

Pleasanton Weekly

Adventure awaits at
'Phantom Tollbooth'

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Sounding off

City candidates
air positions at
Weekly forum

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



JEB BING

This house at 536 St. John St., built in 1900, has been spared the wrecker's ball by developer Todd Deutscher who will build 10 new townhomes around it.

Developer wins praise for 'under-developing' downtown lot

At a time when developers are eyeing every available site in Pleasanton to build larger and taller residences, Todd Deutscher of Catalyst Development Partners deserves credit for taking a different approach.

Tuesday night, he won the City Council's approval — and praise — for helping the city provide more housing downtown while also preserving a bit of its history. Instead of seizing the opportunity to build 21 new homes on lots that he owns on St. John Street just a block from downtown stores and restaurants, he'll build only 10 and keep the 116-year-old house on the site.

At first, Deutscher wanted to buy and demolish a home on Pleasanton Avenue and move the vacant but still heritage St. John Street house there. When that deal failed, he redesigned his property development plan to accommodate the old but stylish house, moving it to a prominent position in his new development, upgrading and refurbishing it for buyers who like that century old lifestyle and wrapping his 10 new homes around it.

The move preserves the character and development traditions of the downtown while also improving its residential diversity and viability. It also meets the guidelines of the city's downtown specific plan by retaining the small-town scale and physical character of the downtown through the implementation of appropriate land use and development standards.

The home, still at 536 St. John St., is in one of five "heritage neigh-

borhoods" that are identified in the specific plan that lists architecturally preserved homes built before 1942. Constructed in 1900, the single-story house features a front porch common to homes in that era and was renovated in 1930, still meeting the requirements for the California Register of Historic Homes. An auxiliary building that was not part of the original home will be torn down.

Two of the 10 new townhomes will be next to the 1900 house, facing onto a driveway off St. John Street. The others will face the drive, three across from the old home and the others at the end of the private driveway.

Deutscher agreed to design them with architectural features found in other exiting buildings along St. John Street. They will feature brown and light gray earth-tone colors that will complement the historic home and other residences in the neighborhood.


Deutscher's development plan to build 11 fewer townhomes than his property's zoning allows and to move, refurbish and upgrade the historic home at considerable expense to his firm brought praise from the council. "Good job," said Councilman Arne Olson. "We're happy that you are saving an historic home."

Councilwoman Kathy Narum agreed. "The current zoning would have allowed him to build 21 homes on the site with parking for 43 cars. This makes for a great improvement to this historic neighborhood." ■

About the Cover

Pausing for a group photo before answering questions at Monday's Pleasanton Weekly candidates' forum are (front row, from left) City Council candidates Jerry Pentin, Karla Brown and Herb Ritter. Standing in the back are mayoral candidates Julie Testa and Mayor Jerry Thorne. Photo by Mike Sedlak (mike@digitalsight.com). Cover design by Kristin Brown.



Vol. XVII, Number 35



Karla Brown

Pleasanton City Council

Karla@Vote4Karla.com
www.Vote4Karla.com

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City Council
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Re-Elect

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2. More **QUALITY DRINKING WATER** is needed. We should expand recycled water systems for irrigation to help "drought proof" Pleasanton.
3. Plan for a larger **LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY CENTER**, currently the "busiest building in town." A larger library will provide support for all ages: Students, Seniors, ESL readers, tots, tutoring, Wi-Fi, e-books, meeting rooms, books on CDs, movies, music and more.
4. Protect **OPEN SPACE & RIDGELINES**. Scenic hills and open space should be preserved for all to enjoy, not just a few.
5. **CONTINUE TO GET THINGS DONE!** I supported: the Veteran's Memorial, Bernal Park-2, Workday Campus, Preserving historic homes, reduced pension debt, a dog park, 10 miles of recycled water pipe and more. I also support our hardworking police & fire personnel that protect us and keep us safe.



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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Do you judge people by their appearance?



Barbara Greenport *Photographer*

I kind of do. I know it's wrong, but I just can't help it. For example, when I see someone who has dyed their hair purple or green or blue, my first thoughts are (1) they are looking for attention and (2) they should find a more meaningful way of expressing themselves, like with words or actions, rather than just wasting time making their hair a totally unnatural color.



Sheri Hollander *Lawyer*

I do. I don't mean to, but there are certain things that are so ingrained in us throughout our lives that it's hard to not be judgmental. For example, when I interview someone for a job and they are overweight, I assume they are sluggish and lazy and not willing to work hard. I know it's wrong, but I can't deny that that is my first thought.



Scott Miller
Entrepreneur

It's very tempting to judge people by their appearance, but I try not to because I don't want anyone judging me by my own appearance, which really has very little to do with the kind of person I am in terms of substance, values and what goes on in my head.



Vicki Shannon
Bookkeeper

Absolutely. With the kind of work I do, I need to be fastidious and mindful of being accurate all the time. So when I meet someone whose hair is messy or whose clothes look dirty and wrinkled, I automatically think they don't pay close attention to detail.



Scott Wales
Sales

I make every effort to not judge people by their appearance, as I was always taught that a person's appearance and body are just a shell that holds together what really matters — the feelings in their hearts, the thoughts in their brains and the actions that define them.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

20-acre fire

A fire consumed 20 acres of vegetation in Pleasanton last Sunday afternoon before being extinguished.

Local emergency responders said the fire was reported shortly before 4:30 p.m. Sunday off Dublin Canyon Road and Schaefer Ranch Road. The Alameda County Fire Department, Cal Fire and East Bay Regional Park District responded to the scene.

The fire was contained at 20 acres. No structures were threatened and no injuries were reported, according to Alameda County Fire.

Firefighters determined the incident was a result of heavy equipment coming in contact with a rock.

Fall Festival

The city of Pleasanton is set to host its third annual Fall Festival tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road.

The day's schedule includes a presentation by Meadowlark Dairy, a visit with Fiona (the park's life-sized, fiberglass milking cow), a live animal display by the local 4-H, authentic Californios music and dance by The California Fandango Project, and crafts for children.

The event will also feature hands-on activities and presentations from the Adobe's three distinct time periods — Ohlone, Californio and the Meadowlark Dairy — and demonstrations such as making apple cider, tortillas and adobe bricks, soap carving and ice cream churning.

Pace for Peace

Tri-Valley Haven is holding its Pace for Peace fundraiser next weekend, an event with 5K walk/run and 10K run through Livermore's wine country.

Both courses are ideal for athletes and non-athletes alike, including teams, families, strollers and dogs, organizers said. Age group awards, chip timing, finisher medals and raffle prizes are all part of the event, set to start Oct. 1 at 8 a.m. at 3663 Pacific Ave., near downtown Livermore. Race-day registration begins at 7 a.m.

Pace for Peace proceeds support the nonprofit's efforts to support local survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, homelessness and hunger and to its middle/high school education prevention programs. For more information, visit www.trivalleyhaven.org or call 667-2728. ■

Correction

In the story "New strides in breast health care" in the Sept. 16 edition of the Pleasanton Weekly, we stated that Stanford ValleyCare Medical Center has 3-D imaging equipment. The equipment is not available now, but it is expected soon. We apologize for the error.

Candidates sound off

Election hopefuls air their positions at Pleasanton Weekly forum

By JEB BING

Candidates for Pleasanton's mayor and City Council positions sounded off Monday evening at the Pleasanton Weekly's candidates' forum over issues facing the community and how they would prioritize those issues if elected on Nov. 8.

The five answered a multitude of questions submitted by many of roughly 150 constituents who crowded into the City Council chamber where the forum was held. Those questions and others asked by forum moderators Gina Channell, publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly and this writer, who is the newspaper's editor,

filled the two-hour session.

"We hold these candidate forums before every city election and we've never had so many questions submitted to us by the audience to ask the candidates," Channell said. "It shows how important this election is for voters in this community."

The candidates are Mayor Jerry Thorne, who is seeking re-election to a third two-year term, and challenger Julie Testa. The three candidates seeking the two available seats on the council are incumbents Karla Brown and Jerry Pentin and challenger Herb Ritter, who is chairman of the city's Planning Commission.

The candidates faced questions

about community priorities, including the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone, transportation, water, workforce housing, the proposed construction of a new civic center and library and what they envision in a new downtown specific plan.

They were also asked if they would work independently if they disagreed with the majority on proposals before the council.

Brown said she voted against allowing another 7-Eleven store to open at Santa Rita Road and West Las Positas Boulevard (a store that recently opened), going against a majority vote that favored the store.

"The store is near Fairlands Elementary School, neighbors signed petitions against it, but the rest of the council approved the project anyway," Brown said.

Pentin said he voted against allowing the developers of the 350-unit apartment complex nearing completion at Bernal Avenue and Stanley Boulevard to avoid providing at least 15% of the units for moderate- to low-income tenants as required in Pleasanton. But the rest of the council allowed the developer to skirt the rule by contributing \$5 million into the city's affordable housing fund instead.

Testa, a longtime advocate for reducing what she claims are overcrowded schools in Pleasanton, used her opening remarks to call for a halt to new development. She acknowledged that the more than 2,000 new housing units under construction or recently completed were approved to comply with a court order. But now that the city has met those requirements, it's time to stop, she said.

"We're at a crossroads," Testa said. "The community feels it has no choice, no voice in what's going on. The students that will be attend-

See **CANDIDATES** on Page 9



MIKE SEDLAK/MIKE@DIGITALSIGHT.COM

Residents filling the City Council chamber listen to mayoral challenger Julie Testa and Mayor Jerry Thorne during candidates' forum hosted by the Pleasanton Weekly on Monday. The three City Council candidates answered questions from the dais later in the evening.

Council imposes tough new restrictions on how Masons use lodge

Two-hour hearing ends years of complaints, even as Masons plan to move

The City Council imposed strict new regulations on Pleasanton Masons Tuesday night after considering complaints from their Valley Trails neighbors of excessive noise and outdoor partying at their lodge on Hopyard Road.

Strengthening already-tough new restrictions recommended by the city's Planning Commission, the council voted unanimously to order the Masons to shutter French doors leading from the lodge to a backyard patio, banning any use of the north side backyard.

The ruling, which is part of a revision of a conditional use permit granted to the Masons in 1977, came after a two-hour public hearing on an appeal by the Masons to overturn the Planning Commission's June decision.

That the council's hearing was held

at all was puzzling since the Masons are moving to another location, selling their building to Rabbi Raleigh Resnick and his Chabad of the Tri-Valley, a Jewish organization.

Resnick, who addressed the council at the start of the hearing, said the building will be used for religious, education and social purposes. He expects to close the sale within three weeks.

At that time, according to Gerry Beaudin, the city's community development director, Resnick and the Chabad will have to submit a new request for a permit to use the building, a process that will start the public hearing process all over again.

The Chabad, a fast-growing organization considered a dynamic force in Jewish life, has expanded since Resnick and his wife Fruma started the Tri-Valley branch. After nine years

of using rooms in various facilities around the area, the Chabad center last year moved into a 4,000-square-foot building on Quarry Lane. The Masonic Lodge will offer the additional space it needs for its main activities.

In making its decision, the council referred to a voluminous 100-plus page document containing complaints by neighbors and city documents dating back to the 1990s. The document also contains pages of background information that city staff spent hours preparing for the council meeting, again knowing that the building was being sold.

Except for Resnick's comments, there was little mention of the Masonic Lodge's sale at Tuesday night's hearing.

Instead, the discussion centered

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Heller takes helm at Hart

New principal has been with PUSD since 1999

By JULIA REIS

Leslie Heller knew she wanted to be an educator from the time she was in elementary school, when she was prone to critiquing her teachers and pondering how she would handle a class full of students.

But while school came easily for Heller, at times she said, she was more interested in talking than learning. Then along came Heller's third-grade teacher, Mrs. Newton.

"She recognized my lack of motivation," Heller said from her office facing the front entrance of Hart Middle School. "She was the first teacher that sat me down and said, 'You can do better.' It was one of those moments in life when you realize people can motivate you and see the goodness in you."

That realization stuck with Heller, who has taken inspiration from



Leslie Heller

See **MASONS** on Page 6

See **HELLER** on Page 10



BILL VASSER/VASSER PHOTOGRAPHY

A special slate of fall horse racing kicks off at the Pleasanton fairgrounds this afternoon.

Horse racing returns to fairgrounds today

Six-day fall schedule includes next two weekends

By DENNIS MILLER

Six days of live horse racing, taking part without a fair, begins today as the Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall Meet will kick off at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

The dates were previously those of the San Joaquin County Fair, but the Board of Directors for that fair decided not to run its meet. At that point, the Alameda County Fair applied for and was awarded the dates.

The dates for the meet are today through Sunday and again next weekend, Sept. 30 to Oct. 2.

With no fair taking place, there is a variety of social activities planned for the six dates.

One new area to the grandstands during this meet is the “Fan Cave” taking place on the upper grandstand concourse. There will be a lounge-type setup with televisions showing different NCAA and NFL football games, as well as golf’s Ryder Cup.

Each Friday will feature \$2 Beer Day. A T-shirt giveaway is planned for opening day today to the first 1,000 racing fans who sign up for the “Win, Place or Show Contest.”

The Sip, Savor and Wager Wine Festival will be featured this Saturday. Tickets for the event, which has unlimited tastings and includes a commemorative glass, racing program and tip sheet, are \$20 in advance and \$25 on the day of the event. The event runs from 1-4 p.m.

Also taking place on Saturday is a “Best of the Bay” handicapping tournament. The entry fee is \$500, and the prize money awarded will be based on sign-ups.

Sunday will be the first of two Family Fun Days, featuring jump houses, a game truck and a Hippy Hop race. Also taking place that day will be Festival Latino, featuring music and clowns. A Corona Beer special of two for \$7 will be offered throughout the day.

Next Friday, racing fans will be treated to the return of the \$2 Beer Day, and then Oct. 1 featuring the Craftoberfest Craft Beer Festival. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 on the day of the event. Tickets include a commemorative glass, racing program and tip sheet.

‘With no fair taking place, there is a variety of social activities planned’

The \$50,000 Oak Tree Juvenile will also be run on Saturday, Oct. 1. Oct. 2 will be the final day of the meet and will welcome back Family Fun Day.

Post times for the meet are 2:15 p.m. on Fridays and 1:15 p.m. for Saturdays and Sundays.

The daily handicapping seminar will be back as well, taking place at 12:30 p.m. on the Friday cards and 11:30 a.m. for Saturday and Sunday racing.

For more information, go to www.alamedacountyfair.com. ■

Editor’s note: Dennis Miller will co-host the daily handicapping seminars with track announcer Chris Griffin.

Designated bike lanes to be extended throughout Pleasanton

Council approves plan to develop master plan for bicycle safety that will provide funds for project

By JEB BING

The Pleasanton City Council has voted to update the city’s bicycle master plan to provide funding and strategies for making streets and pathways safer for cycling.

The action came after the death last June of cyclist Gail Turner, 72, who died after being struck by a vehicle as she crossed Stanley Boulevard at its intersection with Valley and Bernal avenues.

Members of several bicycle organizations addressed the council a few weeks later asking that designated bikeways in Pleasanton be improved and extended, with one speaker calling the city one of the most dangerous in the Bay Area.

Michael Tassano, the city’s traffic engineer, said there were 32 miles of designated bike lanes on major streets in Pleasanton in 2006, and that there are now more than 70 miles of bike lanes today.

“That’s more than double the number 10 years ago,” Tassano told the council.

Still, he agreed with cyclists that more needs to be done, pointing out

that the width of traffic lanes at the newly paved section of Bernal Avenue leading toward downtown from Interstate 680 have been narrowed to accommodate bike lanes.

He said the extensive list of improvements completed in recent years led to the city receiving the League of American Bicyclist Bronze award.

‘This needs to be pushed up ... We need to see what to do and get it done.’

Arne Olson,
Pleasanton City Council

However, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan adopted in 2010 lacks a focus regarding which projects and improvements the city should pursue in order to create a usable network of safe sidewalks and bike lanes, Tassano said.

A report signed by Gerry Beaudin, director of community development; Tina Olson, director of finance, and

Nelson Fialho, city manager, provided to the City Council at its special meeting last week, states that “gaps exist along the bicycle network on nearly every corridor, resulting in continued obstacles when trying to ‘get from there to here.’”

According to the report, the master plan should be updated every five years. The update approved by the council will be handled by the steering committee which will now shift the focus to complete the network of lanes, sidewalks and pathways.

Its new goals will be to create a “low stress” bicycle and pedestrian network that may be enjoyed by all users and abilities and focus on completing corridors.

Tassano said that in terms of priorities, his research shows West Las Positas Boulevard as needing attention first to provide better safety for bicyclists and more clearly marked and extended designated lanes. At the council’s insistence, however, the busy and least-protected intersection at Valley/Bernal/Stanley, where Turner was killed, should come first.

Tassano showed graphics of

proposed changes at that intersection that will include abolishing the designated right-turn lane on eastbound Stanley for traffic turning onto Bernal Avenue and forcing southbound traffic on Valley Avenue to maneuver around an extended concrete curb to make right turns onto westbound Stanley.

Green-painted bike lanes would allow cyclists to ride in a new right-hand bike lane on Valley to the intersection, with a green lane marked across Stanley, and then again across Bernal to ride in an eastward direction.

Of the estimated 175 mostly cyclists in the chamber, 25 addressed the council, including a number of elementary and middle school students who read from written remarks urging the council to make city streets safer.

Steve McGinnis of the 262-member Pleasanton Peddlers organization called on the council to adopt a plan for improving bicycle safety and implement it quickly.

“There have been 35 bike-vehicle collisions at the intersection of Valley

Avenue and Santa Rita Road,” he said. “We need protected bike lanes there.”

In voting to move forward on a pedestrian and bicycle master plan, which would open the door to various funds to help add new, extended and wider bike lanes and sidewalks, Councilman Arne Olson said he was distressed to see 2021 as the earliest date for completing these projects.

“This needs to be pushed up,” Olson said. “We need to see what to do and get it done.”

He suggested using money given to the city by developers to fund these improvements so some of them could get started immediately.

Work started last Monday and will continue again on Oct. 24 at meetings of the Pedestrian, Bicycle and Trails Committee, with the City Council planning to review that effort at another public workshop in November.

Mayor Jerry Thorne, in closing the two-hour public meeting on Sept. 13 to loud applause, said he hopes that the council will have an updated master plan ready for adoption in December. ■

MASONS

Continued from Page 5

on complaints by Michael and Darlene Miller, whose Bryce Canyon Court home backs onto the Masons’ property, and their attorney Stuart Flashman. The Millers have been the principal complainers of large and noisy parties held over recent years by the Masons.

At issue was a conditional use permit issued to the Masons in 1977 prior to the completion of the Masonic Center building in 1980. The permit did not specify or elaborate

upon the intended uses of the site other than the operation of a Masonic center.

The Millers told council members that the backyard noise problem started in 2009 after the city issued a permit to the Masons to add the French doors. Those provided an easy access to the backyard which was always intended, according to the 1977 conditional use permit, to serve as a buffer for the homes on Bryce Canyon Court.

Ever since, the Millers said, the backyard has been used for noisy parties, including by non-Mason groups

that rented the building for meetings and entertainment.

Twenty-two speakers addressed the council Tuesday night, most of them Masons who talked about their organization, its support of the community and its charitable work nationally.

With regard to the Millers’ complaints, Masons said they have been unsuccessful in meeting with the couple to mitigate any problems they were having.

Several Masons also criticized Pleasanton Weekly stories about the city staff-prepared document list-

ing a series of complaints starting with an event hosted by Allstars Entertainment on May 31, 2008, when Pleasanton police responding to reports of gunshots encountered 100 people gathered in the Masons’ parking lot. They said the reports are inaccurate.

They also said that the council’s order to stay out of the backyard “for any reason” will limit their outside activities to the front sidewalk and a parking lot they share with St. Clare’s Episcopal Church.

Their pleas won one bit of relief from the new restrictions first rec-

ommended by the Planning Commission and city staff.

Councilman Arne Olson said that while he agreed with restricting outside uses, the proposal to make the Masons shut down inside activities by 9 p.m. was too strict. He proposed making the closing hours at 11 p.m., which others on the council accepted.

The new rules go into effect immediately and will last as long as the Masons own and occupy the building — or, according to plans, for at least another three weeks. ■

—Jeb Bing

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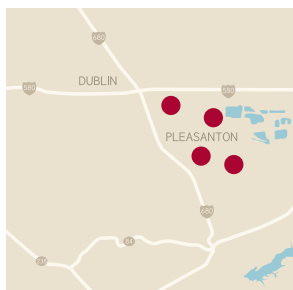


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School board OKs updated governance handbook, financial statements

By JULIA REIS

The Pleasanton school board approved a revised governance handbook and 2015-16 unaudited financial statements during its regular meeting last week.

Adoption of the updated handbook followed a board workshop Aug. 23 to discuss possible revisions to the document.

The governance handbook outlines the board's roles and responsibilities as well as protocols for different situations members encounter, like voting during meetings and handling concerns from the public.

A number of changes are reflected in the updated handbook. The governance norms list, for example, has been truncated, with items like "(we agree to) disagree agreeably" and "(we agree to) recognize the positive" removed. The current board suggested

a couple additions, like "Be respectful of each other, administration, staff and community members at all times."

Other changes dealt with correcting outdated district information and clarifying certain board protocols.

The Board of Trustees plans to review the document annually.

"We had a very good, deep discussion about this document," board president Jamie Hintzke said at the Sept. 13 meeting. "If someone wants to understand how we operate, this is a great document."

The board also approved the district's 2015-16 fiscal year unaudited financial statements after a presentation by Micaela Ochoa, deputy superintendent of business services.

Unaudited financial statements are the basis for school districts to report their actual revenues, expenditures and fund balances at the end of every

fiscal year. This information is reported to the Board of Education, Alameda County Office of Education and California Department of Education.

Estimated actuals were presented in June, and Ochoa provided the unaudited actuals in her presentation since the district has now closed the books on last fiscal year.

Revenues turned out at \$150.7 million, roughly \$2.3 million over what was estimated. Expenditures came in \$144.3 million, nearly \$3 million lower than what was estimated.

Ochoa's presentation also gave a breakdown of how district funds are allocated. Last fiscal year, roughly 84% of the total expenditure budget was dedicated to salaries and benefits, she said. The remaining amount went toward paying for books, supplies and other operating costs.

The district's business services divi-

sion will next present the first interim budget report, slated to come before the board in December.

In other business

- Heather Pereira, district coordinator of extended day academic intervention programs, recapped PUSD's 2016 summer school program. Summer school was offered at the elementary, middle and high school level with nearly 1,200 students enrolled.

- The school board approved a memorandum of understanding with Dublin Unified School District so the Pleasanton school district can employ two Dublin occupational therapists.

The therapists will work with special education students at various school sites in Pleasanton. The agreement states that PUSD will reimburse Dublin no more than \$257,536.22 for their services this school year.

- The board also approved a provisional internship permit for a new resource specialist at Harvest Park Middle School. The permit enables Rita Camberos, whom the district has deemed the most qualified candidate, to be properly credentialed while she awaits a final exam that would allow her to complete the California credential program — a process the district does occasionally, according to a board memo.

- The board announced it had approved settlement agreements in two cases during closed session. In the first case, the board approved the reimbursement of nearly \$10,000 for educational expenses for this school year and next. In the second, it approved reimbursement of \$155,000 for educational expenses for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years. No further details were provided. ■

DSRSD to close one recycled water fill station

Pleasanton station on Johnson Drive remains open; future of free program murky

By JULIA REIS

The Dublin San Ramon Services District will permanently close its residential recycled water fill station in Dublin at the end of the month amid uncertainty over the program's future.

The agency announced last week that it would close the smaller facility, located at the city of Dublin's Public Safety Complex on Clark Avenue, after Sept. 30 while the larger Pleasanton fill station would remain open

with expanded hours.

"As fall temperatures cool, it makes sense to reduce our costs and operate only one fill station," DSRSD general manager Dan McIntyre said in a statement.

"We thank the city of Dublin's staff for hosting our fill station at their public safety complex over the last two summers. It allowed Dublin and San Ramon residents to pick up recycled water a little closer to

home, and it helped us alleviate the traffic at the Pleasanton fill station," McIntyre added.

DSRSD, which provides sewer service to Pleasanton by contract, initiated the residential recycled water fill station program with the opening of the Pleasanton facility in June 2014. The Dublin one opened in June 2015 as another free-of-charge source for landscaping water for Tri-Valley residents.

The Dublin facility has operated during the summertime only, while the Pleasanton station has stayed open year-round with reduced operating hours in the winter. To date, the program has garnered about 3,900 registered users and given away 42 million gallons of free recycled water, according to DSRSD.

There are multiple reasons that factored into the decision to close the Dublin fill station, according to Sue Stephenson, a spokeswoman for DSRSD. Besides the change in seasons that is expected to decrease demand, the water supplies have im-

proved and restrictions on outdoor watering have ended.

"We were the yellow canary in the mine; we experienced the drought early on and very hard," Stephenson said. "We had to go to our customers and say, 'OK, this is serious, you have to cut back.'"

And they did, as DSRSD saw a one-third decrease in water use last year, according to Stephenson. With conservation efforts continuing voluntarily, the district is in a better place water-wise than when the fill station program began.

See **DSRSD** on Page 9

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Don Lewis wins Alameda County Arts Leadership award

One of eight recipients to be honored by county board Tuesday

By JEB BING

Don Lewis of Pleasanton, a music artist and synthesizer innovator, has won the prestigious 2016 Alameda County Arts Leadership award.

He is one of eight recipients of the annual award, sponsored by the Alameda County Arts Commission. The winners will be commended by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors at its public meeting at 10:45 a.m. Tuesday in the supervisors' chambers in the county administration building, 1221 Oak St., Oakland.

The event will be held in conjunction with the county's celebration of California Arts Day and National Arts and Humanities Month in October.

The county Arts Commission selected the eight award winners from a group of nominees whose names were submitted by the public. Award

recipients were selected based on their achievements within the arts field and their contributions to the community.

Besides Lewis, the other recipients are Kathleen Breedveld of Livermore; Susan Longini, Fremont; Sergio Suarez, Hayward; and Bruce Beasley, Ayodele Nzinga and the team of J.K. Fowler and MK Chavez, all of Oakland.

Lewis' pioneering efforts are the subject of a documentary to be released next year, titled "The Ballad of Don Lewis." He has taught courses at UC Berkeley Extension and guest-lectured at Stanford University and San Jose State University.

He also has mentored students through school programs and "Young Expressions" performances. His "Say YES to Music!" assemblies

have inspired thousands of students of all ages throughout the Bay Area and beyond.

During his six-decade career, he has presented concerts worldwide, including at the Newport Jazz Festival and at Carnegie Hall. He also toured with The Beach Boys and appeared with several symphony orchestras.

Lewis is an active member of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton and participates in service projects locally and internationally.

For more information on the award program, send an email to www.artscommission@acgov.org. ■



Don Lewis

Harvest Park principal abruptly resigns

By JULIA REIS

Ethan Cheever, who took over as Harvest Park Middle School principal at the start of this school year, announced his resignation Wednesday afternoon effective Sept. 30.

The decision was publicized in a letter emailed out to the Harvest Park community in which Cheever said he has accepted a position closer to home and family. He did not specify what that position is.

"It was an incredibly difficult decision, but I wanted to let you know that I have accepted a position closer to home and family," Cheever said in the letter. "While I have loved my time at the site, my position and the demands thereof have been very hard on my family — much more so than was anticipated."

Cheever added that while he will miss the Harvest Park community, being closer to home will allow him to spend more time with his family.

"I have learned a lot during my

time here, especially about the Pleasanton community," Cheever said. "I am very thankful to those that have helped and supported me, and I will do everything I can to support my successor to make a smooth and easy transition."

Cheever closed the letter by saying that Pleasanton schools superintendent Rick Rubino would soon share information regarding the transition plan and timeline for selection of the next principal.

Rubino said late Wednesday afternoon that he will recommend the appointment of Robin Munsell, assistant principal at San Ramon's Gale Ranch Middle School, as the new Harvest Park principal to the school board when it meets Tuesday.

A prior principal in San Bruno, Cheever was named the new Harvest Park principal at a school board meeting in June, one of four new principals in the district this school year. ■

CANDIDATES

Continued from Page 5

ing our schools have yet to move into these unfinished projects. Our schools are already crowded; we are out of balance. It's time to stop and let the infrastructure catch up."

Thorne said the five large apartment projects being built because of that court order are the result of decisions by previous City Councils that imposed a no-growth housing cap that reined in development. That decision, which both a court and state housing agency declared illegal, forced the city to "catch up" to state-imposed housing needs allocated by the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA).

But with that mandate now met, Testa questioned why the council is still considering a developer's plan to build 93 more homes on Stanley Boulevard.

"We don't need 93 more houses in Pleasanton," Testa said.

Thorne responded by pointing out that the Stanley project is planned in combination with adding a residential community for adults with developmental difficulties, to be operated by the Sunflower Hill nonprofit organization.

Fielding audience questions about Pleasanton school needs, Thorne said there's only so much a city can do to support a school district because it's a separate taxing agency with an elected separate government.

However, at his direction and with the council's approval, the city now maintains all of the sports fields at the

three middle schools, provides and pays for crossing guards, funds the placement of police resource officers in the schools and pays for traffic controls, including two new signals installed in front of the Amador Valley High School parking lot this summer.

Asked about Measure MM, the initiative on the Nov. 8 ballot that would limit new retail sites on Johnson Drive to buildings no larger than 50,000 square feet, Councilman Pentin and candidate Ritter urged voters to reject it. Although they supported placing the measure on the ballot, they asked voters to turn it down so that the city can continue with its rezoning plans to improve and enhance the commercial opportunities on Johnson Drive.

The measure was placed on the ballot by a citizens group opposed to allowing big-box stores such as Costco from building there.

Testa and Councilwoman Brown support the ballot measure, arguing that smaller retail stores would add more jobs and appeal to shoppers.

Brown said the Costco stores in Danville and Livermore adequately serve the 12,000 residents here who Costco claims as members. Costco's potential 140,000-square-foot store would add to the city's traffic woes, pollution and city-paid infrastructure costs, she added.

Pentin said Measure MM, if approved by voters, would restrict the city's planning of a new business corridor. As for all the talk about Costco, he said the retailer has not filed an application to build here. If it ever does, Pentin said it would have to go

through the same process as other business applicants with public hearings and full financial disclosures.

Ritter agreed, adding that Measure MM would prevent the city from ever "doing what's best for Johnson Drive."

Four of the five candidates responded favorably to questions about plans to build a new civic center and library on Bernal Community Park property, a project that could cost \$200 million.

Thorne said the new complex could free up the current city and library building sites, which could be sold and developed in accordance with a new downtown strategic plan that all candidates also support.

Thorne added that revenue from the sales of those properties, along with some of the city's financial reserves and other available funding, could pay for the new municipal complex that would include a new police station. He also would insist that the project go to voters for approval before detailed planning could get underway.

Testa was the one holdout. She said she could support building a larger library but "with 115 portables on school campuses, some with no water, we need to fix these problems first" before building a new civic center.

Responding to other questions, candidates said they oppose the \$3.5 billion BART bond measure; favor, though with some reservation, the Pleasanton school district's \$270 million bond measure; and back Alameda County's proposed \$580 million affordable housing bond measure. ■

DSRSD

Continued from Page 8

"With the weather cooling off, people can turn on their irrigation systems at home," Stephenson said. "Now that they've experienced how wonderful recycled water is, they may hate to do that, but we're not in the dire straits we were in the last couple years."

She added that the city of Dublin's renovation work on its Public Safety Complex also factored into the decision.

So did the program's cost. While Stephenson could not provide that figure, she said expenses have included facility maintenance and upkeep, staffing time and permitting costs.

Finances will factor into the program's future, as well. Stephenson said DSRSD could start charging residents for the service or get rid of it altogether. She added that the agency would have to get new operating permits from the state once the drought emergency is declared over because it sanctioned the fill stations on an emergency basis.

"We're going to have to figure out how it will pay for itself," Stephenson said.

The Dublin fill station will remain open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday through the end of September.

During the month of October the Pleasanton station, located at 7399 Johnson Drive, will be open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends. Reduced hours are expected once Daylight Saving Time ends. ■



PUBLIC MEETINGS ON WATER RATES

Zone 7 Water Agency's Board of Directors to review water rates for 2017

ANTICIPATED DATES:

(Additional dates may be added):

DATE:

Wednesday, September 28, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, October 19, 7 p.m.

PLACE:

100 North Canyons Parkway, Livermore

MORE INFORMATION:

www.zone7water.com

Zone 7 Water Agency, the water wholesaler serving:

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HELLER

Continued from Page 5

Mrs. Newton and other educators over the years to develop a passion for helping students learn.

Now over two decades into her career, this school year marks Heller's first as a school principal. She took the helm at Hart on July 1, replacing Terry Conde who was reassigned to a vice principal role at Amador Valley High.

Heller, 44, was born in San Francisco and raised in San Rafael. While she doesn't come from a family of educators, her enjoyment of school and love of reading convinced her at a young age that she wanted to be a high school English teacher.

She attended UC Davis after high school and graduated with a degree in English. After that, Heller took a year off and traveled the country as an international leadership consultant for her sorority working with collegiate women.

Heller then went back to school and got her single-subject teaching credential in English from Sacramento State University. That propelled her to a nearby high school, where she taught English and English as a second language for four years. She also returned to Sacramento State and earned her master's degree in education and an administrative credential.

After that, Heller moved back to the Bay Area where she taught

'We are all working together to make sure our students get where they need to go.'

Leslie Heller,
Hart Middle School principal

"every level of high school English possible" at Amador Valley High from 1999 to 2012.

Heller then took on an administrative role. She spent the last four years as a vice principal at Foothill High before being named to the Hart Middle School position.

"I've always loved high school,

but the intensity and issues can be very overwhelming," she said. "I was very interested in coming here and learning a little more about the middle school and helping shape those students in order to prepare them for high school."

So far, Heller said she enjoys getting to work as a team with her vice principals and looking at the school from a big-picture perspective. She describes herself as having a lot of energy and says it's part of her leadership style to be loud and boisterous.

"People know where I am — you can hear my laugh," Heller said. "I definitely would say I'm a communicator."

Although Heller lives in San

Francisco, she's worked in Pleasanton long enough to develop an appreciation for what she refers to as its "hometown feel."

"It's cliché, but it does take a village — we all need to work with our students in order to make it a better place," she said. "I really feel in Pleasanton that we are all working together to make sure our students get where they need to go."

In her spare time, Heller likes to enjoy the company of friends and family, read and go running with her 140-pound dog Asics.

Heller receives an annual salary of \$142,624 as principal of Hart Middle School, which is located at 4433 Willow Road in Pleasanton. ■

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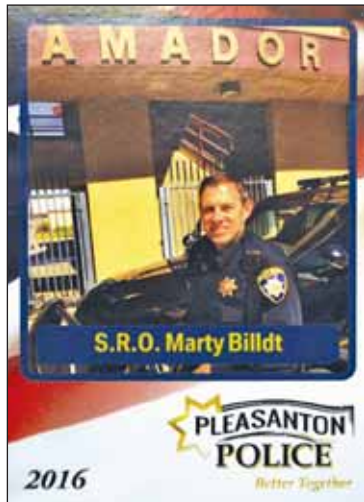
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Community Pulse



COURTESY OF PPD

The trading card for school resource officer Marty Billdt.

POLICE BULLETIN

Pleasanton police welcome back trading card game

The Pleasanton Police Department has announced the return of its trading card program, along with a new accompanying contest.

The aim of the trading card game is to introduce Pleasanton's police officers to members of the community and strengthen their relationships with youth, crime prevention officer Shannon Revel-Whitaker said in a statement.

The game is played by collecting cards from participating Pleasanton

Police Department employees. The department will announce opportunities for collecting trading cards through its social media platforms.

Pleasanton youth who collect all 41 cards can enter a drawing for prizes. Prizes vary and can include riding with officers in the Hometown Holiday Parade, autographed trading card posters and other giveaways.

The contest runs through Dec. 31. Official game boards are available at the Pleasanton Police Department's front desk, 4833 Bernal Ave. These boards are required for contest entry.

Contestants must live or attend

school in the city of Pleasanton and be 18 years old or younger. To enter the prize drawing, players must collect all the cards featured on the game board, then bring the cards and board to the police department. Public officials, city employees, police department volunteers and their family members are ineligible to compete.

For more information, contact Revel-Whitaker, srevel-whitaker@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

In other police news

A 27-year-old Livermore man died last week in a car crash on Highway 84 in Sunol.

The driver, later identified by Alameda County coroner's officials as Jesus Galvez Castro, died as a result

of the morning-commute collision that was reported at 8 a.m. Sept. 15 on Highway 84 at Little Valley Road, CHP Officer Eric Anderson said.

Castro was driving eastbound on Highway 84 when he lost control of a maroon Infiniti and drifted onto the right shoulder, according to CHP officials.

He swerved back on the road but over-corrected and ended up in the westbound lane where a white SUV broadsided his vehicle, CHP Officer Derek Reed said.

The driver of the SUV suffered minor injuries and was taken to Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare in Pleasanton. ■

—Julia Reis

Information from the Bay City News Service was used in this report.

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Sept. 17

Assault/battery

■ 6:11 p.m. at Stanley Boulevard and Valley Avenue

Drug violations

■ 4:02 a.m. on the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
 ■ 10:02 p.m. at Foothill Road and Foothill Place

Alcohol violation

■ 12:43 a.m. at St. Mary Street and Peters Avenue

Fraud

■ 5:15 p.m. on the 9700 block of Richmond Avenue

Theft

■ 2:43 p.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

Sept. 16

Shoplifting

■ 6:22 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive
 ■ 7:25 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
 ■ 9:15 p.m. on the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
 ■ 9:42 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Graffiti

■ 10:22 a.m. on the 3300 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Vandalism

■ 11:01 a.m. on the 6400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Alcohol violations

■ 1:10 p.m. on the 4400 block of Valley Avenue
 ■ 5:55 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Sept. 15

Graffiti

■ 7:46 a.m. on the 5200 block of Stoneridge Drive
 ■ 10:22 a.m. on the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road
 ■ 2:19 p.m. at Main Street and Del Valle Parkway
 ■ 5 p.m. at Main Street and Vervais Avenue

Assault/battery

■ 9:01 p.m. on the 8100 block of Arroyo Drive

Warrant arrest

■ 5:39 a.m. on the 6800 block of Santa Rita Road

Drug violation

■ 5:45 p.m. at Owens and Rosewood drives

Alcohol violation

■ 7:18 p.m. on the 4300 block of Valley Avenue

Theft from auto

■ 5:42 a.m. on the 4600 block of Willow Road

Sept. 14

Theft from auto

■ 7:52 a.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive
 ■ 6:45 p.m. on the 2500 block of Glen Isle Avenue

Assault/battery

■ 8:22 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Residential burglary

■ 12:43 p.m. on the 1700 block of Beachwood Way

Vandalism

■ 9:52 a.m. on the 4200 block of Zevanove Court

Sept. 13

Graffiti

■ 12:42 p.m. on the 3100 block of Tonopah Court

■ 12:51 p.m. on the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive

■ 1:56 p.m. at Main Street and Del Valle Parkway

Fraud

■ 11:27 a.m. on the 4100 block of West Ruby Hill Drive

Alcohol violation

■ 5:27 p.m. at Calle Santa Anna and Golden Road

Theft

■ 8:17 a.m., 5700 block of Owens Drive; theft from auto

■ 12:25 p.m., 4400 block of Comanche Way; theft from structure

■ 1:41 p.m., 3600 block of Dunsmuir Circle; residential burglary

Sept. 12

Warrant arrest

■ 11:02 p.m. on the 5300 block of Sunol Boulevard

Theft

■ 1:41 p.m. at Foothill Road and Oak Tree Farm Drive; burglary

■ 3:31 p.m., 3300 block of Smoketree Commons; theft from auto

■ 7:05 p.m., 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; theft from structure

Fraud

■ 4:45 p.m. on the 11000 block of Dublin Canyon Road

Graffiti

■ 8:06 a.m. at West Las Positas Boulevard and Muirwood Drive

■ 8:24 a.m. on the 4700 block of Muirwood Drive

■ 9:14 a.m. at Mohr Avenue and Santa Rita Road

■ 3:10 p.m. at Busch Road and Valley Avenue

Vandalism

■ 9:26 a.m. on the 3700 block of Stanley Boulevard

Sept. 11

DUI

■ 2:56 a.m. on the 800 block of Main Street

Assault/battery

■ 4:41 a.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Domestic battery

■ 2:16 a.m. on Springhouse Drive

Mary Ellen Manzella

July 13, 1948 – July 18, 2016

Longtime Pleasanton resident, Mary Manzella passed on July 18, 2016 in Austin, TX where she and her husband John Manzella of 49 years retired in 2012.

Mary ran an in-home daycare for nearly 40 years in Pleasanton. She loved children and helped raise hundreds of kids in the community, loving them each as her own. Those who know her would tell you 'She never met a stranger, she was full of life, love and patience.'

Mary and John retired to Austin in 2012 to be close to family and their three grandsons. Mary enjoyed traveling the country with her husband in their fifth wheel, attending lots of youth baseball, basketball and football games, and enjoying retirement. Mary especially loved 'date night' at the movies with her husband!

Mary was born on July 13, 1948 in Oakland, CA to Claire and David Brandt. She attended Holy Names High School in Oakland and married her husband, John Manzella, a decorated Marine and Vietnam war veteran, on December 2, 1967. John and Mary moved to Pleasanton in the mid-70s and had two children, Christine and Paul.

Mary is survived by her husband John Manzella, daughter and son in law, Christine and Doug Sechrist of Austin, TX, her three grandchildren, Kyrnan, Oliver and Rowan; her brother Ed Brandt and his wife Lois, her niece Kathleen Craig and husband Rick Craig and great nieces Ashley and Katrina Dent. She was preceded in death by her son, Paul David Manzella and her parents, Claire and David Brandt of Oakland, CA.

A celebration of Mary's life will be held on Saturday, September 24th, from 11am-1pm at the Amador Recreation Center, located at 4455 Black Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Mary's life.



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'PHANTOM TOLL BOOTH'

By Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Young singers and actors are onstage at the Firehouse Arts Center for their second weekend of performances in "The Phantom Tollbooth, Jr.," a musical based on a children's fantasy adventure novel.

The story spins the tale of a bored young boy named Milo who one afternoon unexpectedly receives a magic tollbooth. Having nothing better to do, Milo drives through it in his toy car — and he is transported to the Kingdom of Wisdom, once a prosperous place but now troubled.

"We chose 'Phantom Tollbooth' because it's a classic that I remember reading and loving as a child that is still part of many classrooms today," director Amber Dyson said. "We thought this story would resonate with our performers and audiences alike."

In the kingdom, Milo acquires two faithful companions and goes on a quest to restore to the kingdom its exiled princesses — named Rhyme and Reason — from the Castle in the Air. In the process, he learns valuable lessons and discovers a love of learning.

Milo begins with Expectations, a pleasant place where he starts on Wisdom's road. As he drives on, he daydreams and soon is paying no attention at all, which gets him lost in The Doldrums, a colorless place where nothing ever happens.

Milo finds himself joining the inhabitants in their popular pastime of "killing time," which gets interrupted by the arrival of Tock, a very oversized talking dog with an alarm clock on each side (a "watchdog"). Tock tells Milo that the only way out of the Doldrums is by thinking — and then joins Milo on his journey through all the lands of Wisdom.

The musical is a production of the Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company in partnership with Bay Area Children's Theatre. Auditions were last April, with 48 actors, ranging in ages from 8 to 14 years of age, chosen from all over the Tri-Valley and beyond.

As is the tradition with Civic Arts Stage Company, the actors are split into two casts, denoted as "Words" and "Numbers."

"The thing that we love about the performers we encounter in Pleasanton is their enthusiasm, drive and commitment," said Dyson, who has been directing with Bay Area Children's Theatre for six years.

"Civic Arts students take their commitment to a production seriously — for example, during the camp portion of this production, they would frequently help each other practice the more complex dance segments during their snack and lunch breaks. This commitment allows them to achieve high artistic standards and makes them a joy to watch on stage."

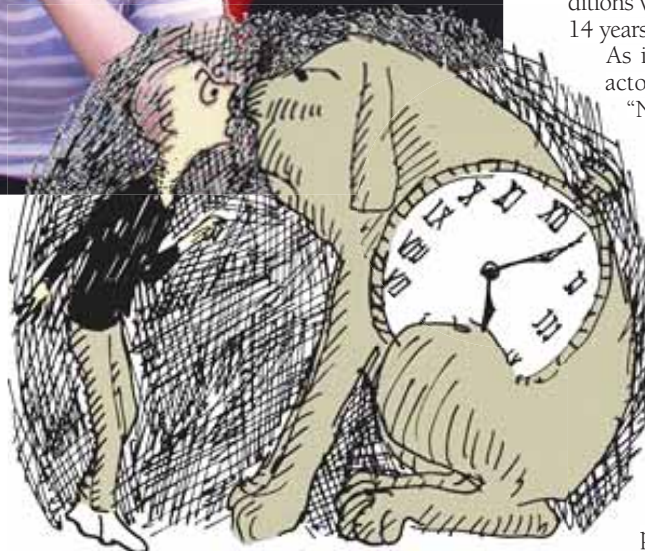
The production staff also includes stage manager Zach Goldberg; Cassie Barnes, lighting; Joan Howard, props; Martin Flynn, set design; and production manager Maria Castro. New to the production team are choreographer Kristin Avila; music director Anne Norland; and Andrea Phillips, costumes.

The show ran last weekend and runs again this weekend, at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$12, \$15, \$18; children and seniors, \$7, \$10, \$13. Go to www.firehousearts.org, call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave. ■



MELISSA NIGRO

Among the stars of "The Phantom Tollbooth, Jr." at the Firehouse Arts Center are (clockwise from left) Emmy Bonser, Quinn Coli, Noelle Mattison, Tess Shotland, Belle Morales and Elena Town. The musical is a production of the Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company in partnership with Bay Area Children's Theatre.



THE PHANTOM TOLLBOOTH JR.

'Flying Dutchman' starts tomorrow

25th season includes operas by Wagner, Mozart

Livermore Valley Opera launches its 25th Silver Jubilee season with Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman," opening tomorrow night, followed by Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" in March.

"The Flying Dutchman" is the tale of a ghost ship sailing for all eternity with its cursed crew, with the Dutchman allowed to only set foot on land every seven years to search for a bride who can end the curse. This is the first time that Livermore Valley Opera has produced a Wagner opera.

The Wagner production, with its dramatic music and large sets, is

usually performed in grand opera houses, and music conductor and artistic director Alexander Katsman and stage director Olivia Stapp say the audience will have the same experience at the Bankhead Theater.

The cast features bass-baritone Philip Skinner as the Dutchman, soprano Marie Plette and baritone Eugene Brancoveanu.

"The Flying Dutchman" opens at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, and continues at 2 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Oct. 1, and 2 p.m. Oct. 2.

An opening night gala includes a

celebration dinner and a chance to meet Katsman at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, at 4 p.m., with separate tickets for \$90.

Each performance includes a pre-opera talk one hour prior to curtain, and an artists' reception in the lobby immediately following each performance.

Tickets are \$42-\$89, with students \$10 off. Visit www.livermoreperformingarts.org; call 373-6800; or go to the box office at 2400 First St., Livermore. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Young Dubliners do Celtic rock

The Young Dubliners will hit the Firehouse Arts Center stage with the high energy of its hybrid Celtic rock at 8 p.m. next Friday. The band is on a U.S. tour, hot off a summer of high-powered music festivals. Tickets are \$25-\$35. Go to www.firehousearts.org, call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Harmony Fusion Chorus was formed by the consolidation of two smaller chapters of Sweet Adelines International, Harmony Crossroads of Pleasanton, formed in 1993, and Harmony Bay Chorus, chartered in 1973, based in Oakland.

A cappella chorus opens rehearsal night

Evening to welcome new singers of all ages

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Harmony Fusion Chorus, award-winning women's a cappella barbershop show chorus, will host a special open rehearsal night Monday to welcome new singers of all ages and backgrounds. The chorus was formerly Harmony Crossroads, based at Pleasanton Community Church.

"We are looking to add to our chorus of women who love to sing and are enthusiastic about performing, competing and improving their vocal skills," said membership chairwoman Joanne Morrison. "If you have a good ear for music, we want you."

"Sight-reading music is not required," she added. "We have many methods for learning our songs."

Harmony Fusion Chorus, a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, is open to singers ages 14 and above. The chorus meets from 7-10 p.m. every Monday, except holidays.

"We welcome visitors to every rehearsal, but September is a good time to start with us as we begin preparing our holiday music and working on our contest song package for our annual regional competition in

Reno next May," Morrison said.

The special rehearsal evening will begin with a "meet and greet" followed by vocal warm-ups when visitors are invited up on the risers among the chorus members. Visitors will learn to sing a "tag" — the last two phrases of a song in true barbershop style — and one of the holiday songs. Visitors who learn the holiday song are invited to perform with the chorus in its holiday concert Dec. 4 in Livermore.

"We want our visitors to experience what it's like to be one of us," board president Pat Cull said. "My first visit to Harmony Fusion was very much the same, as visitors were welcome to be on the risers and sing with the chorus."

"Everyone was so friendly, and the music was such fun to sing. I couldn't stop smiling and I haven't stopped smiling since," she continued.

Director Barbara Vander Putten, a Sweet Adelines certified director and member of the Sweet Adelines Region 12 coaching faculty, has directed Harmony Fusion Chorus since March 2006. Since then, the chorus has regularly earned medals at the annual Sweet Adelines

regional contests.

Though the chorus works hard to continually improve its vocal and performance quality, it is much more than that, members say.

"A main element of our mission statement is to reach out to the community," Vander Putten explained. "Each year we try to include at least one youth group in our shows."

"We're very proud of our support and commitment to keep music and performance alive in schools and in the community," she added. "We also strive to expand the diversity of our chorus, reaching out to singers of all ages, ethnicities, and backgrounds."

Harmony Fusion has given its last two performances at Lynwood United Methodist Church in Pleasanton and has performed at Stoneridge Creek.

Open rehearsal night is from 7-10 p.m. Monday at the Hill and Valley Women's Club, 1808 B St., Hayward, just off I-580. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Joanne Morrison at 373-0210.

To learn about the chorus, visit www.harmonyfusion.org. ■

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Yes on Prop 54 to lift the veil of secrecy

Among the myriad propositions on the Nov. 8 ballot is one we feel we should weigh in on.

The 17 state measures include a wide array of topics including gun control, marijuana legalization, condoms and the death penalty. Proposition 54, the California "Legislature Transparency Act" Amendment, may not sound nearly as interesting. However, this has the potential to transform the way our state legislature operates and gives the press and the public access to information they should have had all along.

Ultimately it would remove the veil of secrecy and "We The People" will actually know what is written in the bills the elected representatives are voting on — and so will the elected representatives.

The amendment would require bills before the legislature, except in cases of public emergency, to be published on the internet in their final form at least 72 hours before a vote. It also requires the legislature to post video of its proceedings online.

The manner in which some bills are passed is shameful.

Last-minute changes and rushed middle-of-the-night votes can and have led to votes on bills that have radically changed from inception, with little knowledge of what is actually being voted on — certainly by the public and the press, but even by the legislators.

Prop 54 would give elected representatives a chance to read and understand what they are voting on, and give the public

and the press an opportunity to do the same.

The ability to know what is included in a bill shouldn't even be questioned in a democracy, and it is frustrating this hasn't been mandated before now. The California League of Women Voters, California NAACP, California Chamber of Commerce, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association and the First Amendment Coalition are among the groups backing the proposition.

It seems the only group opposing the measure is the California Democratic Party, stating it, "provides special interests like tobacco, oil, and drug companies with new powers to block timely legislative action on key issues facing our state." We are hard-pressed to imagine a public emergency involving special interest groups like the ones mentioned, or a situation when three days becomes a "block" instead of a necessary "breath."

We support Proposition 54 because it will allow people and the press to participate in the democratic process if they so choose. More importantly, it will increase transparency in the legislative process and allow voters — the people who are ultimately affected by legislation — to hold their representatives accountable. ■



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

LETTERS

Julie Testa for mayor

Dear Editor,

It has been my privilege to know and work with Julie for a number of years.

My first contact with her was while she was a member of the Pleasanton Human Services Com-

mission. I was board chairman of HOUSE, Inc. (later changed to REACH), a nonprofit established to help provide housing for adults with disabilities, and I was requesting grant funds for our organization.

Julie was always supportive of

HOUSE, Inc. and the service we were providing to a very at-risk section of our community.

Julie joined our all volunteer board shortly after completing her term on the Human Services Commission and it was during these years that I became very acquainted with her.

She performed many duties for HOUSE, Inc. (REACH), most important of which was writing grants for funds and being an active member of the Housing Committee. Grant funds were essential for maintenance issues and to purchase new properties.

The members of the Housing Committee performed duties as property manager. These duties included interviewing and approving prospective tenants and handling all property issues including on-call emergency problems. Julie was always available for her tenants and often developed close relationships.

Julie has been described as an activist, but I see her as an extremely caring person who is very

passionate in her beliefs and who puts her entire heart and soul into her endeavors.

—Norman Guest

Grateful for Weekly's candidate forum

Dear Editor,

Thank you for Monday night.

It was quite terrifying and amazing to have the opportunity to tell my community what I want them to know. It felt amazing to have more than three minutes, sitting next to Jerry instead of in front of him. I felt heard, not patronized.

Thank you for forcing me to address my community about my advocacy for police oversight. It is a scary thing to confront. I don't know what I said but it is like ripping off a Band-Aid; I want to say more.

Monday night was why I ran for mayor. There is a lot of work left to do. Regardless of Nov. 8, I have already won.

—Julie Testa,
Candidate for Pleasanton mayor

Election letters

The Pleasanton Weekly will accept letters to the editor of up to 250 words on election-related issues until 5 p.m. Oct. 31. Letters are published based on order of receipt and space availability, among other factors. We will publish only one letter per person per election topic this fall, and we reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted. Send via email to letters@pleasantonweekly.com.

THE CITY OF
PLEASANTON

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission
Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **PUD-121, P16-1347, P16-1349, Abbas Mash**
Work session to review and receive comments on applications for: (1) Planned Unit Development (PUD) Rezoning and Development Plan to demolish the existing restaurant building at 6455 Owens Drive and construct two single-story commercial buildings totaling approximately 8,660-square-foot in area; and (2) Conditional Use Permit approval to operate a drive-through coffee shop.

Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee
Monday, September 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Please visit our website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov to view information for this meeting.

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Falcons earn 1st win with OT thriller

Also: Foothill girls water polo posts strong showing at Sierra Shootout

The tradition at Foothill High football games has been that upon a win, the Bruce Springsteen song "Glory Days" plays over the loudspeakers.

Most years, the song plays at a majority of the home games because the Falcons come out on top. Last year, the Falcons went 6-0 in home games, each topped off by The Boss cranking over the speakers.

This year has been different, much different.

Losses to California and Monte Vista to open the home schedule had kept the music quiet. Last Friday, when Foothill was looking up at a 27-13 deficit at the half to San Ramon Valley, it looked realistic a third straight game would end with no music being played.

But you don't rack up the level of success Foothill and longtime Coach Matt Sweeney have without grinding it out until the breaks go your way. And that is exactly what happened. The light went on for the Falcons on both offense and defense as Foothill rallied for a 33-27 overtime win, moving to 1-3 on the year.

Before the season started, Sweeney lamented as to being extremely green in many skill spots on the team. After losing six very talented players to graduation, the Falcons staff knew there was growing to be done by this year's squad.

Around the East Bay Athletic League, other coaches knew the Falcons would be better as the season went on, and in fact, despite starting 0-3, there were tangible signs of improvement.

Last Friday in the second half, many things came to life. The defense stiffened and shut down the high-powered Wolves offense. When Foothill had the ball, things started flowing as more players got involved in the flow of the game.

Watching the games each week,



COURTESY OF DEBORAH MCELROY

The Falcons girls water polo team finished seventh out of 60 teams at the Sierra Shootout last weekend.

one could see the development of the team grow. Jadon Gonzaga and Jake Jackson continue to grow carrying the ball. Jackson has also been a nice pass catcher, and along with Sam Ortiz and Ricky Diaz, has given Foothill a solid group of receivers.

The line and quarterback Ben Wooldridge were the strength of the season coming in, and their play has continued to be solid. Wooldridge has continued to make plays when needed, and the line came up huge in overtime, stopping San Ramon Valley four times from the 10-yard-line to cement the win.

Water polo

The Foothill girls water polo team placed seventh overall out of 60 teams last weekend at the Sierra Shootout tournament in Rocklin.

The Falcons came out strong with a 14-2 win against Bear Creek in the first game, followed by a win against Encinal in game No. 2. The other win game in their fifth and final game, a 6-1 victory against Oakmont.

Goalie Negar Tehranian (senior) successfully blocked 33 shots during the tournament. Emily McElroy

(junior) and Maddie David (senior) led the team offensively with 15 goals and 13 goals respectively.

Madison Weiglein (junior) was the anchor of Foothill's defense with 12 steals, also contributing six goals and seven assists. Negin Tehranian and Brooke Christian also contributed, as Tehranian had three goals and six assists, while Christian had three goals and four steals.

Foothill boys varsity water polo lost 9-8 to Monte Vista on Sept. 15. Monte Vista went ahead 5-2 in the first half before Foothill rallied for five goals in the third quarter to even the score at 7-7 before falling in the fourth.

Standouts for the Falcons were Matthew Dotson with three goals and Matthew Kim with two goals, while Dylan Pottgieser, Aaron Li and Nathan Williams added one apiece.

Defensively, Fabio Salvioni stood out with six steals and Harrison Carter, in goal, had seven saves, one steal and one assist.

To all fall athletic programs: Please make sure to have a team representative email your week's results by each Sunday to me at acesmag@aol.com. ■



CATHERINE CHRISTIAN

Learning from the best

Retired U.S. women's national team soccer star Abby Wambach (center) scrimmages with players from Livermore's Fusion Soccer Club earlier this month when the club celebrated its 40th anniversary. An Olympic gold medalist and World Cup champion, Wambach appeared at the Livermore event as part of the "Every Goal Counts" campaign, which raised more than \$48,000 for juvenile diabetes research, Fusion financial aid and Fusion TOP Soccer, a program for players with special needs.

ACE golfers headed to nationals

Pleasanton teen sinks par putt to clinch win for Las Positas team

BY JEREMY WALSH

Ten young golfers from the Las Positas ACE Junior Team won the Western Regional Championship at Chambers Bay Golf Course in Washington on Sunday to earn a spot in the PGA Junior League Golf Championship in Arizona this November.

The ACE (Athletic Commitment to Excellence) team, which trains at Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore, consists of boys and girls from 12 to 13 years old from communities like Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and as far away as Fresno.

Pleasanton's Drew Kim, 13, clinched the victory for the squad by making a 15-foot par putt on the final hole in the final match Sunday. Video of his putt was featured on Golf Channel.

"We had been down 1-to-4, and then because of Drew Kim's putt, we won the regionals" said Jeff DeBenedetti, Las Positas's director of golf who heads up the junior program. "The entire team played very well and is an example of the level of play that our junior program achieves."

The Las Positas team also featured Ian Gilligan, Darren Pang, Anay Roge, Aiden Tran, Ethan Jaehn, Jacob Ponce, Austin Tran, Alice Liu and Madison Wu.

They will be among 80 young players on eight teams competing in the championship event Nov. 19-21 at Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale, Ariz. The Las Positas ACE Junior Team won the national championship in 2012. ■

PLEASANTON LACROSSE NEW PLAYER FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 23, 2016 from 2:00 – 5:00 pm at HART MS

Are you thinking about playing lacrosse? Not sure... Would you like to give it a try?

GIRLS



Register NOW at www.pleasantongirlslacrosseclub.com

Pleasanton Lacrosse is holding a **New Player Festival** for first time players and anyone interested in learning more about this great game! The New Player Festival is for boys and girls currently enrolled in 1st through 10th grade.

Come and enjoy an afternoon of fun! The Fall Festival is a great opportunity to try out one of the areas fastest growing sports. PLC and High School

coaches, from Amador and Foothill, as well as local players will be on hand to teach new players the fundamentals of lacrosse: passing, catching, cradling, shooting, ground balls and face-offs. For **\$45 registration**, all participants will receive a Lacrosse **stick and a ball** to take home and a discount code for 2016 Spring Registration. New participants receive a **\$25 off coupon** off of spring registration.

BOYS



Register NOW at www.pleasantonlacrosse.com

Music

WESTERN BARBECUE The Pleasanton Senior Center VIP Club will hold a Western Barbecue at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 26 at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Entertainment and lunch provided. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the Travel Desk between 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday. Seating is limited. Call 931-5370.

Californios music and dance by The California Fandango Project, and crafts for children. With hands-on activities and presentations from the Adobe's three distinct time periods: Ohlone, Californio, and the Meadowlark Dairy. Learn to make apple cider, tortillas, carve, soap, make adobe bricks, and church ice cream. A taco vendor will be on-site selling tacos.

Festivals & Fairs

ALVISO ADOBE FALL FESTIVAL The City of Pleasanton will host its third annual free Fall Festival from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24 at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road. Enjoy a visit with Fiona, the park's life sized, fiberglass milking cow, a live animal display by the local 4-H, authentic

Fundraisers

FRIENDS OF THE PLEASANTON LIBRARY BOOK SALE Do you enjoy books and a good bargain? Come to the Friends of the Pleasanton Library Book Sale Friday-Sunday, Sept. 23-25 at the Pleasanton Library. Members get first pick from 6-9 p.m. Friday, with memberships available at the door. All are welcome from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, and from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday. Many great items are for sale.

5TH ANNUAL TASTE OF PLEASANTON Pleasanton Lions Club will host their 5th Annual Taste of Pleasanton Restaurant and Shop Walk Fundraiser from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 27 on Main St. in downtown Pleasanton. Attendees will enjoy strolling beautiful downtown Pleasanton while savoring fabulous foods, beverages and desserts. Special thanks to the participating shops and restaurants who make this fantastic fundraiser possible. Tickets are \$25. Proceeds benefit charities and projects supported by the Lions. Go to pleasantonlionsclub.org.

DUBLIN LIBRARY BOOK SALE Friends of Dublin Library will host a Fall Used Book and Media Sale Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 1-2 at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. 9-11 a.m. Saturday for members only, memberships available at the door; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday sale open to all; 1-4 p.m. Sunday is bag day, where you can fill a paper bag for \$4. Funds from sales go towards purchasing the Library's materials and supporting its programs. Call 803-7252. Go to www.aclibrary.org or www.dublinfriends.org.

REACH FOR THE STARS 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Join for an evening of celebration, delicious food, wine, raffles and much more from 6-9 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at Castlewood Country Club. Proceeds benefit Tri-Valley REACH for Special Adults, helping their mission to enable adults with developmental disabilities to live independently. Sponsorship and recognition opportunities available. Tickets are \$100. For tickets and more information, go to trivalleyreach.org.

PET OF THE WEEK

Handles with style

Mercedes handles everything life throws her way with grace and style. Nothing seems to ruffle her feathers. Although mellow, she's friendly and loves to be petted. Her favorite spot is a window-level cat tree where she can watch the birds and squirrels. Mercedes is spayed, microchipped, tested negative for FeLV and FIV, fully vaccinated (including rabies) and treated to prevent fleas. She's available for adoption through Allie's Pals Cat Rescue; contact terrilduncan@yahoo.com or 487-7279.



ALLIE'S PALS

VALLEYCARE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION 3RD ANNUAL PHILANTHROPY SOIRÉE ValleyCare Charitable Foundation invites you to join at their Philanthropy Soirée from 7-9 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7 at Rubino Estates Winery, 1188 Vineyard Ave. With award-winning wine and delicious food as well as a chance to win unique silent and live auction items. Tickets are \$65. Proceeds benefit the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation. Go to www.valleycare.com/foundation-fundraising-events.aspx.

Mafia. Livermore Airport, 636 Terminal Circle, Livermore.

Film

'SONIC SEA' WITH MICHAEL STOCKER "Sonic Sea" shows why the need to mitigate human noise in the oceans is of great importance for many marine organisms. Marine bioacoustician, Michael Stocker, will conduct a Q&A after this 60 minute film. Meet and greet will be at 6:30 p.m. with the film to follow on Saturday, Oct. 1 at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Contact 462-3459 or flickrnight@gmail.com.

Family

20TH LIVERMORE AIRPORT OPEN HOUSE AND AIR SHOW Join Livermore Valley wineries and the City of Livermore to celebrate the 20th annual Airport Open House and Air Show from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 1 at the Livermore Airport. With wine tasting by Livermore Valley wineries, local vendors, vintage cars, music, a fabulous display of aircraft, and a ton of food from Food Truck

Religion & Spirituality

TRI-VALLEY CULTURAL JEWS ROSH HASHANAH Celebrate Rosh Hashanah in a Secular Humanistic way that's authentic both to Jewish culture and to your own beliefs from 5:30-8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 2 at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Join for a one-hour program of music and readings followed by an apples and honey reception. Kids welcome. There will also be the annual food drive, so please bring non-perishable food items to be donated to a local food bank. Go to trivalleyculturaljews.wordpress.com.

Community Groups

TRI VALLEY SUPPORT GROUP FOR FIBROMYALGIA, LUPUS AND ALL FORMS OF ARTHRITIS This group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. on the fourth Monday of every month at the Groves at Dublin Ranch in the Clubhouse, 3115 Finnian Way, Dublin. It hosts special speakers like doctors or specialists. For more information, call JoAnne at 875-0960.

PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB The Pleasanton Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. No dinner will be served. For more information and location, please visit pleasantonlionsclub.org.

TAKE US ALONG



An Italian wedding: Sharon Ward visited Varese, Italy with her sister Kate for the wedding of Tom Laffey and Emanuela Canziani. Family came together from all parts of the U.S., traveled to Milan and visited northern Italy, along with parts of Switzerland. Pictured: Ward's niece Angela Merrill, Tom Laffey, Kate Laffey and Ward with the Pleasanton Weekly.

To submit your "Take Us Along" entry, email your photograph to srhodes@pleasantonweekly.com. Be sure to identify who is in the photo (names listed from left to right), the location, the date and any relevant details about where you took your Weekly.

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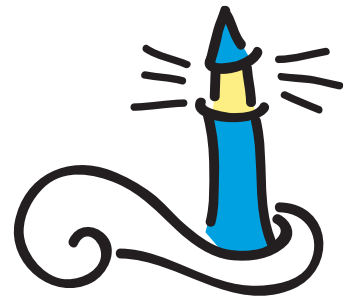
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210 Garage/Estate Sales

RIDGE VIEW COMMONS COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE In the dining room at 5200 Case Ave. Sept. 24 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Collectible plates; jewelry; clothing; toys; gifts; etc.

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE 4419 2nd St. Fri-Sun. Sept. 23-25 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Hundreds of new gift items, clothes, linens, kitchen items, suitcases, tools, cameras, etc.

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245 Miscellaneous

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<http://www.EmbarcaderoMediaGroup.com/employment/computer-systems-associate>

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Legal Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

HOUSEKLEAN CLEANING SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 521646

The following person(s) doing business as: HOUSEKLEAN CLEANING SERVICES, 5748 OWENS DRIVE #106, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael Achury, 5748 Owens Drive #106, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Michael Achury. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 08/18/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23; 2016)

D2 SALES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 521521

The following person(s) doing business as: D2 SALES, 838 GRAY FOX CIRCLE, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): D2 Technology Sales, Inc., 838 Gray Fox Circle, 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: Murray Dennis, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 08/15/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23; 2016)

LICE CLINICS OF AMERICA - PLEASANTON
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 522337

The following person(s) doing business as: LICE CLINICS OF AMERICA - PLEASANTON, 818 MAIN STREET #H, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Masoud Barukzai, 2185 Arroyo Court #4, Pleasanton, CA 94588; Cindy Barukzai, 2185 Arroyo Court #4, Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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: Masoud Barukzai. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 09/08/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Sept. 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7; 2016)

HOWTOWILDERNESS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 521764

The following person(s) doing business as: HOWTOWILDERNESS, 4355 CAMELLIA COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Richard Thomas Romine, 4355 Camellia Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 09/15/2011. Signature of Registrant: Richard Thomas Romine. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 08/23/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Sept. 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7; 2016)

VITALITY BOWLS #004
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 522711

The following person(s) doing business as: VITALITY BOWLS #004, 6654 KOLL CENTER PARKWAY #335, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): L&A Ventures, Inc., 3461 Finnian Way, Dublin, CA 94568. 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: Aaron Nichols, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 09/20/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14; 2016)

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Pleasanton Weekly

August housing market update

By DAVID C. STARK

School performance has a significant (positive) impact on home values in Pleasanton. But what about the school year itself?

"I tell sellers to be prepared to have their home on the market for at least 30 days and that we may not have a lot of traffic because everyone is getting into the groove of school activities and weekend sports," said Kim Ott, 2016 president of the Bay East Association of Realtors, headquartered in Pleasanton.

According to multiple listing service information about the Pleasanton real estate

market, the number of homes for sale peaked in July with 109 single-family detached units on the market. In August, inventory dropped to 88 homes for sale.

"If someone needs to sell, the good thing about selling now is that usually other people won't have their houses on the market because they know it's a more difficult time of year to sell, so there won't be a lot of other competition," Ott said.

"Sellers are going to need a little dose of practicality so to speak," said William Doerlich, 2016 Bay East president-elect. "There is

still great demand in the marketplace. It's still a sellers' market, but sellers need to be aware that buyers feel a little more power coming their way and they need to be realistic."

Doerlich said there are many reasons a seller would put their home on the market in the fall rather than the spring. "With the end of the year coming up, a lot of times there's a

job transfer and the seller wants to close by the end of the year," he said.

"The fall season is a great time to purchase a home," Doerlich added. "There's a little more sense of urgency as we get towards the end of the year." ■

Editor's note: David C. Stark is public affairs director for the Bay East Association of Realtors

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Livermore

2 BEDROOMS
1094 Glen Common \$379,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Louise Davis & Jennifer Swalve
 200-2457/(209) 552-9806

3 BEDROOMS
5871 Cedarwood Common \$639,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

4 BEDROOMS
1650 Vetta Drive \$1,180,000
 Sun 1-4 Cindy & Gene Williams 918-2045

5 BEDROOMS
1513 Aria Court \$1,199,950
 Sun 1-4 Cindy & Gene Williams 918-2045

Pleasanton

2 BEDROOMS
1823 Sinclair Drive \$725,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

1844 Harvest Road \$725,000
 Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

3 BEDROOMS
4645 Black Ave. \$1,109,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226

4455 Entrada Drive \$998,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

7234 Valley View Court \$749,900
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Varsha Upadhye 339-8090

3086 Tonopah Circle \$515,000
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

4239 Denker Drive \$838,000
 Fri 10-1/Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

4 BEDROOMS

1008 Hearst Drive \$1,525,000
 Sun 1-4 Melissa Pederson 359-9606

3630 Pontina Court \$3,395,000
 Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226

901 Sherman Way \$1,429,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

5437 Ridgevale Road \$1,029,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 462-7653

1165 Wenig Court \$1,438,000
 Sat 1-4 Mike Carey 963-0569

9647 Crosby Drive \$2,685,000
 Sun 1-4 Doug Buenz 785-7777

233 Del Valle Court Call for price
 Fri 10-1/Sat 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

1061 Gray Fox Circle \$1,599,800
 Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

1443 Germano Way \$2,699,000
 Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260-2220/413-6544

5 BEDROOMS

3760 Selvante St. \$3,498,000
 Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226

1817 Spumante Place \$2,773,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Tracey Buescher 352-7307

9469 Blessing Drive \$2,099,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260-2220/413-6544

1357 Whispering Oak Way \$1,549,000
 Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260/2220/413-6544

6 BEDROOMS

4129 Grant Court \$2,399,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Bim Sabhlok (408) 807-6492

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<p>LIVERMORE \$639,000 Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4 5871 Cedarwood Common Lovely Birchwood Park Home! 3 BD/2.5 BA Lovely Birchwood Park Home featuring tile flrs, formal dining, inside laundry & 2 Car Grg. Mary Chakakis-Evans CalBRE #00983889 925.216.3388</p>	<p>MANTECA \$339,000 Open Sun 1 - 4 1725 Cocomo Place Manteca Beauty! 3 BD/2 BA Dream Hm features Grt Rm Concept, Plantation Shutters, Tile Flrs, Serene Bkyd. Come See! Sandra Burt CalBRE #01205844 925.847.2248</p>	<p>PLEASANTON \$725,000 Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4 1823 Sinclair Dr. Light ~ Bright ~ Beautiful 2 BD/2 BA Tile Entry, Vited Ceilings, Nwr Crpts, Lam Flrs, Glass Inlaid Kit Cabs, Loft, Frnch Drs to Brick Patio. Karen T CalBRE #09628800 925.847.2300</p>	<p>PLEASANTON \$515,000 Open Sun 1 - 4 3086 Tonopah Circle A Lovely Townhome in Pleasanton!! 3 BD/1 BA In Desired Area. Newer Crpt/Pnt. Updated Kit, Priv Patio, Covrd Prkng & Serene Indscping. Laurie Pfohl CalBRE #00866660 925.847.2231</p>
<p>DANVILLE</p> <p>500 Honey Lake Court \$1,248,000 Gorgeous Home in Shadow Creek 4 BD/3 BA Grmt Ktchn w/Hdwd Flrs. Full BDRM/BA on First Flr, Gorgeous Indscpg ent bkyd. Must See! Terry Kim CalBRE#01363454 925.847.2259</p>	<p>LIVERMORE</p> <p>2275 French Street \$1,325,000 PRIVATE RESERVE HOME IN LIVERMORE! 5 BD/5 BA Grmet Kit w/grmt slab,SS Appl, BD/BA on Main Flr, Lrg bkyd, Mstr Suite w/Retreat & Balcony Daisy Ng CalBRE#01311067 925.847.2307</p>	<p>LIVERMORE</p> <p>2665 Cowan Way \$1,230,000 Elegant Wine Country Home 4 BD/4.5 BA Upgds Aplenty! Hdwd Flrs,LED Ltg,Nw Lndscpg,Grmt KIT w/SS appl,grnd lvl in-law. Bk to Vnyd! Andy Knuth CalBRE#01896749 925.984.3262</p>	<p>LIVERMORE</p> <p>4147 Bishop Pine \$545,000 Beautiful ~ A Must See!! 3 BD/2 BA A Duet has Updated Kitchen w/ Granite & Laminated Floors plus Sun Room & Artist Studio. Nancy Sutorius CalBRE#00628232 925.847.2314</p>
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• Spacious master including two walk-in closets with organizers



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- Large Loft/Bonus Room addition includes built-in speaker system
- Upgraded hardware, fixtures and fans throughout
- Peaceful yard with slate patio, stone walkway and fountain
- Walk 3 blocks to Main Street fine dining, cafes, shopping and entertainment

\$1,248,000 - Call for sneak peek or more information

Open Sat. 1-4 - Bring Offers

1165 Wenig Ct, Pleasanton

- Approx. 2925 sq ft
- 10 year old Ponderosa Classics home
- 4BR, 3.5BA + bonus room
- Wood floors, crown moulding and plantation shutters
- Spacious granite/ss kitchen
- Oversized master bath and walk-in closet
- Walk to community pool, park and playground

\$1,438,000



Call me for more available properties.

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INTERNATIONAL REALTY



PETER MCDOWELL, REALTOR®

925.209.0343

PMCDOWELL@VENTURESIR.COM

CA Lic. #01361481



Pending

605 Blossom Court, Pleasanton
4 BR, 4 BA, 3982 Sq. Ft. | \$2,488,000



Sold

7436 Alder Court Pleasanton
4 BR, 2.5BA, 2444 Sq.Ft. | \$1,105,000



Sold

6119 Bay Hill Court, Dublin
5 BR, 5.5 BA, 5588 Sq. Ft. | \$1,950,000



Sold

7552 Northland Avenue, San Ramon
5 BR, 2.5 BA, 2247 Sq. Ft | \$950,000



PHYLLIS WEINER, REALTOR®

925.872.1416

PWEINER@VENTURESIR.COM

CA Lic. #00673849

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BUYERS NEEDS:

*We have 3 well qualified buyers desperately looking for:
3 or 4 bd/2 ba up to \$1.2m.
One buyer is all cash.*

5437 RIDGEVALE ROAD | PLEASANTON



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4PM

4 bd/2.5 ba, 2,110 +/- sq.ft. on a 6,500 +/- sq.ft. lot
Offered at \$1,029,000

4737 ROSS GATE COURT, PLEASANTON



4 bd/2.5 ba, 2,103 +/- sq.ft. on a 12,196 +/- sq. ft. lot
Offered at \$1,029,000

2647 GAPWALL COURT, PLEASANTON



4 bd/3 ba, 2,128 +/- sq.ft. on a 9,395 +/- sq.ft. lot
Offered at \$1,195,000

2430 RAVEN ROAD | PLEASANTON



COMING SOON

4 bd/2.5 ba, 2,235 +/- sq.ft. on a 7,445 +/- sq.ft. lot
Call for details

5111 NORTHWAY ROAD | PLEASANTON



4 bd/2 ba, 1,854 +/- sq.ft. on a 8,457 +/- sq.ft. lot
Offered at \$979,900

2456 VIA DE LOS MILAGROS | PLEASANTON



PENDING WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS

5 bd/3 ba, 3,259 +/- sq.ft. on a 17,443 +/- sq.ft. lot
Offered at \$1,569,000

"We selected Tim McGuire and his team after meeting with several realtors. They were, by far, the most prepared, knowledgeable and honest about our property and what we needed to do to get top dollar. Both Tim and Mark were instrumental in finding us the folks to whip our property into shape and were on the site often to make sure all was going smoothly and as outlined. They had the perfect marketing strategy when we were ready to hit the market and we sold quickly and for over asking price. Further, they understood exactly what we were looking to downsize to keep us abreast of what they saw as soon they saw it and with their help we were able to purchase the perfect next property for us! Team member Karen in their office was also fantastic in keeping us informed of dates and times and keeping all the paperwork and details from getting out of hand. We have bought and sold a handful of homes over the years with different realtors and this was definitely the best experience of them all! No more interviewing realtors, when it is time to move on again we will just be calling Tim and his team!!"

— Laurie Bjork - 4454 Sutter Gate Avenue, Pleasanton



900 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566



**Walnut Hills – 1587 E. Gate Way
Pleasanton**

Beautifully upgraded with granite kitchen counters, cherry hardwood and gorgeous tile floors

Great Floor plan with plantation shutters downstairs. Main house has 6 bedroom / 4 baths with one bedroom and bath down). Carriage-Guest House has 1bd/1bath/studio w/kitchenette. (separate address 1589) 3 car garage. Walk to Top Rated Schools! Easy freeway access, walk to shopping, new sports park and restaurants.

Offered at \$1,475,000

Delores Gragg

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**Realtor®
925.989.6500**

**www.deloresgragg.com
CalBRE 01206964**



Updated home in Pleasanton for under \$650,000!

288 Mavis Drive

Darling duet located near downtown Pleasanton, walking distance to school and shopping (New Leaf Market) and easy access to 680 and 580 Freeways. 3 large bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, (1/2 bath downstairs with laundry area)

Updates in entry way, kitchen and bathrooms. Large L shaped patio for outdoor living. Private location. Updates include laminate floors, granite counters, stainless sink, faucet and range hood. Bathrooms have new vanities, mirrors and lights. Living room has gas burning fireplace and large slider to the patio area. HOA-maintains exterior of building, roof and common areas and fences.

Priced at \$649,000.

Great starter home!



Janice Habluetzel
Realtor and Relocation Specialist
Alain Pinel Realtors

925.699.3122
jhabluetzel@apr.com
CalBre#01385523



www.JanicetheRealtor.com

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Drysdale Properties

Steve Fast Manager		Chuck Aydelotte		Kathy Boyle		Karla Brown		Tracey Buescher		Mike Chandler		Lois Cox			
OPEN SAT/SUN 1817 SPUMANTE PLACE, PLEASANTON 5BD/4.5BA RUBY HILL Beautiful French Country manor, overlooking 9th fairway, outdoor kit & pool. \$2,773,000 TRACEY BUESCHER 925-352-7307		AVAILABLE 6278 CALLE FUEGO, PLEASANTON 4BD/2BA, Built 1984 1658 Sq. Ft. Super sharp Ponderosa home. \$945,000 LOIS COX 925-200-8495 REALTOR®, CRS CalBRE#01005829		AVAILABLE 6363 SAINT ANDREWS, STOCKTON 4BD/4.5BA, 5030 SQ. FT. Elegant custom Carey home/large estate lot. \$1,599,950 HELEN MCNUTT-GENTILE 925-719-2894 ANDY HARTMAN 925-480-7220		AVAILABLE 11762 SILVERGATE DR., DUBLIN 4BD/2BA, 1774 Sq. Ft. Hardwood floors fireplace in family rm. \$775,000 LOIS COX 925-200-8495 REALTOR®, CRS CalBRE#01005829		OPEN SAT/SUN 7234 VALLEY VIEW CT., PLEASANTON 3BD/2.5BA 2047 Sq. Ft. Updated kitchen freshly painted interiors. \$749,900 VARSHA UPADHYE 925-339-8090 REALTOR® CalBRE#01706653							
AVAILABLE 5918 BLACK AVE., PLEASANTON 5BD/3BA, 2514 SQ. FT. Built 1971 Updated and Expanded. \$974,950 STEVEN LANGSTON 925-209-4607 REALTOR® CalBRE#01781940		COMING SOON 477 VINEYARD PLACE #C, PLEASANTON 2BD/2BA 1082 Sq. Ft. Your own private getaway, Totally Remodeled. Call for \$. LOIS COX 925-200-8495 REALTOR®, CRS CalBRE#01005829		COMING SOON 4662 COCHISE COURT, PLEASANTON 3BD/1.5BA Updated Townhouse. New windows. Quiet neighborhood. Call 4 \$ MIKE CHANDLER 510-220-1212 REALTOR® CalBRE#01039712		COMING SOON 21786 DOLORES ST., CASTRO VALLEY 2BD/1BA, 996 Sq. Ft. Built 1948 Charming Corner Lot. Call for Pricing. MANNY GONZALEZ 510-304-0732 REALTOR® CalBRE# 01988898		CONTINGENT 4855 MERGANSER CT., PLEASANTON 3BD/2BA, 1736 Sq. Ft. Fresh paint, new carpet. Call for price and more details. KARLA BROWN 925-200-1909 REALTOR® CalBRE# 01349250							
Mickie DeFreitas		Jo Gibbons		Jennifer Hosterman		Jo & Carla Hunter		Joanne Khamsehpour		Natalie Kruger		Steven Langston		Debra McMurphy	
Helen McNutt Andy Hartman		Pati Norris		Teri Pohl		Varsha Upadhye									

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900 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566

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REAL ESTATE TEAM



6222 RUXTON CT.
PLEASANTON

Opportunity awaits! This Expanded 2,083 sqft home offers a spacious and open floor plan with many original features of the home. 4 bedrooms and 2 bath. The rear yard is an amazing 11,640 sq.ft offering the opportunity to have a garden and so much more. Close to Pleasanton's desired schools ~ shopping and several commute avenues for access. This is home you won't want to miss.

AVAILABLE AT \$800,000



9558 VELVETLEAF CIR.
SAN RAMON

The buyers are thrilled to call this home their own. It offered amazing views of Mt. Diablo and the Bridges golf course. 4 bedrooms with 2.5 baths with the master bedroom on the main living space. The homes open floor plan along with its formal dining room are perfect for entertaining. Call Kris to help you find the perfect home of your choice.



5561 CALICO LANE
PLEASANTON

Located in the heart of Pleasanton and close to the Downtown area. This New Construction home offered 5 bedrooms and 4 baths with 3,420 sqft of living space on a 10,000 sqft lot with a 3 car garage. The master bedroom and additional bedrooms are located on the main level and an additional spacious bedroom and or bonus room on the upper level. additional features of the home were is white cabinetry, wood floors and custom woodwork throughout.
SOLD FOR \$1,690,000



5168 INDEPENDENCE WAY
PLEASANTON

A highly desired Gibson model home offering a bedroom and full bath on the main level with 5 bedrooms and 3 baths. Located in the Ventana Hills neighborhood and build in 1989. The private rear yard offered a pool, large patio and side yard access.

SOLD AT \$1,432,000



760 E. ANGELA
PLEASANTON

This downtown charmer offered the opportunity for a buyer to update and remodel the home to their desire. A classic 1963 single story home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths along with indoor laundry and an eat in kitchen area.

SOLD FOR \$810,000



927 KOLLN ST
PLEASANTON

Walk to Downtown, schools, shopping and parks. This home was updated thorough out with state of the art finishes, lighting and heated floors in the master bath. The home offered a family room along with a living which is not often found in this Jensen neighborhood. A private rear yard are additional features of this home.

AVAILABLE AT \$935,000

Buyer's needs:

A young couple is looking to purchase their first home in Pleasanton. They desire 3 to 4 bedrooms, in the price range of \$900,000. Please give me a call if you are planning on selling your home.



Carmel Living in Pleasanton!

Incredible private gated estate on 1 Acre with vineyard, detached work shop, & more!
\$2,500,000



9647 Crosby Drive

Incredible custom home in canyon setting with pool, views, privacy, and upgrades throughout!
\$2,685,000



Remodeled to Perfection

Remodeled & upgraded 4 BR, 2.5 BTH home with gourmet kit, 3 car garage, & more!
\$1,269,000



Upgraded home in cul-de-sac

Charming remodeled 4 BR, 2.5 BTH home with designer upgrades & premium location
Call for Price



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& THE 680 GROUP

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Steady as She Goes

We made the case last month that the Pleasanton real estate market was returning to a more balanced and "normal" state, where aggressive overbids and multiple offers on every home are no longer the norm. That continues to be true but August's statistics look remarkably like those of a year ago. Inventory, sales, prices and days on the market were all very close to where they were in August 2015. There is still a great deal of demand in this market, with homes priced from \$1 million to \$2 million looking particularly strong in August (20 days on the market and selling over list – on average).

After dipping below \$1 million in July for the first time in five months, the median sales price increased 2% to \$1,018,000 in August. That was 3% above August 2015's \$990,000. The price per square foot fell 2% in August, from \$493 in July to \$484. That compares to \$470 a year ago. The average sale in August was for 100% of the list price, compared to 99% in July, as well as in August 2015. Days on the market in August (23) was little changed from July (22) or a year ago (21). August was, however, the third straight month that homes were on the market longer than the month before. Inventory fell 9%, from 105 at the end of July to 96 at the end of August. One year ago, 93 homes were on the market. Pending sales increased by two units, Go to www.680homes.com to read the rest of this article.



Considering selling or buying a home?
Call me today and put my market knowledge, experience, and negotiation skills to work for you.

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OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

1513 ARIA COURT
Desirable Prima Neighborhood, South Livermore! 3837 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 4 full baths, 15k sq. ft. lot in great court location!
PRICE REDUCTION: \$1,199,950



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

1650 VETTA DRIVE
Desirable Prima Neighborhood, South Livermore! 2834 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 8k sf lot! Remodeled gourmet kitchen!
OFFERED AT \$1,180,000



Cindy and Gene Williams
REALTORS® BRE LIC # 01370076 and 00607511
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NEW LISTING OPEN FRI 10-1, SUN 1-3



4239 Denker Drive, Pleasanton
One level home with granite slab kitchen! 3 bdrm, 2 remodeled baths, cozy family room w/ pellet stove. Large backyard with deck! **\$838,000**

COMING SOON



Foxbrough Estates
Exquisite custom home on a private 1 acre parcel. 4 bdrm, 4 baths and over 4700 sq. ft. 3 car garages and a detached 2 car garage. Pool, spa and waterfalls

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-3



1061 Gray Fox Circle, Pleasanton
Looking for a one level home? This 4 bdrm, 3 baths, 3980 sq. ft. home is almost all one level. Perfect for downsizing. **\$1,599,800**

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3 NEW PRICE!



1844 Harvest Road, Pleasanton
Wonderful Harvest Square Townhouse. 2 bedrooms, plus an open loft that could be a 3rd bdrm. End unit with lovely backyard. 2 car garage. **\$725,000**

NEW LISTING OPEN FRI 10-1 SAT 1-3



233 Del Valle Court, Pleasanton
Wonderful 4 bdrm, 2 bath home that is just a short stroll to downtown Pleasanton. Seldom do these homes come available. **Priced in the high \$800,000's**

SALE PENDING!



4672 Carson Court, Pleasanton
Simply adorable 4 bedroom, 2 bath one level home with almost 1500 sq. ft. Quiet court location! Beautiful granite kitchen! **\$815,000**

SALE PENDING - MULTIPLE OFFERS!



7830 Knollbrook Drive, Pleasanton
Stunning west side home with 5 bdrms, 2.5 baths and over 2300 sq. ft. This home is a 10+. All custom high end upgrades throughout! **\$1,150,000**

JUST SOLD! 30K OVER ASKING



6344 Benner Court, Pleasanton
Stunning remodel! 4 bdrms, 2 baths, over 1800 sq. ft. New quartz slab kitchen and baths. New carpeting and laminate wood floors. **\$930,000.00**



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OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



9469 BLESSING DRIVE, THE PRESERVE
5BR, 4.5BA, 3992+/- Sq. Ft.
Offered at **\$2,099,000**

NEW PRICE! OPEN SUN 1-4



1443 GERMANO WAY, RUBY HILL
4BR, 4.5 BA, 5577+/- Sq. Ft.
Now Offered at **\$2,699,000**

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



1357 WHISPERING OAK WAY, PLEASANTON
5BR, 3.5 BA, 3760+/- Sq. Ft. With In Law Unit
Offered at **\$1,549,000**

PENDING IN 2 DAYS



2039 VALLEY OAK ROAD, GOLDEN EAGLE
5BR, 5.5BA, 4680+/- Sq. Ft.
Offered at **\$2,549,000**

PENDING



3708 RABOLI STREET, RUBY HILL
5BR, 4 Full BA, 2 Half BA, 5808+/- Sq. Ft.
New Price! Now Offered at **\$2,479,000**

PENDING - MULTIPLE OFFERS



6709 ARLINGTON DRIVE, PLEASANTON
5BR, 3.5BA, 3958+/- Sq. Ft.
Offered at **\$1,950,000**

PENDING IN 8 DAYS



5260 SAN VICENTE TERRACE, DUBLIN
3BR, 2.5BA, 1843+/- Sq. Ft.
Offered at **\$859,000**

COMING SOON



9 GOLD POPPY COURT, DANVILLE
4 BR, 2.5 BA, 2686+/- Sq. Ft.
Offered at **\$1,299,000**

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