

Pleasanton Weekly

Daylight Saving Time is ending

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



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Vote Tuesday

Polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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VALLEYCARE IS NOW PART OF STANFORD HEALTH CARE.

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ValleyCare

AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



JEB BING

Color guard from Pleasanton's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298 and American Legion Post 237 march in Veterans Day parade on Main Street a year ago.

See you at the parade Sunday

As an Army veteran, I'm especially honored to be asked again to serve as the parade announcer for Sunday's 20th annual Tri-Valley Veterans Day parade on Main Street.

My cohort at the reviewing stand will be Tracey Buescher, co-chair of the Pleasanton Military Families organization, which sponsors community homecomings for the men and women returning from harm's way, particularly from Afghanistan. These homecomings are a special tribute that Pleasanton Military Families began as a community salute to our returning veterans that now many other American cities embrace.

Pleasanton's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298, the American Legion Post 237 and the Maj. Gen. William F. Dean Chapter of the Association of the United States Army are hosting the parade, which is traditionally held ahead of the actual holiday so that our veterans and civic leaders can represent our city in other celebrations on Nov. 11.

And what a parade it will be, with more than 100 marching, walking and motorized units filling Main Street starting at 1 p.m. in front of the Veterans Memorial Building at 301 Main St. and continuing four blocks north to St. Mary's Street.

It's the largest observance in Northern California, featuring military and veteran color guards, marching bands, horses, jeeps, Humvees and other military vehicles. Marching along the way also will be Girl Scout and Boy Scout organizations, Scottish pipe and drum units, the Alameda County Sheriff's Posse, elected officials from Tri-Valley cities and veterans from Afghanistan, Iraq, Vietnam, Korea and even World War II.

In fact, this year's parade and post-parade ceremony in the Veterans

Hall are dedicated to those who served during the Vietnam War era. It's among more than 7,000 events being conducted across the country to mark the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. Army Maj. (Retired) James A. Taylor, a Vietnam veteran and Medal of Honor recipient, will be the parade grand marshal.

Taylor also will be the guest speaker at the post-parade ceremony, starting after the parade at about 2:15 p.m. with patriotic music played by the Pleasanton Community Concert Band under the direction of Bob Williams. The program will include a short film narrated by Sam Elliott. Then, Taylor will present commemorative pins to all Vietnam-era veterans who served from 1959 to 1975.

Then next Saturday, Nov. 12, a new Veterans Memorial will be dedicated at the city-owned Pioneer Cemetery. The \$390,000 memorial — featuring monoliths, flag poles, a large granite platform and a bronze sculpture of a kneeling soldier — has been funded by local veterans organizations, a city cemetery fund and public donations. Again, the ceremony will be held a day after Veterans Day in deference to other celebrations planned on Nov. 11.

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

See you at the parade Sunday and the Veterans Memorial dedication Nov. 12. ■

About the Cover

Hundreds of campaign signs, such as these shown on the cover, fill front yards of Pleasanton homes as candidates appeal to the city's 42,701 registered voters in Tuesday's election. Although many have already voted by mail, a significant — and perhaps deciding — number will go to the polls to cast their ballots. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XVII, Number 41

Thank You!

Thank you for your continued trust and support. I am honored to have been voted as Pleasanton's Best Realtor for 5-years and to be inducted into the Reader's Choice Hall of Fame!



2011 - 2015



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PLEASANTON

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
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ELECT Herb RITTER
PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL

"I have known Herb for 25 years from our involvement in Rotary. I also witnessed Herb's leadership on the Parks & Rec Commission and Planning Commission. Prior to presenting projects to the Planning Commission, Herb visited project sites where I counted on him to give honest and fair advice. At Planning Commission meetings, Herb is always the voice of reason, focusing on smart, informed decisions. Herb is the logical choice for our next City Council Member."

Charles Huff, Architect
Member, Pleasanton Downtown Association Design Review Committee
Member, Amador-Livermore Valley Historical Society



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About Herb

- Current Planning Commission Chair
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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What do you do with your extra/leftover Halloween candy?



Tracy Amarillo

X-ray technician

Usually, my husband polishes off all the candy. Both the candy we give out, as well as the candy the kids come home with after trick-or-treating. He has quite a sweet tooth, so I can't really say we ever have any leftovers when it comes to Halloween candy.



Joe Canarsie

Sales

I let the kids eat as much of it as they want for a few days, and then I bring it to work and leave it in a big bowl at the receptionist's desk. It's usually gone by the end of the day.



Lenore Gonzalez

Secretary

My husband is a firefighter, so often whenever we have leftovers of anything at all, he takes it to the fire station and it gets eaten. The guys are always so appreciative, and it makes me feel good to know that none of the candy gets wasted.



Inna Golubchik *High school student*

Well, I'm planning to share it with my sister for a day or so, but after that, we are going to throw it away because it's just so full of chemicals and artificial ingredients and colors. I was thinking we should bring it to a food bank so that it wouldn't go to waste, but my mom says food banks should only be giving out nutritious, healthy foods. Not candy.



Sal Presto *Bus driver*

I have two elementary school-aged kids and their school has a program each year where they collect all the extra candy in order to make up care packages for men and women who are serving in the military. My wife actually goes into the school after Halloween in order to help bag up the candy so that it can be shipped overseas.

— Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Religion Chat

Interfaith Interconnect is set to present its November Religion Chat on Wednesday in Pleasanton on the topic of “What myths would you like to dispel about your religion or religious practices? What are frequent misconceptions?”

The speakers will be Imam Tahir Anwar and Jewish educator Robin Wood. The event is free, and everyone is welcome.

Doors will open for the event at 4:30 p.m. at the Muslim Community Center, 5724 W. Las Positas Blvd. in Pleasanton. The presentation will run from 5-6 p.m., and doors will close at 6:30 p.m.

Religion Chat is a monthly interfaith forum held on the second Wednesday of the month at one of Interfaith Interconnect’s 16 participating congregations in Livermore and Pleasanton aiming to educate the community about diversity of faith and cultures in the Valley.

Medicare overview

“Medicare Part A, B, C, or D? Medigap? Medicare Advantage Plans, Donut Holes? The federal health insurance plan for people 65 and over and those with disabilities doesn’t have to be confusing,” according to Hope Hospice officials.

To help people understand Medicare-related options, Hope Hospice is offering an informational session “Medicare: An Overview” on Nov. 12 from 9:45 a.m. to noon at 6377 Clark Ave. in Dublin, with presenters from the Legal Assistance for Seniors-Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program.

The session will include details about coverage, options for supplementing Medicare, consumer rights and protections, and changes for 2017, as well as hospital and skilled nursing facility rights and detecting fraud and abuse. Register online at www.HopeHospice.com.

Stop Hunger Now

Lynnwood United Methodist Church will collaborate with Stop Hunger Now to package 10,000 meals for hungry people around the world tomorrow starting at 9 a.m. Volunteers of all ages are needed.

Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief agency that began in 1998 and strives to end hunger in its organizers’ lifetime, targeting development programs such as orphanages, medical clinics, vocation training programs, early childhood development programs and crisis situations including natural disaster, conflicts and famine.

The packaging event will be held in the fellowship hall at the church at 4444 Black Ave. in Pleasanton, across from the aquatic center. To learn more, call the Lynnwood office at 846-0221 or visit www.lynnwood.org. ■

Mayors credit unified efforts for quality-of-life advances in Tri-Valley

Folks in Washington ‘always impressed’ to see 5 mayors together

By JEB BING

The mayors of the greater Tri-Valley — Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and San Ramon — credit their collaboration and cooperation for recent successes in regional improvements in transportation, air and water quality, housing and increased state and federal assistance for projects that are benefiting the area.

The mayors spoke at the Tri-Valley Mayors’ Summit held Oct. 26, an annual event sponsored by the chambers of commerce in the five cities and moderated by State Assemblywoman Catharine Baker (R-San Ramon).

The mayors talked about efforts to work together on regional issues, including trips they make annually to Washington, D.C., to meet with federal staffs and congressional leaders.

“These trips are effective in impressing Washington that we’re united in pursuing federal help in our region,” said Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne. “These folks are always impressed when they see five mayors walking into their offices together. That’s not something they’re used to seeing.”

Agreeing with Thorne were the other mayors at the summit: Bill Clarkson of San Ramon, David

Haubert of Dublin, John Marchand of Livermore and Karen Stepper of Danville.

As a result of these efforts, the mayors cited millions of dollars that have been earmarked for Tri-Valley projects ranging from the new carpool and toll lanes to assistance in funding affordable housing projects that are helping those who work in the Tri-Valley to also live here.

“Still, we cannot build our way out of the traffic problems all of our cities face,” Marchand said. “Even for the many who live here, it’s not where they work.”

Even with federal and state aid,

Marchand said a mega-regional approach is needed stretching from San Jose to Sacramento to help with workforce housing, job locations and traffic. Extending BART to Livermore will help, and he wants the mayors to create a regional rail group to get that done.

In addition to seeking more federal support for a commuter rail extension, Thorne also plans to stress the need to fund the completion of Highway 84 between I-580 and I-680. Work is underway to make Hwy. 84 a four-lane expressway from I-580 to

See **MAYORS** on Page 7

‘My Fair Lady’ comes to town

Musical opens troupe’s 7th season at Firehouse Arts Center

By JEREMY WALSH

The Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre is set to kick off its seventh season at downtown Pleasanton’s Firehouse Arts Center this weekend with its production of “My Fair Lady.”

The well-known Lerner and Loewe musical, later adapted on screen in 1964, features recognizable Broadway favorites such as “The Rain in Spain,” “I Could Have Danced All Night,” “Wouldn’t It Be Lovely” and “On the Street Where You Live.”

Based on George Bernard Shaw’s play “Pygmalion,” “My Fair Lady” follows Miss Eliza Doolittle, a Cockney flower girl who takes speech lessons from an eccentric and confirmed misogynist named Professor Henry Higgins, so that she may pass as a lady.

Bay Area actress Josselyn O’Neill heads the local cast as Eliza Doolittle, the role made famous on stage by Julie Andrews and on screen by Audrey Hepburn. Other players in the Pleasanton show include Edward Hightower as Professor Higgins and Lee Strawn as the professor’s gentle sidekick Colonel Pickering.

Show director Daren A.C. Carollo said he thinks the intimate setting of the Firehouse Arts Center is the ideal space to help the audiences be swept up by the story and the music, while his production returns focus to the original “Pygmalion” tale and the themes of respect and equality.

The production team also includes music director Brett Strader, choreographer Christina Lazo, scenic designer Pat Brandon, costumer Margaret DaSilva and lighting

See **MUSICAL** on Page 11



STEVE KIRKPATRICK

Pleasanton’s 26,800 licensed dogs will have this majestic view of the Ridgeland when their new \$300,000 “Cubby’s” dog park opens tomorrow. A 10 a.m. dedication ceremony will honor Cubby (inset), the park’s namesake and the police department’s first K-9 “officer”.

Pleasanton’s new dog park opens tomorrow

\$300,000 park is named Cubby’s for city’s first K-9 ‘officer’

Pleasanton’s new \$300,000 “Cubby’s” dog park will open with a dedication ceremony at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

The park is located at Lagoon Road and Bernal Avenue, with limited parking on site but ample street parking available on Lagoon Road.

The city’s second off-leash dog park occupies 1.5 acres at the staging area of the Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail. It has a fenced dog play area, which includes a place for smaller dogs and a separate place for the larger dogs. There are drinking fountains, shade structures and even agility structures.

The new dog park, officially named Cubby’s Dog Park at Bernal, honors the Pleasanton Police

Department’s K-9 officer Cubby, whose human handler was Officer Jay Graves. The department’s K-9 unit was established in 1974, and Cubby was the first to join, serving not only Pleasanton but the entire Tri-Valley.

Graves has retired, but he and his family will be at Saturday’s ceremony, including his daughter Valerie, who now serves with the police department.

More than 300 entries were received in a naming contest for the dog park before Cubby made the final cut. Other suggested names were Happy Trails, Paws to Play, Pooch Paradise, Pup-Town Life, Bark Alley, Barking Lot, Bernal Buddies, Pooches Playland, Mutt Manor and Murphy’s Tails.

Cubby will be recognized on a

plaque and sign posted at entrance to the park, which is the second dog park to be built in Pleasanton to serve the city’s 26,800 licensed dogs. The first is in Muirwood Park, built years ago.

The new park with its play equipment, shaded seating area for pet owners and other amenities, will measure up to some of the better-known canine parks in the country, including Houston’s Millie dog park, named for Millie Bush, the English Springer Spaniel who shared the White House with George and Barbara Bush.

It’s still a bit shy of Richmond’s Point Isabel Dog Park, a 23-acre off-leash park that even has a gourmet cafe, appropriately named Sit and Stay. ■

—Jeb Bing



DINO VOURNAS

Bernal Park expansion opens with flourish

Mayor Jerry Thorne (center), flanked by City Council members, cuts the ribbon officially opening the new Bernal Community Park sports fields and woodland pathways. The 54-acre, \$16.5 million expansion of the 318-acre city-owned Bernal Community Park adds three lighted multipurpose all-weather synthetic sports fields, small grass areas, group picnic areas and more children's play equipment.

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the pro-growth agenda of excessive development that is rapidly changing the small-town character of Pleasanton!

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Services Nov. 12 for Dr. Gerald Severin, 82

Noted community leader was first dermatologist in Livermore Valley

By TIM HUNT

Dr. Gerald Severin, the first dermatologist to practice in the Livermore Valley, died Oct. 27 after a 12-year battle with multiple sclerosis and metastatic cancer. He was 82.

His life of service to his patients and the community will be celebrated at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12 at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 5th St., Livermore. A reception will follow.

Dr. Severin treated thousands of patients at his office in Livermore next to Valley Memorial Hospital, where he served as chief of staff for two years. He practiced for over 32 years before closing his office to accept a request to run the dermatology department at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Livermore. He ran that program for six years before retiring at the age of 70.

After completing his internship in Minneapolis, he and his wife, Charlotte spent eight months traveling the world before fulfilling his doctor's draft commitment as a battalion surgeon in Germany. They planned this extended trip because they knew he would never be able to take that much time after establishing his practice.

Severin held a pilot's license for small planes and flew family and friends to many destinations. He enjoyed snow skiing and the family often took ski vacations. The family also enjoyed rafting trips, including Class 5 rapids on the American River.

Active in community groups, he served on the board of the YMCA and chaired the renovation of the rectory at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton for use as a YMCA community center. He also served on the Livermore-Amador Symphony board, was a lifetime member of the Rotary Club of Livermore and was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore.

He was a past-president of the San Francisco Dermatologic Society, which selected him as Practitioner of the Year. He also was an active member of the Alameda-Contra Costa and the California Medical Associations as well as North American Clinical Derma-



Dr. Gerald Severin

tologic Society. After he retired, he volunteered weekly at the Axis Community Health clinic in Pleasanton.

Severin was born May 5, 1934 in Burlingame and grew up on the Peninsula. He was the student body president of the first graduating class from Menlo-Atherton High School, and later graduated from Stanford University, completing his under-graduate work and medical degree there.

In addition to his wife of 58 years, Charlotte, he leaves his children Jack Severin (Myrna) of Pleasanton, Kim Coberg (Thaddeus) of Livermore; Julie Frey (Andy) of Pleasanton; his sister, Sue Severin of Oregon; eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

The family prefers contributions in his memory to: First Presbyterian Church of Livermore, 2020 5th St., 94550; Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Dublin, 94568; the Livermore Rotary Club's Coaniquem Center Foundation for children in Chile, 29 Palm Beach Lane, Alameda, Ca. 94502, Attn. Carolyn Schuetz, and Axis Community Health, 5925 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton, 94588. ■

Livermore church boutique leads off holiday season

Food, pet portraits, works of artisans highlight day-long event

A Holiday Boutique, one of the first of the season, will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. tomorrow at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livermore.

Booths will feature hostess gifts for the holidays ranging from tree ornaments, the works of artisans in many mediums, stained glass, paper crafting, jewelry, tote bags, handcrafted head-to-toe personal care products and knitted dolls to cranberry sauces, jams and sourdough bread.

Pet portrait artist Brandy Tompkins will offer full color paintings of family pets based on photos. Youth from the church and school will serve specially priced breakfast and lunch, plus coffee served all day from the Daily Grind.

The church is located at 1385 S. Livermore Ave., across from the Livermore public library and Civic Center. ■

—Jeb Bing

Committee #1390478

Kathleen RUEGSEGGER

for Pleasanton School Board

► kathleenruegsegger.net

Dream Bigger

Santa Claus arrives at Stoneridge Mall tomorrow

The jolly old man starts season of special events

Halloween just closed out the month of October, but stores throughout Pleasanton are already decorating for the Christmas holidays.

Children and families can look forward to Santa's arrival and a festive schedule of holiday events at Stoneridge Shopping Center starting tomorrow.

Santa Claus arrives early and will take his seat in center court right up to Christmas Eve on Dec. 24.

This year, to save time and avoid the line, parents can reserve their children's visit with Santa online at <http://simon.noerrSanta.com>.

Stoneridge Shopping Center will feature special holiday events and entertainment throughout November and December for shoppers along with their holiday shopping. Special events will include:

- Santa's Arrival Pajama Party: Santa arrives at Stoneridge Shopping Center on Saturday. From 8-10 a.m., children

are invited to come dressed in comfy pajamas to greet Santa.

- Pet Photos with Santa: Furry friends have the opportunity to pose with Santa during the popular Pet Photo Night from 6:30-8 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20.

- Holiday Photo Booth: From 1-5 p.m. on Dec. 3 and 10, a festive photo booth will be open with holiday and winter wonderland accessories.

- Breakfast with Santa: Children and families can enjoy breakfast with Santa from 8-9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 3.

- Caring Santa: Children with special needs and their families are invited to enjoy a calm Santa photo experience in a subdued environment from 8:30-10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. To register in advance, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/caring-santa-tickets-27145820881.

"The holiday shopping season brings a festive and bustling atmosphere to Stoneridge Shopping Center," said Betsy Edwards, director of marketing and business development. "We love the holiday cheer that lights up the center with Santa's arrival and lasts throughout December with this year's special events."

Stoneridge Shopping Center in Pleasanton, a Simon property, is one of the largest malls in the Bay Area with 165 stores and restaurants.

For more information, sign on to www.simon.com/mall/stoneridge-shopping-center. ■

—Jeb Bing

'We love the holiday cheer that lights up the center with Santa's arrival and lasts throughout December.'

Betsy Edwards,
Stoneridge Shopping Center



NICK BINZONI

Mayors joining Assemblywoman Catharine Baker (far right), moderator at the recent Tri-Valley Mayors' Summit, are (from left) David Haubert, Dublin; Karen Stepper, Danville; Jerry Thorne, Pleasanton; Bill Clarkson, San Ramon; and John Marchand, Livermore.

MAYORS

Continued from Page 5

Ruby Hill in Pleasanton, but funds are needed to complete the extension.

The mayors said their cities not only weathered the recent recession, but have come out with stronger and growing economies.

"San Ramon has been recognized by Money magazine as the No. 1 place to live in Northern California," Clarkson said. "We have a new city center rising, new restaurants and new high tech companies."

Haubert said Dublin is attracting new businesses to be closer to the thousands in their workforces that

now live in the city's expanding residential complexes. IKEA, the Swedish home furnishings store, plans to build a new outlet in Dublin, and Kaiser Permanente is also planning to build a new medical facility there.

Stepper said Danville has a number of "entrepreneurs" relocating to the town to take advantage of its growing housing base.

"We're a changing community that has become very different in recent years," she said. "Still, we will continue to be a great place to live."

This year's Tri-Valley Mayors' Summit was hosted by the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce at Wente Vineyards. ■



OPEN LETTER TO PLEASANTON RESIDENTS

November 4, 2016

Dear Pleasanton Residents,

Twenty six years ago I fell in love with Pleasanton. Today, I care deeply about what's happening now and what our future will be. I especially love that we live in a city where we honor its past.

As a City Council candidate, I want to thank the thousands of residents I have met during this campaign. Our conversations have provided meaningful information and given me new insights. Your encouragement has often been the best part of many campaign days.

Here's what you have shared with me that you want from Pleasanton. It's gratifying to know that generally, we all want the same things. We want to be safe and have clean air and clean water. We want less traffic. We want a strong sense of community and great schools for our children. We want to have accessible parks and great bicycle and walking trails.

Here are the top critical issues you voiced:

- 1) Balancing the state-mandated housing requirements with our community needs
- 2) Creating more work opportunities in Pleasanton
- 3) Minimizing the traffic that seeks refuge through our streets

Here's what I offer. I've built a foundation of civic expertise for the past 10 years as a Commissioner. My community contributions started 26 years ago with the Pleasanton North Rotary. I also served with the Foothill Boosters and the Boy Scouts Troop 916. My Electrical Engineering and MBA degrees continue to serve me well as a problem solver in business and our community.

I'm extremely proud to have the full support of my family. My wife Cathy is a native of Pleasanton and an Amador High graduate. Our son, Jimmy, is a sophomore at Arizona State University, and Tricia is in her senior year at Foothill High.

In getting things done;

I don't just talk about it – I do it.

I don't just think about it – I study it from all sides.

I don't just dream about it – I make it happen.

I ask you for your vote, support and your consideration. It will be an honor to represent all of you.

Sincerely yours,

Herb L. Ritter
Chair, Pleasanton Planning Commission
Pleasanton City Council Candidate 2016

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Ad paid for by the Campaign for Herb Ritter for Pleasanton City Council-2016 FPPC 1385793

Photograph of Herb Ritter top left, by Chuck Deckart and Ritter Family Photo top right, by Randy Cazinha

With a little help from their friends

Valley Humane Society seeks support for injured dog, cat

By JEREMY WALSH

Pleasanton-based animal support nonprofit Valley Humane Society is sharing the tales of a pair of its injured pets in the hopes of generating support for the ongoing recovery of the young dog and cat.

Joe Cocker is a curious 2-year-old spaniel mix who needed a hip replacement and the removal of two objects, possibly BBs, from his leg. Downy, a 3-year-old gray short-hair cat, had his leg amputated at the veterinarian's recommendation as a precaution against a cancerous growth.

Both pets are "recovering nicely," according to Melissa Adkins, marketing and development manager for Valley Humane Society.

The organization expects Joe Cocker to be fully rehabilitated and ready for adoption by next Tuesday.

Downy's available date is still unknown. He is recuperating at a foster care home, running down stairs and jumping off the bed. "He is getting faster at using just three legs and is more ambitious in his attempts," Adkins said.

The two animals were rescued from local municipal shelters, where they arrived needing special medical attention, according to Valley Humane Society representatives. After the revelation of major medical issues, the local nonprofit has prepared to spend between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

The organization relies upon private donations to support its life-saving programs. Donations can be made online at valleyhumane.org/surgery, by phone to 426-8656 or by mailing a check to Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ■



COURTESY OF VHS

Three-year-old cat Downy (above) and 2-year-old spaniel mix Joe Cocker are each recovering from serious medical surgeries.



JULIA REIS

Pleasanton resident Salma Ikram (center) chats with Nancy Chang (left) and Salon 77 stylist Kelly Ghilarducci after getting her hair done at a Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley event Friday.

Local seniors enjoy 'Hairdo Day'

Nonprofit, Pleasanton businesses team up for free event

By JULIA REIS

A group of Tri-Valley seniors were treated to a free lunch and hair styling last Friday thanks to Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley and local businesses.

About 10 women from the support group Stepping Out and Reconnecting (SOAR) came to the program's Pleasanton Senior Center office in the afternoon for their regular meeting. Meetings are scheduled twice a month and include varying group activities and discussions.

Friday's meeting had an afternoon tea theme, as the seniors ate pastries donated by The English Rose

Tea Room before the "Hairdo Day" activity.

Four stylists from Salon 77 in Pleasanton donated their time and skills to give each of the women a new "do."

The mission of Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley is to deliver free, comprehensive services and assistance to Tri-Valley residents ages 60 and older to "foster independence, promote well-being, preserve dignity and improve quality of life," said behavioral health program coordinator Amy Jones.

The program serves 5,600 seniors annually. For more information, visit the organization online at ssptv.org. ■



Karla Brown
Pleasanton City Council

Karla@Vote4Karla.com
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.

Pleasanton Weekly Editorial

10/14/16

"For City Council, we are endorsing incumbent Karla Brown."

"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 parking capacity, and limit residential development downtown, especially on Main Street."

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

Our Candidates for State Assembly are like Apples and Oranges



**Catharine
BAKER**



**Cheryl
COOK-KALLIO**

PARTISAN POLITICS

- Baker is **“fixed on results instead of party labels”** and is **“independent and effective.”**
(Source: San Francisco Chronicle)
- Endorsed by the local Democrat, Republican, and Independent leaders we trust.
(Source: BakerforAssembly.com)

- Cook-Kallio is another **party-line vote.**
(Source: Evolve survey)
- Lacking bipartisan support.
(Source: votecookkallio.com)

TAXES AND SPENDING

- Voted for a bipartisan bill to pay down pension debt.
(Source: Official Assembly Records)
- Opposes new and higher taxes.
(Source: BakerforAssembly.com)

- Left the city she represented with \$160 million in pension debt. *(Source: The East Bay Times)*
- **Pledged to support over \$5 billion in new and higher taxes.**
(Source: Evolve survey)
- Pledged to eliminate Proposition 13’s taxpayer protections. *(Source: Evolve survey)*

EDUCATION

- Authored legislation to reform the teacher seniority system so schools can consider the needs of children, not just the rigid seniority rules.
(Source: Official Assembly Records)
- Co-authored bipartisan legislation to put California students first in University of California admissions.
(Source: Official Assembly Records)

- **Testified in Sacramento against basic, common-sense tenure reform and against reforming rigid seniority rules that hurt kids and teachers.**
(Source: Official Assembly Records)

BART STRIKES

- **Supports ending BART strikes.**
(Source: BakerforAssembly.com)

- Supports BART strikes and her campaign is funded by the BART unions.
(Source: votecookkallio.com)

TRANSPARENCY

- Refuses to fill out secret “surveys” that make promises to Sacramento special interests and lobbyists.
(Source: BakerforAssembly.com)
- Passed a bill to make Bay Bridge meetings open to the public for more accountability. *(Official Assembly Records)*

- Looking for campaign support, Cook-Kallio made secret, written promises to Sacramento special interests and lobbyists about how she would vote, but she refuses to show those written promises to voters.
(Source: votecookkallio.com)

4 Livermore Lab scientists selected as 2016 fellows of American Physical Society

Pleasanton scientist recognized for her trailblazing, decade-long laser studies

By JEB BING

Four Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory scientists, including one from Pleasanton, have been selected as 2016 fellows of the American Physical Society.

They were recognized for their exceptional contributions to the field of physics through research, leadership, applications of physics or contributions to physics education. APS fellowship is considered a distinct honor because members are nominated and elected by their peers.

The APS' division of Plasma Physics recognized physicist Hui Chen of Pleasanton for her "pioneering experimental research on relativistic positron generation using ultra-intense short-pulse lasers."

Chen joined LLNL in 1999 after completing her Ph.D. in plasma physics at Imperial College in London. She also holds a bachelor's degree in physics at Chengdu University of Science and Technology in China.

She has been active in several lines of plasma physics research at

the Livermore Lab, including laser-produced matter/antimatter plasmas, X-ray spectroscopy of highly charged ions, innovative instrumentation and fundamental short-pulse laser-plasma physics.

The work cited for the APS fellowship was her trailblazing, decade-long experimental study of laser-produced relativistic electron-positron plasma "jets," using five larger laser facilities on three continents. Also honored were physicist Adam Bernstein, chief scientist

Omar Hurricane and physics division leader James Trebes.

Bernstein was cited by the Division of Nuclear Physics for "pioneering work at the intersection of nuclear science and nuclear nonproliferation, including the development of antineutrino-based methods for monitoring the production of fissile material and large volume detectors for rapid screening of cargo for the presence of fissile material."

He joined LLNL as a staff physi-

cist in 2002 and now leads the Rare Event Detection Group. His research interests include the development of improved radiation detection techniques that facilitate global nuclear arms and materials control, nonproliferation and disarmament.

He received his bachelor's degree in physics from UC Berkeley and Ph.D. in experimental high energy physics from Columbia University.

Hurricane is the chief scientist of

the lab's ICF Program and lead of Integrated Experiments. He was cited by the APS division of Plasma Physics for "visionary leadership in experiments on the National Ignition Facility (NIF) laser and innovative work in understanding instabilities in high-energy density.

He joined the lab after completing graduate and postdoc studies in plasma stability theory at UCLA.

Trebes, the Physical and Life Sci-

ences Division leader, was recognized for his "contributions in laser physics and the application of physics to other disciplines, for leadership in multiple national security areas, and for contributions to education in the sciences and engineering."

He joined the laboratory in 1984 and has worked in a broad range of research and development areas including X-ray lasers, ICF, weapons physics, X-ray optics, detectors, nonproliferation projects in Russia and Libya, military special operations technology, medical technology, bio-detection, enhanced surveillance and space technology.

He received his bachelor's degree in physics from Georgia Tech and his Ph.D. in physics from Yale University. ■

'APS fellowship is considered a distinct honor because members are nominated and elected by their peers.'



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

'Urbanscapes' on display in Harrington Gallery

"Tumbling" by artist Catherine Mackey is among the artworks included in an invitational exhibit called "Urbanscapes," which opened this week at the Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center. The showing, which runs through Dec. 14, features seven established Bay Area artists whose work evokes the grittier side of inner-city life. The gallery is located at 4444 Railroad Ave. For more information, call 931-4849 or visit www.firehousearts.org.



Backed by PLEASANTON CITIZENS, not DEVELOPERS and POLITICIANS

Backed by Pleasanton Citizens For ALL Citizens

\$20 million subsidy to Costco?? It's REAL! GOOGLE it! Or get the facts at CitizensForPlannedGrowth.com

Traffic will be the same regardless?? The City's own EIR says Costco + gas will add 7,000-12,000 vehicles daily

Won't affect small businesses?? With \$150 million yearly sales per store, can you imagine the effect on local tire dealers, car dealers, pharmacies, groceries, wine & liquor stores, electronics, TVs and computer stores?

Houses on Johnson Drive?? Don't be SILLY. It's a redevelopment, zoned commercial with retail, not residential--will not happen!

Vote YES on Measure MM

Citizens for Planned Growth Yes on Measure MM sponsored by blacktietrans and wwheeler





BERENICE SULLIVAN

MUSICAL

Continued from Page 5

designer Mike Oesch.

The local rendition of “My Fair Lady” opens this Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Other performance dates are Sundays Nov. 6, 13 and 20 at 2 p.m.; Saturdays Nov. 12 and 19 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and a lone Friday show, Nov. 18 at 8 p.m.

An “Inside the Show” discussion with the director and principal actors will take place after the Nov. 6 matinee performance. Admission to the special event is free with a ticket to the performance.

Tickets cost \$19-\$40 each, available at the Firehouse Arts Center box office, by phone at 931-4848 or online at www.firehousearts.org. ■

Left: Josselyn O’Neill stars as Eliza Doolittle in “My Fair Lady” at the Firehouse Arts Center.

TAKE US ALONG



Exploring France: Rylee and Jordyn Scanlon and Lyla and Mayson Utikal traveled to France, visiting Paris, the countryside to visit family, the D-Day Beaches of Normandy and Mont Saint-Michel.

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

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Proven Commitment and Leadership



- ✓ PUSD Trustee for 8 years
- ✓ 2 terms as School Board President
- ✓ Delegate – California School Boards Association
- ✓ Parent of current and former PUSD students
- ✓ 23 year resident of Pleasanton
- ✓ Former City of Pleasanton Library Commissioner
- ✓ Education: BS Health Science, MBA degree

Priorities:

- ❖ Student Achievement
- ❖ School Facilities
- ❖ Fiscal Responsibility
- ❖ Communication



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NOVEMBER 12 & 19 • 2 & 8 PM
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Based on George Bernard Shaw's novel *Pygmalion*, the story concerns Eliza Doolittle, a cockney flower girl who takes speech lessons from professor Henry Higgins so that she may pass as a lady. Featuring such classic and iconic songs as *Wouldn't It Be Lovely*, *The Rain in Spain*, *I Could Have Danced All Night* and *On the Street Where You Live*.

My Fair Lady is presented by arrangement with
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www.pcrtproductions.org

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Reward offered for information on 'Baggy Pants Bandits'

A \$5,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of people suspected of stealing tools from home improvement stores throughout the Bay Area, including in Pleasanton.

According to Pleasanton police Detective Chris Niederhaus, the Tri-Valley theft took place at approximately 1 a.m. on Aug. 14 at the Home Depot at 6000 Johnson Drive.

Two people who police are dubbing the "Baggy Pants Bandits" allegedly pried open the store's front door and stole numerous boxed saws and power tool kits, fleeing the scene in a silver four-door sedan with a sunroof.

The tools were worth an estimated \$5,000, according to Niederhaus.

Pleasanton police describe the first suspect as a white or Hispanic male between the age of 25 and 35 years old, with a shaved head and an athletic build. The second suspect is a white or Hispanic man 20 to 30 years old, with dark hair

and a thin build.

The incident is being investigated as a part of a theft ring involving home improvement stores throughout the Bay Area and Central Valley, Niederhaus said, adding that Pleasanton detectives are working with Roseville detectives on the case. The extent of the ring is not yet known.

Anyone who can identify the suspects or who has other pertinent information about the Home Depot theft can contact the Pleasanton Police Department at 931-5100 and ask for Niederhaus.

In other police news

- Police allege a teenage boy was driving impaired when his car crashed upside-down in a Pleasanton neighborhood early Saturday.

The crash occurred shortly after midnight, when a 17-year-old driving southbound on Bernal Avenue lost control of his vehicle.

The car went off the road and crashed on its roof between the front yards of two residences in the 3400 block of Bernal, Pleasanton police Lt. Joseph Leonardo said.

The teen, who was the car's only occupant, told officers he was un-

injured but he was transported to ValleyCare Medical Center as a precaution, according to Leonardo.

Alcohol was the cause of the accident, Leonardo said. Sobriety tests performed at the scene determined that the driver was impaired, and he registered a blood alcohol content of .15, according to the lieutenant.

The teen was cared for by medical staff and released to his parents on a juvenile notice to appear, Leonardo said. Police are not releasing the driver's name because of his age.

The crash damaged a fence and a sign on the private properties.

- Pleasanton police are asking for the public's help in decreasing the occurrence of a preventable crime.

Thefts from unlocked cars in the city have increased 37% year-to-date over last year, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Larry Cox, who added that such incidents make up 60% of all reported thefts from vehicles in Pleasanton.

"A lot of these are crimes of opportunity," Cox said. "Ultimately if we were to just lock up vehicles, we'd be reducing theft from vehicles by about 60%, give or take."

The department is asking that residents lock their cars and keep items out of plain view to help reduce such thefts. ■

—Julia Reis

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Oct. 29

Domestic battery

■ 11:54 p.m. on Owens Drive

Drug violation

■ 7:39 p.m. at Santa Rita Road and Valley Avenue

Shoplifting

■ 3:45 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Oct. 28

Fraud

■ 2:02 p.m. on the 6200 block of Calle Fuego

Domestic battery

■ 11:33 p.m. on Johnson Drive

Alcohol violation

■ 2:15 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Theft

■ 9:11 a.m., 2500 block of Hopyard Road; theft from auto

■ 10:47 a.m. on the 3400 block of West Ruby Hill Drive

■ 12:12 p.m., 4800 block of Mason Street; theft from auto

Oct. 27

Animal service

■ 1:09 a.m. at Stanley Boulevard and Reflections Drive

Fraud

■ 9:22 a.m. on the 1000 block of Hearst Drive

■ 8:52 p.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road

■ 3:53 p.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive

Embezzlement

■ 5:48 p.m. on the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Theft

■ 4:57 a.m., 5300 block of Owens Court; theft from auto

■ 10:33 a.m., 3900 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; theft from structure

■ 10:54 a.m., 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; theft from auto

■ 2:42 p.m., 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; shoplifting

Warrant arrest

■ 12:00 a.m. on the 5300 block of Broder Boulevard

Graffiti

■ 9:15 a.m. on the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

Vandalism

■ 8:35 a.m. on the 700 block of Main Street

Oct. 26

Shoplifting

■ 11:29 a.m. on the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 3:41 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Assault/battery

■ 12:42 a.m. on the 7500 block of Stonedale Drive

■ 1:07 p.m. on the 3400 block of Stanley Boulevard

Fraud

■ 10:57 a.m. on the 4400 block of Willow Road

Alcohol violation

■ 9:56 a.m. at Singletree Way and Empire Court

Drug violation

■ 8:51 a.m. on the 4400 block of Black Avenue

Oct. 25

Fraud

■ 2:45 p.m. on the 5000 block of Foothill Road

Theft from auto

■ 9:23 a.m. on the 5700 block of Owens Drive

■ 12:50 p.m. on the 4600 block of Corday Court

■ 1:28 p.m. on the 5600 block of Sonoma Drive

■ 6:18 p.m. on the 6400 block of Alvord Way

Other thefts

■ 3:13 p.m., 600 block of Concord Place; auto theft

■ 4:58 p.m. at Stanley Boulevard and California Avenue; theft

■ 11:14 p.m., 4700 block of Willow Road; theft from structure

Warrant arrest

■ 10:08 p.m. on the 5200 block of Hopyard Road

Animal service

■ 4:42 p.m. on the 6200 block of Ruxton Court

Missing person report

■ 1:04 p.m. on Ridgewood Road

Oct. 24

Warrant arrest

■ 10:54 p.m. at Stanley Boulevard and Bernal Avenue

Theft

■ 7:07 a.m. on the 5200 block of Case Avenue

■ 10:27 a.m., 00 block of California Avenue; theft from auto

■ 1:19 p.m., 2000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 3:45 p.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

■ 7:40 p.m., 6800 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from auto

■ 10:37 p.m. on the 5800 block of Stoneridge Drive

Fraud

■ 1:41 p.m. on the 3100 block of Persimmon Circle

■ 2:51 p.m. on the 3100 block of Snowdrop Circle

■ 3:30 p.m. on the 2900 block of Moreno Avenue

■ 4:14 p.m. on the 2400 block of Raven Road

■ 5:22 p.m. on the 3600 block of Terrazzo Court

Vandalism

■ 10:30 a.m. on the 3700 block of Stanley Boulevard

Graffiti

■ 11:47 a.m. at Valley Avenue and Santa Rita Road

■ 1:45 p.m. on the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

MELANIE SADEK Making a difference



CHUCK DECKERT

Pleasanton resident Melanie Sadek was the 2016 recipient of the Tri-Valley Hero Community Spirit award for her dedication to child and highway safety and to animals in need.

By Julia Reis

Melanie Sadek has made two careers — not to mention a world of difference in the Tri-Valley community — out of her passion for helping some of the most vulnerable populations.

The 2016 recipient of the Tri-Valley Hero Community Spirit award, the Pleasanton resident is being recognized for her continued dedication to child and highway safety and to animals in need.

“This recognition doesn’t feel like it’s about me, but it’s recognizing the things I’ve worked on that are super important to me, and that means a lot because it means there’s something greater



JULIA REIS

Sadek plays with chihuahua Normie at Valley Humane Society, where she has served as executive director for nearly six years. Valley Humane isn’t just about the pets; it’s also about helping local residents and families, according to Sadek.

than just what you feel — there’s support behind it,” Sadek said at the Tri-Valley Heroes award ceremony last month.

Sadek’s devotion to child passenger and highway safety causes blossomed out of a retail job she took at a children’s store in college. While selling car seats to parents, she quickly recognized that many did not fully understand how they worked.

“There were these really important details nobody knew, so I started to do a ton of research on my own,” Sadek said.

That research soon spawned a trip to Nevada, where Sadek spent a week alongside first responders becoming a certified child passenger safety technician instructor. That certification enabled Sadek to start formally training nurses, firefighters and police officers in keeping children safe on the road, something she still does today.

Facing the choice of becoming a nurse or going into highway safety work after college, Sadek chose the latter, joining the American Automobile Association (AAA) San Francisco office as a traffic safety assistant. There she began building rapport with law enforcement and learning the latest safety protocol for keeping people safe, whether they be in a car or riding a scooter.

By the time Sadek was done at AAA, she was a manager reviewing occupant protection legislation from all over the country.

“I got a chance to work in a lot of different areas — it was such an incredibly rewarding job,” Sadek said.

The birth of Sadek’s first son prompted the search for a new

job closer to home, leading her to a career helping animals. She and her husband, Mike, opened the pet store Murphy’s Paw in downtown Pleasanton in 2007, eventually electing to sell the business in 2011.

Just before the pet store sold, Sadek was brought on to Valley Humane Society as the nonprofit’s executive director where she has remained for nearly six years.

“I’m very dedicated to helping those who are the most at-risk — children and animals are the most vulnerable,” Sadek said.

But, Sadek added, Valley Humane isn’t just about the pets — it’s about the people, too.

“I love the fact that Valley Humane can offer assistance in times where others can’t,” she said, referring to the time the nonprofit brought therapy dogs to Foothill High School after a student’s death as an example.

While leading a nonprofit and raising three young boys is enough to keep anyone busy, Sadek still finds additional time to give back to the community.

Besides continuing to lead child passenger safety trainings for Tri-Valley first responders, Sadek has also taken on a newer cause for kids relating to polling places. She is currently working toward seeing state legislation introduced that would change current law from requiring all school campuses to be available as polling locations and limit it only to campuses that can maintain existing security protocol while voting occurs.

“I care about the community and want to make a difference,” Sadek said. “One person can make a huge difference.” ■

‘I’m very dedicated to helping those who are the most at-risk — children and animals are the most vulnerable.’

Melanie Sadek,
Tri-Valley Hero

Hero FYI

- ▲ Melanie Sadek lives in Pleasanton with her husband Mike and three young boys Jackson, Nicholas and Maxwell.
- ▲ She has been involved in highway safety work for 20 years.
- ▲ Sadek received her bachelor’s degree in science from California State University, East Bay.
- ▲ She has an identical twin sister named Mandy who is also the executive director of a no-kill animal shelter (in northern Idaho).
- ▲ To adopt a pet or learn more about Valley Humane Society, visit valleyhumane.org.

LARS HO-TSEUNG Supporting kids



By Cathy Jetter



CHUCK DECKERT

Lars Ho-Tseung received the Role Model award, which recognizes a resident for displaying common sense, compassion and wisdom while teaching, coaching and mentoring others with a vision for people to strive to be the best they can be.

Pleasanton's Lars Ho-Tseung has always had a wide variety of interests. He played four high school sports, became a private pilot and is an avid fan of both tennis and golf. But for as long as he can remember, his real passion has been taking care of kids.

Born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, Ho-Tseung earned his spending money babysitting the neighborhood kids. Then, as soon as he started as an engineering major at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Indiana, he found the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program of America and became truly engaged.

"All my life I wanted to be part of the healthy development of kids," Ho-Tseung, 53, said. "I had a few little brothers through the (Big Brothers) program, and it was a really rewarding experience."

When Ho-Tseung and his wife Kristen had children of their own, he was naturally involved in their kids' activities, coaching his daughter's softball games and playing golf with his son. But it was the neighborhood Indian Princess Program that led Ho-Tseung to become an integral part of the Tri-Valley YMCA and the community it serves.

Ho-Tseung and his daughter, Lauren, joined Indian Princesses — the YMCA's father-daughter program — to be a part of the camping and community service activities that engage dads in their daughters' lives.

Recognizing all the benefits of the program, Ho-Tseung said he naturally became involved with the leadership, ultimately becoming the nation chief of the 300-member organization. His relationship with the YMCA and the services it offers deepened quickly.

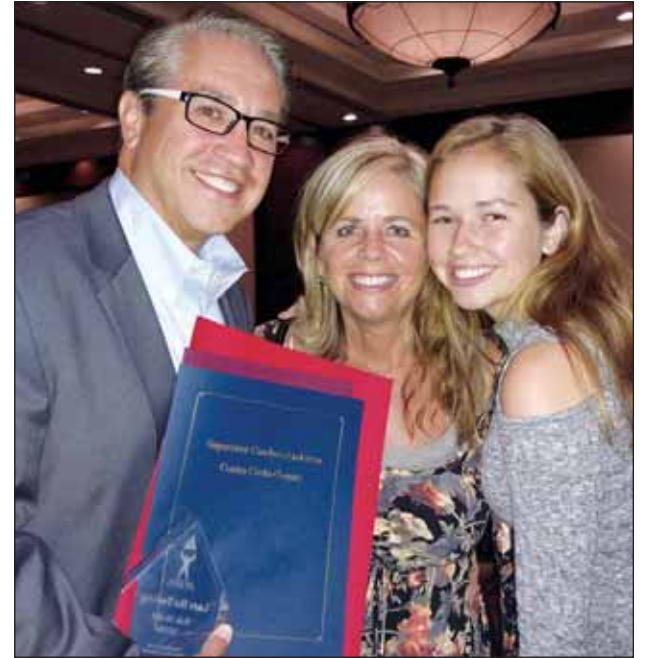
"We like to think our city is different," said Ho-Tseung, who now serves as the board chair for the Tri-Valley YMCA. "But there is a tremendous amount of need here. The YMCA makes a huge difference."

Ho-Tseung would much rather talk about what the YMCA does for the community than what he does for the YMCA. "I am just a volunteer," he explained. "I am just there to support the people doing the real work."

His humble attitude is no surprise to Kenny Altenburg, the YMCA staff member who nominated Ho-Tseung for the 2016 Tri-Valley Hero Role Model award. Having watched Ho-Tseung in action for over three years, Altenburg recognized the qualities that make Ho-Tseung a valued member of the YMCA family.

"Lars is an incredibly busy man; he owns his own business, he has his own kids," he said. "But he is motivated to dedicate a tremendous number of hours to make sure others have the same opportunities his kids had. He is dedicated to his kids, he spends time with them and he wants them to be successful. That translates directly to what he does for the YMCA."

Ho-Tseung's longtime friend Herb Ritter echoes the sentiment, describing Ho-Tseung as a thinker who is ardent in his support



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ho-Tseung celebrates with wife Kristen and daughter Lauren at the Tri-Valley Heroes award ceremony last month. Son Colin, who is away at college, could not attend the event.

of kids. "Lars doesn't want to be the guy at the front of the room; he just wants to get the work done," Ritter said. "And he's gifted in his ability to motivate people to get involved without making them feel they are obligated to do something."

That gift has probably been instrumental in the YMCA fundraisers Ho-Tseung is involved with each year, raising money to support after-school care at three of Pleasanton's seven elementary schools and the recently opened Family Wellness Center located at 5000 Pleasanton Ave.

"We held our ninth golf tournament this past April," Ho-Tseung said, adding that he loves to get his friends involved in the community events. "In the past three years, we have raised over half of a million dollars; almost all of that is poured right back into the local community."

Altenburg called Ho-Tseung the driving force behind both the golf tournament and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship breakfast hosted each year by the YMCA on the Monday following the national holiday honoring the American civil rights leader.

"Lars is always looking for ways to take the events to the next level," Altenburg said. "He's never complacent; he wants to figure out how to fill the need. He gives it all, and it makes a difference." ■

'We like to think our city is different. But there is a tremendous amount of need here.'

Lars Ho-Tseung,
Tri-Valley Hero

Hero FYI

- ▲ Lars Ho-Tseung is CEO and a partner at his company, Custom Label.
- ▲ He recently added campaign manager to his resume, working hard for Herb Ritter's run for Pleasanton City Council.
- ▲ Ho-Tseung is a private pilot who loves to fly to Catalina Island and Sedona, Ariz.
- ▲ He was a Sunday school teacher when he met his wife, Kristen.
- ▲ Received a 2015 Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award.
- ▲ His son Colin attends Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Arizona where he was chosen as a member of the college's competition flight team. His daughter Lauren is a senior at Amador Valley High School, where she is student body president.

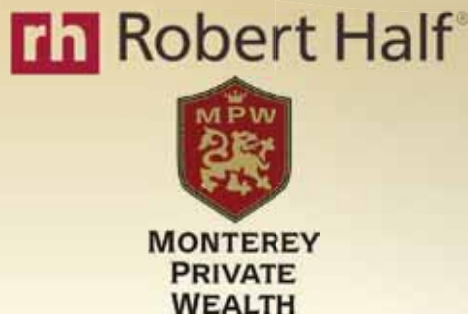


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Sports



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

'Battle of Pleasanton' on gridiron tonight

Foothill travels to Amador with Dons' playoff hopes on the line

When Amador Valley and Foothill meet on the football field, there is no need for added incentive for either team, as this is the game that can define a season.

Over the years, there have been times where the East Bay Athletic League title is up for grabs, there have been times when one school stands on top of the league and the other near the bottom, and there have been times where nothing other than Pleasanton pride was on the line.

It doesn't matter; the game will be hard fought and intense from the start to the finish.

The latest "Battle of Pleasanton" takes place tonight at Amador Valley High School. Kickoff is 7 p.m.

Entering the game at 3-4 in EBAL play, the Dons need a win to finish 4-4 and be eligible for the North Coast Section playoffs. A loss and their season is over.

Foothill, coming off a 24-7 win over Livermore on last week, stands 5-2 in EBAL play and 5-4 overall, having secured an NCS berth.

Both teams have suffered through injuries, but Amador did have a bye last week.

"It was great to be able to give all the nicks from the season some rest," Amador coach Danny Jones said. "And it gave us an extra week to get ready for Foothill."

For Jones, who graduated from Amador and has spent some seasons as an assistant coach for the Dons, this is his first time as the head man for the big game. He is certainly feeling the emotion of the moment.

"I've had to remind the players the first team that settles into the game will win," Jones said. "It has settled me somewhat, but last week I was sitting up until 4 a.m. writing



MIKE SHAFFER

Amador Valley's Ndem Okoro (No. 6) needs to have a big game for the Dons against Foothill this week.

Water polo

stuff out on the white board. I've got to get some more sleep this week."

It also is the first time for Jones to butt heads with Foothill coach Matt Sweeney, an institution, not only in Pleasanton but throughout Northern California.

"I have always looked up to him," Jones said of Sweeney. "It is a humbling experience and cool at the same time to coach against him."

After losing all but one of their skill players from last year's undefeated regular season championship squad, the Falcons started this season 0-3 but have since rebounded nicely. However, Sweeney knows better than anyone, what's happened through the season means little here.

"It's always a tough game," Sweeney said. "(Amador) is going to show up ready to go. It's always a good old fashioned battle."

The Foothill boys varsity team pulled off a thrilling 9-8 victory over cross-town rival Amador Valley on Oct. 27.

Foothill controlled most of the first half, ending halftime with a 3-1 lead, but Amador battled back, first tying it up, then taking a 6-5 lead in the third. The teams fought back and forth in the final period, with Amador taking leads of 7-5 and 8-6 before Foothill rallied.

The Falcons fought back as Dylan Pottgieser scored the goal that made it 8-8. As time was winding down, Matthew Dotson scored the game winner.

Aaron Li had four goals and one assist to lead the way. Pottgieser (three goals) and Dotson (two) closed the scoring. Harrison Carter had 13 saves in the goal.

Senior Fabio Salvioni led the defense, with Matthew Kim and Jordan Nagra also playing well.

The Amador girls varsity found success, with an 11-3 win over Foothill last week.

After a scoreless first quarter, the Dons found the back of the net twice in the second period and took a 2-0 lead into the half. The second half saw the Dons continue to control the game, outscoring Foothill 9-3 for the final margin.

Amador got goals from Mia Battilega (five), Alyssa Bergmann (four), Lauren Coching (one) and Talia Florio (one). Goalie Miara Pipe had 14 saves. ■

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.



KARI DUKLETH

Foothill's Jake Simons takes the handoff from Ben Wooldridge in the Falcons' win over Livermore last week.

Hope 100 Golf Marathon

By JEREMY WALSH

Nineteen golfers gathered to help raise more than \$64,000 for Hope Hospice by playing 100 holes in one day at Castlewood Country Club to honor the memory of late Castlewood golf professional Piper Wagner.

The format of last month's Hope 100 Golf Marathon was designed to be strenuous for the players, symbolizing the challenges patients and families face at the end of life, according to Hope Hospice officials.

"Our hats go off to these individuals and groups who took on the fundraising challenge," Hope Hospice CEO Bob Boehm said in a statement. "Because we are a non-profit agency, funds raised through donations go right back into the community in the form of hospice care and individualized services."

The annual golf marathon, which was held for the first time last year, remembers former Castlewood pro

Wagner, who died in August 2014 at age 45 following a battle with lung cancer. She received care from Hope Hospice before her death.

"We are thrilled and gratified by the success of this golf marathon," said Kathleen Berriatua, Hope Hospice board member and event chair. "We rely on the support of individuals, groups, businesses and corporate leaders to help us continue working with hundreds of families in need."

The net proceeds from the Hope 100 Golf Marathon will help Hope Hospice provide the compassionate, high-quality care necessary for hundreds of patients and their families throughout the year, according to nonprofit officials.

Visit Hope100GolfMarathon.com to learn more about the players, their stories, their fundraising achievements, sponsor recognition and other event information. ■

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VOTE TUESDAY

CITY, SCHOOL BOARD RACES LEAD LOCAL BALLOTING

BY JEB BING

On Pleasanton ballots in next Tuesday's General Election are candidates for president, the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, State Senate and Assembly, Pleasanton school board, Pleasanton's mayoral post and City Council.

Voters are also being asked to vote on Measure MM, a zoning document that could allow Costco to build a store here, as well as on a \$270 million Pleasanton school bond measure, another one seeking \$3.5 billion for BART and one asking voters to approve a \$580 million Alameda County affordable housing bond measure. There also are 17 state propositions on the ballot, led by Proposition 51, a \$9 billion general obligation bond initiative for schools statewide.

As mind-boggling as some of these choices are, voting for local candidates offers more easily-understood, clear-cut choices.

PLEASANTON MUNICIPAL ELECTION

In the municipal election this year, two candidates are seeking election as mayor: incumbent Mayor Jerry Thorne and challenger Julie Testa. Three are seeking election to one of two open seats on the City Council: incumbents Karla Brown and Jerry Pentin and Planning Commission chairman Herb Ritter.

Jerry Thorne is seeking re-election to a third two-year term as mayor, a post that limits office holders to eight full years. Before his election as mayor, he was a councilman for seven years and a Parks and Recreation Commission member for 10 years, for a total of 21 years of service.

His stated accomplishments include a reduction in future pension liabilities by 13%, the elimination of a long-term golf course debt and the completion and opening last weekend of a \$16.5 million expansion of Bernal Community Park with lighted sports fields and a woodland of trees, pathways and open space.

He advocates local control of local issues, particularly land-use, implementing a comprehensive Library/Civic Center Master Plan, working with Zone 7 Water Agency to create a sufficient water infrastructure and more water resour-

es. He is endorsed by all Tri-Valley mayors as well as Pleasanton's congressman, state senator, state assemblywoman, both regional county supervisors and more than 70 current and former elected and appointed officials from around the area.

Julie Testa is challenging Thorne in the mayoral election. Calling herself a "slow growth" candidate, she favors a "thoughtful approach" to growth in Pleasanton — one that considers impacts on schools, traffic, water and quality of life. A resident of Pleasanton for 30 years, she served as a Pleasanton city commissioner for 11 years and has participated on numerous committees and task forces for both the city of Pleasanton and Pleasanton school district.

She wants Pleasanton to slow down and return to responsible planning, adding that the current City Council continues to approve new projects not required to meet any housing mandate. She said that with housing mandates finished, additional development is not required through 2022. She supports building a new library and reducing the city's unfunded pension liabilities.

Karla Brown is seeking re-election to a second four-year term on the City Council. She wants to continue to be the voice of "slow and smart growth policies," arguing that schools and roads are overcrowded. She also favors adding more recycled water for irrigation, building a larger library and protecting open spaces and ridgelines.

During her first four years on the council, she has been a leader in preserving historic homes, reducing pension debt, prohibiting smoking in parks, and adding 10 miles of recycled water pipe, a dog park and a veterans memorial at Pioneer Cemetery.

Jerry Pentin also is seeking re-election to a second four-year term on the council. He currently serves on 17 local, regional and state committees and boards. Prior to serving on the council, he spent nearly 20 years on many city task forces and as an appointed commissioner to the Planning Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission, where he served terms as chairman on both.

On the council, he evaluated complex issues such as pension reform, affordable housing and traffic, working with residents, city staff and agencies to come up with solutions. He supports the Civic Cen-



Candidates for election to Pleasanton City Council are (front row, from left) Councilman Jerry Pentin, Councilwoman Karla Brown and Planning Commission chair Herb Ritter. Standing in the back are mayoral candidates Julie Testa and Mayor Jerry Thorne.

MIKE SEDLAK

ter/Library Master Plan, Downtown Specific Plan Update and resuming the East Side planning work. He also wants to implement the wireless water-metering system, complete the two tennis courts at the Tennis Park and continue expanding the city's use of recycled water.

Herb Ritter, currently chairman of the Pleasanton Planning Commission, is a candidate for City Council. A senior sales executive for a global company with an office in Pleasanton, his civic involvement began when he was appointed to the Parks and Recreation

Commission, where he served as chairman and focused on protecting open spaces and completed three new parks and the Firehouse Arts Center.

As a councilman, Ritter said he would continue advocating for the economic, educational and envi-

ronmental issues impacting residents. He is a member of Pleasanton North Rotary, where he served as its president, and was a founder of the Pleasanton North Rotary Charitable Foundation. He is also on the boards of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation. He also represented Foothill High School Boosters in funding a new stadium scoreboard for Foothill Athletics.

PLEASANTON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

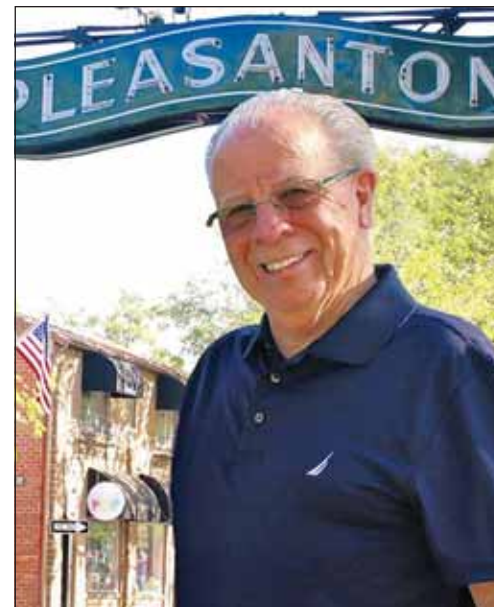
Three seats are available on the Pleasanton school board with four candidates vying for election. They are incumbents Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke, with two challengers: retired Hart Middle School principal Steve Maher and Kathleen Ruegsegger, a former school board member and retired executive assistant to Pleasanton and Palo Alto school superintendents.

Valerie Arkin has served for the last eight years on the school board where she is known as a thorough, detail-oriented, fair and independent thinker. Facilities and technology are her priorities, where she has worked to update and modernize facilities, adding technology to promote 21st-century learning. She favors building a new elementary school to help relieve overcrowding.

She is a delegate to the California School Boards Association and an advocate of special education programs. She has served eight years on the Pleasanton Library Commission and is a Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council board member. Passionate about youth and education, she is seeking re-election to continue ensuring that all students graduate with the skills they need to succeed in a global economy and prepared to be socially responsible adults.

Jamie Hintzke is also seeking re-election to the school board. As a board member for the past eight years, she has established a record of strong involvement, working to ensure the best possible education for students. She plans to continue to ask the tough questions and ensure greater district transparency as a steward of the district's limited resources.

One of her key accomplishments has been to change the process of how the district's audit firm is selected. The district now contracts with a new group of law firms with improved oversight, reducing its legal fees. Currently president of the school board, she has ruled that board agenda items must be agendaized at least twice before the board will take action. At her urging, the addition of student board members



serves as a constant reminder for the board to keep students at the center of every decision.

Steve Maher, a retired Hart Middle School principal, also is seeking election to the school board. He has 40-plus years of experience as a teacher and principal, all in the Pleasanton school district. He wants to stop the revolving door of principals, staff and district office personnel. He also wants the school board to make more of a concerted effort to help under-served students become more successful. He adds that the board must be fiscally responsible and transparent about all decisions.

Vowing to upgrade the district's infrastructure, Maher said he will seek creative funding to improve technology and encourage staff to help teachers better prepare for 21st-century learning. Maher added that he would welcome and consider ideas to improve the district's schools, pledged to be transparent and to continue his long history of actively communicating and collaborating with all stakeholders through outreach, public forums and school-site visits.

Kathleen Ruegsegger is seeking election again to the Pleasanton school board, where she served during 1990-93. She has 19 years' experience working with multiple superintendents and nearly two dozen board members with diverse perspectives and priorities in both the Pleasanton and Palo Alto school districts. She said that while parents can be proud of the creative and energetic students here, this is a pivotal moment for voters to evaluate and consider what direction the district should take to reach the next level of excellence.

As a school board member, she would encourage the district's new leaders to be "mindful caretakers" of a tight budget, communicate more effectively with the entire community and work more collaboratively with city leadership. She would seek to provide opportunities 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 the district is committed to serving. ■

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Candidates for the Pleasanton school board are (clockwise, from top left) incumbents Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke, retired Hart Middle School principal Steve Maher and former board member Kathleen Ruegsegger. Three school board seats are up for grabs this election.



PLEASANTON WEEKLY ENDORSEMENTS

Here again are the Pleasanton Weekly editorial board's recommendations.

- Mayor of Pleasanton: Jerry Thorne
- Pleasanton City Council: Karla Brown, Jerry Pentin
- Pleasanton School Board: Valerie Arkin, Jamie Hintzke, Kathleen Ruegsegger
- Congress (15th California District): Eric Swalwell
- 7th State Senate District: Steve Glazer
- 16th State Assembly District: Catharine Baker
- BART Board of Directors, District 5: Jennifer Hosterman
- Measure MM: Vote No
- Measure II (\$270 million Pleasanton school bond): Vote Yes
- Measure A1 (\$580 million Alameda County affordable housing bond): Vote Yes
- Measure RR (\$3.5 billion BART bond): Vote No

Opinion

LETTERS

Elect Herb Ritter to the Pleasanton City Council

Dear Editor,

I feel very fortunate for the experience of having lived and worked in Pleasanton for 33 years. During all of that time, I have been a keen observer of the political establishment in town and I am grateful for the quality of our appointed and elected officials over these many years.

The community has a great opportunity this year to continue that legacy by electing an outstanding individual to our City Council. Longtime community activist and volunteer Herb Ritter is running for our City Council. From my observation, he is just the type of individual that we need to lead our community into the future.

He has a very pleasant, upbeat personality combined with strong analytical skills and a true passion to improve our community. He is well-prepared to step into a leadership role on our city council.

He is what I would describe as a serial volunteer. A partial list of his volunteer activities are: Foothill High Boosters, ValleyCare Charitable Foundation Board, Pleasanton

Trails Ad Hoc Committee, Boy Scouts of America, Indian Princesses, and many others.

In preparation for a term on the City Council, he served on the Pleasanton Parks and Recreation Commission and is currently serving on the Planning Commission. Herb is the right person for the job. I hope you agree and join me in voting for Herb Ritter on Nov. 8.

—Mark O. Sweeney

Maher would be a great addition

Steve Maher was my principal seven years ago, and I can still say with confidence that he had one of the biggest impacts on me growing up, both personally and in terms of my education.

He treated me, a 12-year-old socially inadequate slacker, with the respect of a fellow adult. Not only did he set a bar for treating others with respect, but he also was very willing to work with me on improving my school experience.

He is level-headed, passionate about education and the kids he is tasked with, as well as a great spokesman and tireless worker. There is no doubt in my mind that Steve Maher would be a great ad-

dition to any school board, and I believe we owe it not just to him, but to Pleasanton's future students, to elect him onto the Pleasanton school board.

—Egor Iakovlev

Choice is clear with Cook-Kallio

With the presidential race dominating headlines, it's sometimes easy to forget there are important local races. In our own backyard, there's an important race that will decide who represents our district and our values in Sacramento. The choice between the two candidates is clear.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Democratic candidate Cheryl Cook-Kallio for many years. I appreciate how she tackles problems. I've seen her fight for vital funding for women's healthcare during the Great Recession and work to improve local infrastructure to reduce traffic congestion.

We share a passion for public education. As a former public school teacher, Cheryl understands our education system and will be a tireless advocate for all children. She's the only candidate in this race who supports Proposition 55, which reduces taxes on the middle class and prevents devastating cuts to local schools.

When Gov. Jerry Brown endorsed Cheryl, he called her an "unwavering champion" on issues like women's healthcare and fighting climate change. That's also why Cheryl's been endorsed by every leading advocacy organization, including Planned Parenthood and the California League of Conservation Voters.

I had the honor to represent our district in the State Assembly. I know what it takes to be successful and get things done in Sacramento. Cheryl Cook-Kallio is the right choice for our district and is the leader we need representing us on important issues. On Nov. 8, I hope you join me in voting for Cheryl for State Assembly.

—Joan Buchanan,
Former Assembly member

Vote for slow growth

Pleasanton voters — please don't complain about traffic, overcrowded schools, water restrictions, degradation of our quality-of-life and the historic downtown, etc. when you elect (re-elect) the government officials responsible for these problems.

Do not vote for Jerry Thorne, Jerry Pentin and Herb Ritter. These are not slow-growth candidates, but rather they represent the excessive growth of the Chamber of Commerce and rewarding developers with millions of dollars while we, the residents, take on the additional traffic.

Please vote for Julie Testa for mayor (the city went to court and spent taxpayer money to block her ballot statement), re-elect Karla Brown for City Council (Karla consistently is the lone vote on the City Council for opposing greedy growth), vote Yes on MM (to stop the huge subsidies/giveaway of taxpayer money to get Costco to come

Correction to 'Costco and the Mayor' editorial

A July 29, 2016 editorial, "Costco and the Mayor" concerning Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne's voluntary recusal on City Council actions involving Costco and Johnson Drive referenced "a task force he appointed."

The "task force" actually referred to the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone (JDEDZ), which isn't a task force or a committee, but a proposed zoning amendment that was halted when Measure MM was put on the ballot.

Mayor Thorne did not go outside his purview and appoint a task force, alone or as part of the City Council. There is no task force related to the JDEDZ. We regret the error. ■

to town). You can just imagine what traffic on Johnson Drive, Owens and Hopyard will look like — a true nightmare.

The pope says, "Apathy is a sin." You can help with the campaigns of Julia Testa, Karla Brown, Valerie Arkin and Yes on MM by helping at the Farmers Market, sign-waving at major intersections, writing letters-to-the-editor, making donations to slow-growth candidates and placing signs in your yards and cars.

—David Pascualy

Julie understands

If you are a Pleasanton resident who is concerned about the recent splurge in high-density housing in town, the outrageous traffic and the crowded schools, you should be thinking very carefully about whom we elect for mayor this November.

Julie Testa is the only choice that makes sense. Julie has fought for 30 years to make Pleasanton a better place to live while Jerry Thorne has spent the last eight years in office proudly bringing us to this unfortunate situation.

Julie's experience with city commissions, her regular attendance at City Council meetings and her incredible attention to detail have given her a set of skills that will be invaluable in keeping what's left of our fair city intact. Julie understands that allowing more housing without adequate thought to school space, water resources or traffic impacts is exactly what we don't need to preserve the Pleasanton we love.

If you remain unconvinced, do yourself a favor and take a drive through Hacienda Business Park and look at all the new featureless high-density apartments going up. Pay particular attention to the one lane on Owens Drive in front of the BART station. Jerry Thorne let that happen. Vote Julie Testa on Nov. 8.

—Laura Danielson

We need Measure 11

As a longtime resident and member of our business community here in Pleasanton and chair of the board of the regional organization, Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group, I

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THE CITY OF

PLEASANTON

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

• Vesting Tentative Map Tract 8352, GHC Lund Ranch, LLC

Application for a Vesting Tentative Tract Map to subdivide an approximately 194.7-acre property at 1500 Lund Ranch Road into 46 lots for 43 single-family homes (approved under PUD-25) and three lots to be dedicated to the City of Pleasanton for permanent open space.

Civic Arts Commission

Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Preliminary Review and Comment on the Draft Civic Center/Library Master Plan
- Approve Funding Criteria for FY 2017/18 Community Grant Program – Civic Arts Category
- Review One (1) Design Proposed for "Project Paint Box"
- Approve the Donation and Location of the Public Artwork, "American Dog" at Cubby's Dog Park

Library Commission

Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 7:00 PM
Library Conference Room, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

- Strategic Planning Update
- Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) update and progress report on project
- Civic Center Master Plan update
- Pleasanton Library's 28th Birthday celebration, review of history presentation, scavenger hunt and marketing

Parks and Recreation Commission and Youth Commission Meetings

- Please visit our website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov to view information for these meetings.

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

recognize the importance of investing in our local schools. That is why I am encouraging a Yes vote for Measure 11.

Outstanding schools are essential to maintaining a vibrant community. We depend on local schools to provide a strong academic foundation that trains students in science, math and technology, preparing them for future careers and in-demand fields. Many graduates go on to college and work right here in our community.

It is likely that California will pass Proposition 51 on Nov. 8. If Pleasanton doesn't pass 11, we will be taxed to fund Prop 51 and none of that money will be returned to our community for improvement to schools in Pleasanton. This is a compelling argument for a Yes vote, but not the only driver for my recommendation.

Pleasanton has fallen woefully behind in its school funding and our infrastructure is suffering. Without 11, our school facilities will fall further into disrepair and the resulting negative impact on property values — our home values — will erode the tax base and provide lower funding amounts to schools, a very unvirtuous cycle that may not be reversible.

I am a strong proponent of our schools and Measure 11, and I hope you join me in voting Yes on 11 this November.

—John Sensiba

Brown represents slow growth

Why is Pleasanton great? Because of the work and planning of city leaders 20 years ago. What are current city leaders going to leave for Pleasanton in the next 20 years?

Traffic gridlock? No room for new schools or churches due to rezoning? Water and infrastructure problems?

Instead, Pleasanton needs to slow growth. We need to change our leadership culture and encourage independent thinkers who put the best interest of their constituents at heart.

I encourage city leaders and the Chamber of Commerce to get in their cars in the mornings and try to get onto 680 southbound from First Street. Sit in the gridlock. Experience how it feels everyday.

"Group think," "Good 'ol boys," and "I'll scratch your back if you scratch mine" have infiltrated Pleasanton City Council, Chamber of Commerce and The Weekly newspaper. A majority of residents don't know that their best interest and that of future generations is not the utmost consideration by City Council and city planners, but rather what best benefits themselves and their buddies.

We need leaders like those that made Pleasanton the well planned charming city that it has been. Listen to the constituents. Stop continued growth.

There is only one choice for slow growth, Karla Brown.

—Debbie Ayres

Ritter, Pentin are my choices for City Council

Our neighborhood was very involved with the Pleasanton City Council and Planning Commission during the recent Lund Ranch II development approval. There were plans and agreements dating back to

City Council decisions in 1991, with the approval of the Bonde Ranch, on how Lund Ranch II would affect traffic in our area.

All three candidates running for City Council this November were involved in the process. I support those who showed me honesty, integrity and respect for past City Councils' decisions and our Specific and General plans.

I believe Herb Ritter and Jerry Pentin best represented all of Pleasanton, with sincere motivation to improve our community, and listened to residents without hidden agendas.

As a Pleasanton resident since 1982, I want City Council representatives who strive to do what's best for our community and neighborhoods for the betterment of all in Pleasanton — that is why I will be voting Jerry Pentin and Herb Ritter for Pleasanton City Council.

—Amy Lofland

Yes on 11, Arkin, Hintzke and Ruegsegger

When deciding whether to bring 11 to the public, your school board considered many things. We unanimously agreed our schools badly need the capital improvements, but we worried about the financial impacts to residents.

What convinced me, though, was the reality that Pleasanton residents currently pay the least, by far, to support their schools (\$25/\$100K assessed home value) vs. any other district in Alameda County (average \$120/\$100K assessed home value). Even with 11, we will be near the bottom.

I think most Pleasantonians agree we should be best in class, not worst in class. So I urge you to support 11.

I also urge your vote for our two incumbent board members in this election, Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke. Working with them these past two years has convinced me of their dedication to your students, their unique capabilities, their integrity and their pursuit of excellence.

I'd finally like to urge your vote for Kathleen Ruegsegger as the final board candidate. While Mr. Maher is certainly well qualified, I feel he's too closely tied to historical PUSD, and I'd prefer Kathleen's "Dream Bigger" vision for our district in this time of profound change.

—Mark R. Miller, Pleasanton school board member

Re-elect Jerry Pentin

Jerry Pentin has provided steady leadership for Pleasanton during his time on the City Council.

He is a small businessman and that perspective is always needed from elected officials. Jerry realizes that a strong business community pays the bills for all the parks, police and fire and services in the community.

He has been endorsed by the Pleasanton Chamber and other business leaders. Keep Pleasanton going in the right direction; vote for Jerry Pentin on Nov. 8.

—Fred and Dorothy Houston

Re-elect Karla Brown

On behalf of myself and my Ironwood neighbors who attended many City Council meetings and watched as city leaders conduct meetings favoring development of the East Pleasanton Specific Plan:

We must not forget that since

December 2014, Karla Brown was the only council member who voted to halt planning for thousands of new houses between Pleasanton and Livermore. Only Karla Brown stood up to the developers who put profit over drought, profit over negative environmental impacts that had no mitigation alternatives, profit over congested traffic and long commutes to work, and profit ahead of overcrowded schools.

Karla Brown is the only candidate who has not accepted campaign contributions from these same developers. Only Karla Brown will continue to represent us and ensure slow and smart growth policies and continue to fight against massive development in the East Pleasanton Specific Plan.

Only Karla Brown has been endorsed by all three newspapers: East Bay Times, The Independent and Pleasanton Weekly. Vote for a representative that has proven she will listen to residents in east Pleasanton, vote to re-elect Karla Brown.

—Carol Cohen

Where have the school fees gone? Say No to 11

I'm writing as a concerned resident of Pleasanton who wants to know where have all the developer impact fees that are assessed and collected by the Pleasanton Unified School District gone?

The PUSD negotiates school fees and collects those fees for new developments in Pleasanton, not the city of Pleasanton. It was the PUSD who told the city there would be no impact on schools from all of the new developments in Pleasanton. Now the PUSD is telling residents they need more money and even money to build a new school. What happened to no impact?

These are the new developments in Pleasanton, not counting single-family homes: Township Square (210 apartments, 97 row houses), The Vintage (345 apartments), Anton Hacienda (168 apartments), Essex I (251 apartments), Essex II (247 apartments) and Kottinger Gardens 185 apartments).

Developers paid school fees to PUSD before they could receive building permits for each of these developments. We need to hold PUSD accountable for the fees they have already collected before giving them more money.

Did PUSD pay a company to survey residents of Pleasanton to see if they would be willing to support a bond measure, and when the residents said they would, did the PUSD ask for more money by initiating Measure 11? Is the PUSD collecting enough fees rather than asking the residents of Pleasanton to pick up the tab?

—Marv Hodges

Enthusiastic endorsement of Maher

Beyond a doubt, Steve Maher is the most qualified person to run for the Pleasanton school board position. As a teacher, principal, administrator and businessman, Steve has done it all.

In all he does, Steve exemplifies honesty, fairness and thoughtfulness.

As a parent and active participant in my kids' schools, I am concerned with the amount of personnel changes in our district. For

example, principal changes required a "transition" time for the community (e.g., teachers, staff, children, parents) to adjust to the new leader's style, vision and mission for the school.

There also is a lack of accountability for previous decisions and sometimes an inconsistency in rules and practices. I have personally talked to Steve and am encouraged to hear his plan to end the revolving door of principals and staff throughout the district. I support offering growth opportunities to leaders that master their position, but this is not what is happening in our district.

After "retirement" from the district, Steve has been consistently called back to stand in for open positions in our district. Clearly he is valued in our community and has a commitment to our children. I am excited to see the impact of his leadership and years of experience utilized in such an important position.

With proud enthusiasm, I support Steve Maher for the Pleasanton school board.

—Marcey Donnelly

Elect Ritter to council

This November I encourage you to elect Herb Ritter to our City Council. As a fellow planning commissioner, I've seen first-hand his endless passion for our city and its residents.

He feels strongly about our parks, environment, schools and our economic vitality. He has a decade of city experience to carefully manage and make choices that will balance

both short- and long-term impacts. Herb will always listen to residents and staff without a pre-set agenda and would be a wise investment in leadership for our city.

—Justin Brown

Infrastructure can't support more development

Have you traveled east on Owens drive from Hopyard Road lately? As you pass Willow Road, the right lane ends and you are forced to use one lane for one block to Iron Horse Trail to accommodate a new structure on the south side of the street. It is clear this was done to provide parking for future retail business.


This is the same traffic light that feeds the exit for the BART train station. Who in their right mind would have agreed to this design as a way to address the ever increasing traffic congestion in Pleasanton?

As we enter this year's election cycle, we hear all of the candidates preach about slow growth and addressing the increased traffic flow in the city. Yet we have over 90 units under construction near Hart Middle School along with the mess underway at the intersection of Bernal and Valley avenues.

I have been a 23-year resident of Pleasanton. It was a great place to raise our children. We always felt the city and its elected officials had a sound plan in place unlike the scene over the highway in Dublin.

I understand the tax benefit in property development, but at some point you have to realize the

See **LETTERS** on Page 20



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LETTERS

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infrastructure cannot support the expansion. Now if you plan to do any errands in town on the weekend, the rule is go early or stay home.

—Richard Lysaght

Re-elect Mayor Jerry Thorne

Jerry Thorne's hard work has benefited Pleasanton in so many ways — fiscal responsibility, vigorous support of Pleasanton schools and senior housing.

Jerry's ability to reason through challenging issues and make his decision based on what is best for Pleasanton is his greatest strength.

Jerry has earned my respect and support for re-election.

—Frank Berlogar

Ruegsegger, Maher for school board

This election offers Pleasanton an opportunity to elect a board trustee with extensive experience as a parent, former board member, and an administrative assistant for Pleasanton and Palo Alto school districts. Knowing all of the functions of a school district is a tremendous asset for evaluating programs in conjunction with student needs.

In addition, she knows how to work with parents and colleagues for the best student and district outcomes. We have the opportunity to vote for a truly qualified candidate. Vote for Kathy Ruegsegger.

I have worked with Steve Maher

directly for about 16 years as a parent, parent club president and school board member of Pleasanton Unified. Through all of these different roles, I found that Steve always viewed every issue with the student's best interest as the top priority.

Schools are always presented with complex issues that require knowledge and thoughtful decisions. With his extensive background, he knows how to make the system work and how to set priorities.

Steve is a parent, and was a teacher, vice principal and principal at many schools in Pleasanton. Whenever a school needed a knowledgeable and skilled leader, he was sent to that school. We are fortunate, in this election, to be able to have the ability to vote for an extraordinary candidate. Please join me in voting for Steve Maher for the Pleasanton school board.

—Chuck Eddinger,

Former PUSD school board member

Vote for Dad!

I am writing to recommend that the voters of Pleasanton vote to re-elect Jerry Pentin for Council. I might have a biased view here as I happen to be Jerry's daughter, but it goes without saying he is the person for the seat.

Throughout my whole life Jerry has been giving back to our community. From a young age, he taught me that service-over-self is a better life and giving back to the community — and for that matter the world — should always be a priority.

He has been a member of the

Callippe Golf Course Committee, Parks and Rec Commission, Planning Commission, a number of sub-committees, and the last four years he has served on the City Council. He has a strong passion to learn about important issues and then make informed decisions — and he never takes a shortcut to learn the material.

At the end of the day, he is informed, he is educated on the issues, he has integrity, grit, and most of all he loves serving you and his beautiful city that I will always call home.

Vote for Dad.

—Joi Pentin

Why I'm voting Julie Testa for mayor

Pleasanton has approved 1,200 units beyond that required by the state lawsuit settlement. We are done meeting those requirements until at least 2022. We cannot continue this rampant approval of new housing developments without considering the inadequacies of our current infrastructure.

Our city streets are backed up with residential and cut-through traffic, and we now have a new traffic problem in front of the BART station because of a decrease in lanes in favor of a new mixed-use housing development.

California's drought could last forever and our water rates are about to be increased. When new residents move into these new housing developments, where are they going to get water?

Every Pleasanton school is beyond its designed capacity by an average of nearly 20%. This puts K-8 students at a huge disadvantage. Our high schools are nearly 30% beyond capacity. We need more schools now just to provide a good education for our current population of students.

Pleasanton can use a new and larger library, but throwing a big new "Civic Center", city offices and a new police department into the same project at a cost of \$100 million to \$200 million, is irresponsible. Build a new library, and maybe build the rest when we have the money.

I am voting for Julie Testa for mayor of Pleasanton so we can slow down the pace of building new developments and get caught up with our existing infrastructure needs.

—Jeff Safire

Support Catharine Baker

We are so fortunate to have Catharine Baker representing us from Assembly District 16, in the California Legislature. She is one of the most dedicated public servants I have seen in decades. We need to keep her.

Interested in education, she is vice chair of the Higher Education Committee. She also serves on Transportation, Business & Professions, Privacy & Consumer Protection and the Joint Legislative Audit. Never idle, she sits in on other committees as well, to help with constituent issues.

Catharine has been amazing in her first two years. She is the only Republican freshman As-

sembly member to have nine bills passed with bipartisan support, and signed by Gov. Brown. Catharine's re-election is needed to prevent a veto-proof legislature, meaning a Democrat majority could overrule a governor's veto. Dangerous. Balanced, bi-partisan representation is essential for good government.

CTA and BART Unions are bank-rolling Cook-Kallio. Unions want her in Sacramento to do their bidding ... not taxpayers.

Catharine has wide-ranging endorsements, i.e. San Francisco Chronicle, East Bay Times, Pleasanton Weekly and Livermore Independent. Usually, most newspapers interview candidates before endorsing. Opponent Cook-Kallio refused to be interviewed by the Times. Without the press, how would she communicate with us, her constituents? Is she hiding something?

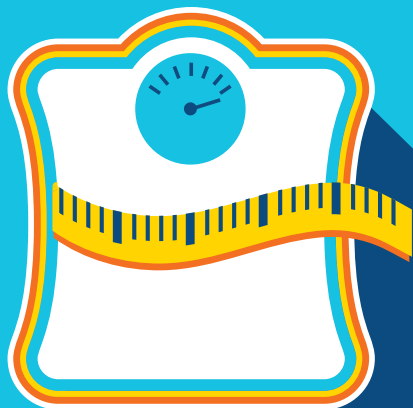
All local mayoral endorsements are for Catharine. Most East Bay mayors, sheriffs, DAs and council members have endorsed her. She makes lives better with sensible, bipartisan legislation. It helps them, help us.

Every vote matters. Please cast your vote to keep Assemblywoman Catharine Baker.

—Judy Symcox

Support the library: Vote for Karla

Pleasanton is lucky to have a vibrant public library that recognizes its growing role as a community hub. Beyond the traditional functions of lending books and providing a quiet space to read or study,



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our library offers a diverse array of programs for children, teens and adults. These programs are popular, but more importantly they fill community needs.

Karla Brown is a strong supporter of this local gem, recognizing the value it brings to our city. She has my vote on Nov. 8.

—Anne Childs

From a mom in Pleasanton

We are a Chinese-American immigrant family. Education has No. 1 priority in our family. We enrolled our children in the Pleasanton Unified School District because of its reputation for strong academic programs and excellent teachers. Our schools help students achieve results, and test scores are among the top in the state.

It took all our resources to find our home in Pleasanton. I want to do everything I can to maintain the quality education provided for local students.

That's why it is critical that we pass Measure 11. Even though our schools are doing well, the fact remains that classrooms are old and science labs are in serious need of repair. Educational standards are rapidly changing in the 21st century, and we need our schools — and our students — to remain competitive.

I have personally dedicated my weekends and time to helping talk to my neighbors about Measure 11, as it is so important for our community. Please vote Yes on 11.

—Sylvia Tian

Recommend Jerry Pentin

We have a chance to make a choice of who we want to represent us in Pleasanton as our City Council members. I am endorsing and recommending a vote to re-elect Jerry Pentin.

Why am I voting for Jerry Pentin? So many in Pleasanton are upset about the housing being built, unaware this building is the result of a lawsuit by the state of California. Previous city councils' no-growth policies were illegal according to the state.

Jerry Pentin has worked hard to make lemonade out of lemons with the state-imposed housing requirements. He has recommended reductions in the number of houses and made sure there are benefits with developments for the community such as senior and special needs housing.

Soon we will reach the required number of houses mandated by the state. We must recognize that just because we meet the requirement doesn't mean that the state will let us off the hook for future housing. I want a City Council member who continues to address and plan for future requirements from the state. That City Council member is Jerry Pentin.

Another council member up for re-election has stated that she doesn't support planning for future developments until required by the state in 2022. Why not plan and zone properly now; doesn't mean we build now, but zoning and planning is necessary to ensure we will continue to have a well-planned city.

I encourage you to vote to re-elect Jerry Pentin.

—Vicki LaBarge

Wake up, Pleasanton!

Our city is not getting better by closing our eyes and letting the decisions be made by a council in the camp of developers. We are being forced to accept a bad deal with Costco and huge traffic problems on top of the existing congestion and overcrowded parking downtown. Rezoning areas to make room for housing and big-box retail is not the answer for our future.

Every voter must think twice about re-electing anyone on the City Council who promotes building for its own sake and to appease developers. And in case you missed it, our water supply is not expanding. Where will the additional housing and retail get its water? From the overdrawn aquifer we have already begun to contaminate with treated sewage? The only answer is to limit ourselves from excessive building and face the facts: We have exceeded our infrastructure (roads, parking, schools, water).

For a fresh approach to a sustainable Pleasanton vote for Julie Testa for mayor. She's got the right idea about measured and appropriate growth.

—Paulette Salisbury

Endorse Jerry Pentin for City Council

I've seen Jerry's dedication to (1) building quality parks, (2) partnering with schools and the biking community, and (3) understanding the issues. For over 20 years, I've known Jerry and each year he gets more and more involved in our community and our city.

I have seen how he championed the upgrade of many of our community parks to make Pleasanton a wonderful place to raise a family. As a parent with two boys, these parks offer a safe and fun place to expend some energy, meet up with friends or get some exercise.

And as an avid cyclist, I appreciate his desire to make Pleasanton a safer place to ride a bicycle. He studies what other cycling-friendly countries are doing in an effort to understand how Pleasanton can move in that direction while also balancing out the needs of drivers.

Lastly, Jerry is well-versed on the issues. As a member of City Council or any political office, one must make difficult decisions that won't meet everyone's needs. What has impressed me with Jerry Pentin is how he works to learn the different sides of an issue before making his decision. And when he makes a decision, I have always felt it was in the best long-term interest of Pleasanton residents.

I strongly stand behind re-electing Jerry Pentin for another four years to Pleasanton City Council.

—Bryan Gillette

Mr. Maher for school board

Mr. Maher was principal for my two children during middle school. I was also a Girl Scout leader during that time and so worked with 12 girls and their families attending the same school.

Mr. Maher's evident skill and caring towards students with a wide range of educational needs created an effective and safe learning environment where they blossomed into teenagers who were well-prepared to

tackle the challenges of high school.

I wholeheartedly endorse Mr. Maher for the school board.

—Patricia Ramsay

Arkin for school board

As a Pleasanton parent, my interactions with school board trustee Valerie Arkin have been helpful and her dedication to transparent communication has been evident.

I have had the chance to work with Valerie Arkin during the implementation of the staggered reading program. She immediately responded to parents' requests for forums to understand the change. Amazingly, she remembered and contacted us two years later when staggered reading was on the agenda for review. With that phone call, we were able to get parents involved and move back to a full day of school for third grade.

We will not agree on everything, because these five trustees represent a highly intelligent and diverse community. We elect them to listen to our concerns, bring them up for discussion and keep us informed.

Please join me in supporting Valerie Arkin for our Pleasanton school board.

—Janel Sloan

Council needs Ritter

I have lived in Pleasanton for 24 years. My husband and I have raised two sons here, and we have known Herb Ritter for almost 20 years. I truly value his friendship and admire him as a leader.

I am supporting Herb for Pleasanton City Council for several reasons. Herb has served our city in many capacities for over 25 years and currently he is a planning commissioner. He is a Rotarian and values community service. He does his homework before making any decisions for our city. He is a doer — he says he's going to make something happen, and he does it.

Herb is just what our city council needs.

—Janean Rubino Brumm

Sierra Club supports Brown

We are recommending a vote for Karla Brown to be re-elected to the Pleasanton City Council. Karla is the only candidate for City Council to be endorsed by the Sierra Club's San Francisco Bay Chapter because Karla has been the only one with a proven commitment to protecting and enhancing the quality of the Pleasanton environment.

We agree with the Weekly's endorsement of Karla Brown (on Oct. 14) that acknowledged Karla's careful approach to city growth, her commitment to hillside protection and more use of recycled water for park irrigation, and her alternative viewpoint that provides positive inclusiveness. Karla's endorsement is from her years of demonstrating that she can be counted on and be true to her word and be a voice of reason for the people of Pleasanton.

We urge Pleasanton residents to support Karla Brown for her re-election to the Pleasanton City Council.

—Richard Pugh, Vice chair

No on MM ad true, but misleading

I noted the full page ad for No on MM in the Oct. 28, 2016 Weekly. The statement, "There are \$16 million of improvements ... to reduce traffic impacts" is true, but we learned that will be paid by the city of Pleasanton (getting a loan from Costco). Second "Costco has agreed that no taxes you have paid will go to support their project." However, future sales tax revenue will be used to pay off the loan (plus interest).

I am against the project just because of the huge traffic impact it will have on our major (only) west-side interchange. Now I find that Costco isn't even paying for the traffic mitigation. What a windfall for them if MM fails. I hope folks have read up on this and vote Yes on MM.

—Mick Hanou

Pentin, Ritter for council

Once again, it is election season when Americans get to choose the people they want to represent them and do their business at the local, state and national level. Fortunately, our community is blessed with a lot of great talent seeking our support. Please join me in voting for two exceptional candidates for Pleasanton City Council: Jerry Pentin and Herb Ritter.

Jerry Pentin has been an outstanding council member; he does his homework and makes decisions that are best for all of Pleasanton. Let's re-elect him.

Herb Ritter has worked 10 years on city commissions and has over 20 years business experience. He's well-versed in the critical matters currently before the council and would be a great City Council member.

I've lived in Pleasanton for 40 years. Join me in voting for Jerry Pentin and Herb Ritter and make your preference known.

—Ward Belding

Julie Testa for mayor

Pleasanton is the "City of Planned Growth," but once real-estate interests gain the upper hand politically, that philosophy will be tossed aside as "anti-business." The fact remains that population growth incurs costs that developers will conveniently transfer onto the public in the form of traffic congestion, overcrowded schools, water restrictions, fees and taxes.

The developer fees collected for the latest 1,200 housing units under construction do not begin to cover the ongoing cost of educating such a permanent addition to the PUSD school population, as the fees are only collected once.

Julie Testa is running for mayor to defend our wonderful city against the onslaught of developer pressure to undermine our slow growth

See **LETTERS** on Page 22

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LETTERS

Continued from Page 21

agenda. We are lucky to have in Julie someone who can be firm and unflinching in the face of the relentless “weardown” tactics employed by the developers.

Public support for slow-growth has made this community very unique and desirable, and every voter holds in their hands the choice to keep it that way. In this mayoral race, the choice is clear which candidate will safeguard the slow-growth plan of Pleasanton ... Julie Testa.

—Pierre and Sondra Bierre

Thanks to participating candidates

The PleasantonVoters.com organization thanks all candidates and the audience who attended our “Tri-Valley @ a Crossroads” forum held on Oct. 13 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Our moderator, Juliette Goodrich, a KPIX News anchor, cheerfully and professionally orchestrated the event.

The forum was co-sponsored by “PleasantonVoters.com”, “Dubliners for Change” and the “Friends of Livermore” — citizen groups helping their communities with issues about the urban growth boundaries, proposed large-scale residential projects and the importance of balancing growth with quality of life in the Tri-Valley.

Invitations for the forum were sent to all mayoral and City Council Candidates in the Tri-Valley in

August 2016. It was the goal of the forum organizers to have 100% of the candidates participate.

When it was learned some candidates could not attend due to out-of-town city business, an alternative forum date was planned. We were pleased all of City Council candidates from Livermore and Dublin attended. Our goal is for all Tri-Valley City Council and mayoral candidates to participate in future community forums.

A video of each city’s candidate interviews is available by clicking on the YouTube link on the respective sponsors’ websites.

—Kelly Cousins,
President, PleasantonVoters.com

11 is incredibly important

I value many aspects of our Pleasanton community, and over the years I have been active in many local issues that help to improve our community. One of the things I value most about Pleasanton is our high-quality schools. Our schools excel in part because we have such a supportive and engaged community.

For this reason, Measure 11 is incredibly important. Measure 11 provides the opportunity for our community to invest directly in our schools. Measure 11 requires the local control that we all expect, as it will repair classrooms and improve our schools, with no funding going to salaries or administrators. Measure 11 goes directly to support the classroom and education.

If we want to continue to take pride in our local schools, we must vote Yes on 11 to maintain the qual-

ity education that I know we all value so strongly.

—Viji Manickam

New Costco?

“We need Costco in Pleasanton” ...

Ha, seriously? Just drive five miles down the road. I guess you would rather pay more taxes.

—Scott Myers

Former council member’s endorsements

Pleasanton faces many challenges in the next four years that call for strong leadership on the Pleasanton City Council. That is why I am supporting Jerry Pentin and Herb Ritter for City Council and Jerry Thorne for mayor.

Council member Jerry Pentin provides experience and a history of sound decisions as a council member and representative on several regional boards. His leadership has helped create the Pleasanton we all enjoy: a vibrant downtown, economic vitality, abundant parks and trails, a safe community — a great place to raise a family.

Over many years, Herb Ritter has greatly contributed to community and civic causes. He has and still serves on several nonprofit boards, making a positive impact on Pleasanton’s quality of life. Previously a parks and recreation commissioner, he now chairs the Planning Commission as a voice of reason who makes decisions that can be respected by all. Herb is a competent, likeable, no-nonsense, proven leader who will serve Pleasanton residents

well as a City Council member.

Experience is important in Mayor Thorne’s re-election. As mayor, Jerry represents Pleasanton well locally and regionally. Many state mandates have impacted our city, particularly with traffic. Pleasanton needs Jerry Thorne to continue to serve on regional boards and commissions that address finding solutions to traffic, air quality, housing and to ensure our city and region receive their fair share of federal and state funding.

Join me in voting for Jerry Thorne, Jerry Pentin and Herb Ritter.

—Sharrell Michelotti

Cheryl will fight for women and families

Despite the progress we’ve made in California, there are still many serious issues facing women in our region. During the recession, our state neglected to maintain or invest in the infrastructure to provide adequate childcare options for thousands of mothers. Since 2008, roughly 100,000 slots have been cut from California’s state-sponsored childcare and preschool system, which keeps women out of the workforce.

When women are in the workforce, they often face discriminatory pay practices from their employers, like when employers use past salaries to force women to accept lower wages than equally qualified men. I’m proud of the legislation I sponsored this year, which gives women more bargaining power when negotiating for a new salary.

But there is still a great deal of work left to do on these and many

other issues to improve the lives of women. That’s why it is so important to elect candidates to the State Assembly who will join our fight for equality.

In the 16th Assembly District, Democratic candidate Cheryl Cook-Kallio is clearly the best choice for women. She’s proudly pro-choice and endorsed by both Planned Parenthood and NARAL Pro-Choice California. Cheryl also successfully fought to bring vital healthcare funding to her city that improved the lives of hundreds of families.

After my time in the Assembly, I know leaders like Cheryl will continue fighting for women and families. I hope you vote for Cheryl on Nov. 8.

—Susan Bonilla,
14th District Assembly member

Julie Testa for mayor

I’ve been a Pleasanton resident for 40 years. I have concerns regarding the growth of our downtown area, and Julie Testa is the only candidate that’s talked about the impact the rezoning of the civic center would have on downtown. Not only is the cost astronomical, but the traffic it brings to this already-congested area would wreak havoc.

We don’t need any more three-story housing developments in this area. If we can’t have a parking structure for the ACE Train riders that was promised years ago to be placed on the same property they are now planning on building the new civic center, where on earth are these people going to park?

My streets are filled up because of



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READERS CHOICE 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100

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the ACE train ridership; Pleasanton has allowed our neighborhoods to be turned into expressways. Kids walking to school need to be extra cautious because the cars flying down put them at risk. We have no crosswalks, no flashing lights for the kids to use. I can't even back my car out of our garage safely.

Let's get these cars off our residential streets and put in a parking structure for ACE Train users and others.

—Darlene Philippe

Re-elect Karla Brown

I am voting for Karla Brown for City Council. She is the only council member who advocates for measured and smart growth. With every potential project, she considers the long-term environmental, financial, social and visual impacts.

She consistently has supported preservation of our hillsides and ridges, developing our infrastructure to reduce traffic, expanding the recycled water program for drought protection and limiting the impact of housing on school overcrowding.

She is willing to voice her opinion and support what she believes in even when she is the minority vote on the council. I believe it is critical that our City Council has members who represent the diverse views of Pleasanton residents instead of solely a group of like-thinking individuals. I hope you agree and re-elect Karla Brown to Pleasanton City Council.

—Michele Plunge

Re-elect Arkin, Hintzke

I support Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke for Pleasanton school board.

Valerie and Jamie care about our students. Over and over, they have challenged district leadership (and their fellow board members) to put children's interests first. They have been especially dedicated to ensuring that students who face challenges are rapidly identified and given access to programs that allow them to overcome those challenges.

Valerie and Jamie have always answered my inquiries promptly. While I might not always agree with them, they have always afforded me courtesy, information, direction and support. Valerie and Jamie have encouraged me to be more participatory rather than complaintive.

Through their guidance I've attended more forums, workshops and joined both school and board committees. I've gained a deeper insight into PUSD and more proactive stance with their efforts and education. I know that Valerie and Jamie are in it (Board of Trustees) for our children. For that, they have my support.

Please join me in voting for Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke.

—Kathi Estill

Vote for Ritter

I'm voting for Herb Ritter for Councilman and here's why:

I like Herb because he's authentic, trustworthy and has a heart as big as his smile. He's a natural leader who inspires and makes things happen.

When I asked Herb why he was running for office, he smiled and said, "Because I love Pleasanton — all of Pleasanton — and I want to make a difference."

I believe him. He has a proven track record for making a difference on Pleasanton commissions and committees. Ten years' worth! He's currently the chair of the Planning Commission and formerly the chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission and of the Trails Committee.

He's also a great family man and a standup guy. He's probably worn out shoes this fall walking neighborhoods so he can meet as many citizens as possible. Why? Because Herb genuinely cares about what we think.

I admire his leadership ability. In community service, he led the Pleasanton North Rotary Club to international recognition for growth in one year. Amazing accomplishment. I was on the board that year

and witnessed his leadership skills firsthand. And the scoreboard you see at the Foothill stadium? Herb led the Boosters' team that made that happen, too.

Yes, I'm voting for Herb and hope you do, too.

—Pat Mayfield

Maher for school board

I am one of many "repeat Pleasanton residents" — I grew up here, went away to college and decided to come back and raise a family here. One of the reasons I came back was because of our exceptional schools. In the upcoming election, I am voting for Steve Maher for school board because:

- He has extensive experience at our schools and in our classrooms.

He has seen how we educate our students up close and has always been eager to actively participate in Pleasanton education.

- A group of parents, frustrated with school site administration changes, encouraged him to serve on the board. He is doing it because, to him, the kids come first.

- He is excited to "think outside of the box" to solve some of the current challenges in the PUSD.

- He wants to help our community have confidence in the school board by being transparent, having an open door, and considering differing viewpoints.

- He has a tremendous amount of respect for our teachers and has seen firsthand, over decades, how deeply they care about our kids

and how extraordinarily talented they are.

- I believe that he will conduct himself in a respectful and dignified manner that is consistent with our "community of character" in Pleasanton.

—Christina Nystrom Mantha

For Karla Brown

To help maintain the quality of life in our award-winning town, we need a proven slow planned growth advocate. Karla Brown is that person.

Often hers has been the lone voice in the council in defense of this. She is the only council member who has consistently supported our slow,

See **LETTERS** on Page 24

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LETTERS

Continued from Page 23

smart growth policy and opposed the efforts of others to plan and construct huge, unneeded developments to fill our valuable open spaces.

She has been a successful voice on the council to preserve our historic homes, add miles of recycled water pipe for irrigation, key to having enough potable water in a continuing drought. She has been successful in opening a new dog park.

Karla is a strong advocate for our much needed larger library. This busy building provides a myriad of services above and beyond checking out materials. Examples include ESL, tutoring, children's reading hours, community events, etc.

Karla's goal is to represent the residents of Pleasanton with our various background and points of view to continue to make Pleasanton even better.

—Fern Skowlund

Measure 11 is vital

Sometimes in the midst of a presidential election year, local and community issues and needs can be overlooked. One of the important issues on the November ballot includes Measure 11, a measure focused on improving Pleasanton schools.

I endorse Julie Testa for Pleasanton mayor knowing she will apply the same commitment and work ethic to advocating for the best interests of the citizens of Pleasanton.

—Peter McDowell

PleasantonVoters' endorsements

PleasantonVoters.com endorses incumbent Karla Brown for Pleasanton City Council and Julie Testa for mayor.

Although our children are now grown, we still are strong proponents of our schools. Children in our community deserve an excellent education that helps them succeed, and Measure 11 is critical

to their success. Our schools have not been significantly improved in many, many years, and Measure 11 will provide the basics — safety repairs, updated classrooms, updated science labs and a better classroom environment for all students.

It is vital that we maintain a healthy educational environment for our children and the children in our community. I hope you will join with me in voting Yes on Measure 11 in November.

—Christy Johansen

Julie Testa for Pleasanton mayor

For eight years, Julie and I worked together as board members of a local nonprofit, Tri-Valley REACH (Resources Education Activities Community and Housing), that provides low-income housing for adults with developmental disabilities.

As an all-volunteer organization, we all wore many hats. Julie wrote and managed grants, participated in property acquisition, initiated community outreach, oversaw work days and was invaluable on our property management team. Julie was caring and compassionate giving support to our special needs residents. During the years we worked together, I knew Julie as highly capable, dedicated and hard working.

I endorse Julie Testa for Pleasanton mayor knowing she will apply the same commitment and work ethic to advocating for the best interests of the citizens of Pleasanton.

1,400 housing development due to its impact on our traffic, schools, and voter-approved urban growth boundary (UGB); supported 10 miles of recycled water piping.

Julie Testa has 30-plus years of community service. Well-versed in the needs of our schools and finance, she participated in numerous budget and planning committees for the city of Pleasanton and the school district, including the Citizens' Debt Management Committee. She believes in balancing growth with infrastructure needs and sees no need to "plan" for the east side since we have met our mandated housing numbers.

We need more than one perspective on the City Council. Candidates Brown and Testa support slow and controlled growth and do not bow to developers' demands. Re-elect Karla Brown for City Council and Julie Testa for mayor.

PleasantonVoters.com is a non-partisan grassroots organization dedicated to preserving ridgelines, open space, our UGB and retaining the best qualities of Pleasanton.

—Sandy Yamaoda

Vote Yes on MM; Testa for Pleasanton mayor

The current crop of Pleasanton's elected officials and city administrators have lost sight that they represent the citizens of Pleasanton, not the interests of out of town commercial real estate investors.

Nothing further is needed as proof than the two years of talks and secret negotiations forming an "Economic Development Zone" as cover for taxpayer giveaways to locate the warehouse retailer Costco to Pleasanton. Despite the obvious facts that horrific traffic would result on I-680 freeway and Stoneridge Drive, city leaders worked with the investor offering sweetheart deals at the expense of Pleasanton taxpayers.

Our mayor publicly promoted the Economic Development Zone and other proposed arrangements, despite owning investments in Costco and violating state law against participating as our elected official.

Pleasanton needs new leadership in Julie Testa that will put Pleasanton taxpayers first and will protect our local businesses and residents from investors-developers whose only interest is to extract wealth to the detriment of our small-town community. Please join me in voting Yes on Measure MM and Julie Testa for Pleasanton mayor on Nov. 8.

—Matt Morrison

Brown: A voice of reason

I have a fairly unique perspective on Pleasanton, having moved back last year after being away for nearly four years. It's still a nice place, just not as nice as before. Excessive growth, with the congestion and noise that accompanies that have not added, rather have detracted, from the quality of life that attracted a number of us here.

I support Karla Brown for reelection to the City Council. She is a much needed voice of reason and moderation for the proper management of Pleasanton's future.

—Larry Wray

Join me in voting Yes on Measure 11

As a longtime business owner here in Pleasanton, I have been

fortunate to live and work in a supportive and amazing community. This November, I will proudly cast my Yes vote for Measure 11, as it will allow us to all give back to this community and to our schools.

When deciding how to vote on an issue, I take a careful look at what the measure will do and how it will impact our community. If a measure provides a benefit, while still being fiscally sound, it passes my test.

That's why I support Measure 11. Voting Yes on 11 makes tangible and real improvements to the classrooms and buildings in Pleasanton schools.

Strict accountability is built into the measure, as Measure 11 does not go to salaries, programs or any other expenditures; it can only support physical improvements to our schools. A committee of local citizens will also provide additional oversight, guaranteeing local students benefit and promises are kept.

Measure 11 is a good solution — for our schools and for Pleasanton as a whole. By protecting property values, we all benefit from our great local schools.

This is a great place to live and work — and I want to keep it that way. Please join me in voting Yes on Measure 11.

—Vic Malatesta

Teacher's support of Maher

I firmly believe Steve Maher would be an excellent choice as a member of the Pleasanton school board.

Steve was a principal for teachers, parents and students, and he can be a man for this district. He listens and comprehends various ideas of a situation and comes up with a solution that benefits all. He will make PUSD what it once was — a district teachers, parents and kids are proud of.

PUSD once was a district that attracted and hired the best. Those people stayed and made our district one that other districts used to model. The last years, we have lost that because of various members of the present board.

We are now a "revolving" door. Lately, administrators have come and gone. The community feeling is gone. Steve can change all that. Steve can make this district whole again — a place where parents, students, teachers and administrators are proud to call home.

Steve's first priority has always been the students. He knows students by name. He makes all kids feel the importance that they matter. He took the time to really know students. He was always there for them — academically and personally. He will do this for all students of PUSD, not just the fortunate ones who had Steve as their principal.

Steve Maher will continue to uphold all he believes. He will be a present and active board member; the kind of board member to make PUSD whole again.

—Terry Ludlow

On the elections

If you like overcrowded schools, traffic gridlock, taxpayer subsidies to support billion dollar corporations and developer-financed elected officials whose pictures appear on developers' glossy fliers, then you'll certainly want to vote for those

that embody Pleasanton pay-to-play politics: Hosterman (BART), Cook-Kallio (Assembly), Thorne (Mayor), Pentin/Ritter (City Council).

They seem to work not for the interests of the people and open space, but for corporate interests and developers, for example recently convicted Charter Properties' developer James Tong.

Their dismal environmental records speak for themselves. Thorne, Pentin, Cook-Kallio and Hosterman, who used Charter Properties office space for her mayoral campaign, actively worked with Charter Properties to block Pleasanton signature gathering efforts to save local ridgelines. After that failed, they placed a developer-sponsored do-nothing countermeasure on the ballot to confuse voters.

Thorne, in secret backroom negotiations, has worked to have Pleasanton taxpayers on the hook to fund infrastructure improvements for Costco rather than have a billion dollar corporation that he holds a financial interest in fund it themselves.

Karla Brown has consistently fought to save open space and ridgelines starting with a citizen's initiative. She advocates for Pleasanton residents, not out-of-town corporations.

As a former member of the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, I will be voting Yes on Measure MM. I'll also be casting my vote to re-elect Catharine Baker to the Assembly, Karla Brown to City Council and John McPartland to the BART board as well as elect Julie Testa for mayor.

—Anne Fox

Meet the needs of all students

My children are enrolled in local Pleasanton schools. It is alarming to watch class sizes increase as enrollment numbers rise in our community. I love that our community is growing and thriving, but I know that we need to respond by making sure we can adequately provide for all Pleasanton students.

Measure 11 ensures our schools can meet the needs of all local students by making the critical repairs and upgrades our schools require. Measure 11 will replace outdated portable classrooms and provide new classrooms to prevent overcrowding, helping provide every child in our community with a quality education.

Yes on 11 is essential for not only today's students, but also future generations. As a parent, I believe Measure 11 is the right choice, so I am asking you to join me in voting Yes on 11 this November.

—Sherry Zhou

Re-elect Mayor Thorne

Jerry Thorne has worked hard for the city of Pleasanton and its residents for more than a decade. He started with his efforts at the swim center, then seven years on the City Council and for the past four years as our mayor.

He has been dealing with poor decisions made by others who preceded him. There have been lot of changes to our town over the past 30 years since we moved to Pleasanton and not all of them have made us happy, including this last

Graphic Designer

Embarcadero Media, producers of the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac, Mountain View Voice, Pleasanton Weekly, PaloAltoOnline.com and several other community websites, is looking for a graphic designer to join its award-winning design team.

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building boom. However, the recent burst of building was due to the “head in the sand” views of previous council decisions, which forced us into this rapid growth spurt.

We need to stay ahead of the rapidly changing edicts from the state if we wish to keep local control of our city. My wife and I believe it only makes sense to retain someone with knowledge and experience to guide us over the next few years. We have listened to the other candidate speak and were surprised by her apparent lack of understanding that city funds cannot be used to fund schools.

We live in a great town — let’s remember who helped it get that way. Vote Jerry Thorne for mayor and help keep it that way.

—Jim and Sandra Jellison

Re-elect Karla Brown for City Council

It is important that our City Council represent all the diverse views of our residents, not just big business or the housing developers. We only have one such council member, Karla Brown. The rest of the council usually thinks alike, votes alike and supports development.

Our city has grown too fast. We have issues with excessive traffic, school overcrowding and a water shortage; and we still have more than 1,200 housing units under construction that will soon add to those problems. Changing the zoning in Pleasanton from everything else to residential is wrong.

The residents of Dublin are now very angry with their own city council for building so many housing units and creating all the related problems, and they are screaming loud. But it’s too late for them because development approvals happen long before you actually see it being built.

Don’t let this continue in Pleasanton. Elect council members that will slow things down and allow our infrastructure to catch up. Re-elect Karla Brown for City Council.

—Nicole Johnson

Pleasanton’s kids deserve Maher

Steve Maher was the principal at Alisal when my husband, five children and I moved to Pleasanton from out of state in 1989. He went above and beyond the call of duty to make sure my kids felt safe, secure and comfortable in their new school and neighborhood.

All five of my kids graduated from Amador. Through the years, I’ve dealt with many great educators and administrators in one of the best school districts in the country. Steve Maher tops that list. In fact, I’ve never heard any parent ever say anything negative about him, but consistently sing his praises.

Please vote for Steve Maher. All Pleasanton school kids deserve to have Steve Maher on their team.

—Suzanne Despain

Who does Karla Brown really speak for?

Karla Brown, Pleasanton City Council candidate, claims she is the “... lone voice for the majority of citizens.”

In a recent email from Karla summarizing results of a survey she ran, I couldn’t help but notice that the

questions she asked had no direct correlation to the conclusion she draws.

The survey questions focused on issues about water quality, traffic, school overcrowding, open spaces and police and fire services. The email states that the results of the survey include responses of “no” to development of new homes and commercial properties in East Pleasanton, but I have to ask: Where is the question about this development plan in Karla’s survey?

This candidate seems to have designed the survey and then reported unsubstantiated results to get us to hear her voice rather than as a means for her to hear ours. Whether it is about development or any other issue we face, I would expect our City Council to be accurate and complete in their reporting of our responses to such surveys.

Perhaps a question to add next time should be: Is Karla really the voice of Pleasanton? I think not.

—Karen Hutton

No on MM

I am tired of Pleasanton residents who say no to many planned projects and take them to the ballot. I have been following many issues in Pleasanton over the past 50-plus years and have been pleased with the progress.

I wish we could take a look at a project to see how it can benefit us and make necessary changes to make it a better fit before saying no. An example is property on southeast hills, which inspired PP and QQ. This year, a ballot measure regarding part of the property appeared. We should have taken care of it earlier and made a better deal with property owners.

Pleasanton has a motto of “City of Planned Progress.” City Council and staff have done a great job of following general plans that started in 1965. Developments need to fit guidelines. The growth projected for Pleasanton’s population would be 90,000 before the year 2000 if the sewage treatment plant was full by the mid-70s. Let us keep planning Pleasanton’s future, look at plans and express our opinion.

I have followed the Johnson Drive plans. I feel Costco is the better fit. If there are concerns which should be addressed, then changes should be made. There are many buildings in Pleasanton that are the size of Costco. The council does not need to hide information. Just ask for information on this project. I encourage people to vote No on MM.

—Jim Waldron

Vote for Cook-Kallio

Many of Catharine Baker’s negative campaign flivers and TV ads are false and nasty — disgusting. It’s enough to sway us all against voting for her.

The most recent ad seems to imply that Cheryl’s “staff” (her fellow teachers or former City Council members?) has spent money on alcohol and massages. And she likes to leave the poor to starvation and misery. What was she “mismanaging”? Her students? The City Council? How stupid are these ads, which rarely mention political issues?

We have known Cheryl for years since our kids were in school band together. Cheryl is one of the most

honest people we know; she has taught government and competition civics high school classes. We are voting for her.

—Cathy Moran

Only Karla Brown considers balanced growth

I would like to clarify some misinformation about Pleasanton City Council member Karla Brown that has been posted on the local blogs and letters to the editor. Her opponents contend that she has approved the construction of many homes. Blatantly untrue.

Karla Brown is the only elected official who walked Pleasanton neighborhoods to notify residents about a plan to build 1,300 homes on the east side. She engaged and supported the community when it turned out to oppose such a plan at City Council meetings. Karla Brown is the primary reason that we do not have 1,300 new homes under construction on the east side right now.

I have lived in Pleasanton for 45 years, and I have yet to meet a neighbor or resident who is in favor of more high-density housing, sprawling housing tracts, traffic or impacted school classrooms. Yet the current majority of the City Council consistently votes in favor of all these changes.

Check the voting records of your City Council and the facts will speak for themselves. Karla Brown is the only candidate who considers balanced growth and votes on behalf of the people who elected her.

—Sandie Frawley

Vote Yes on MM, Julie Testa for mayor

Due to the back-room dealings, there is no way to clean up the muck associated with the Costco project.

- It costs more than the City Council/Planning Commission indicated.
- Mayor Thorne illegally promoted Costco deal for two years while owning Costco stock.
- Released documents obtained by the Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth show a concerted effort by the city to conceal details of negotiations (e.g. a suggestion to form a subcommittee including two council members to expedite the process was rejected by city staff as it would have to be “publicly noticed” and would make for “awkward negotiations”)

There was an intentional lack of transparency by city staff. Vote Yes on Measure MM to stop Costco and send a message to city administrators, the mayor and council to stop back-room dealings with developers.

Finally let’s vote Thorne out of office with a vote for Julie Testa for Mayor.

—Lou Astbury

Brown and Testa for the future of Pleasanton

Please be careful with your vote this week. If you want the same old, same old, then don’t read any further.

But if you want two candidates who will listen and respond to the citizens of Pleasanton, support our schools, respect and preserve our hillsides and environment and protect our small town character

from out-of-control development, then re-elect Karla Brown to council and give Julie Testa, a longtime Pleasanton resident and activist, your vote for mayor.

Does anyone like what the Mayor Thorne-led council majority has done to Pleasanton over his past four years as mayor? His “good ol’ boy” council majority bows to developers, and his re-election campaign is supported by them (no surprise).

Karla Brown is the only council member that listens to us, stands up for slow growth, fights to protect our hills and environment, does not venture or flip-flop from her stated election promises to us and takes no money from

developers or the chamber of commerce.

Thorne and his council majority cohorts just keep saying yes and making exceptions for their developer buddies, even bending hillside protection laws for them. Thorne even approved spending \$300,000 city funds to put the Lund Ranch initiative on the June ballot instead of \$50,000 to place it on the November ballot so it wouldn’t get in the way of his own re-election campaign. Wasteful self-serving.

Let’s re-elect Karla Brown, and give Julie Testa a chance to change the future direction of Pleasanton for the better.

—Bill Lincoln

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Talks & Lectures

FREE MEDITATION AT THE LIBRARY Come experience free meditation at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 9 at the Pleasanton Library. Yoga Nidra is a way to deepen relaxation and regenerative healing. Give yourself a try, realize the importance and impact that Yoga Nidra can have in your daily lives and stressful routine.

AMADOR VALLEY TOASTMASTERS Learn how to give speeches, gain feedback, lead teams, and guide others to achieve their goals in a supportive atmosphere at 7 a.m. every Thursday at Black Bear Diner, 5100 Hopyard Road. Breakfast is available to order from menu. Go to www.facebook.com/AmadorValleyToastmasters/.

VIRTUALLY SPEAKING TOASTMASTERS Virtually Speaking Toastmasters club meets from noon-1 p.m. every Thursday at Electrical Reliability Services, 6900 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 415. Everyone is welcome to come see what a positive change Toastmasters can make in their confidence. Call 580-8660.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Lisa Gorrell will present "German Research: Let's Get Started!" at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 14 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court. Come hear how to get started in your German research by learning about sources here in the U.S. to help. Lisa is the Recording Secretary for the California Genealogical Society, board member with the Contra Costa Historical Society, and a past president of the Contra Costa County Genealogical Society. Contact Marilyn Glass and

Diane Wiedel, Program Chairs, at program@L-AGS.org.

Health & Wellness

PLEASANTON SOLE MATES Join this weekly walking group at 8:45 a.m. on Wednesday mornings departing from the Pleasanton Senior Center. Participants must be able to walk 2.5-3 miles and keep a moderate pace with the group. Stop by the Center to pick a monthly walk schedule or call 925-931-5365 for more information.

PLEASANTON PEDALERS If you love cycling, this group is for you. Join at 9 a.m. every Thursday. Rides will be at an easy pace from 15 to 25 miles, with no rider left behind. A signed waiver is required for all riders. Go to meetup.com/PleasantonPedalers.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind will be meeting from 1-3 p.m., second Saturday of each month at Valley Memorial Hospital, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Any visually impaired or blind person is urged to attend. Call Carl at 449-9362.

Seniors

PEDDLER SHOPPE AT THE SENIOR CENTER The Peddler Shoppe in the lobby of the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., offers the handmade wares of talented local senior artisans. It's a great place to buy gifts. The Shoppe is staffed by volunteers and is open to the public 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Go to www.pleasantonpeddlershoppe.com.

EYE GLASS ADJUSTMENTS AND CLEANING Stop by the Pleasanton Senior Center from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month to have your eye glasses and sunglasses cleaned and adjusted by a representative from Sears Optical. For more information call 931-5365.

PHOTO CLUB The photo club is open to any senior who enjoys the hobby of photography at any level. It is suggested that you have some form of a digital camera. The group shares photos and makes suggestions how the photos might be improved. Meetings include occasional speakers and field trips, and are from 2-4 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Cost is \$2 for residents, \$2.50 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Teens

YOUTH COMMISSION The Pleasanton Youth Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at the Pleasanton Operations Services Center, 3333 Busch Road.

Religion & Spirituality

PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN WORSHIP Lynnewood United Methodist Church at 4444 Black Ave. offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Sunday morning services are at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Childcare provided at both services, and Sunday school is at 10:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m.. At 5:30 p.m. on Sundays the church offers an informal service called "Come As You Are" with music, prayer, and discussion. Contact Rev. Heather Hammer at 846-0221 or office@lynnewood.org. Go to www.lynnewood.org.

SUNDAY SERVICES AT UNITY OF TRI-VALLEY Join the Sunday service with Reverend Micah Murdock, minister, at 10 a.m. every week at Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. All are welcome. Ongoing classes, groups, and activities. Call 829-2733 or go to www.unityoftrivalley.org/.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE Honor those you have loved, who have died, in a special Mass of Remembrance

Special autumn exhibits

"Bridges" by Belinda Lima is part of two displays in the lobby and hallways of the Firehouse Arts Center as part of the Harrington Gallery's special art exhibits. Lima uses large format recycled paper collages to depict abstract Bay Area cityscapes; her vibrant works depict the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz and other iconic locations, and will be on exhibit through Dec. 17. The other display, which will be shown through Nov. 12, features mixed media works from artist Pam Fingado's Meditation Series, designed to pull the viewer from the physical sensation of light and color into the inner world of consciousness. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Ave.; call 931-4848.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 14 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. All are invited. If you wish, bring a small picture of your loved one.

Community Groups

ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON NORTH Pleasanton North Rotary invites anyone interested in making a difference. The membership includes 65 professionals, business owners, executives, managers and community leaders. The club meets from 12:15-1:30 p.m. Fridays at Handles Gastropub, 855 Main St. Call 556-2333 or visit www.pnr-rotary.org.

CLUTTERLESS (CL) SELF HELP SUPPORT GROUP ClutterLess (CL) Self Help Support Group, for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions, meets at 7 p.m. every Monday at The Parkview, 100 Valley Ave. Cluttering is a psychological issue, not an organizing issue. We are for the Clutterer who is ready to change. Go to www.ClutterLessEastBay.org.

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY TOASTMASTERS: GUESTS WELCOME Learn more about public speaking in a fun-filled and supporting environment at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Highland Oaks Recreation Center, 4530 Sandalwood Drive.

Enjoy improving your leadership skills, building confidence and meeting new friends. Go to pleasantontostmasters.com.

PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB The Pleasanton Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. No dinner will be served. For more information please visit <http://pleasantonlionsclub.org>.

PLEASANTON-TULANCINGO SISTER CITY All are welcome to join for "Taco Tuesday" at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at Fiesta Taco, 1989 Santa Rita Road Unit J. We are an active organization promoting cultural exchange, goodwill and friendship. We have a youth and adult exchange program. Call 989-6882 or go to www.ptsca.org.

MOTHERS WITH A PURPOSE Mothers With a Purpose meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Foothill High School Library. Mothers with a Purpose was formed by local moms to offer support to families affected by addiction. Visit www.motherswithapurpose.org.

TRI-VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED TVRWF will present guest speakers Gen-Xier Rohit Joy and Millennial Hayden Padgett at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10 at Beeb's Restaurant, 915 Clubhouse Drive, Livermore. They will discuss what the results of the 2016 National, State, and Local Election outcomes will mean from their generations' perspectives. Cost is \$30 for members, \$34 for non-members. RSVP by Nov. 8. Contact Linda Krikorian at 426-1474 or krikorianpublishing@yahoo.com.

PARTY PALOOZA 2016



Twilight Tasting Fundraiser at Page Mill Winery, A Passage to India: Bollywood Nite, 5K Run/Walk, Sip and Paint Art Class, Dinner at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, 7th Annual Gourmet Dinner with the Shapiro's, 8th Annual Soups of the World, DO YOUR OWN THING

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PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

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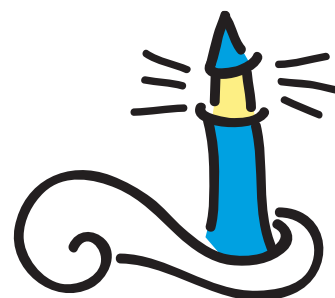
Community Calendar

Find local clubs, events, fundraisers, support groups and more at pleasantonweekly.com/calendar

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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155 Pets

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Legal Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

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)

JRG MOBILE SIGNINGS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 523736

The following person(s) doing business as: JRG MOBILE SIGNINGS, 6260 STONERIDGE MALL ROAD, #110, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joseph R Garcia, 6260 Stoneridge Mall Road, #110, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 03/08/2016. Signature of Registrant: Joseph R. Garcia. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/20/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, 18; 2016)

PACIFIC COAST WINDOW COMPANY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 524034

The following person(s) doing business as: PACIFIC COAST WINDOW COMPANY, 3597 NEVADA ST. SUITE C, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): BMFL LLC, 3597 Nevada St. Suite C, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 07/18/2016. Signature of Registrant: Fred Gotthardt. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/31/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25; 2016)

PIXSELL FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 523870

The following person(s) doing business as: PIXSELL, 2088 W. LAGOON ROAD, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Marco Angelo Abellera, 2088 W. Lagoon Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 10/01/2016. Signature of Registrant: Marco Angelo Abellera. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/25/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25; 2016)

KIDS WELL CARE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 524002

The following person(s) doing business as: KIDS WELL CARE, 3621 CHILLINGHAM COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jing Zhang, 3621 Chillingham Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Jing Zhang. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 10/28/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25; 2016)



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Firm sells Pleasanton office building for \$15.5M

Private SF investor purchases 'The Atrium' on Stoneridge Mall Road

By JEREMY WALSH

San Ramon-based Meridian Property Co. recently sold its 74,000-square-foot, multi-tenant office building in Pleasanton known as "The Atrium" to a private investor for \$15.5 million.

The deal for the three-story building at 5776 Stoneridge Mall Road represented a cap rate of just under 7%, according to representatives of Meridian, which acquired the property less than two years earlier.

The Atrium was bought in September by Trium Partners, LLC, a California limited liability company in San Francisco. The buyer's real estate representative did not respond to requests for

comment about the sale.

Located across the street from Stoneridge Shopping Center and next to Wells Fargo Bank, The Atrium houses several dozen tenants such as Valley Pregnancy Center, Farmers Insurance offices and NorCal Investment Group, as well as law offices and counseling and consulting firms.

When Meridian bought the property in January 2015, the building was fully leased to more than 50 tenants with rents averaging about 25% below market rates, according to the company. During its ownership, Meridian renewed or replaced about 60% of the building's tenants and made more than \$1 million in capital

improvements to the interior and exterior.

"This presented an opportunity for Meridian to modestly improve a building that had been owned by the previous owners since 1992," Dan Rosenbaum, senior vice president of Meridian's general office division, said in a statement.

"With an average tenant size of less than 2,000 square feet and loyal, long-term tenants, our plan was to increase the average rent in the property towards the prevailing market rent while giving tenants more value with our improvements," he added.

"This acquisition, reposition and sale are a perfect model for

the value-add general office platform that we formally launched when I joined the firm this past spring," Rosenbaum said.

Vince Schwab and Collin White of Marcus & Millichap Co., based in the firm's San Francisco office, represented Meridian in the sale proceedings.

The Atrium generated "a lot of attention from high net worth buyers" when it was on the market, according to Schwab.

"Since the building was made

up of numerous smaller tenants, there was no significant rollover risk, which made the asset appealing to buyers familiar with multi-family assets," he said. "There were several offers and what set this buyer apart was his willingness to release hard money upon opening escrow, coupled with a competitive price and quick due diligence."

Meridian, a division of Marcus & Millichap, focuses on general and medical office spaces. It has more than 150,000 square feet of property in development or redevelopment and another 500,000 square feet in the acquisition pipeline, according to chief operating officer John Pollock. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Sept. 23-29)

Total sales reported: 20
Lowest sale reported: \$450,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,040,000
Average sales reported: \$988,475

Livermore (Sept. 23-29)

Total sales reported: 33
Lowest sale reported: \$430,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,460,000
Average sales reported: \$708,667

Dublin (Sept. 23-29)

Total sales reported: 21
Lowest sale reported: \$480,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,835,000
Average sales reported: \$880,595

San Ramon (Oct. 13-18)

Total sales reported: 19
Lowest sale reported: \$400,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,490,000
Average sales reported: \$876,395

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Sept. 23-29

Pleasanton

4664 Augustine Street Augustine Project to Abboud Trust for \$1,200,000
7815 Canyon Meadow Circle #G C. Coy to S. & B. Steinman for \$502,000
857 Castlewood Place Sue Trust to D. & B. Lee for \$2,040,000
7710 Creekside Drive B. Crowder to K. Antrim for \$725,000
3609 Florian Street Santora Trust to Z. Zhang for \$888,000
2316 Goldcrest Circle Heinzl Trust to S. Hore for \$650,000
5296 Golden Road R. & R. Hempy to H. Yang for \$650,000
7831 Meadowbrook Court Reiter Trust to A. & V. Khanna for \$849,000
510 Montori Court Z. Wu to D. Jiang for \$1,445,000

553 Neal Street A. & A. Adams to W. & E. Ho for \$1,130,000
1729 Paseo Del Cajon J. & J. Brooks to K. & F. Kapoor for \$940,000
4219 Payne Road H Estate Investment to K. Pallav for \$855,000
1217 Piemonte Drive Ulrich Trust to C. & S. Kim for \$1,757,500
3287 Pueblo Way B. Sharma to J. & M. Patricio for \$450,000
5215 Riverdale Court Morrison Trust to J. Grammer for \$720,000
1351 Royal Creek Court F. & N. Malik to M. & N. Kota for \$1,488,000
521 San Gabriel Court Smith Trust to Y. Yao for \$915,000
6854 Siesta Court Fuente Blanca to S. & M. Baird for \$825,000
5169 Springdale Avenue A. Snell to T-Lake Limited for \$840,000
3865 Stone Pointe Way J. Maher to S. Bhaskar for \$900,000

Source: California REsource

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Don Faught
 Vice President/Managing Broker
 925.251.1111
 dfaught@apr.com
 BRE#00971395



Tri-Valley Real Estate Directory

Darlene Crane
 Branch Manager/Loan Advisor
 925.699.4377 • NMLS# 30878
 dcrane@rpm-mtg.com • darlene@rpm.com
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 RPM Mortgage, Inc. - NMLS#9472 - Licensed by the Department of Business Oversight under the Residential Mortgage Lending Act | 3210 | Equal Housing Opportunity.

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Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group

Professional Real Estate Services  Connecting People and Property

Blaise Lofland

925.846.6500

blofland@apr.com

License #00882113

BlaiseLofland.com

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



ALAIN PINEL
REALTORS

JUST LISTED!



OPEN SAT 12-3PM & SUN 2-5PM!

VINEYARD ESTATE

1566 WETMORE DRIVE, LIVERMORE

Don't Miss This Very Private Vineyard Estate on Approximately One Acre in the Heart of the Historic Livermore Valley's Wine Country. This 6-year Old Quality Built and Exceptional Universal Designed Custom Home Has Won an AIA Architectural Award (Architect, Erick Mikitin), is Sustainable, Solar Powered and Surrounded by Acres of Protected Open Space and Vineyards with Views of the Surrounding Hillside! Indoor Living (Great Room) Meets Outdoor Living (Expansive Deck) by Way of Large Multi-Slider Window Wall. Four Bedrooms, Large Multi-Purpose Room (Possible 5th), Four Bathrooms and approximately 5007 Total Square Feet, Includes Pool House and Private Separate Attached Guest Quarters. Beautiful Grounds Includes Fitness Pool. As an Added Bonus this Property is Handicap Friendly. For More Information & Photos Please Visit 1566wetmore.com. For a Private Showing Contact the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group. Call for more information!

OFFERED AT \$2,695,000



ARROYO CROSSINGS



2479 RIVERS BEND CIRCLE, LIVERMORE

Just a Short Walk to Beautiful Downtown Livermore from this Newer Highly Upgraded 3,020 Square Foot Arroyo Crossings Built by O'Brien Homes in 2010. Five Bedroom, Three Bathroom Home. This Impeccably Maintained Home is Adjacent to Robertson Park and Backs to Open Space with Views of the Surrounding Hillside & Trees. Beautiful & Professionally Landscaped Grounds Includes Water Feature and Privacy! Hardwood Floors, Crown Molding, Plantation Shutters and Many More Upgrades! Gourmet Kitchen/Great Room with Granite Counters & Stainless Steel Appliances. Quick In & Out Commute to 580 Via Isabel Avenue. Conveniently Located Near Livermore Valley Wineries, The New Outlet Mall, Ruby Hill Country Club, Area Golf Courses and Less Than One Mile to Downtown Livermore! To Schedule a Private Showing, Call the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group!

OFFERED AT \$1,095,000

DOWNTOWN



4455 ENTRADA DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Single Level on Premium .28-Acre Lot with Pool in Excellent Downtown Location. Original Condition Inside-Needs Your Self-directed Upgrades. Don't Miss this Great Opportunity to Do It Your Way and Get in at a Great Price Point with Low Interest Rates & Property Taxes. Three Bedrooms, Two Bathrooms and 2,000 Square Feet (plus patio room) on One Level. Large Family Room and Formal Dining Room. Spacious Private Rear Yard with In-Ground Pool. Call The Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group for a Private Showing.

OFFERED AT \$998,000

CHATEAU COUNTRY ESTATES



JUST LISTED!

OPEN SAT 2-5PM & SUN 12-3PM!

2307 VINEYARD HEIGHTS LN., PLEASANTON

Don't Miss this Quality Built Chateau Country Estates Home by Greenbriar Homes! Located at the Gateway to Livermore Valley's Wine Country, Its Only 7 years Young and on a Quiet Court! This Beautiful (.35 Acre) Property Backs to Vineyards and Has Views of Mount Diablo! It's a Spacious and Well Maintained Home with a Large Gourmet Kitchen Which Includes Granite & Stainless Steel Appliances. The Kitchen Joins with Family Room Area for Great Room Concept with Beautiful Wood Flooring. There are 4 Bedrooms Plus Bonus Room (Possible 5th with Adjoining Private Bath), Private Office and 4 Full Baths, Plus Separate Guest Quarters with Own Address(#2309)- Over the 3-Car Garage. The Private Guest Quarters Are Great for In-Laws, Au Pair or Guests. Total Living Space is 4737 Square Feet. Large Private Backyard and Side Courtyard Area with Automatic Security Gate Too! Convenient to Ruby Hill Country Club. For a Private Showing Call the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group and go to 2307vineyardheights.com for more information.

OFFERED AT \$2,089,000

*Thank you for voting us
Pleasanton's Best REALTORS again in 2016.*

**2389 EAST RUBY HILL DRIVE
RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON**

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



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

**3760 SELVANTE STREET
RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON**

CALL FOR PRIVATE SHOWING



5 BD | 5.5 BA | 7,840 SF on .57 Acre Beautiful Mediterranean Manor w/Pool & Spa Offered at \$3,498,000

**3630 PONTINA COURT
RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON**

CALL FOR PRIVATE SHOWING



5 BD | 6.5 BA | 7,868 SF on .48 Acre Estate Home with Extraordinary Features Offered at \$3,395,000

**4645 BLACK AVENUE,
PLEASANTON**

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



3 BD | 3.5 BA | 2,277 SF with Pool Two Master Suites, Single Story NEW PRICE \$1,099,000



FABULOUS PROPERTIES

DONNA GARRISON | SUSAN SCHALL
925.980.0273 | 925.519.8226

FABULOUSPROPERTIES.NET



Venture

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OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Dublin

4 BEDROOMS

3551 Cydonia Court \$1,068,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

Livermore

2 BEDROOMS

1688 Bluebell Drive \$555,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

3 BEDROOMS

630 Cindy Lane \$675,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Louise Davis 200-2457

865 Dana Circle \$625,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Sally Blaze 998-1284

4 BEDROOMS

1566 Wetmore Road \$2,695,000
Sat 12-3/Sun 2-5 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS

4645 Black Ave. \$1,099,000
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226

4 BEDROOMS

4645 Black Ave. \$1,099,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226

2389 East Ruby Hill Drive \$1,850,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226

3443 Bordeaux Place \$1,125,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Mark Kotch 989-1581

269 Kottinger Drive \$949,000
Sat 11-2/Sun 1-4 Julia Murtagh 997-2411

5 BEDROOMS

2307 Vineyard Heights Lane \$2,089,000
Sat 2-5/Sun 12-3 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

4129 Grant Court \$2,399,000
Sun 1:30-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

6 BEDROOMS

4129 Grant Court \$2,399,000
Sun 1:30-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

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

Our Neighborhoods

This annual magazine showcases selected neighborhoods in Pleasanton and captures the qualities and resources that make them unique. This is a great resource for current residents or those looking to relocate to Pleasanton.

Advertisers — There's still time to get your ad featured inside Our Neighborhoods 2017. **Call 925.600.0840 for more details.**



JUST LISTED



Carmel Living in Pleasanton!

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

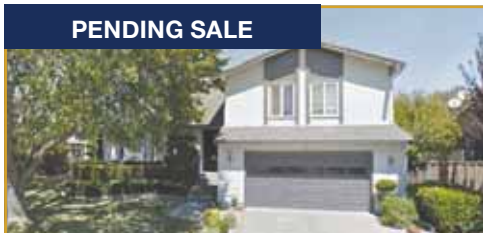
PENDING SALE



Del Prado

Upgraded & remodeled 4 BR, 2.5 BTH home with granite kitchen, hardwood floors, and more!
\$1,039,000

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



DOUG BUENZ
& THE 680 GROUP

Venture | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

BRE #00843458

Are the Holiday a Good Time to Sell?

It happens every year. The holidays. And every year we REALTORS get the same question: Are the holidays a good time to sell my home? For the record, I think the holidays are one of the best times to sell your home. Here are some of the reasons that the Fall and holiday season can be an excellent time to sell your home:

1. **Strong activity.** Most people believe that the real estate market dies in October, and does not come out of hibernation until May or June. But this is just not true. Below is a chart of the % of closed sales for each quarter of the year for the last 3 years. As you can see, the fall is still an excellent time to sell your home. In fact, it is typical for home sales to be fairly evenly distributed throughout the year, with a slight surge in the 2nd and 3rd quarters, and a slower 1st quarter.

% of Closed Sales By Quarter for the Tri-Valley Region

Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
2013	18.6%	27.4%	30.4%	23.5%
2014	18.2%	28.7%	29.1%	24.0%
2015	16.9%	32.2%	29.4%	21.5%

2. **Less competition.** Because many sellers believe the market will be slow, and decide to wait till the new year to sell, there is usually less competition during the last quarter. Fewer homes for sale means fewer choices for buyers, many of whom are motivated.

Go to 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



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

These Guys are Amazing!

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE: ★★★★★ Michelle & Josh | Pleasanton
PROCESS EXPERTISE: ★★★★★ Selling a house can be stressful! With the right
RESPONSIVENESS: ★★★★★ team, not so much! I wish
NEGOTIATION SKILLS: ★★★★★ we'd found the Weiner
McDowell Group sooner!

Dedicated to Results.

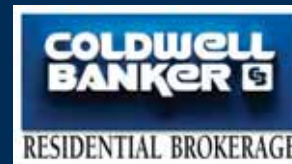
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Venture Sotheby's International Realty
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t 925.872.1416 | t 925.209.0343
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ColdwellBankerHomes.com



DUBLIN \$1,068,000
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4
Backs to the Hills & Open Space!
3551 Cydonia Court
4 BD/2 full + 5 half BA Only 4 Years NEW! Lovely Hillside Views, Large Kitchen/Family Combo + Living Room Area.
Suzanne Bieser
CalBRE #01355940 925.699.3884



LIVERMORE \$555,000
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4
A MUST SEE IN LIVERMORE!!
1688 Bluebell Drive
2 BD/2 BA 1 Story Beauty w/An Open & Spacious Flr Plan & Btfl Lndscpg w/Palm Trees in Frnt/Bk Yrds.
Sean Leggat
CalBRE #01280186 925.847.2216



PLEASANTON \$729,500
Spacious Home in Pleasanton!
3627 Vineyard Avenue
2 BD/1 BA Spacious Home w/1 Car Grg plus Storage, Cntr Lot-9000 sqft. Hrdwd Flrs, Eat-in Kit & DR.
Nancy Sutorius
CalBRE #00628232 925.847.2314



TRACY \$299,000
Open Sun 1 - 4
Don't Miss Out! Great Opportunity
851 Sequoia Avenue
3 BD/2 BA Great Opportunity-1st time Buyer or Investor. Very Clean, Lrg Bk Yrd, Cls to Prks & Shping!
Dennis Serrao
CalBRE #01251442 925.876.3756

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

DUBLIN
11446 Marwick Drive \$1,295,000
"Large Lot- View -Atchd In-Law Apt"
6 BD/3.5 BA Gorgeous Remodeled Home w/Valley Views on Priv Lot. 2 BD APT as In-Law/Income Producing.
Suzanne Bieser
CalBRE#01355940 925.699.3884

LIVERMORE
930 Verona Avenue \$699,000
"A Great Value in Sunset West"
4 BD/2 BA Spacious w/Lrg Bonus Rm, Priv. Bk Yrd, Sparkling Pool. Near beautiful dwntwn Livermore!
Thomas Iverson
CalBRE#01242205 925.200.3600

MARTINEZ
1082 Maywood Lane \$288,000
Great Condo in Maywood Village
2 BD/1 BA Move-In Ready-NEW Crpt/Lam FLR, FP, 1-Grg/Prkng SP, Patio, Pool & HOA=Wtr/Grbg/Cb/WIFI.
Terry Kim
CalBRE#01363454 510.299.6844

PLEASANTON
4233 Garibaldi Place Call for Pricing
An Exclusive in Pleasanton
4 BD/2.5 BA Exclusive Kottinger Ranch Duet w/2 Car Garage.Community Pool,Tennis Crts & Great Location!
Daisy Ng
CalBRE#01311067 925.847.2307

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

11612 Betlen Drive \$938,888
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

3878 California Way \$650,000
Home Like New, Complete Remodel!
3 BD/2 BA Totally Remodeled, Beautiful Kitchen, Baths, Gleaming Wood Floors, Huge Yard, & More!
Mary Anne Rozsa
CalBRE#00783003 925.963.0887

PLEASANTON
4129 Grant Ct \$2,399,000
Open Sun 1:30 - 4
Pleasanton Kottinger Ranch Beauty!
6 BD/4 BA Kottinger Ranch Beauty custom built home with pool and spa. Solar heated & Large yard!
Bimla Sabhlok
CalBRE#00939221 408.448.4488

Visit these homes & more at:
ColdwellBankerHomes.com

PLEASANTON

925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste 122

ColdwellBankerHomes.com



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//
Alain Pinel Realtors®

COME ON IN



FREMONT \$7,299,000

600 Monticello Terrace | 6bd/8.5+ba
Kelly King | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$2,695,000

1566 Wetmore Road | 4bd/4ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT 12:00-3:00 & OPEN SUN 2:00-5:00



PLEASANTON \$2,089,000

2307 Vineyard Heights Lane | 5bd/4ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT 2:00-5:00 & OPEN SUN 12:00-3:00



LIVERMORE \$1,550,000

2407 Belmont Drive | 4bd /4ba
Debi Bodan | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$1,299,000

2480 Cowan Way | 5bd/4.5ba
Jo Ann Luisi | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,125,000

3443 Bordeaux Place | 4bd/3ba
Mark Kotch | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



LIVERMORE \$1,099,500

2479 Rivers Bend Circle | 5bd/3ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$998,000

4455 Entrada Drive | 3bd/2ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$949,000

269 Kottinger Drive | 4bd/2ba
Julia Murtagh | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT 11:00-2:00, OPEN SUN 1:00-4:00



LIVERMORE \$625,000

865 Dana Circle | 3bd/2ba
Sally Blaze | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



SAN LORENZO \$537,888

43 Colonial Drive | 3bd/2ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



MOUNTAIN HOUSE \$473,900

747 North Museo Drive | 3bd/2.5ba
Robin Young | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT

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