

Pleasanton Weekly

RAGE tops NorCal Soccer
Silver Elite Division » 20



VOL. XIII, NUMBER 44 · NOVEMBER 16, 2012

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Holiday Fund 2012

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MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$4,000,000
193+/- Acres privately owned known as Blessing Ranch. All utilities run to edge of property offering numerous buildable pad options. Perfect for escaping city life while being only minutes from town. 9480 BLESSING DRIVE

MOXLEY TEAM SAT 1:30-4:30; SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON \$1,950,000
4BD + 1 Office, 4.5BA + .5 in Pool House, 4,496sf. on a 38,194sf. lot. This exquisite custom home will take your breath away, offering vaulted open beam ceilings, private setting. Call for a showing. 7755 COUNTRY LANE

LINDA GOVEIA & PET GELLMAN BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,657,000
Mohr Park Estates! Executive home, 4100+/-sf situate on large pvt corner lot. 5bd+bonus, upstairs loft, 4ba, pool, arbor, outdoor kitchen, lighte sport court and more! 3715 NICOLE AVE

JENNIFER MALAKOFF BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,600,000
Expansive lot with panoramic views of Diablo hills, fantastic home, backyard ideal for entertaining, first floor master suite, 2nd floor Jr. suite, multi use loft and more. Too much to list, must see! 4316W RUBY HILL DR

STASIA POIESZ SUN 1:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$1,495,000
If you like privacy, this home is for you! Tucked away on a quiet court in Greg Eagle Estates, 4200+ sf of living space, huge yard and more. Must See! 5 RED FEATHER CT

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,479,000
THIS IS IT! Gorgeous 4bd plus office plus bonus room in Castlewood, extensively remodeled, private yard, pebble tech pool, views of valley and more! 20 1/2 CASTLEWOOD DRIVE

DOUG BUENZ BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$939,000
Charming remodeled 4bd + bonus room, granite and stainless kitchen, huge bonus/ game room, luxurious travertine master bath, large pie shaped lot situated in cul-de-sac and more! 7498 HILLVIEW CT

SYLVIA DESIN BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$819,000
Beautifully remodeled Pleasanton Heights home, only blocks from downtown. Kitchen includes granite slab counters & stainless steel appliances. Backyard paradise includes a cabana, inviting pool & spa and more. 762 BONITA AVE

MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$720,000
Single level home in central Pleasanton. Open floor plan w/ refinished wood floors. Updated kitchen & baths. Covered patio in rear yard for all weather entertaining. Walk to schools! 1766 ORCHARD WAY

JOANN LUISI BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$634,950
Newer 40 yr roof with insulated sheathing. Newer high-efficiency ducts. Dual pane windows. New carpet, paint, and baseboards. Inspections done. 4119 SUFFOLK WAY

Congratulations!

Alain Pinel Realtors salutes Don Faught on being elected President of the California Association of Realtors for 2013. All of our agents and leaders in the company also receive honor and recognition by having one of our own hold this high office.



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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



JEB BING

Crews work on eastbound two-lane section of Stoneridge Drive bridge over arroyo after completing westbound lanes into Pleasanton. Stoneridge Drive extension will open in October, 2013.

Traffic jams dampen sizzle of Paragon Outlets opening

Paragon Outlets opened its \$150 million, 543,000-square-foot shopping center over the three-day Veterans Day weekend last week, with an estimated 100,000 cars carrying 350,000 shoppers to the site while thousands more motorists sat fuming in their cars on I-580 and other thoroughfares in traffic caused by the event. Surely the huge crowds at their center coupled with irritated motorists inching just outside must have dampened the opening day mood of executives at the Baltimore-based commercial real estate firm that designed and built Paragon Outlets. Sadly, there's no relief in site, with the traffic snarls on the freeway and surrounding roadways likely to continue through the coming holiday season.

There's no way to get to Paragon Outlets without using I-580 and El Charro Road, a dead-end street within the Pleasanton city limits that now ends at the newly extended Jack London Boulevard just to the south of Paragon. Beyond that, El Charro is basically a truck road serving the gravel operations along Stanley Boulevard. Jack London offers an alternate route to drive into Livermore, where it crosses Isabel Avenue and goes farther east. But Stoneridge Drive, which should have been opened by now, is just now being extended from the Mohr-Martin neighborhood in Pleasanton. It won't open before next October when work on a four-lane bridge over the arroyo is completed. Even across 580, there's little relief. Fallon Road connects to Dublin Boulevard just past the new Target, but there's no road yet to take motorists east to Collier Road, Costco and Las Positas College. That traffic also must use 580.

Last weekend and during the eastbound evening rush hour this week, motorists found long delays as they approached the El Charro

exit. Similar tie-ups occurred on Highway 84 as motorists sought an alternate route to their homes in Livermore and to the east. Dublin Boulevard also was crowded by motorists going from jobs to the north to reach their homes along the 580 corridor. Nighttime jams affected thoroughfares in Pleasanton, including Santa Rita Road, Vineyard Avenue and streets in the Hacienda Business Park.

Although business has been brisk at the outlets, other stores in the area, including Target and Costco, have found their stores also affected by the traffic snarls on I-580. Even Wheels, the local bus company, sent out notices to Pleasanton schools advising that buses could be late because of delays its drivers were having in leaving the Wheels barn just off Isabel Avenue. Delays were expected, according to California Highway Patrol Officer Steve Creel, but not the numbers that actually turned out. It's simply a case of more people showing up than the capacity of the roadways to handle them.

Still, Paragon Outlet Partners has reason to be proud. Its new Livermore center is stunning from the outside as well as along the covered walkways inside. It's offering a whole new dimension in outlet centers and a different retail attraction that adds to the region's draw with Stoneridge Shopping Center and Hacienda Crossings. For the thousands of Tri-Valley outlet center aficionados who used to travel to outlet centers in Gilroy, Vacaville and beyond, Paragon Outlets is close to home and offers much more. Its stores, headlined by Prada, Bloomingdale's Factory Store, Armani, Michael Kors, Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5th and J Crew, to name a few, are high-end retailers serving this area for the first time. Even its spacious food court with a variety of cuisine makes family trips to the shops quite palatable.

Livermore and Paragon Outlets now have the challenge of keeping the sizzle of shopping at Paragon Outlets alive before too many disgruntled motorists make it fade away. ■

About the Cover

Ten nonprofits have been chosen as beneficiaries as the 2012 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund campaign starts today. With a goal of \$100,000, the Holiday Fund this year is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, allowing contributions to be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Cover design by Kristin Herman.

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What are you doing on Thanksgiving?



Chelsea Loewenstein

Student/sales associate

We'll cook food and eat all day. My mom gets up early and starts the turkey, and then we make the rest of the dishes when I wake up. I love the yams with marshmallows and the cranberry jello my mom makes. We also have Thanksgiving place card holders that we use every year, and they have our names engraved on them.

Taylor Little

EMT

I moved to Texas recently to go to paramedic school, so I'll have my first Thanksgiving away from home. I'll be working so that my colleagues with families can enjoy the day, and my roommate and I will try to cook a meal the next day. I'm going to miss my family and the good food they make.



Josie Beidleman

Student

This year we're going to Reno to visit my great grandma, so we'll be eating out at a restaurant. I hope my mom will make her traditional Thanksgiving meal when we get back, because I really love her cooking. My job is to make the crescent rolls.



Tom Hall

Teacher

I'm going to hang out with my family and enjoy their company. I hope my wife makes her incredible stuffing; I love that. It has sausage, apricots and pine nuts, and is so delicious.



Jordan Reed

Student

I get two Thanksgivings! One day, I eat with my grandparents, and I love my grandma's mashed potatoes. I don't know what makes them so special that day, but they are delicious. And then I get to eat my mom's scalloped potatoes. I love the turkey, too.



—Compiled by Kerry Nally

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

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DIGEST

Holiday fun tomorrow

Two “magical” community events will take place tomorrow, hosted by the Pleasanton Downtown Association. “Earlier Than the Bird” is a morning event to launch the holiday shopping season at downtown stores, which will open at 7 a.m. with special offers and refreshments. Shoppers who arrive at the Museum on Main wearing their pajamas will receive a free “Downtown Pleasanton” keepsake tumbler. KKIQ will have its promotions team downtown from 8-10 a.m.

Then from 4-7 p.m. downtown will host its annual “Magical Holiday Evening,” ushering in the season with decorations, live music and caroling, holiday treats and sales. Santa and his helpers will be available at the Museum on Main, 603 Main St., for photos while elves will roam the street distributing candy canes. There will also be live entertainment and children’s activities.

Get lucky at Turkey Bingo

Don’t buy your turkey yet! First try your luck at VFW Post No. 6298’s annual Turkey Bingo being held from 5:30-8 p.m. tomorrow at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St.

Bingo cards are \$10 each and can be played for 20 games. There will be 15 turkeys, weighing 12 to 15 pounds, awarded as prizes, and two games will have a \$50 cash prize. There will also be a 50/50 drawing. Everyone is welcome.

Get hired

Unemployment in Pleasanton may be about half the national average, but there are still plenty of people here — about 4.3% as of September — looking for work. A Hand ‘n Hand Inc., a Pleasanton-based nonprofit, is working to help out with a job fair from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 20.

MassMutual Financial, Overtone Security, AVON, Bright Star and automotive career professionals are among the employers who are looking to hire new employees at the event, at the nonprofit’s offices, 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 110.

A Hand ‘n Hand Inc. has held two job fairs during the last month and offers career training at its offices. Tuesday’s event is free, but participants are urged to dress for success.

Corrections

The Weekly desires to correct all significant errors. To request a correction, call the editor at (925) 600-0840 or e-mail: editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

Prop 30 passage avoids cuts to school year

No unpaid furlough days for employees, and possible nest egg for district

By **GLENN WOHLTMANN**

The passage of Proposition 30 won praise from district staff and school board at its meeting Tuesday night.

Gov. Jerry Brown’s measure assures the district will receive flat funding for the year, although it won’t bring any new cash — and in fact will still mean a cut of about \$150,000.

However, the district won’t have to implement four unpaid employee furlough days that had been built into the budget and won’t have to cut its school year.

“It’s good news for us,” said Luz Cazares, assistant superintendent of business services. “It allows us to remove the risky assumptions (that were) in the governor’s budget.”

Cazares said the district based its 2012-13

budget on a potential \$7.1 million loss in state funding — cutting 70 jobs in the process — so Prop 30 will create a bit of a nest egg.

“We expect to end the year with a very healthy fund balance,” Cazares told the board. She’s currently predicting the district will end the year with \$6.4 million above its 3% reserve.

Prop 30 will also mean districts get money from the state more promptly, so they won’t have to do any short-term borrowing to pay their bills. Cazares still expects the district to be \$2 million in the red at the end of May, before it gets money owed by the state, and said the district could have to take a short-term loan known as TRANS to cover its bills.

School board members pointed out that the passage of Prop 30 doesn’t mean the district is

on sound financial ground.

“The passage of (Prop) 30 doesn’t bring one additional dollar to the district,” said Board Member Chris Grant.

Over the next few months, the district will begin crafting its budget for the 2013-14 school year. The district is still waiting on the governor’s budget, due out in January, to help determine the long-term effects of Prop 30’s impact.

Also at its meeting Tuesday night the board discussed the implementation of a new nationwide set of learning standards known as Common Core State Standards. CCSS was “backwards mapped,” so that students graduating from any high school in the country will

See **PUSD** on Page 6



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Jack Adams is congratulated by (l-r) Judy Tow and Martha Kay Nelson of Odyssey Hospice at a special celebration of veterans Monday at Parkview.

Veterans share stories of World War II

‘I was 4 years in the Marine Corps, I’m alive, I’m a happy guy’

By **DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

Veterans were celebrated at the Parkview senior assisted living facility this afternoon as two members of Odyssey Hospice visited to hand out certificates and pins, one by one, in gratitude for their service.

“We’re here to celebrate you as veterans of the United States,” said Martha Kay Nelson. “I invite you to share stories. There’s so much wisdom and so many stories in this room. I’m here to listen to you.”

Dozens of residents were in attendance in addition to the veterans, who were mostly from World War II plus some had served during the Korean War.

Jack Adams, one of the first honored, said he had too many memories and not enough time to share them.

“I saved over one hundred lives,” volunteered Clifford Blackett. “I shot the cook.”

One soldier said the worst part was the time spent aboard ship en route to the front because he was prone to seasickness.

Another remembered marching through Europe after the Germans.

“I never fired my rifle but I got shot at,” he said.

“I was four years in the Navy entertaining the troops,” recalled Leo Cunningham.

Jack Laird, who served in the Air Force, was based at Guadalcanal.

“Gen. MacArthur was on the next island and we had to bring one thing to him on an airplane — a new refrigerator,” he recalled, adding that it was a successful mission.

Another said he was still a teenager, serving in the middle of Czechoslovakia, when he was among those who liberated a concentration camp.

“I didn’t even know about them,” he said. “A 17-year-old kid, that was quite a thing.”

“I was four years in the Marine Corps, I’m alive, I’m a happy guy,” said Sven Thoolen.

A woman noted that she had four brothers who served during World War II, in the Army,

See **VETERANS** on Page 8

Announcing the Tri-Valley Heroes

Eight special people and groups make our lives better

The Pleasanton Weekly and its sister publications — Tri-Valley Views, San Ramon Express and Danville Express — are presenting its first-ever Tri-Valley Heroes awards. The awards are a salute to the community members whose dedication to bettering the lives of local residents has helped make the Tri-Valley the special place it is today.

After fielding over 75 nominations, our panel of “hero” judges bestowed awards in eight separate categories. Recipients will be honored in the Pleasanton Weekly and online at PleasantonWeekly.com, TriValleyViews.com, SanRamonExpress.com and DanvilleExpress.com. Two Heroes will be profiled each Friday, Nov. 23 to Dec. 14.

This year’s honorees, by category, are:

■ **Arts and Culture:** Jeff Seaberg, Danville — Actor, director and children’s theater teacher

■ **Community Spirit:** Chris Miller, Pleasanton — Pleasanton Military Families founder and veterans’ advocate.

■ **Courage:** Sandra J. Wing, Pleasanton — Cancer survivor and founder of Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation, which offers support to Tri-Valley cancer residents.

■ **Environmental Stewardship:** Sustainable Danville Area — Encourages sustainable programs that support a healthy quality of life and a strong local economy.

■ **Innovation:** San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District — Conceived of and piloted the Pulse-Point cell phone application, which alerts CPR-trained residents when a person is suffering from sudden cardiac arrest nearby.

■ **Role Model:** Cassandra Bankson, Danville — Severely bullied as a child because of her extreme cystic acne, and now a professional model, Bankson is helping others who suffer from acne to look their best.

■ **Rising Star:** Claire Williams, Pleasanton — Created the Read-to-a-Teen program, in which teen volunteers help young students become more confident in their reading ability and build comprehension skills.

■ **The 2012 Lifetime Achievement award** will recognize Robert “Bob” Tucknott, Pleasanton, who has served as a community leader and past captain of the Alameda County Sheriff’s Air Squadron helping support law enforcement, and is a pilot with Angel Flight, which arranges free air transportation via private aircraft for those in medical and financial need so they can travel to access healthcare. ■

Measure B1 transportation tax appears defeated

Community college, zoo measures also falling short

By JEB BING

A measure that would have doubled Alameda County's transportation sales tax to a full 1 cent appears to have been defeated.

Measure B1 and two other hotly-contested ballot measures affecting the Tri-Valley are still trailing by narrow margins in updated results announced shortly before 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Alameda County Registrar of Voters Dave Macdonald said on Monday that Tuesday's results probably would be the last significant update before the results are finalized and certified on Dec. 4 but he couldn't

be reached for comment late Tuesday on whether any more ballots remain to be counted.

McDonald reported that the count so far of vote-by-mail and previously uncounted provisional ballots showed Measure B1 had received 339,226 favorable votes, or 66.19% against 173,274 votes, or 33.81%.

A total of 66.6% of all votes cast in the election, or two-thirds, is needed to pass the measure.

The county's transportation sales tax was first passed in 1986. Measure B1 would make that tax permanent and increase it from a half-

cent to a full 1 cent.

Two other local tax measures requiring two-thirds majority votes to pass also appear to have failed.

Measure I, which is a \$28 per parcel tax that would provide \$5.6 million per year to both Las Positas and Chabot colleges, has a total of 126,408 favorable votes, or 62.17%, against 76,907 No votes, or 37.83%

Measure A1, a countywide measure to raise funds for the Oakland Zoo, is also falling slightly short of the two-thirds margin, with results showing it has received 329,259 favorable votes, or 62.62%, against 196,575 No votes, or 37.38%. ■

PUSD

Continued from Page 5

be ready for college and ready to compete with students across the globe after building skills from year to year.

Teachers will be required to begin integrating CCSS into their classes in the 2014-15 school year.

Odie Douglas, assistant superintendent of educational services, said the district has already begun the groundwork to make that happen.

"There will be fewer standards that teachers will teach, but a greater depth. It's no longer a time for passive learners, they (students) need to be active learners," he said. "We have students who may be struggling readers but they can think."

Under CCSS, students will do more writing in general and more writing based on non-fiction sources, and show a growing ability to reason abstractly, construct arguments and critique the work of others.

"This is a radical change," said Board Member Jeff Bowser. "If we have to do this, we've got to do it right."

The district also approved a new course at both Foothill and Amador Valley high schools that will let students become peer teachers. Michele O'Neill, a teacher at Foothill, told the board that the peer teachers are enthusiastic about teaching struggling students, and that those students often learn better from a peer than they do from an adult. ■



RANDY CAZINHA

Swing is the thing

Seventh-graders Emily Balicanta and Cameron Levine dance their way to the top at Hart Middle School's 12th annual swing dance competition. The four other top couples out of the 100 or so pairs who competed this year were eighth-graders Morgan Szymczak and Zac Richey; eighth-graders Allie Sanchez and Johnny French; seventh-graders Halle Uhl and Luke Szymczak; and eighth-graders Kelly Jefferies and Tanner Stangmeyer. The competition has been part of Hart since the school opened in 2000. It was imported from Pleasanton Middle School after P.E. teachers Sherry Jaksoniak and Pat Hallahan started it at PMS 16 years ago and brought the tradition with them when they transferred to Hart.



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Girasole Grill
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[Wed. 11/21 • 10:30 AM](#)

Hickory Pit
3064 Pacific Ave.
Livermore

[Fri. 11/23 • 10:00 AM](#)

CareMore Care Center
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[Mon. 11/26 • 1:00 PM](#)

CareMore Care Center
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Pleasanton

[Tue. 11/27 • 11:00 AM](#)

Girasole Grill
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Pleasanton

[Wed. 11/28 • 10:30 AM](#)

Hickory Pit
3064 Pacific Ave.
Livermore

[Thu. 11/29 • 10:00 AM](#)

Coco's
7505 Dublin Blvd.
Dublin

[Fri. 11/30 • 10:00 AM](#)

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New scam reported

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Someone claiming to be a representative of Microsoft scammed a resident of the 7400 block of Stonedale Drive in a scheme that began with a call warning of a virus, according to police reports.

After walking the woman through a number of steps to protect her computer, the caller offered to sell her a virus protection program for \$69.95. She took him up on the offer and paid with a credit card. The woman later became suspicious, contacted her bank, and discovered that \$408 had been wired from her account through Western Union. The incident, reported Nov. 9 and was just one of several felony identity thefts in Pleasanton in recent days.

On Nov. 7, a resident of the 4500 block of Shearwater Road was making a purchase at Sport Chalet when her credit card was declined. When the victim called her credit card company, she found out the card number had been

used in Berkeley the day before for two charges: \$496.77 and \$50.

On Nov. 8, a resident of the 7000 block of Koll Center Parkway told police he found charges on his account that weren't his. His credit card company told him it had sent him a new card that he never received. Four charges were made on the account, one for \$1,449, another for \$550, and two for \$115.10.

That same day, a resident of the 3600 block of Bernal Avenue contacted police after noticing charges that were made in Vacaville, for \$288.57, \$94.40 and \$50.

On Nov. 9, a resident of the 3200 block of Monmouth Court reported that her bank account had been accessed. Although there was no money loss, the victim's email and phone number were changed.

A resident of the 3200 block of Touriga Drive told police Nov. 11 someone had charged \$3,843.81 to his Sears card by using his Social Security number and date of birth to add a name to his account. ■

Strike over! Raley's management, striking unions settle

Raley's agrees to retain, fund union's health benefit plan

By JEB BING

The strike against Raley's and Nob Hill stores ended Tuesday when a tentative agreement was reached between Raley's management and two unions of the United Food and Commercial Workers in Northern and Central California.

Leaders of UFCW 8-Golden State and UFCW Local 5 said they would submit the settlement to the unions' members for review and recommend ratification. The proposed agreement also will be submitted to union workers at Raley's Bel Air chain, which had not yet been affected directly by the strike.

Jacques Loveall, president of UFCW 8-Golden State, and Ron Lind, president of UFCW Local 5, said picket lines would immediately be withdrawn from all Raley's and Nob Hill stores. More than 7,000 UFCW members went on strike against the grocery chains early on Sunday, Nov. 4.

"There is a time to fight and there is a time to unite," they said. "Now is the time for all of us to come together and get back to work serving the customers who supported our cause."

Loveall and Lind said the strike settlement guarantees that when workers return to their jobs there will be no reprisals. Workers who were

on strike also will maintain their positions, seniority and health care eligibility and all replacement workers will be immediately discharged.

Details of the settlement, which culminates 15 months of bargaining, will be released to the members before they are given to news media, they said.

Ordinarily, the terms of a tentative agreement are not released prior to the members having an opportunity to vote. However, the unions did confirm that Raley's agreed to retain and fund the union's health benefit plan, the same plan agreed to by Save Mart and Safeway.

"This is an important accomplishment for our members and retirees," the union leaders said in a joint statement. "Because of the resolve and solidarity exhibited by our members and allies in the labor movement, along with the extraordinary support of our customers, we were able to address Raley's competitive concerns while protecting our membership in a very challenging time. We now look forward to returning to work and

serving our loyal customers."

UFCW 8-Golden State and UFCW Locals 5 and 648 negotiated a contract with the Save Mart and Lucky chains last summer. Another agreement was reached between the three unions and Safeway/Vons on Nov. 8.

Loveall and Lind thanked the labor organizations in the Raley's Solidarity Alliance of Unions for their support during the negotiations with Raley's management.

In addition to UFCW 8-Golden State and UFCW Local 5, the Alliance's members included UFCW Local 711 in Nevada; Northern California Teamsters; Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union Local 85; and IUOE Stationary Engineers Local 39.

Loveall and Lind also recognized the UFCW International Union, national, regional and local labor organizations for their support during the lengthy negotiations and subsequent strike. They also expressed their gratitude to Federal Mediator Greg Lim. ■



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4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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GLENN WOHLTMANN

Kids celebrate veterans

Sofia Castillo and her grandfather, Vietnam Marine veteran David Ham, are surrounded by Sgt. Maj. McKie from Camp Parks, bagpiper Donna Willy and Charles Miller, a veteran who attended Vintage Hills, at Vintage Hills Elementary after an assembly the Friday before Veterans Day that gave students a new appreciation of the military. Along with singing patriotic songs and a posting of the colors by veterans from VFW Post No. 6298 and American Legion Post No. 237, the students talked to Master Sgt. Erwin Ricafrente in Afghanistan via Skype. His wife Jeanette told students what it means to be a military family, explaining where her husband is stationed and that he can do his job better when he knows his family is doing well.

"I liked that she mentioned that on Veterans Day, we should also remember the families of those veterans, because they, too, sacrifice a lot for our country," said second-grade teacher Julie Castillo. The assembly included an address by McKie and a speech by Ham, who spoke about Buddy Poppies.

VETERANS

Continued from Page 5

Air Force and Navy, and they were gone for four to five years.

"They all came back safely, thank God," she said.

A minute of silence was observed for those who did not return, then the crowd sang a rousing rendition

of the National Anthem.

Refreshments were served, and the veterans continued to visit. Parkview has 25 veterans in residence out of a total population of 123, and Veterans of Foreign Wars from Post 6298 already had been there for a Veterans Day flag ceremony. ■

Stoneridge Mall to open at midnight Thanksgiving night

Tote bags go to first 200 shoppers at guest services desk

Stoneridge Shopping Center will give shoppers an early start on their holiday buying next week by opening the mall at 12 midnight as Thanksgiving Day turns into "Black Friday" on Nov. 23.

The Friday after Thanksgiving is traditionally viewed as the start of the holiday shopping season, although retailers throughout the area, including stores at Stoneridge, have been promoting holiday shopping for weeks.

"In response to feedback from our shoppers, we have decided to open our doors at midnight to accommodate eager shoppers who want to get an early start on their holiday purchases," said Carrie Williams, director of Marketing & Business Development at Stoneridge.

Other Black Friday activities include:

■ Totes & Tees: Starting at mid-

night, the first 200 shoppers to Simon Guest Services will get a Stoneridge branded tote bag and a festive T-shirt.

■ Unwrap the Package Prize Giveaway: Enter for the chance to win one of 10 prize packages to be given away at 6 a.m. Entries will be collected at Simon Guest Services from midnight to 5:59 a.m. At 6 a.m., 10 winners will be drawn. Those 10 winners will then have the chance to open one of 10 wrapped packages to see what they've won. Packages will contain American Express Simon Giftcards ranging from \$50 to \$500. Entrants must be present to win.

■ Early Bird Gets the Giftcard Gift with Purchase: Customers who spend \$200 or more anywhere at Stoneridge between midnight and 6 a.m. will get a \$10 American Express Simon Giftcard if they

show their original receipts, photo ID and provide an e-mail address at Simon Guest Services. It's a one-time per shopper promotion.

■ Entertainment: A Dickens-era holiday brass group will kick off the shopping season for all early risers. Later in the day, the Dix Bruce Jazz Trio will entertain with holiday classics.

■ Black Friday shoppers will be able to document their day of shopping with a Stoneridge-branded flipbook made just for them in the Grand Court.

■ Keurig will be onsite in Grand Court demonstrating its coffee makers and offering free samples to shoppers. Sampling will continue every Saturday and Sunday throughout the holiday season.

Five major department stores are located in the Stoneridge Shopping Center — Nordstrom, Macy's Women's, Macy's Men's

Children's & Home, JCPenney, Sears — as well as 165 specialty stores and restaurants that include the Cheesecake Factory and P.F. Chang's.

The center is owned and operated by Simon Property Group Inc., which currently owns or has an interest in 333 retail real es-

tate properties in North America and Asia comprising 242 million square feet. Simon Property is headquartered in Indianapolis and employs 5,500 people in the U.S. For more information, visit the Simon Property Group website at www.simon.com. ■

Emmons new chief executive at Hope Hospice

Pleasanton executive has 25 years experience in health care

Victoria A. Emmons of Pleasanton has been named chief executive officer of Hope Hospice in Dublin.

"We're very pleased to have someone with Ms. Emmons' extensive background and qualifications join us at Hope Hospice," said David Karlsson, president of the Hope Hospice board of directors.

"As a Tri-Valley resident, she is invested in our community and in serving patients and families that face a life-limiting illness," he added. "We welcome her into our Hope Hospice family."

Emmons has held leadership positions in the health care field for more than 25 years. Most recently, she served as vice president of development and communications at Hospice of the Valley in San José

and is the former chief executive officer of Community Health Partnership Inc., a nonprofit consortium of community health centers that serve the ethnically diverse populations of California's Silicon Valley.

She was formerly vice-president of public affairs and marketing at Regional Medical Center of San Jose, vice president of corporate and community health at El Camino Hospital in Mountain View, and executive director of the Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation in Fremont.

A Pleasanton resident since 1999, Emmons earned a Master of Public Administration degree in Healthcare from the University of San Francisco and served as adjunct faculty at USF and San José State University. She is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the California Writer's Club Tri-Valley Chapter and the Society for Healthcare Strategy and Market Development.

Active in the community, Emmons is a former board member of the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation, Pathways Hospice & Home Health, Association of Fundraising Professionals Silicon Valley Chapter and the Rotary Club of Los Altos. She also is a member of the National Editorial Advisory Board for CPR Magazine.

While a member of the Los Altos Rotary Club, she was named Rotarian of the Year and also won a first place Pinnacle Award for excellence in publications. She is a past winner of the YWCA's TWIN awards for women leaders and the Silver Fox Award for excellence in management and leadership.

Founded in 1980, Hope Hospice is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation providing hospice care and grief counseling support to patients and families throughout the San Francisco East Bay Area. For more information, call 1-800-HOSPICE or visit its website at www.HopeHospice.com. ■



Victoria Emmons

Gene's market now offers organic bulk foods

Olive oil bar, bulk spice center largest in Tri-Valley

Gene's Fine Foods in Pleasanton, which came under new ownership last April, is now offering one of the largest selections of organic bulk foods in the Tri-Valley, including an olive oil bar and a bulk spice center.

With the trademarked SunRidge Farms brand, the store has become a true innovator in organic and natural bulk and packaged nuts and seeds, dried fruit, candies, and

snack and trail mixes.

"Our commitment to natural ingredient development means that we are featuring nutritional products that are free of unhealthy refined sugars, hydrogenated oils, artificial colorings and preservatives," said Casey Rodacker, manager of the supermarket, which is located at 2803 Hopyard Road at the intersection of Valley Avenue.

He pointed out that studies have

demonstrated the benefits of olive oil in protecting against high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and other conditions that contribute to heart disease.

The store's organic bulk foods section gives customers the ability to choose from a large selection of olive oils and spices. There are even snack categories offering a variety of naturally flavorful ingredients, Rodacker said. ■



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, November 20, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Approve an amendment to the Kottinger Task Force membership and consider appointment of a member to fill the new at-large position
- Adopt a resolution accept the 2011/12FY Year-End Financial Report for the Operating Budget and amend the 2011/12FY Operating Budget
- Adopt a resolution to accept the 2011/12FY Year-End Financial Report for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget and amend the 2011/12FY CIP Budget
- Consider approval of Recycled Water Agreements with Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) and DSRSD/EBMUD Recycled Water Authority (DERWA)
- Adopt Ordinance No. 2053 amending the contract between the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and the City of Pleasanton to include Section 20475 (Different Level of Benefits), Section 21363.1 (3% @ 55 Full Formula) and Section 20037 (Three-Year Final Compensation) providing a different tier of retirement benefits for new International Association of Firefighters Local 1974 employees

Commissions and Committees Recruitment

The City of Pleasanton invites applications for the following commissions and committees:

Civic Arts Commission – 3 Vacancies
Economic Vitality Committee – 1 Vacancy from each of the following categories:

- Commercial Services Firm
- Commercial Real Estate Developer
- Green Economy/Environmental Industry
- Financial Services
- Medical Technology
- Professional Services Firm

Energy & Environment Committee – 2 Vacancies

Human Services Commission – 1 Vacancy

Library Commission – 2 Vacancies

Planning Commission – 1 Vacancy

Youth Commission – 1 Vacancy from each of the following categories:

- Village High School Freshman/Sophomore
- Thomas Hart Middle School 6th or 7th Grade

Youth Master Plan Oversight Committee – 1 Middle School Parent Vacancy

Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District – 1 Vacancy

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office, 123 Main Street, or on the City's web site at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

For additional information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027

Applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Monday, December 3, 2012.

**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

GUEST OPINION

BY SHIRLEY KAMINSKY

Let's talk about suicide

Media often avoid reporting about suicide. Sometimes this is for good reason, out of fear regarding a real phenomenon called suicide contagion, aka "copycat suicide." Studies show that certain ways the media report about suicide can inadvertently contribute to contagion. Sometimes news organizations have policies, written or simply understood, that suicide is a topic that is off limits except for rare occasions.

So I want to take a moment to thank the Pleasanton Weekly for your recent in-depth reporting of suicide (Sept. 29). Thank you for including common warning signs of suicide, national and local resources for those in crisis, and tips on how loved ones can help those who might be at risk. Thank you for also giving voice to those left behind after a suicide death, a place that can be so very lonely, painful and still carries much stigma.

As a mom whose son died by suicide and as a volunteer with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), I want to encourage more dialogue, not less. No good can come from keeping suicide a secret. No good can come from sticking our heads in the sand, while the suicide rate continues to rise. We need more talk about it, accurately and responsibly. We need to advocate for more funding for research and effective prevention programs, not only for our youth. (Currently, the age group most at risk for suicide is middle-aged men and women between 45 and 64.) And we need the media to be our partners, so together we can elevate this conversation and reduce suicide.

The general public can help, too. Please take a moment to learn more about suicide by visiting www.afsp.org. AFSP has more than 50 chapters across the U.S., includ-

ing the Greater San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, which is doing much work locally to reduce suicide in our communities. For example, we recently partnered with the University of California to implement our Interactive Screening Program on all 10 UC campuses as well as at Ohlone Community College. We have provided area high schools with our educational films on teen depression, called "More Than Sad: Teen Depression," to help students and teachers recognize when a student might need help. We also have a Survivor Outreach Program for newly bereaved individuals and families.

The chapter hosted two fundraising and awareness walks in October. You can learn more about walks at www.outofthedarkness.org.

If you have lost someone you love to suicide, please know that you are not alone, although it can often feel that way. To help those bereaved by suicide, we will be hosting six local conferences during International Survivors of Suicide Day, Nov. 17, one of which will be held in Livermore. Register at <http://livermoresosday.eventbrite.com>

To quote our Surgeon General, Dr. Regina Benjamin, "Suicide prevention is everyone's business." I hope the Pleasanton Weekly will continue to talk about this important issue and I hope its readers will get more involved. To learn more about the chapter, please email SFbayArea@afsp.org.

Shirley Kaminsky is a founding member of the Greater San Francisco Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. She facilitates the Tri-Valley Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group, and has resided in the Tri-Valley for over 40 years. She can be reached by emailing s.kaminsky@comcast.net or calling 872-5634.



Shirley Kaminsky

EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

We should have listened to Roosevelt

Maybe FDR had it right. Long after the pilgrims had celebrated their first Thanksgiving and decades after Abraham Lincoln made it a holiday to be observed on the last Thursday of every November, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt answered the appeals of retailers distressed by an ongoing depression and moved it to the third Thursday. After outcries from Congress and others, a compromise was reached to celebrate Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday, giving businesses a bit more time to attract holiday sales. If the change hadn't been made in the first place, we'd celebrate Thanksgiving a week later this year, on Nov. 29, which would really upset the retail sector that had won Roosevelt's ear.

But would it matter? Costco and other large stores have been selling Christmas decorations for more than a month. Macy's had holiday greenery on its walls before Halloween. Now comes word from the Stoneridge Shopping Center that it will open its doors at midnight next Thursday night, barely giving its employees time to gobble down the turkey before heading off to work. Walmart, Sears and Toys R Us will start their "Black Friday" sales at 8 p.m. Thanksgiving evening, marking a change for Sears, which stayed closed Thanksgiving Day last year. Some will keep Black Friday on the day itself, but barely. Best Buy and Kohl's will open at midnight, Target at 4 a.m. K-Mart won't even wait for the holiday. It plans to stay open all day on Thanksgiving.

Some retailers, such as Staples, are holding Black Friday sales all week starting Sunday. "Sale" signs cover the windows of retailers in downtown Pleasanton already as Black Friday sales creep further into Thanksgiving Day. But who can blame them? The Commerce Department reports that consumers are already increasing spending this season. Retailers are looking to capitalize on this and gain some type of competitive edge by opening stores sooner to launch the shopping-crazed day known as Black Friday.

We've become accustomed to having the Friday after Thanksgiving "dedicated" to this holiday shopping frenzy, but usually not until sunrise. We've always treasured the day before as a time to visit with our families, count our blessings together, enjoy Thanksgiving dinner, watch a little football and even play some games outside and walk in the parks together. Now, before the dishes ever get to the kitchen, families will be split apart as we rush off to the shops even before Thanksgiving Day's sunset, midnight specials printed off the Internet in hand, to snatch those 1- to 2-hour "specials."

Perhaps we should have kept Roosevelt's proclamation and moved Thanksgiving up a week — this year, Nov. 15 — to give us at least more time for the family. ■



Franklin Delano Roosevelt



Visit Town Square at PleasantonWeekly.com to comment on the editorial.

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
Jerrri Pantages Long
Kerry Nally

ART & PRODUCTION

Lead Designer

Katrina Cannon, Ext. 130

Designers

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

ADVERTISING

Account Executives

Carol Cano, Ext. 226
Karen Klein, Ext. 122

Real Estate Sales

Dana Santos, Ext. 110

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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THANKSGIVING DAY AND DINNER BUFFET

Thursday, November 22, 2012

Pleasanton: 10:30 am – 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Danville: 11 am – 3 pm and 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm

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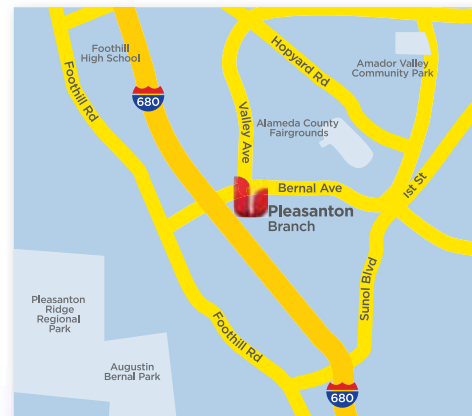


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See our *All About Business Accounts & Services Disclosure and Agreement* and *Business Deposit Fee Schedule California* for account details.

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Holiday Fund



Give now to help others in our community

BY JEB BIRNBAUM

Today marks the start of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund campaign, a time when we ask our readers to turn their thoughts to supporting local nonprofit agencies and services that care for those in need year round.

Our goal again is \$100,000, with contributions to be disbursed in two tiers, with 75% of all dollars raised going to Axis Community Health, Open Heart Kitchen, Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation, Valley Humane Society and ValleyCare Health System. Another 25% of the contributions will go to Hope Hospice, Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, REACH, Sandra J. Wing Therapies and Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley.



The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Although there will be no matching funds as we had before through the now-closed Tri-Valley Community Foundation, SVCF and the Pleasanton Weekly will handle all costs of the campaign. That means that every dollar will go directly to the 10 nonprofits with no administrative expenses.

"It's our most ambitious campaign ever," said Gina Channell-Allen, president and publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly. "Despite a modest economic recovery in the Tri-Valley, these are still-troubling times with unemployment in Alameda County, alone, at more than 8%."

"The agencies we have targeted for assistance have found that they now have many more to serve and often fewer dollars from their regular donors who have found themselves at times facing financial, employment and health care challenges and uncertainties," she explained.

Last year, when the state of the economy was perhaps even more dire, Pleasanton Weekly readers rallied to the call and contributed \$104,000 in direct donations to the Holiday Fund. When the campaign ended, and with more organizations seeking financial assistance, the Weekly provided four more recipients with a share of the donations.

Silicon Valley Community Foundation is a comprehensive center of philanthropy. Through visionary leadership, strategic grant-making and world-class experiences, it partners with donors to strengthen the common good locally and throughout the world. The community foundation is a catalyst and a leader for innovative solutions to the region's most challenging problems with more than

\$2 billion in assets under management and 1,600 philanthropic funds.

The community foundation, headquartered in Mountain View, is no stranger to Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley. In recent years, the community foundation and its donors have awarded grants to Amador Valley and Horizon high schools, Axis Community Health, PPIE, Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies, Tri-Valley Animal Rescue and the Valley Humane Society.

"We welcome the opportunity to join with Silicon Valley Community Foundation as part of our 2012 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund," Channell-Allen said.

"What's important about giving to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund is that, in partnership with Silicon Valley Community Foundation, we can identify these programs and activities that need our help and serve our entire community," she added.

"We know what the needs are locally because of our expertise in covering these nonprofits in the Weekly's news columns and through the community foundation's programs to help serve their financial needs," she explained.

"We can put money to work very quickly whereas it might take quite a long time for these organizations to partner up with donors themselves," she added. "So this is a much more effective and direct way to get money to work in the community by giving to the Holiday Fund."

Axis Community Health

Among this year's recipients in the Tier One group is Axis Community Health, the Tri-Valley's sole provider of medical care for the area's working families who do not have health insurance. Axis provides services for more than 12,000 Tri-Valley residents, including 3,500 children and teens.

"This year, more than ever, many of our friends and neighbors need help," said Sue Compton, chief executive officer. "We are very grateful for the support of the community through the Pleasanton Weekly's Holiday Fund."

Open Heart Kitchen

Open Heart Kitchen is another Tri-Valley charity that is again on the Holiday Fund list for 2012. It expects to serve more than 200,000 meals in its current fiscal year, according to Linda McKeever, executive



director. Open Heart, which serves meals in Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore, has seen a 25% increase in demand for free meals, far greater than the pace of donations directly to the organization.

"Open Heart Kitchen is often the 'bridge' that enables a family to stay on its feet from week to week," McKeever said.

"Last year's generous grant from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund went directly to support our hunger relief programs," she added. "Your funds helped purchase food, supplies and the direct cost of preparing and serving meals."



Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation

Also in line for Holiday Fund help this year is Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation, an organization that has a collaborative relationship with the Pleasanton Unified School District and contributes to the needs of Pleasanton students and educators, while also partnering with the business community. Founded in 1985, its goal is to raise funds in order to protect programs threatened by state budget cuts, relying on the generous support of the extended community, including the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, to help schools maintain excellence by meeting classroom needs unfunded by other means.

Valley Humane Society

Also receiving financial assistance this year from the Holiday Fund is the Valley Humane Society, an all-volunteer group that rescues, treats and finds homes for abandoned or injured animals. It does not euthanize unless health problems dictate. Its mission also includes educating others on responsible pet ownership. Last year, the organization moved into a new center on Nevada Street and continues to need funding to furnish that facility.

ValleyCare Health System

Since 1961, ValleyCare Health System has provided not-for-profit health care to the Tri-Valley and surrounding communities, expanding and adding services as the needs of the community have grown. Its highly skilled physicians, nurses and staff, combined with state-of-the-art technologies, allow ValleyCare to provide comprehensive health care. It's come a long way since its beginning as St. Paul's Hospital in Livermore in the 1950s. A nonprofit institution dependent on fees, grants and public contributions, including community assistance such as contributions from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, ValleyCare has expanded

to include new and remodeling in Pleasanton and Dublin.

Hope Hospice

Beneficiaries of the Holiday Fund campaign, which will receive 25% of the funds made this year, include Hope Hospice, a community-based organization that serves patients in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, Castro Valley, Diablo, San Ramon, Sunol and surrounding communities in the Bay Area. The organization is known throughout the Tri-Valley for the special kind of care it provides. It's unique because it works to address a dying patient's physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs, as well as the family as well. Hope Hospice provides care regardless of the ability to pay. Contributions such as those raised through the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund to provide

Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council

With all of the cutbacks, the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council was the first to suffer, which is why the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council has chosen the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund as a second tier beneficiary. For more than 35 years, the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council supported the visual, literary and performing arts facilities in Pleasanton, providing opportunities for school-age children with arts scholarships and funding for elementary and high schools.

REACH

Also slated to receive funding from the Holiday Fund campaign is REACH (Resources Education Activities and Community Housing) for special adults. Established in 1990 by a group of concerned members of developmentally disabled individuals, their loved ones to be able to live in a safe environment where residents live with dignity and respect.



Sandra J. Wing Therapies Foundation

Again on the Holiday Fund list is the Sandra J. Wing Therapies Foundation. Funds that go to the foundation help provide cancer patients with complementary therapies to help with the effects caused by radiation

2012



ed buildings in Liver-

spice

y Fund in the second of the contributions e Hospice, a Dublin's patients and families more, Alamo, Black-Danville, San Ramon, munities in the East own throughout the f healthcare it offers. to not only meet a ds, but supports the l needs of the survi- spice care is provided ay and relies on con- ed by the Pleasanton ide services.

l Arts Council

he arts are always the e Pleasanton Weekly Cultural Arts Council of its 2012 Holiday s, the PCAC has sup- d performing arts and eaching thousands of education programs, ncert bands in the el-

H ls in this year's Holi- CH, an acronym for ies Community and of the Tri-Valley. Es- o of concerned family disabled who wanted e to live locally, the e, quality living envi- rn self efficiency and



FILE PHOTOS

Today marks the start of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund campaign, a time when we ask our readers to turn their thoughts to supporting local nonprofit agencies and services that care for those in need year round.

The group is supported entirely by generous donations, including those from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley

Also benefiting from the Holiday Fund this year will be Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, an independent, non-profit agency serving seniors over 60 in the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol. The group was established in 1981 as a "Friendly Visitor" volunteer program serving 35 seniors. It has since grown to include programs that annually serve more than 1,600 seniors in the Tri-Valley area, along with providing about 5,000 information and referral calls and visits.



How to give: Process has changed

The Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Please direct your donations to:
Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund
c/o Silicon Valley Community Foundation
2440 West El Camino Real,
Suite 300
Mountain View, California 94040

Checks should be made payable to Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

There is also an opportunity to donate through Pay Pal online at www.siliconvalleycf.org/pleasantonweeklyholidayfund.



Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund Donor Remittance Form

Enclosed is a donation of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

(Only required if business name is to be listed as donor in the paper)

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Email: _____

Phone: _____

Credit Card (MC, VISA, or AMEX): _____

Expires: ____ / ____ Signature: _____

I wish to designate my contribution as follows (select one):

In my name as shown above In the name of business above

-OR-

In honor of: In memory of: As a gift for:

(Name of Person)

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

All donors and their gift amounts will be published in the Pleasanton Weekly unless the boxes below are checked.

I wish to contribute anonymously.

Please withhold the amount of my contribution.

Make checks payable to Silicon Valley Community Foundation and send to:

Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund
c/o Silicon Valley Community Foundation
2440 West El Camino Real, Suite 300
Mountain View, California 94040

Credit card gifts may be made at:
www.siliconvalleycf.org/pleasantonweeklyholidayfund





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

SPECIALIST is also a hair loss survivor

*'I'd rather lose an arm or a leg,'
says one client*

story and photos by DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



When Ethel Grigorovici, 35, began to lose her hair a few years ago, she was alarmed and didn't know where to turn.

"I used to be a Chia pet — then there was no hair," recalled the Ruby Hill resident.

She went to a hair stylist but she caused more damage.

"I bought a wig at a store — but it looked like a wig," Ethel remembered. "My hair is a part of me, and I didn't feel good about myself."

Then someone at her daughter's school recommended Helen Owens, a specialist who helps women suffering from hair loss with extensions and weaves, and custom-made hair replacement monofilament units.

Ethel called and first talked to Jo Owens, Helen's sister, who runs the business side.

"It can be an embarrassing situation but they were kind and gracious," Ethel said.

Helen herself is a victim of alopecia areata, which afflicts many of her customers. Others have challenges like compulsive hair pulling, called trichotillomania, or hair thinning due to medication or hormonal changes.

"I talk to them first about why they are losing their hair," Helen said.

Causes include thyroid problems, a reaction to chemicals, lupus, Seborrheic dermatitis, psoriasis, stress or hereditary hair loss, as well as undergoing chemotherapy. Helen stresses that each client is different, even if they are suffering from the same condition.

"I ask questions almost like a doctor," Helen said. "Are they taking medications? It's a big responsibility to give an in-depth consultation."

Hereditary hair loss equally affects men and women, she noted, although society deems it normal or even attractive for men. Not so for women.

"Our hair defines who we are," Helen said.

If clients don't know the cause of their hair loss, Helen recommends they see a dermatologist. In severe cases she will consult with their physician before applying anything to their scalp. It's also important to determine

possible allergic reactions.

Then Helen uses her technical and artistic skills to create the healthiest, most natural looking head of hair for the woman, applying weaves and extensions to what little hair may remain, or creating a custom-made hair replacement monofilament unit; the design of these units is such that the base of the piece allows the scalp to breathe, and the unit can be worn for three to four months at a time.

Helen aims to give women the hair they've always wanted. It can come in any color,

Above: Helen Owens (left) discusses a hair replacement unit with her sister and business manager Jo Owens. Below: The silicone base of a hair replacement unit custom-made by Helen Owens looks just like a scalp.



length or texture, she said, turning pages of a sample book with labels such as "Brazilian wave" and "French refined."

"There are 50 different ways of attaching the hair," Helen explained. "And there are so many high-tech things we can do to make it look real, and you can take showers, go in the hot tub, go swimming."

After the hair is in place, Helen cuts and styles it, plus teaches clients to care for it themselves.

Helen began to lose her hair at age 11, growing up in San Francisco. She remembers the pain, as does Jo, who has slight hair loss.



A neighbor, a loving older woman all the children called Granny, who had been in the theater, noticed Helen's problem.

"Granny said if I'd come to her house she'd teach me how to make wigs," Helen recalled. "So I started making wigs with her."

Her artistry emerged as she made hair replacements for herself and went on to cosmetology school to learn about styling, color, perms, scalp and anatomy, and chemicals.

"But not hair replacement," she emphasized.

She ran her hair business out of San Leandro for 15 years before moving it to Livermore a year ago under the name Her Secret — her hair replacements look so natural they are a secret.

Helen and Jo explained there is a lot of psychology involved, as many women are so vulnerable when they come in.

"I look at clients the same way I look at myself. And we've seen so many horror stories," Jo said.

"Everyday commercial approaches can't solve their type of problems," Helen said. "We've seen the scalp torn up. Even a lot with extensions have had their hair ripped out."

"I have a love for these women who are looking for help," Jo said. "I had a woman tell me she'd rather lose an arm or a leg."

Helen only uses real hair; some synthetics are just as good, she said, but they also are just as expensive, which can mean thousands of dollars. Helen lamented that insurance will not cover hair replacement because it is considered cosmetic but said most women consider it a necessary expense.

"People feel like it's an investment," Helen said. "If you don't have a life because of hair loss, whether it's lupus or trichotillomania, when it takes away your life, most are willing to pay to have their life back."

"I want the highest quality hair," she added. "We go to India a lot, to a temple, and buy virgin (natural) hair, straight from the head. They purify it and take all of the parasites from it — all hair has parasites. Then we weft it ourselves."

Back home, Helen changes the texture and colors to her fit individual clients. Women come from all over the world for her services, she said, noting one was just here from Australia. She travels every three weeks to New York to provide concierge service for wealthy clients with hair loss. Locally, entertainer Faith Alpher is a customer who has helped to spread the word.

"This job keeps me in touch with my mortality," Helen said. "One woman kept coming until the end because she wanted to look good in her last days. You have to have lot of compassion in this job."

A message left on her phone last week was from a 33-year-old woman who'd worn her hair up for 10 years to cover bald patches. After Helen worked with her for two months to cover the bare areas, she was finally able to wear her hair down, and she was effusive in her thanks.

And how is Ethel Grigorovici doing with her new hair weaves?

"Oh my god, everyone loves it! They say, 'Who does your hair?'" she said. "It's so natural." ■

'Beauty' — a magical tale with real life lessons

Musical rings true for fans of all ages

By **JAMIE ALTMAN**

"Who could ever learn to love a beast?"

This question is posed in front of an archaic set, intermixed with an animated orchestra, at the start of Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre's production of the musical "Beauty and the Beast," being performed through this weekend at downtown's Firehouse Arts Center.

"I think this is the best show that the Disney team has ever written," said Director David Judson. "It has this special effect where magic can transcend upon all age levels."

The story begins with an egocentric prince who denies a beggar asking for a warm place to stay. Consequently, the prince is turned into a hideous beast who must learn the meaning of love and compassion; if he doesn't find mutual love before a magical rose's petals wilt, he will remain a beast forever.

"I think the biggest message of the play is transformation," explained

Judson. "Disney did a magical job showing that everyone goes through transformations, some worse and some better than others."

The Beast stays inside his castle for years, in solitude except for his servants who have been converted into talking, inanimate objects. Rather than egotistical, the former prince has become temperamental and heartless, the attributes of a beast.

When Belle, a spirited, independent young woman, shows up at the castle in search of her imprisoned father, the house's occupants perk up: Could this be the girl to break the spell?

On the exterior, the idea seems implausible — how could such a beautiful girl love a beast? However, Belle, labeled an outcast because of her "odd" love for books, is not so different from the Beast, who is excommunicated due to his hideous features.

"I don't think Belle is so much 'odd,' which is why she questions it so much," explained Joy Sherratt,

the actress who plays Belle. "To her, that's just who she is. I think that the townspeople just don't understand her."

As a middle school teacher, Sherratt sees these situations every day.

"It's just the unknown sometimes," she said about the interactions between students, and even adults. "Instead of taking a step back and trying to get to know the person with an open mind, we automatically feel uncomfortable because that person is different."

"Beauty and the Beast" shows that being different isn't so much of a bad thing. "No matter what they say, you make me proud," Belle's father sings to her. "You stand out from the crowd."

The play elucidates a theme that is appealing to all ages.

"It goes beyond the fairytale aspect of it," Sherratt explained. "We're playing these bigger, larger-than-life characters that aren't just for kids."

But children in the audience loved the play, lining up afterward to take pictures with Princess Belle.

"A lot of these characters are very human, and they all have their own troubles and tribulations," Judson said, noting that the audience identifies with them. "Ultimately, because they see the mistakes these characters make, they realize that even though we poke fun at each other, we are all human, and I think that even today



WALLY ALLERT

Joy Sherratt (Belle) and Joshua Milbourne (Beast) appear in PCRT's production of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" playing through this weekend at the Firehouse Arts Center.

we take that for granted."

Although Belle is initially taken as prisoner in the Beast's castle, she soon comes to realize that he is much more than a bitter monster.

"I wonder why I didn't see it there before," she realizes in song.

Last week "Beauty and the Beast" transported audience members into a fairytale world, but it also brought them back to their everyday lives — with the realization that beauty isn't just what's on the surface, but

rather at the core, that describes who a person is.

"I hope everyone was able to feel this magical experience," Judson said. "I think that if we all take a step back and look beyond what's skin deep, we can find beauty in everyone."

"Beauty and the Beast" continues at 8 p.m. tonight and tomorrow night; and at 2 p.m. tomorrow and Sunday. Tickets are \$17-\$33; call 931-4848; visit www.firehousearts.org; or go to box office at 4444 Railroad Ave. ■

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Young soloist to perform with Diablo Symphony

Flautist Annie Wu, 16, is student at Foothill High

Annie Wu, a 16-year-old award-winning flautist from Pleasanton, will perform with the Diablo Symphony on Nov. 18 in Walnut Creek as part of the orchestra's 50th anniversary season.

Wu will play Ibert's Flute Concerto during the concert, which begins at 2 p.m. in the Leshar Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive. Tickets, \$10-\$25, are on sale at 943-7469.

A member of the San Francisco Youth Symphony, Wu last year became the youngest winner of the

young flute soloist competition in the 33-year history of National Flute Association. She attends Foothill High.

This summer Wu performed in six concert venues in Europe, including the Berlin Philharmonic Hall. She also was a soloist with the Vienna International Orchestra in Austria.

In Sunday's concert, the symphony's new conductor-music director, Matilda Hofman, will lead the orchestra in works by Mozart, Verdi, Brahms, Barber and Chabrier. ■



PAUL WU

Annie Wu performed in six concert venues during the summer, including the Berlin Philharmonic Hall.

N.E.A.T Award

Neighborhood Environment Attractiveness Team



Aldrin Adamos, DDS
FAMILY DENTISTRY
219 DIVISION STREET, PLEASANTON 925.846.2228

Congratulations to Dr. Aldrin Adamos, DDS for being selected as our quarterly NEAT Award winner! He has been selected in recognition of the beautiful enhancements he's made to his family dentistry practice located on Division Street in Downtown. We greatly appreciate his desire to enhance his business and our downtown with gorgeous landscaping.

Dr. Aldrin Adamos, DDS
219 Division Street
(925) 846-2228

The "NEAT" Neighborhood Environment Attractiveness Team award is designed to highlight a particular downtown building or property that has been improved or that is considered unique in design, architecture or style.



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POLICE BULLETIN

Robbery reported

A woman told police she was held up at 9:15 a.m. Nov. 10 in the 300 block of Main Street, near the Bank of America. The woman said a \$200 purse was taken from her, along with a \$20 wallet and miscellaneous credit cards. The case remains under investigation.

In other police reports:

- William Joseph Irish, 45, a transient, was arrested Nov. 11 at about 12:29 p.m. for felony DUI in an injury-causing accident at the intersection of Black Avenue and Santa Rita Road.

The victim's car was northbound on Santa Rita Road and stopped in the turn lane to turn left on Black Avenue. Irish was northbound on Santa Rita at about 50 mph and swerved into the stopped vehicle. He'd been arrested two days earlier for public drunkenness but was released because he needed hospitalization.

- James Alfred Moore, 50, of Pleasanton was arrested at about 8:03 p.m. Nov. 11 on the 8000 block of Arroyo Drive on suspicion of felony child abuse and felony threats.

- Two Oakland men, Moises Ramirez, 23, and Pedro Lucatero-Flores, 20, were arrested at about 3:39 p.m. Nov. 10 for shoplifting at Macys

Men's at Stoneridge Shopping Center in the theft of about \$440 in shirts, jackets and pants. Ramirez was also charged with possession of burglary tools, a set of wire cutters.

- Schalet Theres Jackson, 41, of Vallejo was arrested at about 2:26 p.m. Nov. 11 at Champs in the first block of Stoneridge Mall Road for felony shoplifting and possession of burglary tools in the theft of three belts and pants valued at \$120, using a booster bag.

- A burglary and a burglary attempt were reported Nov. 11 on Sonoma Drive.

In one, reported at 1:16 p.m. in the 5300 block of Sonoma Drive, a safe with coins and old jewelry was stolen between 4 p.m. Nov. 10 and 12:45 p.m. Nov. 11. No list of the specific items was available; entry was gained through an open rear window of the home.

In the other, at 2:21 p.m. in the 5500 block of Sonoma Drive, a sliding glass door at the rear of the home was shattered. A resident, who was home, spotted two people, who ran off without getting anything.

- Two bikes valued at a total of \$1,800 that had been locked to a ladder were stolen — along with the ladder — from a shared garage at a home in the 3400 block of Andrews Drive. The theft was reported Nov. 7 but occurred between 5:15 p.m. Oct. 30 and 8 a.m. Oct. 31.

- Police are awaiting a list of what was stolen during a break-in reported at about 7:17 p.m. Nov. 13 in the 4800 block of Harrison Street. There was no forced entry, but the front door was unlocked when the residents returned home.

- A lanyard with identification and a garage door opener were stolen from a vehicle parked in an unlocked garage in a Nov. 8 burglary in the 7600 block of Hillsdale Court. The theft took place between 5 and 6:20 p.m.

- The lock at a storage unit in the 3700 block of Stanley Boulevard was cut and the contents of the unit were stolen in a Nov. 9 burglary discovered in a security check of the units. The victim will file a list of what was stolen.

- A \$2,000 laptop and computer bag were reported stolen from a vehicle in the 6900 block of Corte Monterey between 5 p.m. Nov. 9 and 6:30 a.m. Nov. 13. A pry tool was used to gain entry.

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

WEDDINGS

Andrea Bloom and Mitch Levinson

Andrea Bloom and Mitch Levinson were married Sept. 2 over Labor Day weekend at El-liston Vineyards in Sunol. They were joined by their five children, ages 11 through 23, their four parents, extended family and close friends. It was a celebration of merging two families.

Andrea and Mitch are both long-time residents of Pleasanton, where they have been raising their children and have founded healthcare companies.

Mitch was the founding CEO of Pleasanton-based Zeltiq Aesthetics. In 2010, he founded Cerebrotech Medical Systems, which is developing a brain monitoring device for patients after stroke or brain trauma.



Andrea had her own diabetes consultancy where she advised diabetes devices and services companies on new products for people with diabetes. In 2010 she founded ConnectWell, a corporate wellness company that engages people in sustainable wellness practices to reverse chronic disease trends.

The couple honeymooned in Italy where they hiked the Cinque Terre, explored Tuscany, and spent three days in Venice.

OBITUARIES

PAID OBITUARIES

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Nov. 7

Theft
 ■ 7:22 a.m. in the 5800 block of Stoneridge Mall Rd; theft from structure
 ■ 8:04 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; fraud
 ■ 8:07 a.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; fraud

Burglary

■ 2:11 p.m. in the 7400 block of Flagstone Drive

Auto burglary

■ 4:04 p.m. in the 1800 block of Palmer Dr

Vandalism

■ 11:11 a.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive
 ■ 1:59 p.m. in the 500 block of Tawny Dr
 ■ 2:07 p.m. in the 7700 block of Fairoaks Drive

Nov. 8

Theft
 ■ 6:26 a.m. in the 1100 block of Quarry Lane; auto theft

Burglary

■ 8:21 a.m. in the 7600 block of Hillsdale Court

Vandalism

■ 10:48 a.m. in the 5900 block of Owens Drive

Nov. 9

Theft
 ■ 12:01 p.m. in the 4600 block of Herrin Way; fraud

Burglary

■ 8:21 a.m. in the 7600 block of Hillsdale Court

Auto burglary

■ 7:39 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

■ 10:23 a.m. in the 2700 block of Turnstone Drive

DUI

■ 1:55 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Blackbird Drive

Nov. 10

Theft
 ■ 9:24 a.m. in the 4100 block of Dorman Road; auto theft

■ 10:02 a.m. in the 6400 block of Paseo Santa Maria; fraud

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 1:29 a.m. at the intersection of Stanley Boulevard and Lonestar; DUI
 ■ 1:31 a.m. in the 5200 block of Hopyard Road; DUI
 ■ 9:39 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; marijuana possession
 ■ 11:00 p.m. in the 4300 block of First St; driving on probation with alcohol

Nov. 11

Theft
 ■ 8:41 a.m. in the 4300 block of Second Street; auto theft
 ■ 5:07 p.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Ave; theft from structure

Auto burglary

■ 6:24 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Alcohol violations

■ 12:43 a.m. at the intersection of Spring Street and Railroad Avenue; underage drinking and driving

Nov. 12

Theft
 ■ 4:02 p.m. in the 800 block of Palomino Drive; auto theft

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 12:02 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Rd; driving with marijuana

Nov. 13

Sex offense
 ■ 8:33 a.m. in the 2000 block of Santa Rita Road

Theft

■ 4:02 p.m. in the 5800 block of Owens Drive; theft from structure
 ■ 5:30 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Burglary

■ 8:49 p.m. in the 5800 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Auto burglary

■ 6:53 a.m. in the 1300 block of Kolln St

Vandalism

■ 11:42 a.m. in the 3500 block of Stanley Boulevard

DUI

■ 9:54 p.m. at the intersection of Ruby Hill Boulevard and Vineyard Avenue

Marcia Haug

Marcia was born February 18, 1929 in Seattle, Washington to Norman E. and Ruth Hunter Churchill. She died peacefully on October 7, 2012 in her Indianola, WA home.

Marcia lived a life of purpose and integrity; printed words barely scratch the surface of legacy of compassion and love she leaves to her friends and family. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Marcia was a loving wife and mother, a true friend and doting grandmother whose optimistic character shined through in all she said and did. To Marcia's family, she found happiness in sharing meals together, embarking on weekend trips of adventure with her grandchildren, and random moments of silliness and good laughs. To her friends, both far and near, Marcia was a genuine companion with a listening ear to all.

Marcia grew up in Sunnydale and Seattle, WA, attending Highline High School and graduating from Seattle's Lincoln High School as a member of the class of 1947.

The following fall, she entered the University of Washington (U.W.) where she pledged as a member of the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority. Marcia lived in her sorority house during her enrollment at the U.W. and enjoyed many moments of laughter, fun, and etiquette lessons with her sorority "sisters." In 1950, Marcia graduated from the University with a degree in Elementary Education, ready to change the lives of Seattle's youngsters. By the fall of 1951, Marcia has accepted her first teaching position as a first grade teacher; little did she know she would have to share all her lunches with six year-olds and keep neighbors' dogs out of her classroom.

During her college years, Marcia met her husband, Dr. Ronald D. Haug. On June 14, 1952 they were married at Highline's Florence Henry Memorial Chapel in Seattle. They made their first home in Port Angeles, WA, where Marcia's talent for hostessing and catering fabulous parties became evident. Their eldest daughter, Sally was born in Port Angeles.



In 1959, Marcia and Ron moved back to Seattle where Ron received his Orthodontics degree from the U of W, their second daughter, Jane, was born, and Marcia taught primary school in Alderwood Manor.

In May of 1960, Marcia and Ron moved to Pleasanton, CA with two daughters Sally and Jane, driving all the way, in a stuffed-to-the-brim Volkswagen Beetle and live turtle dangling from its ceiling.

They lived in Pleasanton for 35 years where Marcia and Ron made many lifelong friends. She was active in the Children's Hospital Guild of Oakland, CA, a tennis member of the Castlewood Country Club, and later, worked as an office assistant in Ron's orthodontics office.

Upon Ron's retirement from

his orthodontics practice, Marcia and Ron permanently moved to the family home in Indianola, WA where Marcia volunteered her time as the North Kitsap Arts and Crafts Festival president, perfected her jigsaw puzzling skills, and enjoyed many summertime memories with her family on the shores of the Indianola Beach. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this past June.

Her memory and spirit lives on in our hearts; we are all better people for having known such a remarkable woman. Marcia is preceded in death by her parents and husband. She is survived by: sister, Ruth E. Churchill of Tiburon; daughters, Sally (Gary) Haug Walker of Livermore, CA and Jane (Mark) Haug Brown of Tucson, AZ, sisters-in-law, Elloise Halverson Haug of Seattle; nephews, Steve (Joy) Jarvis of Bothell, WA, Jeff Jarvis of Seattle, WA, Chase (Kate) Jarvis of Seattle, WA, and Scott Haug of WA; nieces, Diane and Robin Haug of WA; grandchildren, Adrienne (Joey) Haynes D'Amico, Veronica (Jerico) Haynes Castillo, Callan Haug-Walker, Zoe Haug-Walker, and Aaron Brown and great-grandchildren Caitlynn Castillo and Ruby D'Amico.

At Marcia's request, there will be no services. Remembrances in her name can be made to: Indianola Beach Improvement Club PO Box 212 Indianola, WA 98342 or Children's Hospital Research Foundation (Oakland, CA) at www.chofoundation.org.

Arrangements entrusted to The Stone Chapel Poulsbo Mortuary. An online memorial can be seen at www.poulsbomortuary.com.



AMERICAN

Eddie Papa's American Hangout

4889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 469-6266. Winner of The Pleasanton Weekly's Reader Choice Awards for "Best American Food," "Best Meal under \$20" and "Best Kid Friendly Restaurant," Eddie Papa's American Hangout celebrates the regional food and

beverage cultures of America. Bring the whole family to enjoy iconic dishes from across the United States, Old World Hospitality, and hand crafted artisan cocktails. www.eddiepapas.com.

To have your restaurant listed in this dining directory, please call the Pleasanton Weekly Advertising Department at (925) 600-0840

Get into the Holiday Spirit in Downtown!

Saturday, Nov. 17th



Earlier Than The Bird
7 a.m. - noon

Magical Holiday Evening
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.



Just Some of the Special Activities

Clover Creek - Live music during Magical Holiday Evening. In the morning (9:30 - 12:30 only) she will have a "Tie One On" scarf demo.

Main Street Spirits and Deli - Live hip hop performance by "The Heretic" and demo of their "Main Street Parm Dip."

Heroes and Villains Comics - Meet comic artist Mike Rhodes from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Savvy Seconds - Live music, children's tattoo and nail artist during Magical Holiday Evening.

Museum on Main - Santa will be available for photos from 4-7 p.m. and a chorale group will be performing holiday music.

Berry Patch - Make & Take Christmas Ornaments

Glad Tidings - Children's book reading with Aunt Robin. Morning at 10:00 a.m. & afternoon at 4:30 p.m. ALL children welcome.

"Knit This Purl That" - Free Scarf Clinic offered at 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Make your own scarf with purchase of just one skein of yarn!



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Author Visits

ARTIST SIGNING: MIKE RHODES

Meet Mike and Janet Rhodes of "Quantum Gumbo" and "Tales of the Living Room Warrior" from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17, at Heroes and Villains Comics, 264 Main St. An event for all ages. Call 399-5352 or visit www.heroesvillainscomics.com.

Book Clubs

AVHS CHALLENGE SUCCESS BOOK CLUB

The Amador Valley High School Challenge Success parents' book club will meet for its second discussion at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Road. The book is "Doing School: How We Are Creating a Generation of Stressed Out, Materialistic and Miseducated Students" by Dr. Denise Pope. The club will Skype with Pope. For more details, email avhs.ChallengeSuccessParents@gmail.com and enter "Book Club" in the subject line.

Clubs

2013 PROGRESSIVE AGENDA MEET-UP

Campaigners will have a chance to decompress and discuss plans for 2013 at a meeting at 7 p.m., Monday, Nov. 19, at IBEW, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Campaigners from OFA, MoveOn, 99%ers, Progressives and Democrats are invited to join the discussion. Refreshments will be served. For details, call Ellis Goldberg at 831-8355; visit www.TriValleyDems.com. Free.

BEYOND GOOGLE: BETTER FACT FINDING FOR FICTION WRITERS

Geri Spieler will be the guest speaker at the next monthly meeting of the California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch, 2-4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17. Spieler, an Internet research guru, can help you find the facts

for your next novel. Meet at the Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road. For reservations, call 216-5238 or email reservations@trivalleywriters.org. For more information about the club, visit www.trivalleywriters.org. \$15 for non-members, \$10 for members.

MOM2MOM Mom2mom is for all moms, regardless of their children's ages, to see moms of all ages connecting with one another much like the Titus 2 women. They meet on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month at Harvest Valley Christian Church, 3200 Hopyard Rd. Childcare is available. Call 484-2482 ext 121 or email valerie@harvestvalley.org. Free.

Events

BAY-FRIENDLY GARDENING Fall is here and so are the rains - the best time to plant. Ann Morrison and Daniel O'Donnell, Bay-Friendly Qualified Landscape Professionals, will be at Western Garden Nursery

Tribute to Johnny Cash

James Garner and his band, the Tennessee Three, return to Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center for a one-night-only Thanksgiving Weekend performance at 8 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 24. Garner, who is not a Johnny Cash impersonator but happens to be a huge fan, will again recreate his sound and style in a show of signature classics like "Ring of Fire," "I Walk the Line" and "A Boy Named Sue," as well as seasonal favorites. Tickets are adult: \$16, \$21 and \$26; child: \$12; senior: \$22. Call 931-4848, visit www.firehousearts.org or go to the box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.



from 1-3 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 18, 2756 Vineyard Ave. They can answer questions about plant selection and converting a lawn to a sustainable garden. Call 510-891-6500 or visit www.loseyourlawn.org.

BLACK CAT FRIDAY AT VHS

The Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St., will host "Black Cat Friday," noon-4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 23, where you can shop for a black cat - they are always in fashion and never fade! Adoption fees will be waived on all black or mostly black cats, with discounted fees for other colors. Available in all sizes! Stock up and save a life. For details, call 426-8656.

CAL VS OREGON STATE GAME

VIEWING PARTY Tri-Valley Cal Alumni Group & Eastbay Haas Alumni Network invite you to a viewing party to watch the Cal football team take on the Oregon State Beavers. The event is from 7-10 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17, at The Hopyard Alehouse & Grill, 3015 Hopyard Rd. Watch with fellow alumni & friends & cheer for the Bears. Be sure to bring your Cal gear! All Cal fans (non-alumni & even Oregon State) are welcome. Free (no host bar & food). Call 730-3862 or visit www.alumni.berkeley.edu/trivalley.

COUNTRY FOLK ART: URBAN

MARKETPLACE Country Folk Art's "Urban Marketplace" will be at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17; and 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 18. Admission is \$7 for both days; \$1 off with online coupon. Visit www.CountryFolkArt.com.

FIVE FABULOUS WOMEN ARTISTS

Artist and educator Marlene Aron will present, "Five Fabulous Women Artists of the 1800s," at 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 18, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. View more than 80 slides of the inspiring art of five women artists of 1800s Paris: Mary Cassatt, Berthe Morisot, Marie Bracquemond, Eva Gonzales and Camille Claudel. For more details, call Penny Johnson at 931-3405. No registration required. Free.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD Scouting for Food is the largest single-day canned food drive in the commu-

nity. Each year, the Scouts collect enough food to assist approximately 300 pantries in the Bay Area. Please help by leaving non-perishable foods in front of your door on Saturday morning, Nov. 17, for the Scouts to collect. For information email Doug Benedict at wormus@comcast.net.

VHS: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
The Valley Humane Society is hosting a Blessing of the Animals, 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Nov. 17, at Milflour in the Kottinger Barn on Ray St. Also 1-2 p.m., on Sunday, Nov. 18, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road. Please bring your pet in a carrier or on a leash. No fee to attend or participate, but donations are welcomed.

Exhibits

'CONFRONTATIONS: ARTISTS AND THE NATURAL WORLD' The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., will present its new exhibit, "Confrontations: Artists and the Natural World," from Wednesday, Nov. 7, through Saturday, Dec. 15. Media includes sculpture, photography, large formal oil paintings and ceramic. The artists will be on hand for the opening reception, 7-9 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 8, which is free and open to the public. For more details, call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org/.

Fundraisers

RAGIN' CAJUN Ragin' Cajun, the annual fundraiser for the Sandra J Wing Healing Therapies Foundation, is the East Bay's Mardi Gras event of the year. Enjoy music, dancing, dinner, beads, live auctions and more, from 6:30-11 p.m., Friday, March 8, at the Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Ave. Tickets are \$95. Call 866-862-7270 or visit www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org.

Holiday

SEND THEM 'HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS' All the cats and dogs at the Valley Humane Society, 3570 Nevada St., want to be home with YOU for the holidays. Find yourself a warm and fuzzy critter to snuggle with and enjoy discounted adoption fees. "Home for the Holidays" runs through the month of December, during normal adoption hours. Closed Tuesday, Dec. 25. For details, call 426-8656 or visit www.valleyhumane.org.

SUIN'S 'THE CHRISTMAS BALLET' San Francisco's Smuin Ballet presents this annual holiday treat at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 23, and at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets are \$14 for students; \$43-\$63 for adults. The performance is split into "Classical Christmas" and "Cool Christmas," with the show offering something for everyone. To purchase tickets, call 373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org.

Kids & Teens

FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL MINI CHEER CAMP FOR KIDS Join Foothill Competition Cheer for a fun-filled day of cheerleading from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1, in the Foothill High School Small Gym. Its nationally ranked teams will teach the latest moves, fun dances and cool new cheers. Cost is \$50. Contact Marti Scalise at Mjiscalise2@comcast.net. Visit www.foothillfalcons.org.

VHS CAMP OF CARING The Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St., invites kids ages 8-13 to its Camp of Caring, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17. Cost is \$50 and includes a Critter Camp T-shirt. For details and to register, call 426-8656 or visit www.valleyhumane.org.

Lectures/ Workshops

HANDLING THE HOLIDAYS Hope Hospice invites those who've recently experienced the death of a loved one to this free workshop to explore practical ideas for handling the holidays while grieving. The workshop will be offered four times: at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Nov. 13 and Dec. 4, at 6377 Clark Avenue, Suite 100, Dublin. Call 829-8770 to register. For more information, visit www.hopehospice.com/home.html.

Live Music

RUSSIAN-ISRAELI GUITARIST An eclectic and wide-ranging classical guitar program by Yuri Liberzon is slated for the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., at 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 25. Tickets range from \$12-\$22; group discounts available. Purchase online at www.firehousearts.org, call 931-4848, or visit the Firehouse box office.

On Stage

CREATURES OF IMPULSE TEEN IMPROV TROUPE Creatures of Impulse is presenting its fourth season of "Holiday Shorts: A Long Winter's Tale" in three performances, all at 7:30 p.m.: Tuesday, Nov. 27 (free preview show); Thursday, Nov. 29; and Friday, Nov. 30, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$5-\$15; call 931-4848, visit www.firehousearts.org, or go to the box office.

Spiritual

CHURCH'S ANNIVERSARY & PRAISEGIVING CELEBRATION Pathway Community Church will have its 15th Anniversary and Praisegiving Celebration from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 18, at Pathway Community Church, 6533 Sierra Lane, Dublin. Atmosphere is informal, so come in casual attire. Bring children to the special children's program. Join them for lunch following service.

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 for deployed members of the armed forces. The group also sponsors the Yellow Streamer program on Main Street. Learn more at www.pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org.

Volunteering

VHS JUNIOR VOLUNTEERS The Valley Humane Society's Junior Volunteers is accepting applications for ages 10-15 who want to make a difference for animals while gaining volunteer experience. The program runs on Fridays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.; the first session begins Nov. 16, and shifts run through Dec. 14. To download an application, visit www.valleyhumane.org. VHS is at 3670 Nevada St.; call 426-8656.

TAKE US ALONG



Happy New Year: Danny Gaisser holds his Weekly with his mom Gerry standing behind him, while at New York City's Grand Central Station with Connecticut cousins Sean, Barbara, Bobby and Tommy Essig. A friendly man stopped by to wish them Happy New Year and get into the photo — or was he hoping for a glimpse of the Weekly?

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<p>Greenland Turbot Steak</p> <p>Previously Frozen \$5.99 lb</p>	<p>ELS Phoenix Cookie Rolls 454 gm</p> <p>\$4.29 ea</p>	<p>Best Fish Tofu 1 lb</p> <p>\$3.69 ea</p>
<p>Chicken Breast (skinless & boneless)</p> <p>Previously Frozen \$2.59 lb</p>	<p>Humboldt Organic Milk (selected varieties) 64 fl.oz.</p> <p>\$2.99 ea</p>	<p>C&H Pure Cane Sugar - Granulated White 64 oz</p> <p>\$2.49 ea</p>

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Vets Day tennis champ

Casey Guan won the Veterans Day Junior Tournament held last weekend at Pleasanton Tennis Park, the sixth he has won out of the last seven singles tournaments. Casey, 12, a student at Pleasanton Middle School, trains with the Gold Team at Lifetime Tennis at the Tennis Park and also won the 2011 Southern East Bay Inter Club Summer League doubles with his partner Jared Tay. Casey's coach says Casey's "intelligent decision-making combined with the accuracy of his shots makes him tough to beat."

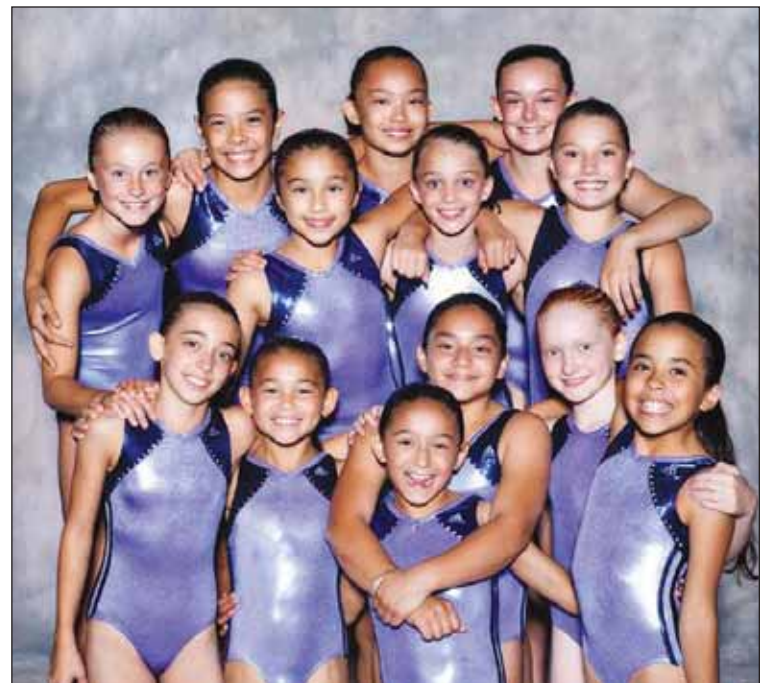


RAGE U10 White ends season on top

The RAGE U10 White Soccer team, coached by Axel Thibodeau, ended its season Sunday as champions of the NorCal Soccer Silver Elite Division. Team members are Coach Axel, Sydney Soares, Kyra Woodward, Immie Burstain, Victoria Frenztz, Reese Lombardi, Sammy O'Brien, Jenna Benner, Frankie Cardoza, Audrianna Templeman, Kalena Johnson, Penny Murphy and Stephanie Lee.

CGA earns 19 titles at state meet

California Gymnastics Academy Level 5 gymnasts earned 19 titles at the Nor-Cal Level 5 State Championship Gymnastics Meet held in Folsom last weekend, placing third out of 69 teams. CGA's Alexandra Kim and Daniela Mendiola are now members of the NorCal Level 5 State Team, after achieving the fifth and sixth highest scores out of the 438 gymnasts competing, regardless of age. Also excelling at the meet were Lily Cuyler, Maya Frank, Genevieve Almgren, Alexandra McMilli, Sydney Sullivan, Carly Oniki, Julieta Mendiola, Sabrina Kheiroloom and Julia Humphrey.



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SPORTS DIGEST

Golf Show at Fairgrounds

The West Coast's largest fall consumer golf expo will take place from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday-Sunday, Nov. 16-18, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Bldg. A. Tickets are \$11 general; \$9 seniors, good all three days; free parking. For details, call Laura Kendall at 425-412-7070 or visit www.bayareagolfshow.com.

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Attend an upcoming event in your area to learn more. To RSVP, call **1-800-924-6430** today, or visit StoneridgeCreek.com.



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Continuing Life Communities Pleasanton LLC, dba Stoneridge Creek Pleasanton, has received authorization to accept deposits from the California Department of Social Services.

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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)

624 Financial

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)

645 Office/Home Business Services

Classified Advertising
The business that considers itself immune to advertising, finds itself immune to business. Reach Californians with a Classified ad in almost every county! Over 270 newspapers! Combo-California Daily and Weekly Networks. Free Brochures. elizabeth@cnpa.com or (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)

Display Business Card Ad
Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising Mark Twain. Advertise your business card sized ad in 140 California newspapers for one low cost. Reach over 3 million+ Californians. Free brochure elizabeth@cnpa.com (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)



751 General Contracting

NOTICE TO READERS >It is illegal for an unlicensed person to perform contracting work on any project valued at \$500.00 or more in labor and materials. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs that total less than \$500.00 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board



805 Homes for Rent

Menlo Park
Location W/S : 3Br,2Ba, DR,Family Rm, Lv Rm Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Gardener, No Smoking or Pets \$5,000.00Mo Las Lomitas Schools 650-598-7047

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)

PET OF THE WEEK

Prim, the cuddler

Prim is a 5-month-old beautiful domestic short hair. She was surrendered by her owner after she realized she could no longer properly care for Prim and give her the time she deserves. Prim is a cuddler and loves to play with her toy mice and chase after ribbon dangles. For more information, call 426-8656; go to www.valleyhumane.org; or visit Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St. in Pleasanton to see the other adoptable dogs and cats waiting for you.



JENNY XIA

825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Oceanfront Condos
Luxury 2BR/2BA was \$850k now \$399,900 Resort Spa Restaurant Golf Marina www.MarinSemiahmoo.com 1-888-996-2746 x5464. (Cal-SCAN)

850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

20 ACRES FREE
Buy 40-Get 60 acres. \$0Down, \$168/month. Money back guarantee. NO CREDIT CHECKS. Beautiful views. Roads/surveyed. Near El Paso, Texas. 1-800-843-7537 www.SunsetRanches.com (AAN CAN)

Texas Hill Country
Land Bargain! 8.4 Acres - just \$99,900 Huge live oak trees, 30 mile views, in heart of Texas Wine Country. Close to medical. Low taxes (ag exempt). Utilities included. Buy now - build later. Lowest financing in history! Call now 1-800-511-2430, x 440. (Cal-SCAN)



995 Fictitious Name Statement

FOUNDATION REPAIR OF CA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 471427
The following person(s) doing business as: Foundation Repair of CA, 2174 Rheem Dr., Ste. A, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): SMP Construction & Maintenance, Inc., 2174 Rheem Dr., Ste. A, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on June 1, 2012. Signature of Registrant(s): Mark Phelps. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Oct. 31, 2012. Pleasanton Weekly, Published Nov. 16, 23, 30 and Dec. 7, 2012.

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Pleasanton Weekly.com

Survey shows housing market improving

By JEB BING

The number of U.S. housing markets showing consistent improvement in three key measures of strength expanded by 22 in November to a total of 125, according to the National Association of Home Builders/First American Improving Markets Index (IMI) released this week.

This marks a third consecutive monthly gain for the index, which now includes representatives from across 38 states as well as the District of Columbia.

The index identifies metropolitan areas that have shown improvement from their respective troughs in housing permits, employment and house prices for at least six consecutive months. Markets added to the list in November include such geographically diverse locations as San Diego, Omaha, Louisville, Gainesville, Ga., and Charlotte, N.C.

“Not only did 22 additional markets qualify for the improving list in November, but the geographic distribution of included metros expanded from 33 states to 38 (plus the District of Columbia), while 97 out of 103 markets retained their spots on the list from the previous month,” said Barry Rutenberg, chairman of the NAHB and a home builder from Gainesville, Fla.

“This shows that a housing recovery is firmly taking root and helping to generate needed jobs and economic growth across much of the country,” he said. “Although we know that this expansion could be even stronger were it not for ongoing challenges including overly tight lending conditions and difficult appraisals.”

“The solid increase in the number of improving housing markets this month illustrates

the degree to which the housing recovery has gained momentum since we initiated the IMI last year,” added NAHB Chief Economist David Crowe. “Compared to the 30 markets that made the list as of November 2011, we now have 125, which is about one-third of all the markets surveyed for this index.”

“This new high point for the Improving Markets Index provides the latest evidence that housing has turned a corner due to rising demand from consumers who are increasingly confident about the direction of local home values,” said Kurt Pfothner, vice chairman of First American Title Insurance Company.

The IMI is designed to track housing markets throughout the country that are showing signs of improving economic health. The index measures three sets of independent monthly data to get a mark on the top improving Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

The three indicators that are analyzed are employment growth from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, housing price appreciation from Freddie Mac and single-family housing permit growth from the U.S. Census Bureau. NAHB uses the latest available data from these sources to generate a list of improving markets.

A metropolitan area must see improvement in all three measures for at least six consecutive months following those measures’ respective troughs before being included on the improving markets list.

A complete list of all 125 metropolitan areas currently on the IMI, and separate breakouts of metros newly added to or dropped from the list in November, is available at www.nahb.org/imi. ■

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Alamo

4 BEDROOMS

3165 Stonegate Dr \$1,650,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

Castro Valley

6 BEDROOMS

3743 September Ct \$913,900
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 510-552-2481

Danville

3 BEDROOMS

404 Old Orchard Ct \$465,000
Sat/Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

4 BEDROOMS

165 Larkwood Cir \$775,000
Sun J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc. 648-5300

1486 Menton St \$875,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 837-4100

Dublin

4 BEDROOMS

4061 Ambergate Pl \$659,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS

603 Morgan Common \$234,500
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

4 BEDROOMS

4563 Maureen Cir \$575,000
Sat/Sun 12-3 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

Pleasanton

4 BEDROOMS

3834 Orion Court \$969,500
Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

7755 Country Lane \$1,950,000
Sat 1:30-4:30/Sun 1-4 Moxley Team 600-0990

4444 Foothill Rd \$1,650,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Deanna Armario 260-2220

2413 Romano Circle \$1,050,000
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273

4 Grey Eagle Ct \$1,690,000
Sun 1-4 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

5 BEDROOMS

5 Red Feather Ct \$1,495,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111



Visit pleasantonweekly.com/realestate for sales information, current listings and open homes.

For marketing opportunities call Dana Santos at 600-0840, x110.

Coldwell Banker #1 IN CALIFORNIA



CASTRO VALLEY
Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4 3743 SEPTEMBER CT
SOUTHWESTERN STYLE HOME \$913,900
6 BR 4.5 BA 3,553 Sq.Ft. Remodeled w/Permits.
Kit.w/Fam.Rm Combo & Fireplace. Hot Wtr Recirculation Sys. 510-552-2481



DANVILLE
1605 BRUSH CREEK PLACE
HIDDEN GEM IN DANVILLE! \$599,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Great Cul-De-Sac Location! Beautiful Views of Mt.Diablo.Top Schools! Great Potential 925.847.2200



FREMONT
32949 LAKE MEAD DR
GREAT OPPORTUNITY!! \$379,950
3 BR 2 BA Updated Kit,Laminate & tile flrs in Liv rm & Kit.New Carpet,Paint,Open flr plan. 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON
463 MONTORI CT
RUBY HILL COUNTRY CLUB \$1,049,500
5 BR 3 BA Lush & Private Backyard. Friendly Court Location.Walk to Community Pool & Tennis! 925.847.2200

BRENTWOOD

6600 ARMSTRONG ROAD
40 ACRE W/BARN \$349,950
1 BR 2 BA 1124 Sq.Ft. Home.Trees, Outbuilding, A-2 Zoning. Possible Split lot. Kitchen updated. Got Horses 925.847.2200

DUBLIN

6877 MAPLE DR
CONTRACTOR'S SPECIAL! \$375,000
3 BR 2 BA Terrific location & flr plan.Stepdown Fam Rm.Large Liv Rm.Mstr Ste. 925.847.2200

FREMONT

2479 CHARDONNAY WAY
BEAUTIFUL ESTATES HOME \$1,150,000
5 BR 3.5 BA pl/spa/putting green in bckyrd,1/3 acre lot, 2 bds down, master w/freplce, loft area upstairs 925.847.2200

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

46200 SAN ANTONIO VALLEY ROAD
GREAT RANCH HOME! \$1,249,950
2 BR 2 BA 2 Cabins, 2 Barns, Huge Swimming Pool & Cabanas. New Well. Got Airplanes...Paved Frontage Road 925.847.2200

CASTRO VALLEY

20893 NUNES AVE
COMING SOON! CALL FOR PRICING
Charming rancher within walking distance to shopping & transportation.Hrdwd Flrs,Bckyrd. 925.847.2200

FREMONT

4141 DEEP CREEK #171
VERY NICE WELL KEPT HOME! \$49,950
2 BR 2 BA Copper plumbing,like new inside & out. Storage shed and rm for 2 cars under car port. 925.847.2200

0 CONCANNON BLVD.

GREAT LOCATION! \$425,000
Wine related business. Livermore Wine Country. City Planner for all related businesses. 925.847.2200
48400 MINES ROAD
WANT ELBOW ROOM? \$399,950
Some Road grading done. Power & Phone active. 8 Separate parcels.ATV,Jeep, & Dirt Bike use 925.847.2200

VALLEJO

1125 SKYLINE DR
GREAT OPPORTUNITY \$164,900
3 BR 2 BA Home has lots of possibilities. Large lot and open floor plan with skylights.A must see! 925.847.2200

DANVILLE

1250 COUNTRY LANE
CUSTOM RANCHER W/POOL! \$1,448,000
5 BR 3.5 BA Upgraded home w/In-law Apt. Kit/Ba w/ Granite. Formal Liv/Din Rrm. 5 Stall Barn & raised garden 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

341 N STREET
LOTS OF POTENTIAL! \$180,000
Level lot for building. Check with City Planning for specifics. Lots of potential here! 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!”



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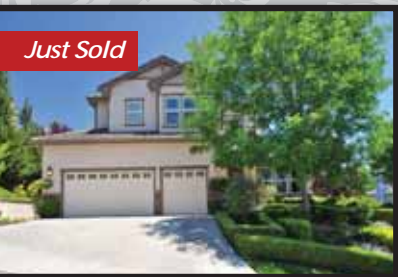
www.TiffanyMerieRose.com

Just Sold



— \$1,375,000 —
2431 Pomino Way, Pleasanton

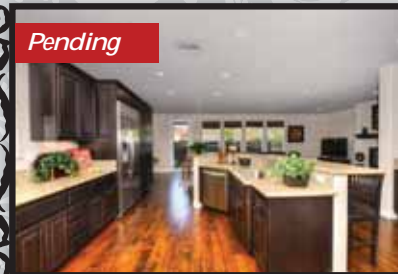
Just Sold



— \$1,400,000 —
4821 Livingston Place, Pleasanton

IF YOU HIRE PEOPLE JUST
BECAUSE THEY CAN DO A JOB,
they'll work for your
MONEY
BUT IF YOU HIRE PEOPLE
WHO BELIEVE WHAT YOU BELIEVE,
they'll work for you with
BLOOD & SWEAT & TEARS
SIMON SINEK

Pending



— \$1,150,000 —
305 Kami Court, San Ramon

"Tiffany was our secret weapon! She negotiated top dollar for our current home and rock bottom for our new home in Ruby Hill. Our sweetheart deal was a direct result of Tiffany's persistence, determination, and flat out hard work. Her charm, sales skills, dedication, and persistence are all hallmarks of her personality that make her so well rounded and a winner in the real estate community. Tiffany, you are our rose!"

Andrea and Mark Reichenbach

Pleasanton | 900 Main Street



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CUSTOM HOME

OPEN SUN 1-4



3834 ORION COURT, PLEASANTON

Quiet court location near downtown, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2800 plus square feet. Lot size is 9074 sq. ft. Highly upgraded custom home, gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances, expansive master suite with retreat, fireplace and upgraded bathroom. Large family room with fireplace, plantation shutters and crown molding. Newer landscaped private rear yard with built-in BBQ, refrigerator, sitting area, fire pit and beautiful stone patios and landscaping! OFFERED AT \$969,500

AVILA

PENDING



5284 ARREZZO STREET, PLEASANTON

Newer upgraded three bedroom, two and a half bathrooms, approximately 1482 square feet "Signature Home." Updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, Brazilian Cherry hardwood flooring and new carpet. Recessed lighting, dual pane windows, central air conditioning, & new paint interior/exterior. Private rear yard. Community amenities include pool/spa, clubhouse & playground. Close to BART and 580/680 access and more! OFFERED AT \$579,500

PRIMA

PENDING



176 PRATO WAY, LIVERMORE

Upgraded 5 bedroom, 3 bathrooms, approximately 3325 square foot Centex home. Spacious gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, island, and breakfast bar! Expansive master suite with spa tub and walk-in closet. Plantation shutters, crown molding, custom tile and Brazilian cherry hardwood floors throughout downstairs. Dual heating & air conditioning. Beautifully landscaped front and rear yards, in-ground pool/raised spa and private courtyard area, three car garage with electric gated private driveway. Close to golfing, Ruby Hill Country Club, renewed downtown and adjacent to the Livermore Wine Country! OFFERED AT \$869,000

OAK LANE

SOLD



369 OAK LANE, PLEASANTON

Former Friden Estate Hunting Lodge "Moonlight Oaks." Private driveway included in this 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. SOLD FOR \$1,358,500

DANBURY PARK

SOLD



1431 GROTH CIRCLE, PLEASANTON

Premium location, two bedroom, two bathroom, approximately 1345 square feet, extensively upgraded single level home with open floor plan, adjacent to park. Kitchen has new granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Bathrooms are upgraded with granite countertops, new plumbing fixtures and hardware. Vaulted ceilings, new window blinds, new tile flooring, private atrium area, & upgraded landscaping. Conveniently located near Downtown, Mission Plaza Shopping Center, Amador Shopping Center, The Aquatic Center, and Amador Valley Community Park. OFFERED AT AND SOLD FOR \$539,500

HIDDEN OAK

SOLD



1010 LAMB COURT, PLEASANTON

Former model home, upgraded throughout, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2029 sq. ft. Built in 1999. Premium 3654 sq. ft. Corner lot. Upgraded contemporary kitchen, adjacent family room, formal dining & living rooms, wood burning fireplace, two car garage, walk to downtown (1 minute walk to main street). Crown molding throughout, dual pane windows downstairs, triple pane windows upstairs (most), upgraded carpeting, dual zone heating & air conditioning, ceiling fans/lights in all bedrooms, two inch wood blinds in kitchen & family room. SOLD FOR \$640,000

CUSTOM HOME

SOLD



6513 ARLINGTON DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Enter this secluded .56 acre estate through the long, private driveway! This mostly single level custom home includes an upstairs spacious second master suite. Five bedrooms, three full bathrooms, and two half bathrooms. Approximately 4003 total square feet, large remodeled kitchen with stainless steel appliances. Expansive rear grounds with views of open space and Pleasanton Ridge, includes ten person spa, built-in fireplace, expansive lawn area and stamped concrete & brick patios. Great home for entertaining! Three car garage with adjacent bonus room. SOLD FOR \$1,130,000

BRIDLE CREEK

SOLD



5206 SELENA COURT, PLEASANTON

Check out this double sized lot (.56 acre). Premium private court location for this quality built Greenbriar home (2000), includes 4 bedroom (1 down), 3 baths, and bonus room. Beautiful professional landscaping with in-ground pool/spa in this expansive private backyard including multiple sitting areas, adjacent beautiful Heritage Oak tree, elevated ridge viewing deck. Upgraded gourmet kitchen, with granite counters, marble heated flooring and stainless appliances. Comprehensive audio/video system included. Three car garage. Great home for entertaining! OFFERED AT AND SOLD FOR \$1,399,000

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



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TRI-VALLEY REALTY


#1 OFFICE
IN PLEASANTON
IN VOLUME
AND SALES



831 Brizzo Court
Mediterranean Elegance with expansive, main level casual living areas open to one another, incl. a huge kitchen. Formal living room with coffered ceiling, cast-stone fireplace, built-in cabinetry and faux wall finish. Lower level built to entertain pool table & movie theatre, wine cellar and more. \$3,499,000

Uwe Maercz
REALTOR® DRE # 01390383
925.360.8758
www.realestatebyuwe.com

Open Sun 1-4



2413 Romano Circle Pleasanton (Ruby Hill)
4 Bed/3 Bath, 2,627 sq. ft. rarely available, single-story Monterey Spanish design Ascona home on 8,386 sq. ft. lot. Backs to open space with stunning views. Hand-laid marble tile, dramatic volume ceilings, well appointed kitchen and raised-panel alder cabinetry. Offered at \$1,050,000.

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8158 Tamarack Drive
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath
Updated Kitchen
Hardwood Floors
Newer Windows!

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925-426-3858
MikeChandler.kwrealty.com

Jill Denton
DRE#01804876
925-998-7747
JillDenton.kwrealty.com

Open Sat & Sun 1-4



4444 Foothill Road, Pleasanton
Short sale. 4 BR and 2.5 BA. 3507 +/- sq. ft. Absolutely stunning! Completely rebuilt in 2005, this custom, single story home offers a view from every window, including Mt. Diablo and the surrounding hills. Beautifully updated throughout with fantastic gourmet kitchen. Huge 2.26 +/- acre lot includes an entertainer's backyard with pool and spa. Offered at \$1,650,000


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—The Ryback family



Dorothy Broderson
REALTOR® DRE #01779623
925.963.8800
YellowBrickRoadHOMES.com

PENDING!



89 Terra Way, South Livermore
Great home for entertaining! 3325 sq. ft., four bedrooms plus loft (5th bedroom option), gourmet kitchen, tons of upgrades, 3-car garage, low-maintenance backyard and courtyard. Call for private showing! 925.918.2045
Offered at \$875,000
www.williamsteam.net

Cindy and Gene Williams
REALTORS®
DRE # 01370076 and 00607511
925.918.2045


MULTIPLE OFFERS AND SOLD IN ONE WEEKEND!



4571 Mohr Avenue
Gorgeous remodeled home! All the bells and whistles! Just move in!
Offered at \$699,000

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

Open Sun 1-4




Understated elegance and breathtaking views from this custom home in Grey Eagle Estates. 4 bedrooms, 2 dens and a media room that could also be a wonderful in law set up or guest quarters. Grand marble foyer entrance with old world woodwork and dramatic spiral staircase. Large gourmet granite kitchen with stainless steel appliances and stunning hardwood floors! Offered at \$1,690,000

4 Grey Eagle Court, Pleasanton

Dave & Sue Flashberger
925.463.0436
www.SoldinaFlash.com

parkside shines
This holiday season, check out the lights during our neighborhood holiday decoration contest.
December 1 - 15
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Below Market Rate Home!



1817 Spumante Place, Pleasanton
Exquisite French country estate on a one of a kind lot in Ruby Hill w/5 BD, 4.5 BA, 6,374 sq. ft. The gourmet kitchen features top of the line appliances, granite counters, maple cabinets & hickory floors. Spectacular view lot w/ black bottom pool, rock waterfall and spa. Offered at \$2,600,000

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