

Pleasanton Weekly



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Author to speak
on a world where
spells were used
in everyday life

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



JEB BING

Deputy fire chiefs Jeff Peters (left), in charge of Special Operations, and Joe Rodondi, in charge of Department Operations, flank Chief Jim Miguel at his retirement ceremony in front of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department last Friday. Peters and Rodondi have been named acting co-chiefs while the Livermore and Pleasanton city managers search for Miguel's successor.

Fire Chief Miguel says goodbye

In a colorful yet solemn and emotional ceremony last Friday, Jim Miguel retired as chief of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and said a tearful farewell to the nearly 100 firefighters, city and civic leaders and friends who came to thank him for his 31 years of service.

Shortly after he came here from the Modesto Fire Department, Jim caught up with me at a Pleasanton City Council meeting and said, "Let's have lunch someday when we're not too busy." I met with, sat with or walked with Jim more than 100 times since then at city, Pleasanton Chamber, Rotary Club and real estate group meetings as well as at school and downtown events, but we never had that lunch.

Friday he extended the invitation again, only this time it will have to be at the new home he and his wife, Susan, have built in St. George, Utah, where they have friends and family throughout the greater Provo area.

There were a few tears among many Friday during the ritual lineup of firefighters and officers in front of the department's headquarters on Nevada Street at Bernal Avenue. Livermore City Manager Marc Roberts talked about how Miguel made the elected leaders and city staffs of the two cities he served believe he was truly their fire chief — a part of a Joint Operating Agency environment that doesn't always breed impartiality. Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho agreed.

"We're all better off for having Jim as our chief over the last five years," Fialho said. "He's been an exceptional chief not only because of the management and technical expertise he has brought to the job, but more importantly because he

is a great human being. He's somebody that people follow, he's always a mentor, he's willing to listen, and he's the kind of man that you want in the room when tough decisions need to be made."

Then Miguel talked, humbly thanking the crowd that had taken the time on a Friday afternoon to say goodbye. He saw former associates from the Modesto Fire Department, which he joined as a 19-year-old, introducing them by name. Miguel worked through the ranks as fire engineer, captain, battalion chief and operations division chief, at the same time earning a master's degree in executive fire service leadership from Grand Canyon University and graduating in the Executive Fire Officer program at the National Fire Academy. During part of his eight years as Modesto's fire chief, he also served concurrently as the city's acting deputy city manager and director of finance.

Five years ago, he took Susan on a drive through Livermore and Pleasanton just for her to see the two communities. She was impressed just as most of us were when we first came here. Only then did he confide in her that the two cities were looking for a new fire chief and that he was a candidate. And the rest is history.

"Weeks before we arrived, we had been embraced by the two communities, by both city staffs and the executive teams and especially embraced by this fire department," Miguel said. "All of you have been in my prayers every day and will continue to be. You have made a tremendous difference in my life. To have this experience, and to finish my career here, is the greatest thing that I can ever imagine."

"Goodbye." ■

About the Cover

Author Maggie Anton is speaking next week at Congregation Beth Emek in Pleasanton. Cover design by Lili Cao.

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND DOWNTOWN

Are social media sites appropriate venues to complain about your problems, air grievances or take jabs at people?



Margie Hansen
Administrator

Absolutely not. I think social media sites should be a place for sharing fun, positive information, and helpful and interesting news, in order to keep people connected in a good, healthy way — as opposed to a bad, negative way.



Eduardo Lopez
Server

I think it is fine. A lot of people have trouble going directly to the source of their problems in order to complain and gripe. Social media gives those people an outlet where they have the chance to get things off their chest instead of keeping it all inside.



Charlotte Pezzi
Retired

I think complaining on social media is terrible, and it is precisely the reason I stay off of those sites. There is no need for people to air their dirty laundry to the entire world. It is much better for people to communicate with one another directly.



Keith Montero
Restaurant manager

I think it's wrong. People should not be treating social media sites as a place to rant about their problems. It might be a good stress reliever for them to get it all out as if they're talking to a therapist, but really, it's just a "bad look."



Daryl Thomas
Loan officer/mortgage consultant

No. If someone has a problem, they should do something affirmative about it. For example, if they have a beef with someone, they should take it up with the person directly. Complaining on social media sites is just a big waste of their time, as well as everyone else's.

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

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DIGEST

War Comes Home

The Pleasanton Public Library presents author and U.S. Navy veteran Kenneth Levin as part of its "War Comes Home" series this Sunday at 1 p.m.

Levin, a retired Navy commander and decorated Vietnam War veteran, is the author of a novel and a book of short stories based upon his experiences. He is also a frequent speaker in the veteran community.

The library's series is made possible through a grant from CalHumanities and the California Center for the Book.

All library programs are free and open to the public. The event will be held in the large meeting room of the library. For questions about the event or the "War Comes Home" series, call 931-3400, ext. 4.

Support for survivors

Tri-Valley Haven is offering a support group for survivors of sexual assault on Wednesday evenings to help survivors of sexual assault gain further knowledge and understanding of the effects of sexual assault in their lives.

Tri-Valley Haven reps said they hope to provide a space for survivors to connect with each other and talk openly about their lives after experiencing a sexual assault. The group aims to support all participants as they discuss healthy coping skills and explore different strategies for healing.

Meetings will run on Wednesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. at Tri-Valley Haven in Livermore for 12 weeks.

To sign up or get additional information, call Christine at Tri-Valley Haven at 667-2707. Attendees must call ahead.

FHS cheer camp

The Foothill High competition cheer team will be hosting a mini cheer camp for students in kindergarten through sixth grade.

The cheer camp is scheduled Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the high school, located at 4375 Foothill Road.

Participants will learn new moves, dances and cheers from Foothill's nationally-ranked cheerleaders. In addition, there will be a performance for the parents at 1 p.m. The \$50 fee includes the camp fee, lunch and a shirt.

Early registration is encouraged. More information and the registration form can be found by visiting www.foothillfalcons.org and clicking on the cheerleading link under the "Athletics & Activities" tab. ■

Baker wins Assembly race over Sbranti

Latest count gives her 51.5% lead over Sbranti's 48.5% in 16th District race

By JEB BING

Republican Catharine Baker, a Pleasanton attorney, has been elected 16th District State Assemblywoman, serving a wide area of the East Bay that includes Pleasanton and Dublin, where she lives.

Returns counted to date after the polls closed Nov. 4 show that Baker received 68,128, or 51.5% of votes cast in the 16th State Assembly District election, against 64,122, or 48.5% for her opponent, Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti, a Democrat.

Baker's election means that Assembly Democrats have lost their supermajority in the Assembly, with Republicans picking up the 27 seats needed in the 80-member

Assembly.

Her success follows other election victories that also took away a Democratic supermajority in the 40-member state Senate.

"I would like to say a big thank you to the voters of Assembly District 16 for a victory in this race," Baker said. "By focusing on issues over partisanship and working together to connect with the community, we did it!"

Baker added:

"There is much work to be done, from improving our children's education, growing our economy, investing in our infrastructure, and getting California fiscally stable. I can't wait to get started.

"I will need your help, and all along the way I welcome your

feedback on the issues affecting our community regardless of party affiliation or background. I will work hard in Sacramento every single day to earn the honor of representing you and our community. "For now, my family and I thank you. This has been a rigorous campaign, and I could not have done this without your support."

In addition to Baker, Ling-Ling Chang (55th District) and Young Kim (65th District) were also elected for the first time. That gives the Assembly Republican Caucus eight women members in the upcoming session, making women almost 30% of that caucus.

Kim is the first Korean-American Republican woman to be elected to the State Assembly. Chang is the



JEB BING

Republican candidate Catharine Baker and her husband Dan at election night party.

first Taiwanese-American Republican woman to be elected to the State Assembly. ■



STEVEN NERAD OFFICE

Emma Theroux stands behind bags of Halloween candy she and other Pleasanton children took to the office of Dr. Steven Nerad on Serpentine Lane as part of the pediatric dentist and orthodontist's annual campaign to send sweets to soldiers and prevent children's cavities here at home.

Dentist's Halloween buy-back program nets 533 pounds of candy

Candy goes to military overseas, saving 'sugar bugs' on children's teeth here

Dentist Steven Nerad and his office staff have collected a total of 532.93 pounds of Halloween candy since Oct. 31, donations from parents and children to send to military men and women on active duty overseas in exchange for a \$1 a pound from the Pleasanton pediatric dentist and orthodontist.

Nerad's annual Halloween candy

buy-back campaign is aimed at providing treats for service men and women while also proactively preventing "sugar bugs" on teeth.

"They say cavities are the most prominent chronic childhood disease," Nerad said. "Halloween candy, if you have a bag of it, it encourages kids to pick a little bit here and there."

In addition to the buy-back program, Nerad's office is making a donation of \$250 to the school with the most students contributing candy, and \$100 to the school that finishes second in the contest.

Nerad's dentistry is located at 1024 Serpentine Lane in Pleasanton. ■

—Jeb Bing

Hundreds turn out for opening of 'Innovate Pleasanton'

Business incubators designed to help entrepreneurs get started

Tri-Valley Capital opened its spacious new "Innovate Pleasanton" office last week in Hacienda Business Park at a reception for more than 100 city, civic and business leaders.

The new facility located at 4464 Willow Road was developed and will be operated under the management of a capital investment firm led by principals Greg Hitchan

and Kurt Pfluger. It offers business entrepreneurs space for developing and growing their ideas while also having access to investors and a network of mentors, including Hitchan and Pfluger, to support their work.

"Innovate Pleasanton has multiple benefits beyond serving as a support environment for companies in the early stages of com-

mercialization," Hitchan told those at the opening ceremony. "We are equally excited that the center will accommodate STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)-related activities in collaboration with Tri-Valley schools, and work in collaboration with the regional entrepreneurial

See INNOVATE on Page 8

Measure BB sales tax passes

Measure BB, the Alameda County transportation tax package, was approved by nearly 70% of voters last week, ending several years of controversy over the length of the tax and its need.

"Passing Measure BB is a tremendous accomplishment, one that will be seen as a game changer for Alameda County and the Bay Area for decades to come," said Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty, who is chairman of the County Transportation Commission.

"Voters said yes to improving our roads, yes to better BART and buses, yes to supporting the mobility of students and seniors, yes to a cleaner and more sustainable transportation system, and yes to creating 150,000 good quality local jobs," Haggerty added.

Haggerty said Measure BB will generate nearly \$8 billion over 30 years for essential transportation improvements in every city in Alameda County, will yield \$20 billion in economic activity in the Bay Area and generate nearly 150,000 local jobs.

Measure BB funds aim to:

- Expand BART, bus and commuter rail for reliable, safe and fast services
- Keep fares affordable for seniors, youth and people with disabilities
- Provide traffic relief, including funds to every city in the county to repave streets, fill potholes and upgrade local transportation infrastructure
- Improve air quality and provide clean transportation by reducing pollution using innovative technology and expanding bike and pedestrian paths, and BART, bus and commuter rail expansion and operations
- Create good jobs within Alameda County by requiring local contracting that supports residents and businesses in Alameda County. ■

—Jeb Bing

Chick-fil-A planning Pleasanton restaurant

Planning Commission gives it OK, with City Council hearing Dec. 2

By JEB BING

Chick-fil-A, a national restaurant chain known for its lineup of grilled chicken entrees, plans to open a restaurant with inside eating and drive-thru service across from the Larkspur Hotel in a shopping center that also includes In-N-Out and Denny's restaurants.

Plans for the 5,399-square-foot restaurant with a double drive-thru have been approved by the Pleasanton Planning Commission and will go to the City Council for final

approval Dec. 2.

The restaurant will be located on a half-acre parcel that can be reached off Johnson Drive near Hopyard Road and its interchange with Interstate 580.

The restaurant would be open from 6 a.m. to midnight six days a week and, like all Chick-fil-A operations, would be closed on Sundays.

Bending to Pleasanton planning staff's requests, the Chick-fil-A here would feature Craftsman-style ar-

chitecture without the sometimes garish colors the restaurant and its promotion signs feature in other locations.

In fact, Deborah Kerr, consulting project manager for the restaurant company, said she wants to include a "Welcome to Pleasanton" sign on the top half of the building, which would be visible from the freeway interchange.

If approved by the City Council, construction of the new Chick-fil-A would begin early next year. ■

MTC seeking comments on public transportation plan

Plan Bay Area to be adopted in 2017

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is seeking public review and comments on its Draft 2015 Public Participation Plan.

The plan highlights opportunities for Bay Area residents to engage in the range of MTC's planning work and funding allocations.

Also included in the online document are planning and decision milestones for the pending update to the region's long-range transportation and land use blueprint, known as Plan Bay Area, scheduled to be adopted jointly by MTC and the Association of Bay Area Governments in 2017.

MTC's solicitation for public review is part of the agency's effort to get more people involved in transportation policies and investment choices,

said John Goodwin, MTC spokesman. He said the agency is encouraging Bay Area residents to participate in planning for the region's future.

The Public Participation Plan was adopted in 2010 to satisfy state and federal requirements for a transparent and inclusive public process, he added.

A final 2015 Public Participation Plan is slated for adoption next February. Comments can be emailed to info@mtc.ca.gov or mailed to Public Information, MTC, 101 Eighth St., Oakland, CA 94607.

Comments must be received by 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12.

The draft document can be viewed online at http://mtc.ca.gov/get_involved/participation_plan.htm. ■

—Jeb Bing

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Donate a Thanksgiving meal to Tri-Valley families

Bag donations can be dropped off in Pleasanton

By AMANDA AGUILAR

The Tri-Valley Open Heart Kitchen is asking the community to provide a Thanksgiving meal in a bag for its clients from now until Nov. 17.

Those interested in helping can fill a cloth bag or reusable bag with:

- box of stuffing
- can of corn
- can of green beans
- box of instant mashed potatoes

- can of yams
- can of gravy
- can of cranberry sauce
- \$15 gift card to buy turkey

In addition, Open Heart Kitchen is asking people to leave a note in the bag that can be read by the bag recipient.

The bags can be dropped off at Ridgeview Commons Senior Center, 5200 Case Avenue.

OHK will hand out bags to clients on Nov. 18-19.

Those interested in helping distribute the Thanksgiving bags can email volunteercoordinator@openheartkitchen.org. ■

TAKE US ALONG



Reading with a friend: With the Pleasanton Weekly in hand, Jim Van Dyke and Mary Monahan stood on a high platform in Kenya to get up close and personal with one particularly tall and friendly Kenyan resident. Send us your submission: srhodes@pleasantonweekly.com.

Agencies receive recycled water grant

Pipeline expansion program in Dublin, San Ramon Valley awarded \$4 million from state

By **CIERRA BAILEY**

The San Ramon Valley recycled water program has received a \$4 million grant from the state for a project to expand its drought relief efforts in the community.

"By expanding our recycled water system, we'll be providing immediate drought relief, saving 867 acre feet of drinking water every year," said Rhodora Biagtan, interim engineering services manager for the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD). "That's more than 282 million gallons of water saved every year, enough to supply 1,935 DSRSD families."

The recycled water program, managed by the DSRSD-East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) Recycled Water Authority, has provided more than 7 billion gallons of recycled water to 358 locations since 2006, according to officials.

The California Department of Water Resources, Division of Integrated Regional Water Management conditionally awarded the grant funds to the local program on Oct. 30.

The grant will go toward bringing recycled water to the Santa Rita Jail and Federal Correctional Institution in central Dublin for landscape irrigation as well as to areas west of Interstate 680 in Dublin and parts of Bishop Ranch, central San Ramon and Danville, officials said.

According to EBMUD general manager Alexander Coate, the cost of constructing distribution systems for recycled water separate from the pipes that bring water into homes makes it difficult to increase the number of recycled water users.

"This grant accelerates our construction and gets us \$2 million and nearly half a million gallons per day closer to our long-term goal of increasing our recycled water supply, and our short-term goal of managing through this historic drought," Coate said.

The \$4 million grant will be split between DSRSD and EBMUD, officials said. The expansion project will add about nine miles of new pipelines to the existing 44.2 miles of recycled water distribution and transmission pipelines.

The total cost of the project is \$11.8 million, \$6 million for pipelines serving DSRSD customers and \$5.8 million for pipelines serving EBMUD customers, according to the agencies.

The San Ramon Valley recycled water program expansion is one of 11 Bay Area projects to

See **AGENCIES** on Page 8

San Ramon's Faria Preserve development approval remains unchallenged

Advocacy groups opt against environmental lawsuit, debate other legal options

By **JEREMY WALSH**

The city of San Ramon will not face legal challenges under state environmental law for its approval of the Faria Preserve residential development, but two advocacy groups are reportedly weighing other litigation options to potentially sue the city for its support of the project.

The deadline to file suit against the city under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) passed Oct. 24, and though the Sierra Club and San Ramon for Open Government considered a CEQA-related challenge to the City Council's Sept 23 project approval, they chose not to pursue such a lawsuit during the week before the deadline, according to the groups' attorney, Stuart Flashman.

"We are not going to sue on CEQA grounds," Flashman said in a recent interview. "The hurdles were too much of a problem."

The two organizations are exploring whether to challenge the Faria Preserve approval under other laws or public policies, such as compliance with the San Ramon General Plan, but they have not made a final decision, according to Flashman.

As of now, the council's approval of the new housing development remains unchallenged, according to interim city attorney Robert Saxe.

Faria Preserve developer Lafferty Communities proposes to build 740 housing units comprised of single-family homes, town houses, condominiums, apartments and senior housing near

Deerwood and Bollinger Canyon roads. There are also plans for a community park, house of worship and educational facility.

The San Ramon council voted 4-1 on Sept. 23 to uphold the San Ramon Planning Commission's earlier endorsement of the project, with four added conditions of approval.

The lone dissenting vote came from Councilman Harry Sachs, who had called for the council to review the commission's May 6 approval. The Faria Preserve debate spanned four council meetings from July to September — which occurred after eight planning commission public hearings on the project.

Dozens of citizens attended the various public meetings, with many speaking in opposition to

the development.

One of the most vocal critics was resident Robert Klingner, representing the Coalition of Northwest Neighborhoods, a group of hundreds of residents from neighborhoods near the project site.

"Residents believe the development, which almost doubles the number of homes in northwest San Ramon, will cause serious problems with road safety, traffic congestion and parking," he said in a recent interview. "It will also devastate neighborhood schools, which are already overcrowded."

Lafferty Communities still needs to receive approval from several state and federal regulatory agencies before the project could move forward. Lafferty representatives did not respond to a request for comment this week. ■

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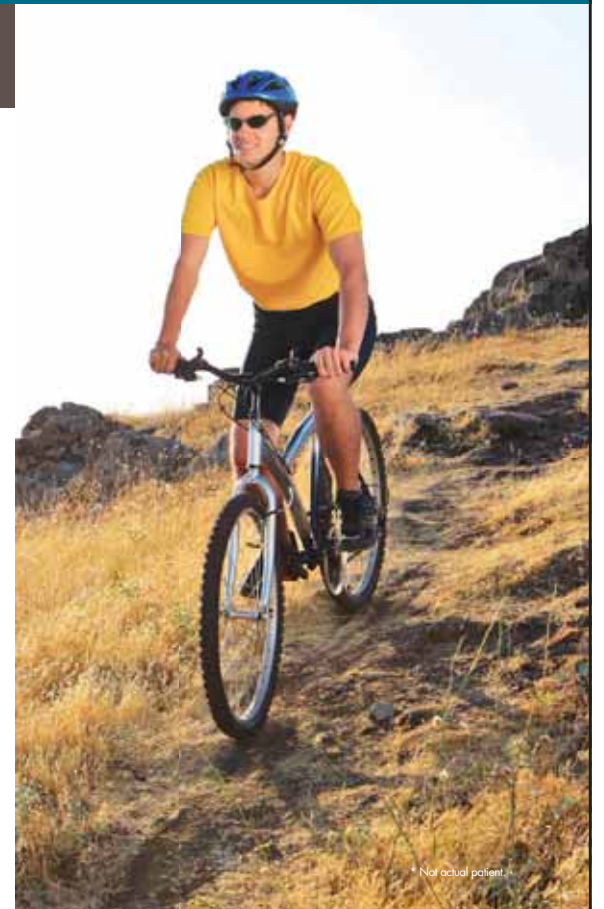
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INNOVATE

Continued from Page 5

network.”

Pamela Ott, Pleasanton's economic development director, said the new center addresses one of the main initiatives of the city's economic development strategic plan: to focus on developing businesses that drive innovation in their industry sectors and attract technology investment.

“We are very pleased to help introduce and support Innovate Pleasanton as a program that reinforces the city's position as an innovation center complete with an accelerator to support start-ups,” Ott added.

“We've been working closely with Tri-Valley Capital as they open this facility, as this is another way in which to foster the active entrepreneurial climate that's already here in Pleasanton,” she said.

Innovate Pleasanton is a 30,000 square-foot, privately funded accelerator for companies in the early stages of commercialization.

Entrepreneurs can experience the benefits of working in an environment with access to expert advisers and a full range of business-related services, allowing the entrepreneur to focus on technology.

A typical entrepreneurial business at Innovate Pleasanton has from one to 10 employees, is focused on software or hardware development and is close to commercialization and needs office or workspace.

By being located in Hacienda, Innovate Pleasanton has a location advantage over other similar incubator-type facilities in that it's within walking distance to BART station, located near the I-680 and I-580 freeways, and in one of the largest business parks in Northern California.



JEB BING

Tri-Valley Capital CEO Greg Hitchan and his wife, TV personality Juliette Goodrich, cut the ribbon opening his spacious new “Innovate Pleasanton” business incubator facility. Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne and schools superintendent Parvin Ahmadi are standing to the right.

“We look for disruptive technologies and entrepreneurs with great ideas,” Hitchan said. “We offer capital and intellectual capital for business development, sales, strategy, marketing, legal and more through both internal and external partner experts.”

Tri-Valley Capital's mission, he added, is to invest, advocate, accelerate growth and where necessary play a strategic or operational role for early stage companies, their founders and shareholders.

A board of advisers with an extensive knowledge and experience also exists to assist portfolio companies.

“We want entrepreneurs to be successful so that experience can be passed on and repeated by others,” Hitchan said. “We value the local community and support science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. We believe if

young people become passionate about these areas of education it will have a positive impact on their future.”

Hitchan has 20-plus years of investment experience both as the chief operating officer at Blum Capital Partners and as a practicing attorney for start up companies in Silicon Valley. Prior to attending Stanford Law School, he spent six years as a Naval Intelligence Officer after graduating from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

Co-founder Pfluger has 20-plus years of founding and growing technology companies in the software services, supply chain, semiconductor and energy sectors. He was a founder and CEO of IN Electronics, Apogee Power, 4DS and C2D. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University. ■

—Jeb Bing

AGENCIES

Continued from Page 7

receive funding from the state's 2014 Drought Grant Solicitation. According to officials, there are three pipeline components to the project.

- Project Component 1: Central Dublin Pipeline adds 1.5 miles

of pipe to deliver an average of 147 acre feet of recycled water per year to six federal and county facilities in Dublin. Construction is expected to begin as early as December and be completed by January 2015.

- Project Component 2: West Dublin Pipeline adds 3.6 miles of pipe to deliver an average of 160 acre feet of recycled water per year to 34 customers located west of Interstate 680 along Amador Valley Boulevard in west Dublin, including city streetscapes and parks, elementary schools, business parks and a fire station. Design is expected to be completed by April 2015, and construction will occur during the summer.

- Project Component 3: (San Ramon Valley Phase 2) adds 3.6 miles of recycled water pipe and expands the EBMUD recycled water distribution system into the Bishop Ranch Business Park. Once installed, the pipes will deliver about 477 acre feet of recycled water for landscape irrigation to 39 irrigation customers including AT&T, city of San Ramon and Sunset Development. Construction work in the Bishop Ranch area is expected to begin next year. ■

DINING

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How long do I have to pay off my 401(k) loan after I leave my company?

BY GARY ALT

Good for you for asking this question ahead of time! The answer is somewhat complex and the penalty for making a mistake is very costly, so you'll want to make sure you pay off the loan properly.

When you leave the company, regardless of whether you were fired or you resigned, you must pay off your 401(k) loan within a certain time period. If you don't, the remaining balance is automatically considered a taxable distribution. What that means is that next April, you'll owe federal and state income taxes on your loan at a higher ordinary income tax rate, not the lower long-term capital gains rate.

If you're under 59 1/2 years old, you'll also pay a 10% penalty. Even after you've shelled out the money for taxes and penalties, you'll still need to come up with the money to pay off the original loan. So it's much less painful to spend some time upfront figuring out how to

pay off the loan on time.

The U.S. Treasury allows employers to set the maximum deadline as the last day of the calendar quarter after the quarter in which your most recent loan payment was due. For example, if you leave the company in February 2015 (the first calendar quarter), you'll have until June 30, 2015 (the last day of the following quarter) to pay off the loan. But employers can set a shorter period if they wish.

So how do you determine your employer's actual payoff deadline?

It's often said that the payoff period is generally 60 days from the

date of your resignation. But each plan is different, so you'll want to find out from your employer. Imagine if you scrambled to pay the loan on the 59th day after you resigned, but the plan's actual deadline was 30 days after resignation. Or if the deadline was actually 90 days after your resignation. A hasty decision could cost you even more money. So it's worth taking time to find the correct answer.

Here's what you can do:

1. Read your plan documents. Employers have some flexibility to determine the payoff deadline, but the one outlined in the plan is what

prevails in each case. The documents might be accessible on the website where you log in to view your 401(k) account, or you may have received it when you originally signed up to participate. Look at the Summary Plan Description (SPD) first, because it's the easiest to read. If the answer isn't there, look at any other documents available, searching on the word "loan." 2. If you can't find the answer in documents, ask your employer — usually someone in the human resources or finance departments will have the answer. If they don't, they can ask their plan administrator,

which is the company that completes their annual regulatory filings. 3. Get an answer in writing from your employer. The penalty for making a mistake is too high, so don't take an off-the-cuff response.

I know, it sounds complicated, and it is. But find out in writing what your company's policy is, and you'll avoid a costly mistake. ■

Editor's note: Gary Alt is co-founder of Monterey Private Wealth in Pleasanton, and is an Accredited Investment Fiduciary. Send your financial questions to 4733 Chabot Drive, Suite 206, Pleasanton 94588, or by email to gary@MontereyPW.com.

State's revenue for October hits \$6 billion

Total revenues for October, the fourth month of fiscal year 2014-15, totaled \$6 billion, coming in above Budget Act estimates by \$662.2 million, or 12.3%, according to a report by State Controller John Chiang on Monday.

For the fiscal year to date (July 1-Oct. 31), total revenues reached \$27.9 billion, beating estimates by \$1.2 billion, or 4.5%.

"Four months into the fiscal year, California's coffers overflowed by \$1.2 billion," Chiang said. "The news comes on the heels of two other positive developments: the vote to strengthen California's rainy-day fund through Proposition 2, and the credit upgrade that followed one day later."

"To further boost California's credit worthiness and sustain prosperity on a long-term basis, we must next tackle the growing \$64 billion unfunded liability stemming from providing health benefits to our retired public workforce," Chiang said.

"To not only protect taxpayers, but also the retirement security promised to our firefighters, teachers and other providers of critical public services, we can no longer deny, delay, or equivocate," he added.

Income tax collections for the month of October came in at \$363.5 million, or 8.4% above estimates. Corporate tax revenues came in at \$303.6 million, or 1,222% above estimates.

Sales taxes fell short of estimates by \$37.4 million, or 4.1% for the month.

As of Oct. 31, the General Fund accumulated outstanding loans of \$17.8 billion, which was down \$2.6 billion from what the state expected to need by the end of October. This total was financed by \$15 billion of borrowing from internal state funds and \$2.8 billion of borrowing from banks and other outside investors. ■

—Jeb Bing

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Unions, Democrats come up short in national, local elections

Unions took a beating across much of the U.S. Nov. 4, with organized labor coming up short in Democratic races they helped finance and promote, including the 16th State Assembly District in the Tri-Valley. Democratic Party support of specific candidates, even in nonpartisan contests for Pleasanton City Council and school board seats, also failed to result in the election of those party candidates.

Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti, a long-time and recognized Democrat, lost to political newcomer and Republican Catharine Baker, who received 68,128, or 51.5% of votes cast in that contest. Sbranti had strong support from local Democrats most of the year, even more so after Baker topped his voter numbers in last June's primary. Baker made no secret of her independence of union support, even joining with her unsuccessful primary opponent, Steve Glazer, an Orinda councilman and Democrat, in favoring a law that would ban BART and other

public transit strikes in California.

She now takes that position to Sacramento, where her election has helped bring an end to the Democrats' supermajority. Republicans picked up the 27 seats needed in the 80-member Assembly. Other election victories also took away the Democratic supermajority in the 40-member state Senate.

In addition to Baker, two other women — Ling-Ling Chang (55th District) and Young Kim (65th District) — were also elected to the state legislature for the first time. That gives the Assembly Republican Caucus eight female members in the upcoming session, making women almost 30% of that caucus.

Kim, by the way, is the first Korean-American Republican woman to be elected to the State Assembly; Chang is the first Taiwanese-American Republican woman to be elected to the Assembly.

Much-publicized support from Tri-Valley Democrats failed to help Pleasanton Council candidate Olivia Sanwong, who touted her party affiliation in what is supposed to be a nonpartisan municipal election.

And it didn't help Pleasanton school board incumbent Jeff Bowser in his bid for re-election. Bowser was strongly backed by the Pleasanton teachers union, which encouraged its teacher members to do whatever it took to make sure Bowser and fellow incumbent Joan Laursen won re-election. Bowser finished last.

Again in a nonpartisan contest, Bowser used his website to promote the endorsements he had from Democrats and organized labor, including the Alameda County Central Labor Council, Building & Construction Trades Council of Alameda County, California Democratic Party-Alameda County, Association of Pleasanton Teachers, Operating Engineers Local #3 and the Tri-Valley Democratic Club.

First-time candidate Mark Miller finished second to win a seat on the school board. Miller, along with third-place candidate Paige Wright, had no political party or teachers union support. In fact, the Association of Pleasanton Teachers (the union) openly and frequently opposed their candidacies, sometimes in a threatening way.

One teacher, after receiving a message from a union officials that may or may not have contained false information, yanked out Wright's campaign sign on Hopyard Road across from Peet's coffee shop where several of the challenger's supporters were sitting. The witnesses filed a police report, but no action was taken.

Clearly, the Pleasanton teachers union, like others in the state, has concerns. A recent decision by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Rolf M. Treu threw out the state's tenure process for grade school teachers.

It also stripped instructors of rules that made dismissing them more difficult and expensive than firing other state employees. The ruling came in the case, Vergara v. California, in which a group of student plaintiffs backed by a Silicon Valley millionaire argued that state tenure laws had deprived them of a decent education by leaving bad teachers in place.

That decision is being appealed by State Superintendent Tom Torlakson and Gov. Jerry Brown. Torlakson won re-election by only a slender victory Nov. 4 over school reformer Marshall Tuck, who backs the court ruling. Joining in the appeal are Pleasanton teachers through their affiliation with the California Teachers Association and the California Federation of Teachers.

So far, the Pleasanton school board hasn't taken a stand on Vergara v. California, although it's likely the teachers union will ask it to. How Miller's election over union supporter Bowser will affect that and other board decisions on labor negotiations will be interesting to watch. ■

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council
Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Update on the Stage 3 Water Shortage and Local Emergency Declaration
- Consider approval of the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan
- Public Hearing:** PUD-102/P14-0014, MD Roesbery, Inc. – Consider introduction of ordinances to rezone 0.776-acres for a Valero service station at 3192 Santa Rita Road from C-N (Neighborhood Commercial) to the PUD-C (Planned Unit Development - Commercial), and a PUD Development Plan to convert 1,752 sq. ft. of the existing 2,634 sq. ft. auto service building to a convenience store and the remaining floor area to a drive-through carwash; and approval of a Conditional Use Permit to operate a convenience store with the sale of alcoholic beverages and a drive-through carwash in the existing service station
- Update on historic preservation tasks and approve of a professional services agreement with Architectural Resources Group, Inc. in the amount of \$70,220 to prepare a comprehensive resource survey

Housing Commission
Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.
Operation Services Center, Remillard Conference Room
3333 Busch Road

- Workshop Discussion Regarding Commission Priorities and Work Plan for Upcoming Year

Economic Vitality Committee
Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 7:30 a.m.
157 Main Street, Conference Room 3

- Discussion regarding EVC recommendations for City Council Work Plan Projects

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.

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

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GUEST OPINION

BY CHERYL COOK-KALLIO

Thanks Pleasanton, for allowing me to serve

It is my privilege and honor to serve Pleasanton. I would like to share some thoughts as I finish my eight years as your councilmember.

Pleasanton is a beautiful place. I think about this as I drive through the streets. Some accomplishments are apparent and some people take for granted. But it is clear to me that the city has had good leadership and I have been able to contribute only because I have stood on their shoulders. I hope that I have left Pleasanton better for my service.

The residents really care. I walk the streets and see the parents of my children's friends. I hear people talk with passion about things important to them. Every issue, small or large, has some impact. I appreciate the conversations with those with whom I agreed and those with whom I did not. I tried to keep an open mind. I am thankful for every person who reached out and those that cheered us on from home each Tuesday.

The city staff is professional. They have a difficult job, from balancing what they know to be the most reasonable way to ensuring that the re-

sponse to residents takes care of issues to recommending good policy in a politically charged atmosphere. I have seen staff members go to great lengths to help when most reasonable people would think that it is outside of their job description.

They truly care about this city. I am thankful that I could count on their professionalism.

Pleasanton is safe. Thanks to Fire and Police, we are among the safest cities. Every time I hear a siren I realize that our safety personnel are working to keep us that way. I think of their safety and health each time I know they are called to service.

Good government is hard. I taught government for 30 years before I took office and thought I knew. I was not prepared for how hard it can be to tell someone no, or for that matter tell someone yes and know that the ramifications are not optimum for other parties.

As an individual, one has the luxury of promoting the good of one neighborhood without regard to another. As a councilmember, there is no luxury in that. There were times when none of the choices presented to us were good, but a decision had to be made with the entire city in mind. I tried to do the best I could based on the law and the Constitution.

Finally, I feel deep gratitude that the people of Pleasanton allowed me to do this. I love Pleasanton. Service comes in many forms and very few get to do it to this degree. I have been able to apply what I teach. Few teachers can say that, and I do so with pride. I cherish this experience. Thank you for allowing me to serve you in this special way. ■

Editor's note: Cheryl Cook-Kallio was first elected to the City Council in 2006. She is a 28-year resident of Pleasanton, where she has raised four children with her husband, John. She teaches AP Government, AP United States History and coaches a We the People Competition Civics Team at Irvington High School in Fremont.



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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Quartet nabbed at Pleasanton Marriott for series of regional crimes

Four people accused of using a stolen credit card to pay for a room at the Marriott Hotel at 11950 Dublin Canyon Road in Pleasanton were arrested by Pleasanton police Sunday.

The four, who police believe may have committed other crimes in the area over the previous few days, also are being investigated for possible property crimes, including mail theft, auto theft and auto burglary.

In making the arrest, police recovered hundreds of pieces of stolen mail from the Central Valley, East Bay and South Bay regions, according to Police Sgt. Eric Gora.

Two associated stolen vehicles were also recovered in the hotel parking lot, along with additional stolen property and illegal

drugs, Gora reported.

The four people arrested and booked into Santa Rita Jail were: Emmanuel Diaz, 29, of Pleasanton; Xyris Espejo, 31, of Morgan Hill; and San Jose residents Rodney Tampol, 29, and Jose Vazquez, 26.

Officers are continuing to investigate a series of crimes by connecting evidence seized at the scene to reported thefts throughout the region. Anyone with information about these crimes is asked to call the Pleasanton Police Department at 931-5100.

In other police reports:

- A San Ramon woman was arrested Nov. 7 after allegedly stalking and making threats to a man she was in a previous relationship with.

- Over the last month, police allege Stacy Ann Schafer, 39, sent continuous text messages to the victim and would go looking

for the man at places he frequented.

The continuous text messages and searching for the man grew to an alarming stage Nov. 9, according to police, who added that none of the text messages were life-threatening. Schafer was arrested on suspicion of making criminal threats and stalking.

- A Stoneridge Mall Macy's employee was arrested Nov. 8 after reportedly admitting to stealing \$4,312 worth of merchandise from the store over a course of a year.

The district manager noticed several suspicious transactions from 20-year-old Sariah Shantel Iglesias and approached the Castro Valley resident about the transactions, according to police reports.

Investigators say Iglesias admitted to stealing merchandise and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of embezzlement.

- A Mount Hermon woman reported to

police that her car was burglarized while parked at the Residence Inn on Dublin Canyon Road.

The woman said she locked her vehicle around 9 p.m. Nov. 8 and returned to her car around 10:30 a.m. the next day (Nov. 9) to find her glove compartment ransacked, according to police.

Police reports state that nothing was stolen from inside her car, but several items were reported stolen from her trunk, including antique cups, supplies from Michael's, Christmas ornaments and a pearl necklace. The items were reportedly worth \$409.77, according to police.

Residence Inn hotel staff did not have any exterior surveillance cameras, police said. No arrests have been made.

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

— Amanda Aguilar



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POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Nov. 2

Missing person report

- 12:37 a.m. in the 5300 block of Case Avenue

Theft

- 12:49 p.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street; theft from structure
- 6:27 p.m. in the 4000 block of Pimlico Drive; theft from auto

Battery

- 4:52 p.m. in the 4100 block of Mohr Avenue

Nov. 3

Alcohol violation

- 3:48 a.m. in the 6400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 5:05 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Santa Rita Road

Vandalism

- 8:13 a.m. in the 3700 block of Stoneridge Drive

Domestic battery

- 11:07 a.m. in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue

Theft from auto

- 7:54 p.m. Street information not disclosed.

Nov. 4

Residential burglary

- 1:46 p.m. in the 7800 block of Fair Oaks Drive

Theft

- 2:51 p.m. in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; theft from structure

Missing person

- 4:12 p.m. in the 7600 block of Driftwood Way

Nov. 5

Theft

- 9:25 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; bicycle theft
- 2:57 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from structure
- 3:50 p.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road; bicycle theft
- 4:17 p.m. in the 4000 block of Vineyard Avenue

Sex offenses

- 1:52 p.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Have yourself a very downtown holiday season!

We all know how important it is to shop local and shop small so this holiday season we are challenging all Pleasanton Weekly readers to spend (at least!) \$100 in Downtown Pleasanton.

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Local businesses produce more income, jobs, and tax revenues for local regions. Local businesses keep neighborhoods vibrant and unique.

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Finally, there's the obvious. Local businesses are fundamentally tied into the future of their communities and do things like donate more money to local causes and events.

Here's the math:

For every \$100 spent at a local and independent business, \$68 stays in the local economy*.

This is what economists call the multiplier effect – meaning the money is then re-spent by the owners and employees of the first shop at other restaurants, clothing stores, bars, spas, gift stores, dentists, auto mechanics, and



► See **DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY**, page 3



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DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY

▶ Continued from page 1

more. By contrast that same \$100 spent at big national chain retailers recirculates, at best, only \$43.

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**This stat and the others are according to the Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.*

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The magic of ancient Babylonia

Author to speak on a world where spells were used in everyday life

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Author Maggie Anton has spent years poring over ancient religious texts and artifacts to discover the role of magic in the ancient world.

Is there a difference between a prayer and a spell?

"It's a fuzzy border between incantations, prayers, spells and blessings," said Talmudic scholar Maggie Anton, who recently published her latest historical novel, "Enchantress."

"It's one thing when you're praying for yourself — I'm having a hard time. God, give me the strength' — I don't know that that's so magical," Anton said. "But if your mother is in the hospital and you are praying she'll recover ..."

In her books, she combines Talmudic lore, ancient Jewish magic, and love stories set in third- to fourth-century Babylonia, where the word "magic" originated.

Anton, who lives in Los Angeles, will be speaking at 7:30 p.m. next Wednesday (Nov. 19) at Congregation Beth Emek in Pleasanton. She will explore these magical topics, plus talk about how her fascination with the Talmud, the book of Jewish law, led to her second career as a writer of historical fiction.

In 1992, she attended a Talmud class taught by feminist theologian Rachel Adler. Since women had been forbidden to study Talmud, she wanted to do it, Anton said with a laugh.

"I fell in love with Talmud; it became my passion," she recalled.

In the class she was fascinated to learn that the Talmud contained discussions of spells, amulets, demons, the Evil Eye and other occult subjects. Then when she began doing research to find names for the female characters in her first book, "Rav Hisda's Daughter," she discovered the Babylonian incantation bowls.

"Thousands of these bowls, written like the Talmud in Aramaic in Hebrew script, have been unearthed in what is now Iraq and dated to the fourth to sixth century," Anton said.

They were ordinary pottery with inscriptions to protect the people who buried them under their homes, she explained. A collection that was found under an old synagogue and moved to Oxford University in the 1800s has become more available after a Jewish hedge fund billionaire funded the digitalization of the fragments so they could be matched up, Anton said.

The incantations were clearly written by educated Jews, she added, and they called upon Jewish angels and contained biblical verses.



"Enchantress," Maggie Anton's latest book, is a tale of magic, love and faith.



CONGREGATION BETH EMEK
Congregation Beth Emek in Pleasanton will play host to author Maggie Anton next week when she speaks about her latest novel and aspects of ancient Babylonia.

"I soon learned that magic, whose etymology comes from Magi, the scholar-priests of Zoroastrian Babylonia, was pervasive not only in Persia, but throughout the Roman Empire as well," Anton said.

She distinguishes two types of Jewish sorcery, based on spells found on ancient amulets and incantation bowls: Women seeking to heal the sick, and protect children and pregnant women from harm; and men performing magic to influence opinions in their favor, to silence their enemies and — Anton's favorite — to win at chariot races.

She also observed that the spells worked, that people did recover from injuries and illnesses, most pregnant women did not die in childbirth, and the majority of young ones did survive their childhood.

"The placebo effect is real," she said. "The fact is that someone can take a placebo and get better even if they know they are taking placebo."

Anton, who worked as a clinical chemist at Kaiser Permanente for 30 years, said she's long been a voracious reader of fiction. When she had the idea of writing about the learned women in third-century Babylonia, her aim was to write the type of book that she wanted to read.

"It turns out that there are plenty of other women who wanted to read the book that I wanted to read," she said.

She and her husband started their own small press to first publish "Rav Hisda's Daughter," hiring illustrators, a

Ancient magic

What: Maggie Anton, author of "Enchantress" and other historical fiction set in ancient Babylonia

When: 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 19. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Where: Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court

Admission: Free

publicist and editors.

"I knew my niche audience. I went around to synagogues and Jewish groups. They bought lots of books," she remembered.

She sold 26,000 copies in 18 months, which drew the attention of large publishers and started a bidding war for books two and three in her trilogy, "Rashi's Daughters."

"I retired mainly because I had a contract with Penguin and I was traveling, doing book tours," she said. Now she only has had to plan her tours around the births of her four grandchildren.

Jewish women are her biggest fans, she said, closely followed by readers of historical fiction who like heroines. Her novels have strong female characters; she noted that the role of sorceress gave Jewish women influence in their male-dominated society and religion.

"History books in particular are writ-



COURTESY OF MAGGIE ANTON

This incantation bowl dates back to between the fourth and sixth centuries CE. It would be buried under a house and used to protect the inhabitants from demons.

ten by men about men for men," she said. "The only way I could write about women was it had to be a novel."

Anton said that there are more than just traces of sorcery in modern Judaism.

"Some prayers and blessings said in synagogue today are based on incantations found in the Talmud,"

she explained. "In addition, modern versions of ancient Jewish amulets can be found in most Judaica shops."

She said rabbis have welcomed her talks at local synagogues.

"Rabbis are more than supportive — whatever they can use to let their congregations learn about Jewish history," she said. ■

Q&A with author Maggie Anton

How were Jewish women who practiced sorcery viewed in ancient societies?

Judging by the ubiquity of amulets, incantation bowls and magic manuals that date to the first six centuries of the Common Era, the practice of sorcery was a large-scale enterprise back then. At the same time, the Talmud is adamant that sorcery is the province of women yet never condemns them.

Indeed there is a section of Talmud on amulets that explicitly explains how to ascertain if the scribe is an expert and if a particular spell is proven. Rabbis consult various women with magic expertise, including the "head sorceress," and recommend many of their incantations. **Why don't more people know about the role of magic in the Talmud?**

Until recently, Talmud study was limited to those few scholars who were fluent in Aramaic and attended "yeshiva," advanced Talmud academies. They concentrated on the sections debating Jewish Law, and paid less attention to the others. Still, scholars aware of the passages on magic preferred to ignore them, embarrassed to admit that the great Sages engaged in such "nonsense."

Over the centuries, magic has been closely identified with evil, malice or the devil. What is the provenance of Jewish magic?

Contrary to this stereotype, the Talmud saw Jewish enchantresses as in league with

the angels. They looked to the beginning of Genesis, Chapter Six, where it says the divine beings saw that the daughters of man were beautiful and took wives from among them. The sons of these unions were the heroes of old, men of renown, but what of the daughters?

The Talmudic sages say that these divine beings taught their wives healing magic that calls upon angels, which most do, and these women taught their daughters, who taught theirs, and so on. Such spells were sanctioned by the Rabbis, who declared that any Torah Law might be broken in order to save a life. And not only to heal the sick, but also to prevent sickness. **Although your novels are set in ancient times when women weren't given the same opportunities as men, your heroine struggles with some modern women's issues — the right to women's independence, acceptance to participate in religious life and the freedom to love whom she chooses. How were you able to work within her circumstances to create such a strong-willed and independent character?**

Rav Hisda's daughter is the woman mentioned more often in the Talmud than any other, one endowed with wealth and learning. Thus she has opportunities not available to the average poor and illiterate woman of her time. Still she is constrained by her gender in that, despite all her knowledge, she can never be a rabbi or a priest. By learning to be an enchantress, she enters a profession where women are esteemed and powerful. ■



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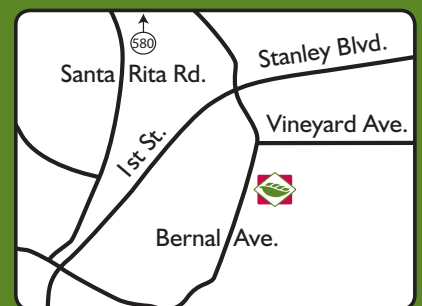
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AVHS boys water polo season ends at sections

Dons lose in first round; Falcons also fall in opener

By JEREMY WALSH

The Amador Valley High boys varsity water polo team wrapped up its season last week with an opening-round postseason loss to league rival Monte Vista High.

The ninth-seeded Dons fell to the No. 8 seed from Danville 12-8 in the first round of the North Coast Section (NCS) Division 1 tournament on Nov. 6. The game was played at Danville's San Ramon Valley High.

Amador Valley finished the regular season at 18-5 and brought home a tournament championship at the California Capital Challenge earlier in the season.

The Dons completed East Bay Athletic League play with a come-from-behind win against cross-town rival Foothill High late last month.

The Foothill varsity team also qualified for the year-end NCS tournament, but the Falcons (seeded 11th) dropped their opener to No. 6 Sir Francis Drake High (San Anselmo) 15-6 on Nov.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Amador Valley High boys water polo players shown with head coach Neal Sornsen (right).

6 at Miramonte High School.

The two Pleasanton schools' junior varsity teams also matched

up at the end of the regular season, with Amador Valley coming out on top. ■

Local gymnasts star in Vallejo

Team places third, girls post high individual results at Hollywood Invitational

The Pleasanton-based West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy girls' Level 4 compulsory team finished third overall in the Hollywood Invitational, held Nov. 2 in Vallejo.

The local gymnasts also earned a variety of high individual finishes, highlighted by Mia Reeve taking first in her vault division and McKenzie Meyn winning four events and all-around in her division. The results included:

Level 3

Younger Division:

- Natalie Barbosa - fourth on

bars, vault and all-around, fifth on beam.

- Julianna Costa - fifth on beam, sixth on all-around, seventh on vault, eighth on bars and floor.
- Kaylynn Pruden - 11th on all-around.

Level 4

Middle A Division:

- Nitika Chand - third on vault, seventh on floor and all-around.
- Keira Howard - seventh on beam.
- Anne-Sophie Laliberte - 11th on all-around.

Middle B Division:

- McKenzie Meyn - first on floor,

beam, vault, bars and all-around.

- Aryanna Iniguez - second on bars, fifth on beam and all-around, sixth on floor.
- Isabel McGaughy - third on vault, fourth on all-around, sixth on bars, seventh on floor.

Older Division:

- Mia Reeve - first on vault, fifth on floor, seventh on all-around.
- Aria Spaulding - third on floor, fifth on bars and all-around, sixth on beam.
- Zoe White - fourth on floor, sixth on bars, eighth on all-around. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

PFLL opens registration for spring 2015

Pleasanton Foothill Little League has begun registration for all of its baseball divisions for the spring 2015 season.

The nonprofit youth baseball program is open to players 4 to 18 years old who live within the PFLL boundaries. The league is fielding teams in T-ball, Single-A, AA, AAA and Majors divisions.

Registration is now open online, available at pflonline.org. Early registration ends on Dec. 1 for all AA, AAA and Majors players and continues until Dec. 31 for T-ball and Single-A divisions. The final registration dead-

lines are Jan. 1 for AA, AAA and Majors, and Feb. 1 for T-ball and Single-A.

Players who plan to play AA, AAA or Majors must attend evaluations at Pleasanton Middle School at the following times:

- Majors, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to noon.
- AA/AAA (last names beginning A-K), Dec. 6 from 1-3:30 p.m.
- AA/AAA (last names beginning L-Z), Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information, visit the PFLL website. ■

—Jeremy Walsh



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ballistic United U13 wins Davis tourney

The Ballistic United U13 Premier team won the Davis Legacy Lily Nisen Memorial Tournament late last month, defeating a Granite Bay team 1-0 in the championship game.

The local squad averaged 72% time of possession during the event and conceded just two goals over the four games. Ballistic United's Michael McMasters was named Player of the Tournament.

Shown are team members (top, left to right) Sander Head, Robert Yeo, Evan Thomas, Leo Borghese, coach Anthony Villegas, Jesus Alvarez, Drew Wong, Michael McMasters and Michael O'Brien, and (bottom, left to right) Arjun Mody, Kayan Amani-Taleshi, Henrik Pettersson, Derek Fietz, Azfal Peermohammed, John Grubbs, Victor Shu, Ben Wold and David Zhang.

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Honored Pleasanton Seahawks included (left to right) Jonah Cooper, Maxime Rooney, Moriah Simonds, Tyler Lu, Chris Jhong and Nathan Yates.

Seahawks recognized at awards banquet

Honors included Outstanding Swimmer, Relay of the Year

Four Pleasanton Seahawks were honored as Outstanding Swimmers in their age groups at the annual Pacific Swimming Awards Banquet held last month in Milpitas.

The Seahawks award winners were: Erika Brown (15) for Outstanding Long Course Female Swimmer, Jonah Cooper (13) for Outstanding Short Course Male Swimmer, Maxime Rooney (16) for Outstanding Short Course and Long Course Male Swimmer, and Moriah Simonds (16) for Outstanding Short Course and Long

Course Female Swimmer.

The Seahawks' 400 freestyle relay team of Nathan Yates, Cooper, Chris Jhong and Tyler Lu took home Relay of the Year honors for their time of 3:44.32. The team earned another of the four Relay of the Year nominees, with the 400 medley relay quartet of Cooper, Timothy Yao, Jhong and Lu also being recognized.

In other awards, Rooney was a finalist for Swimmer of the Year, and Simonds was nominated for Race of the Year.

Pacific Swimming is the third largest of USA Swimming's 59 regional associations. It is made up of 120 swim clubs and more than 16,000 swimmers. ■

—Jeremy Walsh



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rage 05 Orange squad heads to State Cup semis

The Pleasanton Rage 05 Orange U9 team is set for a State Cup semifinal showdown with Modesto Ajax in Manteca this weekend after finishing first in the NorCal Premier Gold Division with a record of 7-0-2.

The Rage team yielded seven goals all season and posted a plus-27 goal differential.

Shown are team members (top, left to right) Layla Mai, Angelema Akanyirige, Paige Bennett, coach Dave Shaw, Katie Salonga and Phoebe Kmetz, and (bottom, left to right) Angelina Ricupati, Sydney Stimson, Makenze Mapes, Katie O'Sullivan, Macy Lehrer and Olivia Walinski.

PREP LINE-UP

Nov. 15

■ Amador & Foothill Cross Country: 9 a.m., 3200 Time Trial at San Ramon Valley High

■ Boys Soccer: 12 p.m., Amador at Alhambra

Nov. 18

■ Boys Basketball: 7 p.m., Foothill at Castro Valley

Nov. 20

■ Boys Soccer: 7 p.m., Mission San Jose at Amador

Nov. 22

■ Amador & Foothill Cross Country: 9 a.m., NCS Championships at

Hayward High

■ Boys Basketball: 9 a.m., Dougherty Valley at Foothill

Nov. 25

■ Boys Basketball: 7:30 p.m., Acalanes at Foothill

Dec. 1

■ Boys Soccer: 6 p.m., Miramonte at Amador

Dec. 2

■ Boys Basketball: 7 p.m., Foothill at Pittsburg

Dec. 3

■ Boys Soccer: 7 p.m., American at Amador

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Next Level Flag Football Foothill High School, Pleasanton

Next Level Flag Football Pleasanton - Overview:

- Season – League play runs from January 4th through March 8th
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- Student Athlete Coaches – All teams will have a Foothill High School Student Athlete as their coach.
- Community Centric League – Participants get to play with friends/classmates, parents enjoy weekend games within social circles.
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DARIAN SHIMY easing school registration



By Amanda Aguilar



COURTESY OF SHIMY

Above: Darian Shimy works on creating Walnut Grove Elementary's Future Fund website page. Below: Shimy receives his Tri-Valley Heroes Innovation Award on Oct. 20.



MIKE SEDLAK/MIKE@DIGITALSIGHT.COM

From the comfort of their own home or even from their hotel room on a family vacation, some Pleasanton school parents were able to register their child online, make required school payments and donate money through a new application called "Future Fund" — which was designed by Pleasanton parent, Darian Shimy.

"I wanted to eliminate the need to come to school," Shimy said.

Shimy's donation application was used by eight Pleasanton Unified schools on registration day: Donlan Elementary, Hart Middle School, Harvest Park Middle School, Hearst Elementary, Lydiksen Elementary, Pleasanton Middle School, Valley View Elementary and Walnut Grove Elementary.

Nearly all school sites using Future Fund saw an increase in fundraising, some with an increase of over 50% from last year, said Andrea Stokoe, Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation board member and registration committee chair.

This support was a contributing factor in PPIE's record \$330,000 of donations received during registration.

"Future Fund transformed registration at many of our schools. Next year, I would imagine most of our schools will be interested in utilizing Future Fund," said Pleasanton schools superintendent Parvin Ahmadi.

Prior to registration day, parents received a registration code for the Future Fund website — also available on mobile devices. After logging in, parents simply turned in required school documents and payments, and then were able to donate to PPIE or parent clubs.

According to Shimy, each school's Future Fund was different to accommodate the needs of each school. Some of the application's features included buying P.E. clothes or yearbooks, and signing up for volunteer opportunities, Parent Teacher Association or school newsletters.

He said he came up with the idea of Future Fund after asking how to give money and support school programs with very little time and energy.

Shimy then presented his idea at a Parent Club Council (PCC) meeting with the schools' Parent Teacher Association presidents last November.

"Everyone liked it, and it grew from there," Shimy said.

The schools that chose to use Future Fund worked with him to provide feedback about what their specific school site was looking for with the application.

The biggest challenges he faced while building Future Fund, he said, was dealing with schools' differing registration processes or the different features schools wanted on their application.

"Right when I think I got it down, I had to redo something," Shimy said. "A lot of time was spent on building the application because I wanted parents to have an optimal experience while using it."

The whole building process began around February and continued throughout the summer.

"It was a lot of late nights," Shimy said. On top of working as vice president of engineering at a website-building service, Shimy spent approximately 20 hours a week on Future Fund.

This work included setting up how credit cards would be processed, adding Spanish and Chinese language translations, how parents could submit required forms and making sure the application worked on mobile devices.

"Darian transformed a necessary and cumbersome process into a simplified, streamlined one — not only for parents of students in our school district, but also for the school sites and organizations who support them, such as PPIE," PPIE executive director Susan Hayes said.

The success of Future Fund far exceeded Shimy's expectations.

"I never expected any of this," he said. "I never expected to even be talking to you (the Pleasanton Weekly) about Future Fund."

According to Hayes, after registration week, Shimy presented the outcomes to the PCC — with many of the participating schools enthusiastic and interested in continuing the use of Future Fund. The schools that didn't use it expressed interest in using it next year, Hayes said.

Shimy stated that parents are still using it, and he's continuously making it more user-friendly and working on adding new features — such as online signatures and uploading emergency cards and proof of residency.

He has offered to continue making Future Fund available to schools free of charge.

"It's my way of giving back to the school and community," Shimy said. ■

Hero FYI

- ▲ In September, the Pleasanton school board recognized Shimy as a "community member whose efforts benefit every student."
- ▲ 88% of the parents at participating schools registered their students online.
- ▲ Many of those schools saw 30-50% increases in donations with Future Fund.
- ▲ Average online registration completion time was 6.5 minutes, according to Shimy.
- ▲ One of the schools had Shimy create a way for parents to pay so their child's name could show up on the "Birthday Board" outside the school.
- ▲ Shimy has two daughters: one at Walnut Grove and one at Harvest Park.
- ▲ Shimy holds bachelor's and master's degrees in computer science.

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RILEY GLASSON fashion philanthropy



COURTESY OF GLASSON

Riley Glasson, director of nonprofit 1Closet, carries a box full of donated clothing items stored in her family's garage in Alamo.



MIKE SEDLAK/MIKE@DIGITALSIGHT.COM



COURTESY OF GLASSON

Top right: Glasson gives her acceptance speech after receiving her Heroes award. Bottom right: Glasson makes a donation drop at Youth homes in Pleasant Hill.

By Cierra Bailey

Alamo teen Riley Glasson helps provide a sense of confidence and optimism for her peers through the organization she manages called 1Closet, which collects and donates gently used and new clothing to teenagers in need.

"Being involved in other teens' lives as a positive influence and knowing that a simple gesture like receiving clothing will help them get back in school, get a job or just feel good about themselves is rewarding," Glasson, 17, said.

A senior at San Ramon Valley High School in Danville, Glasson dedicates about 10 hours a week to her duties as director of 1Closet. Her responsibilities include managing emails, sending thank-you letters, meeting with partners, setting up clothing drives, and collecting and sorting clothing.

1Closet was founded in 2011 by Oakland native Laura Graham with the help of her mother, Sue. Graham, who had a passion for fashion and wanted to give back to teens in the community, began holding clothing drives at nearby high schools and distributing the donated clothes to teen-focused charities and social service agencies, Glasson said.

Before Graham left the state for college, she started searching for someone to take over 1Closet. Glasson's family took interest in the opportunity and now Riley, along with her two younger sisters — ages 10 and 13 — and their mother, run the organization together.

"With three sisters in our household, there is definitely a love for clothing," Glasson said. "Being able to help those who don't have the same access to clothing is a great cause for us."

Glasson began her role as director of 1Closet earlier this year and has expanded the "teen to teen giving" effort by partnering with Hyatt House in Pleasanton, now a permanent drop-off location for donations.

She has also connected with a Pleasanton gently used clothing store, Plato's Closet, which donates its unsold clothing to 1Closet and promotes donations to its customers.

"Our new partners have taken 1Closet to a whole new level and are a great addition to our local high school clothing drives that have been part of 1Closet since its inception," Glasson said.

Since its founding less than four years ago, 1Closet has collected more than 30,000 garments worth approximately \$250,000 and helped more than 10,000 teens in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco and Sonoma counties.

"Many foster teens who don't have a lot are so appreciative to get clothing. I've helped teens rescued from prostitution and were just starting over, and I've met some teens who are homeless and are looking for a way to move forward," Glasson said.

"All these teens are just like me," she added. "And understanding that they aren't any different, but just might need a little help is what makes me feel like this is what I should be doing."

Aside from her 1Closet responsibilities, Glasson plays soccer for Mustang Soccer League in Danville, is involved in the leadership program at her school and works at Primo's Pizza in Danville.

She said that despite her busy schedule, she is motivated to keep up her work for 1Closet by the happiness and self-confidence it brings to others.

"It's worth it to put time into something that truly makes a difference," she said. "When I get a thank-you letter or hear a story about what the clothing I sent did for another teen, I'm even more motivated to do more."

As Glasson readies to graduate from high school this spring, she is noticing how her work with 1Closet has helped prepare her for college and the workforce.

"I have the opportunity to interact with a lot of people in great organizations and have a responsibility of running a charity on my own and making it succeed," Glasson said. "Every new partner, clothing drive or new organization that comes aboard is another success for 1Closet." ■

Hero FYI

- ▲ Glasson's two younger sisters, Carly and Bella, will take over 1Closet when she goes to college.
- ▲ Glasson hopes to become an orthopedic surgeon.
- ▲ Clothing for 1Closet is stored and sorted in Glasson's home garage. There are hundreds of garments there now.
- ▲ Glasson hopes to get more permanent drop-off locations in Danville, San Ramon, Oakland, Concord and Walnut Creek.
- ▲ Glasson and her mom are also involved in a mother-daughter service group called the National Charity League, Inc.
- ▲ 1Closet founder Laura Graham graduated from Oakland's Bishop O'Dowd High School.
- ▲ For more information about 1Closet and its local partners, visit www.1-closet.com

Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY • POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Author Visits

AN EVENING WITH MAGGIE

ANTON Author of the acclaimed "Rashi's Daughter's" series Maggie Anton will discuss her new novel "Enchantress," which weaves together Talmudic lore, ancient Jewish magic, and a timeless love story set in fourth-century Babylonia, at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at Congregation Beth Emek. Contact Leslie Silberman at programs@bethemek.org.

Clubs

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS MEETING The guest speaker for the California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch will be Jane Mackay, who will share tips to save money at both the developmental editing and copy editing stages of bringing your manuscript to publication, at 2

p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15 at Four Points by Sheraton. Cost is \$12 for members, \$17 for non-members. Call 8287687 or go to www.trivalleywriters.org.

Concerts

BROADWAY CHORUS PRESENTS 'A CORNUCOPIA OF SONG' Broadway Chorus and Broadway Kids Chorus kick present "A Cornucopia of Song," a program of music from John Rutter, Aaron Copeland, and Broadway at 8 p.m. on Friday-Sunday, Nov. 21-23 at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$17 for seniors, \$10 for under 18. Call 462-2121 or go to www.broadwaychorus.org.

HARMONY FUSION CHORUS PRESENTS 'PRELUDE TO WINTER' The women's barbershop chorus and chapter of Sweet Adelines International presents an after-

noon of carols and popular holiday songs, "Prelude to Winter" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15 at Lynnewood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. Guest reception. Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. Call 373-0210 or go to <http://www.harmonyfusion.org>.

Events

ANNUAL SCOUTING FOR FOOD DRIVE The Boy Scouts will be collecting canned goods for the annual drive to help stock the Alameda Food Bank for the holiday season. Door hanger notifications distributed now and collection of your donations of canned foods will be on Saturday, Nov. 15.

COWBOY HOOTENANNY FOLK FESTIVAL Celebrate Sunol Regional Wilderness' pioneer and ranching heritage from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15 at Sunol Regional Wilderness, 1895 Geary Road, Sunol. Pony rides, petting zoo, ranching and pioneer skills demos, quilting, branding, making old fashioned toys and games. Live music and square dancing. BBQ food for sale. Parking is \$5. Call (510) 544-3249 or go to www.ebparks.org.

VFW TEA DANCE The Pleasanton VFW, post 6298 is hosting a Tea Dance from 1-3 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 301 Main St. Come dance to the music of the Mellotones Jazz Combo. Cover is \$10, includes a light lunch and drink. Call 443-2224.

Film

'THE HOUSE I LIVE IN' Award-winning filmmaker Eugene Jarecki brilliantly shows how the "war on drugs" is less about drugs and more about feeding poor young people into this prison machine, robbing us of our humanity to one another. "The House I Live In" will be preceded by a meet and greet potluck at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22 at IBEW Hall in Dublin, with a discussion following the film. Call 462-3459.

Holiday

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE Looking for a gift for someone special, a gift exchange, hostess or teacher? Find a variety of unique, hand-made gifts from local crafters and artisans from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15 at Harvest Valley Church, 3200 Hopyard Road. Call 484-2482 ext. 121.

Lectures/ Workshops

COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES 'PARENTS AND HOMEWORK: WHAT'S YOUR ROLE?' The final program of the Community Education Series will be "Parents and Homework: What's Your Role?" at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at the

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY/M. ADKINS

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Zeppelin, a 6-month-old heartbreaker, knows his time is gonna come, since he's wildly affectionate with a powerful leap. Give Zeppelin all your love today — adopt him from Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St. in Pleasanton. For more info, visit valleyhumane.org or call 426-8656.

Pleasanton Library. Featuring a presentation by Margaret Dunlap, a schools program director from Challenge Success. Learn how to minimize homework stress and make it a more positive experience. Register at pleasantonfun.com with code 59251 or at the event. Call 931-3474.

HEALING THROUGH COMPASSION Healing Through Compassion, A Conversation with Scarlett Lewis will be from 7-8:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 14 at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore. Jesse Lewis was killed in the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in December 2012. His mother, Scarlett Lewis, shares how we can choose love over anger. Cost is \$20. Net proceeds benefit Jesse Lewis Choose Love Foundation. Call 518-1648 or go to <http://www.fpcl.us>.

Seniors

AGING MATTERS Join an open discussion of aging in our society on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at Arbor Vista Senior Apartments in Livermore. What are the challenges? What are the joys? Support each other through sharing experience. Call 621-7650 or go to www.hiredhandshomecare.com.

BEGINNING WATERCOLOR This four session course for beginning painters will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 19-Dec. 10 at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Learn basic watercolor techniques and have a finished project at the end of the session. A supply kit is required and available for purchase from the instructor for \$5. Space is limited and registration is required. Cost is \$7 for residents, \$9 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

CHAT WITH THE NAT Join Alviso Adobe staff at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 18 at the Pleasanton Senior Center for a lecture series on a wide array of topics that cover the local natural world and vicinity. Lectures include hands on materials, visits from furry friends and plenty of time for questions. Call 931-5365 or go to www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org.

HOLIDAY CRAFT BOUTIQUE Each year this event gets bigger and bigger, with new crafters displaying their original handmade arts and crafts. Visit the Dublin Senior Center for a day of holiday shopping on Saturday, Nov. 15. You'll find a wonderful assortment of unique items for gift-giving or for yourself. Call 556-4511.

Spiritual

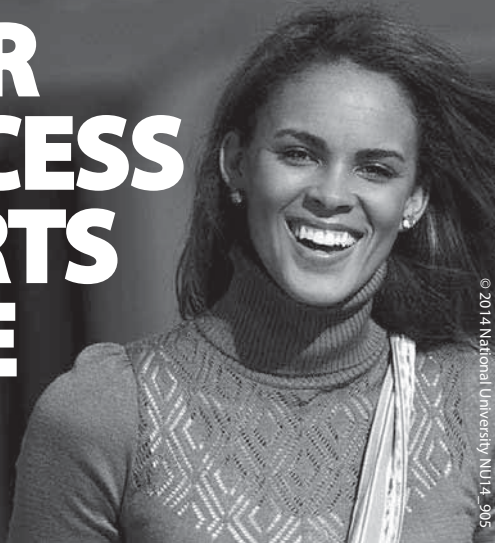
MASS OF REMEMBRANCE Honor those you have loved, who have died, in a special Mass of Remembrance at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 17 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. All are invited. If you wish, bring a small picture or memento of your loved one. For any questions call Dave Wellbeloved at 519-2310.

QI GONG CLASSES Join this 8-week series of qi gong classes, "Super Six Health Infusion." Sessions will be at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 11-25; Dec. 2-16; and Jan. 6-13 at Unity of Tri-Valley's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd. #120, Dublin. Focus on exercises that reduce stress from the internal organs to promote vitality and general health. Learn the six healing sounds that calm the mind and reduce the effects of negative emotions. Prepayment of \$80 encouraged, but drop-ins welcome for \$12 a class. Contact Gayle Staehle at 200-1765 or gstaehle@comcast.net. Go to <http://www.unityoftri-valley.org/>.

Volunteering

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF AMADOR VALLEY All ladies are invited to join this dedicated group of volunteers, reaching out to those in need in the Tri-Valley and having fun doing it. Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at The Parkview, 100 Valley Ave. Contact 461-6401 or assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com. Go to www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org.

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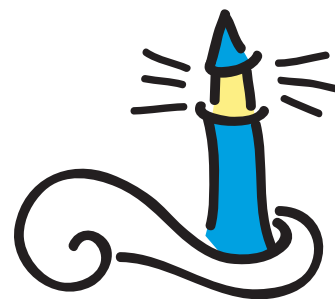
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Bulletin Board

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Jobs

500 Help Wanted

Newspaper delivery
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@pleasantonweekly.com.

Warehouse
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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

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)

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)

REALTY WORLD NORTHERN CA; REALTY WORLD NORTHERN CA & NV
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 497716-17

The following person(s) doing business as: REALTY WORLD NORTHERN CA; REALTY WORLD NORTHERN CA & NV, 4309 HACIENDA DRIVE, SUITE 110, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): NextHome, Inc., 4309 Hacienda Drive, Suite 110, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 10/14/2014. Signature of Registrant: Tei Baishiki, Chief Operating Officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/28/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28, 2014)

PACIFIC COAST COMPANY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 497011-3

The following person(s) doing business as: PACIFIC COAST COMPANY, 6754 #124 BERNAL AVE., PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): William J. Mohn, 31 Castledown Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: William J. Mohn. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/09/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2014)

THREE SHEETS CRAFT BEER BAR
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 497786

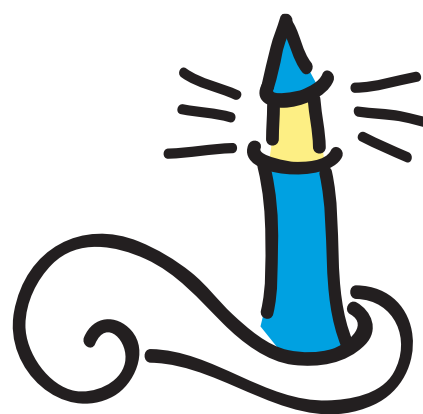
The following person(s) doing business as: THREE SHEETS CRAFT BEER BAR, 7046 VILLAGE PARKWAY, DUBLIN, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pastime Brew LLC, 3255 Lopes Court, Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Stefanie M Jackel, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/30/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5; 2014)

ORCHIDEE NAIL SPA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 497673

The following person(s) doing business as: ORCHIDEE NAIL SPA, 739 MAIN ST. SUITE J, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nguyen, Tuan, 14987 Crosby St., San Leandro, CA 94579. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Tuan Nguyen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/27/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5; 2014)

LIFETIME WELLNESS INTEGRATIVE HEALTH
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 497977

The following person(s) doing business as: LIFETIME WELLNESS INTEGRATIVE HEALTH, 231 OLD BERNAL AVE. SUITE 1, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lori Mancuso, 1742 S. Clearcreek Place, Danville, CA 94526. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Lori Mancuso. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 11/05/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5; 2014)



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Home remodeling continues to show strong growth

Trade association sees slow, steady recovery of industry

By **JEB BING**

Home remodeling saw strong growth across the U.S. in the third quarter of 2014, according to a report by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI).

This was the second quarter of growth this year, coming on top of June's strong increase over March, said Susan Swartz, NARI spokeswoman. All of the sub-components in the third quarter increased, with "conversion from bids to jobs" showing the strongest gain, up 3%.

Using a rating scale of 1 to 9 (where 1 is much worse than a year ago and 9 is much better), the NARI survey showed a 6.41 rating for the third quarter, ahead of the 6.07 in the year's second quarter.

Other factors in the trade association's report:

- Current business conditions for remodeling increased to 6.41 (from 6.29 last quarter)
- Number of inquiries for remodeling increased to 6.51 (up from 6.38 last quarter)
- Requests for remodeling bids rose to 6.41 (from 6.29 last quarter)
- Conversion of bids to actual work increased 6.01 (from 5.83 last quarter)
- Sales value of jobs improved to 6.27 (up from 6.20 last quarter).

Economic growth for the remodeling industry had a 10% increase this quarter rising to 57%, up from June's rating of 47% and

moving it to the No. 2 position. Postponed projects remain the top driver at 74%, although those are down 6% from the second quarter of 2014.

"This is indicative of the slow, steady recovery of the remodeling industry," said Tom O'Grady, chairman of NARI's strategic planning committee. "Currently 67% of remodelers are seeing growth, and are confident that the market is improving, which is in line with market indicators."

However, the three-month outlook for remodeling business declined slightly in June to 6.32 from the previous high posted in March of 6.51. Looking back over history, there is a pattern of declines in September as remodelers think ahead to the colder months.

The survey also explored homeowner financing of projects, which fell between neutral to difficult in obtaining the funds. The biggest barrier to financing, at 38%, was the financing company being overly cautious, followed by the project being too expensive relative to the home's value at 27%. Poor credit history was only selected as an issue by 11%.

A bank or credit union was the main source for financing at 72%. A credit card, the No. 2 choice, was utilized at only 20% of those remodeling. ■

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Dublin

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 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 935-7100

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS
3873 Inverness Common \$575,000
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111
630 Selby Lane #3 \$715,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8266

4 BEDROOMS

55 Terra Way \$1,200,000
 Sun 1-4 Cindy and Gene Williams 918-2045

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5 BEDROOMS
761 Antigua Terrace \$595,000
 Sun 1-4 Suzan Gladieux 336-1108

Pleasanton

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4873 Mohr Ave. \$939,900
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Emily Barraclough & Esther McClay
 621-4097/895-7253

8053 Horizons Court \$2,149,000
 Sat 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

4561 Sutter Gate Way \$920,000
 Sun 1-4 Louise Davis 200-2457

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1279 Lozano Court \$2,425,000
 Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226

6 BEDROOMS

1712 Zenato Place \$2,300,000
 Sun 1-4 Debby Johnson-Abarta 989-6844

San Ramon

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1215 Nancy Lane \$525,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Karen Tracy 847-2300

3 BEDROOMS

2029 Watermill Road \$709,000
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 4 BR 3 BA Granite in kitchen, new carpet & fresh paint. Master w/sitting area & fireplace. Pool, large lot.
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DUBLIN
7323 BOWER LN \$569,000
CAL HIGHLANDS TOWNHOME!
 3 BR 2.5 BA Kitchen w/Corian counters & SS appls. Wood floors, new carpet. Vaulted ceiling, walk-in closet!
 Suzanne Bieser CalBRE #1355940 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE
12457 MINES ROAD \$1,099.00
LOVELY RANCH HOME!
 5 BR 2.5 BA 5 stunning acres, views in every direction, gorgeous public tech pool/spa & much more!
 Mary Anne Rozsa CalBRE #00783003 925.847.2200

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

20850 MINES ROAD \$617,000
FABULOUS PIECE OF PROPERTY
 Views to rolling hills, trees and distant vistas. Several lovely spots for home site.
 Mary Anne Rozsa CalBRE #00783003 925.847.2200

1025 ELM ST & 692 RINCON AVE \$550,000
WONDERFUL DUPLEX!
 2 BR 1 BA Just Listed! Each unit features 2 BD & a full BA, 1 car garage & individual backyards!
 Sean Leggat CalBRE #01280186 925.847.2200

665 BUCKEYE DR \$464,950
OPEN & BRIGHT!
 3 BR 2 BA Bonus room, vaulted ceilings, brick fireplace, master BD w/walk-in closet, pool, side access!
 Mary Anne Rozsa CalBRE #00783003 925.847.2200

2160 RAILROAD AVE. \$575,000
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY!
 Older Commercial Property in downtown Livermore, great location, near shops & restaurants.
 Michael Curia CalBRE #00955990 888-515-9283

MOUNTAIN HOUSE
761 ANTIGUA TER \$595,000
Open SUN 1 - 4 GORGEOUS SHEA HOME!
 5 BR 4.5 BA Plus large office & bonus room. Gourmet kitchen w/granite & built-ins. 1 BD & full BA down.
 Suzan Gladieux CalBRE #01245705 925.847.2200

PLEASANTON
4164 VENETO CT \$649,950
GORGEOUS SIENA TOWNHOME!
 3 BR 2 BA Completely remodeled kitchen. Hardwood floors downstairs. Patio area in back!
 Suzanne Bieser CalBRE #01355940 925.847.2200

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

SAT/SUN 1-4 1215 NANCY LANE \$525,000
BACK ON THE MARKET!
 2BD 2BTH Beautiful condo in the Shelbourne Development-Spacious floor plan w/high ceilings-living room w/entertainment center, built-in surround sound speakers-ceiling fans in both BR & LR-Freshly painted (7/23)-master BD w/walk-in closet w/custom organizers
 Karen Tracy CalBRE #00962880

TRACY
302 W MOUNT DIABLO AVE \$229,000
NICE 1-ACRE LOT!
 Could be subdivided into 2 lots. Live on one & sell the other! Close to elementary school.
 Suzan Gladieux CalBRE #01245705 925.847.2200

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Emily Barraclough

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(925) 621-4097
BRE# 001479356

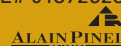


*Just Listed and Sold in October & November
by Emily Barraclough & Esther McClay*

www.925hometeam.com 

Esther McClay

REALTOR®
emcclay@apr.com
(925) 519-5025
BRE# 01872528



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4PM



JUST LISTED!



4873 Mohr Avenue, Pleasanton

Beautiful two story home located in the desirable Gates neighborhood. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, with approx. 2103 sq. ft. of living space. Updated kitchen that opens to the family room. Large master bedroom with walk in closet. Plantation shutters, hardwood flooring, newer carpet, and three car garage.

Nice 7210 square foot (approx) lot with landscaped backyard includes brick patio and in ground pool. Close to excellent schools, parks and trails.
Offered at \$939,900



SALE PENDING - REPRESENTING BUYER

11289 Bay Laurel Street, Dublin
Offered at \$1,169,900



JUST SOLD

7773 Tuscany Drive, Dublin
Sold for \$489,000



JUST SOLD

275 Norris Canyon Terrace Unit B, San Ramon
Sold for \$440,000

Call us today if you are considering buying or selling, we have excellent market knowledge and would love to work with you.



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

OPEN SATURDAY 1-4



MOLLER RANCH ESTATES
8053 HORIZONS COURT, PLEASANTON

Beautiful Pleasanton Westside Custom Home Located on Desirable Court off Foothill Road. Pleasanton Ridge & Hillside Views From This Approximately .70 Acre Beautifully Landscaped Estate Lot. Four Bedrooms (Possible 5th), Four Baths, Private Office, Approximately 5400 Square Feet. Large Gourmet Kitchen Opens to Generous Family-Great Room, Expansive Master Suite, Quality Woodwork and Moldings Throughout, Private Rear Grounds Back to Open Space. If You're Tired of an Electric Bill then enjoy thousands in savings with this comprehensive Solar System that's Already in Place and Generating Electricity For You. Conveniently located close to BART Station, 580/680 Access and Stoneridge Regional Mall. This is an exceptional value at under \$400 per Square Foot. Don't Miss it!

Offered at \$2,149,000

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



Tri-Valley Real Estate Directory



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www.darlenecrane.com
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925.600.0990



DRE# 00790463, 01412130



900 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566

MOXLEY REAL ESTATE TEAM

COMING SOON



6010 ALISAL STREET
PLEASANTON

MILLION DOLLAR VIEW, single-story home offers 3,785 SF of living space on 3.5+ acres, 4 beds, 3.5 baths, formal dining and grand family room. Panoramic views of the Pleasanton Valley and Callippe Golf Course. City sewer/water, solar, private well, detached RV garage with potential for in-law unit and geo-thermal heating system are additional features of this home.
CALL FOR PRICING



8062 ROCKFORD PLACE
PLEASANTON

Beautiful west-side Pleasanton setting offering 6 BD, 5.5 BA and 5,541 SF on a 1/2 acres. Open floor plan with custom woodwork and upgrades throughout. Main level offers 1 BD with full bath and media room with full bath. Master suite with fireplace. Private back yard offers a sparkling pool, spa, fire pit and covered BBQ/kitchen.
SOLD FOR \$2,125,000
REPRESENTED BUYERS

JUST LISTED



4155 CASTERSON COURT.
PLEASANTON

Located in Kottinger Ranch. Panoramic views of Mt. Diablo! Custom built w/ over \$250k in recent upgrades. 4BD, 2 offices, bonus/media room. Wainscoting & custom millwork throughout. Gourmet kitchen w/ large island, walk-in pantry, marble counters, wood flooring. Open design w/ attention to details. Backs to open space w/ oaks.
OFFERED AT \$1,980,000.00

SOLD



3602 DUNSMUIR CIRCLE
PLEASANTON

Located in Pleasanton Meadows. 4BD 2BA 2,168sf. on a 6,876sf. lot. Attention to detail! Remodeled kitchen w/ breakfast nook opening to the family room. Master suite offers an updated bath and large walk-in closet.
OFFERED AT \$839,000
SOLD FOR \$856,500



4217 DORMAN RD.
PLEASANTON

Located in Val Vista. Move-in ready. Kitchen w/ cherry cabinets, granite counters & stainless appliances. Open design w/ dining room off kitchen & family room. Formal living & family rooms. Updated hall bath w/ granite & tile. Master suite w/ generous closet space, granite & dual sinks. Back yard w/ patio & side yard.
OFFERED AT \$730,000

PENDING



440 E ANGELA ST.
PLEASANTON

Located in Downtown Pleasanton and a few blocks from Main St. 3BD + Office, 2BA 1,511sf. Vaulted ceiling in living room and great room off kitchen. Remodeled kitchen w/ large island, gourmet range, large pantry and a modern open design. Updated bathroom, newer laminate wood flooring and large yard.
OFFERED AT \$824,000

Venture

Sotheby's

INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Open Sunday 1-4

4561 Sutter Gate
Totally Remodeled Spacious Home with downstairs bedroom
4 Bd, 3 Ba, 2,100 Sq. Ft.
Popular "Gates" neighborhood. Perfect home for the Holidays and room for guests. New kitchen, appliances, Hvac, baths, flooring, windows. Private yard with mature trees.
Offered at \$920,000

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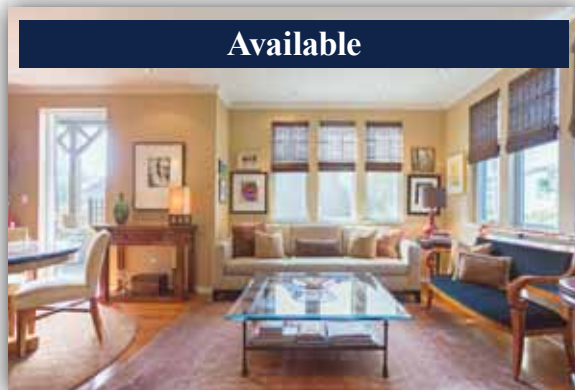
3558 Crespi Court, Pleasanton
Kottinger Ranch View Home
6 Bd, 4 Ba, Bonus, 4,857 Sq. Ft.
Panoramic views from Mt. Diablo to the Altamont pass are yours in this custom home with resort styled yard, pool, spa and full sized sport court. Cherry floors, gorgeous features.
Please Call For Pricing
Donna Garrison & Susan Schall
925.980.0273 | 925.519.8226 | FabulousProperties.net



Open Sunday 1-4

1279 Lozano Court, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton
Glorious Georgian Estate
4 Bd, 3.5 Ba 5,560 Sq. Ft. on .74 acre
Cherry floors, extensive millwork, gourmet kitchen and traditional styling. Resort styled yard.
Offered at \$2,425,000

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Available

350 Broderick St #204
Perfect Pied-a-terre in San Francisco!
2 Bd, 2 Ba
Beautiful two-bedroom, two-bath corner unit in the heart of NOPA with easy access to freeway, shuttles and downtown. Originally reserved for the developer, this condo boasts numerous upgrades including recessed lighting, built-in speakers, custom closets/built-ins and many more.
Offered at \$1,098,000

Paal Salvesen | 925.520.5630 | venturesir.com



Open Sat/Sun 1-4

630 Selby Lane #3, Livermore
Luxury Townhome with Vineyard Views
3 Bd, 3.5 Ba, 2196 Sq. Ft.
Hardwood, Granite, designer lighting, premium lot, views from every window. Perfection.
Offered at \$715,000
Donna Garrison & Susan Schall
925.980.0273 | 925.519.8226 | FabulousProperties.net



Open Sunday 1-4

1712 Zenato Place
Classic Country French Custom In Ruby Hill
6 Bd, 5.5 Ba 5,050 Sq. Ft.
Large corner lot with fabulous vineyard views. Private back yard with pool, spa Built in BBQ and fire pit! Master downstairs.
Offered at \$2,300,000

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Available

7795 Cedar Mountain Road, Livermore
Tuscan Vineyard Estate
7 Bd, 6 Ba, 6,671 Sq. Ft.
Exceptional custom home with producing vineyards, on 16.2 acres in the Livermore Wine Country
Offered at \$4,200,000

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Sale Pending

574 Selby Lane, Livermore
Attractive Tri-Level Montage Home
3Bd, 2Ba, 1742 Sq. Ft.
Spacious Open Floor Plan, Great Family Room, Full Bed & Bath on First Level, Patio and Two Balconies
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TRI - VALLEY REALTY

OPEN SATURDAY 1-3PM



23 Carver Lane, Sunol
Nestled in the quiet hills of Sunol on over 5 acres of land. 5 bdrms, 3.5 baths, 2 car garage plus a detached 3 car garage. Zoned for an in law unit.
Offered at \$2,190,000

COMING SOON



4192 Denker Dr, Pleasanton
Fabulous one story home with 3 bdrms, 2 baths and 1600 sq ft. Granite kitchen with tile floors, cozy family rm. new carpet, paint and windows!
Priced in the low &700's

SALE PENDING!



Your Keller Williams Connection for The Birdland and Pleasanton Valley Area!

5143 Hummingbird Road:
4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, Monterey Model

JUST SOLD!



5196 Hummingbird Road
6 bedrooms, 3 baths, Heritage Model

55 Terra Way, South Livermore

This sought-after single-story model in Prima boasts amazing features! 4 Bedrooms, lovely office with French doors (5th bedroom option) and 3 full bathrooms. Master suite has retreat with a gas fireplace and French doors out to the backyard. The gourmet kitchen has a remodeled island with new slab counters. These original owners put in the highest quality upgrades. 5-zone heating and air system, central vacuum system, surround sound, intercom, attic fans, water softener and purification system, work bench, sink and storage cabinets in the painted and insulated garage. Lovely private backyard has fruit trees, water fall, slate patio and covered arbor. This home is 3023 square feet - Lot is 9,570 sq ft - Built in 2000
Offered at \$1,200,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4 PM



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SOLD



1081 Heinz Ranch Ct, Pleasanton
Gorgeous home in the Vineyards! Backs to open space! 5 bed, 4 bath plus a bonus room. Entertainers backyard with pool, spa, cascading waterfall.
Offered at \$1,798,000



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Call Debbie George-Davis for your real estate needs!

Debbie has been in the Real Estate industry for over 20 years. The first seven years she was in Mortgage lending and transitioned directly into Real Estate sales. Debbie has lived in the Tri-Valley for the last 30 years and her three children attended the wonderful Pleasanton Schools and have all graduated from college. Debbie loves working with all her clients and looks forward to continuing the opportunity to work with previous as well as new clients in the future.



Debbie George-Davis
925.918.3093

DebbieDavisRealtor14.com
DebbieDavisRealtor14@gmail.com

PENDING IN 7 DAYS!

We Know Ruby Hill!

3415 Gravina Place
Ruby Hill

Gorgeous Signature 5 BR, 3 BA home in Ruby Hill's Ascona community. Tirano model, 3851 +/-sq. ft. with terrific floor plan. Hardwood floors. Premium cul de sac lot measuring 8124 +/- sq. ft. backs to open space with entertainer's backyard, pool, and stunning views. 3 car garage.
Offered at \$1,439,000



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