

# Pleasanton Weekly

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VOL. XIII, NUMBER 15 · APRIL 27, 2012

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## *Pleasanton,* HOME OF GOLF GREATS



YOUNG TALENT DEVELOPS  
INTO LEGENDARY STATUS  
ON LOCAL COURSES

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NEW  
SECTIONS



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MARK KOTCH BY APPT



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Country French in Castlewood! Custom built home 5 bd 4 ba 5217+/- sq. ft home, 33,840+/- sq. ft lot. Views, large master bedroom, great yard. 700+/- sq. ft guest house. 22 CASTLEWOOD DR

MOXLEY TEAM SUN 1:30-4:30



**PLEASANTON \$1,430,000**  
Newly constructed, private court location, open floor plan, highly upgraded kitchen, vaulted ceilings, 1 bd/office on 1st level w/ full bath, rear yard w/pebble tech pool&spa. 1363 BRIONES CT

MOXLEY TEAM SUN 1:00-4:00



**PLEASANTON \$1,299,000**  
Rare opportunity! 1 acre lot in the heart of Pleasanton. 5bd/3ba, updated kitchen offers dinette area, breakfast bar, granite counters, recessed lighting & opens to family room. Rear yard offers pool and room to expand! 3623 CAMERON AVE

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$1,295,000**  
Newly constructed home is highly upgraded & located on a private court. The family & living room offer fireplaces & distressed wood flooring. Rear yard offers privacy & a covered patio. 3351 SAGEWOOD CT

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$1,049,000**  
5bd/4.5ba, 3,067+/-sq.ft, Caeserstone/Maple kitchen, Stainless appliances, double oven, dual zone AC, DP windows, Hardwood floors, full bed/bath downstairs, private yard with slate patio. 1138 MILLS CT

MOXLEY TEAM SUN 1:30-4:30



**PLEASANTON \$980,000**  
Open floor plan w/vaulted ceilings & LARGE bonus room! Hardwood floors, updated kitchen w/granite counters & recessed lighting. Expanded master suite. Large yard w/pool & spa! 5260 RIDGEVALEWAY

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$799,000**  
Court location; this home sits on a spacious lot w/beautiful landscaping. Kitchen offers eat-in kitchen & opens to the formal dining area. Rear yard offers pool, spa & separate gated grassy area. 3314 HUDSON CT

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$749,000**  
Miramar model in Birdland!, 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2100+/-sf situated on a 7,000+/-sf lot. New carpet, paint, windows, updated kitchen and bathrooms. Must See! 5286 BLACKBIRD DRIVE

MARK KOTCH BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$639,000**  
Lovingly restored 1912 downtown beauty with 2012 updates. Original redwood wainscoting & ceiling beams; oak & fir floors; all-new appliances, granite counters, 2 restored baths, 3bds. 414 DIVISION ST

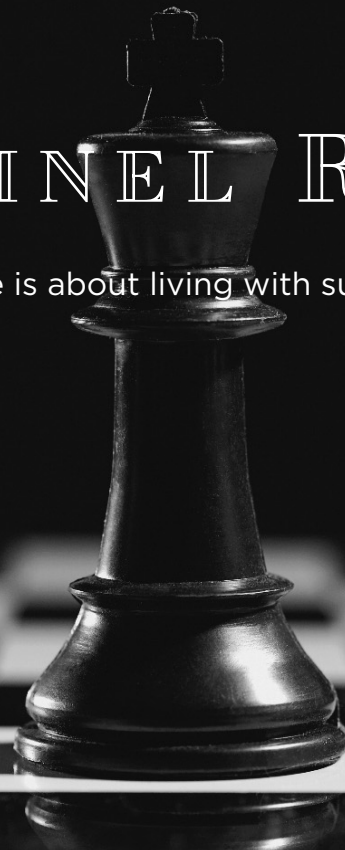
MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$575,000**  
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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



COURTESY PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER

Volunteers being recognized for their extensive service at a Pleasanton Senior Center ceremony are (from left) Fran Walz, Barbara Barsanti, JoAnn Duncan, Clara Toms, Mary Tange, Claire Iglesias and Margaret Bartlett.

## Circus adds to awards program

In a prelude to Older Americans Month, which starts May 1, the Pleasanton Senior Center honored its volunteers last week in a festive "Salute to our Stars" that included an awards program with a circus complete with popcorn, face-painting, jugglers and a bean bag toss. For the 150 at the celebration, it was like sitting under the big top with all the fun these folks — mostly in their 60s and 70s — remembered from their elementary school days.

In fact, the program, arranged by the Senior Center's recreation coordinator Raymond Figueroa, featured the younger set that make up the Prescott Circus Theater. These are mostly students from Prescott Elementary School in Oakland, which sponsors an after-school program where they learn some of the arts of the circus, including how to juggle, walk on stilts and be clowns. After first mingling with those in the audience, the students moved their circus act to the stage in the center's main meeting room for a 25-minute performance.

Then it was awards time, with Carolyn Allen receiving this year's Nana Cohen Volunteer of the Year award. The award is named for Cohen, who ran Pleasanton's senior services program out of the Veterans Memorial Building in the 1970s and then moved it to the Senior Center when it opened in 1993. She retired three years later.

Allen, who was chosen to receive the award by the other 250 volunteers and 30 community partners who serve Pleasanton seniors, started her volunteer service in 1999 and has put in more than 1,500 hours of volunteer

work since then. One of her favorite activities is leading the center's Mah-jongg group that keeps expanding. In choosing Allen, her peers wrote glowing reasons, such as "She's such a great ambassador ... always friendly ... always helpful and cheerful to newcomers."

Terri Sullivan, who teaches the second grade at Hearst Elementary School, was also honored with the senior peer group recognizing her for partnering with the Senior Center to start the Book Buddy program. She initiated the program in 1997 when she was a special education teacher at Alisal Elementary School, and then moved it into her second grade when she started teaching at Hearst. Each month, 25 in her second grade class walk across Case Avenue and through Ridge View Commons to reach the Senior Center, where they join 25 seniors in reading to each other. The reading program brings a lot of excitement and joy to both age groups and has become one of the most popular one-on-one programs involving seniors and students.

Mary Tange was also honored at last week's event for her "exceptional service." She has donated 4,400 hours of service to the senior community in Pleasanton over the last 12 years, starting her service in 2002 as the Senior Center's front desk greeter. She's often the first person we see when we go there and is also considered by her peers as a "great ambassador" because of the effort she makes to tell newcomers about services and programs offered there.

Figueroa, who is 50, has been No. 2 at the Senior Center for the last eight-and-a-half years since coming here from Oakland where he had more than 15 years of service working with seniors in skilled nursing and other activities. He works with the center's director Pam Deaton.

## About the Cover

Pleasanton professional golfer Paula Creamer on the putting green at Blackhawk Country Club during the LPGA in 2010, the year she won the Women's U.S. Open. Photo by Chris Scott/calsportphoto.com. Design by Kristin Herman.

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# Streetwise

ASKED AT THE LIBRARY

## Pleasanton wants a more vibrant nightlife. What do you suggest?



**Sarah Mobley**  
*Eighth-grader*

I wish there was a place like Rockin' Jump, because it's open until midnight on the weekends. Rollerblading or bowling late at night would be fun, too. I'd like to have a place to hang out with all of my friends.

**Sean Sowell**  
*Financial services*

I'd like to see some more cafes downtown that are open later. I'd enjoy having a place to get coffee and a bite to eat late at night that's reasonably priced and healthy.



**Daniel Martinez**  
*High school student*

I'd like a teen club for ages 13 and up so we can go dancing.

**Monique Marchi**  
*Mom*

I'd like a larger variety of restaurants that are open later. There have been many times that I've wanted to grab food after a meeting at school only to find closed kitchens at 9:30 at night.



**Lisa Rottner (with Lady Benjamin)**  
*Retired*

I don't get out much at night, so I am pretty happy with it the way it is now. Lady Benjamin is a service animal, so I don't go out without her and she gets tired. We do enjoy the Wednesday night street fair, and I think restaurants should be open until at least 10 or 11 o'clock.

—Compiled by Kerry Nally

**Have a Streetwise question?** E-mail editor@PleasantonWeekly.com



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San Ramon Express  
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## DIGEST

### Help save a life

ValleyCare Health System is the latest to hold a bone marrow drive to find a match for Janet Liang, a 2005 Amador graduate diagnosed in December 2010 with lymphocytic stage 4 lymphoma.

Two drives have been set up: 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. April 30 at the Valley Memorial Center Cafeteria Conference Room, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd. in Livermore; and the same times May 1 at ValleyCare Medical Center Cafeteria Conference Room 3, 5575 W. Las Positas Blvd. in Pleasanton.

The drive is open to ValleyCare employees and the public. Testing requires a cheek swab, and more than 70% of people who match have only to give blood, not marrow, to help.

The organization Be The Match has reported that two donors have been matched with people needing transplants, one from a drive at Amador Valley High and the other from Mohr Elementary's drive; a match for Liang has yet to be found.

### Vote for lookalikes

The 10 finalists in the Pleasanton Weekly Mother-Daughter Lookalike Contest are online waiting for your votes. View those chosen from more than 40 entries and vote for the ones you think look most alike, at [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com).

Voting will continue until 6 a.m. May 3. First-place prize is a \$100 gift certificate for Whole Foods; second-place is a \$50 gift certificate to Strizzi's restaurant. Photos of the winners will be published in the Pleasanton Weekly on May 11.

### Drop off prescription drugs

The Pleasanton Police Department is partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for the fourth annual Drug Take Back Program, a chance to prevent pill abuse by ridding homes of expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

The event takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow in the lobby of the Police Department at 4833 Bernal Ave. The drop-off is free and anonymous, with no questions asked. For more information, call 931-5100.

Mothers with a Purpose, which works to prevent young people from falling victim to drug and alcohol addiction, will be helping at the drop off. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

## Ed Kinney awards go to Jan Batcheller, Tony Macchiano

Museum on Main hosts reception to honor 'Community Patriots'

The eighth annual Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards were presented at a reception Monday evening at the Museum on Main with friends and family members of the 2012 award recipients, Jan Batcheller and Tony Macchiano, in attendance.

"By recognizing these worthy community members, we hope to inspire others and to motivate them to do what they can to make a positive difference in Pleasanton," said Ron Sutton, founder of the community's Fourth of July celebration, for which Kinney was the original master of ceremonies. Kinney also was a former mayor of Pleasanton and well known as announcer of local parades.

Jan Batcheller has been described as "a perpetual whirlwind of positive activity." She has owned two businesses downtown, the Photo Plant until 1982 and Main Gift Source, and has worked to promote support for local businesses. Along with Joyce Getty Shapiro, Batcheller said she launched the Pleasanton Downtown Association "at my dining room table" in 1981;

Joe Callahan provided the start-up funds so that they could hire a manager for the 17 businesses that were then downtown.

Batcheller served on the board of directors for the Tri-Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau from 1994-98 and is a former president of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce; she notes that its membership is 95% small businesses.

"The quality of life we enjoy in Pleasanton is largely due to business," she said, which provides the tax base to support amenities.

Batcheller served as vice-president of the Centennial Celebration Committee, was a member of the Hope Hospice board of directors and is currently on the board for Museum On Main. She was formerly a school teacher, serving on the Valley View Elementary School parent advisory council and the site council for Pleasanton Middle School. Twice she has been on the search team for the local superintendent of schools.

She helped Pleasanton Partnerships in Edu-

cation (PPIE) Foundation 1985-87 with the CEO dinner fund-raiser and served on the advisory board. From 1999-2007, Jan was on the board of directors for the Cal State East Bay Foundation, serving on the financial committee.

"This community has been the best place I know of to raise a family — wonderful teachers, coaches, and librarians," said Batcheller, who has lived here since 1973 with her husband John, and where they raised their two sons and daughter. "I am in debt to this community. I believe we should leave our community better than we found it, and so I will be paying my debt forever."

The other recipient, Tony Macchiano, uses his skills as a master of the barbecue to help charities and families in need. He has a crew of about eight called the Lickety Spits who have worked on hundreds of charitable barbecues, for organizations such as the Tulancingo Sister

See **KINNEY** on Page 8



ANDREW GRAHAM

### Enjoying the sunshine

Photographer Andrew Graham, 11, and his mom Kaarin took to the Pleasanton Ridge to enjoy the sunny weather Sunday and noted the vultures were doing the same, as they lined up on the water tank near the Augustin Bernal Park staging area.

## PUSD nears districtwide mandates to improve minority test scores

Also mandated to shift to new teaching methods by 2014

By **GLENN WOHLTMANN**

Even as the Pleasanton school district deals with state-mandated improvement at schools, the district is looking at a new set of national standards that will radically change teaching and student testing.

At its meeting Tuesday night, the board heard of work being done at two schools, Valley View Elementary and Pleasanton Middle, to improve scores for students. The two schools are using different approaches to bump test scores for Hispanic students, English-language learners, socio-economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities.

Pleasanton Middle and Valley View are Title I schools, meaning they receive extra federal

money to help improve test scores for disadvantaged students. Failing to improve could trigger a series of increasingly serious interventions for schools that remain in what's called "program improvement." Those interventions begin with revising a plan for the school and giving parents the option to transfer their students to schools that are not in program improvement.

Scores for poor readers at PMS have jumped for 25 out of 34 students that were put into a special program called "Read 180," and some students have improved their reading skills two to three times what's predicted under the program.

An after-school intervention called "Language for Learning" has been initiated for

See **SCHOOL** on Page 9

## League of California Cities names Thorne to board of directors

Organization works to expand, protect local control for cities

By **JEB BING**

Pleasanton Councilman Jerry Thorne has been appointed to the board of directors of the League of California Cities.

The 46-member panel is responsible for the overall supervision and direction of the League, which works to expand and protect local control for California cities.

"I am very honored to have been selected for this pivotal position," Thorne said in a statement. "I look forward to working with my peers throughout the state to continue the strong representation of our region in the effort to retain the control of local issues at the local level."



**Jerry Thorne**

Thorne also is the board's representative for the East Bay division, where he served as president in 2009. Founded in 1948, the League's East Bay Division is comprised of the 33 cities in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Thorne was re-elected in 2010 to his second four-year term on the council. He also has announced that he will seek the mayor's post in municipal elections in November, to succeed Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, whose eight-year term expires this year.

Another member of the council, Cheryl Cook-Kallio, also has announced her candidacy for the mayor's post.

Thorne served on the city's Parks and Recreation Commission for 10 years before being elected to the City Council. He currently sits on the California League of Cities' Environmental Policy Committee and on the Community Economic Development Committee for the National League of Cities. ■

## TAKE US ALONG



**Sharing family:** Bill and Dottie Berck share a copy of the Weekly with seven of their eight grandchildren sharing a week with them in Cancun, Mexico.



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LOUIS RIVARA

PCAC's 2012 YEA Award winners are (l-r) Hannah Scarborough, Michael Chew, Esther Kim, Nicolaus Massie, Andrea Deng, Nisha Kale and Julia Feng.

## Young artistic talent recognized

Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council YEA awards given at Firehouse Arts Center

**BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

The artistic talents of some Pleasanton youths were recognized April 19 at the Firehouse Arts Center during the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council's annual award event. The winners of the Youth Excellence in Arts (YEA) awards were announced in front of family, friends, teachers and members of the community.

"PCAC is especially passionate about passing the torch for the arts on to the next generation so that the arts in Pleasanton continue to thrive and be a part of the community," explained Jill Vellinger, president of PCAC. "One way we do this is through the YEA Awards."

YEA began in 2002 and recognizes talent in young artists of Pleasanton middle and high schools, from all the arts disciplines: creative writing, visual arts, music and the performing arts.

PCAC awards cash scholarships to the winners, who are selected following auditions in front of judges. Winners are recognized at the annual PCAC Awards event at the Firehouse Arts Center where they perform and showcase their art for the audience.

The winners of the 2012 YEA awards are as follows:

■ **Max Biggs Literary Award**  
— High School: Andrea Deng, senior, Amador Valley High School  
— Middle school: Nicolaus Massie, sixth-grader, Harvest Park Middle

School

■ **Phyllis Wentworth Fine Arts Award:** Julia Feng, junior, Foothill High School

■ **Pleasanton Arts League:** Michael Chew, junior, Amador Valley High School

■ **Renee Smith Music Award:**  
— High school: Esther Kim, junior, Foothill High School, and Nisha Kale, sophomore, Amador Valley High School

— Middle school: Hannah Scarborough, eighth-grader, Harvest Park Middle School

For Amador Valley senior Andrea Deng, winning the Max Biggs Literary Award for her short story "Sparrow on the Wall" was a big surprise.

"I was thrilled to win," said Deng. "I learned of this competition when searching for scholarships to help me get ready for college. It was great to find one right here in Pleasanton."

The Gordon and Renee Smith Music Award was shared by violinist Esther Kim and pianist Nisha Kale, who were equally excited about winning.

"I'm very happy and honored to be able to share my classical music," Kim said. "This is the first competition in my hometown and the Firehouse is such a great venue."

Kale, also a basketball player, said this competition was very different from others she has attended.

"Most competitions are a bunch

of judges listening to you and then you get a letter in the mail telling you if you won," she said. "This competition made me feel very appreciated because the judges talked with me, got to know me, and gave me direct feedback. I am really honored to receive the award and share it with another musician who is so good."

Past PCAC president David Wright, who served as master of ceremonies, spoke to the winners about continuing to develop their talent even if they do not choose it as a career, saying that their lives will benefit from their participation in the arts. But he also shared his concern that arts programs in the schools continue to lose funding, and that's why PCAC exists, to help schools and youths experience and develop in the arts.

Vellinger echoed the message. "As funding for arts continues to be cut, PCAC is committed to finding innovative ways to bring the arts to Pleasanton and support new and existing artists and art groups," she said.

Two new PCAC ventures aimed at bringing the arts to the community are the Arts Encounter Booth adjacent to the Pleasanton Farmers Market, and the upcoming Chalk Art Festival in 2013.

For more information about the YEA award program or PCAC, visit [www.pleasantonarts.org](http://www.pleasantonarts.org). ■

## Nebraska man convicted for sexual abuse

Pleasanton traffic stop breaks case

**BY GLENN WOHLTMMANN**

A former Nebraska man faces 25 years to life in prison for the ongoing sexual abuse of a 13-year-old Alameda County girl.

Todd Tackwell was 35 when he met the victim through an Internet chatroom in 2009. He was busted by a Pleasanton police officer who grew suspicious of the relationship between the two during a traffic stop.

A jury convicted Tackwell Tuesday for continuous sexual abuse of

a 13-year-old, along with a burglary enhancement for repeatedly breaking into the girl's home to have sex with her.

Pleasanton police Officer Matthew Kroutil broke the case on the afternoon of July 23, 2010, when he stopped Tackwell's pickup truck because it had a cracked front windshield. The victim was in the passenger seat.

Kroutil suspected something was wrong after questioning the pair. He separated the two and con-

tinued questioning. Over the next several days, the girl revealed that she'd been in a sexual relationship with the defendant since early 2010, when Tackwell moved to the Bay Area. Sexual contact began immediately, first at her mother's home in San Jose and then at her father's in unincorporated Alameda County. The relationship escalated quickly, with the defendant entering her bedroom through a window on an almost nightly basis. Tackwell will be sentenced June 22. ■



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# Diane Churka

Feb. 23, 1944 - April 17, 2012

Diane Churka, 68, enhanced downtown Pleasanton with her flowers, trees, and plants for the last 23 years at the SP Depot on Neal Street and the Coffee Roast Express building at 780 Main Street. Born at home in Riverside California on Feb. 23, 1944 and died at home in Pleasanton, California, on April 17, 2012. Graduated from Highland school of Nursing in Oakland, designed and built the Coffee Roast Express business in three locations in downtown Pleasanton. She loved classical music, gardening, alpine skiing, the theater. Designing and building interiors for home and business, and traveling on back roads throughout USA.

On April 17th, 2012 Diane Louise Coffindaffer Churka passed away at home at 5:15 a.m., She was pronounced dead by the medical staff at 6:25 a.m. She donated her body to the Stanford School of Medicine for Research leaving our beautiful home, that she designed and finished herself, at 8:55 a.m.

With 49 years of nursing experience Diane understood the conditions brought on by ALS and how it would affect her quality of life in her last years of life. She wrote the Dear Friends paragraph below and her own obituary that follows months before her passing. Dear Friends, Thank-you for all your special thoughts and prayers during this special period of our lives together. Each of you for one reason or another, (you are all so different) have made a major impact on my life. I am grateful I've known you, laughed with you and cried with you. My life has been so much richer because of you. In fact, it would have been kind of dull. I am fortunate to have known that my time was near because there were still so many things I felt I had to do plus a bundle of others that we wanted to do. Ed wasted no time in getting started on the bucket list and I can now rest knowing I did most of the list and got the other things accomplished that I needed to do. I've had a great life with lots of accomplishments, a few defeats, and of course the sorrows of the departed that we all experience but makes us treasure the ones here and now. So now I bid you Adieu. God Bless each and every one of you. Thank-you from the bottom of my heart.

Diane's independent streak showed up immediately at birth when she was born at home delivered by her father in Riverside CA during WWII 20 minutes after her mother had gotten from the hospital for a delivery check scaring the hell out of her three older siblings. She grew up in Stockton until 1959 when she moved to Fremont meeting the love of her life, Edward, while doing volunteer work at Washington Township Hospital. Not only did Diane land her future husband, she received the first scholarship ever given by the Hospital's service league. Diane graduated from Washington High School, attended Highland Alameda School of Nursing and Mills College. During training she also received a Highland Alumnae Scholarship. She was the first in her family to go on to higher education.

Ed & Diane were married in 1963. After Ed's discharge from the Army & Diane's graduation, the young Churka family with a new baby boy, Mark, moved to Milpitas where they both participated in construction of their first home. 1969, Ed & Diane adopted a baby girl, Alicia, at 19 days of age. Diane worked part time at Alexian Brothers' Hospital in San Jose while volunteering at her children's schools. She also founded a neighborhood sewing/coffee group.... a precursor to the future Coffee Roast Express. 1979 Diane went back to school at Ohlone & Cal State Hayward majoring in business. Diane spent many hours on the road transporting her children to Moreau & Archbishop Mitty High Schools. Diane was an active member of the Castlelettes at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton, CA, golfing until their business opened in 1989.

1988- Ed & Diane decided to go into business deriving inspiration from the dilapidated train station in Pleasanton, moving to Pleasanton in 1988. Coffee Roast Express was born after intense restoration construction & training re: roasting gourmet coffees. It was decided to collect only authentic train memorabilia, which included at one time two antique railroad cars, a NWP caboose and a US Army boxcar. Diane eventually took over the baking duties along with hiring, purchasing, and accounting. The Chamber of

Commerce awarded Coffee Roast the "Spirit of Free Enterprise" in 1994.

In 1995 Diane purchased the property at 780 Main Street while Ed was out of town. Ed & Diane would go on to design and build the current building at 780 Main Street, the Coffee Roast Express Building. During construction, business at 722 Main Street was maintained. Coffee Roast Express finally opened in December of 1999 with the help and support of the Pleasanton community. The people of Pleasanton supported the construction with a loan of \$350,000.00 to complete the building, humbling Diane with the community's love and support. Coffee Roast Express was awarded best-decorated store that year by the Tri Valley Herald. Citizens of Pleasanton voted 780 Main Street as the best new building constructed in Pleasanton in the 90's in the local newspaper.

2000- Diane received a first place sewing award for period (1900) attire depicting her sewing abilities worn by Mary Lou Ellis in centennial celebrations. Diane also served as a pastry judge for several years at the Alameda County Fair. Diane's scones & zucchini-carrot muffins became famous with recipes sought after by Gourmet magazine.

During this time, Diane served on the advisory board of Valley Humane Society because of her intense love of all animals. Diane created a mini bird sanctuary on her deck where she documented the various birds either coming for a bath or just a bite to eat.

After taking a refresher course in nursing, Diane returned to work at ValleyCare then on to U.C.S.F. where she retired in 2008. Diane loved bedside nursing. When asked by younger nurses how she could work so hard at bedside nursing, Diane replied it was nothing compared to running one's own business 24/7. Diane has always been an avid fan of San Francisco, traveling there often to see independent films, theater, ballet, art, & symphony. She was a voracious reader. Gardening, one of Diane's passions, kept her in touch with the community while they passed by 780 Main St. on their walks or "tooting" a greeting as the community drove by. Ed frequently told Diane if he had known she only wanted a backdrop for her plants, the building would never have been built, and he would have put up an arbor instead. Diane took courses in community college for Interior Decorating and never tired of looking for the perfect item to grace her home & making her family comfortable in antique stores, junk shops, garage sales & consignment stores refinishing special items, as needed another lifelong passion.

Upon retirement, Diane rode joyfully around Pleasanton on her new bicycle (a gift from Ed for her 65th.) Diane adored and worshipped her grandchildren, traveling to Texas as often as she could to be near them. The first symptoms of Bulbar ALS occurred in Dec. 2009. Diane had a challenging, happy life accomplishing her goals with dogged determination and supreme stubbornness. Since diagnosis in 2010, Diane & Ed put their "bucket list" on fast track. They took Amtrak up to Vancouver, transferred to Canadian Rail to cross Canada to Quebec, eventually into New York for Broadway shows before flying home. Ed & Diane then embarked on a road trip across the U.S. stopping to see former customers & friends of Coffee Roast Express culminating at Warm Springs Ranch near Saint Louis, the breeding farm of the magnificent Clydesdales. ALS has only been a small part of her life and like Lou Gherig, Diane feels grateful for her great life. She has been blessed with many many very long, enduring friendships.

Diane is preceded in death by her parents Leonore Anna Welch Coffindaffer & William Harry Coffindaffer Sr., her siblings Roger Welch Coffindaffer, William Harry Coffindaffer Jr. & Gloria Lee Schofield. She is survived by her husband Edward E. Churka Jr., her two children, Mark Emil Churka of Vallejo, and Alicia Diane Lutz of Cedar Park Texas, her son-in law Eric Sean Lutz, two grandchildren, Sean Edward Lutz, & Sara Marie Lutz, great granddaughter Hayden Lynn Lutz, and two first cousins, John Alan Brooks of San Mateo, and Constance Parrish of Reno Nevada.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Bay Area food banks to feed the hungry.

Paid Obituary



CHUCK DECKERT

The family of the late Ed Kinney attends the eighth annual ceremony for the Community Patriot Awards named after him: (l-r) son Scott, widow Roberta, and son Brad.

## KINNEY

Continued from Page 5

City Association and the Ryan Comer Health Library, as well as for families facing medical emergencies. Each autumn, Macchiano plays a key role in the Lions Club's crab feed for more than a thousand people at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

Macchiano served on the Alameda County Fair board of directors from 1998-2010 and is a board member of the 100 Club, which provides funding to the widows and families of law enforcement. He has also arranged for medical supplies and sports equipment for Tulancingo. At Pleasanton's Lions Wayside Park, he arranged building the bandstand, and he also helped renovate Amador Theater by hauling away truckloads of rubble.

Macchiano says he is most proud of founding GASIT, the George A. Spiliotopoulos Invitational Tournament, that for decades raised funds for scholarships to help local students attend college.

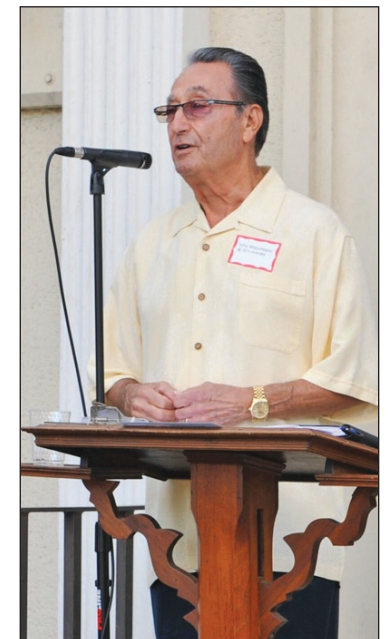
"When you interview some of these kids who are less fortunate than most in this town — and there are a lot of them — it makes you teary to hear how they want to better themselves," said Macchiano, who himself had to leave high school to start working at age 14.

Macchiano and his wife Shirley have lived in Pleasanton since 1969, when he and his brother-in-law, Bob Molinaro took over the Pleasanton Garbage Service. They are the parents of twin sons and a daughter and the grandparents of five children.

"I have to give back," Macchiano said. "We made a living here, and this town has been good to us. You don't have to call a newspaper every time you do stuff. You just need to help people and the community to be a good place."

The honorees are selected by past recipients of the Ed Kinney Community Patriot Award, plus the members of CelebratingJuly4.org, a nonprofit affiliate of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation.

—Pleasanton Weekly staff



Left to right: One of this year's two award-winners, Jan Batcheller, addresses the crowd Monday night in front of the Museum on Main. Tony Macchiano receives an Ed Kinney Community Patriot Award for donating his skills as a master of the barbecue and more.

# Bid for gun shows at Fairgrounds goes to mediation

Federal judges want conditions for return of shows settled out of court

Gun shows at the Alameda County Fairgrounds are a step closer to reality, with both sides in a long-running battle agreeing to mediation ordered by a federal appeals court in San Francisco.

Gun show promoters Russell and Sally Nordyke claim an Alameda County law that restricts gun possession on county property effectively prevents them from holding shows at the fairgrounds. The law was enacted

after a 1998 shooting there injured 16 people.

Nine of 11 judges on the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals signed onto the mediation order stating, "The panel believes that the parties should attempt to settle this dispute by agreeing on the conditions for holding gun shows at the Alameda County fairgrounds."

Chief Circuit Judge Alex Kozinski and Judge Ronald Gould dis-

sented, saying they believe mediation would not be fruitful.

The 1999 law generally prohibits bringing guns to or possessing them on county property, but makes an exception for firearms handled by an "authorized participant" so long as the gun is "secured to prevent unauthorized use" when not in the participant's possession.

The Nordykes' lawsuit, filed the same year, claims the measure

violates the constitutional Second Amendment right to bear arms by preventing them from holding shows at the fairgrounds.

Last month, a lawyer for the county told the court gun shows could comply with the law if the unloaded firearms brought to the site by authorized gun show operators were secured to a solid base with cables several feet long.

Under questioning from the judges, the Nordykes' lawyer con-

ceded, "I imagine it would be possible to have a gun show that way."

Lawyers from both sides said their clients will participate in the mediation.

In addition to the county proposal that guns in fairgrounds shows could be tethered, state law requires that weapons displayed at shows must be unloaded and made nonfunctional with plastic or nylon straps.

—Glenn Wohltmann

## SCHOOL

Continued from Page 5

Spanish speakers and poor readers at Valley View with good results, according to its teachers.

Those schools aren't the only ones that could end up in program improvement due to increasingly tough standards laid out in the federal government's No Child Left Behind (NCLB) act. Lydiksen and Alisal elementary schools are working to improve scores for students with poor reading and math skills. And district data show both elementary schools and middle schools did not meet the improvements mandated for this year under NCLB, although 10th-graders did.

Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi noted that other high-performing districts including those in San Ramon, Fremont and Palo Alto are facing similar problems in meeting NCLB standards.

Meanwhile, the board also learned that California is moving forward with plans to adopt sweeping changes in how and what students are taught and changes in testing as well.

Common Core State Standards is a nationwide initiative designed to prepare students for college and for work, with emphasis on the tools needed for success, according to a report presented by Jane Golden, director of curriculum and special projects. CCSS was adopted by California in 2010, and 46 other

## PUSD STAFF CUTS

Position	FTE
Custodian	4.0
Groundskeeper	1.0
Skilled Maintenance Worker	1.0
Administrative Secretary (secondary)	1.0
Graphics Clerk	1.0
Office Assistant	0.625
District Office Assistant Specialist	0.75
Textbook Technician	1.0
Health Services Liaison	1.0
Classroom Instructional Assistant	0.625
Resource Instructional Assistant	0.4
Library/Media Assistant I	3.0
Site Technology Specialist	3.0
<b>Total*</b>	<b>18.4</b>

\*Does not include 3.7 FTE positions that will be funded by individual schools

states have also approved the program, which was created to make students more competitive with their peers in other counties.

Students will do more writing in general and more writing from non-fiction sources. They will be required to show a growing ability to use language from vocabulary and syntax to the development and organization of ideas.

They'll also need to learn to make sense of math problems and persevere in solving them, along with showing their growing abilities to rea-

son abstractly, construct arguments and critique the work of others.

Teachers will be required to begin integrating CCSS into their classes in the 2014-15 school year, and that year will also begin the phasing out of paper-and-pencil tests in favor of computerized testing.

"This is a huge challenge," said Golden, who outlined the standards to the board. "I lay awake at night wondering about what a monumental challenge (this is). Our teachers can do this."

The goal is to phase in math by

2016 and English language arts by 2018. Meanwhile, the district will need to buy materials to bridge the gap between older courses and CCSS. That'll cost \$200,000, according to Golden, who said that didn't count teacher training sessions or substitutes to replace them while they're off learning, or \$9,000 apiece for two years for two teachers on special assignment to help integrate the new model into the district.

Golden also said that many of the district's textbooks are due to be replaced, noting that English coursework in particular needs to be upgraded with bridge materials in mind. School board members, however, hoped that some of the materials would be available online.

"I'd really like us to consider making a move to a delivery system that doesn't require texts," said Board President Joan Laursen, who was echoed by Board Member Valerie Arkin.

Golden noted that the district is buying \$300 notebooks with Internet access for students.

"I think we're due for new standards in the state," added Board Member Chris Grant.

As the district moves toward spending money on new materials, the board voted to cut the

equivalent of more than 18 CSEA (California State Employee Association) members, including the equivalent of four custodians, three library/media assistants and three site technology specialists, among others. Some schools have come up with money to fund a few of those positions on their own, but the net decrease is about the equivalent of 14.7 jobs due to state budget reductions. That's in addition to final pink slips due to be issued for teachers next month.

"These reductions and cuts may change at some point in the future," Board Member Jeff Bowser noted, with Bill Faraghan, assistant superintendent of human resources, saying that, should there be an improvement in budget numbers, "There's nothing that prevents us from rescinding a layoff."

The district had little news on state funding as it awaits Gov. Jerry Brown's May revise, although Luz Cazares, assistant superintendent of business services, noted that the state is down about \$900 million from revenue projections it made last year.

"As you know, April is a good month," Cazares said. "We're looking forward to where the income taxes come in relative to the projected levels." ■

## Two teens arrested in 31 tire slashings in two neighborhoods

First set remains under investigation

By Glenn Wohltmann

Two Pleasanton teens face felony charges in two of three recent tire-slashing incidents over the last month.

"On April 19, two boys, ages 14 and 15, were arrested in connection with the multiple vandalisms to tires on parked cars," a Pleasanton Police Department news release said. "During interrogations both boys admitted to slashing the tires on dozens of cars in Pleasanton."

At least 13 tire-slashings occurred April 10 and April 11 in the Sutter Gate area, on Sutter Gate Avenue, Laramie Gate Avenue, Laramie Gate Circle and Laramie Gate Way, with nine more residents filing reports

the next day. Tires on 18 vehicles in the Birdland neighborhood were reported slashed on April 16 and 17 in the 2400 block of Raven Road, in the 4700 block of Mohr Avenue, in the 2400 block of Crestline Road, and on Woodthrush and Willowren ways.

The two juveniles were booked then released into their parents' custody. The report notes that a third teen was also named and is under investigation for his connection to the tire-slashings in the two neighborhoods.

Pleasanton police Sgt. Maria Munayer said the teens confessed the slashings were done as a prank.

The case against the teens will

be filed with the Alameda County Juvenile Probation Department and felony vandalism charges are expected to be sought for all three boys. They or their families could be ordered to pay restitution.

Munayer said the juveniles were apparently not connected with a previous occurrence of tire-slashings, which took place late March 23 or early March 24, according to police reports.

In that case, 28 cars on four streets in the Valley Trails neighborhood were vandalized: 14 on Valley Trails Drive, 10 on Yellowstone Court, three on Cumberland Gap Court, and one on Isle Royal Court. That case remains under investigation. ■

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### FOCUS ON FITNESS

## Classic chair syndrome

**DEAR JIM:** For the past year I have found it more and more difficult to get up from my chair - especially my favorite recliner in front of the TV. I start to get up but often just fall back into the chair because I don't have the strength to stand up all the way. Sometimes I even have to call my wife to help pull me up. I'm 77, so maybe just getting older has something to do with it, but I've been reading your column for a long time and thought, perhaps, you might have a suggestion. **JUST GETTING OLDER IN LIVERMORE**

**DEAR JUST GETTING OLDER:** A "syndrome" is defined by Webster's as "a set of symptoms that together characterize a disease or disorder." It sounds as though you are suffering from both the disease of inactivity and a disorder called "classic chair syndrome." I just made it up, of course, but it sounds impressive, doesn't it? But before you try to impress all of your friends by telling them about this horrible affliction, let's cure it instead.

Age probably has nothing to do with your problem, and inactivity probably has everything to do with it. Your leg muscles have simply become weakened over time, and when you sit - especially for long periods of time and particularly in your recliner or other low soft-seated chair - you can't get up. Even walking doesn't strengthen the thigh muscles enough to prevent this from happening because walking requires only limited flexion of the hip, so the upper muscles of the hip and thigh are not sufficiently activated.

One simple exercise is to stand in front of your favorite chair with your hands on your hips. Keep your feet flat on the floor and slowly begin to lower yourself down into a seated position extending your arms out in front of you for balance as you begin to sit. Use a cane or the back of another chair to hold on to in front of you for support if necessary. Forget about how you might look, and stick your rear end back as far as it will go. As soon as your posterior touches the seat, immediately begin to stand up again and return your hands to your hips. If your knees are extending over or ahead of your toes, you are not sticking your hindquarters back far enough.

Perform this exercise at least once a day for at least 15 repetitions. Keep your body straight and your head up so that your legs - not your back - are doing all the work. The worst thing that can happen is that you might fall back into your chair, and the only thing you will hurt is your pride. Deal with it.

"Classic Chair Syndrome" is a common problem among older adults and can have a negative impact on their quality of life because it affects many of their day-to-day activities such as getting in and out of a car, getting up from a theater seat, or even getting up from the toilet. However, most are not willing to perform even these simple exercises, so their physical condition will continue to deteriorate. It's a matter of personal choice, and nothing can dissuade people who stubbornly refuse to take responsibility for their own care.

If you don't think you are sufficiently motivated to do this by yourself, consider joining a local fitness center and hiring a certified personal trainer to help get you started. The club will provide a more stimulating environment than your living room, and the trainer will make you accountable to someone. You can tell your friends how you were involved in a special case study for the cure of Classic Chair Syndrome. They will be duly impressed, and you will soon be able to get out of your recliner during the commercial breaks without asking your wife for help.

Go for it!

Jim Evans is a 45-year veteran of the health and fitness industry and internationally recognized fitness consultant. He is also a member of the Visionary Board of the International Council on Active Aging. Readers can send their questions to Jim about health, fitness, and quality of life to [jime@bayareaaffc.com](mailto:jime@bayareaaffc.com).

This column is brought to you by Bay Area Family Fitness Center, 4250 Rosewood Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, in the Rosewood Shopping Center. Call 925-416-1100 for further information.



# Business News

Edited by Jeb Bing



JEB BING

Architecturally impressive new BJ's restaurant and brewhouse is celebrating its grand opening this week at its highly visible I-580 location north of the Fallon/El Charro roads intersection in Dublin's Fallon Gateway Center. The restaurant is located across the parking lot from the city's new Target superstore.

## BJ's opens new Dublin restaurant

Popular eatery, brewhouse has operations in West, Midwest

BJ's Restaurants opened its newest restaurant in Dublin on Monday, with long lines of patrons waiting at the door of the popular Huntington Beach-based chain.

The new restaurant and brewhouse is located at the intersection of Fallon Road and I-580, across the parking lot from the new Target Superstore in the 380,000-square-foot Fallon Gateway shopping center.

Pleasanton's new Stoneridge Creek retirement community and Paragon Outlet Center in Livermore, both under construction, are located directly across I-580 on El Charro Road.

The 8,500-square-foot restaurant can seat 280 diners and features BJ's extensive menu including BJ's signature deep-dish pizza, and handcrafted beer.

BJ's highly detailed, contemporary decor and unique video system, including a 103-inch plasma set as well as several high-defi-

niton flat panel televisions, are a highlight of the restaurant that calls itself very family-friendly.

Operating hours are 11 a.m. to midnight Sunday through Thursday, and until one hour past midnight on Fridays and Saturdays.

"We are excited to bring the BJ's concept to Dublin," said Jerry Deitchle, BJ's chairman and CEO. "Our new Dublin restaurant is our third restaurant opening so far this year, and is also our 10th restaurant in the San Francisco Bay market where we enjoy some of our highest sales volumes."

"We continue to remain solidly on track to open as many as 16 new restaurants during fiscal 2012, including the relocation of an older, smaller-format 'pizza and grill' restaurant to a site that can support a larger-format BJ's restaurant," he added. "All of our remaining new restaurants for the current year are either in the permitting stage or are

under construction."

BJ's Restaurants Inc. currently owns and operates 118 casual dining restaurants under the BJ's Restaurant & Brewery, BJ's Pizza & Grill and BJ's Grill brand names.

The restaurants are known for their deep-dish pizza complemented with generously portioned salads, appetizers, sandwiches, soups, pastas, entrees and desserts.

The company also operates several microbreweries in addition to using contract brewers to produce and distribute BJ's proprietary handcrafted beers throughout the chain.

Besides Dublin, the company's restaurants are located in California, Texas, Arizona, Colorado, Oregon, Nevada, Florida, Ohio, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Indiana, Louisiana and Washington State.

More information about BJ's Restaurants Inc. is on the company's website, [www.bjsrestaurants.com](http://www.bjsrestaurants.com). ■

## Artisan Steve Ruse at Studio Seven tonight

Reception, wine tasting part of gallery's weekend event

Studio Seven Arts is holding a special spring event this weekend starting with a reception from 7-9 p.m. tonight at its store at Main and Angela streets in downtown Pleasanton.

The event features jewelry pieces of artisan Steven Ruse, a veteran jewelry maker, carver and local favorite. He will be on hand to talk about his hand-made jewelry that is colorful, and crafted to be entirely unique through the use of a wide variety of gemstones for this spring show.

Selected jewelry pieces include a brilliant collection of rings, ear-

rings, bracelets, pendants and fossilized carvings, which will be featured at tonight's reception and tomorrow morning's Trunk Show from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At tonight's reception, Studio Seven will offer a selection of Tri-Valley wines from Steven Kent, Ruby Hill and Wente. These will include fruit-filled wines and bold and complex varietals, such as Cabernet, Zinfandel and Chardonnay.

"Steven Ruse has the widest assortment of hand-fashioned rings and bracelets, some over-sized and others made of fine silver that is soft to the touch, reflecting his

passion for his little masterpieces," said Studio Seven Arts owner Dirk Christiansen. "Coupling his personality with a fun selection of local wines makes for an easy escape this weekend."

A former sea diver, Ruse began fashioning his vast collection of artifacts and precious stones to create jewelry for his wife, and later, for everyone. Christiansen said Ruse's work inspires natural appeal, due to the artisan's use of fine silver and distinct metals, beautifully colored precious stones, and fossilized ivory, polished and fashioned for his carvings. ■

## Pleasanton Weekly

### PUBLISHER

Gina Channell-Allen, Ext. 119

### EDITORIAL

#### Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

#### Managing Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli, Ext. 111

#### Online/Community Editor

Jessica Lipsky, Ext. 229

#### Reporter

Glenn Wohltmann, Ext. 121

#### Contributors

Jay Flachsbarth  
Jerri Pantages Long  
Kerry Nally

### ART & PRODUCTION

#### Lead Designer

Katrina Cannon, Ext. 130

#### Designers

Lili Cao, Ext. 120  
Kristin Herman, Ext. 114

### ADVERTISING

#### Account Executives

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#### Ad Services

Cammie Clark, Ext. 116

### BUSINESS

#### Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 126

#### Circulation Director

Bob Lampkin, Ext. 141

#### Front Office Coordinator

Kathy Martin, Ext. 124

### HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

#### Editorial e-mail:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com  
calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Display Sales e-mail:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Classifieds Sales e-mail:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Circulation e-mail:

circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

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## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY



BENJAMIN DUNN

Foothill High School students Katie Sborov (left) and Kayla Haykin meet with Leadership Class teacher Shannon Sos in follow-up to last week's "Every 15 Minutes" program that they organized to show dangers of driving under the influence.

### Every 15 minutes

Every 15 minutes someone in the country dies from an alcohol-related traffic accident, and Foothill High School students Katie Sborov and Kayla Haykin deserve our thanks for the work they've done over the past year or so to stop these tragedies, at least locally. Katie, 17 and a junior, was asked in March 2011 to manage last week's "Every 15 Minutes" program at the school, a year-long task that involved hundreds of hours of planning, fundraising and then actually staging the two-day event. Kayla, 18, a senior, became co-coordinator last December.

The program was started in 1995 by the Chico Police Department and is now an event staged at high schools throughout California, including Foothill and Amador Valley High School, which alternate each year in hosting the program. Realism is what "Every 15 Minutes" is about. Last week's event incorporated a crashed car placed on Foothill Road, role-playing by more than 30 students, including a driver of the crashed car and two others "killed" in the accident, student assemblies and retreats held for students and parents who were part of the effort. Pleasanton police, firefighters from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, the Alameda County coroner's office, ambulance drivers, a helicopter pilot and many others joined in the program, contributing their services and equipment.

Katie and Kayla, with the help of their Leadership Class teacher Shannon Sos, handled all of this. Although sanctioned by the Pleasanton school district, the program is strictly student-run with this year's \$30,000 in costs raised by the girls and fellow students who asked Pleasanton organizations and businesses to help. Although some equipment and services were donated, much, such as rented bleachers and the services of a videotaping firm and discounted hotel meeting rooms, weren't.

By restricting participation to juniors and seniors, both high schools can better manage the program and also gear it to those with drivers' licenses. It's also meant to be a surprise, adding to the emotional impact as students are released from their classes just in time to go to the crash site. Emotions peak as a tarpaulin is pulled off the vehicle and students see their bloodied classmates, all this as sirens wail in the distance with police and ambulances heading toward the accident scene.

Police arrested the driver while others treated the "injured" and the coroner placed the "dead" in a van and drove away. To add to the impact, students who agreed to serve as "the living dead" were called out of their classrooms by police, with the officer reading their obituary as each student leaves. A loud, ominous heartbeat is broadcast across the campus before each of the living dead is pulled out of class, signifying that someone is dying every 15 minutes in an alcohol-related traffic accident somewhere in country. All of this happened in perfect synchronization and timing, thanks to Katie and Kayla's good work.

To keep the project a secret, Leadership teacher Sos made sure his two students had a small private office for meetings, phone calls, planning sessions and more. By getting the assignment a year ago, Katie was able to take her first look at the "Every 15 Minutes" program at Amador last April and then talk to organizers there. Kayla also had an advantage: Her two older sisters, Elise, a 2008 Foothill graduate, and Jules, who graduated in 2010, were both on the "Every 15 Minutes" cast in their senior years and proved to be good resources. Clearly, Foothill's program highlighted the concern we all have over drinking and driving. Katie and Kayla's success in this important effort is not only a plus for our community, but it's an accomplishment that will reap major rewards in their college years and future careers. ■

## LETTERS

### End oil dependence

Dear Editor,

The Union of Concerned Scientists has developed a plan to cut America's projected oil consumption in half by 2030 by boosting the fuel economy of our vehicles, producing clean biofuels, expanding public transportation options, and investing in the next generation of advanced vehicles that no longer rely exclusively on oil.

We need real solutions, not just talking points. Whether we like it or not, oil is not a long-term solution. It's a short-term, limited resource that will run out soon and

destroy our health and our environment in the process.

If the federal government is too crippled, it's time for us to start locally. What is Pleasanton doing to stop climate change and end America's dependence on foreign oil? There are many steps that we can take at a local level to do our part. For example, why don't we pledge to make all city vehicles hybrids or run on bio-fuels? Why not put solar panels on all city and school buildings to reduce energy costs?

It's time to take our destiny into our own hands and do our part to save our city's budget and our planet, and stop waiting for others to solve our problems.

Jon Rosell

## YOUR TURN

The Pleasanton Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or issues of local interest. Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words and guest opinion pieces up to 500 words with a short bio to [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com). Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Pleasanton Weekly and Embarcadero Media to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square. For more information contact Editor Jeb Bing at (925) 600-0840.

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# POLICE BULLETIN

## Woman accidentally doses herself with marijuana

A 75-year-old woman called 911 after accidentally eating her 69-year-old male roommate's pot brownie, but Pleasanton police don't expect to file charges.

Sgt. Kurt Schlehuber said the whole thing came about because the man, who was scheduled for surgery, had made brownies with marijuana butter given him by his children. Unbeknownst to the man, the woman ate one, became ill, and called 911. The call came in at around 11:29 p.m. April 19 from the 4200 block of Sheldon Circle and was originally listed as a felony charge of furnishing marijuana.

In other police reports:  
 • A traffic stop for a burnt out headlight led to the arrest of a Pleasanton man on a marijuana sales charge. Michael Heisser, 22, was arrested after

police found 28.2 grams of marijuana in one bag, another clear bag with 3.8 grams inside, a third bag with containing 2.9 grams, \$279 cash and a digital scale. Heisser was arrested at about 11:17 p.m. April 19 at the intersection of Smoketree Commons Drive and Vineyard Avenue.

• A Pleasanton man was arrested April 20 on a felony warrant from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. Christopher Dillon, 46, was taken into custody on Old Santa Rita Road and Santa Rita Road on charges of grand theft and possession of stolen property.

• Two burglaries were reported in Pleasanton on April 20. In one, reported at 8:26 a.m. at California Shine in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive, two laptops worth a total of \$1,300 and \$500 in cash was taken. A lock was broken off a door to provide access.

In the other, reported at 3:17 p.m. in the 7800 block of Fair Oaks Drive, a Wii game console worth \$200, another \$200 in Wii games, and a \$50 DVD player were stolen. Access was gained through a garage door and an entry door from the garage into the home.

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

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### April 18

#### Arson

■ 5:13 p.m. in the 2200 block of Greenwood Road

#### Theft

■ 9:37 a.m. in the 5100 block of Johnson Drive; forgery

■ 10:06 a.m. in the 4300 block of Hacienda Drive; forgery

■ 11:52 a.m. in the 3900 block of Bernal Avenue; forgery

■ 3:08 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

■ 3:47 p.m. in the 7000 block of Via Quito; identity theft

#### Vandalism

■ 8:48 a.m. in the 3500 block of Bernal Avenue

■ 9:57 a.m. in the 2900 block of Moreno Avenue

■ 10:28 a.m. in the 400 block of Tawny Drive

■ 6:04 p.m. in the 2400 block of Crestline Road

#### Drug violations

■ 8:58 a.m. in the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road; under the influence of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

■ 11:01 p.m. in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Dr; marijuana possession

### April 19

#### Theft

■ 11:13 a.m. in the 6000 block of Gibraltar Drive; identity theft

#### Auto burglary

■ 2:08 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 4:22 p.m. in the 800 block of Division Street

#### Vandalism

■ 1:41 a.m. at the intersection of Stonedale Drive and Maywood Drive

#### Drug/alcohol violations

■ 2:14 a.m. at the intersection of

Foothill road and Oak Creek Drive; DUI

■ 9:18 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; paraphernalia possession, weapons possession

■ 10:23 p.m. at the intersection of Smoketree Commons Drive and Vineyard Avenue; possession of marijuana for sale

■ 11:29 p.m. in the 4200 block of Sheldon Circle; furnishing marijuana

### April 20

#### Theft

■ 1:40 p.m. in the first block of Cali Court; forgery

■ 6:07 p.m. in the 4300 block of Foothill Road; grand theft

#### Burglary

■ 8:26 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

■ 3:17 p.m. in the 7800 block of Fair Oaks Drive

#### Vandalism

■ 6:30 a.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

■ 8:25 p.m. in the 1600 block of Loganberry Way

#### Drug/alcohol violations

■ 2:21 a.m. in the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road; public drunkenness

■ 7:08 p.m. in the 4100 block of First Street; paraphernalia possession

■ 10:54 p.m. at the intersection of Abbie Street and First Street; DUI

■ 10:58 p.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue; public drunkenness

■ 11:53 p.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Inglewood Drive; DUI

### April 21

#### Theft

■ 3:14 p.m. in the 300 block of Division Street; identity theft

■ 6:40 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; theft

#### Auto burglary

■ 6:18 p.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

#### Drug/alcohol violations

■ 2:12 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Stoneridge Drive; DUI

### April 22

#### Stalking

■ 6:05 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Vandalism

■ 7:50 a.m. in the 500 block of Main Street

#### DUI

■ 3:26 a.m. at the intersection of W. Las Positas Blvd and Payne Road

### April 23

#### Theft

■ 10:15 a.m. in the 7000 block of Koll Center Parkway; identity theft

■ 10:49 a.m. in the 4400 block of Clovewood Lane; auto theft

■ 12:30 p.m. in the 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; identity theft

■ 3:59 p.m. in the 1800 block of Via de Salerno; identity theft

#### Vandalism

■ 8:15 a.m. in the 400 block of Adams Way

■ 10:03 a.m. in the 5900 block of Gibraltar Drive

#### Under the influence of a controlled substance

■ 1:16 p.m. in the 5000 block of Case Avenue

### April 24

#### Sexual abuse of a minor

■ 3:05 p.m. in the 2000 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Theft

■ 12:26 p.m. in the 3400 block of Cornerstone Court; identity theft

■ 4:19 p.m. in the 3900 block of Vine Street; grand theft

#### Vandalism

■ 8:10 a.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

■ 4:40 p.m. in the 3700 block of Brockton Drive

# ENGAGEMENTS

## Jacob-Annese

Gwen Jacob and Tom Annese have announced their engagement and wedding plans for August.

Gwen, the daughter of Cathy and Larry Jacob of Pleasanton, graduated from Amador Valley High in 1998 and San Diego State in 2002. She is employed as an accountant

and event planner at RECON Inc. in San Diego.

Tom graduated from Gen. Douglas McArthur High School, Long Island, N.Y., in 1993 and the New York College of Holistic Therapy and Research in 1999. He is the son of Ray and Julie Annese of Long Island, and is the owner of the Center for Massage in San Diego.

The couple plans to marry Aug. 4 at the San Diego Vintage Car Collection and honeymoon in 2013. They will reside in San Diego.



## WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

### City Council

Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.  
 Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Public Hearing: P12-0042, City of Pleasanton – Consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 18.44: C Commercial Districts, Special Purpose-CC Central Commercial District of the Pleasanton Municipal Code to designate financial institutions as a conditional use within the Downtown Revitalization District (Continued from April 3, 2012)
- Public Hearing: Consider the FY 2012-13 Annual Action Plan for the use of Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds
- Consider allocations for the FY 2012-13 Housing and Human Services Grant (HHS) and Community Grant Programs
- Consider the scope, work plan, general schedule and public input process for preparation of an East Pleasanton Specific Plan
- Consider results of study to review the potential for merging the Housing Commission and Human Services Commission into a single commission

### Downtown Hospitality Guidelines Task Force Meeting

May 3, 2012, 6:30 pm  
 Operations Service Center, 3333 Busch Road

The City's Downtown Hospitality Guidelines Task Force will develop a set of guidelines that addresses key elements in creating a positive and responsible environment for downtown vitality. The task force's discussions will be focused on areas including public safety, music and entertainment, outdoor activities and transportation.

To be added to the email list for agenda packets and additional Downtown Hospitality Guidelines Task Force information, please email your request to [tsnyder@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:tsnyder@ci.pleasanton.ca.us). For further information or questions, see our website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/business/planning/DH/DowntownHospitality.html](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/business/planning/DH/DowntownHospitality.html)

### Human Services Commission

The regular scheduled meeting of the Human Services Commission on May 2, 2012 has been rescheduled to May 16, 2012, City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Avenue.

### HOUSING SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS AND DESIGN GUIDELINES

As part of the Housing Element update, the City recently rezoned nine sites to allow high density multifamily housing. In order to create high quality residential communities in these areas, the City is working on design standards and guidelines that will create rules for height, setbacks, landscaping, number of parking spaces, open spaces, building types and architectural features. The City is seeking your input into these standards and design guidelines to ensure that future residential development on these nine sites is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and is a desirable place to live.

Please plan to attend one of the two planned community meetings (content will be the same):

Monday, April 30, 2012 6:30 p.m. Veterans Memorial Building 301 Main Street Main Hall	<b>OR-</b>	Saturday, May 5, 2012 9:00 a.m. Pleasanton Senior Center 5353 Sunol Boulevard
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For additional information, please contact Janice Stern, Planning Manager 925.931.5606

**ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PUBLIC COMMENT IS WELCOME**

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

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## The online ballot is available April 27 to May 20 at PleasantonWeekly.com

You will need to vote in at least five categories, complete the contact information at the end of the ballot and confirm your vote via email.

We allow only one vote per person—this confirmation is a way to discourage ballot box stuffing.

It is important to remember that your ballot will not be counted until you activate it by responding to a confirmation e-mail that will automatically be sent to you.

If you don't see your favorite on the dropdown list, please write in your selection to be tallied.

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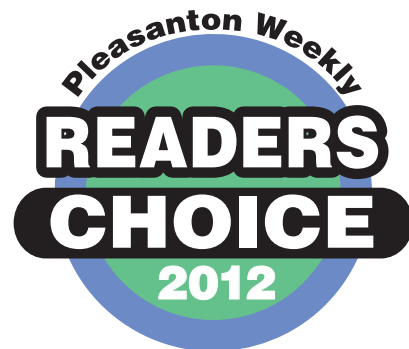
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Best Day Spa  
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Best Chinese Restaurant  
Best Coffee House  
Best French Fries  
Best Grocery Store  
Best Health Food Store  
Best Ice Cream / Yogurt Shop  
Best Italian Restaurant  
Best Kid-Friendly, Non-Chain Restaurant  
Best Main Street Restaurant  
Best Meal Under \$20  
Best Mediterranean / Middle Eastern Restaurant  
Best Mexican Restaurant  
Best New Restaurant 2011  
Best Pizza  
Best Romantic Restaurant  
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Best Sushi / Japanese Restaurant  
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# Pleasanton, HOME OF GOLF GREATS

YOUNG TALENT  
DEVELOPS INTO  
LEGENDARY STATUS  
ON LOCAL COURSES

STORY BY  
DENNIS MILLER



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Todd Fischer (left) and Joel Kribel got their starts in Pleasanton and became legendary on the links by the time they went to college. Fischer played at USF before turning pro in 1993. Kribel enjoyed a prolific amateur career and played at Stanford; he turned pro in 1999.

Larry O'Leary has seen a lot of great young golfers in the many years he has been teaching golf, but the run of talent when he first came to Pleasanton has been unmatched.

He arrived at Castlewood Country Club in 1986, right into a period when a number of the youth golfers would evolve into the professional ranks.

Young men who developed legendary status on the links by the time they went away to college included players like Todd Fischer, Joel Kribel and Bryan Pemberton, and young ladies such as Paula Creamer, Jean Zedlitz and Ashley Gomes, left their marks in the junior golf circles of Pleasanton. Most have gone on to play professionally at some level.

The common ground for most was the Castlewood Country Club Junior Merit program where some long-time members still talk about the exploits of Fischer and Pemberton.

"We had a nice, organized program," said Fischer of the junior club at Castlewood. "There were a lot of really good players in a little area."

It did not take long for O'Leary, now an instructor at the Pleasanton Golf Center, to know how good some of the young golfers were playing.

"I got there when they were around 15 or 16," said O'Leary of Fischer and Pemberton. "They were already unbelievable. They could only get out on the course at certain times so they spent hours chipping and putting."

When they did get on the course, oftentimes their success came at the expense of members or visiting junior teams.

"Those matches were a lot of fun," said Fischer with a hint of nostalgia in his voice. "No one came to the Hill (course) and beat us."

After a stellar career at Foothill, Fischer played at the University of San Francisco before turning professional in 1993; to this point he has \$2.8 million in career PGA Tour earnings, with four career third-place finishes in the Greater Hartford Open, the Reno-Tahoe Open, the B.C. Open and the Valero Texas Open.

In 2002 while on the Nationwide Tour, Fischer won the Fort Smith Classic on the way to finishing seventh on the Nationwide Tour money list. The success of the season earned Fischer a spot on the PGA Tour where he played full-time from 2003-06.

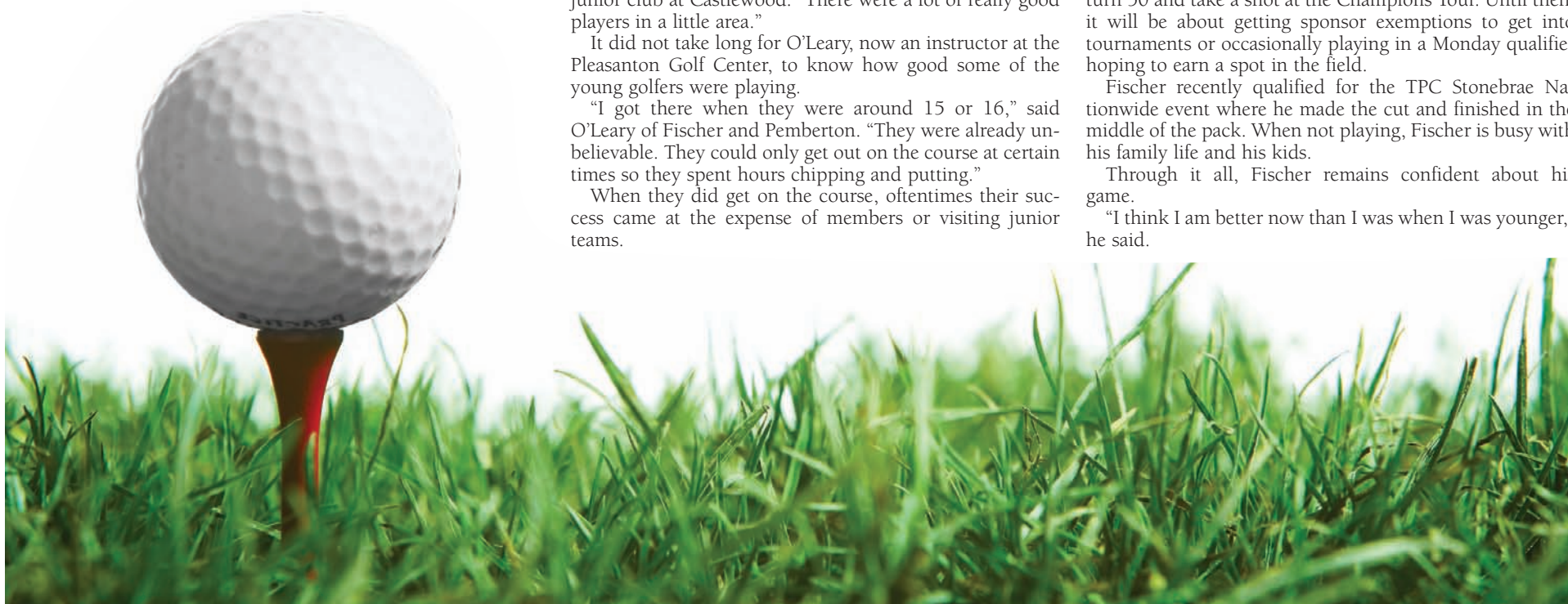
Highlights along the way included a hole-in-one on the 7th hole at Pebble Beach in the second round of the U.S. Open in 2000.

At 42 now, Fischer is in some sort of limbo waiting to turn 50 and take a shot at the Champions Tour. Until then, it will be about getting sponsor exemptions to get into tournaments or occasionally playing in a Monday qualifier hoping to earn a spot in the field.

Fischer recently qualified for the TPC Stonebrae Nationwide event where he made the cut and finished in the middle of the pack. When not playing, Fischer is busy with his family life and his kids.

Through it all, Fischer remains confident about his game.

"I think I am better now than I was when I was younger," he said.



Kribel turned pro in 1999 after finishing at Stanford and a prolific amateur career. Kribel, who was a four-time All-American at Stanford, played on a Walker Cup team and was twice a member of the World Am team.

In 1997, Kribel was the runner-up to Matt Kuchar in the U.S. Amateur, falling 2-and-1 at Cog Hill. In 1996, Kribel fell 3-and-1 to Tiger Woods in the semifinals of the Amateur as Woods was on the way to his final Amateur title.

"The Amateur is the tournament of the year before you turn professional," said Kribel. "You circle the tournament on your calendar each year."

Kribel's first inclination he was on track to become a professional came earlier in his career. One year in the Junior World tournament in San Diego he turned in a solid effort against a field that included Woods and several other future professionals.

"I was 16 or 17 and played really well in the (Junior World)," said Kribel. "At that point I felt I could hold my own."

Kribel was an accomplished athlete in a number of sports, trimming down to baseball and golf as he got into his teen years.

"I always had the dream to play a professional sport," said Kribel, an ambition shared by a number of young athletes. "There seemed to be more baseball players that were better than me than there were golfers. I always enjoyed both sports, but I knew golf was my best shot."

Now 35, Kribel has been battling a myriad of health issues throughout his professional career. It started when he was a rookie on the Tour and fractured his finger; later it was a bad back, the worst physical ailment a golfer can face.

Kribel's competitive nature has kept the juices flowing and the positive approach may be paying off.

"It's been seven to eight years since I have felt this good," he said. "I had a stretch for years where I felt bad every day. This year I had one little stretch where it was bad. I still have kinks to iron out, but I am closer than I have been in a while. If I can stay healthy, I can dig myself out and get back to where I am competitive."

There is another former Pleasanton youngster who didn't play golf until later in life but has advanced to the professional ranks as well in Dean Vomacka.

Vomacka is an interesting story as he didn't pick up golf until after he graduated from Foothill. An all-league basketball and baseball player, Vomacka decided to give golf a go.

Through hard work Vomacka has qualified in to some PGA Tour events, including the Waste Management Open and the Frys.com events. Now in his early 40s, Vomacka, who has worked as a golf professional at some clubs in Arizona, is still playing in some mini-tour events in hopes of making it full time on the PGA Tour.

Bryan Pemberton was a star at the University of Southern California and has spent a lot of time as a professional at clubs throughout Northern California.

Paula Creamer is the most accomplished of the local talent lot, winning the Women's U.S. Open in 2010 and becoming one of the more recognizable golfers in the world, but Jean Zedlitz was the trailblazer for females from Pleasanton.

Zedlitz was the oldest of the group and O'Leary got a dose of her talent early on as well. At the time there was no girls' golf at the local high schools, so Zedlitz played with the Amador Valley boys' team.

"I remember hearing Amador was playing a match down on the Valley Course (at Castlewood) and that they had this girl who was an incredible player," said O'Leary. "I got in the cart, went down and watched two holes. On the par 5 she was just off the green in two. That was all I needed to see."

Former Las Positas pro Dan Lippstreu worked with Zedlitz starting when she was 12 or 13 and could tell right away she was a player.

"We would meet once a week and it was more like a supervised practice session," explained Lippstreu. "Jean was not just a great golfer, but she was a great athlete as well. She was probably the most talented golfer I have ever worked with."

Zedlitz didn't just play for the boys' team at Amador Valley — in fact, she was the No. 1 player at Amador and among the elite players in the league. She even took it further than being the best player at the high school.

"I remember I got a call from her after the East Bay Athletic League tournament and I asked her how she did," said Lippstreu. "She told me she had the best score and I assumed she meant she beat the other girls. But she said she shot a 71 and beat everyone. She went out and beat all the boys as well."

After high school she went on to UCLA and was a two-time All-American. After turning professional in 1993, Zedlitz played for several years on the LPGA Tour.

Born in 1986, Creamer started playing golf when she was 10 and within two years, she was among the elite junior golfers in the country.



CHRIS SCOTT/CALSPORTPHOTO.COM



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Clockwise from above: Paula Creamer with young fans at the LPGA tournament at Blackhawk Country Club in 2010; Ashley Gomes Kettmann (right), a fan favorite on the Golf Channel's Big Break competitions, poses with Big Break 6 winner Bri Vega and Donald Trump in Manhattan; Jean Zedlitz was a trailblazer for women golfers, playing on the Amador Valley boys' team in the '80s when there was no girls' team.

In 2003 and 2004, Creamer was the top ranked amateur and in 2003 was named the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) Player of the Year. She ended up winning 11 AJGA tournaments and she was a member of the 2004 U.S. Curtis Cup team. She also represented the United States in the 2002 and 2003 PING Junior Solheim Cup matches.

Along the way, Creamer left Pleasanton and moved to Bradenton, Fla., just before her freshman year in high school to attend the prestigious IMG Academy, immersing herself in golf.

Once she turned professional in 2005, Creamer wasted little time in making her mark, winning the Sybase Classic just four days before graduating high school and then the Evian Masters later in the year.

Creamer has won nine times on the Tour and has almost \$9 million in career earnings. In 2010, Creamer won the Women's U.S. Open, the crowning achievement of her career so far.

Creamer has become one of the faces of women's golf and one of the more popular players with young girls around the world. In 2009, Creamer was named co-chair of the First Tee's Young Ambassador Council.

Ashley Gomes — now Ashley Kettmann after getting married to long-time boyfriend Jeff — has had her time in the television spotlight after starring in a pair of the Golf Channel's Big Break competitions. A former star at San Jose State following her time at Foothill, Gomes spent several years as a touring professional.

Now 30 and expecting her first child in August, Kettmann is back in Pleasanton and running women's golf programs at the Pleasanton Golf Center, founding a program called "Queens of the Greens." She also works with former LPGA Tour player and Southern California superstar Dana Dormann who now also lives in Pleasanton. It was players like Dormann (Dana Lofland before she was married) and Zedlitz that set the path for Kettmann.

"I always looked up to Dana and Jean," said Kettmann, still

**"Todd hit a fade and Bryan a draw and they used to make their balls hit in the air. That was pretty amazing."**

—Ashley Kettmann



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

displaying the same personality and charm that made her a fan favorite on Big Break VII, where she advanced to the final two before losing to current PGA Tour player Tommy "Two-Gloves" Gainey.

Kettmann looks back fondly on her junior years, having spent some time honing her skills at Castlewood alongside Creamer. She also recalls having Fischer and Pemberton work with the junior players when they were in high school.

"Todd hit a fade and Bryan a draw and they used to make their balls hit in the air," said Kettmann. "That was pretty amazing."

Now that she works with junior golfers, Kettmann has seen a big change in the game.

"The girls are so serious right now," said Kettmann about today's junior golfer. "They don't seem like they are having any fun. Some of the parents are crazy now."

It has been a great run for the junior golfers of Pleasanton and there figures to be more to come.

"I think you will see something again," said O'Leary. "There are so many good, young players in Pleasanton." ♀



AMERICAN

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Author Visits

**ASIA ADVENTURE** Local author and scholar Hildi Kang will share two versions of travel across the Silk Road of China -- the reality of her own trip and the imaginative tale of her historical fiction book, "Chengli and the Silk Road Caravan." The event is at 2 p.m., Sunday, May 6, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. The presentation will include pictures from her trip that became the backdrop for Chengli's story. Call 931-3405.

**CHILDREN'S AUTHOR JULIETTE GOODRICH** Children's author Juliette Goodrich, also a KPIX News personality, will discuss her third book, "I Am Special Because I Smile," at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 5, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. It is the story of the Special Olympics and her experience with those very special athletes. Goodrich will offer an engaging glimpse into her writer's world and the process she goes through to create fun, engaging children's non-fiction. Call 931-3400.

Class Reunions

**AMADOR VALLEY HIGH CLASS REUNION** The class of 1972 is having its 40th class reunion on July 7. Location and time to be announced shortly. They are also inviting the classes of 1971, 1973 and 1984 and are looking for other class members. Contact Nancy Johnson Lenoci at [nlenoci@yahoo.com](mailto:nlenoci@yahoo.com). 305-4071.

Clubs

**TRI-VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED DINNER** Meet Joel Fox, co-publisher and editor-in-chief of the website Fox and Hounds Daily, who worked for Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association for 19 years, serving as the president from 1986 to 1998. He is president of the Small Business Action Committee, working for small business on important political issues. Event is at Cattlemens at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 10, at 2882 Kitty Hawk Road, Livermore. For reservations and information, contact Phyllis Couper at 462-4931 or email [coupclan1962@pacbell.net](mailto:coupclan1962@pacbell.net) by May 7.

**VIRTUALLY SPEAKING TOASTMASTERS** Virtually Speaking Toastmasters club meets from noon-1 p.m. every Thursday at Electrical Reliability

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



COURTESY PDA

**1st Wednesday Street Parties kick off this week**

The Pleasanton Downtown Association's 1st Wednesday Street Parties for 2012 kick off May 2 with a Cinco de Mayo Celebration featuring the band Ruckatan in the beer and wine garden. In addition to 200 booths, live music, the beer and wine garden and youth activities, this year will also feature a farmers market near the Rose Hotel and an ArtBlock on East Angela Street. The Main Street fun runs from 6-9 p.m., with the street closing from 4:30 to 10 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.pleasantondowntown.net>.

Services, 6900 Koll Center Pkwy., Suite 415. Everyone is welcome to come see what a positive change Toastmasters can make in their confidence. Call 580-8660.

Events

**72ND ANNUAL ROSE SHOW** Come celebrate the "Days of Wine and Roses" from 1-4 p.m., Saturday, May 12, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. This show is dubbed "the people's show" because anyone can enter their homegrown roses. Exhibitors registration is from 7:30-10 a.m.; judging from 10a.m.-12:30 p.m.; awards ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Call Leslie, Joyce or Marti at 251-1111 or visit [www.thepleasantonroseshow.com](http://www.thepleasantonroseshow.com).

**BRAS FOR THE CAUSE** The seventh annual "Bras for the Cause" Breast Cancer Walk is from 7-10 p.m., Saturday, May 12, in downtown Pleasanton. Details and registration information can be found on the walk website: [www.trivalleysocks.org](http://www.trivalleysocks.org).

**BRIDAL FAIRE** Meet industry professionals to help plan your wedding, from noon-4 p.m., Saturday, April 28, at Faz Restaurant, 5121 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Free admission. Live cooking demos, complimentary food tastings, glass of bubbly, top local vendors.

**FARMERS MARKET** Visit the Pleasanton Farmers Market from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Saturday, on East Angela Street between Main and First streets. The Farmers Market is open every Saturday, year-round, rain or

shine, to provide the season's freshest fruits and vegetables, sold by the very farmers that planted, nurtured and harvested the crop.

**GOURMET FOOD TRUCKS** Gourmet Food Trucks will be at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton on Saturday, April 28. Enjoy all your favorite food trucks, along with music, wine, beer, bar and indoor/outdoor seating. Visit [www.facebook.com/TheMobileGourmet](http://www.facebook.com/TheMobileGourmet). 4-8:30 p.m. Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton. 640-3691. [www@the-mobile-gourmet.com](mailto:www@the-mobile-gourmet.com)

**HIDDEN GARDENS OF THE VALLEY TOUR** Follow your love of animals down the garden path at the seventh annual Hidden Gardens of the Valley, a benefit for Valley Humane Society (VHS). Meander at your own pace during this self-guided tour offering ideas, inspiration and a private glimpse of 10 lovely gardens across Pleasanton. Sunday, May 20 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$35 advance/\$40 day of event Pleasanton. 426-8656. [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org)

**MAIFEST** Maifest im Biergarten - San Ramon Valley German School. Saturday, May 19 from 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Handles GastroPub, 855 Main St., Pleasanton. [www.sanramonvalleygermanschool.com](http://www.sanramonvalleygermanschool.com)

**ROTARY COMMUNITY MIXER** Join Pleasanton North Rotary for an evening of fun and camaraderie. Learn about Rotary, their Club, the good things they do for their local community and the world, the fun they have, and the life-long friendships they make. Appetizers provided. Contact them for more information. Friday, April 27 at 5 p.m. Pleasanton Hilton (Restaurant), 7050 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton. 730-3862. [www.pnr-rotary.org](http://www.pnr-rotary.org)

**SINGLES WINE TASTING PARTY** Meet new friends who appreciate fine wine. \$20 in advance (by May 11) or \$30 at door includes all the wines you can taste, from boutique wineries, accompanied by light appetizers. Adults of all ages welcome. Dressy attire recommended for this upscale hotel. Saturday, May 12 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$30 Marriott Hotel, 11950 Dublin Canyon Rd., Pleasanton. 415-507-9962. [www.thepartyhotline.com](http://www.thepartyhotline.com)

Pleasanton's Museum on Main are presenting "Imagination Expressed 2012" through April 29 at the Museum on Main, 603 Main St. Pleasanton.

Film

**'PROJECT NIM' & SPECIAL GUEST BOB INGERSOLL** "Project Nim" is a touching film about a baby chimpanzee who was raised as a human child and taught sign language as a linguistic experiment. Bob Ingersoll, primate rescuer and Nim's best friend, will conduct a Q & A after the film. Meet and greet potluck at 6:30 p.m.; film starts at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 5 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. free/\$3 suggested donation IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. 462-3459.

Fundraisers

**23RD ANNUAL 'WALK FOR LIFE'** The Valley Pregnancy Center is sponsoring a walkathon with the goal of raising \$100,000 to support its free services. A short 2-mile walk to downtown Pleasanton. Strollers, wheelchairs and pets are welcome! BBQ - Live Band - Kid's Zone - Prizes Saturday, May 5 from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free Amador Recreation Center, 4451 Black Ave., Pleasanton. 425-0414, ext. 104. [www.valleypregnancycenter.org](http://www.valleypregnancycenter.org)

**ALMOST ELTON JOHN AND THE ROCKET BAND** Elton John tribute concert featuring Broadway sensation Craig A. Meyer. Concert includes post-performance reception with complimentary wine & dessert in this fundraiser for the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center. Saturday, May 5 from 8-11 p.m. \$50/\$59 all tickets include wine & dessert reception. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 373-6800. [www.mylvpac.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=80&Itemid=526](http://www.mylvpac.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=80&Itemid=526)

**ANIMAL LOVER'S BOUTIQUE SPRING FLING** Shop the Animal Lover's Boutique Spring Fling sale. Proceeds help sick and injured animals through Jackie Barnett's Just Like New Fund, a Valley Humane Society program. Find unique animal-themed items for spring and Mother's Day, including garden and home decor. Saturday, May 5 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Feline Medical Center, 3160 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. 323-8517. [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org)

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**APPLIANCES NEEDED REACH**, a local nonprofit that provides independent living opportunities for developmentally disabled adults, has six homes in Pleasanton and three in Livermore and depends on the public for help. Currently it needs a gently used energy efficient washing machine and two energy efficient refrigerators. If you can help with a donation register on the website [www.trivalleyreach.com](http://www.trivalleyreach.com) or email [julie.testa@gmail.com](mailto:julie.testa@gmail.com).

**CROP HUNGER WALK** The Pleasanton Tri-Valley Crop Hunger Walk to Benefit Open Heart Kitchen, hosted by the Catholic Community of Pleasanton and open to all walkers, leaves from the parking lot of St. Elizabeth Seton Church at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, April 28. Participants can register to walk alone, in a group, or as part of a team. Registration begins at 9 a.m. The walk is three miles long. The suggested individual donation is \$25, but participants may register for as little as \$5. Every dollar raised will be matched as 11 Bay Area communities host walks to fight hunger at home and around the world.

**ICF PRIMAVERA DINNER DANCE** Italian Catholic Federation Primavera Dinner Dance. Live music by Smooth Sounds. Prize drawings. Reservations required. To benefit Tri-Valley scholarship program and other ICF charities. Saturday, May 5 from 6-11 p.m. \$35 per person. St. Michael's Church Hall, 372 Maple St., Livermore. 846-8436 or 846-6514.

**MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY** Assistance League of Amador Valley tea party features darling decorated tea tables, yummy food, hat contest, drawing prizes, and champagne bar. Entertainment is a Chico's fashion show. All profits go to buy school clothes for local needy children. Saturday, May 5 from noon-4 p.m. \$50 Aahmes Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindberg Ave., Livermore. 462-5275. [www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org](http://www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org)

**RUBY FRIDAY AT RUBY HILL WINERY** Donations to support Tri-Valley Haven. The event is from 6:30-9 p.m., Friday, April 27, at Ruby Hill Winery, 400 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton. The cost is \$10 for Gem Society members, \$15 for non-members and \$10 for anyone under 21 years of age. Price includes a glass of wine, two barrel tastings, one slice of pizza, light snacks. Additional wine and pizza will be available for sale. Call 931-9463.

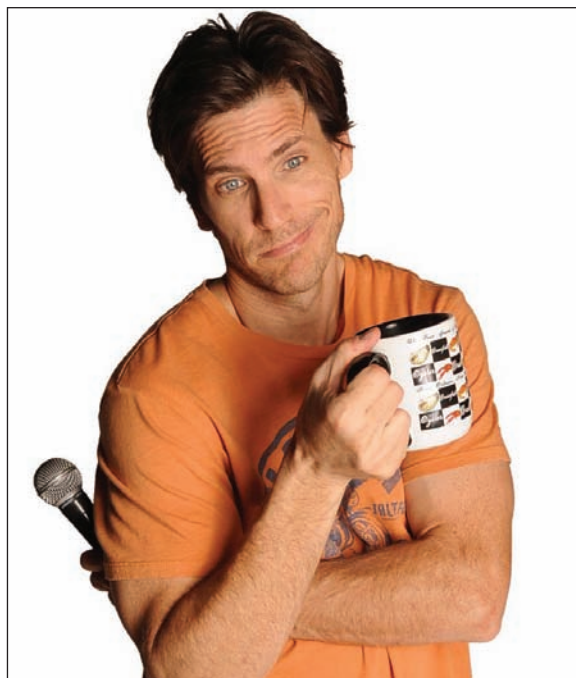
## Health

**NONPROFIT "WALK WITH A DOC" HITS TRI VALLEY** "Walk with a Doc" is a unique walking program that allows you to spend time walking with a doctor, giving you the opportunity to have questions answered by local physicians. Put on a pair of comfortable walking shoes and walk for your health. Saturday, May 12 at 10 a.m. Free Pleasanton Sports Park, 5800 Parkside Dr, Pleasanton. 225-0500. [www.walkwithadoc.org](http://www.walkwithadoc.org)

## Kids & Teens

**'TALES OF THE FOURTH GRADE NOTHING'** After his 2-year-old little brother walks off with his pet turtle,

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Peter Hatcher vows to get his parents to pay attention to him for a change. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. on May 4, 5, 11, 12 and at 2 p.m. on May 5, 6, 12, 13. Adult: \$10, \$15, \$18; child & senior: \$6, \$9, \$12. Purchase online, by phone or in person at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**A-TISKET, A-TASKEY, A GREEN AND YELLOW BASKET** The Northern California Natives who inhabited this area before us were expert basket makers. Explore the many uses that these native cultures had for baskets, as well as how they made them and then you'll get a chance to create one of your own. Preregistration is required. Saturday, April 28 from 1-2 p.m. \$5 resident/\$7 non-resident Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road, Pleasanton. 931-3479. [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation/current-activities-guide.html](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation/current-activities-guide.html)

### PARK DISTRICT GET ACTIVE!

**TEEN ART CONTEST** The East Bay Regional Park District invites creative teens to enter the District's first Get Active! Youth Art Contest, now through May 15. Create posters, rap, spoken word/poetry or video skits, showing how you get active in any East Bay public park. Ages 12-18. No fee 1-888-327-2757. [www.getactivecontest.com](http://www.getactivecontest.com)

## Live Music

**VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE** "Of Springtime Sounds - Bugs Out" will be the spring concert featuring a unique soprano solo with clarinet and piano. The concert is at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 12, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door; high school and college students are \$10 with student ID. Advance tickets may be ordered by visiting [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org) or by calling 866-4003.

## Miscellaneous

**'IT'S RAINING CATS AND DOGS'** The East Bay SPCA is offering 20% off

## Firehouse comedy continues

Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center will continue Comedy@Firehouse Arts at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 10, with high-energy comedian Don Friesen. His act is described as "smart and savvy, highly-caffeinated comedy," a satire of his life as a suburban husband and father of two with little money in the bank. He pokes fun at technology problems, marriage and parenting, mixed with eclectic impressions of John Lithgow, Gary Busey and Dr. Phil, as he exploits his own faults and taps into the humanity in everyone. Opener Jason Love is a Los Angeles-based standup comic, writer, cartoonist, and nationally syndicated humor columnist who has appeared on television's Last Comic Standing and Comedy Central.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), by phone at 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

all spay and neuter services including microchip and rabies vaccination. Call 510-639-7387 or 479-9674 and leave a message; call will be returned in 48 business hours. Special runs through April 30.

**'LUCKY FAN' GIVEAWAY** Tri-Valley Community Television is offering viewers an opportunity to be a TV30 "Lucky Fan." The station is giving away tickets to various entertainment venues such as the Vine Cinema, Firehouse Theater, Bankhead Theater, as well as restaurants and more. Register at [www.trivalleytv.org](http://www.trivalleytv.org). Winners will be announced on TV30 and on Tri-Valley Community TV Facebook page. Enter as many times as you like.

**8TH ANNUAL BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES GARDEN TOUR** Registration is now open for the 8th annual Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, which will take place from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, May 6. The free, award-winning tour features 45 Alameda and Contra Costa county gardens that are pesticide-free, conserve water, provide habitat for wildlife, and contain 60% or more native plants. The self-drive tour showcases a variety of gardens, from large parcels in the hills to small lots in the flats. Native plant sales and talks are offered at select gardens. Space is limited and registration is required. Register at [www.bringingbackthenativesnet](http://www.bringingbackthenativesnet).

**PLEASANTONIANS 4 PEACE** This group is sponsoring a candlelight vigil at 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 9, in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main St., Pleasanton. They will reflect on the human monetary costs of the war, honor our veterans who have sacrificed, and visualize ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. They are planning to continue this monthly event the second Wednesday of the month as long as necessary. Call Cathe Norman at 462-7495 or email Matt Sullivan at [mjs7882@gmail.com](mailto:mjs7882@gmail.com) or visit [www.pleasantonians4peace.org](http://www.pleasantonians4peace.org).

## On Stage

**'SHOUT! THE MOD MUSICAL'** Non-stop journey through the infectious

and soulful pop anthems and ballads that made household names of stars like Petula Clark, Dusty Springfield and Lulu. Performances are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; and 2 p.m. Sundays, April 13-29 at TVRT Studio Theater, 1048 Serpentine Ln., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$25 for adults; \$22 for seniors; and \$20 for students. Call 462-2121 or visit [www.trivalleyrep.org](http://www.trivalleyrep.org).

## Recreation

**FROM HORA TO ZUMBA: DANCE ISRAEL** Join Bay Area Zumba instructor Lara Walklet in a beat-infused montage of dances in celebration of Israel@64. Event will feature a wide variety of Israeli songs - from traditional melodies to contemporary music. Admission is free. Event co-sponsored by Jewish Federation of the East Bay. Wednesday, May 16 from 7:30-9 p.m. Free Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. 931-1055. [www.bethemek.org](http://www.bethemek.org)

## Seniors

**DOWNSIZING SEMINAR: ASK THE EXPERTS** Find out the truth about what it means to make a post retirement move in today's market by attending this seminar featuring a panel of industry experts. Hear from a senior real estate specialist, estate sale professional and move organizer. Bring your questions. Tuesday, May 8 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Free Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. 931-5365. [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org)

**OAKLAND ZOOMOBILE** The Oakland Zoo's Education Department will present this event featuring four "learning stations" to help educate groups about conservation issues and solutions. Enjoy live animal interactions, view artifacts, learn about the Rainforest and ways to reduce, reuse and recycle. The event is from 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, May 2, at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

**WALKING WORKSHOP** Come learn about the new walking group, "Sole Mates," from 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, May 9, at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Guest lecturer Ron Sutton, "Mr. Pedometer," and Ida Hirst will discuss the benefits of walking. Information on upcoming walks, refreshments and prize drawings. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org).

## Spiritual

**BISHOP TO VISIT ST. CLARE'S** Join St. Clare's Episcopal Church as they celebrate life and growth with their bishop, The Right Rev. Marc Andrus and his wife, Dr. Shiela Andrus. The church promises great music, joy-filled celebration, and a brunch after each service (8 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.) All are welcome. Sunday, May 6 No Charge St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. 462-4802. [www.stclarespleasanton.org](http://www.stclarespleasanton.org)

**TRI-VALLEY UNITY CHURCH** The Tri-Valley Unity Church will be moving to 9875 Dublin Canyon Road, Castro Valley, as of May 6. More room for all the new classes, small groups, new children's and teen programs, and Sunday services at 10 a.m. Call 829-2733 or visit [www.trivalleyunity.com](http://www.trivalleyunity.com).

## Support Groups

**PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES SUPPORT GROUP** Formed in 2003 this group provides support and comfort to the Pleasanton families whose loved ones are deployed in the combat zones of Afghanistan and Iraq. The group has monthly meetings and other events such as "pack outs" of comfort and care items. The group also sponsors the Yellow Streamer program on Main Street. Learn more at [www.pleasanton-militaryfamilies.org](http://www.pleasanton-militaryfamilies.org).

**TOURETTE SYNDROME MEETING** The spring chapter meeting is from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, May 19, at St. Augustine, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Speakers on Executive Dysfunction, IEP and 504. Creating a marketing plan for your job search plus more. RSVP. Event sponsored by the Northern California Tourette Syndrome Associate. Call 846-8075 or email [Gibsonohare@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Gibsonohare@sbcglobal.net).

## Volunteering

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS** Volunteers are needed to help at the 2012 Special Olympics volleyball and track events Saturday, May 19, at Amador Valley High School. Email [avboosters@comcast.net](mailto:avboosters@comcast.net) with your name, address, phone number, email address, specify if you are an adult or state age if under 18, indicate group you are with such as AVHS, FHS, Boosters, Leadership, AVID, and NCL. Include the day and times you can work. Call Ken Mano at 846-4381 with questions.

*Check out Community Calendar at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) for a complete listing of local events.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE VALLEY — MUSIC, THEATER, ART, MOVIES AND MORE

## SELF-TAUGHT GUITARIST LAUNCHES CAREER IN SWITZERLAND

Finalist in Swiss talent  
contest prepares to  
release first album



BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

Nick Johnson's career as a musician began with a broken heart.

But don't look for soppy sentimentality in Johnson's music, which has been compared to John Mayer and namesake Jack Johnson.

Johnson — Nick, not Jack — will be releasing his first album, "We Are Blind," in the not-too-distant future.

Meanwhile, he's been performing in Switzerland and has a growing following in Europe, thanks to a Swiss new talent contest. Johnson, a 2003 graduate of Amador High, was selected earlier this year as one of eight finalists in the Caprices talent contest. While his band wasn't chosen to play in the annual festival, it placed fourth in votes out of 360 bands.

Not bad for someone who only started playing guitar in 2008.

"As a kid growing up, I was really into sports," Johnson said. "I didn't do anything musically. I was a jock. I played basketball."

He played both JV and varsity basketball in high school and didn't even pick up the guitar until he was alone overseas after breaking up with the young woman he'd moved 7,000 miles from home to be with.

There were some twists and turns along the way, including a stint at Diablo Valley College that led Johnson to his new career as musician.

"I went to DVC and went to their culinary program," he said. "During that time when I was in school, I met a girl that was half Swiss and half Brazilian ... That was the reason I ended up going to Switzerland in the first place."

One thing led to another until Johnson found himself working as a chef in the resort town of St. Moritz, living in a small room with a great view but without close friends and little to do to occupy his time.

"Monique believed in me and my talent and opened her home to me so I could focus on finding someone to help me record my music. It also gave me a chance to be with them and focus on being Braxton's male role model."

**Nick Johnson**

"That's when I started teaching myself how to sing as well as play," he said. "When I first got here, I didn't have much to do. We didn't have much money. I got a cheap little guitar — it took my mind off the fact that I was hungry a lot of the time."

Johnson, like the Beatles, never took lessons or learned to read music.

"I taught myself how to play. It was just one of those things, I picked it up and knew how to play it. I don't know why, it was just so natural and easy," Johnson said. "I literally played guitar from when I awoke until 1, 2 o'clock. I don't know chords, I just play from my ear."

His relationship with the young woman ended a year ago, when Johnson decided to make a go as a professional musician.

"I wanted to take it more seriously," he



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Clockwise from left: Nick Johnson with Braxton Pfeninger in New York City in 2010; Johnson at his first-ever gig in Zurich at an underground club for singer-songwriters; Johnson and bass player Miller Harrison play for the Rainbows 4 Children Fundraiser in Switzerland in May 2011.

said. "I didn't know this wasn't normal, people learning to play guitar in just a short amount of time. People started telling me I should do this."

Two separate families have adopted Johnson.

"I met a family when I first got here," he said, explaining that he would baby sit for Bernhard and Monique Pfenninger's son Braxton while the couple worked. When Bernhard died suddenly in 2009, Johnson promised to visit the family at least twice a month from St. Moritz, three hours away. "I did that for almost two years until I decided to leave my ex and move to Zurich."

"Monique is the one who encouraged me to pursue my passion for music," he added. "She believed in me and my talent and opened her home to me so I could focus on finding

someone to help me record my music. It also gave me a chance to be with them and focus on being Braxton's male role model. We are family now and I still live with them."

Monique Pfenninger also introduced him to his new musical family — father Bill Day, who plays lead guitar, while son Stevie handles keyboards and Mike plays drums.

Johnson's music prompted Bill to create a label, Day One records, and fund Johnson's first album, "We Are Blind," due to be released soon. He made his professional debut just last year.

"My first gig was for a foundation called Rainbows 4 Children. They have a school in Ethiopia," Johnson said. "I played for like 35 minutes. We kind of shocked the room. Everyone really enjoyed it and it just took off

See **GUITARIST** on Page 21

# Enjoy student art

Art Made Easy, high school creations on display

Works by students in Charlotte Severin's Art Made Easy classes will be on display next week at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., with a reception from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday.

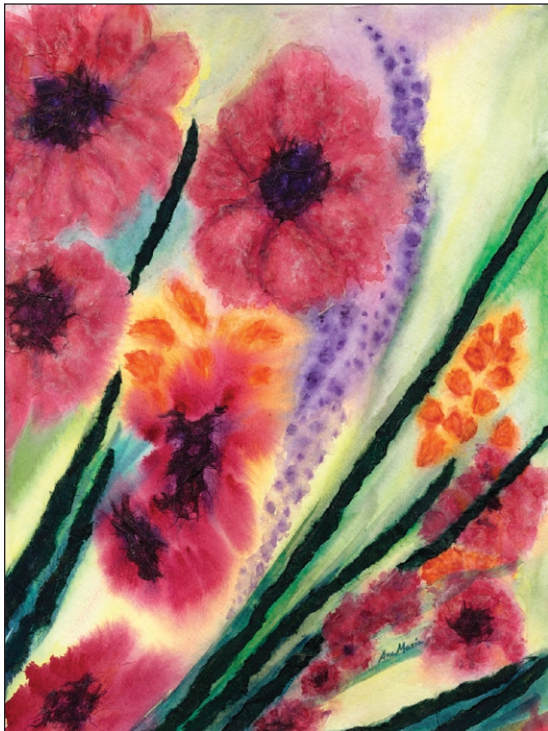
Severin has been teaching watercolor classes for almost two decades through the city, and this is the 18th annual Celebrating Art Made Easy student exhibit.

The exhibit includes plein air paintings, which is work done on location, as well as floral, still life and portraits. There are also textural works using rice paper collage. A few of the paintings may be available for purchase by contacting the artist, and original watercolor paintings by Severin will also be on display.

In addition to the opening reception, the exhibit will be open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through noon, Friday, May 4.

Meanwhile an exhibit of a select group of art students from Amador Valley and Foothill high schools is on display at the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton, juried by art teachers Michael Doyle, Trish Fenton, Caroline Fields and Nancy Scotto. In addition, the exhibit includes a collection of works by recent alumni who are currently pursuing their college degrees.

The art will be on display through May 5. An artists' reception was held April 20. ■



"A Burst of Color," watercolor by Ane Marie Rodriguez



"Snowy Egrets," watercolor by Claudia Curran



"Deer" by Elora Kelsh, Foothill High



Student art on display at the Firehouse Arts Center



"Defective Barbie" by Sarah Im, Amador Valley High

## GUITARIST

Continued from Page 20

from there."

While Johnson and the Days have performed a handful of times since then, the bulk of their time has been spent putting the album together. Johnson said a tour to promote the album will follow its release.

"We're planning on going probably within Switzerland and then probably Germany. Basically you have to see where your music is popping up," he said. "I would love actually to come home and do a show in Pleasanton. We actually may be going to New York as well, but we're going to be mainly in Europe."

Johnson said his life as a professional musician came as a surprise to his friends.

"None of my friends back home know," he said. "When it came out on Facebook, it was this whole big thing, like, 'I didn't know you could play.' It was this whole big secret."

Johnson's career path also shocked his family in Pleasanton, who were mostly worried for him.

"My parents in the beginning, when I first started, they were a little uneasy about the whole thing, they were worried that it's a pretty tough business," he said. "As they saw thing progressing, they saw that I was serious. It was one of the first thing they saw that I was good at."

He said his younger sister, like Braxton, is one of his biggest fans.

Trying to describe his music is a difficult task for Johnson.

"Some people say it reminds them of a nice summer day. They like to sit back and see where the music takes them," he said. "You'll understand what I'm going through in my life if you listen to my album."

It seems that the language barrier is not much of a barrier in Zurich, which Johnson described as a "very English-speaking city."

"All the music they listen to here comes from the U.S. or the U.K.," he said, adding, "Even non speakers enjoy it." ■

## NOW SHOWING

REVIEWS OF NEW MOVIES

By PETER CANAVESE

### Monsieur Lazhar

★★★

Rated PG-13 for mature thematic material, a disturbing image and brief language. 1 hour, 34 minutes.

School can be cruel. It's a message on display not only in the recent headline-grabbing documentary "Bully," but also in the humble French-Canadian drama "Monsieur Lazhar."

Based on Evelyne de la Cheneliere's one-man play "Bashir Lazhar," Philippe Falardeau's feature wasn't so humble as to miss scoring an Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Language Film. But it is a sensitive and fairly subtle work, with the deceptive simplicity of a well-honed short story. "Monsieur Lazhar" takes an interest in both its titular hero, an Algerian immigrant who comes to teach a sixth-grade class, and his emotionally troubled students.

In the film's first scene, two students discover their teacher's body hanging in their classroom. The shockwaves of that suicide continue to lap against the students as the life of the school goes on, though the hapless administration does only the minimum (assigning a single counselor) to address the issue.

Matters look up when Mr. Lazhar (Mohamed Said Fellag) walks into the school and volunteers his services, explaining he taught in Algiers for 19 years. He turns out to be just what the students need, and perhaps the job is just what he needs, the dual promise reflected in his name: Bashir ("bearer of good news") Lazhar ("lucky").



Secrets surface over the course of the film, ones held by the students and their teacher. Even as he recognizes the students need help to process their grief, he suffers in silence in his own grief process, related to his dating and immigrant statuses. The film, though, isn't all gloom and doom; the classroom has the energetic strength in numbers of children, and Falardeau allows some comic touches from the kids and Fellag, a comedian by trade.

As depicted by the film, the cruelties inherent in the educational system include the expected results of familiar restraints (budget, stressed resources and the pressures of oversight) and inflexible school bureaucracy. There's also the unrefined social interaction of students just learning to understand their feelings, and hurting their peers in the process. And, of course, there's the bittersweet role of great teachers, who pass out of students' lives as easily as they arrive, after kindling an emotional bond.

Always hanging over the film is the horrible mystery of suicide, which disproportionately affects its young witnesses. Falardeau gently depicts the searching love-hate relationship between those witnesses: class clown Simon (Emilien Neron), given to aggressive acting out, and Alice (Sophie Nelisse), who quickly takes a shine to the school's sole male classroom instructor. The keen leading performances never hit a false note, but Neron gets the showpiece when he at last experiences an emotional breakthrough about his late teacher.

"Monsieur Lazhar" at times recalls more striking teacher movies, like "The Class" and "Dead Poets Society," but it's a small gem of its own, meeting its kids on their level and celebrating a teacher who cares about their present and future. ■

# Sports



A Chargers-Cowboys Championship Game ended last year's PJFL football season.

## Registration opens for PJFL football

Sign up for 2012 contact, flag football, cheerleading

Pleasanton Junior Football League (PJFL) has opened registration for the 2012 season of Contact Football, Flag Football and Cheerleading. PJFL offers contact football and cheerleading for boys and girls in the second through eighth grades, as well as flag football for boys and girls in the second through 12th grades.

The High School Flag Football League for boys and girls in grades nine to 12 is new this year. Every-

one plays in PJFL, with no tryouts and no cuts.

■ Contact Football registration includes a uniform and all necessary equipment; contact players practice three times per week beginning in early August and play games on Saturdays at the Pleasanton Sports Park beginning in early September.

■ Flag Football registration includes a jersey and all necessary equipment; flag players practice

one time a week beginning in mid-August and play games on Saturdays at Hart Middle School beginning in mid-September.

■ Cheer registration includes a uniform and training; cheerleaders practice two times per week beginning in late June and cheer on Saturdays at the Pleasanton Sports Park beginning in early September.

For more details and to register, go to PJFL.com. ■



## Pleasanton women compete at Netherland Nationals

Iris (left) and Kirstin Brand of the Pleasanton Seahawks are all smiles with Head Coach Steve Morsilli after competing at the Swim Cup Eindhoven in the Netherlands from April 12-15, a qualification meet for the European Youth Championships and the European Championships. Kirstin swam two JR National cuts (200/400 free) and two bonus cuts (100/800 free). Iris swam one JR National cut (100 free) and two bonus cuts (50 free/200 back). Both swimmers finished in the top 16 (Kirstin: 200/400/800 free), (Iris: 200 back), and Kirstin finished fourth in the 1500.

## Redefining sports

NFL's Joe Ehrmann to speak on sports in America

NFL great Joe Ehrmann is speaking from 7-9 p.m. Monday in the multipurpose room at Amador Valley High School on "Inside Out Coaching: How Sports can Transform Lives." The event is being funded and co-sponsored by the California Season of Life Foundation, Pleasanton Rage Soccer, and Amador Valley High School.

"As an elite athlete, educator, motivator, coach and professional speaker for over 30 years, Joe Ehrmann develops leaders to be their best — personally, professionally and relationally in business, on the field and in life," according to a press release.

"For anyone who works with youth sports, or is involved in helping to shape the character of young people

— this is a fantastic opportunity to hear from one of the very best."

Organizers encourage youth coaches, parents of athletes, and athletes themselves to attend, but because Ehrmann's messages resonate well beyond the sports field into various life endeavors, everyone is welcome.

The event is free. ■

## PREP LINE-UP

### April 27

- Baseball: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. De La Salle, home
- Baseball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Granada, away
- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Monte Vista, away
- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Monte Vista, home
- Boys Swimming: TBA, Foothill vs. De La Salle, home

### May 1

- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. California, away
- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. California, home
- Boys Volleyball: 6 p.m., AVHS vs. California, away
- Softball: TBA, AVHS vs. Granada, home
- Softball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. San Ramon Valley, home

### May 2

- Baseball: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. Granada, home
- Baseball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. San Ramon, home

### May 3

- Boys Volleyball: 6 p.m., AVHS vs. San Ramon Valley, home
- Softball: TBA, AVHS vs. Monte Vista, away
- Softball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Livermore, away
- Field & Track: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. Foothill, home

### May 4

- Baseball: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. Monte Vista, away
- Baseball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Livermore, away
- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., San Ramon Valley, home
- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. San Ramon Valley, away
- Boys Swimming: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. AVHS, home

### May 7

- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs.

Saint Ignatius, home

### May 8

- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Livermore, away
- Boys Volleyball: 6 p.m., AVHS vs. Livermore, away
- Softball: TBA, AVHS vs. California, away
- Softball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Monte Vista, home

### May 9

- Baseball: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. California, away
- Baseball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Monte Vista, home

### May 10

- Boys Volleyball: 6 p.m., AVHS vs. Foothill, home
- Softball: TBA, AVHS vs. San Ramon Valley, home
- Softball: 4:00 p.m., Foothill vs. California, home

### May 11

- Baseball: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. San Ramon Valley, home
- Baseball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. California, home
- Boys Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Foothill, away
- Girls Lacrosse: 7 p.m., AVHS vs. Foothill, away

### May 15

- Softball: TBA, AVHS vs. Livermore, away
- Softball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. Carondelet, away

### May 16

- Baseball: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. Livermore, away
- Baseball: 4 p.m., Foothill vs. De La Salle, away

### May 17

- Softball: TBA, AVHS vs. Foothill, home

### May 18

- Baseball: 4 p.m., AVHS vs. Foothill, home



## True team win

Ballistic's Adolfo Trujillo beats two defenders as Ballistic United 99 Premier wins against Pacific Soccer Academy, 4-2, last week. Trujillo scored twice during the game, which was a true team victory with outstanding Ballistic play up and down the roster. Some performances to note were outside backs Ryan Murray and Chris Machi, who controlled the flanks all game long; and Youki Chiba and Jared Wilson, who both had excellent games in the midfield making timely tackles and stringing together excellent passes. Premier 99 is now 2-1, and this week travels to Salinas to face MCFC United.

# Marketplace

To advertise in the Marketplace call Karen Klein at 925.600.0840 x122 or email [kklein@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:kklein@pleasantonweekly.com)

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**Cable TV-Internet-Phone** Save! Packages start at \$89.99/mo (for 12 months.) Options from ALL major service providers. Call Acceller today to learn more! CALL 1-888-897-7650. (Cal-SCAN)

**Mantis Deluxe Tiller** New! FastStart engine. Ships Free. One-Year Money-Back Guarantee when you buy DIRECT. Call for the DVD and FREE Good Soil book! 888-815-5176. (Cal-SCAN)

**Omaha Steaks** 100% guaranteed! Save 65% on the Family Value Collection. Now only \$49.99 Plus 3 Free gifts and right-to-the-door delivery in a reusable cooler. Order today at 1-888-525-4620 or [www.OmahaSteaks.com/family16](http://www.OmahaSteaks.com/family16), use code 45069TVH. (Cal-SCAN)

**Readers and Music Lovers** 100 Greatest Novels (audio books) ONLY \$99.00 (plus s.h.) Includes MP3 Player and Accessories. Bonus: 50 Classical Music Works and Money Back Guarantee. Call Today! 1-866-979-4428. (Cal-SCAN)



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#### 345 Tutoring/ Lessons

PIANO AND VOICE LESSONS



**MIND & BODY**

#### 425 Health Services

**Diabetes, Cholesterol, Weight Loss.** Bergamonte, a Natural Product for Cholesterol, Blood Sugar and weight. Physician recommended, backed by Human Clinical Studies with amazing results. Call today and save 15% off your first bottle! 888-392-8780 (Cal-SCAN)

**Diabetics with Medicare** Get a free Talking Meter and diabetic testing supplies at No Cost, plus FREE home delivery! Best of all, this meter eliminates painful finger pricking! Call 888-781-9376. (Cal-SCAN)

**Joint and Muscle Pain** Sufferers: Clinically proven all-natural supplement helps reduce pain and enhance mobility. Call 877-217-7698 to try Hydraxflexin RISK-FREE for 90 days. (Cal-SCAN)

**Sleep Apnea Sufferers** with Medicare. Get Free CPAP Replacement Supplies at No Cost, plus FREE home delivery! Best of all, prevent red skin sores and bacterial infection! Call 888-699-7660. (Cal-SCAN)



**EMPLOYMENT**

#### 560 Employment Information

**\$\$\$HELP WANTED\$\$\$** Extra Income! Assembling CD cases from Home! No Experience Necessary! Call our Live Operators Now! 1-800-405-7619 EXT 2450 <http://www.easywork-greatpay.com> (AAN CAN)

**Drivers: Apply Now** 13 openings. Top 5% Pay and Benefits. 2 Months CDL Class A Driving Experience. 1-877-258-8782. [www.MeltonTruck.com/drive](http://www.MeltonTruck.com/drive). (Cal-SCAN)

**Drivers: Choose Your Homework** from Weekly, 7/ON/7/OFF, 14/ON/7/OFF, Full or Part-time. Daily Pay! Top Equipment! Requires 3 months recent experience. 800-414-9569. [www.driveknight.com](http://www.driveknight.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Drivers: New to Trucking?** Your new career starts now! \*\$0 Tuition Cost, \*No Credit Check, \*Great Pay & Benefits. Short employment commitment required. Call: 1-866-275-3249. [www.JoinCRST.com](http://www.JoinCRST.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Foremen and Technicians** to lead utility field crews. Outdoor physical work, many positions, paid training. Foremen \$17.00-23.09/hr and Technicians \$16.72/hr., weekly performance bonuses after promotion, company truck and benefits. Must have strong leadership skills, good driving history and able to travel in California and nearby States. Email resume to Recruiter1@osmose.com or apply online at [www.OsmoseUtilities.com](http://www.OsmoseUtilities.com). EOE M/F/D/V. (Cal-SCAN)

**Help Wanted!!!** Make money Mailing brochures from home! FREE Supplies! Helping Home-Workers since 2001! Genuine Opportunity! No experience required. Start Immediately! [www.theworkhub.net](http://www.theworkhub.net) (AAN CAN)



**BUSINESS SERVICES**

#### 605 Antiques & Art Restoration

**ANTIQUE RESTORATION** "A Labor of Love" Impeccable Quality Integrity of Workmanship 925-462-0383 or 925-216-7976 All inclusive License #042392

#### 615 Computers

**My Computer Works** Computer problems? Viruses, spyware, email, printer issues, bad internet connections - FIX IT NOW! Professional, U.S.-based technicians. \$25 off service. Call for immediate help. 1-888-865-0271. (Cal-SCAN)

#### 620 Domestic Help Offered

**AAA Sara's House Cleaning** Reliable, trustworthy house cleaning. references available. Will concentrate on what is important to you. Will adjust hours to your satisfaction. Licensed. Call Sara 925-339-2193

#### 624 Financial

**\$\$Cut your STUDENT LOAN** payments in HALF or more? Get Relief NOW w/LOWER payments! Late or in Default NO Problem Call NOW Student Hotline 888-317-3831 (AAN CAN)

**\$\$Cut your STUDENT LOAN** payments in HALF or more? Get Relief NOW w/LOWER payments! Late or in Default NO Problem Call NOW Student Hotline 888-317-3861 (AAN CAN)

**Reverse Mortgage?** Ever Consider a Reverse Mortgage? At least 62 years old? Stay in your home and increase cash flow! Safe and Effective! Call Now for your FREE DVD! Call Now 888-698-3165. (Cal-SCAN)

#### 640 Legal Services

**Disability Benefits** Social Security. Win or Pay Nothing! Start your Application in Under 60 Seconds. Call Today! Contact Disability Group, Inc. Licensed Attorneys and BBB Accredited. Call 877-490-6596. (Cal-SCAN)

**Heller Immigration Law Group** 650.424.1900. <http://greencard1.com> Free Chat online\_Try it!

#### 645 Office/Home Business Services

**Advertise Truck Driver Jobs** in 240 California newspapers for one low cost of \$600. Your 25 word classified ad reaches over 6 million+ Californians. Free brochure call Elizabeth (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)

**Classified Advertising** Reach Californians with a Classified in almost every county! Experience the power of classifieds! Combo-California Daily and Weekly Networks. One order. One payment. Free Brochures. [elizabeth@cnpa.com](mailto:elizabeth@cnpa.com) or (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)

### PET OF THE WEEK

#### Devoted companion

Valcor is a handsome 1-year-old male Shih Tzu/poodle mix available for adoption, and he's looking for people to have fun with. He is sturdy, lively and a



DAVID SMITH

go-getter who also values the importance of relaxation. He will be pleased to sit at your feet, walk by your side, and be your devoted companion forever. Come and meet Valcor at the East Bay SPCA's Tri-Valley Animal Adoption Center, 4651 Gleason Drive, Dublin. To see other animals available, visit [www.eastbayspca.org](http://www.eastbayspca.org) or call 479-9670.

**Display Business Card Ad** Advertise a display business card sized ad in 140 California newspapers for one low cost of \$1,550. Your display 3.75x2" ad reaches over 3 million+ Californians. Free brochure call Elizabeth (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)



**HOME SERVICES**

#### 748 Gardening/Landscaping

**PAVERS & LANDSCAPING** FREE Design \* Prof. Installation BBB A+ \* Starting @ \$8.99 sq ft! \* CALL 1.800.728.1954 \* [www.BlackDiamondLandscape.com](http://www.BlackDiamondLandscape.com) Bonded & Insured \* Lic #841042



**REAL ESTATE**

#### 809 Shared Housing/Rooms

**ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM** Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Roommates.com>. (AAN CAN)

#### 840 Vacation Rentals/Time Shares

**Advertise Vacation Property** in 240 California newspapers for one low cost of \$600. Your 25 word classified ad reaches over 6 million+ Californians. Free brochure call Elizabeth (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)

#### 850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

**Kingman, AZ** The Good Life: Relocate, Retire, Raise your family, start your business. Low Cost of Living, jobs, beautiful weather, strong housing market: Kingman, Arizona [www.ArizonaCrossroads.com](http://www.ArizonaCrossroads.com). 800-448-6568. (Cal-SCAN)

## Realtor group launches new 'Champions of Home' campaign

Homeowners, Realtors tell their stories of buying and selling a home

By JEB BING

The California Association of Realtors will continue its popular advertising campaign for 2012, featuring real consumers speaking from the heart instead of scripted actors, which Realtors felt struck an emotional chord among viewers.

The 2012 campaign aims to further raise awareness of the Realtors brand and reinforce the professionalism of CAR members.

According to CAR representatives, the tagline, "Champions of Home," also reinforces the notion that Realtors are the ultimate guide, explorer, nerve calmer, dream home finder, and paperwork conqueror as they help buyers and sellers close on their American dream.

Like last year's campaign, California homeowners tell their individual stories of buying and selling a home and how their Realtor helped conquer the process. Their stories focus on everything from short sales to tales of daunting paperwork and highlight Realtors as experienced professionals guiding them throughout the entire transaction.

New this year is a video series called

"Fast Fives," in which California Realtors offer quick tips to home buyers and sellers. In another video, Realtors provide testimonials describing why they love their profession and how they can help consumers achieve their American dream of homeownership.

For a second year, social media also will play a role in providing visibility for the campaign. A focused blogger outreach plan, numerous planned "Twitter Chats" with real estate professionals and legal counsel, and an increased Facebook presence all are expected to create viral buzz for the campaign.

Television spots can be seen during relevant home-related programming on cable networks such as A&E, HGTV, and Bravo in major California markets, including here in the Bay Area. Ten- and 15-second traffic reads will air in radio markets statewide during prime drive times. Additionally, online banner ads placed on popular real estate websites such as Realtor.com, Trulia.com, and Zillow.com will drive consumers to a microsite (www.championsofhome.com).

See **CHAMPIONS** on Page 26

### OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

#### Blackhawk

**3 BEDROOMS**  
**306 Live Oak Drive \$879,000**  
 Sun 1-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

#### Danville

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**4 Auburn Ct \$865,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

#### Livermore

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**357 Knottingham Circle \$679,950**  
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111  
**2576 Orvieto Ct \$799,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200  
**1545 Yukon Pl \$965,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Weiner McDowell Group 251-2585

#### Pleasanton

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**5260 Ridgevale Way \$980,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Moxley Team 600-0990  
**2512 Tapestry Way \$699,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

**4432 1st St \$979,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 260-2220

**5010 Blackbird Wy \$824,900**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 895-9950

**4141 Lethram Ct \$675,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Andrea Rozran 858-4198

#### 5 BEDROOMS

**3623 Cameron Ave \$1,299,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Moxley Team 600-0990

**1363 Briones Ct \$1,430,000**  
 Sun 1:30-4:30 Moxley Team 600-0990

**854 Montevino Dr \$1,259,000**  
 Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4326

**9616 Crosby Dr \$1,549,500**  
 Sun 1-4 Faran Honardoost 922-0822

#### 6 BEDROOMS

**9999 Longview Ln \$3,499,000**  
 Sun 1-5 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2500

#### San Ramon

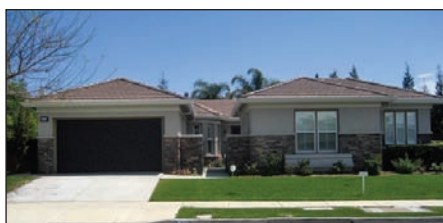
**4 BEDROOMS**  
**559 Montrose Ct \$859,000**  
 Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 855-4000

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

For marketing opportunities contact Andrea Heggelund at 600-0840 x110.

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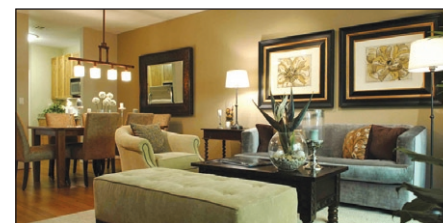
**LIVERMORE**  
 Open SUN 1 - 4 **2576 ORVIETO COURT**  
**SINGLE STORY HOME \$799,000**  
 4 BR 2.5 BA Beautiful 10,435sf Private Lot,Court Location!Gourmet Kit.Plantation Shutters. 925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**  
 Open SAT 1:30 - 4 **573 HELIGAN LN**  
**FABULOUS LAYOUT! \$485,000**  
 3 BR 3 BA Kit w/Granite & SS Appliances.Bonus Rm.Recessed Lighting.Tankless Wtr Heater.Gas Fireplace 925.847.2200



**SAN LEANDRO**  
 Open SUN 1 - 4 **844 SERRA DRIVE**  
**OPEN SUNDAY 1:00PM-4:00PM \$399,500**  
 3 BR 2 BA Floresta Gardens.Sharp Home.Large Family Rm.Dual Paned Windows.Hardwood Floors. Master Bdrm. 925.847.2200



**SAN RAMON**  
 Open SUN 1 - 4 **145 COPPER RIDGE RD.**  
**CONDOS AVAILABLE PRICING STARTS IN LOWER \$300'S**  
 2 bd condos, Vaulted Ceilings avail, w/Garages, Gated Community, Renovated/Upgraded 925.847.2200

**DANVILLE**  
 Open SUN 1 - 4 **1250 COUNTRY LANE**  
**CUSTOM RANCHER W/POOL! \$1,499,000**  
 5 BR 3.5 BA Upgraded home w/In-law Apt.Kit/Ba w/Granite.Formal Liv/Din Rm.5 Stall Barn &raised garden 925.847.2200

**FREMONT**  
 Open SAT 1:30 - 4 **42262 FORSYTHIA DRIVE**  
**MISSION SAN JOSE HOME \$1,199,888**  
 4 BR 2.5 BA Beautifully Remodeled Throughout. Walk to award-winning schools. 925.847.2200

**17800 MINES ROAD**  
**HILLTOP HOME \$239,950**  
 2 BR 1 BA 15 fenced acres small barn & 2 garages. Got horses?Riding trails.Locked gate. 925.847.2200

**DUBLIN**  
 Open SAT 1 - 4 **5131 MONTIANO LANE**  
**HIGHLY UPGRADED HOME! CALL FOR PRICE**  
 5 BR 3.5 BA Gorgeous Kit w/Granite,Island,& Eat-In Kit/Fam. Rm Combo.In-Law Ste. w/Kit.Large Bckyrd. 925.847.2200  
**8091 JADE CIR**  
**OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS \$456,000**  
 3 BR 2 BA 1616 Sq. Ft.Open Flr Plan.Hrdwd Flrs,Backs to Open Space.Close to schools.Won't Last Long! 925.847.2200

**LIVERMORE**  
 Open SAT 1-4 **2468 ALLEGRO ST.**  
**BEAUTIFUL HOME \$842,950**  
 5 BR 4.5 BA Cherry Cabinets,Gourmet Kit w/Double Ovens,Built-In Refrig.Mstr Bdrm Retreat,Built-in BBQ 925.847.2200  
**252 EL CAMINITO**  
**WONDERFUL SUNSET HOME \$443,000**  
 4 BR 2 BA New paint-Remodeled kit w/ granite,limestone flrs.Both baths remodeled,dual pane windows. 925-963-0887

**OAKLAND**  
**2941 CAPP ST**  
**FIXER UPPER IN GOOD AREA \$179,000**  
 2 BR 1 BA Built in 1900's.Sun-Splashed Lot.De-tached Garage w/Two Storage Units.Easy Access to Fwy's 925.847.2200

**PLEASANTON**  
**7892 FOOTHILL ROAD**  
**BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM HOME \$1,400,000**  
 3 BR 3 BA Spacious Flr Plan.Elegant design.Quiet Location.Close to Parks,Trails,and Castlewood! 925.847.2200

Open SUN 1 - 4 **715 MONTEVINO DR**  
**GORGEOUS CUSTOM HOME \$1,190,000**  
 4 BR 3.5 BA Incredible Views!Gourmet Kit opens to Fam.Rm Hrdwd Flr. Guest Ste&Office on 1st flr. 925.847.2200  
**1541 WHISPERING OAK WAY**  
**BEAUTIFUL HOME \$949,000**  
 4 BR 3.5 BA Granite Counters,Lg Bdrms & Master w/Retreat,3 Car Gar,750 sq ft Studio w/ Kit & Full Bath 925.847.2200  
**826 BONDE CT**  
**BEAUTIFUL CHARMER \$739,000**  
 3 BR 2 BA Hrdwd Flrs.Remodeled Baths/Mstr Ste/Kitchen.Upgraded windows/doors.Private bckyrd 925.847.2200

"If you are a licensed realtor interested in joining our real estate office please contact Will Butler, Manager at 925.847.2257. We look forward to welcoming you to Coldwell Banker!"



Pleasanton 925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122



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<p><b>1225 Lozano Ct Pleasanton</b></p>  <p><b>bd 6 ba 8 sqft+/- 8,877 \$3,799,000</b></p> <p>Stunning, classic Italian Villa in one of Bay Area's most desirable locations. Catch your breath &amp; prepare for what lies beyond the gorgeous entry of this estate. Nestled in an unrivaled setting among olive trees &amp; lush landscaping w/ mile long views of vineyards.</p> <p><b>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</b></p>	<p><b>2407 Skylark Way Pleasanton</b></p>  <p><b>bd 4 ba 2.5 sqft+/- 3,236 Call for Price</b></p> <p>The home is in an ideal location of a highly sought after area called Birdland. Again, an appropriate name since you can sit out by the waterfall (your private oasis) in the morning sipping coffee and reading the paper and hear a variety of little birds singing their songs.</p> <p><b>Michael Swift 925.251.2588</b></p>	<p><b>6107 Ledgewood Ter Dublin</b></p>  <p><b>bd 5 ba 4 sqft+/- 3,844 \$930,000</b></p> <p>Views of TriValley, Mt Diablo &amp; Dublin Hills! Dub Ranch Beauty w/ 5 Beds, Bonus/Game Room, 4 Baths. Master &amp; Guest Suite on Main Level. Premium lot location w/ access to open space. Walk to golf course, swim club &amp; award winning schools.</p> <p><b>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</b></p>	<p><b>3678 Foothill Rd Pleasanton</b></p>  <p><b>bd ba acres+/- 5.16 \$899,000</b></p> <p>Nice 5 acre parcel with Gorgeous Valley Views. West End of Old Foothill Rd. has black Gate entry to private road. 2 containers on property. Home at end of private road not included. Owner will finance, consider trades. All Services to front of parcel.</p> <p><b>Steve Mattos 925.4267978</b></p>	<p><b>2020 Charmont Ct Livermore</b></p>  <p><b>Coming Soon</b></p> <p>Italian Villa, custom home located within walking distance to the vineyards and downtown restaurants and wineries. Thoughtfully designed throughout to include custom appointed amenities, located in the heart of the Livermore Wine Country.</p> <p><b>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</b></p>
<p><b>9999 Longview Ln Pleasanton</b></p>  <p><b>Open Sun 1-4</b></p> <p><b>bd 6 ba 6.5 sqft+/- 8,330 \$3,499,000</b></p> <p>A gated westside French Chateau custom estate with stunning grounds, elevator, private tennis court, indoor pool, casino/theater, 450 gal salt water fish tank, finished attic, vista terrace etc. Incredible level of detail!</p> <p><b>Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568</b></p>	<p><b>8012 Golden Eagle Wy Pleasanton</b></p>  <p><b>bd 5 ba 6.5 sqft+/- 8,585 \$3,498,000</b></p> <p>Fabulous private custom Mediterranean in resort-like setting has it all. Porte Cachere, grand entry, gourmet kitchen, awesome theater w/ theater seating, stunning arcade &amp; exercise rms. Vast lawns &amp; wrap-around decks, guest house, pool/spa.</p> <p><b>Peggy Cortez 925.209.3451</b></p>	<p><b>1545 Yukon Pl Livermore</b></p>  <p><b>Open Sun 1-4</b></p> <p><b>bd 4 ba 2.5 sqft+/- 3,777 \$949,950</b></p> <p>An exceptional home in the Portofino neighborhood of desirable South Livermore! This luxurious 4 bedrooms plus office and bonus room with 3777 sq.ft. on a fabulous 1/3 acre lot with pool, spa, playhouse and gorgeous oak tree.</p> <p><b>Weiner/ McDowell 925.251.2585</b></p>	<p><b>1944 Fiorio Cir Pleasanton</b></p>  <p><b>bd 2 ba2 sqft+/- 1,369 \$525,000</b></p> <p>Updated end unit! Vaulted ceiling, skylight, big bedrooms. Full bed&amp;bath downstairs. Granite kitchen, tile floor in kitchen &amp; bath. Recent updates: plantation shutters, laminate wood floors, neutral paint &amp; carpet, H2O heater, lawn &amp; roof! Walk to park, shopping, dining.</p> <p><b>Daniella Estrada 925.280.6448</b></p>	<p><b>8615 Mines Rd Livermore</b></p>  <p><b>bd ba acres+/- 16.53 \$1,300,000</b></p> <p>Extraordinary 16.5 Acre Horse property. Property has 3 wells. A beautiful 5800 William Poole Three Story traditional home has been designed. The plan is negotiable to go with property. Site has been approved for 8 stall barn.</p> <p><b>Carol Cline 925.683.0488</b></p>
<p><b>804 Amberwood Way San Ramon</b></p>  <p><b>bd 5 ba 3.5 sqft+/- 3,471 \$1,129,000</b></p> <p>Grand entrance, dramatic staircase, large marble foyer. Formal dining, elegant living room. Bedroom suite on main level. Updated kitchen, hardwood floors. Spacious master! Huge yard. Large pool &amp; built in BBQ. Located in prestigious Hills at Bent Creek. Court Location.</p> <p><b>Esther Langhofer 925.855.4078</b></p>	<p><b>6475 Ramblewood Pl Livermore</b></p>  <p><b>Open Sun 1-4</b></p> <p><b>bd 3 ba 2.5 sqft+/- 2,132 \$526,500</b></p> <p>Stunning Livermore Home. THIS HOME IS A PERFECT 10! Including 3 Lrg Bedrooms, New updated kitchen with granite counters, center island and walk in pantry, ceiling fans, beautiful professional landscaping and much more. Walk to park and schools!</p> <p><b>Corey Green 925.583.2173</b></p>	<p><b>3994 Pimlico Dr #0 Pleasanton</b></p>  <p><b>bd 2 ba 1 sqft+/- 897 \$203,700</b></p> <p>End-unit, almost 900 square foot, with a large family room with open kitchen and breakfast counter. Laundry closet FA1Z/CAC and an fenced in patio for privacy. The condo has laminate flooring thru out and the property comes with an assigned parking space.</p> <p><b>Max de Vries 925.251.2514</b></p>	<p><b>2046 Pinot Ct Livermore</b></p>  <p><b>Open Sun 1-4</b></p> <p><b>bd 4 ba 4 sqft+/- 4,340 \$1,124,000</b></p> <p>Beautiful South Livermore Home located in the Exclusive Chardonnay Estates. This home has it all...including 4 Lg Bds, 1 Bd Dwnstrs, Huge Bonus/Media Rm, 4 Baths. Gourmet Kit and Grt Rm. Huge Priv Bckrdy with Built in BBQ. Top rated schools. Tennis Court Park.</p> <p><b>Corey Green 925.583.2173</b></p>	<p><b>188 Heligan Ln #5 Livermore</b></p>  <p><b>bd 3 ba 3.5 sqft+/- 1,548 \$449,950</b></p> <p>"Designer Home" Chef's Kitchen: Slab granite, mosaic tile backsplash, stainless appliances, great room and kitchen - balcony off of greatroom, sit up breakfast bar, surround sound, downstairs master suite, 2 car garage, Recreation Center, Activity Park (Pool, tot lot).</p> <p><b>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</b></p>
<p><b>3100 Terra Granada Walnut Creek</b></p>  <p><b>bd 2 ba 2 sqft+/- 1,474 \$449,900</b></p> <p>Unit 2. Park at the front door &amp; enter your updated home with vaulted beam ceilings, gas fireplace, 3 skylights, 2 patios &amp; expansive view. This freshly painted side by side duplex offers a den, bonus room, granite counters in both baths &amp; a walk in SPA tub. Rossmoor Community.</p> <p><b>Andy Poryes 925.251.2570</b></p>	<p><b>6950 Crow Canyon Rd Castro Valley</b></p>  <p><b>bd 4 ba 3.5 sqft+/- 2,700 \$883,000</b></p> <p>Country Colonial Charming This Gated Entrance to this Country Charming property is great. The main home is 2,700+/- sq.ft., updated kitchen and most windows are new, flooring thru out the home is newer and so much more. Cottage which is over 850 sq.ft. all on 1 Acre.</p> <p><b>Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</b></p>	<p><b>867 Trinity Hills Ln Livermore</b></p>  <p><b>bd 5 ba 4.5 sqft+/- 3,761 \$824,900</b></p> <p>Located in the Kristopher Ranch. Vaulted ceilings, crown molding throughout, formal dining rooms, 2 fireplaces. Kitchen features granite counters, cherry cabinets and tile flooring. Detached studio or office! 1 bdrm, 1 full bath on ground floor. Large rear yard with patio.</p> <p><b>Jon Wood 925.280.6421</b></p>	<p><b>2188 McLean Place Livermore</b></p>  <p><b>bd 3 ba 4(2) sqft+/- 4,062 \$1,179,999</b></p> <p>Custom home (Court location), Special lighting system, gourmet kitchen, baking center, office; den, theatre / exercise bonus room w / half bath and kitchenette above garage, travertine flooring, 3 fireplaces, BBQ, pool, and raised - bed garden.</p> <p><b>Patrick Maravelias 925.251.2530</b></p>	<p><b>17860 Almond Rd Castro Valley</b></p>  <p><b>bd 5 ba 2.5 sqft+/- 1,922 \$699,950</b></p> <p>Dream Location, Freshly painted, Newer Carpets, Great home larger than it looks, Detached drive through two car garage, Desired school district, Large finished basement, Investor/ Home owners dream property, barn, three parcels with sale of home.</p> <p><b>Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</b></p>

**Blackhawk East**  
4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir.  
Danville, CA 94506  
925.648.5300

**Blackhawk West**  
3880 Blackhawk Rd.  
Danville, CA 94506  
925.736.6000

**Danville**  
15 Railroad Ave.  
Danville, CA 94526  
925.855.4000

**Lafayette**  
3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Lafayette, CA 94549  
925.385.2330

**Livermore**  
1983 Second St.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
925.667.2100

**Montclair/Piedmont**  
6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200  
Oakland, CA 94611  
510.339.4800

**Pleasanton**  
5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
925.251.2500

**Orinda**  
89 Davis Rd.,  
Orinda, CA 94563  
925.253.7000

**Walnut Creek**  
1700 N. Main St.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
925.280.8500

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during March 2012

Dublin

- 7775 Alto Way** US Distressed Mortgage Fund to D. & G. Delong for \$640,000
  - 8455 Beverly Lane** Hogan Trust to E. & A. Anderson for \$400,000
  - 5501 De Marcus Boulevard #251** Federal National Mortgage to T. & C. Sugijoto for \$311,000
  - 3465 Dublin Boulevard #116 P.** Ferguson to K. Ruh for \$300,000
  - 3275 Dublin Boulevard #222** Westamerica Mortgage to L. Chang for \$310,000
  - 3420 Finnian Way #110** Toll Dublin Limited to V. Silva for \$418,000
  - 5726 Old Westbury Way C. & K.** Bartolomeo to R. & P. Sharma for \$570,000
  - 8804 Oliver Place** M. Wright to K. Choi for \$310,000
  - 8498 Rhoda Avenue J. & D.** Cottingham to S. & S. Suchak for \$550,000
  - 10772 Ruthven Lane #147 J.** Thurman to P. Reilly for \$422,500
  - 5655 Saddle Creek Terrace P. & S.** Boudreau to Q. He for \$1,050,000
  - 11434 Winding Trail Lane** M. Lin to R. Collins for \$345,000
- Livermore
- 848 Avalon Way J. & G. Orozco** to E. Jameson for \$360,000
  - 1624 Cheryl Drive** Vail Trust to A. & A. Capra for \$649,000

- 104 Edythe Street** N. & J. Sperry to M. Redgrave for \$307,000
- 1472 El Dorado Drive** M. McDaniel to W. Dodd for \$300,000
- 2194 Elsa Common** S. Hussain to M. Schneider for \$450,000
- 1709 Embassy Circle** Hessler Trust to Farnam Trust for \$683,000
- 1266 Hillview Drive** Thompson Trust to R. & C. Whipple for \$325,000
- 2620 Kennedy Street** G. Khanaka to R. Rupe for \$315,000
- 4671 Laurie Common #106 A. & L.** Hill to A. & H. Tirupathi for \$169,500
- 4671 Laurie Common #108 H. Su** to A. & H. Tirupathi for \$102,000
- 5386 Lenore Avenue** US Bank to Hammett Trust for \$270,000
- 1245 Lillian Street** Eltgroth Trust to B. Yoxall for \$434,000
- 7 Meritage Common #105** Ing Bank to S. Subramaniam for \$305,000
- 5527 Oakmont Circle** D. & P. Sisneroz to M. Ballard for \$312,000
- 1985 Paseo Laguna Seco** S. Merida to K. Sawyer for \$143,000
- 5199 Peony Drive** Bank of America to Z. Cai for \$232,000
- 2164 Rapallo Common J. & C.** Gomez to Z. Lafever for \$445,000
- 2272 Rapallo Common** S. Siddiqi to J. & P. Sanchez for \$475,000
- 649 Ridgecrest Circle** P. & A. Chevalier to C. Luizinho for \$507,500
- 5474 Treeflower Drive** DMFS Financial to J. Boden for \$276,500
- 1877 Warsaw Avenue** Bank of America to S. & L. English for \$445,500
- 570 Yosemite Drive** Lemos Trust to

- G. Stevens for \$448,000
- Pleasanton
- 6306 Alisal Street** Harborview Mortgage to S. Chang for \$620,000
  - 3639 Annis Circle** P. & L. Walker to K. Mangipudi for \$660,000
  - 3429 Beecham Court** S. & S. Landrey to R. & C. Ruffin for \$465,000
  - 1002 Lamb Court** Bayview Loan Servicing to S. Kancha for \$530,000
  - 1934 Nicosia Court** R. & K. Copenhaver to C. Fu for \$1,040,000
  - 634 Palomino Drive** K. Farrell to T. Tran for \$344,000
  - 3112 Paseo Robles** Boyer Trust to J. He for \$700,000
  - 420 Pine Hill Lane** R. & J. Seilheimer to M. Acosta for \$810,000
  - 253 Rachael Place** B. Brewer to M. Brown for \$235,000
  - 4198 Rennellwood Way** Bank of America to S. Deka for \$387,500
  - 1332 Safreno Way** Summers Trust to C. & S. Pandya for \$1,305,000
  - 5647 San Carlos Way** N. Bosse to D. & S. Farmer for \$425,000
- San Ramon
- 9085 Alcosta Boulevard #358** Golden Ribbon to J. Zhou for \$144,000
  - 671 Argyle Court** RWW Properties to T. & H. Ripperger for \$750,000
  - 101 Avalon Court** Oyumi Trust to S. Goyal for \$896,000
  - 2372 Avalon Way** M. Tran to A. & M. Jain for \$885,000
  - 7241 Briza Loop** Sarm Trust to

- H. Simpson for \$440,000
- 2907 Burnbrae Way** H. & C. Nguyen to N. Sardana for \$945,000
- 22 Diamond Ranch Court L.** Tomanek to M. Buenviaje for \$1,150,000
- 101 Dorset Court** A. & J. Suezaki to A. Khan for \$710,000
- 2691 Durango Lane** Sharma Trust to E. Qiu for \$560,000
- 370 East Ridge Drive** B. Nemcik to E. Rodriguez for \$155,000
- 6902 Emerson Lane** Y. & M. Shahad to J. Hariharan for \$955,000
- 72 Fife Court** Accredited Mortgage Trust to K. Leung for \$535,000
- 1060 Hawkshead Circle** Sposeto Trust to T. Sahota for \$1,750,000
- 7387 Hillsboro Avenue** Nickless Trust to Wollenweber Trust for \$631,500
- 3010 Lakemont Drive #1** Cameron Trust to Preziose Trust for \$318,000
- 116 Madora Place** S. Hernandez to R. & C. Strobe for \$400,000
- 65 Nob Place** Brannon Trust to C. & R. Chazbek for \$510,000
- 454 Pine Ridge Drive #219 A.** Torrez to Gordeev-Gordeeva Trust for \$200,000
- 470 Santander Drive** C. Ebers to K. Ramamoorthy for \$571,000
- 6 Terraced Hills Way** J. & C. Hartley to R. & I. Gill for \$560,000
- 9621 Thunderbird Drive** J. Cheung to C. & J. Barton for \$625,000
- 1008 Vista Pointe Circle** Bank of America to C. Taylor for \$465,000

Source: California REsource

CHAMPIONS

Continued from Page 24

com/), which is rich with content and resources related to the home-buying process.

The campaign was created by independent Philadelphia-based agency, Red Tettemer + Partners.

Demonstrating the success of last year's campaign, a post-test survey of consumers conducted following the 2011 campaign found that the advertising campaign significantly improved their opinion of Realtors, and a large majority of the consumers liked that the commercials showcased real consumers talking about their home buying or selling experience, and not actors with scripts.

CAR representatives said that this year's new consumer advertising campaign will continue to build on past successes by communicating directly with consumers about the added value and peace of mind they receive by working with a Realtor. ■



DRE#01349446



Tim McGuire

925-462-SOLD  
Cell 925.895.9950  
tmcguire@apr.com  
timmcguire.net



WWW.TIMMCGUIRE.NET

Beyond Full Service—A Concierge Approach to Real Estate

**OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4**

**5010 Blackbird Way, Pleasanton**  
Portico model in Birdland 4 bedroom/ 2.5 bath 2,235+/- sq. ft., 8,102+/- sq. ft. lot. Renovated kitchen & baths, new carpet/paint and large yard with pool. **Offered at \$824,900**



**5286 Blackbird Dr., Pleasanton**  
Miramar model in Birdland 4 bedroom/ 2.5 bath, 2,100+/- sq. ft., 7,000+/- sq. ft. lot. New carpet/paint/windows and updated kitchen and baths. **Offered at \$749,000**



**1138 Mills Ct., Pleasanton**  
Like New Willow Model 5 bedroom/4.5 bath, 3,067+/- sq. ft., Hardwood floors, eat-in gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, 2 fireplaces, private backyard with hot tub. **Offered at \$1,049,000**

**OPEN SAT 1-4**

**3504 Skyline Dr., Hayward**  
Fantastic home in the Hayward Hills 3 bedroom/2.5 bath, 1,808+/- sq. ft., .25 acre +/- lot. Updated kitchen, new granite master bath, windows, roof and redwood deck. **Offered at \$439,000**

**COMING SOON!**

**485 Dolores Ct., Pleasanton**  
Harrington model in Pleasanton Hills 4 bedroom/3 bath 2,985+/- sq. ft., 10,449+/- sq. ft. lot. New granite/stainless steel kitchen, downstairs bed/bath, large level lot. **Call for Details**

**COMING SOON!**

**Pleasanton Valley-Pleasanton**  
Meadowcreek model in Pleasanton Valley 5 bedroom/3 bath 2,365+/- sq. ft., 10,849+/- sq. ft. lot. Renovated kitchen & baths, with downstairs bed/bath, large yard with RV pkg. **Call for Details**



apr.com | PLEASANTON | 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



*Julia Murtagh*

**925.997.2411**  
**jmurtagh@apr.com**  
**JuliaMurtagh.com**  
**DRE #01751854**

**"Bringing Integrity  
to Your Front Door"**



**If you're thinking of selling your home, please give me a call.**



**6432 Inglewood Dr Pleasanton**  
3/2, 1555 sq. ft. Cute Val Vista home with upgraded kitchen, park like backyard, walk to schools, shops and freeway. Sold for \$535,000



**7983 Applewood Ct Pleasanton**  
4 bedroom / 2 bath 1593 sq. ft. .39 acre. Outstanding area/neighborhood. Prime cul-de-sac location w/no thru traffic. Enormous park like yard. Sold for \$605,000 in 4 days.



**2217 Camino Brazos Pleasanton**  
Stunning remodeled 5 bedroom home, on quiet street in Del Prado. This home is 2378 sq. ft. Sold over the asking price. Sold for \$773,000



**1012 Riesling Drive Pleasanton**  
Beautiful Ranch Style home with upgraded kitchen. Great location in Vintage Hills, 4/2, 2048 sq. ft. Sold for \$712,500



**1111 Tiffany Lane Pleasanton**  
Charming Duet, close to downtown, 1705 sq. ft. upgraded throughout, built in 1985. Walk to school, shops, parks. Sold for \$484,000



**6023 Sterling Green Cir Pleasanton**  
Beautiful home in the "Canyon Oaks" neighborhood. This 4 bed/2.5 bath upgraded home is just under 2900 sq ft. Sold for \$815,000

**Over \$12 million sold in 2011.**



**DISTRESSED SELLERS**

2012 will have record numbers of Short Sales. For those sellers, there will be major incentives and programs to help the transition. Please review my dedicated website for more information or call.

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



**PENDING**



**7011 Corte Rosa, Pleasanton**  
Spacious 2800 sq. ft. family home with pool in desirable Country Fair.  
• 4 bedrooms / 3 bathrooms  
• Upgraded Kitchen  
• Excellent Floor Plan  
• Large 3 car garage & Large Side Access  
Offered at \$839,000

**RECENT SELLER REVIEW**

2012 — "I would highly recommend using Julia Murtagh for your next home sale or purchase! I recently listed my house for sale through Julia and through her knowledgeable counsel on marketing, pricing, negotiations, and closing, we sold the property in six short weeks! Julia was able to generate multiple offers for my house and was instrumental in negotiating a sale on my behalf above list price and with very attractive terms. At a critical juncture during the closing process when the buyer ran into difficulties with his loan, Julia drew on her leadership and experience to jump in and help the buyer secure a loan with another bank. Without her initiative and resourcefulness, the transaction surely would have fallen through. With a great personality to complement her professionalism and ability to execute, Julia was truly a pleasure to work with and I intend to have her represent me again in my next home purchase."  
—Mr. Stubbs



**BLAISE LOFLAND**



**925.846.6500**  
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DRE# 00882113  
[apr.com](http://apr.com)

**COMING SOON - LIVERMORE**

Highly upgraded single level home on premium cul-de-sac, 9927 square foot lot! Three bedroom, two bathrooms, with approximately 1500 square feet. Upgraded kitchen and bathrooms, wood flooring and new carpet. Large park-like private rear yard with extensive custom stamped concrete work and custom patio overhead structure with fan. Spacious grass areas, Side-yard access and separated storage area with spacious shed.  
**OFFERED AT \$439,000**

**OAK LANE**



**369 OAK LANE, PLEASANTON**  
Former Friden Estate Hunting Lodge - "Moonlight Oaks." Private driveway leads to 1.2 acre estate lot in premium wooded, secluded location. This is an entertainer's dream home. Extensive use of quality redwood timber. Recently upgraded, desirable single level with tastefully maintained historic charm. Panoramic views of nature and historic majestic oaks. Approximately 3800 square feet with three bedrooms, three remodeled bathrooms, large gourmet kitchen, and incredible Great room with large Yosemite style fireplace and open beam ceiling. Large basement for storage and detached two-room wine cottage.  
**OFFERED AT \$1,479,000**

**OAK MANOR**



**819 OAK MANOR COURT, PLEASANTON**  
As soon as you enter you will be impressed with the unique elegance. Gorgeous custom home on private .62 acre lot. Approximately 4,541 square feet, four bedrooms (two master suites) plus office/wine room and bonus loft area and 5.5 bathrooms. Quality, high end equipment and finishes throughout. Gourmet kitchen with granite slab counters and stainless steel appliances. Hardwood floors. Oversized four car garage. Beautifully landscaped Tahoe-like grounds with mature trees. Two minutes to Castledwood Country Club.  
**SOLD FOR \$1,550,000**

**OAK PARK**



**247 TOMAS WAY, PLEASANTON**  
Completely remodeled, single level in Oak Park. Remodeled gourmet kitchen, remodeled bathrooms, newer dual pane windows, crown molding, hardwood floors, upgraded baseboards, central air conditioning, and private rear yard. Newer doors, door trim, and hardware, upgraded light fixtures and fans. Close to downtown and shopping.  
**SOLD FOR \$527,175**

**NORTHWAY DOWNS**

**JUST CLOSED — REPRESENTED BUYER**



**2534 SECRETARIAT DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
Great central Pleasanton location that's close to schools & all conveniences. Three bedroom, two bath, 1421 square foot duet. Open family room with vaulted ceilings and cozy fireplace, dining area, & breakfast bar. Expansive master suite with plantation shutters. Private backyard with mature landscaping. **SOLD FOR \$465,000**

**VINTAGE HILLS**

**SOLD — REPRESENTED BUYER**



**1320 BORDEAUX STREET, PLEASANTON**  
Completely remodeled, gorgeous custom home with loads of special features. Brazilian cherry hard wood floors & cabinets, granite counters, & stainless steel appliances. Family room, library, large master suite with luxurious bath. Entertainer's backyard with pool & BBQ.  
**OFFERED AT \$1,190,000**

**WALNUT GLEN ESTATES**

**SOLD**



**3891 PICARD AVENUE, PLEASANTON**  
Wow! Better than new because it is done & ready! Extensively designer remodeled, single level, plus upstairs bonus room/au pair/guest quarters! Premium corner .34 acre lot! Four bedrooms plus bonus, four bathrooms, 3588 square feet. Completely remodeled gourmet kitchen with new granite slab countertops, designer backsplash & new stainless appliances. Remodeled bathrooms with granite slab countertops, custom marble flooring & surround. New interior & exterior paint, new carpet, new Travertine flooring! Vaulted ceilings, plantation shutters, crown molding, new door hardware & light fixtures! Security alarm system & intercom! Finished three car garage! Tile roof. Professionally recently upgraded landscaped grounds with spacious lawn area & patios. Award winning Pleasanton schools! Walk to neighborhood parks!  
**SOLD FOR \$1,205,000**

**KOTTINGER RANCH**

**SOLD — REPRESENTED BUYER**



**1348 HEARST DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
Excellent location!!! Panoramic views of surrounding hills. Backs to open space, no rear neighbors. Great condition, move in ready! Five bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, 3300 square feet. Recently updated gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertop! Spacious master suite with fireplace & large bathroom. Open living room, family room and formal dining room. French doors, hardwood flooring. Three car garage. Beautiful, professionally landscaped grounds include: in-ground pool, spacious deck, gazebo, large lawn areas and 135 wine producing grape vines, private vineyard! Community amenities include tennis courts & pool! Walking distance to Main Street and downtown! Award winning Pleasanton schools!!  
**SOLD FOR \$1,400,000**



VOTE FOR US 2012



KELLER WILLIAMS TRI-VALLEY REALTY

#1 OFFICE IN PLEASANTON IN VOLUME AND SALES

Open Sat/Sun 1-4



4432 1st Street, Pleasanton

One of a kind! Amazing Downtown Victorian. 4 BR, 3 BA and 1791 +/- sqft. Within walking distance to all Downtown events. Updated throughout with original details, and custom enhancements. Plus 417 sqft. studio apartment above the garage and an additional basement in law unit! Offered at \$979,000



DeAnna Armario REALTOR® DRE # 01363180 925.260.2220 www.armariohomes.com

SOLD!



1097 Lexington Way, South Livermore

Single story exquisite home! 5 bed/3 bath. Resort style backyard, pool/spa/waterfall/firepit. Sold for \$785,000. There are many beautiful homes on the market — call me for more information!



Gail Boal REALTOR® DRE # 01276455 925.577.5787 www.gailboal.com

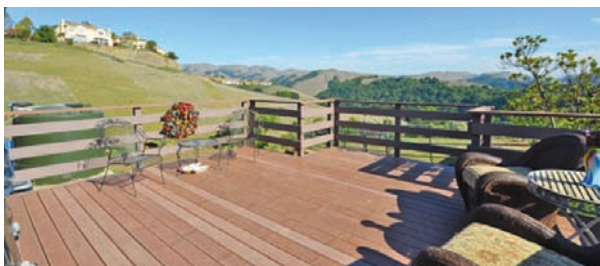


1641 Vetta Dr, Livermore

Outstanding 5 bed (6 potential) & 4.5 ba home w/ 3500+ sq ft. 1 bed/ba downstairs. Upgrades throughout including \$27k in solar (no PG&E), new carpet, crown molding, maple cabinets, plantation shutters & great yard for entertaining. Offered at \$899,000



Cindy and Gene Williams REALTORS® DRE # 01370076 and 00607511 925.918.2045 www.williamsteam.net



6917 Sunnyslope Ave., Castro Valley

Fabulous Views & Beautiful Home

If you're looking for fabulous views and a beautiful home, this is it! Completely remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home with granite counters and travertine tile in the baths. 1.51 +/- acres includes additional buildable lot with sale! Open floor plan & plenty of light. End of the road private location. Offered at \$675,000



Lisa Sterling & Natalie Kruger REALTORS® DRE # 01012330 and 01187582 925.980.9265 925.847.7355 www.krugergroup.com



1734 Terra Ct. — Ruby Hill, Pleasanton

French country elegance w/luxurious guest house w/refined architectural details. Approx. 7,000 sq.ft., 6 bedrooms, 6.5 baths, bonus, exec. office, spectacular backyard w/pool/spa, vineyards, private canyon views. Offered at \$2,868,000



www.FabulousProperties.net www.RubyHill.net

Fran & Dave Cunningham 925.202.6898 DRE # 01226296 & 00930892

Donna Garrison 925.980.0273 DRE # 01735040

Susan Schall 925.519.8226 DRE # 01713497



640 Varese Court, Ruby Hill

This beautiful 5665 sq ft. French Country home offers 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, bonus room, gourmet chef's appointed kitchen, and golf course lot & views. The pool, spa and barbecue island enhance your living and entertaining experience. Offered at \$1,950,000



www.FabulousProperties.net www.RubyHill.net

Fran & Dave Cunningham 925.202.6898 DRE # 01226296 & 00930892

Donna Garrison 925.980.0273 DRE # 01735040

Susan Schall 925.519.8226 DRE # 01713497

Open Sunday 1-4



854 Montevino Drive, Pleasanton

5 BR, 2.5 BA, farm house style home w/ inviting front porch and hardwood floors. Super upgraded remodeled kitchen w/ cherry cabinets and granite counters. Step down family room with brick fireplace and built-in custom cabinetry. Beautiful yard with patio and sparkling pool. Offered at \$1,259,000



Melissa Pederson REALTOR® DRE # 01002251 925.397.4326 melissapedersonhomes@gmail.com www.melissapederson.com

1st Time Open Sat 1-4



Simply Adorable

4 bedroom, 2 bath one level home in Pleasanton. Super clean with new carpet and paint. Spacious eat in kitchen with pantry. Step down family room and living room. Priced in the low \$500's



Dave & Sue Flashberger REALTORS®, GRI, CRS, SRES 925.463.0436 www.SoldinaFlash.com

Coming Soon



Don't Wait Until Spring...

to buy, when you can have the perfect home in Pleasanton right now! Stunning custom home in Vintage Heights home with gourmet granite slab kitchen, high end stainless steel appliances & rich cabinetry. Over 3200 sq ft, 4 bedrooms & a 3 car garage.

Call Today!

COMING SOON!

Hayward Hills

2785 sqft. • Lot .44 acre Breathtaking Views of the Bay Year Built 2000 Price Mid \$500's

Pleasanton Home

2330 sqft. • Pool • Bright Open Floor Plan • Year Built 1993 Price Mid \$700's

PEEL SANCHEZ



Danielle Peel 925.998.9692 DRE #01293873

Cristin Kiper Sanchez 925.580.7719 DRE #01479197



homes@peelsanchez.com | www.PeelSanchez.com



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MAY 10, 2012

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