

## Pleasanton's school board candidates

Two incumbents, two challengers  
make their cases to voters  
as election nears

Page 14



- 5 | **NEWS** School board throws support behind Prop 55
- 16 | **EDITORIAL** Vote to re-elect mayor, council members
- 18 | **SPORTS** Amador Valley-Dublin renew football rivalry

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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Who wants Oakland to control our electric power?

**B**ruce Jensen and Tom Kelly probably regret that their first stop in promoting a county-run electric system to compete with PG&E was at last week's Pleasanton City Council meeting.

They left empty-handed with Mayor Jerry Thorne and council members criticizing almost everything about the plan that would turn over control of electric rates and usage to environmental thought leaders in Oakland, Hayward and Fremont. These three larger cities would have more than a 50% control over the joint powers agreement (JPA) that would run the new power agency.

Called the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program, it is designed to enable local jurisdictions like Pleasanton to meet the state's requirement that 33% of all electric power used in a community come from renewable clean energy sources by 2020 and 50% by 2030. The CCA program would procure electricity services with "cleaner and more renewable sources of power" than currently available from PG&E.

Established by the State Assembly in 2002, California has two active CCA programs in Marin and Sonoma counties and in downstate Lancaster. The city/county of San Francisco and San Mateo County are about to launch the program, and several other jurisdictions, including Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties are exploring program possibilities.

But in talking up the program, Jensen and Kelly ran into a barrage of questions and unfavorable comments from the council, supported by a Pleasanton-backed independent study of the program by ESA Community Development.

The study showed risks for residents here to become part of a county-run energy agency, and not just because we are among the 10 of 13 cities in Alameda County that would be bound by what the three larger cities would determine with their majority rule of the JPA. ESA found shortcomings in the CCA's rate forecasting and its assessment of hydro-power availability and costs as well as the high costs of other renewables that would fuel the move away from PG&E's oil and natural gas sources of electricity.

In fact, Kelly, a consultant with the Sequoia Foundation, admitted under questioning by Coun-

cilman Arne Olson that the CCA would likely rely solely on wind and solar for the energy that will power Pleasanton customers when the system is fully established. It would not use power from the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant and probably could not find enough hydra-power to meet its needs. That would fit in with his Sequoia Foundation's mission to "hasten the transformation of the power supply to renewable energy sources."

The environmental conservation organization, based in La Jolla, is dedicated to research, public policy interventions and the application of solutions that address the environmental, occupational, demographic and genetic factors that adversely or beneficially affect human health.

Councilman Jerry Pentin noted that CCA plans to be generating 1,000 megawatts of electricity from renewable sources within 14 years, but called that figure misleading. He said there's no open space available to produce that much electricity from solar nor is it likely windmills can ever generate enough power to meet the demands of the Tri-Valley.

Councilwoman Kathy Narum pointed out that we rely on air conditioners during the hot summer months, probably much more than other cities that would be part of a JPA. She's concerned that an Oakland-run consortium would deprive electric customers here of an adequate supply when needed.

Other objections from the council included a provision in the proposed JPA that construction projects would require union labor and that PG&E is well underway to meet the state's clean energy plan and possibly at less costs.

Responding to Alameda County's representative Jensen's request that the Pleasanton council pass an ordinance by early December to join the JPA, the council indicated that won't happen.

"I'm sorry, but I think you have the cart before the horse," Olson said. "Creating a JPA should come after the response to our peer review studies of your plan."

Instead of scheduling a future meeting to consider the JPA bid, Pleasanton city staff plans to make its own independent study of the county's alternative energy plan available to other cities in Alameda County before Jensen and Kelly make more presentations about Community Choice. ■

### About the Cover

In this issue, we are featuring profiles submitted by the four candidates vying for three open seats on Pleasanton's school board this November. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XVII, Number 38

## Re-Elect JERRY PENTIN FOR COUNCIL

I have been honored to serve as your councilman. Over the next four years, I will continue to make the tough decisions and work for solutions that are best for Pleasanton. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your guidance.

Jerry Pentin

VotePentin.com

As a community leader Jerry has been endorsed by the following elected and appointed officials, organizations and media:

Eric Swalwell, Congressman, House of Representatives, 15th District  
Steve Glazer, State Senator, California, 7th District  
Catharine Baker, Assemblywoman, California, 16th District  
Nate Miley, Alameda County Board of Supervisors  
Jerry Thorne, Mayor, Pleasanton  
Kathy Narum, Vice Mayor, Pleasanton  
Arne Olson, Councilmember, Pleasanton  
Tom Pico, Former Mayor, Pleasanton  
Becky Dennis, Former Councilmember, Pleasanton  
Sharrell Michelotti, Former Councilmember, Pleasanton  
Chris Grant, School Board Trustee, P.U.S.D.  
Herb Ritter, Planning Commissioner, Pleasanton  
Bryan Bowers, Planning Commissioner, Pleasanton  
David Nagler, Planning Commissioner, Pleasanton  
Jack Balch, Planning Commissioner, Pleasanton  
Justin Brown, Planning Commissioner, Pleasanton  
Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff/Coroner of Alameda County  
Joe Streng, Parks and Recreation Commissioner  
Joanie Fields, Park & Recreation Commissioner  
D. Ron Hyde, Ret. Superior Court Judge  
Joi Pentin, Former Youth Commissioner  
Doug Miller, Commissioner, Alameda County Veteran's Affairs Commission  
Dolores Bengtson, Retired Director of Pleasanton Parks & Community Services  
John Sensiba, Past Chairman of the Board, Stanford ValleyCare Board of Directors, Past Chairman Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce  
Bob & Joyce Shapiro, Stanford ValleyCare Board of Directors Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce  
Bay East Realtors Association  
Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Local 1974  
Pleasanton Police Officers' Association  
East Bay Times

FPPC#1347882

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FPPC#1385793

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• SUPPORTING OUR EDUCATION LEGACY

by advocating for Measure 11 for capital improvements and to bring schools into the 21st century

• PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

by continuing the fight for open space, parks & trails and protecting our hillsides

### ACHIEVEMENTS

City of Pleasanton Planning Commission: 2013 – Present  
Current Comm. Chair

- Approved Workday development and new Police Station
- Supported 88 downtown homes for Historic designation
- Supported zoning that balances community benefit with state mandated regulations
- Promoted Water Conservation through the Planning department's approval process
- Advocated for Recycled Water & Purple Pipe Extension in new developments & city parks

Parks & Recreation Commission: 2008 – 2013, Comm. Chair 2011

- Created the City's 1st Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- Opened Bernal Park Phase 1
- Worked on plan for Bernal Park Phase 2 (opening in 2016)
- Opened Alviso Adobe Park and Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail
- Opened Firehouse Arts Center
- Advocated for Dog Park 2 (opening in 2016)
- Task Force participant - Kottinger Gardens Senior Housing
- Task Force member - First Bicycle Pedestrian Masterplan

Trails Ad Hoc Committee: 2006 – 2008  
Cmte Chair 2008

- Focused on Trail inter-connectivity for the city and Tri-Valley
- Pushed to get Masterplan completed for grants to extend the Iron Horse Trail through Pleasanton
- Supported the Alamo Canal Trail and Arroyo Mocho Trail/Staples Ranch extensions
- Supported the Downtown Trail Extension from Lyons Wayside to Shadow Cliffs

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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

**Did you learn anything practical or useful in college that helps you in your current everyday life and/or work?**



**Pete Wicher** *Director of business development*

Absolutely, yes. I learned how to learn. I studied engineering, and the faculty constantly told me that because everything we were studying would be obsolete in just a few years, my main goal should be to learn how to constantly learn new things. Thanks to that skill learned in college, for many years I have been able to absorb and process new ideas and put them to good use.



**Mallory Esterman**  
*Freelance photographer*

Honestly, I didn't learn anything of any practical value at all in college. At least not in my actual course work. I sure hope my parents don't see this. They spent a lot of money on my college education.



**Leroy Chiao**  
*Astronaut*

I didn't learn any really specific things that I use today, but I did learn a lot of valuable skills, like how to spot issues and solve problems, how to do research and find and use information and how to be resourceful. I would definitely say my college curriculum was not a waste of time or money.



**Kate Lyness**  
*College student*

Well, I started off at one university and felt that I wasn't really learning anything useful. So I transferred to a different school and am now learning so much great stuff about business and economics that I know will be invaluable to me in my career as a businesswoman someday.



**Matt Croughan**  
*Biopharma consultant*

Absolutely. At Cal, I learned about fluid flow from professor Harvey Blanch. I still use that information to design equipment for biopharmaceutical manufacturing, such as the large bioreactors used in Genentech's Vacaville facility.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis

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

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**Karla Brown**  
Pleasanton City Council

[Karla@Vote4Karla.com](mailto:Karla@Vote4Karla.com)  
[www.Vote4Karla.com](http://www.Vote4Karla.com)



**Re-Elect**

**My GOALS for 2016 - 2020:**

1. Continue to be the lone voice for the **SLOW and SMART GROWTH** policies that formed our award-winning town.
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.

**Paid for by "Karla Brown for City Council" FPPC#1348596.**

## DIGEST

### Tri-Valley Heroes

The Pleasanton Weekly and DanvilleSanRamon.com will recognize our 2016 Tri-Valley Heroes with a public award ceremony Monday evening at the DoubleTree Hilton, 7050 Johnson Drive in Pleasanton.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the presentations will begin at 6:45 p.m. If you would like to attend to honor a recipient, please email Gina Channell at gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com with the number of people planning to attend.

This year's recipients are Don Lewis, Arts and Culture; Melanie Sadek, Community Spirit; Kaitlin Gallagher, Courage; Cristina Hill, Innovation; Connor Bruce, Rising Star; Colin "Lars" Ho-Tseung, Role Model; and Mike Doyle, Lifetime Achievement.

Sponsors of the fifth annual Tri-Valley Heroes awards program are Black Tie Transportation, Monterey Private Wealth, Robert Half, Harrington Art Partnership, Crown Trophy, DoubleTree Hilton and San Ramon Arts Foundation.

### Fall concert

The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will present its fall concert starting at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Firehouse Arts Center.

The program will feature "Early Light" by Bremer, "Rhapsody for Flute" by Bulla, "Symphonic Dances" by Bock, "Apollo March" by Bruckner and "Monterey Bay Suite" by Arthur Barnes, a special dedication piece for the band.

Also included in the program will be other compositions by Barnes, who will be at the concert to conduct his music. Leonard Bernstein and "Our Director March" by Bigelow will serve as the event's finale.

Doors to the Firehouse, located at 4444 Railroad Ave., will open at 1:40 p.m. The concert is free, though donations are appreciated. For more information, call 846-5897 or go to the Pleasanton Community Concert Band website at www.pleasantonband.org.

### Symphony awards

The Livermore-Amador Symphony Association is accepting applications from Tri-Valley high school seniors through Oct. 24 as part of its annual award program.

The association aims to recognize students who have made significant contributions to school and community musical activities during their high school careers, based on prior participation in events — not on ability or plans to continue in music programs.

Applicants must reside in Pleasanton, Livermore, Sunol, Dublin or San Ramon, or have actively participated as a Livermore-Amador Symphony musician. Four winners of the \$400 awards will be honored Dec. 3.

To learn more, visit www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org. ■

## Pleasanton school board endorses Prop 55

Conflict of interest policy, state testing results, dyslexia curriculum among other topics

By JULIA REIS

The Pleasanton school board threw its support behind California's Proposition 55 on Monday evening, unanimously approving a resolution in favor of the statewide ballot measure that would extend an income tax on wealthy Californians to fund education and health care programs.

Prop 55, known as the "Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act," would extend for 12 more years the temporary personal income tax increases on those with high incomes implemented as part of Prop 30.

The estimated \$4 billion to \$9 billion in revenue generated annually from 2019-30 would fund education and health care. Tax revenues would be allocated between K-12 schools and community colleges at rates of

89% and 11%, respectively, and up to \$2 billion in certain years would fund health care programs.

Without an extension, the temporary tax would be phased out starting in 2018 and then expire the following year. The sales tax component of Prop 30 — a 0.25% statewide sales tax to fund education — is set to expire at the end of this year and is not addressed by Prop 55.

As a part of its resolution supporting Prop 55, the school board urged the state legislature to "work with the public education community to identify stable, long-term, adequate funding solutions for public schools."

The board and district staff read the resolution aloud before the board members unanimously approved it during their meeting Monday night. Normally scheduled on Tuesdays, the

regular board meeting was moved up a day because of Yom Kippur, the Jewish observance that began at sundown Tuesday.

### In other business:

- Board members also heard and discussed a presentation on the district's 2015-16 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress results.

The CAASPP replaced Standardized Testing and Reporting examinations two years ago and incorporates new Common Core standards that challenge students to use critical thinking and solve complex problems. It is an online test given in grades three through eight and grade 11.

Pleasanton students overall performed better in the second year of the CAASPP testing, with 81% meeting or

exceeding English language arts and literacy standards and 76% meeting or exceeding mathematics standards according to data released in August. That marked an improvement of 1% and 3% over last year, respectively.

Staff shared with the board how PUSD's results compare with school districts locally and statewide. They also provided an overview of resources meant to help students, parents and community members understand the results and highlighted next steps.

School board members acknowledged the work that has gone into implementing Common Core and CAASPP and congratulated district staff on the progress made.

"Staff did an amazing job of get-

See **SCHOOL BOARD** on Page 6



JULIA REIS

Liu Jing (left), an 11-year-old student from Liuxia Primary School in China, works with Lydiksen Elementary School fifth-grader Breanna Huff and first-grader Alyssa Morales on a calligraphy activity last Friday. Jing was part of a group of students and teachers from China who visited Pleasanton during the past week.

## Lydiksen community welcomes 'sister school' guests

Chinese students, teachers visit Pleasanton

The Lydiksen Elementary School community bid farewell this week to 16 new friends who trekked thousands of miles to visit Pleasanton.

Lydiksen hosted three teachers and 13 fifth-graders from Liuxia Primary School — Lydiksen's new "sister school" in Hangzhou, China — last Friday and Monday.

The visit was the culmination of a process that began last fall when a San Ramon principal and former classmate of Lydiksen principal Jacob Berg and vice principal Janet Gates referred them to United Education, a company that facili-

tates cultural exchanges between schools in the Bay Area and China.

Gates said Lydiksen pursued the opportunity out of an interest in making their students "engaged citizens."

"When we decided to pursue it, it came out that we have a lot of Chinese families here," Gates said. "We thought, 'Let's bring some of the world here.'"

United Education connected Lydiksen and Liuxia, then paid for Gates to travel to Hangzhou in March to spend two days touring the city and school.

Then it proved time for Gates

and the Pleasanton community at-large to further the cultural exchange by hosting the Chinese students and staff. The group from Liuxia Primary School flew into Los Angeles on Oct. 3, visiting Disneyland and Universal Studios before arriving into San Jose to tour Silicon Valley companies and Stanford University.

The group made it into Pleasanton last week, the night of Oct. 6, when students were met with pizza from their host families from Lydiksen and Hart Middle School.

See **LYDIKSEN** on Page 6

## Costco meeting allegations

Group calls for investigation into alleged 'secret' talks between city, Costco

By JEB BING

Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth, an advocacy coalition, has filed complaints with both the state's Fair Political Practices Commission and the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury over what it claims were secret negotiations between the city of Pleasanton and Costco, the membership retail organization.

Former City Councilman Matt Sullivan, a spokesman for the citizens' coalition, accused representatives of the city's council-appointed Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone task force, developer Nearon Corporation and Costco of meeting over the last two years.

The discussions, according to Sullivan, concerned public subsidies to pay for the infrastructure and roadway improvements needed for a project that would provide Costco with the land-use zoning needed to build a store here on Johnson Drive.

Sullivan said that a California public records request filed by the coalition revealed an agreement between the city, Costco and Nearon for almost \$20 million in taxpayer subsidies for the project which has been kept hidden from the public.



Matt Sullivan

See **SULLIVAN** on Page 8

## LYDIKSEN

Continued from Page 5

Last Friday the Chinese visitors made their way to Lydiksen, where the young guests were each paired up with a fifth-grade “ambassador” and shown around the school.

Other activities during the group’s visit included calligraphy, in which students used water to paint Chinese symbols and drawings on the blacktop; a movie night; and celebration assemblies in which the visiting students performed for their peers.

De Fa Yuan, Liuxia’s vice principal and physical education teacher, said

Friday through a translator that he appreciated the student decorations adorning the classroom walls at Lydiksen and was interested in making the classrooms in China more colorful.

“I’ve really enjoyed the journey so far and hope my students can learn from the American students and experience the culture,” he said.

Gates said there are no plans in the works to have Lydiksen students go to China, although she said some teachers and host families could take interest in that. In the meantime, she hopes to keep the two school communities connected via email. ■

—Julia Reis

## SCHOOL BOARD

Continued from Page 5

ting through the new curriculum and new ways of teaching,” board member Joan Laursen said. “It’s just remarkable. Everyone should be really proud of themselves.”

- The board also heard the first reading of proposed updates to the board policy on conflicts of interest.

The Political Reform Act requires local agencies to review their conflict of interest code for accuracy in even-numbered years whether or not it needs to be amended. The last time the Pleasanton board revised its policy was September 2012.

The policy outlines instances in which board members could have conflicts of interest that could require them to abstain from voting on a particular issue, as well as affiliated protocol. For example, it states that the

district is barred from entering into a contract where a board member, employee or district consultant has a financial interest.

It also says that even if there isn’t a prohibited conflict of interest, a trustee should abstain from voting on personnel matters “that uniquely affect his/her relatives”; however, it continues, they can vote on personnel matters and collective bargaining agreements that affect a class of employees that a relative belongs to.

Pleasanton school superintendent Rick Rubino said at the meeting that the only changes being proposed are to the policy’s appendix, where some of the titles of designated personnel listed are outdated. The board did not suggest any additional modifications.

The second reading of the policy will go before the board on Oct. 25 for final approval.

- After an hour-long discussion, the

board decided to postpone deciding on the planned adoption of new curriculum for elementary and middle school students with dyslexia.

District officials gave a presentation on the Wilson, Foundations and Just Words programs that would be used primarily by resource specialists for students with significant reading and/or spelling difficulties. In a board memo, they recommended that the board approve the adoption of these supplemental instructional materials while they await specific new guidelines from the state that would be implemented next school year.

The new guidelines stem from the passage of Assembly Bill 1369 last fall, which requires the state’s superintendent of public instruction to develop

program protocol and educational services for students with dyslexia.

Following a discussion among board members and district staff as well as comments from parents, the group reached the consensus to bring the proposed curriculum adoption back to a future meeting, possibly as soon as Oct. 25.

“I recognize we want to put something in place, but we need to get this right,” board president Jamie Hintzke said. “I would encourage staff to strategize and bring it back.”

- As a part of the consent agenda, the board authorized a mitigation agreement between the district and Ponderosa Homes II, Inc. that would bring in \$775,440 in school impact fees.

“School board members wield an enormous amount of power and make decisions on everything ranging from graduation requirements to academic curriculum, special education, and the construction of new schools,” Cousins said. “I encourage all parents of students in Pleasanton schools to get involved in the election process by getting to know the candidates who may ultimately be making the decisions for your children.” For more information about the event, visit PleasantonVoters.com. ■

All new residential and commercial construction requires that a mitigation amount be paid to the district before a county or city of Pleasanton building permit will be issued.

The developer fees are affiliated with the Sycamore Project, the planned construction of 36 single-family residential units on Valley Trails Drive.

The money will go into the district’s capital facilities fund, according to a board memo.

- The board recognized Pleasanton high school students Alisha Shaik and Anushka Sikdar for their work combating Islamophobia, which earned them the Dreammakers and Risk Takers award from Innovation Tri Valley. ■



By Robert Rosas

**If YOU suffer from low back pain, according to National Institutes of Health, you are among four out of five Americans who will suffer from disabling back pain during their lifetimes.**

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the low back, sometimes with additional pain through the buttocks and down the legs are all symptoms of a pinched nerves often called “sciatica”.

In severe cases, it can lead to muscle wasting, numbness and constant tingling down to the tip of the toes. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.

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The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% some back surgeons recommend their patients try this treatment first before having back surgery.

In Pleasanton, you can try Non-Surgical Re-constructive Spinal Care at Intero Chiropractic – the office of the man who has dedicated in helping hundred’s of people with low back pain and sciatica.

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Dr. Hsieh and his team have helped numerous patients find relief from their agonizing back pain and sciatica.

According to Dr. Hsieh, “We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in the Tri-Valley Area, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica; and a unique program for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people.”

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Pleasanton Weekly has teamed up with the spine therapy specialists at Intero Chiropractic, to help readers find relief from their persistent back and sciatic pain.

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Mention this article (CODE: BOS37SCID5) and Dr. Jerry Hsieh will happily reduce his usual examination fee by 60%. But hurry, due to obvious reasons – this is a time limited offer – with only 100 reader consultations available at this exclusively discounted rate.

My advice, don’t suffer a moment longer...

Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with Dr. Jerry Hsieh and his team now by calling (925)255-5805, they are waiting to take your call today.

**They actually treat the cause of your health problem, not just your symptoms.**

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Over the years, they’ve treated hundreds of patients with back problems and sciatica. The vast majority of them have enjoyed superior, lasting relief. In fact, many who’ve suffered and have tried other remedies have told them they gave them back their lives!

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**the cause of your problem at 60% off the normal cost of an examination!**

Don’t suffer from the pain and immobility any longer. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve.

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You can even call on the weekend and leave a message on their answer machine to secure your spot as they promise to return all calls; and during the week they are very busy, so if they don’t pick up right away, please leave a message.

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# NO on MM

**We Want Costco!**

## Get the facts!



All of the documents related to the planning of the Johnson Drive Economic Zone are on the City's website at [cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov)



Voting NO on Measure MM will allow the proposed Economic Development Zone, including Costco, to move forward under our normal public process



The alternative plan required by Measure MM would not allow Costco to be built, but would still generate significant traffic (*Johnson Drive EDZ Supplemental Comparative Analysis, p. ES-4*)



Funding for the necessary traffic improvements will be paid for by Costco, the property owner, developer funded traffic impact fees, and from future sales tax revenue generated from a new Costco. **Costco has agreed that NO taxes that you have paid will go to support their project.**

**Please join Councilmembers, community leaders, small business owners, and many Pleasanton residents and vote NO on Measure MM.**

# NO on

[www.NoOnMM.org](http://www.NoOnMM.org)

# MM

**We Want Costco!**

**ELECTION DAY  
TUESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 8**

**Paid for by No on MM, a coalition of residents and community leaders for a Pleasanton Costco, sponsored and major funding by Costco**

# Increased water use statewide could lead to mandatory restrictions

State stopped requiring 25% water savings rate in June when conservation measures became voluntary

A recent dramatic drop in water conservation statewide could lead to a renewal of state-imposed mandatory water restrictions, according to California water officials.

The State Water Resources Control Board announced that conservation efforts for August 2016 dropped to 17.7% statewide, compared to 27% from August 2015, which is a decline of roughly 35%.

Water conservation dropped so steeply in some areas that state-mandated conservation measures could return by next year, according to board officials.

"While last year's rain and snow brought a respite for urban Califor-

nia, we are still in drought and we can't know what this winter will bring," board chair Felicia Marcus said in a statement.

Water officials are trying to determine a reason for the drop, with Marcus suggesting that in some cases it might be due to a lack of public outreach by some of the local water agencies and in some cases local agencies might be abandoning conservation programs altogether.

"The statewide August conservation results raise questions, and we are examining the data to understand why some areas slipped more than others," Marcus said.

The state's conservation rates are calculated based on water use baselines that were established in 2013, before the current drought really took hold.

**'We are still in drought and we can't know what this winter will bring.'**

**Felicia Marcus,**  
State water board

A few Bay Area communities were singled out by the board for

surpassing the state conservation average, including the Alameda County Water District, the Contra Costa Water District, the city of Hayward and the San Jose Water Company.

Some areas, including Daly City and East Palo Alto, saw a small percentage savings overall but continued to maintain low per-capita residential water use.

"The Bay Area traditionally has the lowest residential gallon usage per day," said board spokesman George Kostyrko.

A few of the local water districts that dropped from savings rates of more than 20 percent last year to

single-digit rates this year include the Casitas Municipal Water District, the cities of Folsom and La Habra, the water districts that serve Malibu and Mountain House and the South Lake Tahoe Public Utilities District, according to board officials.

"We're urging (water districts) where we've seen a precipitous drop in conservation to reach out to high-use customers and urge them to conserve," Kostyrko said.

The state stopped requiring a 25% water savings rate in June, when conservation measures became voluntary. ■

—Kiley Russell, Bay City News

## SULLIVAN

Continued from Page 5

In addition, he said, Mayor Jerry Thorne has been advocating for the Costco project for two years while owning Costco stock.

The FPPC recently issued a find-

ing that Thorne's activities are a conflict of interest under the state of California Political Reform Act, and he has recused himself from any discussions by the City Council concerning Costco.

"The city of Pleasanton has been engaged in secret negotiations with

Costco for two years to provide an almost \$20 million taxpayer giveaway to the multi-billion-dollar corporation to entice it to build a store in Pleasanton," Sullivan said. "The details of these negotiations have been withheld from the public and distorted by the mayor, the City Council majority and city staff."

Sullivan continued:

"The only reason the details of this agreement have been brought to light is due to a state of California public records request by Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth. The request also unearthed several emails detailing the complicity and cozy relationship between city officials, Costco and the Chamber of Commerce, as well

as city staff strategies to diffuse the considerable public opposition to the project and to undermine Measure MM, the anti-Costco citizens' initiative on the ballot in November.

"To top it off, Mayor Jerry Thorne knowingly and willingly violated the state of California Political Reform Act by using his mayoral powers to grease the skids for Costco approval over a two-year period starting in 2014.

"We are calling for investigations by both the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury and the California Fair Political Practices Commission into city wrongdoing, to bring all necessary information into the light of day, and for these agencies to

levy the appropriate penalties to both Mayor Thorne and other city officials.

"Transparency in government is critical for a functioning democracy and it is the goal of Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth to make sure the public is fully aware of the issues related to this project."

Sullivan said that Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth is a group of residents and businesses concerned with the impact of a big-box store on Johnson Drive and dedicated to a transparent and functioning democracy. It is in no way affiliated with Citizens for Planned Growth, another citizens coalition, Bill Wheeler or Black Tie Transportation, Sullivan added. ■



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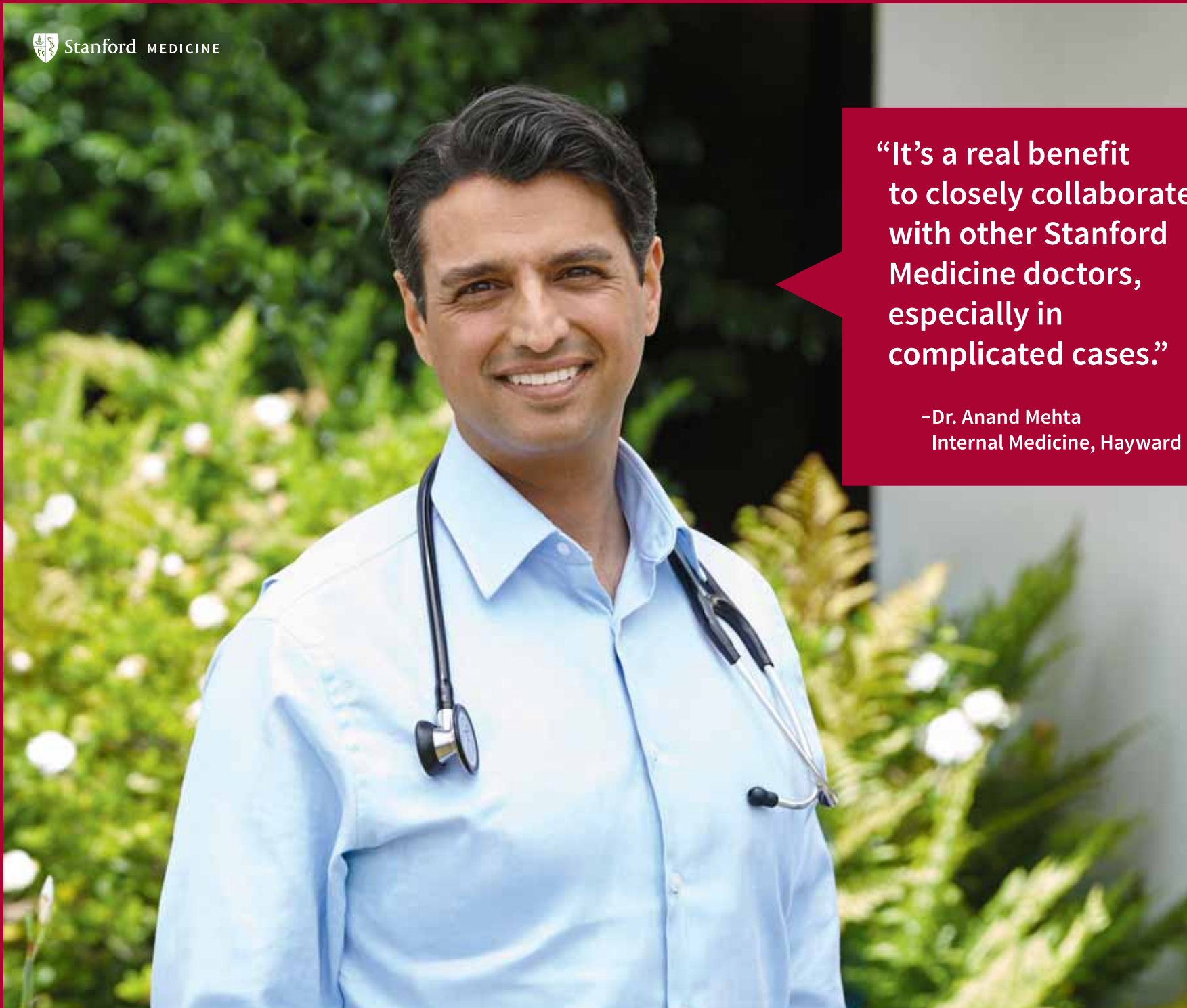
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ValleyCare Physicians Associates

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### Walnut Creek

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### 'Life in Motion'

The famous Cashore Marionettes are set to present their live performance "Life in Motion" next Friday, Oct. 21, at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 22 at 2 p.m. at Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center. In a series of scenes taken from everyday life and set to music by composers such as Beethoven, Vivaldi and Strauss, characters of depth, integrity and humanity are portrayed unlike anything else in theater today. Through a combination of virtuoso manipulation, humor, pathos and poetic insight, they will take the audience on a journey that celebrates the richness of life. Reserved seating tickets are \$10-\$18; visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), call 931-4848 or go to the box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## TAKE US ALONG

**Cruising the canal:** Ellen and Joe Aguirre took the Pleasanton Weekly with them on their cruise vacation through the Gatun Locks at the Panama Canal. To submit your "Take Us Along" entry, email your photograph to [srhodes@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto: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.



## Tri-Valley Rotary holding 'Lights-Out' golf tourney

Players will be hitting 'Glow Balls' at sunset tomorrow

The Tri-Valley Rotary Club will hold a "Lights-Out" golf tournament starting at 4:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Pleasanton Fairways Golf Course.

Highlights of the event include nine holes of Glow Ball golf, which will become more useful as play continues after sunset.

"We have chosen Dia de los Muertos as our theme this year, and we know this is going to add

excitement to the spirit of the contest," said David Gilpin, the event chairman.

"Playing golf after dark creates fun, adventure, and mystery at our annual fundraiser," Gilpin added. "This variation on traditional golf makes this our most popular and successful event every year."

The event will include a dinner, silent auction, raffle, prizes and illuminated golf accessories

Fees for golf and dinner are \$75, or \$25 for dinner only.

Proceeds from the event will benefit The First Tee of the Tri-Valley, a Tri-Valley Evening Rotary Club community service project that supports seniors, students and veterans.

Tickets can be purchased by signing on to the club's website at [trivalleyrotary.org](http://trivalleyrotary.org).

—Jeb Bing



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# 'All for Music' show raises \$10,000+

Performance event supports 5th-grade band and strings program

Local families, residents and businesses recently joined together to raise more than \$10,000 for the Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment (PSEE) Foundation during a music show fundraiser at Pleasanton Middle School.

The "All for Music" event, which supported the fifth-grade band and strings program for Pleasanton elementary students, drew 500-plus parents as well as city and school district officials, plus the efforts of over 100 volunteers and performers on Sept. 30.

"A night full of music and dancing kept the crowd in awe as the amazing performances swept the audience off their feet," said Amador Valley High freshman Claire Shao, one of the hosts during the show. "This incredible event brought talented youth performers together to display their prodigious acts for this charitable cause."

The fundraiser included a "Music Instruments Petting Zoo" where young kids could check out different types of instruments as well as a show featuring Tri-Valley children performing in band, strings and choir

ensembles, solo singing, drum performance, hip-hop and Chinese folk dances.

It culminated with a performance by local resident Barry Mew performing a dance on stage with a group of students to Justin Bieber's song "Baby." Mew gained recognition on a national stage in February when he appeared as the "trivia dancer" on ABC's "Live with Kelly & Michael!"

To learn more about the event or PSEE, visit [pseefundraising.wix.com/psee](http://pseefundraising.wix.com/psee). ■

—Jeremy Walsh



COURTESY OF CATHERINE SHAO

The Harvest Park Middle School jazz band plays "Li'l Darlin'" led by music teacher Paul Perazzo during the "All for Music" fundraiser.

## Livermore Lab researchers find Earth, meteorites have different materials

Research has 'tremendous implications' for the fundamental understanding of Earth, scientists say

By JEB BING

Scientists from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory have found that, contrary to popular belief, the Earth is not comprised of the same material found in primitive meteorites (also known as chondrites).

Their findings are based on the determination that the abundance of several neodymium (Nd) isotopes are different in the Earth and in chondritic meteorites. A longstanding theory assumes that the chemical and isotopic composition of most elements in the bulk silicate Earth is

the same as primitive meteorites.

However, 10 years ago it was discovered that rocks on the surface of the Earth had a higher abundance of <sup>142</sup>Nd than primitive meteorites, leading to a hypothesis that Earth had either a hidden reservoir of Nd in its mantle or inherited more of the parent isotope <sup>146</sup>Sm, which subsequently decayed to <sup>142</sup>Nd.

Using higher precision isotope measurements, the team found that differences in <sup>142</sup>Nd between Earth and chondrites (non-metallic me-

teorites) reflected nucleosynthetic processes and not the presence of a hidden reservoir in the Earth or excess <sup>146</sup>Sm.

"The research has tremendous implications for our fundamental understanding of the Earth, not only for determining its bulk composition, heat content and structure, but also for constraining the modes and timescales of its geodynamical evolution," said Lars Borg, an LLNL chemist and co-author of a paper

See **METEORITES** on Page 12

## TAKE US ALONG



PHOTO CREDIT

**At the Great Wall:** Martin and Janet Gates took the Pleasanton Weekly to see the sights at the Great Wall of Mutianyu, a section of the Great Wall of China north of Beijing.

To submit your "Take Us Along" entry, email your photograph to [srhodes@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto: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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BARBARA MALLON

## Free opera outside Museum on Main

The Museum on Main and Livermore Valley Opera are joining forces to present a free opera performance in front of the downtown museum tomorrow from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to mark the final weekend of the museum's "25 Years of Music and Magic" LVO anniversary exhibit. The show will feature soprano Revital Shmerling and baritone Llewellyn Gravely, accompanied by pianist Frank Johnson. It is an encore to the opera show held outside the museum Oct. 1 with baritone Jason Sarten (shown).



JANICE WEI

## Capturing the Tri-Valley's beauty

Pleasanton resident Janice Wei took home first place for her photo "Livermore Farm Land" in this year's Freeze Frame Photography Competition presented by Tri-Valley Conservancy, a local nonprofit that strives to protect open space for parks, farms, trails, ranches and wildlife habitat in the area. In its photography contest, the nonprofit gave out awards for first through third place in adult and youth categories, and the selected photos will be featured in Tri-Valley Conservancy's traveling exhibit, 2017 desk calendar and other communications throughout the year.

## METEORITES

Continued from Page 11

that appeared in the Sept. 15 edition of Nature.

The team suggests that the Earth formed from material that was slightly more enriched in Nd produced by a slow neutron capture process during the creation of asymmetric giant

branch (AGB) stars.

The team's ultimate goal was to determine whether the magnitude of radiogenic (produced by radioactive decay) Nd correlated with Nd produced in nucleosynthetic environments such as supernova or AGB stars. They used large sample sizes (about 2 grams) to obtain higher precision Nd and Sm isotope data

for a comprehensive set of meteorites including 18 chondrites, the ungrouped primitive achondrite NWA 5363 and a Calcium-Aluminum-rich inclusion (CAI) from the Allende meteorite (the largest carbonaceous chondrite ever found on Earth).

"This research may provide a new means for assessing processes that affected solid material in the disk, as

well as for identifying genetic relationships among planetary bodies," Borg said. "It calls into question a fundamental tenant of geochemistry that the composition of the Earth is precisely represented by the composition of primitive meteorites."

Other scientists include collaborators from the University of Chicago and Westfälische Wilhelms-Universit

sität Münster in Germany.

Neodymium is a powerful magnetic element used in compact electric motors. A Toyota Prius uses 1 kg in its electric motor magnets. Although neodymium is classed as a rare earth element, it is fairly common, no rarer than cobalt, nickel and copper and is widely distributed in the Earth's crust. ■

## County launches student transit pass pilot program

Livermore youth offered free or reduced price passes

The Alameda County Transportation Commission has launched a pilot program to provide transit passes to county middle and high school students to get to and

from school, after-school programs and jobs, county officials recently announced.

Commission members approved the three-year program in a unani-

mous vote last year and implemented it at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year last month.

School officials often cite the cost of transportation to school as a bar-

rier to school attendance and participation in after school activities and jobs for middle and high school students.

In recognition of this, Measure BB, the 2014 voter-approved Alameda County transportation sales tax, included funding to test a variety of pilot transit pass programs throughout the county, transportation officials said.

The Student Transit Pass Pilot Program aims to reduce barriers to transportation access to and from schools, improve transportation options for middle and high school students and build support for transit in the county.

The transportation commission launched five different types of pilot programs at 11 schools throughout Alameda County: in Berkeley, Livermore, Oakland, San Leandro and Union City. The Livermore schools participating are East Avenue Middle School and Livermore High.

Four of the five pilot programs include free or reduced price transit passes while the pilot programs being tested at two Berkeley schools are testing the impact of increased transit information and training on students' transit use.

The transportation commission selected schools for the pilot program based on criteria that included need, the high presence of regular transit service within a quarter-mile of the school and readiness. ■

—Bay City News Service

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<sup>1</sup> The ranking reflects the volume of assets overseen by the advisors and their teams, revenues generated for the firms and the quality of the advisors' practices. The scoring system assigns a top score of 100 and rates the rest by comparing them with the winner. The Barron's award is not indicative of Destination Wealth Management's future performance.

# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Police warn about airsoft-firearm confusion

Pleasanton police are urging residents to view a social media video posted by the nearby San Ramon Police Department last week aiming to spur conversation and education about dangers that could arise when officers respond to situations involving replica weapons such as airsoft guns.

The San Ramon police video recounts an incident Sept. 29 when a resident called 9-1-1 to report a masked gunman in her neighborhood that ended up being a teen playing airsoft with his friends.

"Pleasanton PD responds to calls like these — some involve situations similar to the phone call featured in this video, others are connected to the 'assassin' game," Pleasanton police said in sharing the video on their department's Facebook page. "Use this video as a starting point for a healthy conversation with your family."

The San Ramon incident resolved

without crisis after the 14-year-old listened to responding police officers' instructions and came out from behind bushes unarmed, but the outcome might have been much different otherwise, San Ramon police said in a post on the department's Facebook page.

"The dangers associated with this incident are obvious. Without being able to hold the weapon in your hands, it is virtually impossible to visually tell the difference between a replica airsoft rifle and a real firearm," San Ramon police wrote in an accompanying video on Facebook.

The four-minute advisory video, which registered more than 186,000 views as of Tuesday afternoon, includes two minutes of audio from the 9-1-1 call and follow-up captions from San Ramon police.

According to police, the situation occurred the night of Sept. 29 in the area of Red Willow Road and South Blackbrush Lane in San Ramon, a neighborhood near the intersection of Crow Canyon and Dougherty roads.

A woman called the San Ramon Valley 911 Communications Center to tell police about seeing a person with a helmet and "long

gun" walking in the bushes across the street and then walking around her house.

"Hurry, hurry. He's gonna ... He's got ..." the woman said, speaking frantically, short of breath with her voice cracking.

The emergency dispatcher talked to the caller while the details were relayed to San Ramon police officers by another dispatcher, according to the video, which pointed out the incident came a day after a reported armed carjacking in a neighboring community — unincorporated Danville.

San Ramon police arrived and found the person hiding in the bushes, according to the video.

"Fortunately, he followed instructions given by the officer and came out of the bushes without any weapons," the video caption read.

The person was a 14-year-old boy playing airsoft with four friends between 12 and 14 years old, and each child had an airsoft gun designed to look like an actual assault rifle, according to police.

"The dangers of airsoft guns are real. Parents, please talk with your children about gun safety," video captions said. "Make sure they look

like toys and teach your kids to follow instructions if contacted by the police. Teach them before a tragedy happens."

The accompanying Facebook post asks viewers to put themselves in responding police officers' shoes.

"If you were on patrol and someone pointed one of the weapons pictured below directly at you, at a loved one, or at anyone, what would you do? Remember, you only have a few seconds to make a decision and the wrong choice could cost you your life," the post states.

The end of the video features a picture of 12 guns collected during a separate incident in San Ramon last month and asks viewers to identify which are real firearms and which are replicas, attempting to show people how difficult it is to discern the difference. Police said they would reveal the answers on Facebook in the coming days.

### In other police news:

- An unidentified juvenile was arrested last week after police allege they were involved in a fight with a peer that ended with both of them sustaining injuries.

Just after 5 p.m. Oct. 5, the Pleas-

anton Police Department received reports of two juveniles fighting at Taco Bell, located at 5524 Springdale Ave. according to police.

When officers arrived, they located a juvenile with injuries that required immediate medical attention, including apparent stab wounds. That juvenile was transported to Eden Medical Center and is expected to recover from their injuries.

Information given to officers at Taco Bell indicated the second juvenile involved fled Taco Bell toward Stoneridge Apartments, located at 6250 Stoneridge Mall Road. A police perimeter was quickly established, and the juvenile was located and apprehended a short time later, according to the department.

The second juvenile also appeared to have sustained injuries and was medically cleared before being taken to juvenile hall.

An initial investigation indicates this was an isolated incident, according to police, and that all involved parties have been identified and located. Police said they will not release the identities of either person involved in the incident since they are both underage. ■

—Jeremy Walsh and Julia Reis

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Oct. 8

#### DUI

■ 3:49 a.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Theft from auto

■ 8:30 a.m. in the 5600 block of San Antonio Street

#### Shoplifting

■ 6:07 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 9:42 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Fraud

■ 2 p.m. in the 3100 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Sex offenses

■ 8:58 p.m. at Sunol Boulevard and Valley Avenue

### Oct. 7

#### Theft

■ 4:48 a.m., 4400 block of Desertwood Place; theft from auto

■ 8:58 a.m., 1800 block of Tanglewood Way; theft from auto

■ 9:50 a.m. in the 3000 block of Badger Drive

#### Burglary

■ 6:43 a.m. in the 4400 block of Linda Way

■ 10:07 a.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Vandalism

■ 9:31 a.m. in the 7000 block of Commerce Circle

#### Fraud

■ 12:39 p.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

### Oct. 6

#### Commercial burglary

■ 5:28 a.m. in the 5700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Auto theft

■ 9:36 a.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court

#### Graffiti

■ 11:43 a.m. in the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane

■ 1:10 p.m. at Santa Rita Road and Black Avenue

#### Fraud

■ 4:04 p.m. in the 1100 block of W. Lagoon Road

### Oct. 5

#### Theft

■ 12:25 a.m., 5700 block of Owens Drive; theft from auto

■ 12:27 a.m., 5700 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; auto theft

■ 7:48 a.m., 5700 block of Owens Drive; auto theft

■ 11:03 a.m., 4900 block of Owens Drive; theft from auto

#### Drug violation

■ 12:52 a.m. at Hacienda and Gibraltar drives

■ 11:49 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Vandalism

■ 9:29 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

#### Fraud

■ 10:36 a.m. in the 2800 block of Tangelo Court

#### Residential burglary

■ 1:23 p.m. in the 5100 block of Genovesio Drive

■ 5:53 p.m. in the 1600 block of Whispering Oaks Way

#### Battery

■ 3:06 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springdale Avenue

### Oct. 4

#### Theft from auto

■ 12:06 a.m. in the 100 block of Mission Drive

■ 12:45 a.m. in the 200 block of Junipero Street

■ 3:53 a.m. in the 600 block of Bonita Avenue

■ 6:50 a.m. in the 5700 block of Sonoma Drive

■ 7:57 p.m. in the 5700 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard

#### Theft from structure

■ 2:31 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Fraud

■ 1:56 p.m. in the 4900 block of Mohr Avenue

■ 5:55 p.m. in the 1300 block of Whispering Oaks Way

### Oct. 3

#### Drug violation

■ 2:50 a.m. in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Vandalism

■ 3:18 a.m. in the 3500 block of Norton Way

■ 10:35 a.m., 2700 block of Santa Rita Road; graffiti

■ 12:54 p.m., 7600 block of Driftwood Way; graffiti

#### Theft

■ 4:26 a.m., 3300 block of Norton Way; theft from auto

■ 7:51 a.m. in the 2600 block of Rasmussen Court

■ 4:04 p.m., 3700 block of Angus Way; auto theft

■ 9:51 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

#### Fraud

■ 9:48 a.m. in the 4200 block of Garibaldi Place

■ 12:01 p.m. in the 300 block of Mission Drive

#### Missing person report

■ 11:17 p.m. on Heinz Ranch Court

### Oct. 2

#### Theft from auto

■ 8:07 a.m. in the 3100 block of Snowdrop Circle

■ 9:12 a.m. in the 2800 block of Cedrus Court

■ 11:55 a.m. in the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive



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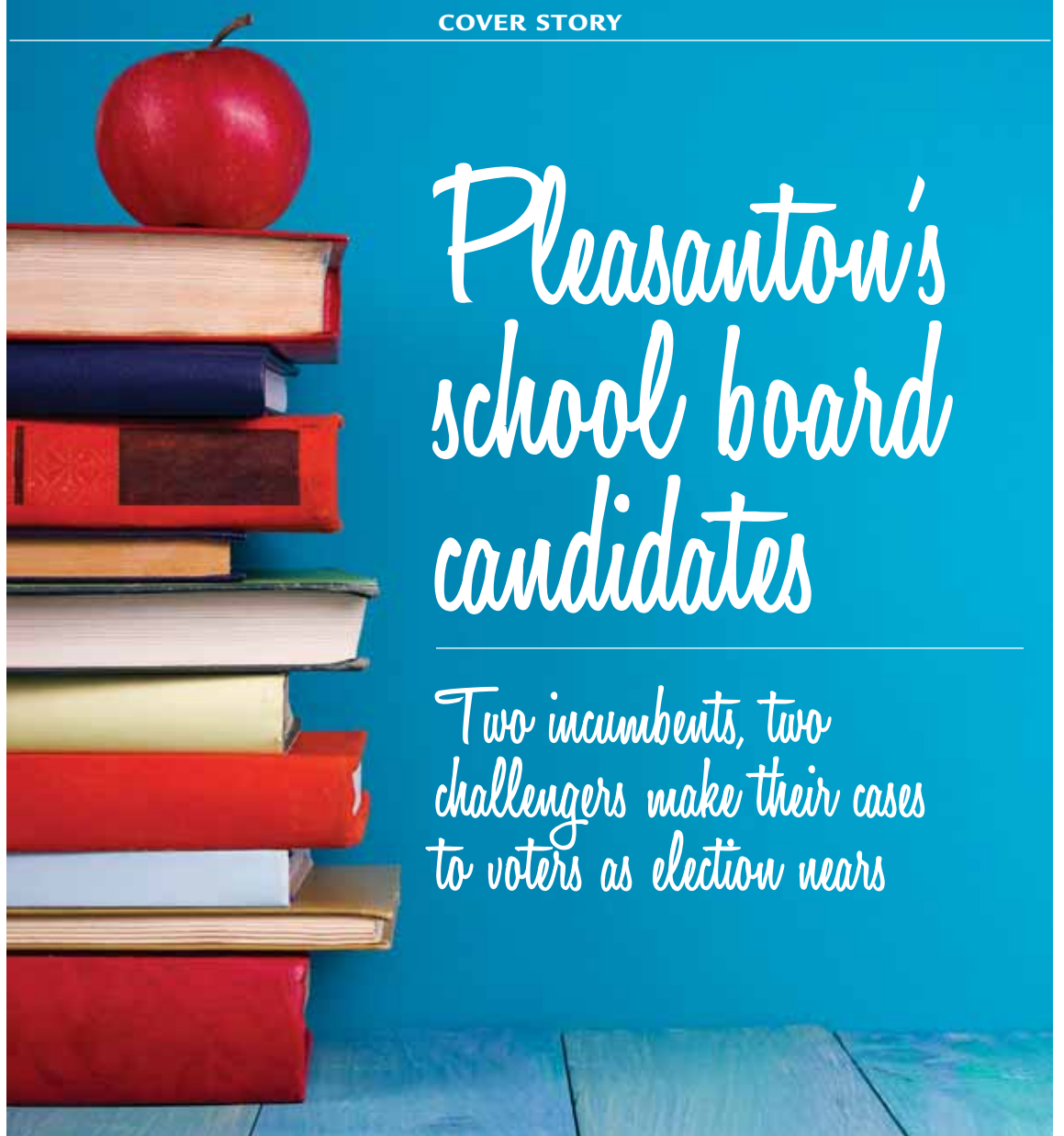
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COVER STORY



## Pleasanton's school board candidates

*Two incumbents, two challengers make their cases to voters as election nears*

By JULIA REIS

Election Day is now less than a month away.

For constituents, that means a few more weeks for putting campaign signs up in the front yard, watching debates and poring over voter materials to help inform decisions. For candidates, that means there are a precious few weeks left to make their case with the voters, many of whom are starting to return their completed ballots by mail.

Recognizing that, we offered the four candidates for the Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees some space — 300 words and a photo's worth apiece, to be exact — in which they could state why residents should vote for them.

Those vying for the three seats include incumbents Valerie Arkin, who was first elected to the board in 2008, and Jamie Hintzke, who is also seeking re-election to a third term.

The two challengers in the race are retired Hart Middle School principal Steve Maher and Kathleen Ruegsegger, former Pleasanton school board member (1990-93) and former retired executive assistant to Pleasanton and Palo Alto school superintendents.

There will be at least one new face on the school board after the election, as current board member Chris Grant announced in August that he would not seek re-election after nearly a decade on the board.

Besides the matter of the school board, Pleasanton voters are also asked to decide on Measure II,

the \$270 million school bond that would impose a new tax on property owners to generate revenue for updated school facilities and infrastructure.

Those still undecided about the

school board race can read on to get a sense of the candidates, who are featured here in alphabetical order. And for those not yet registered to vote, Oct. 24 is the deadline for the Nov. 8 election.



**Valerie Arkin, Candidate for re-election to School Board**

Serving for the last 8 years on the School Board has been an honor and privilege. I'm running for re-

election in order to continue my service by representing the community and making the best deci-

sions for students.

Student achievement is a top priority. I want to continue the vision of excellence and high performance by advocating for programs/services that help students reach their maximum potential. Having options and opportunities for students is necessary for them to be engaged and succeed. All kids can learn if given the appropriate resources.

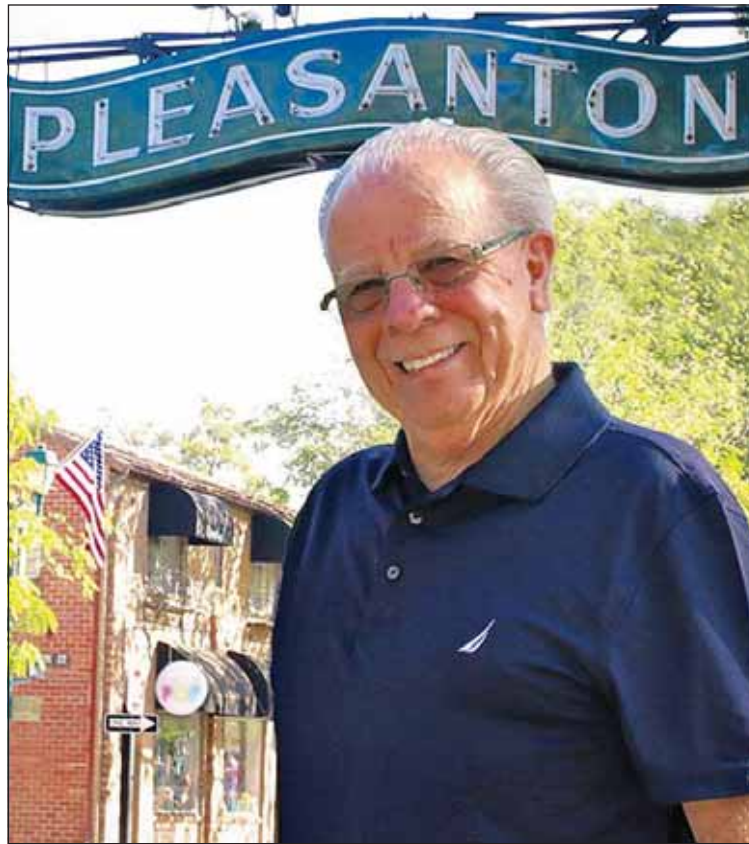
Effective communication is vital. I've worked collaboratively with stakeholders and I'm approachable and accessible. I do my homework, ask questions, and I seek solutions that are both practical yet creative. I invest the time necessary to be an effective Board member and I'm thorough, detail-oriented, fair, and an independent thinker.

Fiscal responsibility by being accountable to the public and transparent in decisions is important. I will continue my oversight by governing with discipline and discretion.

Facilities and technology are priorities. Updated/modernized facilities and technology promote 21st century learning. A new elementary school would help relieve overcrowding as it is our responsibility to plan for the future.

I'm a Special Education Board Member and I'm a Delegate to the California School Boards association. I've served 8 years on the Pleasanton Library Commission and I'm a Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council Board Member. A 23-year resident of Pleasanton, I've been married for 30 years, and have 3 children — 16 to 24 years old. I have a BS degree in Health Science and a Master's degree in Business (MBA).

I'm passionate about youth and education and I'll continue to work to ensure that all students graduate with the skills they need to succeed in a global economy and prepared to be socially responsible adults. [www.valeriearkinforboard.com](http://www.valeriearkinforboard.com).



### Steve Maher, Candidate for School Board

Pleasanton schools are outstanding, but we have lost our way in many respects.

We must stop the revolving door of principals, staff and district office personnel. We must make a concerted effort to help our underserved students be more successful. All voices must be heard and re-

spected. The board must be fiscally responsible and transparent about all decisions.

We must encourage staff development to prepare our teachers for 21st-century learning. Our infrastructure must be upgraded to accommodate cutting-edge modes of teaching. I will seek creative

funding to improve technology.

I have 40-plus years of experience as a teacher and principal, all in the Pleasanton school district. I am eager to transfer my skills to the school board to improve our district.

I would bring a unique view to the board from having served at most Pleasanton schools. I have a solid reputation of successfully collaborating with all stakeholders to advance student performance and find equitable solutions that best serve all students.

Trust must be restored among all community members and the district. Everyone must be treated with civility and respect.

Many voters have expressed their frustration that school board members do not listen to them or are not receptive to a healthy discussion of issues. I would welcome and consider ideas to improve our schools and help me make fully informed decisions.

I pledge to be transparent and continue my long history of actively communicating and collaborating with all stakeholders through outreach, public forums and school-site visits.

I have multiple endorsements from top agencies and leaders in our community, including the Chamber of Commerce, mayor, city council members, educators and many more.

I am the best prepared and qualified candidate to be your next school board trustee. I would be honored to have your vote. Visit my website at [votemaher4schoolboard.com](http://votemaher4schoolboard.com).



### Jamie Hintzke, Candidate for re-election to School Board

My parents moved to Pleasanton in 1969, and at that time we were maybe one of five Chinese families in town. It is such a privilege to be able to live in Pleasanton and my children received an excellent education in PUSD.

Pleasanton is truly a special place. As a current PUSD school board member for the past eight years, I have a record of strong involvement. I will work to ensure the best possible education for our students.

I will continue to ask the tough questions and ensure greater district transparency, insist upon and support high functioning teams and be a responsible steward of our limited resources. I believe these actions will allow our students to reach their greatest potential.

Some of my key accomplishments have been to change the process of how the District's audit firm is selected. The selection com-

mittee no longer includes the CFO. The District now contracts with a new bench of law firms with improved oversight — this will reduce our legal fees.

The warrants are now included in the public board packet. The Board agenda items must be agendized at least twice before the Board will take action. The addition of student board members is a constant reminder to keep students at the center of every decision.

The past eight years have been challenging as we lived through the great recession and devastating cuts to our schools. But I am just as committed to another four years. I bring the experience needed and knowledge of the inner workings of the District. It would be an honor and privilege to serve the community for another four years.

For more information, please visit, [www.JamieHintzke.com](http://www.JamieHintzke.com) or feel free to call my cell (925)- 876-2380.



### Kathleen Ruegsegger, Candidate for School Board

Kathleen Ruegsegger for School Board 2016

Dream Bigger

Pleasanton's public schools are ranked highly at the state and national levels. We already have much to be proud of: creative and energetic students; a well-educated parent community that values and generously supports public educa-

tion; dedicated instructional leaders, classified staff, and administrators who instruct and nurture student learning; and a broader community of citizens and businesses who contribute to schools in many meaningful ways.

This is a pivotal moment for us to evaluate and consider what direction we take to reach the

next level of excellence. Our new district leaders must be mindful caretakers of a tight budget, communicate more effectively with the entire community, and work more collaboratively with city leadership.

Currently, we face a lack of adequate and modernized facilities for students that must be addressed. There also should be an opportunity for students, parents, and teachers to discuss issues directly impacting student learning, such as later start times, block scheduling, truancy rates, and sleep deprivation with a focus on what is best for the students we are committed to serving.

Pleasanton's children and young adults may not know where their futures are headed just yet, so we must dream bigger for them now and ensure their education is comprehensive, yet flexible enough to provide for and to meet their ambitions in both the near and distant future.

I have 19 years' experience working with multiple superintendents and nearly two dozen board members with diverse perspectives and priorities. We raised three successful children in Pleasanton and currently have a grandchild in Pleasanton schools.

Please visit my website — [kathleenruegsegger.net](http://kathleenruegsegger.net) — or contact me at [kruegs@mac.com](mailto:kruegs@mac.com). I hope you will consider voting for me, and I appreciate your time and interest in reading about all the candidates. ■

### Vote to re-elect Mayor Jerry Thorne, City Council members

Pleasanton voters will be electing a mayor and two City Council members this November, and the outcome will have ripple effects for years to come because of the issues facing the city now.

The city is growing, and change is inevitable. We have approximately 2,000 housing units under construction or already built as a result of a court- and state-mandate resulting from a city-imposed housing cap in 1996 that was declared illegal. The current council has put a growth management ordinance in place that will limit future growth.

Also at issue is Measure MM, which, if passed, would curb needed sales tax opportunities for the city.

With these and other issues in mind, the Pleasanton Weekly is making the following endorsements for mayor and City Council. These endorsements are based on the Pleasanton Weekly's candidate forum, interviews of these candidates by the newspaper's publisher and editor at Tri-Valley Community Television (TV30) and extensive coverage of this year's candidates by our news staff.

We believe now is not time to change what has been an effective council and are recommending votes for incumbents Jerry Thorne for mayor and Karla Brown and Jerry Pentin for City Council.

#### Mayor of Pleasanton

##### Vote to re-elect Mayor Jerry Thorne

Jerry Thorne is an easy choice for re-election. He serves on numerous local, national, state and regional boards, commissions and committees. Elected four years ago after seven years on the City Council, his policies and leadership have added to the city's fiscal strength, wiped out all construction debt and encouraged the addition of multimillion-dollar business growth, including Clorox, Workday, CarMax and a new auto mall on Staples Ranch, adding significantly to the city's job and tax base.

Julie Testa, his opponent who is best known for her advocacy of

slow growth and reducing what she claims are overcrowded schools in Pleasanton, has served on the city's Human Services Commission but otherwise lacks the private sector and elected public municipal governing experience of our current mayor. Her long involvement with school issues makes her a better spokesperson in that arena, possibly even as a candidate for the Pleasanton school board in the 2018 election contest.

#### Pleasanton City Council

##### Vote to re-elect Karla Brown, Jerry Pentin

For City Council, we are endorsing incumbents Karla Brown and Jerry Pentin. We like the third candidate, Herb Ritter, who is chairman of the Pleasanton Planning Commission. If elected, he would continue his excellent service to the city. We just see no reason to replace incumbents who are also performing admirably on the council, which would allow Ritter to stay in place on the Planning Commission where he is needed.

Karla Brown is seeking her second term as a councilwoman. Known as a "slow growth" candidate, Brown says she will continue to offer slow and metered growth policies along with hillside protection. She often respectfully challenges fellow council members' positions and lends an alternative viewpoint and different voice to a council with other members who are somewhat more uniform in their positions.

She has also served as the council's representative on 10 city and regional organizations, including the Zone 7 Water Agency Liaison and Regional Water Policy Roundtable committees and is currently vice chair of the Livermore-Amador Valley Transit Authority/Wheels bus board.

We like her stated goals if re-elected: Continue to support slow and smart growth policies through programs to develop and maintain our award winning status as a great place to live; plan a new library and civic/community center; expand recycled water systems to irrigate more of our parks and landscaping, thereby making more potable/drinking water available; and support a prosperous downtown, expand its parking capacity and limit residential development downtown, especially on Main Street.

Councilman Jerry Pentin was elected to a four-year term of the Pleasanton City Council in November 2012 and has been actively involved in local government since 1997. He was appointed vice-mayor in December 2013 for a one-year term. Prior to his election to the council, he served on the Planning Commission for four years and chaired the panel in 2012. From 2003-09, he was a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission, which he chaired in 2007.

He currently sits on a number of local and regional committees and commissions, including the Alameda County Waste Management Authority, Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee, Altamont Landfill Community Monitor Committee, Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, Livermore Amador Valley Water Management Agency and Tri-Valley Regional Rail Policy Group.

He also serves on the Dublin Liaison Committee, Dublin San Ramon Services District Liaison Committee, Legislative Advocacy Committee, and Waste and Recycling Committee.

For more than three decades, Pentin has been the owner of Spring Street Studios in Pleasanton, where he produces and directs documentary, corporate and environmental programs for broadcast and use on the internet. ■

## LETTERS

#### New signs hard to read

Dear Editor,

Appears the city is swapping out the street signs around the Hacienda Business Park (along W. Las Positas). However, the new signs' background appears to be a sun-bleached orange color that makes it very difficult to see the white wording of the street.

The original signs seem to be a lot better (off-red background with white lettering). Whose brilliant idea was this and why are the new signs worse as far as visibility?

—Dave Kartchner

#### Disappointing endorsement

Dear Editor,

I am more than disappointed to see your endorsement of Assemblywoman Catharine Baker. We all know, or we should, how serious the environmental challenges are that we face.

Cheryl Cook-Kallio is endorsed by The League of Conservation Voters. Baker has a 27 rating from them. That's correct, 27 out of 100.

To me, there is no choice. Cheryl Cook-Kallio for the California Assembly.

—Susan Dailey

See **LETTERS** on Page 17



*Autumn at Hopyard Village*

**Come stroll our Center  
Saturday, October 15, 2016  
10 am to 2 pm**

Village-wide specials ...drawings for prizes ... games and activities

- Shops
- Services
- Restaurants

**Please bring a can of food  
for the Alameda County Food Bank**

Conveniently located at  
Hopyard Road and Valley Avenue  
in Pleasanton

[www.hopyardvillage.wordpress.com](http://www.hopyardvillage.wordpress.com)

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**LETTERS**

Continued from Page 16

**No ballot statement; no spending limit**

Dear Editor,

When my voter information guide arrived, I noted with interest that only one candidate for Assembly District 16 had a candidate statement. Unlike her opponent Catharine Baker, Cheryl Cook-Kallio has agreed to limit her campaign spending and was afforded the right to include her statement in the voter guide (Cal. Gov. Code Section 85400).

More importantly, Baker's failure to voluntarily limit her campaign spending frees her campaign to send voters an onslaught of expensive mailers.

As a voter in District 16, I am deeply disturbed by the daily deluge of negative mailers smearing Cook-Kallio with no information on Baker's policy positions or poor voting record on women's rights, equal pay, gun control and the environment.

I will be voting for Cheryl Cook-Kallio for Assembly. I invite you to join me.

—*Pamela R. Perls*

**A Pleasanton Costco is much-needed**

Dear Editor,

The Costco Livermore store is maxed out, stressed to its maximum capabilities. The interior store is bursting with shoppers. The gas lines are long. The parking lot is full.

It is a good and much-needed business decision by Costco to build a store in Pleasanton, to help alleviate the stress on the Livermore Costco store.

There are items on the table for discussion in the event voters approve Costco in Pleasanton, this November, that have the capability to reduce Pleasanton's debt regarding any agreement with Costco to build in Pleasanton. I appreciate the Weekly supporting No on Measure MM.

—*Michael Austin*

**Re-elect Jerry Thorne**

Dear Editor,

Re-elect Jerry Thorne as mayor of the city of Pleasanton. Jerry's experience as a manager in the corporate world led to his ability to manage budgets, hiring and firing, setting goals and objectives and team incentives — all qualities essential for city management. He has demonstrated these abilities in his past service as mayor.

Under his leadership Pleasanton continues to be a desired place to live, work and do business. Under his leadership, the city has kept its image as a small town and a great place to visit. Under his leadership Pleasanton has received acclaim as an outstanding community.

As a veteran he has kept the city respectful of those who also give service to our country. Re-elect Jerry Thorne as mayor of the city of Pleasanton.

—*Howard G Seebach, Former member of Parks and Recreation and Civic Arts commissions*

**Julie Testa for mayor**

Dear Editor,

My husband and I moved to Pleasanton over 21 years ago. We had three young children at the time and were attracted to Pleasanton for two main reasons: excellent schools and a small-town feel.

My husband and I had both grown up in Fremont, which had been a great place to grow up but had grown into a heavily populated, congested city. We were actually encouraged to move to Pleasanton by Julie Testa, a friend I had met at a play group when our first-born children were only 2 months old.

Once here, we attended many city council and school board meetings to speak out against over-development, especially with regard to overcrowding of the schools; my husband and I both also served on committees that worked to develop core values for this special town.

We have always appreciated the efforts Julie has consistently put into being a "watch dog" for responsible growth in Pleasanton. We are aware that additional development is not required through 2022 and we strongly recommend voting for Julie Testa because she will take a responsible approach to growth and how it impacts our schools, traffic and overall quality of life.

A vote for Julie Testa is a vote for keeping the small-town feel of Pleasanton we all enjoy!

—*Diane Martinez*

**Off-putting attack ads**

Dear Editor,

With the election less than one month away, voters are being bombarded by mail and TV supporting the candidates.

The smears perpetrated by Assemblymember Baker and the California Republican Party are so farfetched as to be completely unbelievable.

That's why I am supporting former Pleasanton councilmember and award-winning teacher Cheryl Cook-Kallio. When she speaks about what she's done for improving access to women's health care, she can actually back it up with facts — like the women she's helped or the funding she's secured for a women's clinic in Pleasanton.

As a Pleasanton resident who's seen Cheryl's work up close and has lived in this community for over 30 years, I can vouch for her work and encourage others in Assembly District 16 to vote for Cheryl Cook-Kallio.

—*Sharon Piekarski*

**Vote Karla Brown for sensible growth**

Dear Editor,

Jerry Pentin and Herb Ritter have been endorsed by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce. The chamber has significant membership from developers and builders of "stack-and-pack" housing. I am not certain that Pentin and Ritter are in the pocket of the developers, but I am certain that Karla Brown is totally free of any large-scale developer influence.

As proof, she rallied community opposition to the massive East Pleasanton Specific Plan of

1,100 acres between Pleasanton and Livermore, which was being planned for 1,300 new houses. Both Pentin and Ritter have stated they think planning this area is a good idea, and want to finish the plans right after the drought is over. We know the next step after planning a massive project, is developing this massive project.

The state-mandated, high-density "stack and pack" housing units are just now being completed. I have recently learned that several sites are currently zoned for more "stack-and-pack" housing, totaling another 1,726 units, just waiting for council approval.

More traffic congestion, school overcrowding, long retail store lines and overtaxed medical facilities are already happening. Any more development will have us looking like Dublin.

Karla Brown is the only true "sensible growth" candidate. She deserves our vote.

—*Janis Mulhall*

**Response to anti-Cook-Kallio letter**

Dear Editor,

I want to respond to a letter in your paper last week by Frank Capilla. In his letter endorsing Catharine Baker for Assembly, he states Cheryl Cook-Kallio "isn't willing to stand up for our community and fight against BART going on strike again."

If Mr. Capilla ever attended a city council meeting during Ms. Cook-Kallio's two terms in office, he would have observed she was

always thoroughly prepared, actively engaged with the audience and fellow council members and she was never afraid to go out into the community to discuss Pleasanton citizens' concerns.

Also, during the last BART strike, Ms. Cook-Kallio was teaching government and economics at Irvington High School, and she had absolutely nothing to do with the BART strike.

Mr. Capilla states, "Cook-Kallio is a union member drawing a union pension." Ms. Cook-Kallio was a union member as all teachers in the state of California are members of the California Teachers Association, which is dedicated to securing teachers' rights

and providing the best education possible for the students of California's schools.

Since she retired from teaching she does draw a pension, but it is not a "union pension." Ms. Cook-Kallio, like all public school teachers in California, draws a pension from the State Teachers Retirement System, into which she paid a significant percentage of her income for the 39 years she was an active teacher.

Mr. Capilla has a right to his opinion, but he does not have a right to tell falsehoods about his preferred candidate's opponent.

—*Ben McEntee, Retired teacher and 50-year Pleasanton resident*

THE CITY OF  
**PLEASANTON**

**WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES**

**CANCELLED – City Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, October 18, 2016  
• The October 18, 2016 City Council Meeting has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on November 15, 2016.

**Housing Commission**  
Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave.  
• Please visit our website at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov) to view information regarding this meeting.

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov)



**Good for Your Soul 5K / 10K**

In memory of Kate Steinle, who tragically lost her life after she was randomly shot while walking arm in arm with her father on Pier 14 in San Francisco on July 1, 2015.

Come on out and "Love and live life to the fullest, just like Kate did."

**Sunday, October 30**

**8:00 a.m.; registration begins at 6:30 a.m.**

Starting line: The Pleasanton Arch, Main Street & Division, Pleasanton

\$40 for 5K and 10K; \$15 for Kid's Challenge  
Includes event t-shirt, post-race refreshments, award ceremony  
Free food and drinks, a raffle and awesome prizes!

**Proceeds will benefit Students Rising Above and the Challenged Athletes Foundation.**

**Information at [www.GoodForYourSoulRun.com](http://www.GoodForYourSoulRun.com)**



## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

### Amador-Dublin renew rivalry tonight

Foothill football faces tough test at De La Salle

In the 1970s and '80s, the biggest rivalry for Amador Valley was not with Foothill, but rather Dublin. Now with the Gaels back in the East Bay Athletic League, the two can resume the yearly tussle with the first one taking place tonight.

Back when Foothill was a new school and the Pleasanton rivalry had not fully blossomed, it was Amador-Dublin as the big game of the year.

In the fall of 1978, Amador went to Dublin to play the Gaels for the EBAL football title. Following a controversial spot on a fourth-down play that handed the game to Dublin, a brawl broke out on the field — and it wasn't just the players, as fans from both

teams were out on the field as well.

"I think three straight years the football game ended in a fight. That was the game every year," said Foothill coach Matt Sweeney, who played and graduated from Amador. "It seemed like both schools were always fighting for a league title. A lot of the Dublin kids went to middle school in Pleasanton, and we knew each other. They were a tough group of kids."

And it carried over to other sports as well. Soccer was not immune to the rivalry as it was Dublin that ended Amador's 55-game, non-losing streak, which at the time was a national record.

This year's version has become



MIKE SHAFFER

Amador Valley's Ndem Okoro gets loose during last week's game, a 21-20 loss to Livermore. The Dons look to get back on track tonight against the Dublin Gaels.

a very big game for Amador, as the Dons enter the game at 2-5 overall following their 21-20 loss to Livermore last Friday. The Dons close the season with games against Monte Vista (6-0) and the ever-improving Foothill.

Foothill whacked Dougherty Valley by a 35-7 final that gave the Falcons their third straight win and brought the team to 3-3 overall for the season and 3-2 in EBAL play. Their reward? A trip to Concord to face De La Salle tonight.

The Spartans just got by San Ramon Valley 28-27 last week as the Wolves went for a 2-point conversion and the win late in the game and came up short. Perhaps this DLS team is a bit down from past years, but Sweeney knows what's ahead.

"That defense of theirs is still a nightmare," Sweeney said.

Will the Spartans be additionally charged for the game with Foothill following a close call?

"I think it's over-analyzing if

you look at whether it makes it a tougher game or not," Sweeney said.

#### Volleyball

The Foothill girls team moved to 20-4 on the season with a pair of EBAL wins last week.

First knocked off Carondelet 3-1, then followed with a 3-0 win over Dublin. The wins put Foothill in first of the Valley division of the EBAL at 8-1.

In the win over Carondelet, Andreea Paduraru had 18 kills and six points to go with Kate Goto's 15 kills and four service points. Finally, Amal Peermohammed had 15 digs and 10 service points.

Against Dublin, the top players were Diana Guerrero (10 kills, six service points), Emily Haskell (eight kills, eight service points, six digs) and Kellie Hughes (31 assists, 11 service points).

#### Water polo

The Foothill boys team dropped a pair of games, as the Falcons

were dealing with injuries.

The Falcons fell 14-8 to Washington and 17-4 to San Ramon Valley last week.

Against Washington, Nathan Williams had a great game, drawing eight exclusions, scoring twice and added two assists. Fabio Salvioni had three goals, two steals and caused four turnovers. Dylan Pottgieser (two) and Matthew Kim (one) rounded out the scoring.

In the loss to San Ramon Valley, Salvioni was the top player with seven steals and one turnover forced. Harrison Carter played well in the goal, making seven saves.

Scoring for the Falcons came from Matthew Dotson (two), Williams (one) and Brendan Cassidy (one), with his first varsity goal.

*Dennis Miller is a contributing sports writer for the Pleasanton Weekly. To contact Miller or submit local high school sports scores, game highlights and photographs for his weekly Pleasanton Preps column, email him at acesmag@aol.com.*



LYNNE T. MENON

Fabio Salvioni played well for the Foothill Falcons as they dropped a tough one to San Ramon Valley last week.

## 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](http://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](http://www.pleasantonlacrosse.com)

# Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

## Concerts

### PLEASANTON COMMUNITY

**CONCERT BAND** The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will present their fall concert, "B is for..." at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 16 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Enjoy as the band plays music by composers with the last name beginning with the letter "B," including "Early Light" by Bremer, "Rhapsody for Flute" by Bulla, "Symphonic Dances" by Bock, "Apollo March" by Bruckner, and a special dedication piece for the Band, "Monterey Bay Suite" by Arthur Barnes. Also included will be other compositions by Barnes, Leonard Bernstein, and "Our Director March" by Bigelow as the finale. Free, donations appreciated. Call 846-5897 or go to [www.pleasantonband.org](http://www.pleasantonband.org).

**COUNTY LINE TRIO** Enjoy wonderful three-part harmonies, with guitar and banjo, blended with delightful banter, jokes and a whole lot of fun. With songs like "Tom Dooley," "Charlie on the MTA," "Worried Man," and "Where Have All the Flowers Gone." See the County Line Trio at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 23 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Tickets are \$15-\$25. Call 931-4848 or go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Music

**AWARDS FOR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS** The Livermore-Amador Symphony Association recognizes students who have made significant contributions to school and community musical activities during their high school careers through a monetary award. High school seniors are invited to apply for one of the \$400 awards administered by the Symphony Association. Applicants must reside in Livermore, Pleasanton, Sunol, Dublin, or San Ramon, or have actively participated as an LAS musician. Applications must be submitted by Oct. 24. Four recipients will be selected. For the application and more information go to [www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org/awards.html](http://www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org/awards.html).

## Talks & Lectures

**TRI-VALLEY WRITERS MEETING** Scott Evans will present "Improve Your Storytelling Workshop" at the California Writers Club meeting at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15 at Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road. Scott teaches at University of the Pacific in California, including fiction writing and "Crime, Punishment and Justice." Cost is \$12 for members, \$17 for non-members. Check-in is at 1:30 p.m. Go to [www.trivalleywriters.org](http://www.trivalleywriters.org).

## PET OF THE WEEK

TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE



### Sweet little Blossom

Blossom is an adult female Miniature Pinscher. She was a bit shy when first coming to the shelter, but now she enjoys the attention she gets from her volunteer friends and is quite the sweet little lady. Blossom is spayed, up-to-date on all vaccinations and available for adoption at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin. For more information, call 803-7040.

## Fundraisers

### AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

**'BAUBLES, BANGLES AND BEADS'** Come to "Baubles, Bangles and Beads" Friday-Sunday, Oct. 14-16 at the American Cancer Society Discovery Shop, 1989 Santa Rita Road, Suite E. The event will feature fine jewelry, vintage and costume jewelry and wide selection of rings, earrings, brooches, bracelets, pearls and watches. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society's programs of research, education, service and advocacy. Contact Kelley Jewell Meno at 462-7374 for more information about the event or to donate to our cause.

## Health & Wellness

### EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR

**SUPPORT GROUP** If you have recently been diagnosed with ET or would like to learn more about this common movement disorder in a safe and supportive environment, please join us from 10 a.m.-noon on the third Saturday of each month, in the Blackhawk A and B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. Contact 487-5706 or [eastbayet@comcast.net](mailto:eastbayet@comcast.net). Go to [www.eastbayet.com](http://www.eastbayet.com).

### NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI) TRI-VALLEY NAMI

Tri-Valley Parent Resource and Support Group meets for parents with children to age 17 diagnosed or suspected of having bipolar or other mood disorders. It meets from 7-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Pathways To Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 114. The group is drop-in, no registration required and is free. For more information contact Marsha McInnis at 980-5331 or [marsha@nami-trivalley.org](mailto:marsha@nami-trivalley.org).

## Seniors

**MEN OF BREAKFAST** Join the Men of Breakfast or MOB at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of the month for a cup of coffee and friendly discussion at the

Pleasanton Senior Center. Bring a newspaper and whatever topics pique your interest. Call 931-5369.

**CRAFT FAIR** Jump start your holiday shopping as the Friends of Pleasanton Senior Center host their fund raising Holiday Craft Fair from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22 at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Featuring over 60 local artisans, the fair boasts a wide array of hand-made arts and crafts. It's the perfect opportunity to find that unique gift for your friends and family.

## Religion & Spirituality

**MOM2MOM MEETINGS** Moms and Grandmothers of all ages are welcome to join the Mom2mom group based on the Titus 2 women where the older moms are mentoring the younger moms. Parenting tips, guest speakers, crafts and practical life applications. Meetings are 9:30-11:30 a.m. the first and third Wednesdays of the month at Harvest Valley Church, 3200 Hopyard Road. Contact Valerie Fleming at 484-2482 ext. 121 or [valerie@harvestvalley.org](mailto:valerie@harvestvalley.org).

## Community Groups

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

**ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION BRANCH 285** The Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 285, a social/philanthropic organization, invites those who love all things Italian to join for a potluck and guest speaker evening at 6 p.m. the third Friday of the month at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Call Judy at 462-2487.

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## INDEX

- BULLETIN BOARD 100-155
- FOR SALE 200-270
- KIDS STUFF 330-355
- MIND & BODY 400-499
- JOBS 500-585
- BUSINESS SERVICES 600-690
- HOME SERVICES 700-799
- FOR RENT/ FOR SALE REAL ESTATE 801-899
- PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES 995-997

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## Bulletin Board

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### 560 Employment Information

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## Legal Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

**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 Finian 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)

**SWEETART CREATIVE BAKING**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 522087

The following person(s) doing business as: SWEETART CREATIVE BAKING, 4290 STANLEY BLVD., PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nermana Salihovic, 4450 Mohr Ave. #32, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 02/18/2016. Signature of Registrant: Nermana Salihovic. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 08/30/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21; 2016)

**GLOSSON LAW**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 522934

The following person(s) doing business as: GLOSSON LAW, 6361 HANSEN DRIVE, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Julie Glosson Ishii, 6361 Hansen Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 09/27/2016. Signature of Registrant: Julie Glosson Ishii. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 09/27/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; 2016)

**WENHUI'S BAKING STUDIO**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 523061

The following person(s) doing business as: WENHUI'S BAKING STUDIO, 1987 SANTA RITA ROAD SUITE B, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cisco Marine Inc., 1409 Elliot Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 07/01/2016. Signature of Registrant: Dong-Ping Deng, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 09/30/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; 2016)

**MAX MUSCLE SPORTS NUTRITION**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 577836

The following person(s) doing business as: MAX MUSCLE SPORTS NUTRITION, 4270 ROSEWOOD DRIVE SUITE D, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Nick Harrison LLC, 5342 Tilton Court, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 09/01/2015. Signature of Registrant: Nick Harrison, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 09/22/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 14, 21, 28, Nov. 4; 2016)



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# Buying & Selling

REAL ESTATE

A special  
section  
by the  
Pleasanton  
Weekly



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Page 23 Pleasanton Market Trends
- Page 23 Open Home Guide
- Page 32 Pleasanton Home Sales



## 1209 Machado Pl, Pleasanton

Former model home with top of the line upgrades from the builder. Includes 720+/-sf. Guest House. Home can be sold Fully Furnished (Over \$350,000 value). 5BD + Master Retreat/Office 4.5 BA 4,755sf. on a 1/2 Acre Lot. Sparkling pool with incredible views on a private lot. Open floor plan with top of the line upgrades and finishes. Main level offers a guest suite with full bathroom & private office. Upstairs offers a Jack & Jill bedroom/bathroom set up. Master suite offers a large seating area around fireplace, top of the line amenities in bath, walk-in closet & retreat/office/gym off master bedroom. Guest House offers a large living room, full kitchen and private bedroom/bath.  
SOLD FOR \$2,225,000



### Pleasanton

Located close to the Downtown area. This 4 bedroom 3 bath home offers 2,010 sqft, on a lot size of 7,500. Priced in the \$900,000 range. Call Kris for more details.



### 9558 Velvet Leaf Circle, San Ramon

4 BR/2.5 BA | representing buyers  
Amazing views of Mt. Diablo and the Bridges golf course. Call Kris to help you find the perfect home of your choice.



### 6300 Laura Lane, Pleasanton

1.26 acre home w/private well for irrigation, vineyard with 369 vines. Pool house & pool w/spacious deck area. Approx. 3,100 sqft of living space. Selling at its list price of \$2,000,000.



### 927 Kolln Street, Pleasanton

Walk to Downtown, schools, shopping and parks. Updated thorough out with state of the art lighting and heated floors. Listed at \$915,000 sold for the highest price in the neighborhood at \$935,000.



### 4166 Hall Court, Pleasanton

2,042 sqft, 7,257 lot. A pool and spacious patio area are great for entertaining. Close to Pleasanton's Downtown area. Listed at \$1,145,000 and Sold before coming on the market for \$ 1,155,000



### 5561 Calico Lane, Pleasanton

In the heart of Pleasanton, close to the downtown. New Construction home 5 BR/4 BA w/3,420 sqft of living space on a 10,000 sqft lot with a 3 car garage. Sold for \$1,690,000



### 2844 Longspur Way, Pleasanton

2,172 sqft on a 9,458 lot. A pool/spa and spacious patio area. Located in one of the most desirable locations in Pleasanton. Close to parks, tennis courts and award winning schools.



### 5611 San Antonio Street, Pleasanton

3 BR/2 BA 1,561 sq.ft. home. Covered patio area enhanced with a waterfall, fire pit and landscaping. SOLD for \$36,000 over asking at \$965,000

## 3 New Construction homes in Pleasanton - AVAILABLE - Lynn Ct.



Located in the heart of Pleasanton and close to the Downtown area. These 3 homes offer 3,837 sqft of living space on a 10,000 sqft lot with a 3 car garage. Welcome home as you enter through an open wood rail framed front porch overlooking a wooded walking trail and court location. Located on the main level is The Master Bedroom offering a sitting area and access to the rear yard along with its master bath suite. Available at \$1,799,000, \$1,815,000 and \$1,835,000



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# High prices but calm conditions in Pleasanton real estate

Stable market can benefit buyers and sellers

By DAVID C. STARK

While a million-dollar price tag may grab your attention, a closer look at other factors shows the Pleasanton real estate market is quietly going about its business.

"Since 2012, while there hasn't been a ton of inventory, there's been a very consistent supply of homes for sale each year," said Kim Ott, 2016 president of the Bay East Association of Realtors. "And when a



home goes on the market it sells quickly. When you get past the high sales prices the rest of what's happening in Pleasanton is pretty calm."

The headline-grabbing prices this year have been driven by limited supply. However, even in a tight market, buyers are able to find homes in Pleasanton.

"People have to be patient. They have to be patient to find the right house and that's not just because of limited inventory," Ott said.

"Yes, we have low inventory, but if people focus on what their needs are, what they want, what their price point is we're going to find a house," Ott added. "Even in a slow market, a new house comes on

every week, so there's always homes coming that may meet a buyers' needs and price."

"It's tempting to measure the health of local real estate just by sales prices," said William Doerlich, 2016 Bay East president-elect. "But if prices are high and there are no sales, then the market isn't very healthy. There's been a consistent number of home sales in Pleasanton even with historically high prices, which means the market is working."

A stable real estate environment can benefit both home buyers and sellers.

"A balanced market means predictability which makes it easier for buyers and sellers during the home purchase process," Doerlich said. "A bit more balance benefits buyers because they can be more thoughtful and it benefits sellers because the offers are stronger."

According to data from the Bay East Association of Realtors, approximately 640 single-family homes have sold each year since 2012.

As of September, approximately 450 units have sold. Based on trends during the last several months, the total number of sales are expected to top 600 units in 2016.

Following several years of strong appreciation, sales prices could also be stabilizing. The median sales price for single-family detached homes exceeded the million-dollar mark each month from January until August.

Prices peaked in March at \$1,150,000. In September, after four consecutive months of decreasing prices, the median was \$968,750.

Ott said it's the type and size of homes being sold that's influencing sales prices.

"Even though the prices have dropped during the last few months, it's not necessarily because the sales prices for all homes is less. It has more to do with a greater number of smaller homes being sold now compared to more larger homes being sold in the spring and early summer," Ott said. ■

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

## MARKET TRENDS

Month to Month	Sold	% Change	Avg List Price	% Change	Median Sale Price	% Change	Avg Sale Price	% Change	Avg DOM	% Change	Sale Price/List Price
Sep 16	42	-14.29%	\$1,115,153	1.67%	\$968,750	3.61%	\$1,107,706	-0.03%	38	71.09%	99.33%
Sep 15	49	-22.22%	\$1,096,886	6.04%	\$935,000	6.25%	\$1,107,991	7.09%	22	1.16%	101.01%
Sep 14	63	21.15%	\$1,034,418	-8.44%	\$880,000	2.50%	\$1,034,637	-7.79%	22	10.13%	100.02%

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## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### Dublin

- 1 BEDROOMS**  
**4179 Claribridge Circle \$525,000**  
Sun 1-4 Donna Zarrillo 998-2363
- 3 BEDROOMS**  
**7508 Bonniewood Lane Call for price**  
Sat 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436
- 4 BEDROOMS**  
**3208 Ridgefield Way \$1,250,000**  
Sun 1-4 Mia & Beverly Team 463-6130

### Livermore

- 3 BEDROOMS**  
**1524 Heidelberg Drive \$575,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200
- 4 BEDROOMS**  
**1650 Vetta Drive \$1,158,000**  
Sun 1-4 Cindy & Gene Williams 918-2045
- 1636 Whipoorwill St. Call for price**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Patti Smylie 487-2080
- 3092 Olivoro Court \$1,499,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200
- 930 Verona Ave. \$729,000**  
Sat 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200
- 5 BEDROOMS**  
**1513 Aria Court \$1,199,950**  
Sun 1-4 Cindy & Gene Williams 918-2045

### Pleasanton

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

- 3 BEDROOMS**  
**716 Saint John Circle \$989,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Anne Athenour Martin 200-5272
- 4645 Black Ave. \$1,109,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226
- 4239 Denker Drive \$838,000**  
Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436
- 630 Oak Circle \$889,900**  
Sun 1:30-4 Jennifer Branchini 577-6113
- 5711 Athenour Court \$950,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Gina Piper 200-0202

- 4 BEDROOMS**  
**2389 East Ruby Hill Drive \$1,850,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226
- 3183 Conti Court \$2,849,000**  
Sun 1-4 Debby Johnson-Abarta 989-6844
- 411 Trebbiano Place \$1,395,000**  
Sun 1-4 Sherry Nigg 640-0869
- 5175 Northway Road \$999,000**  
Sun 1-4 Rosemary Yandell 519-4729

- 5 BEDROOMS**  
**3760 Selvante St. \$3,498,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226
- 9469 Blessing Drive \$2,099,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260-2220/413-6544
- 1817 Spumante Place \$2,699,000**  
Sun 1-4 Tracey Buescher 352-7307

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



## 600 Monticello Terrace, Fremont

Poised high on a 2.25-acre hilltop in Mission Hills behind a secluded gated community and nestled in the prestigious Mission School district. This extraordinary 13,250 SF, 6 bedroom, 8 full bath, 2 half bath estate exudes luxury.

Offered at \$7,299,000

**Kelly King**

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## 7708 CHANTILLY DRIVE, DUBLIN

ACTIVE



Stunning 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom unit with 1 car attached garage. Features a remodeled kitchen with stainless steel appliances, remodeled baths, 2 way gas/wood burning fireplace, dramatic vaulted ceilings, and loft/office.

Listed at \$559,500

## 2306 GLORIA COURT, PLEASANTON

SOLD  
REPRESENTED THE BUYER



5 bedrooms, 4 bathroom on a 4,668 sf lot. Beautiful, expanded single story on large corner lot w/custom features throughout. Terrific floor plan featuring an updated kitchen w/Viking appliances, great room, formal dining room, game room, wine cellar, and a private backyard with a pool.

Listed at \$1,990,000

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Vice President & Managing Broker

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dfaught@apr.com

BRE# 00971395



**Mark Kotch**

East Bay Director of Career Development

REALTOR®

925.989.1581

markkotch@apr.com

BRE# 01409780



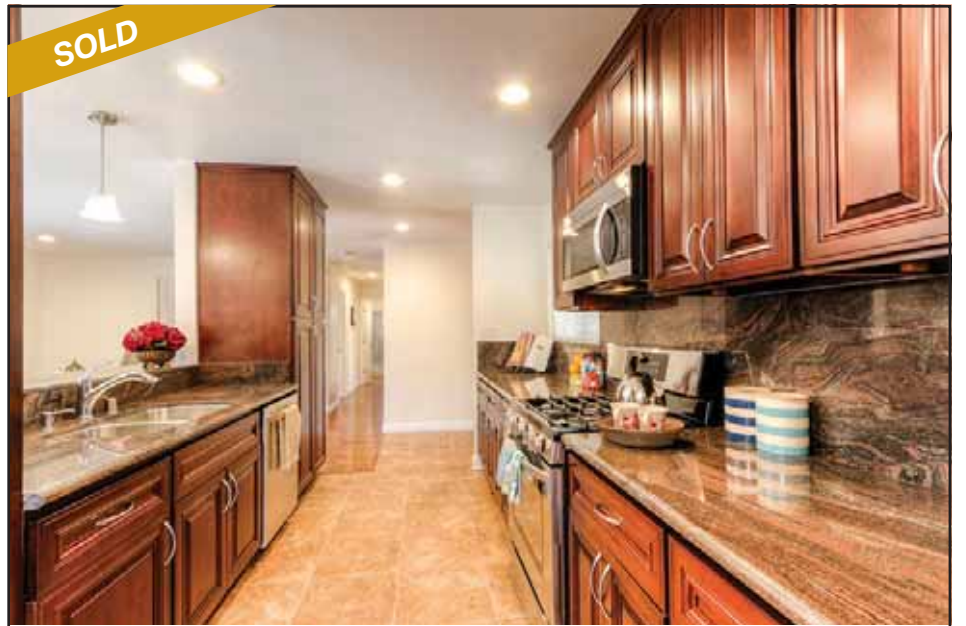


**Danville \$1,280,000**



4 beds | 3 baths | 2,905 sf

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the home of your dreams!*



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**509 ALDEN LANE, SOUTH LIVERMORE**



4 bed 3.5 bath 2816 sq ft, 17,582 lot. This estate home has it all in the coveted Oaks Development with this well designed in-law area downstairs & large well designed upstairs w/gracious rooms. Granite slab, crown, wainscoting to name a few upgrades. Enjoy your own private oasis w/custom pool, spa, and 3 car garage++

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Broker #01257605



**ACTIVE**

**504 BUNKER LANE  
PLEASANTON**



**SOLD**

**3955 CLAIRE STREET  
DUBLIN**

Represented Buyer



**SOLD**

**3107 MONTBRETIA WAY  
SAN RAMON**

Represented Buyer



**SOLD**

**1627 CEDARWOOD LOOP  
SAN RAMON**

Represented Buyer



**SOLD**

**3014 FERNDAL COURT  
PLEASANTON**

Represented Seller



**SOLD**

**1515 CALLE ENRIQUE  
PLEASANTON**

Represented Buyer



**SOLD**

**8172 ARROYO DRIVE #3  
PLEASANTON**

Represented Seller

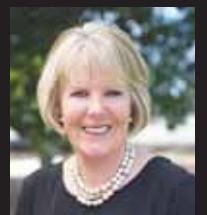
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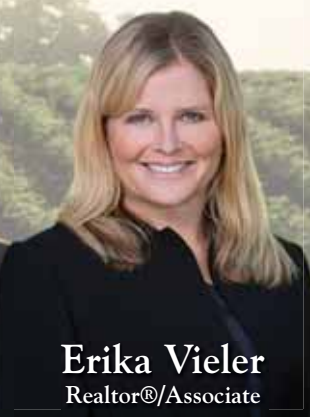
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Client Services

- Ranked in the top Ten of all agents/teams in Alameda & Contra Costa Counties\*\*
- Average sale price is 102.3% of list price, highest of all agents in Pleasanton\*\*
- 55 homes listed and sold in 2015 at \$54 million dollars in volume\*\*
- Committed to 100% complete client satisfaction with over 95 five star Zillow reviews
- Over 50 years of combined team experience selling real estate
- Concierge services including a team of contractors to prepare your home
- Certified Corporate Relocation Specialist serving the needs of relocation buyers and sellers
- Certified Residential Specialist and Bay East Association of Realtors Pinnacle award recipient

\*\* Source: Trend Graphix



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The Market is continually changing. Now, more than ever it is important to talk to a Real Estate Professional . If you or someone you know is thinking of Buying or Selling and needs a Realtor where their clients needs are First and Foremost , please contact me! Whether you are selling your Luxury Estate or looking to buy your First Time Home in the TriValley , I would be happy to provide you with my Professional and Personal Service!

**Pending!**



4653 Laramie Gate Court, Pleasanton

Pending in less than a week with 4 offers!! Located in The Gates this Beautifully Updated 4 Bedroom 3 Bathroom home on a .26 Acre Lot with a pool nestled on a court close to all that Pleasanton has to offer! List Price: \$1,118,000

**Sold!**



1217 Piemonte Drive, Pleasanton

Sold Representing the Buyers! Gorgeous Ruby Hill Estate located on a large expansive lot with over 3800 square feet of living space. With Classic details and Casual Elegance inside and out, this is an entertainers dream! Sold: \$1,757,000

**Sold!**



830 Aramon Court, Pleasanton

Sold Representing the Buyers before hitting the Market! Wonderful Vintage Hills Beauty nestled on a large lot with a backyard oasis and a pool on a court. Charming 4 bedroom 3 bathroom home nicely updated! Sold: \$1,035,000

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**SOLD**

**321 ADAMS WAY PLEASANTON**  
4 beds | 3.5 baths | 3102 SF  
\$1,300,000



**SOLD**

**553 GERARD COURT PLEASANTON**  
4 beds | 2.5 baths | 1951 SF  
\$1,045,000



**SOLD**

**288 MAVIS COURT PLEASANTON**  
3 beds | 2.5 baths | 1249 SF  
\$649,000



**Client testimonial**

As I am sure you are aware, buying a home in the bay area in today's market is challenging at best. To add to the difficulty, we had some very unique and demanding requirements in the home that we wanted. On top of that, we were working on a tight budget. Janice never blinked twice. She took the time to really listen to our needs. The properties she presented to us were tailored to exactly what we were looking for and she never pushed a property outside of our requirements. We cannot tell you enough about how pleasant Janice was to deal with. She made extra efforts to accompany me to many properties over the months and thru it we wrote five offers. We got out bid so many times we were about to give up. She never did. Janice never wavered in her professionalism; we relied heavily on her expertise as we are new to the Bay Area.

*—H&T Kohn, 2016*

**Janice Habluetzel**  
Realtor and Relocation Specialist  
Alain Pinel Realtors

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Thank you Leslie!  
Jennifer T



**SOLD**  
3076 Talinga Drive, Livermore  
I represented the buyers for this beautiful 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom South Livermore home!



**SOLD IN ONE WEEK  
WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS**  
4534 San Juan Drive, Fremont  
4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms  
1451 sq. ft.  
Offered at \$789,000  
Sold for \$815,000



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Thank you for the opportunity to earn your business and referrals.*

# Home Improvements

## that Boost the Value of Your Home

Homeowners remodel their homes for a number of reasons, but one of the most common is to increase resale value. Renovations will improve the style and function of your home and may make it more appealing to potential buyers.



### Upgrade Your Kitchen

The kitchen is the heart of the home. A kitchen remodel will not only improve your home's functionality, it may also become a key selling point if you decide to sell. The average major kitchen remodel costs between **\$29,400** and **\$42,400**, while the minor kitchen remodels average between **\$11,700** and **\$17,800**.<sup>4</sup> However, if you're thinking of listing your home soon and your kitchen is in good shape, you may want to rethink a full remodel. A minor upgrade and a coat of paint may be all you need to freshen up the space.



### Upgrade Your Bathroom

The bathroom is the place where you get ready to take on the world every day. Show it some love with a makeover. Upgrade your fixtures to reflect your style, or create the spa-like getaway of your dreams. The average major master bathroom remodel costs between \$10,500 and \$18,800, while the average minor master bathroom remodel costs between \$4,800 and \$8,300.<sup>4</sup> Are you thinking of renovating a guest bathroom?

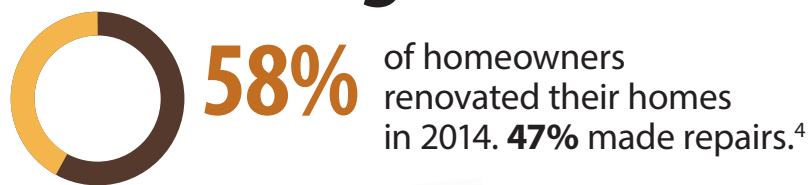
Expect to spend somewhere of between \$7,200 and \$9,500 for a major overhaul, or between \$3,200 and \$4,400 for a minor remodel.<sup>4</sup>

### Improve Energy Efficiency

Is it time to upgrade your appliances, windows and other energy-impacting parts of your house? Upgrading your home with energy-efficient features will not only save you money each month on your utility bill, it may also make the home more attractive to younger or more energy-conscious buyers.



## Renovation Facts & Figures



#### Top 5 Interior Renovations<sup>4</sup>

1. Kitchen
2. Guest/other bathroom
3. Living/family room
4. Master bathroom
5. Guest/other bedroom

#### Top 3 Reasons for Renovating<sup>4</sup>

1. Kitchen
2. Guest/other bathroom
3. Living/family room
4. Master bathroom
5. Guest/other bedroom



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**KIM OTT**  
REALTOR  
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# Be Better

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**3208 Ridgefield Way - Dublin - \$1,250,000**  
Beautiful upgraded home with views! Bright and spacious 4 bedroom with 2 large bonus rooms. Gorgeous upgrades include hardwood floors, berber carpet and upgraded tile. Chef's kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite slab countertops with ogee finish, island and walk-in pantry.



**2067 Fostoria Circle - Danville - \$540,000**  
Why rent when you can buy! Rarely available clean and newly painted 3 bedroom/2 bath unit in front of complex with a one car garage and one assigned parking. Close to 680 and walking distance to stores, shops, restaurants and walking trails. Highly ranked schools!



**630 Oak Circle - Pleasanton - \$889,900**  
Charming single level home in Pleasanton Heights. Wonderfully upgraded with spacious gourmet kitchen, expansive dining and living rooms. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths with gleaming hardwood floors, crown molding and Anderson Windows throughout. Close to downtown and farmers market.



**5711 Athenour Court - Pleasanton - \$950,000**  
Spectacular home nestled on the west side hills of Pleasanton. Bright and open floor plan - 3 beds, 2.5 baths, 1,887 sf.



**5175 Northway Road - Pleasanton - \$999,000**  
Beautiful 4 bedroom 2.5 bath Pleasanton Valley home with updated kitchen and baths. Enjoy private backyard with pool great for relaxing. Great location right across from park between elementary and middle schools.



**6864 Maple Drive - Dublin - \$800,000**  
This 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with 1,830 sf of living space provides plenty of space for entertaining. Recently painted inside and out, refinished hardwood floors, plumbing replaced as was furnace and a great backyard for an excellent value. Near BART, Ace Train, I580/680 and all schools K-12.



**288 & 290 Ray Street - Pleasanton - \$750,000**  
Excellent opportunity to build your dream home or to add additional units. Lot is commercially zoned and offers development potential. Located 1/2 block from Main Street. Good investment opportunity. Currently configured as a single family home with updated cottage in rear.



**Good for Your Soul 5K / 10K**

**Sunday, Oct. 30 - 8:00 a.m.;**  
Main Street, Downtown, The Pleasanton Arch

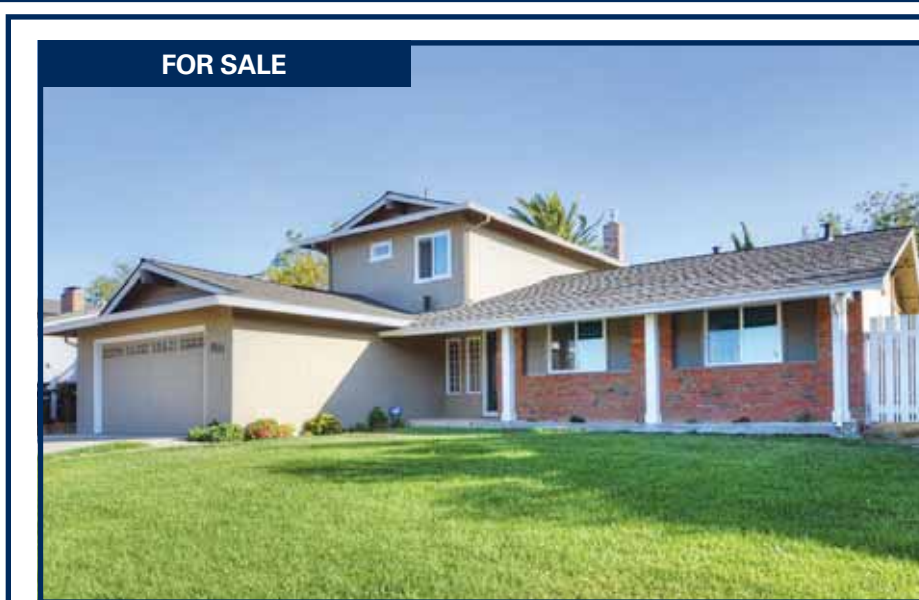
In memory of Kate Steinle with proceeds benefiting Students Rising Above and the Challenged Athletes Foundation.

\$40 for 5K and 10K; \$15 for Kid's Challenge  
Free food and drinks, a raffle and awesome prizes!

**Information at**  
[www.GoodForYourSoulRun.com](http://www.GoodForYourSoulRun.com)

[www.bhghome.com/Pleasanton](http://www.bhghome.com/Pleasanton) BRE#01157088  
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**925-463-9500**



## 1855 Vancouver Way, Livermore

Stunning contemporary remodel. High-quality upgrades throughout, including gourmet kitchen, master bath, floors, windows. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. 2 master suites. Solar-heated pool. **Presented at \$899,000**



## 873 Saint John Court, Pleasanton

Gorgeous downtown property. Remodeled kitchen, wood floors throughout the downstairs, crown molding, plantation shutters, high ceilings, court location. Close to downtown, schools, parks, ACE train and easy freeway access. **Presented at \$1,170,000**

*If you're thinking about buying or selling a home in the Tri-Valley, or anywhere in the world, I can help!*

*If you're thinking about making a move, it's a great time to sell. Call or message me for a free, no-obligation market analysis of your home.*

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# Tips for Buying and Selling Real Estate

by Don Faught

Buying or selling a home can be overwhelming. In fact, it is a full-time job. For most people, it makes sense to hire an expert to handle the time-consuming tasks and the essential details. Real estate professionals can take work off your hands and also help you get the best deal.

Your listing agent will advertise your home, walk buyers through, answer questions and help you through the negotiation phase. If you're trying to buy, you can hire a buyer's agent who is familiar with your preferred locations.

They will recommend neighborhoods that fit your preferences, and they will also warn you about possible drawbacks -- like the nearby factory that will wake you up every morning at 5:00 a.m. But not all agents are the same. Some may take advantage of your inexperience and end up costing you money and time.

Whether or not you're buying or selling, it is important to interview your agent. These tips should help you get the best value.

## What you should ask your REALTOR®:

1. **Are you a full-time real estate professional and a REALTOR®?**
2. **How many years of education and experience do you have?**  
*Experience and continuing education typically make for better agents.*
3. **Can you provide me with the names and phone numbers of past clients who have agreed to be references?**
4. **Have you ever represented a Buyer or a Seller in my area?**
5. **If you're selling, ask for a written comprehensive marketing plan that includes being on the Multiple Listing Service.**  
*You want as many people as possible to know about your home if you want top dollar.*
6. **Do you discount your commission?**  
*If the agent is willing to offer a significant discount of their fee, you should be asking yourself why. Don't you want the best deal and someone that will be looking out for you...and not their next transaction?*

Selecting a real estate professional is a very important decision in the home-buying or selling process. There are so many great real estate professionals out there willing to work hard for you and I want to ensure you do it right, so consider the questions above as you make your selection. In your final analysis you should ask yourself; do you trust them, are they good at what they do and do they care?

Don Faught is the Vice President and Managing Broker for Alain Pinel Realtors and is a Past President of the California Association of REALTORS®

2013 California Association of REALTORS® President **Don Faught, CRS, GRI**  
2013 California REALTOR® of the Year Vice President & Managing Broker  
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## Buying & Selling

### SALES AT A GLANCE

#### Pleasanton (Aug. 26-Sept. 12)

**Total sales reported:** 29  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$396,500  
**Highest sale reported:** \$3,570,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,173,708

#### Dublin (Aug. 26-Sept. 12)

**Total sales reported:** 36  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$276,500

**Highest sale reported:** \$1,702,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$826,417

#### Livermore (Aug. 26-Sept. 12)

**Total sales reported:** 53  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$330,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,775,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$666,846

Source: California REsource

### HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Aug. 26-Sept. 12

#### Pleasanton

**7436 Alder Court** McDonough Trust to A. Mansky for \$1,105,000  
**6976 Corte Verde** J. & D. Burke to V. & B. Kamath for \$1,242,000  
**4484 Del Valle Parkway** V. Sivaramakrishnan to B. & D. Kociol for \$572,500  
**815 East Angela Street** Hagerty Trust to A. Colin for \$963,000  
**7700 Foothill Road** J. Morrow to J. & M. Thomason for \$3,570,000  
**754 Gamay Court** Rossen Trust to A. Emmett for \$850,000  
**6114 Hansen Drive** Sparks Trust to Y. Xu for \$1,210,000  
**1856 Harvest Road** D. Roshong to D. Zhu for \$705,000  
**4704 Herrin Way** T. Brown to N. & M. Singh for \$812,000  
**951 Kolln Street** Fitch Trust to Khatana Trust for \$710,000  
**3764 Mohr Avenue** Bridges Trust to R. Jia for \$1,275,000  
**3782 Riesling Court** SGT Two to T. Buchanan for \$1,070,000  
**4288 Barbara Court** Rickenbach Trust to A. Erman for \$965,000  
**2386 Bay Meadows Circle** Tomcik Trust to A.

Bhuiyan for \$741,000  
**5522 Corte Del Cajon** Tymn Trust to D. & K. Otts for \$1,000,000  
**4127 Dorman Road** Solomon Trust to N. & D. Morgan for \$900,000  
**790 East Angela Street** D. Georgatos to R. Bergstrom for \$890,000  
**6 Greens Lane** Wilkins Trust to Moore Trust for \$1,500,000  
**789 Kottinger Drive** Gallagher Trust to R. & S. Ramkissoon for \$972,500  
**1554 Lexington Lane** Civic Gateway to Chang Trust for \$1,223,000  
**4071 Moselle Court** Wirtenson Trust to L. & O. Orozco for \$870,000  
**1324 Rhone Place** J. & S. Wiley to Bliss Trust for \$1,865,000  
**2558 Secretariat Drive** Pouteau Trust to R. & K. Hamblin for \$630,000  
**3302 Smoketree Commons Drive** Lance Trust to P. Lin for \$396,500  
**523 St. John Street** C. Hunter to J. & K. Mendonca for \$629,500  
**4597 Sutter Gate Avenue** H. Rathbun to D. Cole for \$1,005,000  
**1537 Trimmingham Drive** T. & J. Loitz to S. & M. Dudwadkar for \$850,000  
**4427 Valley Avenue** Singamsetty Trust to S. Aithal for \$695,000  
**3576 Yellowstone Court** Rra Ventures to Kumar Trust for \$680,000

Source: California REsource

## The RE/MAX Collection

925.847.8900



#### LIVERMORE • 515 ROSE STREET • \$619,000

This ranch style home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths & 1638 sf was built in 1955. The kitchen has granite counters & maple cabinets, stainless appliances & gas stove. Also features beautiful hardwood, dual pane windows inside laundry, updated baths & much more! Contact Bob Cilk at 925.487.8734 or Bob.Cilk@remax.net for details.



**Bob Cilk**  
925.487.8734  
Bob.cilk@remax.net  
CAL BRE #0097133



#### LIVERMORE • 1636 WHIPOORWILL STREET

**OPEN SAT 10/15 & SUN 10/16 1:00 TO 4:00 PM**

Exquisite Craftsmen Styling in Maralisa Estates. The upgraded Lilac model features over 2300 square feet of living space. Tasteful appointments prevail offering formal and casual spaces with abundant light. Designer kitchen featuring shaker style, cherry cabinets, slab granite counters with breakfast bar and gas cooking. Upgraded bathrooms have slab counters, tile, oil-rubbed bronze fixtures. Engineered hardwood flooring throughout main living spaces. Luxurious master suite offering walk-in closet. Fourth bedroom is currently configured as an open loft/office space. Large, private lot perfect for play and relaxation. Internally located near strong schools, beautiful parks and I-580.

**Patti Smylie 925.487.2080**  
seeme@pattismylie.com  
CAL BRE#01387257



#### PLEASANTON • 411 TREBBIANO PLACE • \$1,395,000

**OPEN SUNDAY 10/16 1:00 TO 4:00 PM**

Elegant home located in the Primia neighborhood at Ruby Hill. The home features approx. 2,806 SF of living space, 4 bedrooms and 3 baths. Spacious lot is 9,364 SF.



**Sherry Nigg**  
925.640.0869  
sherrynigg@gmail.com  
CAL BRE #01177147



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**JUST LISTED**

**Carmel Living in Pleasanton!**

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



**COMING SOON**

**Del Prado**

Upgraded & remodeled 4 BR, 2.5 BTH home with granite kitchen, hardwood floors, and more!  
Call for Price



**PENDING SALE**

**7443 Palm Court**

Charming remodeled 4 BR, 2.5 BTH home with designer upgrades & premium location  
\$1,000,000



**PENDING SALE**

**9647 Crosby Drive**

Incredible custom home in canyon setting with pool, views, privacy, and upgrades throughout!  
\$2,475,000



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**Pleasanton Market Update - Mixed Signals**

As we enter autumn, the Pleasanton real estate market is following a familiar trend, with inventory trending down, sales stable to up and prices softening. The lower end of the market (homes priced under \$1 million saw the greatest demand in September, selling in only 21 days for 99% of the list price, on average. The middle of the market (\$1 million to \$2 million) continued to see strong demand as well and had just over a month's supply at the end of September. The upper end of the market was, however, considerably more sluggish.



90 homes were actively listed at the end of September, down from 96 at the end of August. It was the second straight month that inventory declined. 84 homes for sale at the end of September 2015. Pending sales increased by three units, from 52 in August to 53 in September, close to the 54 pending sales one year .... Go to [www.680homes.com](http://www.680homes.com) to read the rest of this article.

Go to 680Homes.com for more information on these and other homes, along with market trends, tips & advice, and advanced home search

**ColdwellBankerHomes.com**



**LIVERMORE** \$1,499,000  
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4  
2-Story in Desirable So. Livermore  
3092 Olivoro Court  
4 BD/3.5 BA Features Many Upgrades! Spac Kit w/Grnt cntns, Library, OFF, Pool w/gate & Bkyrd Oasis!  
Lori Kriens  
CalBRE #01899795 925.998.3077



**LIVERMORE** \$1,199,000  
PRICE REDUCED~ Elegant in Livermore  
2475 Kobio Street  
5 BD/3.5 BA Spacious & Open Upgraded Home w/luxury Amenities. Mstr Ste, Cust Paint, 4Car & RV Access.  
Sofyan Karim  
CalBRE #02002802 510.246.6875



**LIVERMORE** \$729,000  
Open Sat 1 - 4  
"A 1 Story Home in Sunset West"  
930 Verona Avenue  
4 BD/2 BA Spacious w/Lrg Bonus Rm, Priv. Bk Yrd, Sparkling Pool. Near beautiful dntwn Livermore!  
Thomas Ivarson  
CalBRE #01242205 925.200.3600



**LIVERMORE** \$575,000  
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4  
"Livermore Home Sunset East"  
1524 Heidelberg Drive  
3 BD/1.5 BA Great Opportunity to Purchase! Located in a highly desirable neighborhood of Sunset East!  
Sean Leggat  
CalBRE #01280186 925.899.6087

**DANVILLE**  
500 Honey Lake Court \$1,248,000  
Gorgeous Home in Shadow Creek  
4 BD/3 BA Grnt Kitchn w/Hdwd Flrs. Full BDRM/BA on First Flr, Gorgeous Indscpg ent bkyd. Must See!  
Terry Kim CalBRE#01363454 925.847.2259

**DUBLIN**  
11612 Betlen Drive \$949,800  
Upgraded & Expanded!  
5 BD/3 BA Remodeled Throughout! Expanded Family & Dining Rooms Plus 2 BD + 1 Full BA downstairs.  
Suzanne Bieser CalBRE#01355940 925.699.3884

**HAYWARD**  
1291 Xavier Avenue \$725,000  
Open Sat 1 - 4  
PRICE REDUCED~GORGEOUS  
Home Features Beautiful Firing, Grnite Cntrs, Recessed Lighting, Upgraded BA, Pavers & More!  
Nancy Sutorius CalBRE#00628232 925.847.2314

**LIVERMORE**  
2665 Cowan Way \$1,230,000  
Elegant Wine Country Home  
4 BD/4.5 BA Upgds Aplenty! Hdwd Flrs,LED Ltg,Nw Lndscp,Grnt KIT w/SS appl,grnd lv in-law. Bk to Vnyrd!  
Andy Knuth CalBRE#01896749 925.984.3262

**DISCOVERY BAY**  
2612 Crescent Way \$539,000  
Live Where You Play~Discovery Bay!  
4 BD/3 BA Gated Lakeshore Comm Home w/ LR, FR, Loft/Ent RM, Hers/His BA, BD/BA Dwnstrs & Bkyrd Pond.  
Sandra Burt CalBRE#01205844 925.872.3541

**LIVERMORE**  
7414 Mancini Ct \$899,800  
Huge Lot! Quiet Court Location!  
4 BD/3 BA Huge Lt at 14,000+sq ft lt, bckg to crk bdrn/full ba dwnstrs,added bns/gm rm,hdwd flrs.  
Suzanne Bieser CalBRE#01355940 925.699.3884

**LIVERMORE**  
2651 Cowan Way \$1,299,000  
Livermore Wine Country Home  
5 BD/4 BA Elegant & Unique Home that bks to Vineyards w/ Majestic Views, Grnt Kit,Frml DR, FP & More!  
Andy Knuth CalBRE#01896749 925.984.3262

**MARTINEZ**  
2230 Pomona Avenue \$469,000  
Cute & Cozy in Martinez!  
4 BD/2 BA New Int/Ext Pint,Newer Windows, BA Updated. Large bkyd w/Privacy /Spc for Fruit Trees/Grdn  
Annie Brown CalBRE#01406757 925.642.4175

**PLEASANTON**

925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste 122

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3760 SELVANTE STREET, RUBY HILL

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



Beautiful Mediterranean Manor, Pool & Spa with outdoor bar & fireplace, 5 BD | 5.5 BA | 17,840 SF on .57 Acre Lot. Offered at \$3,498,000

2389 EAST RUBY HILL DRIVE, RUBY HILL

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



Stunning Golf Course Views  
4 BD | 3 BA | 3,280 SF on .75 Acre Lot  
Offered at \$1,850,000

3630 PONTINA COURT  
RUBY HILL

CALL FOR PRIVATE SHOWING



Estate Home with Extraordinary Features, 5 BD | 6.5 BA | 17,868 SF on .48 Acre Lot. Offered at \$3,395,000

123 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE  
HAYWARD

PENDING



Stonebrae County Club Spectacular Contemporary Home  
4 BD | 4.5 BA | 3,779 SF  
Offered at \$1,425,000

4645 BLACK AVENUE  
PLEASANTON

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



Two Master Suites--Single Story  
3 BD | 3.5 BA | 2,277 SF with Pool  
Offered at \$1,109,000



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**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

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PROCESS EXPERTISE: ★★★★★ Selling a house can be  
RESPONSIVENESS: ★★★★★ stressful! With the right  
NEGOTIATION SKILLS: ★★★★★ team, not so much! I wish  
we'd found the Weiner  
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**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

**SALE PENDING!**



**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**

**JUST LISTED - OPEN SAT 1-3**



**7508 Bonniewood Lane, Dublin**

Beautiful one level home w/granite slab kitchen, vaulted ceilings, wainscoting, crown molding, stacked stone fireplace. **Priced in the high \$700,000's**

**ANOTHER NEW LISTING!**



**6085 Allbrook Circle, Pleasanton**

Coming Soon! 4 BR, 2 BA, detached office. Remodeled throughout w/new carpet, granite kitchen and more! **Priced in the high \$800,000's**



*Dave & Sue*  
**Flashberger**  
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**925.463.0436**

**www.SoldInAFlash.com**

**OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY 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**

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**



**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**

**SALE PENDING - MULTIPLE OFFERS!**



**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**

**JUST SOLD - 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! **\$1,146,000**

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**Liz Venema**  
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REALTOR® LIC # 01922957

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**COMING SOON**



**427 CABONIA COURT, RUBY HILL**

4 BR, 3 BA, 2806+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at **\$1,359,000**

**COMING SOON**



**9 GOLD POPPY COURT, DANVILLE**

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

**COMING SOON**



**572 NEAL STREET, PLEASANTON**

3 BR, 2 BA, 1249+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at **\$749,000**

**PRICE REDUCTION**



**1443 GERMANO WAY, RUBY HILL**

4 BR, 4.5 BA, 5577+/- Sq. Ft.  
Now Offered at **\$2,649,000**

**OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4**



**268 S. YUCATAN PLACE, MOUNTAIN HOUSE**

2 BR, 2 BA, 1262+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at **\$319,000**

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**



**9469 BLESSING DRIVE, THE PRESERVE**

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

**MAIN HOUSE PLUS IN LAW UNIT**



**1357 WHISPERING OAK WAY, PLEASANTON**

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

**PENDING**



**10 CARVER LANE, SUNOL**

5 BR, 6+ BA, 8058+/- Sq. Ft. Plus Guest House  
Offered at **\$3,995,000**

**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 sq ft lot! Remodeled gourmet kitchen!  
**OFFERED AT \$1,158,000**



**Cindy and Gene Williams**

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