Glazer's crossover votes in addition to a strengthened Republican Party in the Tri-Valley.

Uncertainty also prevails in the Pleasanton Unified School District, which is seeing its most competitive political race in recent years. Incumbents often generate strong support, particularly in school board races, because they're better known.

But that doesn't appear to be

helping current board members Joan Laursen and Jeff Bowser, who are facing tough opposition from challengers Paige Wright and Mark Miller.

Calling for a change, the two newcomers to school politics are campaigning on promises to end what they see as turmoil on the current board, where problems ranging from a school principal's ousting to a controversial school calendar change, to security on school campuses and teacher tenure, to differences over the introduction of Common Core teaching tactics have often filled the school board's meeting room with complaining parents.

Bowser, currently serving his fourth year on the school board, said that he voted in favor of the calendar

change because it helps reduce student stress. Laursen said the calendar change addresses students' summer learning loss. Miller disagrees, saying that there is no data to support the benefits Bowser and Laursen suggested.

In response to the Common Core debate, all the candidates believe it will bring a positive change to schools. However, challengers Miller and Wright argue that the implementation of Common Core hasn't been the best. "Especially with math, the implementation has been rocky," said Miller, who added that the district should have started implementing it in the elementary schools then

gradually start working up towards the higher grade levels.

When asked about security measures on school campuses, all candidates agree that campuses need to increase or have stronger security measures in light of school shooting incidents elsewhere. Both Bowser and Wright added that it's important to look at the mental health aspect also.

"In Sandy Hook, in Columbine, there were issues that caused these people to do what they did," Wright said. "So maybe if we start looking at mental health and start treating some of the problems, we can reduce the number of incidents."

"It's about understanding what struggling children are going through," Bowser said. "We do need to provide more mental health services and work in partnership with the county in order to help



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Over 100 supporters came out for a recent catered campaign party for City Council candidate George Bowen, shown here speaking to the crowd. Attendees included former mayors Frank Brandes and Tom Pico, current councilwoman Karla Brown and former councilwoman Kay Ayala.



JEB BING

Seeking re-election, Mayor Jerry Thorne and Councilwoman Kathy Narum are flanked by Don and Frances Hewitt, who hosted a campaign rally at their home in Pleasanton.



Candidates for the Pleasanton school board in the Nov. 4 election are (from left) Mark Miller, Joan Laursen, Paige Wright and Jeff Bowser.



Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti, who is seeking election as 16th District State Assemblyman.



Former Pleasanton Planning Commissioner Arne Olson, seeking election to the City Council.



Pleasanton attorney Matt Morrison, seeking election as the city's mayor.



Republican 16th District State Assembly candidate Catharine Baker with her husband Dan gets a thumbs-up from her parents Sandy and John Bailey at GOP primary election night party at San Ramon Golf Club.

provide those services to students.”

Both incumbents stressed the need for experience on the school board. Bowser points to his “deep roots” within the educational community. For the last half of his career, he has worked in technology, helping bring technology to schools. This combination of an education background combined with a business background is a valuable asset to steer through some of the challenges members face while on the board, Bowser said.

Laursen said that when it comes to public education, experience matters. She cites her understanding of the educational issues and proven commitment over the years to “always put students first.”

But Miller is critical of both Bowser and Laursen. He said they have stopped listening to the community, and he believes it's time for a change. Wright said she wants to “bring our district back to where it should be.”

In the equally stimulating Pleasanton city election, there's no clear front-runner although here incumbency may count for more votes than in the school board race.

Most observers give the edge to Mayor Jerry Thorne to win reelection. Challenger Matt Morrison has never held public office and has been focusing on restraining further growth in the city, recalling the views of mayors Ben Tarver and Tom Pico in the 1990s.

Yet his message has resonated with no-growth coalitions from the past who have put their campaign boots back on after being riled up by Thorne's and the City Council's recent rezoning of properties for high-density housing and, especially, their willingness to consider plans for more housing on Pleasanton's East Side.

Thorne, in his campaign, reviews accomplishments during his first term as mayor, which include paying off all of the city's construction debt, bringing millions of dollars in new business to Pleasanton (includ-

ing CarMax on Staples Ranch, Clorox, a major expansion of Workday and the Stoneridge Creek retirement community), and achieving a certified housing element that allows Pleasanton to continue planning and issuing permits without state interference. If re-elected, he also said he would support the upgrade of Pleasanton's Pioneer Cemetery to park standards. “Our cemetery is more than just a cemetery. It is a part of our history,” he said.

Still housing concerns and growth are helping City Council challenger George Bowen gain traction in a race with four candidates vying for two available council seats. With the help of his neighbors in the Parkside area adjacent to Ken Mercer Sports Park and former Councilwoman Kay Ayala's coalition, Bowen is challenging Council-

woman Kathy Narum, former Planning Commissioner Arne Olson and Economic Vitality Committee chairwoman Olivia Sanwong.

Citing the rezoning actions by the council, Narum and Olson said those were done to meet state- and court-mandated orders that Pleasanton provide more high-density housing for those who work here but haven't been able to find affordable places to live. Now that those demands have been met, they added, the council will only approve new housing applications required to meet updated state housing requirements.

With regard to the East Side, Sanwong said she has no objections to a task force completing the planning process for the area. However, she said housing growth in Pleasanton has brought with it more

traffic and school overcrowding, and added that she would want to look at the city's infrastructure, traffic, public safety, library and more to determine their capacities before approving any new housing.

Issues that differentiate the candidates include Measure BB, a countywide transportation tax that is on the November ballot. Three candidates — Narum, Olson and Sanwong — said they support the measure because, among other benefits, it would pay for the widening of Highway 84 and help fund the extension of BART to Livermore.

Bowen said he will vote against Measure BB, which, he pointed out, has a 30-year shelf life and “will be asking our grandchildren 30 years from now to be paying for the benefits that we receive today.” ■



Pleasanton Economic Vitality Committee chairwoman Olivia Sanwong, seeking election to the City Council.

AMANDA AGUILAR

JEB BING

JEB BING

JEB BING

JEB BING

JEB BING

# Pleasanton Weekly endorsements

For the 50% of you who haven't yet voted by mail — saving that special privilege for Election Day on Tuesday at the polling place — many of us will be joining you in lines that may not be all that long based on estimates that turnout in this mid-term election could be small.

We hope not because there are very competitive races at stake for State Assembly, Pleasanton City Council and the Pleasanton school board.

Here again are the Pleasanton Weekly's recommendations:

For Mayor of Pleasanton: Jerry Thorne.

For Pleasanton City Council: Kathy Narum and Arne Olson.

For Pleasanton School Board: Joan Laursen and Mark Miller.

For 16th State Assembly District: Tim Sbranti.

For 15th Congressional District: Eric Swalwell.

Whatever your choices, be sure to vote on Nov. 4. ■

## LETTERS

### Experience matters

Dear Editor,

Our City Council requires vision, dedication and a passion for Pleasanton. That passion we have come to know and respect is represented by Kathy Narum, current council member.

Exhibiting experience, familiarity, vitality and the heart it takes to honestly represent the citizens of Pleasanton, Kathy has a great grasp already of what our community needs.

Kathy understands the political process, and not only desires quality; she will continue to demand it. Listening intently and taking concerns to heart, she will continue to work diligently; maintaining our trust.

I urge you to contact Kathy as she welcomes the opportunity to meet you and express her commitment to the issues that concern you. She is fervent about our thriving, growing community, with public safety, state-regulated growth and downtown enhancements as her top priorities. Kathy deserves your vote on Nov. 4.

As a former Planning and Parks and Recreation commissioner, and in her current seat, Kathy has proved that re-electing her to City Council is of great merit to us.

Keep Pleasanton vibrant ... Vote for Kathy Narum, City Council.

—Carol Marshall

### Recent Streetwise question

Dear Editor,

In the Oct. 17, 2014 edition of the Pleasanton Weekly, a Streetwise question was asked: "Assume that your house is on fire, and all people and pets are already out safely. You have time to go inside to retrieve one thing. What would it be?"

The question contradicts itself: "All people and pets are out safely." Now the house is occupied with someone running back in to retrieve something more valuable than a life! How do you know this person is safe now?

In elementary school and fire-house visits, we are taught to "get out and stay out." Never go back

in! Statistics do not favor people who run back into house fires because conditions inside a house on fire can change very rapidly for many reasons.

I am disappointed that the question was posed to a elementary school-aged student and saddened that three out of four adults would have run back into the house. One adult got it right — there is nothing in the house worth going in after.

—Glen Haendel  
Retired fire division chief

### Elect Olson

Dear Editor,

Please elect Arne Olson to the Pleasanton City Council on Nov. 4. Arne is intelligent, considerate of all opinions, city experienced and a consensus builder. His eight years of service on the Planning Commission emphasized neighborhood protection and improvements, and attracting new business and jobs to Pleasanton.

Arne puts forth commonsense solutions and those things that benefit the entire city. Elect Arne.

—Brad Hirst

### BB: Smart investment in our future

Dear Editor,

Measure BB, on the November ballot, provides Alameda County with the opportunity to plan for our future, with affordable, safe and efficient transportation to meet our local needs.

Good local transportation systems require careful, long-term planning. The network of roads, BART and public transit in Alameda County that keep seniors, students and people with disabilities mobile and able to live, work and play independently didn't just spring up out of nowhere — it is the result of advanced planning.

Every dollar this plan will invest has been carefully measured and calibrated to have maximum impact in Alameda County for Alameda County residents. The plan mandates tight safeguards for administrative spending, annual audits and ongoing monitoring by an independent citizens watchdog committee. The organization that will implement Measure BB has a AAA Fitch rating and is restricted

to 1% administrative costs.

Measure BB has been reviewed by many prominent advocacy organizations, like the League of Women Voters and the Alameda County Taxpayers' Association. After careful review, they have decided to encourage a Yes vote on Measure BB. Local publications like Pleasanton Weekly and The Independent have also endorsed a vote of Yes on Measure BB.

Join this broad coalition of business leaders, community groups, watchdog organizations, the Sierra Club and the cities of Alameda County; all have endorsed BB. Vote Yes on Measure BB!

—Jamie Belden

### Protect the East side

Dear Editor,

We, the residents of Pleasanton, have another fight. For years we had to fight to protect our West side and then the South side, and together we won. The overzealous developers tried very hard, sued the city and Pleasanton residents' associations a few times, but we succeeded in saving our West side and the South side from over developing.

Now we have the same battle on the East side. The developers have the current Mayor and some of the candidates for the two council seats in their back pockets. The city met our obligations for housing that the state required, not just for now but for a few more years. The reason to overdevelop Pleasanton and look like some cities, where you just see just housing and housing and nothing else, does not exist.

But Mayor Thorne has not seen a developer's money that he cannot refuse. Most candidates for council seats are backed by developers, except George Bowen. It is time to take the city back and have responsible planning and keep Pleasanton the way it is.

Matt Morrison stands out as someone who will work to protect the East side and work for the residents of Pleasanton. The same goes for Bowen. He will work to protect the interests of the residents of Pleasanton. East-siders and the rest of residents of Pleasanton, your vote is important and vote to stop over develop-

ment. Vote for Morrison as Mayor of Pleasanton and vote only for Bowen for council.

—Rajinder Ghatoaura

### Support for challengers

Dear Editor,

I have long been concerned about overcrowding in Pleasanton schools. Every Pleasanton school is overcrowded; any new growth impacts the quality of life for existing residents.

Pleasanton Unified School District has done a very poor job of preparing for growth; they have been poor stewards of taxpayer capital facilities dollars. PUSD illegally took millions of taxpayer dollars and still left our district with millions of dollars in facilities debt.

Our City Council has been approving thousands of housing units knowing that every Pleasanton school campus exceeds Pleasanton planning guidelines, with no plan or ability to build needed schools.

I will not vote for current community leaders who are not standing up to this threat to our community. They are supporting unmitigated growth, knowing the only solution will be another large tax on existing residents.

I will vote for new perspective. I will vote for Matt Morrison for Mayor, George Bowen for City Council, and Wright and Miller for School Board.

—Julie Testa

### Vote for Wright, Miller

Dear Editor,

I'm endorsing Paige Wright and Mark Miller for School Board because it is critical that board regains the trust of the PUSD community. This will only happen if our schools are administered in an honest, unbiased approach to issues.

The community needs to invest in our schools, which will not happen with the current levels of mistrust and skepticism in the decision-making and eventual solutions of the current board majority and administration. We need, and deserve, genuine, effective community outreach and communication to facilitate community input and opinions that are not dismissed as irrelevant or meddling.

The self-serving APT leadership

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feels (as per an email recently sent out to all teachers) that it is important to retain the status quo to keep the board in their pocket. This community understands that the board is elected by the parents to provide a balanced approach that is in touch with the needs of the students first, then parents and all staff, not just teachers.

I've been a PUSD parent, involved volunteer and fundraiser since 2001, and a highly respected and reviewed employee since 2007. I have spoken before the board on numerous occasions only to be met with disdain and disinterest and incumbents who are more interested in their iPad than receiving input and comment from the community that they were elected to serve.

Pleasanton, we can and must do better than this. Please join me in supporting Paige Wright and Mark Miller for School Board on Nov. 4!

—Linda Pipe

### Yes on Measure BB

Dear Editor,

Many Tri-Valley citizens think that Measure BB is all about BART. It is not. Measure BB would pay for highway improvements in our area, safer pedestrian and bicycle paths, and amazing transportation programs for Tri-Valley seniors and disabled.

The Tri-Valley area remains geographically isolated relative to other cities within Alameda County. Many critical services are located outside of the Tri-Valley, including specialty medical and behavioral health care. As a result, transportation is one of the most significant barriers to receiving essential care. There are many low-income Tri-Valley seniors who struggle to obtain rides to their medical appointments.

Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley's Volunteers Assisting Seniors with Transportation (VAST) Program supplements existing public and paratransit services by providing door-through-door service for seniors to their medical appointments. Volunteer drivers and staff transport fall-risk seniors enabling them to travel safely in and out of the county in order to access critical medical care.

If Measure BB loses, we all lose. Adult children of elderly parents will have to use much of their sick time to transport their parents to their medical appointments. The worst part is that many of our seniors do not have children that live close by. These seniors will not be able to make it to their critical medical appointments and their health will fail. These seniors will be prematurely institutionalized in skilled nursing sites, which will cost us approximately \$90,000 a year.

Let's invest our money wisely. Be proactive and vote "Yes on Measure BB!"

—Jennifer Cullen

### Vote for school board change

Dear Editor,

It is time to end the powerful grip the unions have on

the school board and the mindless compliance the rubber-stamping incumbents have toward the superintendent. Please join me in voting for Paige Wright and Mark Miller for school board.

In the early 1970s, a couple of years before Watergate, Wallace Carroll's Winston-Salem Journal won the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for blocking strip mining in the mountains of Appalachia where even 40 years ago, the youth were provided math textbooks. However, here in Pleasanton, in the year 2014, many of the youth have no math textbooks.

In 2003, when I was appointed to the PUSD Strategic Planning Committee, never in my worst nightmares did I ever expect the most outlandish venomous attack in Pleasanton history campaign, with district administrators and the incumbents ousting a well-respected principal. There was more due process in the Salem witch trials than what has occurred recently in our town.

Who wants to find themselves the subject of PUSD's next target of outrageous accusations making them sound like a cross between Fidel Castro, the Godfather and Rain Man? No one. No wonder dozens of principals/vice principals have fled.

The superintendent's tumultuous tenure now includes backroom deals with union negotiators to shorten summer with the public left in the dark. The school board is elected to represent the community and must operate with transparency.

Our kids in the community deserve better. Please join me and vote for Paige Wright and Mark Miller.

—Anne Fox

### Stop runaway growth

Dear Editor,

Pleasanton is about to see more development than we have seen in many years. The only way you can slow down this runaway train is to vote for a slow growth City Council majority. We have the opportunity to do just that right now by electing Matt Morrison for Mayor and George Bowen for Council.

Working in unison with stalwart current council member Karla Brown, Matt and George will give us a chance to put the brakes on indiscriminate growth. Together they will bring us back to reasonable, well thought-out development and put an end to an old-boy approach that has basically thrown careful deliberation right out the window of city hall's chambers.

Pleasanton doesn't need any more housing than has already been approved to meet RHNA (Regional Housing Needs Assessment) requirements. But with only one current slow-growth advocate on a city council, we could be in for rapidly accelerating indiscriminate growth for years to come unless we act now.

It's really simple, if you want "our town" to retain the peace and charm that we've found here, please cast your vote for Matt Morrison for Mayor and George Bowen for City Council.

—Mark Emerson

### Vote for Bowen, Thorne, Narum

Dear Editor,

I urge Pleasanton voters to elect George Bowen to the Pleasanton City Council, and re-elect Mayor Jerry Thorne and City Councilmember Kathy Narum.

The addition of George Bowen to the City Council will best represent those who want a new and fresh perspective regarding growth issues. Unlike other candidates who will be beholden to huge special interests like the Sierra Club or powerful unions, Bowen will bring a mature, independent and balanced perspective to issues.

Perhaps the best indicator of Bowen's appeal is that he is surprisingly drawing endorsements from a wide variety of Pleasanton citizens, people who do not often support the same candidate.

Please vote for George Bowen, Jerry Thorne and Kathy Narum on Election Day.

—Doug Miller

### For Paige Wright

Dear Editor,

In the coming PUSD School Board election, I urge you to vote for Paige Wright, a new voice for the community during these challenging times.

As one who has been involved in the schools for many years as a PTA executive board member and president, school and community volunteer, and as one having eight years of experience within PUSD as a substitute teacher in grades K-5, Paige understands and knows first hand the challenges that must be overcome:

- 1) Implementation of Common Core, where no child is left behind;
- 2) balancing parent and community concerns with setting policy — listening and insisting on transparency; and
- 3) supporting the needs of teachers and school site administrators and staff who are educating our most valuable asset — our children — as the district faces mandated change, budgetary constraints and uncertain state funding.

Our children are our greatest asset, and Pleasanton's schools so very important to this community. Paige Wright will bring a new and needed perspective to the Pleasanton School Board.

Please join me in voting for Paige Wright for School Board on Nov. 4 — the "Wright" choice for Pleasanton!

—Sharrell Michelotti  
Former Pleasanton City Council member, 1994-2002

### Support for Narum

Dear Editor,

I am writing in support of Kathy Narum for City Council. She will continue to go the extra mile for her community and wants the citizens to have a voice.

As an existing council member, she is knowledgeable, and has first-hand experience of Pleasanton and our citizens. She is in favor of open spaces, improving our downtown and keeping control of our growth.

She understands the details of the job at hand, and awarded your vote; will earn your trust. Vote November 4 for Kathy Narum!

—Todd Moberg

### Pleasanton's mayoral candidates

Dear Editor,

There's an old saying that "actions speak louder than words." Earlier this year Matt Morrison wanted a seat on the Zone 7 Water Board. On June 3, he didn't get elected, finishing last. Two months later he declares he wants to be Pleasanton's mayor. Does it bother anyone else that being our mayor was his second choice?

Morrison has made much of the fact that he was born and raised here. During the 50+ years he's lived here he has never served on any commission, committee or task force. He has no practical training in government process or practice. It's just common sense that you don't give the keys to the Ferrari to someone who doesn't know how to drive.

Morrison tosses out figures for

the East side that are meant to frighten but fails to tell you that the largest number mentioned (1,300) is, at this point, only a suggestion and the other nine possibilities being looked at all call for less development not more.

We need someone experienced, knowledgeable, and ready to lead. That person is Jerry Thorne. He has said, in writing, that he will not build more than is required by law or make changes to the East side without letting the citizens vote on those changes.

If we speak, he will listen. Vote Jerry Thorne for Mayor of Pleasanton.

—Jim Jellison

### Choice is simple: No on Prop 1

Dear Editor,

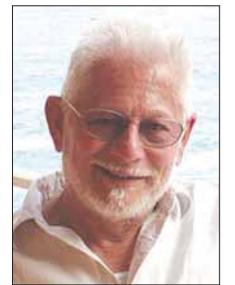
Pleasanton voters have the drought on their minds — locals are tearing up their lawns and replacing them with drought-tolerant landscapes. But as we tear up our lawns, Prop 1, the \$7.5 billion

See **LETTERS** on Page 18

## Gary Dean Logan

December 9, 1938 - August 20, 2014

Gary Dean Logan passed away on Wednesday, August 20th after a short yet valiant battle with liver cancer; he was 75 years old. He touched so many lives with his gentle spirit and lively sense of humor. Gary's remarkable life included extraordinary achievements in spite of his humble beginnings. His resilience and goodwill were clearly demonstrated through his effortless charitable endeavors and love for children.



Gary was born in San Francisco, Ca, raised in Santa Barbara, Ca and later moved to Independence, MO. He was introduced to The Andrew Drumm Farm for underprivileged children at the age of 13. Soon after, it was determined that Drumm Farm would become Gary's new home. During his residency, Gary attended East High School, graduating in 1956. After serving in the Navy for four years, Gary returned to California where he enjoyed a 54 year career in the electronics industry. He worked for companies such as Mel Labs, Zeta Labs, Shugart Associates and FlexStar.

As a result of an acquisition of FlexStar's disk drive repair facility, he started his own company. As Founder/CEO of BigByte Corporation for 25 years, Gary leaves behind a legacy of great influence and tangible accomplishments.

Gary is survived by his children Keely Lozano (Tino) of Prunedale, CA, Michael Logan of Merced, CA, and Cari Brockett of Sonora, CA. Grandchildren Chris Raymond (Cinthia) of Rocklin, CA, Sean Raymond of Prunedale, CA, Stevi Torres (Mario) of Sonora, CA and Kennedy Brockett of Sonora, CA. Great-Grandchildren Isabella and Camille Raymond of Rocklin, CA and Cali Torres of Sonora, CA and a host of cousins and relatives.

Gary was predeceased by his mother Phyllis Lyon Logan, brother Donald Logan, father Kenneth Walter Logan and his sister Joyce Elaine Herrington. He would also want to recognize his beloved canine sons which passed before him: Prescott Miles Logan, Bentley Ross Logan and Jack Prescott Logan.

Family requests that a donation be made to:

Drumm Farm Center for Children at <http://www.drummforkids.org>

Select "Give Today" check Tribute and fill in: Gary Dean Logan

**LETTERS**

Continued from Page 17

water bond on the November ballot, is set to tear up our wallets. If Prop 1 passes, taxpayers will spend \$14.4 billion including interest with little return. By adding to the state's staggering \$770 billion burden, Prop 1 will also take general funds away from public education and healthcare.

Prop 1 proposes we spend \$2.7 billion more to build storage projects — and that means dams — that will funnel water past the Tri-Valley and straight to the Central Valley. The projects of the legislators who demanded their inclusion in the bond include raising the Shasta Dam and building the Temperance Flat Dam on the San Joaquin River and Sites Reservoir in the Sacramento River. All the money, time and work invested in these projects will increase the water supply by a meager 1%.

Prop 1 offers the entire state just \$100 million for water conservation and \$200 million for stormwater

capturing projects. This tiny drop in an enormous, dry bucket is insignificant and insulting to residents who are taking individual action to confront the drought head on.

Don't be fooled by Proposition 1's proponents: Taxpayers should not be forced to incur billions of dollars in debt to pay for useless dams. In this time of need, does it make sense for Pleasanton to invest in false-solutions?

—Shoshanna Howard

**Vote for Bowen**

Dear Editor,

I am casting my ballot for George Bowen for Pleasanton City Council. George is a breath of fresh air on the local political scene, and he has opened my eyes and understanding to plans our city has for hundreds of high-density units.

It makes so much sense to me that Pleasanton currently is challenged with traffic and full schools. We all are feeling the pinch of this year's drought on our water system. It is hard to imagine what our schools and traffic will look like

once thousands of new residents take their places. As an example, we all get antsy waiting at the Stanley-Valley intersection; think about what it will become once hundreds of new units are built on the north-east corner and surrounding area.

We have known George for more than 25 years. He has been an unselfish friend, a tireless and modest community worker, and a wise and thoughtful leader. Please join me in voting for George and preserving our very special community.

—Jody Wallem

**Support for Miller, Wright**

Dear Editor,

I am supporting Paige Wright and Mark Miller for Pleasanton School Board. For too long, the district has been biased, secretive and evasive in their approach to decision-making. As a result, an atmosphere of distrust in our community has been allowed to develop and fester.

The current board majority is routinely dismissive of the public's documented concerns and is lacking humility. Both Paige and Mark will approach their duties with concern, transparency, open minds and willingness to communicate as befits a member of the Board of Trustees.

They know that students always come first. They are not politicians. They will help restore this district to the shining example it once was and the Community of Character it

professes to be. Please join me in supporting Paige Wright and Mark Miller for the Pleasanton School Board.

—Mary Snell  
Pleasanton resident and parent,  
PUSD employee

**Backing Narum**

Dear Editor,

I once lived in Sacramento, observing city election politics for the blood sport it is. Hit pieces and innuendos define a Sacramento city political campaign.

Pleasanton election politics instead appears to be civil and respectful.

But we shouldn't be fooled into believing it's all that. To be transparent, I support Kathy Narum for City Council. She is absent a rabid ideology blinding her from a balanced perspective and with a work ethic outpacing a normal person. Kathy is not in anyone's pocket other than the one that holds a "dogooder" card.

So why are people claiming that if the current council remains (as in "don't re-elect Kathy"), we'll have a 2,200 home development in East Pleasanton? No one is coming right out and saying Kathy supports building those homes. That would be a Sacramento-like hit piece. Instead, it's by innuendo, as if voters are being let in on a backroom deal.

The cold fact is Kathy has never said she supports building 2,200 homes in East Pleasanton. Instead, she has repeatedly said anything

built there must be timed properly and reflect the look and feel of Pleasanton. And she has not supported any other new housing since the Council voted unanimously to permit those needed to respond to losing the court case.

So why hang the worst option around Kathy's neck amongst a bunch of options for East Pleasanton? It's an inaccurate, unfair and unnecessary mischaracterization. Pleasanton is supposed to be better than that.

—David Nagler

**Vote logically**

Dear Editor,

We must use some logic when it comes to casting our votes. If you stand by a swinging door that hits you every time someone passes through, the logical thing would be to move away to avoid being hit. Apply this logic to voting.

If you continue to be "hit" by the political policies year after year, it would seem logical not to keep voting the same names election after election. Logic would say, do your homework on candidates and issues before voting. It is not the best policy to vote a name just because you've seen it on TV or on a sign.

Find out what each candidate supports. Read the fine print on issues in your voter information guide and make your decisions on solid facts. Voting the same way over and over, and expecting better results, is an exercise in futility.

—Phyllis Couper



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

# Sports

## PREP LINE-UP

### Today

- Football: 7 p.m., Foothill at Granada
- Football: 7 p.m., De La Salle at Amador

### Nov. 4

- Girls Volleyball: 6 p.m., Livermore at Foothill
- Girls Volleyball: 6 p.m., Monte Vista at Amador

at Amador

- Girls Tennis: 3:30 p.m., Amador at Foothill

### Nov. 6

- Girls Volleyball: 6 p.m., Amador at Foothill

### Nov. 7

- Football: 7 p.m., Foothill at Amador
- Amador & Foothill Cross Country: 1 p.m., EBAL Championships at Shadow Cliffs Park



COURTESY OF TRI-VALLEY KARATE

## Pleasanton karate dojo notches recent titles

Two athletes from the Tri-Valley Karate dojo in Pleasanton earned first place in recent tournaments, including a 5-year-old who was competing in her first event. Top: John Crose (center) finished in first place in the 35 and older men's advanced Kata division at the Fiestas 41st Annual Invitational - International Karate Championships on Sept. 14. Left: Neela Mandal took home her first-ever karate title in the 6 and under beginner Kumite division at the U.S. Wadokai Karatedo Federation 2014 Ajari Cup Karatedo Tournament in Oakland on Oct. 12. She captured the gold by besting a lineup that consisted entirely of boys taller than her, according to dojo representatives.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## All Rage in Halloween tourney

Dressed as "apps" from the App Store, the Rage U12 Orange (Pleasanton Team 2) recently won Brentwood's annual Halloween BooFest Tournament. The squad went undefeated during the four-game competition en route to earning its second tournament title of the fall.

Shown: (top row, left to right) head coach Jarreth Chan, Audrey Googins, Bella Segundo, Sophia Ghoddoucy, Kylie Weed, Sydney Walsh and Kate Derham, (middle row) Ella Camp, Samantha O'Brien, Eva Bull and Rylee Scanlon, and (bottom) Stephanie Lee, Reese Lombardi, Penny Murphy, Faith Johnson and Meghan Penrice. Team members not pictured are coach Kevin Whitehand, Jenna Benner, Lizzy Shriber and Danielle Caccamo.

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<p><b>Wild Sea Cucumber</b></p> <p><b>\$9.99/pack</b></p>	<p><b>Norwegian Mackerel</b></p> <p><b>\$1.99/lb</b></p>	<p><b>Nongshim Shin Cup Noodle</b> 6/pack</p> <p><b>\$4.99/pack</b></p>	<p><b>Hanasia Korean BBQ Sauce</b> (Selected Varieties) 17 oz/34.6 oz</p> <p><b>\$2.99/ea</b></p>
<p><b>Pomegranate</b></p> <p><b>99¢/ea</b></p>	<p><b>Cucumber</b></p> <p><b>49¢/ea</b></p>	<p><b>Nongshim Cup Noodle</b> (Selected Varieties) 6/pack</p> <p><b>\$4.99/pack</b></p>	<p><b>Hanasia Seasoned Seaweed</b> 9/pack</p> <p><b>\$2.79/pack</b></p>

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## Events

### COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON THE ALVISO ADOBE STRATEGIC PLAN

The City of Pleasanton will host two community meetings on the Alviso Adobe Strategic Plan, which is intended to develop a mission, vision and strategic plan with short-term and long-term goals for Alviso Adobe Community Park, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 5-6 at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Contact Susan Andrade-Wax, Community Services Director, at 931-5340 or sandrade-wax@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

### GIRLS NIGHT OUT NETWORKING MIXER

GNON, NuSkin and Hairlights Salon will host a networking opportunity for women at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at Hairlights Salon. With raffle prizes, great food and fun. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. RSVP and prepay required by Nov. 3. Go to <http://www.gnon.org/rsvp.html>.

### TRI-VALLEY HAVEN HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Join for the Tri-Valley Haven Holiday Craft Fair from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 6 at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Shop for unique handcrafted items made by local artisans and support the Haven's services for survivors of abuse, assault and

homelessness. Go to [www.trivalleyhaven.org](http://www.trivalleyhaven.org).

### TRI-VALLEY VETERANS DAY PARADE

The Pleasanton American Legion Post 236 will host the 2014 Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 2 on Main Street in downtown Pleasanton. The parade will feature flyovers by Korean War era helicopters, the US Army 191st Band, and bands from Foothill High School, Oakland Military Institute, and the Piedmont Bagpipe Band. Marching units will include Color Guards from all branches of the service as well as local veteran organizations. A special unit, the Star Wars 501st Legion will be present as well. Additionally, Toys for Tots will be collecting toys for children in need in the Tri-Valley region. Join this special event to honor our veterans.

## Exhibits

**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS** The public is invited to view altars created by community members in honor of their deceased loved ones for Dia de Los Muertos, from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1 and 1-4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 2 at the Pleasanton Library. Altar space applications are available at the library. Applications due

Wednesday, Oct. 29. Free and open to all. Call 931-3400 ext. 4.

## Lectures/ Workshops

### COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES

**'NAVIGATING SPECIAL EDUCATION'** Cheryl Theis, MA, an Education Advocate with the Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, will present "Navigating Special Education" at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at the Pleasanton Library. Register for this free program at [pleasantonfun.com](http://pleasantonfun.com) using code 59250 or at the event.

### LOCAL WATER CHALLENGES

A panel of Zone 7 and City of Pleasanton water experts, co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters and Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin AAUW, will present Valley water policies and issues at a public meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 6 at Lynnwood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. Questions from the public are welcome. Call 443-7957 or go to [www.aauw-lpd.org](http://www.aauw-lpd.org).

## On Stage

**CREATURES OF IMPULSE PRESENTS 'NIGHTMARE'** The Bay Area's

## PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

### Celebrate Halloween with Henna

This black-and-white domestic short-hair cross is a beautiful cat whose love will never fade. Henna is the kitty that you should consider making yours and giving her a forever and permanent home. Meet Henna at the East Bay SPCA Dublin Adoption Center located at 4651 Gleason Drive in Dublin. For more information, visit [www.eastbayspca.org](http://www.eastbayspca.org) or call 479-9670.

award-winning teen improv troupe will present their live, improvised horror show at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1. A special late-night show (costumes encouraged) for ages 14 and up only will be at 9 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 31. All shows at the Firehouse Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students. Call 931-4848 or go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Seniors

**AGING AND LOSS** Loss is built into life at every stage. For older adults losses come in greater number and frequency, and can lead to sadness and isolation. Explore what these losses mean and how to grow beyond them at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 4 at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Call 931-5365.

Pleasanton is widely recognized as a premier community in which to live, work and do business. The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce believes that local businesses and residents share core values and community goals and that business has a critical role to play in the efforts to maintain and sustain those things that bring value to the community. Pleasanton businesses contribute nearly 60% of the local tax base and is the economic engine that has made our city USA Today's fourth most desirable place to live in the nation.



# For a Strong Local Economy, Vibrant Community, and Great Schools Vote...

### MAYOR



Jerry Thorne

### CITY COUNCIL



Kathy Narum



Arne Olson

### SCHOOL BOARD



Joan Laursen



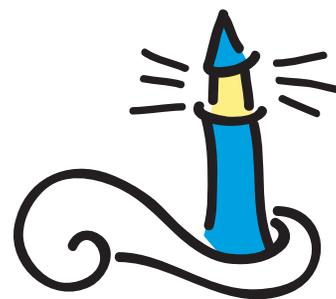
Paige Wright

## Vote Yes on BB

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## Bulletin Board

### 115 Announcements

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### 245 Miscellaneous

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Single Copy route available to deliver the Pleasanton Weekly, an award-winning community newspaper, to approximately 60 newspaper racks and businesses in Pleasanton on Thursdays. This is an independent contractor position. Compensation is \$65.00 per week. Must be at least 18 y/o. Valid CDL, reliable vehicle and current auto insurance req'd. Please email your experience and qualifications to zallen@pleasanton-weekly.com.

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Looking for friendly, honest, and detail-oriented worker for Dry Cleaners in Danville. \$10+/hour M-F:8am-2pm Every other Sat:9am-4pm. Contact Bliss: 510-418-1471

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### 560 Employment Information

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### 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

### 805 Homes for Rent



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Mid Century Modern Beauty! Loads of light and loads of privacy! Maple floors, skylights, gourmet kitchen with granite counters, upgraded stainless appliances (refrigerator, dishwasher, cook top), formal dining area, living room with wood burning fireplace, family room, redone bathrooms, two car attached garage, lush atrium and lovely yard with the tastiest perimmons ever! Did I mention the views of the hills are breathtaking? Two year lease with one month security deposit. Available immediately. Lynn Levin, Prudential CA. Realty, BRE#00885447, 510-593-7377

### 809 Shared Housing/Rooms

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Lonely? Bored? Broke? Find the perfect roommate to complement your personality and lifestyle at Roommates.com! (AAN CAN)

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## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

UME SUSHI JAPANESE RESTAURANT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 497441 The following person(s) doing business as: UME SUSHI JAPANESE RESTAURANT, 4855 HOPYARD ROAD, SUITES 6 & 7, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Park, Sung Ik, 35513 Purcell Place, Fremont, CA 94536; Park, Young Mi, 35513 Purcell Place, Fremont, CA 94536. This business is conducted by a Married couple. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Park, Sung Ik. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/21/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21; 2014)

MD SPA OF PLEASANTON FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 496507 The following person(s) doing business as: MD SPA OF PLEASANTON, 531 MAIN STREET, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Robert F. Gray MD Inc., 531 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 11/12/2004. Signature of Registrant: Robert F. Gray, MD, FACS, Owner and President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 09/25/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7; 2014)

MCT DEVELOPMENT & CONSTRUCTION; INVESTIGATIVE BUSINESS CONSULTANTS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 496650-1 The following person(s) doing business as: MCT DEVELOPMENT & CONSTRUCTION; INVESTIGATIVE BUSINESS CONSULTANTS, 125 W. NEAL STREET, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael M. O'Callaghan, 3425 Arbor Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 01/02/2002. Signature of Registrant: Michael M. O'Callaghan. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 09/30/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7; 2014)

DRIFT CO. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 497515 The following person(s) doing business as: DRIFT CO., 711 MAIN STREET, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Salon Vivace Inc., 4441 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is

conducted by a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Denise Oxsen, Owner-CEO; Rachel Oxsen, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/22/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21; 2014)

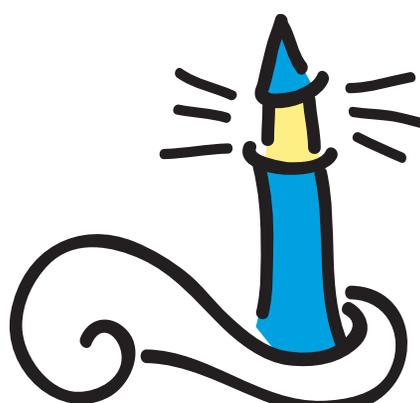
### 997 All Other Legals

Case No. RG12640691  
NOTICE OF DAMAGES SOUGHT BY DEFAULT C.C.P. AS425.10, 425.11, 580; CIVIL CODE AS3295  
ASSIGNED FOR ALL PURPOSES TO THE HON. KIMBERLY E. COLWELL, DEPT. 18 NOTICE TO Defendant O.F. Lending Group, Inc., an unknown business entity; Defendant James Rivera, an individual; Defendant Tiffany Carr, an individual; Defendant Gregory Lomba, an individual (collectively "Defendants"); Plaintiffs Mary Kate Cunniff, Mitchell Eason, Katie Eason, Bryan Evans, Gregory Henry, Tobian Henry, David Lim, Janice Yee, Webster D. Loudd, Katherine Loudd, Deborah McLarty, Rickie McLarty, Darlene McLarty, Janice Nelson, Tommy Ness, Deborah Ness, Benjamin Ostroff, Mary Ostroff, Ernesto Sayo, Joji Sayo, Kazuo Semitsu, and Karen Thumm ("Plaintiffs") and each of them reserves the right to seek \$120,005.20 (one hundred and twenty thousand and five dollars and twenty cents) in restitution damages, \$43,737.22 (forty three thousand seven hundred and thirty seven dollars and twenty two cents) in compensatory damages (and/or emotional distress) and \$690,000.00 (six hundred and ninety thousand dollars) in punitive and/or statutory damages against each Defendant listed above jointly and severally in Alameda County Superior Court Case number RG12640691 entitled Cunniff et al., v. O.F. Lending Group, Inc. This notice is being served pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure ASSections 425.10, 425.11, and 580; Civil Code AS3295. The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney is: John S. Richards, Esq., Richards Law, 4695 Chabot Drive, Suite 200, Pleasanton, CA 94588; (925) 231-8104. /s/ John S. Richards. Dated 09/22/2014.(Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31; 2014)

## News, sports and local hot picks



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## Coldwell Banker named Habitat for Humanity champion

Agents, managers, staff volunteer 600 hours to win challenge

By JEB BING

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, with offices in Pleasanton, has been named the winner of Habitat for Humanity's 2014 "Build It Challenge," honoring the company's local volunteer efforts for the community organization.

The "Challenge" is an annual competition where corporate partners compete to increase their volunteer participation for Habitat for Humanity in the Bay Area.

Coldwell Banker agents, managers and staff won the competition after volunteering 600 hours between April and July, six-times the goal set by the company.

The team worked on a wide variety of projects ranging from new home construction to renovation of existing homes, as well as volunteering its time in Habitat retail stores.

"We are thankful to Coldwell Banker for supporting Habitat for Humanity in the Bay Area for close to 20 years through financial contributions and employee volun-

teerism," said Daryl Lee, corporate development officer for Habitat for Humanity's East Bay/Silicon Valley division. "Surpassing their volunteer goals through this year's Build It Challenge highlights their commitment to affordable housing and Habitat for Humanity's mission."

Mike James, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, said the company is proud to receive the special honor from Habitat for Humanity. He added that the company's support of Habitat is part of Coldwell Banker's ongoing philanthropic commitment to help those less fortunate in the local community.

"Our agents, managers and staff believe deeply in the mission of Habitat — that everyone deserves a chance at the American Dream of home ownership," he said. "Our work with Habitat and other community organizations allows the Coldwell Banker team to make a real difference in the lives of those who need our help, to truly give back to the

communities we serve."

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Community Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the real estate services company, recently raised more than \$95,000 for Habitat for Humanity in Northern California during the company's annual fundraising campaign.

The donations were the result of a month-long community-wide raffle held throughout Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's 57 Northern California offices. Entitled "Homes and Hope," this was the company's 16th annual fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity, the nonprofit organization that helps low-income families build their own homes.

Over the past 15 years, the Coldwell Banker Foundation has raised more than \$2.5 million for Habitat for Humanity chapters in Northern California. Coldwell Banker teams have also volunteered more than 50,000 hours and participated in the construction of nearly 200 Habitat for Humanity homes. ■

## New-home sales edge up slightly in U.S.

But drop 8.9% in the West as housing recovery ebbs

Sales of newly built, single-family homes inched up 0.2% in September to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 467,000 units, the highest level in six years, according to newly released data by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Census Bureau.

Sales numbers for August were revised down from 504,000 to 466,000.

"Three consecutive months of sales upticks demonstrate steady growth in the housing market," said Kevin Kelly, chairman of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and a home builder and developer from Wilmington, Del. "Consistent job creation and low mortgage interest rates are spurring the release of pent-up consumer demand."

Added David Crowe, NAHB's chief economist: "The August revision was not unexpected, as this figure seemed out of line

with the modest housing recovery we have been seeing. The continuing increase in the inventory of new homes points to builders' confidence in the market."

The inventory of new homes for sale increased to 207,000 in September, which is a 5.3-month supply at the current sales pace.

Regionally, new home sales dropped 8.9% in the West, were unchanged in the Northeast, and rose 12.3% in the Midwest and 2% in the South.

The National Association of Home Builders is a Washington-based trade association representing more than 140,000 members involved in home building, remodeling, multifamily construction, property management, subcontracting, design, housing finance, building product manufacturing and other aspects of residential and light commercial construction. ■

—Jeb Bing



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JUST SOLD

3335 Araldi Lane, Dublin  
Sold for \$732,000



RECENTLY SOLD - REPRESENTED BUYERS

2469 Amantea Way, Dublin  
Sold for \$975,000



RECENTLY SOLD - REPRESENTED BUYERS

188 Heligan Lane Unit 7, Livermore  
Sold for \$511,000



RECENTLY SOLD - REPRESENTED BUYERS

2639 Corte Vida, Pleasanton  
Sold for \$1,290,000



RECENTLY SOLD

4896 Drywood Street, Pleasanton  
Sold for \$938,000



RECENTLY SOLD

5001 Muirwood, Pleasanton  
Sold for \$939,000



RECENTLY SOLD - REPRESENTED BUYERS

1408 Via Di Salerno, Pleasanton  
Sold for \$2,075,000



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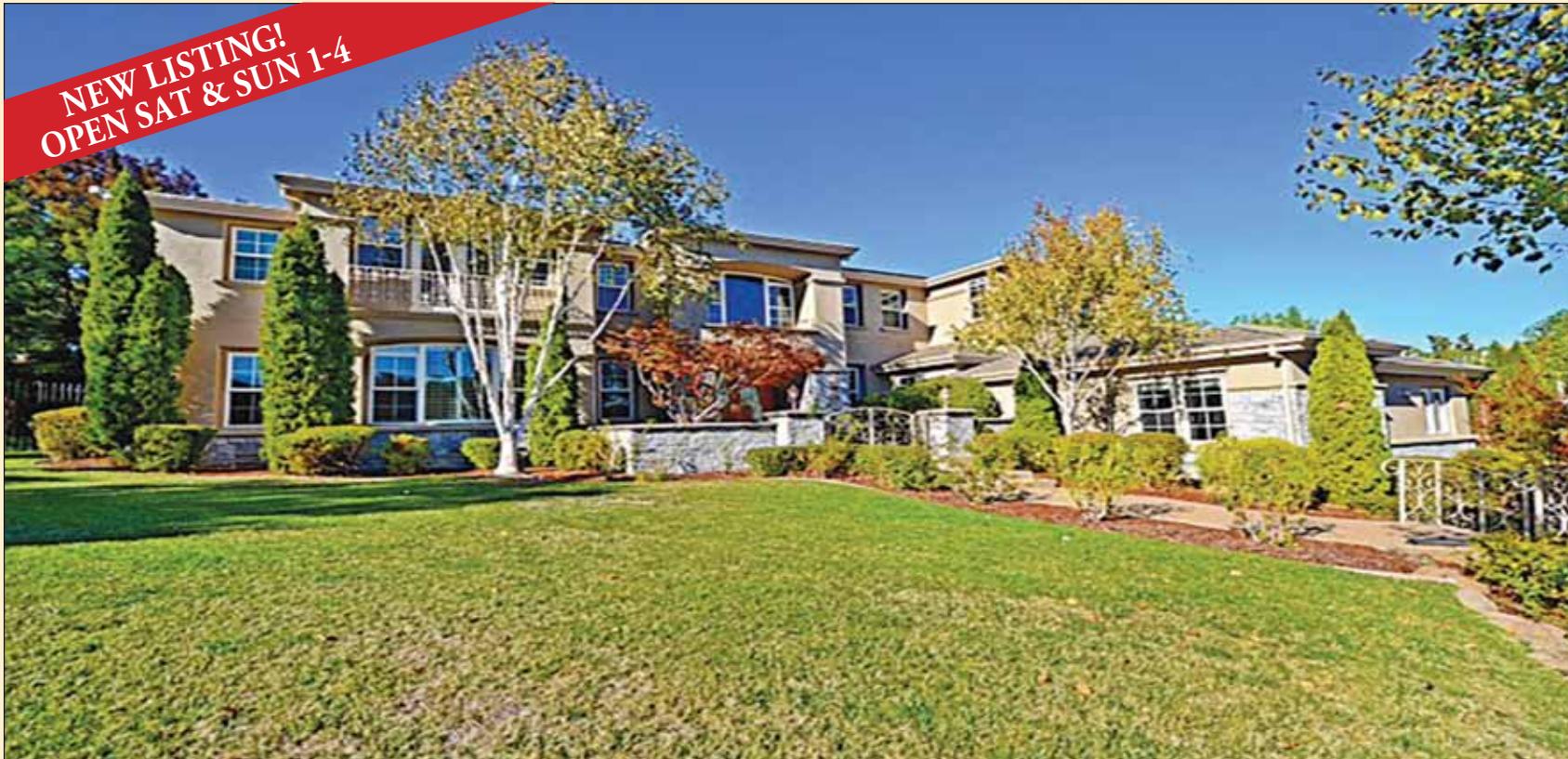
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**Offered at \$2,149,000**



### 303 NEAL STREET, PLEASANTON

Charming Queen Anne Victorian Home in Downtown Pleasanton. This Hilltop Location Overlooks Downtown and is Located at the Historic Corner of Neal and 3rd Streets. Enjoy the Space, Quiet, Family Fun and Privacy Provided by this over One Half-Acre Beautiful Downtown Estate. It's Conveniently Located Just 3 blocks from Main Street. It's a Great Place to Raise Your Family and Perfect for Entertaining. Many Pool Parties, Celebrations & Weddings Have Taken Place Here, Over the Years. Plus, Enjoy All the Nearby Downtown Amenities Anytime You Want!

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



### 3806 ORION COURT, PLEASANTON

Spacious Highly Upgraded Home on Private Court Location, Just Walking Distance to Downtown! This Open Floor Plan Includes Four Bedrooms, Two and a Half Bathrooms, and Approximately 2600 Square Feet. Beautiful High Ceilings and Lots of Natural Light Inside. Remodeled Kitchen with Granite and New Appliances. Large Back Deck with BBQ/Entertainment Area. Generous Three Car Garage. Come and See this Beautiful Home! Visit [www.3806orioncourt.com](http://www.3806orioncourt.com) for More Information.

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### 863 SUNSET CREEK LANE, PLEASANTON

Desirable Upgraded Single Level on Private Lot with expansive views and In-Ground Pool/Spa. Great location! Gourmet Kitchen with Granite and Stainless Steel Appliances. Crown Molding, Great Room. Includes: Five Bedrooms (Generous Master Suite), Four Bathrooms, and approximately 3246 Square Feet. Walk to Main Street, Neighborhood Park & Oak Hills Shopping Center. Don't Miss it! Go To: [863sunsetcreeklane.com](http://863sunsetcreeklane.com). Call Blaise for a Private showing at 925.846.6500.

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## 4 questions to ask before purchasing a new home

Buying a new house is an exciting time in your life. Because it is one of the most important investments you'll make for yourself and your family, there are many important factors to consider.

Before making a purchase, take these four questions into account. Having the answers will allow you to enjoy your new home now and in the years ahead.

**1. What exterior color palette speaks to you?** Your home is a reflection of your personality and can be an extension of your lifestyle. When buying or designing a new house, contemplate its curb appeal.

First impressions matter, so it's important to consider architectural style, exterior color and details like

trim and landscaping. Coordinate the trim, soffits and doors with the primary siding color for a polished look.

**2. Is your home protected from environmental elements?** With today's ever-changing climate, extreme weather is a reality in all corners of the country. From hurricanes and blizzards to wind and wildfires, select siding and trim products that help protect your home.

Consider your options carefully. Vinyl siding can melt and wood is susceptible to rot. So, whether you live in a cold, wet, hot or dry part of the country, be sure to choose the siding that will stand up to weather conditions in your area.

**3. Is your new home built using**

**sustainable products?** Green building is popular these days, in part because an energy-efficient home can save a homeowner money on heating and cooling bills. By choosing a home clad in 100% sustainable and efficient material, you're consuming less energy and reducing your environmental footprint.

**4. What maintenance will your new home require?** Selecting or buying a home made with low-maintenance building materials can lower the chances of large ticket home repairs, or prevent them altogether.

Wood siding and trim requires frequent repainting or replacement, and vinyl may warp, melt or fade. Considering durable and longer-lasting fiber cement siding can



BRANDPOINT

Purchasing a new home is a big decision, and knowing what you're looking for can help ease the process.

minimize the need for repairs.

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way to maximize and protect your investment. ■

—Brandpoint

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

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

Dublin	Pleasanton	3205 E. Ruby Hill Drive	\$2,150,000	9882 Del Mar Drive	\$695,000
<b>3 BEDROOMS</b>	<b>4 BEDROOMS</b>	Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200		Sun 1-4 Gail Boal 577-5787	
<b>7323 Bower Lane \$569,000</b>	<b>1279 Lozano Court \$2,425,000</b>	<b>6 BEDROOMS</b>		<b>820 Sutter Creek Lane Call for price</b>	
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200	Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273	<b>1712 Zenato Place \$2,300,000</b>		Sun 1-4 Joan Sakyo 989-4123	
<b>7344 Ione Court \$639,000</b>	<b>8053 Horizons Court \$2,149,000</b>	Sun 1-4 Debby Johnson-Abarta 989-6844		<b>5 BEDROOMS</b>	
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200	Sat/Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500	<b>7 BEDROOMS</b>		<b>3027 Hastings Way Call for price</b>	
<b>Livermore</b>	<b>5 BEDROOMS</b>	<b>862 Gray Fox Circle \$2,750,000</b>		Sun 1-4 Joan Sakyo 989-4123	
<b>3 BEDROOMS</b>	<b>1976 Via di Salerno \$1,889,000</b>	Sun 1-3 Dave and Sue Flashberger 463-0436		<b>Sunol</b>	
<b>566 Ruth Way \$599,000</b>	Sun 1-4 Melissa Pederson 858-1984	<b>San Ramon</b>		<b>5 BEDROOMS</b>	
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200	<b>3415 Gravina Place \$1,439,000</b>	<b>4 BEDROOMS</b>		<b>23 Carver Lane \$2,190,000</b>	
	Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario and Liz Venema 260-2220			Sat 1-4 Dave and Sue Flashberger 463-0436	



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**673 Palomino Dr, # D**  
Great Townhome in Oak Tree Villas in one of the most private locations. This home has 2 beds & 2 baths, with 1198 Sq. Ft of Living space. One Bed and Bath On each floor ~ Call Julia for more details.

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- BUYER NEEDS**
- ✓ Large Family home with Pool, buyer prefers Vintage Hills or Pleasanton Hills, up to 1.4 million
- ✓ Single story with a pool, 2000 sq.ft. Or more, with privacy in back yard, up to \$925,000

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**LIVERMORE** 2737 VERNAZZA DR  
STUNNINGLY GORGEOUS! \$1,349,900  
4 BR 3.5 BA Travertine tile. Brazilian wood. Cherry cabinets, granite, ss appliances. Large lot, pool/spa, waterfall  
Mary Anne Rozsa, CalBRE #00783003 925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE** 1025 ELM ST & 975 RINCON AVE  
WONDERFUL DUPLEX! \$550,000  
2 BR 1 BA Just Listed! Each unit features 2 bedroom & a full bath, 1 car garage & individual backyards!  
Sean Leggat, CalBRE #01280186 925.847.2200



**PLEASANTON**  
Open SUN 1 - 4 3205 E RUBY HILL DR  
GOLF COURSE VIEWS! \$2,150,000  
5 BR 4.5 BA Expert craftsmanship. Library & 2 BD on first level. Pool, spa, outdoor kitchen & Rose Arbor.  
Kathleen Waelde, CalBRE #00885285 925.847.2200



**PLEASANTON** 4164 VENETO CT  
JUST LISTED! \$649,950  
3 BR 2 BA Completely remodeled kitchen, Hardwood floors downstairs, Patio area in backyard.  
Suzanne Bieser, CalBRE #01355940 925.847.2200

**DUBLIN** 3700 SILVERA RANCH DR  
GREAT LOCATION! \$979,900  
4 BR 3.5 BA Jr Master Suite, 3 car tandem garage, kitchen with granite, SS, island. No rear neighbors. Near top schools.  
Azita Mowlavi, CalBRE #01074630 925.847.2200

Open SUN 1 - 4 7323 BOWER LN  
CAL HIGHLANDS TOWNHOME! \$569,000  
3 BR 2.5 BA Kitchen with Corian counters & SS appliances. Wood floors, new carpet. Vaulted ceiling, walk-in closet!  
Suzanne Bieser, CalBRE #01355940 925.847.2200

3369 MONAGHAN ST  
BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOME! \$565,000  
3 BR 2.5 BA 2 car tandem garage. Bright & Open. Kitchen with granite & upgraded cabinets. Pool, spa, clubhouse & fitness.  
Tae Terry Kim, CalBRE #01363454 925.847.2200

Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4 7344 IONE CT  
JUST LISTED! \$639,000  
3 BR 2 BA Gorgeous one-story home. Landscaped front & back with pool! Near schools, shop, dining, freeways.  
Suzan Gladieux, CalBRE #01245705 925.847.2200

**HAYWARD** 30525 PRESTWICK AVENUE  
FAIRWAY PARK HOME! \$405,000  
3 BR 2 BA Refinished hardwood floors, remodeled Master Bathroom, beam ceilings, wood burn fireplace, huge backyard!  
Mary Chakakis-Evans, CalBRE #00983889 925.847.2200

**LIVERMORE** 566 RUTH WY  
Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4 JUST LISTED! \$599,000  
3 BR 2 BA Updated Single story home, fully remodeled & located to schools, parks, downtown, freeways & shops!  
Lucy Lizarraga, CalBRE #01393413 925.984.1518

665 BUCKEYE DR  
OPEN & BRIGHT! \$499,000  
3 BR 2 BA Bonus room, vaulted ceilings, brick fireplace, master bedroom with walk-in closet, pool, side access!  
Mary Anne Rozsa, CalBRE #00783003 925.847.2200

**MOUNTAIN HOUSE** 761 ANTIGUA TER  
GORGEOUS SHEA HOME! \$595,000  
5 BR 4.5 BA Plus large office & bonus room. Gourmet kitchen with granite & built-ins. 1 bedroom & full bathroom down.  
Suzan Gladieux, CalBRE #01245705 925.847.2200

**PLEASANTON** 4578 GATETREE CIR  
BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED HOME! \$975,000  
4 BR 3 BA Upgrade kitchen. Travertine tile. Full bedroom & bathroom down. Near schools & downtown. Large backyard with patio!  
Suzanne Bieser, CalBRE #01355940 925.847.2200

**SAN RAMON** 541 VAN BUREN PL  
GREAT LOCATION! \$625,000  
3 BR 2 BA Upgraded kitchen with granite counters/ cherry cabinets. Large family room. Brazilian cherrywood floors.  
Nancy Sutorius, CalBRE #00628232 925.847.2200

1215 NANCY LN  
BEAUTIFUL CONDO! \$525,000  
2 BR 2 BA Open floor. Built-in media & surround. Master with walk-in closet. Upgraded kitchen. Large 2 car attached garage.  
Karen T, CalBRE #009628800 925.847.2200

**TRACY** 302 W MOUNT DIABLO AVE  
NICE 1-ACRE LOT! \$229,000  
Could be subdivided into 2 lots. Live on one & sell the other! Close to elementary school.  
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# Driveways to mailboxes: Oft-overlooked items that drive curb appeal

Selling now or staying for a bit, it makes no difference — everyone wants a home that looks great from the curb.

Curb appeal comes together when all the elements of a home's facade are in good shape and working together. Driveways that are cracked or pitted with potholes, dingy front doors and other seemingly minor complaints like a shabby, scuffed mailbox, can all significantly detract from a home's overall curb appeal.

Here is a handful of projects — many of them quick fixes — that can greatly enhance a home's appearance.

- Repair or resurface your driveway.

For many homes, the driveway is one of the largest visual elements of the home's overall curb appeal, ranking right up there with siding, the roof and the lawn. If winter was rough on your driveway, it's time to think of making repairs. Concrete can crack and crumble, and asphalt develops potholes. Both can be repaired quickly and easily.

For any driveway repair, make sure the area to be repaired has been cleaned of debris and loose materials. For asphalt driveways, look for a ready-to-use recycled asphalt product that permanently patches potholes, cracks and other defects without the oily mess or bad smell of a conventional black-top patch. Simply pour the product into the pothole and tamp it down.

Concrete driveways can develop different types of cracks: very small

and shallow resembling a dry river bed; cracks between 1/8 and 1/4 inch wide; and cracks wider and deeper than 1/4 inch. Your choice of repair method will depend on how you want the finished product to look and how much time you have to make the repair.

Repairing damaged asphalt or concrete driveways not only improves its appearance, it can help extend its life, too.

- Put the shine on your mailbox

It sits at the end of your driveway and often plays a key role in helping guests find your house. But do you give your mailbox the attention — and the credit — it's due? Little things can mean a lot when it comes to creating curb appeal. While a mailbox that looks good might not get much attention, one that's ugly or shabby is sure to draw the kind of attention you don't want.

If you live in a community that restricts what type of mailbox you can have, simply give your rusted, stained mailbox and the post it sits on a fresh coat of paint in its original color.

If your community has no standards for mailboxes, you can swap out an ordinary looking box with something that compliments your exterior design. Does your home have a brick facade? Consider a mailbox set in or on a brick pillar. If your house features fieldstone accents, consider carrying that over to the mailbox with a small, stone-trimmed planting bed at its base.

- Lavish your front door with some



BRANDPOINT

When selling your house, changes around the outside of your home can be among the most effective because such moves help enhance your property's curb appeal

TLC

The door is the point where your exterior design meets your interior decor. It's also an element that significantly impacts how visitors view your home. Give yours a fresh coat of paint or stain, and don't forget the trim around the door.

Next, consider lighting. Is the area around the door well lit? Good lighting is key not only for safety at night but also to enhance the ap-

peal of the area. Consider sconces beside the door or an attractive overhead fixture if your door has an awning, porch or overhang. Ground lights can accent the effect, either illuminating the pathway that leads to the door or lighting up the door itself.

Finally, take a look at the door hardware. Is the handle or knob looking rusted and shabby? Replacing worn or dated door hardware is

an easy, cost-effective way to improve the overall look of your entryway.

Anyone hoping to sell their home during warmer months can greatly enhance curb appeal by investing in these seemingly minor design elements. If you plan to stay in your house, boosting the curb appeal will make you feel even better about coming home every day to a fresh, appealing house. ■

—Brandpoint

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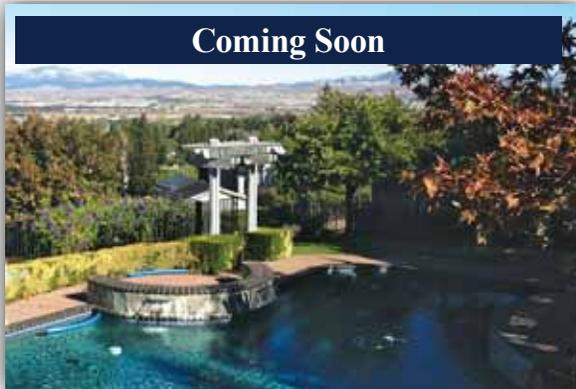
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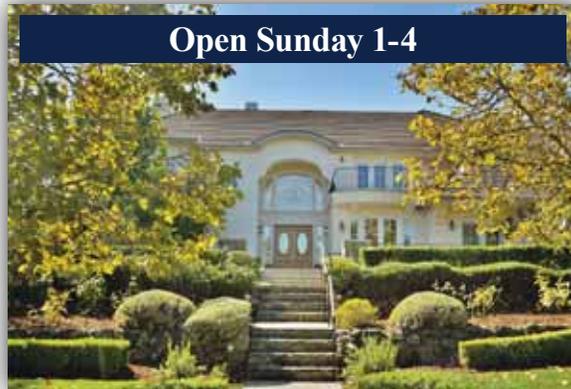


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