

# Pleasanton Weekly

*Holiday Fund to benefit  
Axis Community Health » 12*



VOL. XIII, NUMBER 48 • DECEMBER 14, 2012

WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM



## KID GLOVES

Young boxers learn art of sparring  
in Pleasanton gym

**PAGE 14**

**TRI-VALLEY  
HEROES 10**

**SPORTS 23**

**NEW  
SECTIONS**



### INSIDE THIS WEEK

- NEWS:** PUSD promotion raises salary to \$200,000 **5**
- NEWS:** Gift-wrapping helps send special kids to camp **6**
- NEWS:** Garbage rates going up 5% on Jan. 1 **7**

EXPLORE THE NEW

*apr.com*  
Where people, homes and a bit of imagination intersect



**ALAIN PINEL**  
REALTORS

PRESENTING THE PROPERTIES OF OUR *Pleasanton & Livermore* OFFICES...

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

BY APPT



**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 & PAT GELLMAN

BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$1,599,000**  
Mohr Park Estates! Executive home, 4100+/-sf situate on large pvt corner lot. 5bd+bonus, upstairs loft,4ba,pool, arbor, outdoor kitchen, lighted sport court and more! 3715 NICOLE AVE

DAN GAMACHE, JR.

BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$1,499,950**  
Immaculate and rare property! 3332+/-sf single story home, excellent condition, 1800+/-sf basement, 1800+/-sf shop/garage/apt., endless views! 5800 EAGLES RUN RD

STASIA POIESZ

BY APPT



**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

GINA HUGGINS

BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$949,000**  
Entertainers paradise located in desirable S. Livermore. 3,126 sq. feet, gourmet kitchen, 4 bdr/3bath. Beautiful backyard, sparkling pool & spa. 1485 CHIANTI CT

TIMOTHY MCGUIRE

SUN 1-4



**PLEASANTON \$789,000**  
Many upgrades throughout, new kitchen with Quartz counter, stainless steel appliances, updated baths, new windows, 40-yr roof, furnace/AC, front hardscape/landscape and sparkling pool and more! 4644 COPE CT

MAUREEN NOKES

BY APPT



**PLEASANTON \$745,950**  
Walk to downtown! Sought after 3bd/2.5ba Del Prado home, sparkling pool, previous kitchen update, hardwood floors, glass french doors lead to vaulted family room & formal dining and more! 5418 CORTE PALOMA

JO ANN LUISI

BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$679,950**  
Beautiful 4bd home with views and wonderful backyard. Pool w/ waterfall, fruit trees, in-ground trampoline, and side yard access. Bd/full bath downstairs. 3116 SALISBURY CT

STASIA POIESZ

BY APPT



**LIVERMORE \$629,950**  
Very nice triplex close to downtown, shopping and freeway. Units are in good shape. Units are cash flowing, seller is looking for an as-is sale. 375 N M ST



## APR SOARS TO #5 IN THE NATION

Alain Pinel Realtors not only continues to lead the Bay Area in home sales, but we also rank as the **#1 Largest, Privately-Owned Residential Real Estate Firm in California** – and **#5 Largest Real Estate Broker in the United States.**

Source: 2011 REAL Trends Top 500 survey, ranked by Closed Sales Volume in 2011

LUXURY  
PORTFOLIO  
INTERNATIONAL

PLEASANTON/ LIVERMORE VALLEY | 900 Main St 925.251.1111

PRIVATE MORTGAGE ADVISORS  
An Affiliate of WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.

# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Holiday Fund can help thousands

This has been a tough financial year for the 10 nonprofits that hope to receive desperately needed aid from the Pleasanton Weekly's 2012 Holiday Fund that is now under way. Our goal this year is \$100,000 and we're making a good start with \$43,546 contributed so far. But we need more and are counting on your help to provide the selected organizations with the funds they need.

Last week, the Valley Real Estate Network (VREN) stepped to the plate — or dance floor — at its annual Holiday Party and fundraiser to benefit the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. Over 135 people attended the party held at Karma Fusion Lounge in Dublin to exchange holiday cheer and make their contributions, raising nearly \$3,500, including a generous donation by Old Republic Title Company of \$500. Over the years, VREN has helped raise over \$125,000 for the Holiday Fund.

The next day, at its meeting in Pleasanton, VREN heard from Linda McKeever, executive director of Open Heart Kitchen, and Shelley Despotakis, manager of the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation, two of our primary beneficiaries this year.

"We survive just by the generosity of the community," McKeever said in thanking VREN and the Pleasanton Weekly for helping to fund the food bank. She pointed out that the Holiday Fund money goes directly to programs that serve meals to needy school children in the Tri-Valley and low-income seniors. Last year, 237,000 meals were provided at distribution sites in Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore, including to seniors at Ridge View Commons on Case Avenue in Pleasanton.

Open Heart Kitchen has already served that number of meals this year and, with the holidays coming, is looking at a 15% growth for the year. Even though the local economy has improved in recent months, McKeever still sees hungry families coming in the door for what is often their only hot meal of the day. The organization also is using Holiday Fund contributions to expand its children's box lunch program, which provides weekend meals for low-income children at their school sites. A new program is also delivering box lunches to low income seniors who, she said,



JEB BING

Linda McKeever, executive director of Open Heart Kitchen, and Shelley Despotakis, manager of the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation, talk about the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund at last Friday's meeting of the Valley Real Estate Network in Pleasanton.

are having a difficult time making ends meet right now.

Despotakis acknowledged that the ValleyCare Health System (VCHS) has received more than \$100,000 in donations from contributors to the Weekly's Holiday Fund. These have been used to support the ValleyCare Health Library and Ryan Comer Resource Center in Pleasanton and the expansion program of its emergency room operation.

This year, the funds will be used to help pay for a new mammogram machine and new beds for the ICU. Holiday Fund contributions also will go to fund a Nurse Navigator to run the Palliative Care Program. Despotakis said the program is designed to help a patient and family deal with very serious and often incurable diseases, and how to handle everything related to that, including family support, medical decisions, social services, long term care and more.

Contributions to the Holiday Fund will be disbursed in two tiers, with 75% of all dollars raised going to Axis Community Health, Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation and the Valley Humane Society, as well as Open Heart Kitchen and ValleyCare. 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. Please help us reach our goal. A form for contributing can be found on page 13. ■

## About the Cover

Young boxers Nikolai Mallot, front, Lyle Lacanlale, center, and Tim Minkel work the heavy bags at Elite Training Center. All three took home medals at a recent Silver Gloves boxing event. Photo by Glenn Wohlmann. Design by Lili Cao.

Vol. XIII, Number 48

**Keep your eyesight holiday bright**  
Happy Holidays from Dr. Winston and the Amador Valley Optometric team

**Amador Valley Optometric**  
Complete eyecare for Men, Women, Teens, & Children

- Trend Styled Eyewear with excellent frame stylist to help your eyewear needs
- "No-Line" Lenses / Computer Lenses
- Specialty contact lens care, including CRT for nearsightedness reduction and scleral lenses for keratoconus and irregular corneas
- "Dry Eye" Treatment and Management
- Macular Degeneration Assessment
- Soft and Gas Permeable Bifocal Contact Lenses
- Laser Vision Care - LASIK
- Check your employer's flex benefit plans!

- Most Vision Plans Accepted
- Medicare Assignment Accepted
- Ask About AARP Discount

**Dr. Barry C. Winston**  
Faculty, UC Berkeley School of Optometry  
Certified in the Treatment of Ocular Disease  
GO CAL BEARS! 🐻

**Black Avenue Professional Offices**  
4450-C Black Ave, Pleasanton  
925.462.2600  
off Santa Rita Road behind Lynnewood Methodist Church

**Thank You Readers!**

**Pleasanton Weekly READERS CHOICE 2012**

**For voting Gina Piper Best Realtor in Pleasanton**

Thank you for voting for me! I am very fortunate to serve our community as a member of the Pleasanton North Rotary and Economic Vitality Committee, and as an advocate for my clients as a Realtor with Better Homes & Gardens Tri-Valley Realty. [www.GinaPiper.com](http://www.GinaPiper.com) DRE# 01201349

**Help those in need with the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund**

Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/HolidayFund](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/HolidayFund) to donate.

On behalf of those who ultimately benefit from your donation, thank you for your generosity and help.

In partnership with:  
 SILICON VALLEY community foundation

*She told me it didn't matter what I got her. Just having me to love her was plenty.*

*I fell for that trick one year. Never again.*

ORIGINAL OWNER est. 1977

*Cardinal Jewelers*

925.416.1111 | 3003-B HOPYARD RD  
IN THE HOPYARD VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER  
[www.cardinaljewelers.com](http://www.cardinaljewelers.com)

**IJO MASTER JEWELER**  
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE

# WINTER CAR CARE GUIDE

## MECHANIC KING

Auto & Light Truck Repair



Free Shuttle Service

We service all foreign and domestic vehicles

**Auto repair in Pleasanton for over 25 years**

Great Service - "As always, service was excellent from Mechanic King. After being serviced, my car is running like a top, the service was reasonably priced and the car was ready in a timely manner." —Patrick C., Jul 13, 2012

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

925-463-0650

3687 Old Santa Rita Rd., #14  
Pleasanton, CA 94588



Synthetic Oil Change Special **\$49.99**

Includes 22pt. inspection and tire rotation

Expires 1-15-13

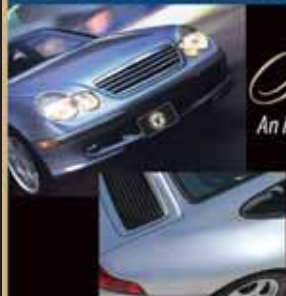
Full Service Oil Change Special **\$24.99**

Includes 22pt. inspection and tire rotation

Expires 1-15-13

Call for details! 925-249-9751  
57 California Ave. Ste A, Pleasanton

## SAS German Auto Repair



Since 1984  
An independent service facility.

12 month or 12,000 mile warranty on all service done at SAS.

- MERCEDES
- BMW
- PORSCHE
- AUDI



(925) 846 4886

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

26-A California Ave (off Stanley) Pleasanton



## California Collision

Satisfaction Guaranteed  
FREE Mobile Estimates  
FREE Local Towing

# 10% OFF

Auto Body / Paint and Repairs

Some restrictions may apply. Please mention coupon when writing service order.

925.484.0111

57 California Ave., Unit C, Pleasanton  
[www.cccollision.net](http://www.cccollision.net)

SPECIALIZING IN  
**Lexus, Toyota, Infiniti, Nissan, Acura,  
Honda and most domestic cars**  
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Family Owned  
and Operated  
Since 1983



Scheduled Factory Maintenance

24 Month/24,000 Mile Warranty • Shuttle Service Available

"Thank you so much for all the help with our cars! Always the best service and friendliest business."  
Karen R.



(925) 484-2400

3688 Washington Street • Pleasanton  
(near McDonalds on Stanley)

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



To advertise  
in this spot call  
925-600-0840



# Streetwise

ASKED DOWNTOWN

**What's your most and least favorite part of the holiday season?**



**Jan Berry**

Teacher

The joy of seeing Christmas on a child's face when they're looking at trees, lights and Santa. Just the joy of innocence. I don't have a least favorite.

**Russ Trapani**

Promoter

My favorite part is memories about my parents and my children when they were young. The worst part is not being able to relive them, because they're just memories.



**Sheila Hurley**

Retired

Being together with family. It'll just be getting together and having meals together and walking by the sea. My least favorite is buying all those presents and sending out all the Christmas cards we do in England.



**Victor Gonzalez**

Chef

Family get-togethers, that's the best part of the season, just hanging out. We eat, drink, chat. What bothers me is all the commercialization. It can be a little overwhelming.



**Katie Viscuso**

Greeter and Cashier, Triple A

My favorite part is being with the family and having one whole day of having no responsibility — no work, no school, just enjoying yourself and the company you're with. My least favorite is my work schedule. I work on Christmas Eve and the day after Christmas, but I still love my job.



—Compiled by Glenn Wohltmann

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com) to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566. © 2012 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

## DIGEST

### Haggerty holding open house

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty will open the doors of his Pleasanton district office, the Heritage House, located on the Alameda County Fairgrounds, for a holiday open house reception from 5:30-8 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 18. Haggerty and his staff will be there to welcome constituents, commissioners, elected officials and anyone else who wishes to stop by.

This will be an informal social event with light refreshments. Visitors are encouraged to bring a toy or canned food item to be donated to Open Heart Kitchen and Abode Homeless Services.

The historic Heritage House is adorned with lights and decorations for the holidays, courtesy of Jim and Brandy Theofanopoulos of the Screen Machine in Livermore.

For more information on the event, contact Leah Doyle-Stevens, Haggerty's Outreach Coordinator, at 551-6995.

### Parade on TV30

Go to Tri-Valley Community TV30 to view Pleasanton's Hometown Holiday Parade and tree lighting, which took place Dec. 1 on Main Street. The annual celebration included a parade with floats, marching bands, drill teams and more, followed by the lighting of the holiday tree in front of the Museum on Main.

TV30 is also showing videos of the celebrations that took place in Dublin and Livermore. For times, go to [www.trivalleytv.org](http://www.trivalleytv.org). DVDs are also available for purchase on the website.

### Rotary coat drive

Tri Valley Rotary is collecting and distributing coats to families who may not be able to afford warm coats for their children. Today is the last day to drop off new or gently used coats for ages 2-16, or for infants and adults, at one of the following collection points in Pleasanton:

- Bank of America's downtown Pleasanton branch on Main Street
- ClubSport Pleasanton, 7090 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton
- Coffee Co., 5424 Sunol Blvd., in the Raley's Shopping Center
- Hairlights Salon, 4307 Valley Ave, Suite F, Pleasanton

The Rotary Club will distribute the coats on Saturday, Dec. 15. For information, email [info@trivalleyrotary.org](mailto:info@trivalleyrotary.org).

### 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](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

## PUSD creates deputy superintendent position at \$200K

New position created to keep another district from headhunting valued CFO

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

On a split vote, the Pleasanton School Board decided to give a promotion to the district's assistant superintendent of business services to keep her from being hired away by another district.

Board members Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke opposed the move to make Luz Cazares deputy superintendent of business and the district's second in command.

"I cannot support this. I think it sets a bad precedent," Arkin said. "We've cut so many programs in the last year."

She noted that members of the California School Employees Association, which includes office staff and custodians, have not had raises for the last five years.

"It kind of goes against what I'm hearing (from residents) in the district," she said.

Hinzke said she'd been contacted by "many, many" members of the community who asked her to oppose the promotion.

"It just feels like bad timing," she said, calling it "almost insulting to the sacrifices made in this community."

The two were outvoted by Jeff Bowser, in one of his first acts as board president, and board members Chris Grant and Joan Laursen.

"I asked, 'Can the district afford to let this employee go?' and she (Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi) said, 'No,'" Laursen said.

Cazares, who has been with PUSD for four years, was contacted by the San Ramon Valley Unified School District with a potential job offer as one of the top five candidates in the state.

"It's not a secret that Ms. Cazares didn't go looking for a job. She was actually sought out," Ahmadi said. "We knew it was important to keep her here. We have a team that works beautifully together."

Cazares was lauded both before and after the vote to promote her. Representatives from both CSEA and the Association of Pleasanton Teachers

encouraged the board to support the promotion.

"Luz is an amazing individual who's brought so much to the district," said APT President Peggy Carpenter. "If you want quality, you have to pay for it sometimes."

Sean Kullman, a Pleasanton parent and short-lived school board candidate, interrupted his evening to come to speak as the board meeting was wrapping up.

"Districts crumble when they lose outstanding administrators," Kullman said. "I want you to know how fortunate we are to have you in this community."

Earlier in the meeting, the board voted to restore the five furlough days for management that had been cut earlier during the budget process. That will cost \$150,000.

With the furlough days eliminated, Cazares will be paid \$191,375 a year. She will also receive a \$1,300 master's degree stipend and a \$4,000-a-

See PUSD on Page 7



## Rotarians serve early Christmas dinners to 275 Pleasanton seniors

31st annual event fills Pleasanton Senior Center with festive dinner, entertainment

By JEB BING

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton welcomed 275 seniors Sunday to its 31st annual free Christmas dinner at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

Members of the club hosted the seniors starting at noon after decorating the center and preparing the tables starting at 7 a.m. Roast turkey, gravy, dressing and all the trimmings purchased from Girasole Restaurant began arriving about 11 a.m. on special food trucks provided by Open Heart Kitchen and its director Linda McKeever, a member of the Rotary Club.

Christmas music was provided during the luncheon by Don Lewis, Ed Rouquette and Michael Teague.

As a dessert of pumpkin pie and whipped cream was served, Santa Claus arrived on stage, followed by a group of the Rotarians' children to close with a Christmas sing-along.

This year's event was managed by Jim Isaac and Harvey Kameny. ■



JEB BING

Clockwise from top left: The Rotary Club of Pleasanton welcomed 275 seniors Sunday to its 31st annual free Christmas dinner at the Pleasanton Senior Center; Lisa Stafford (left) and Dolores Huk wait for their Christmas dinners; children of Rotarians sing with Santa, Michael Teague (with guitar) and Don Lewis (at the keyboard).

# Transportation Commission cancels Measure B1 recount

Despite receiving 66.53% of the vote, fails by 0.14%

By JEB BING

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) informed the Alameda County Registrar of Voters last week that it accepts the certified election outcome that shows the Measure B1 sales tax proposal failed to gain the two-thirds majority vote to pass.

The proposed measure would have brought almost \$8 billion in transportation investments into the county. But with the final vote count now certified, the measure received 66.53% of the vote, 0.14% below the required threshold to pass of 66.6%.

Due to the high voter support for Measure B1 and the fact that it almost reached the two-thirds requirement to pass, the ACTC launched a recount.

ACTC executive director Arthur Dao said the recount began last Tuesday but by the close of business that day, the Registrar's office only tallied an additional seven Yes votes for Measure B1 after recounting 28,000 votes. Based on this outcome, Dao said it became clear that continuing the recount would not yield the almost 750 yes votes necessary to meet the minimum 66.67% for passage, and therefore, Alameda CTC ended the recount.

"I am confident that the decision

to request a recount was the right one, as was our decision to discontinue it," Dao said. "Our commission feels that performing due diligence was our obligation with a vote this close and a transportation plan worth \$8 billion dollars in local investment and thousands of jobs opportunities."

"I'm proud that Alameda CTC is known to be an excellent steward of public funds, and this prudent use of funds is no different," he added. "The recount cost less than \$8,000."

"We should all be proud of our County Registrar Dave Macdonald and his staff, who are diligent, meticulous, professional and dedicated public servants," added Tess Lengyel, an Alameda CTC deputy director who oversaw the recount effort on Tuesday.

Despite the loss of Measure B1 this November, the Alameda County Transportation Commission will continue its commitment to improving transportation in Alameda County, providing the highest level of service and the best value for public funds, as it continues to plan, fund and deliver transportation systems that expand access and improve mobility in Alameda County, she said. ■

# Wrap a gift, help a child

Station at mall benefits The Taylor Family Foundation

By JAMIE ALTMAN

This time of year, just about every place you look, there's a person ringing a bell, exchanging the cheery ring and greeting for a donation. A local group is just as happy to take your money, and gives you something in return.

The Taylor Family Foundation (TTF) is wrapping gifts at Stoneridge Shopping Center this holiday season in exchange for a \$5 donation, and it is still looking for volunteers. All proceeds go toward its summer camp for children with life-threatening diseases. Camp Arroyo in Livermore allows these children to attend for free.

"Camp Arroyo is the last and only chance these kids get to have normal activity in life," said Operations Coordinator Jeannette Gibson. "We really do provide the opportunity for them to forget about their illnesses, at least for the summer."

Camp Arroyo is available for children with diseases including HIV, AIDS, cancer and diabetes, to skin diseases, heart conditions, autism and even the loss of loved ones.

Gibson recalled a mom of a camper who approached her in tears.

"My daughter is never the same after camp," said the mother. "She keeps getting stronger and stronger."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Last year's gift wrapping station at Stoneridge Shopping Center raised almost \$10,000 for The Taylor Family Foundation. Volunteers are still needed for this year.

Last year, the foundation raised almost \$10,000 from wrapping gifts. The station is located on the bottom floor of the mall directly outside of Nordstrom; volunteers will be working every day, right up through Christmas Eve.

The Taylor Family Foundation is still looking for new gift-wrapping volunteers.

"There is still space to fill," Gib-

son said. "If someone is interested in gift wrapping or helping others, there is always room open."

"I've always loved working with people who have disabilities, and I love serving others," she added. "TTF, more than any other organization I've worked for, does that in such a profound way."

To volunteer, call the foundation at 455-5118. ■



## Vintage Hills Elementary School would like to thank the following generous donors for helping to make our April 2012 Dragon Ball Auction and Fundraiser a huge success!

Platinum Sponsors



**BARONS**  
A Legacy of Elegance



Limkakeng Family  
Madden Family  
MSI, Direct Mail Marketing  
Vintage Hills Wine Group

### Gold Sponsors

Ambassador Limo  
CA Urological Associates  
Cardinal Jewelers  
Comerford Family  
Connelly's Furniture  
Dr. Stafford  
Drew Baird  
Gold N Time  
Gregory Frame Shoppe  
Hayward MAACO  
Janet Cristiano, Better Homes & Garden Real Estate  
Jacqueline Lee  
Martial Arts America  
McIntyre Family  
Meissner Family  
Murphy Family  
Quintessa  
Rush Family  
Sanders Family  
Silver Paw Kennels  
Valley Catering  
Vintage Hills Bunco Group  
Vintage Hills Whisky Group

### Silver Sponsors

Bent Creek Winery  
Bikram Yoga  
Concannon  
Crawford Family  
DeGroot Family

Disneyland Theme Park  
Dreyer's Ice Cream  
Jill Maratsos  
Jim McCarthy  
Jim Miguel  
Lan Quan, DDS  
Larkmead Vineyard  
Martial Arts America  
McMillen Family  
Murphy Family  
Novi Family  
Opus One  
Pleasanton Game Truck  
Ruby Hill Golf Club  
Savvy Seconds  
Sharaku Paintertainment  
Skye Valley Equestrian  
SportClips  
Tri Valley ATA  
Truchard Vineyards  
Wente Vineyards

### Teachers Friends

Bitting Family  
Blackwood Family  
Brace Family  
Chuck Brown Family  
Gary Brown Family  
Chavez/Seipel Family  
Comerford Family  
Corson Family  
Custer Family  
Harkness Family

Hunter Family  
Kang Family  
Keegan Family  
Kostalnick Family  
Laurence Family  
Limkakeng Family  
Lurie Family  
Mah Family  
Mark Kotch, Alain Pinel  
McFall Family  
Miller Family  
Newman Family  
Olsen Family  
Queenan Family  
Sanders Family  
Schulze Family  
Shiblaq Family  
Stapleton Family  
Tchembrowskaia Family  
Trueblood Family  
Twisselman Family  
Wu Family

### Sponsors

Alameda County  
Alexandria's Flowers  
All Star Sports  
American Swim Academy  
Ann Danen  
Ariana Phillips  
Aventine Spa  
Barbounis Family  
Bent Creek

Berry Patch  
Bloomies on Main  
Bodegas Aguirre  
Bollinger Nail Salon  
Gary Brown Family  
Buckhorn Grill  
Cabernet Sports  
Caledonian Club of SF  
Callippe Reserve  
Casa Orozco  
Castillo Family  
Cathy Kupper CK Skin  
Cheesecake Factory  
Chianti's Ristorante  
Children's Discovery Museum  
Chilli's  
China Village  
Color Me Mine  
Corinne Franks  
Costco  
Creative Imaging  
Crooked Vine Winery  
Crossfit  
Cutt Co  
Cyndee Milam  
Dana Dormann  
Danielle Spinola  
Darlene Gomes Design  
De La Torre's Trattoria  
Deborah Chidester  
Diamonds N Nails

Dogtopia  
Domus  
Eddie Papa's  
Elam Family  
Ella K Designs  
English Rose  
Exploratorium  
Fineberg Family  
Flaunt  
Gene Brandi Apiaries  
Girl Scout Troop # 31599  
Girly Gifts to Go  
Gourmet Works  
Grand Performing Arts  
Greg Haubner  
Gymboree Play And Music  
Happy Fish Swim School  
Happy Hollow  
iFly  
Janel Sloan  
Jazz N Taps  
Johnson Family  
Juice & Java Express  
Kaki Sushi  
KE Camps  
Kelly Bernardez @ Bellezza  
Cristali Salon  
Keren's Creations  
Kim Volkmann  
Knit this Purl That  
Kokoro Sushi  
La Di Da Beauty Lounge

Lamborn Family Vineyards  
Lotus Consignment  
Mah Family  
Main Street Meat & Fish  
Martial Arts America  
Mayo Winery  
McGrail Vineyards  
MD Spa  
Melissa Theide  
Miller Family  
Mitchell Katz Winery  
Murphy's Paw  
My Meaningful Art  
Natalie Walsh  
Naturally Karen's Nails  
NeuroSport @ Club Sport  
Nicola Golden  
Nicole Barbounis  
Noland's Cake Shop  
Nonni's Bistro  
Nothing Bundt Cakes  
Pastas Trattoria  
Peets Coffee & Tea  
Pleasanton Downtown Assoc.  
Posh Mommy  
Rebecca Singh, Arbonne  
Red Smoke Grill  
Redcoats British Pub  
Round Table Pizza  
Ruby Hill Winery  
Ruth Young

San Jose Sharks  
Schulze Family  
Schwan Violins  
Sharon McPherson  
Shiblaq Family  
Skye Valley Equestrian  
Sloan Estate Vineyard  
Spray Soleil Pleasanton  
Starbucks Coffee  
Steven Kent Winery  
Sweet Tomatoes  
Sweetie Face  
Terri Drain  
The Bracelet Bar  
The Hopyard  
The Tech Museum  
Threads Beauty Bar  
Tommy T's  
Town & Country Veterinary Hospital  
Towne Center Books  
Trader Joe's  
V Wine Cellar  
Vic's All Star Kitchen  
Virage Vineyard  
Vivian Shum  
Volkim Creations  
Wealth Management Associates  
Western Garden Nursery  
Wine Steward  
Zen Pilates and Fitness

## Garbage rates going up 5%

Higher fees needed for increased costs of service

By JEB BING

Garbage collection rates will go up 5% on Jan. 1 to cover higher costs facing the Pleasanton Garbage Service company in handling commercial and residential refuses.

Maria Lara, assistant to the Pleasanton City Manager, said the rate increase was approved because the garbage company has incurred increases in its operating costs in refuse collection and recycling operations and at its Busch Road Transfer Station operations. There's also been a 1% increase in the city's franchise fee.

The cost of residential 35-gal-

lon refuse cart service will increase by approximately \$1.45/month, resulting in a \$30.59 per month fee. The 96-gallon refuse cart service will increase by \$1.73/month, resulting in a \$36.30 per month fee.

As part of the rate approval, the City Council asked City Manager Nelson Fialho to hold discussions with the garbage service concerning rate and operations issues pertaining to the current franchise agreement, including implementation of Alameda County's new mandatory commercial recycling law. Fialho's report is due back to the council within nine months. ■

## PUSD

Continued from Page 5

year contribution to her retirement plan. As part of the deal, Cazares' \$7,200 car allowance was made part of her salary.

Ahmadi said the \$4,000 retirement contribution was the only raise in Cazares' pay although her contract allows for bonuses.

Cazares' contract includes a 220-day work year, 18 sick days, an additional 27 days of "non-duty days," and paid memberships in the Association of California School Administrators and the California Association of School Business Officials.

Under the new contract, the district will also pay for Cazares to enroll in the Curriculum and Instructional Leaders Academy, the Personnel Administrators Academy and Superintendents Academy.

On retirement, after at least seven years with the district, she and her spouse will be eligible for paid medical, dental and vision until she's 65. After that, she and her spouse will be allowed to pay their own premiums and remain part of the district's health care plan.

After 10 years with the district, management employees are also eligible for a "Golden Handshake" retirement bonus of at least \$25,500. Those bonuses are indexed to pay, so as pay goes up, the bonus does as well.

Cazares received a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago and a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.

Tuesday night was also the annual reorganization meeting for the school board. On unanimous votes with little discussion, Bowser was elected president and Arkin was elected vice president.

In other moves at the school board meeting:

Village High School's Assistant Principal Dana Chavez was selected as the school's new principal. Chavez will replace Greg Giglio, who is taking a post as in Cupertino. The district has not selected a replacement for Chavez.

The board also approved a new contract allowing the YMCA to use Lydiksen, Fairlands and Mohr elementary schools for child-care programs. The contract is for a year, but can be extended on an annual basis for four more.

Board members are also con-

sidering adding two new classes — Honors Civics with an emphasis on "We the People," and Anatomy and Physiology for Health Care professionals — at Amador Valley High. Those are modifications of similar courses and will use the same teachers and textbooks. ■

## Ho ho headbands for all

A special Christmas gathering at the Dees home in Pleasanton took on the vibe of Santa's workshop as a couple dozen teens gathered to make headbands for cancer patients. Nicole Dees (center), 16, a student at Foothill High, Kelsey Emery and other friends were talking as they hiked recently and decided they wanted to do something to help others. Two had mothers going undergoing cancer treatments so they understood the hair challenges.

The girls gathered together the fleece, yarn and other materials and set the hours for noon to 2 p.m. Saturday for the sewing, knitting and crocheting. "We had a Christmas party," Nicole said. "We told everyone to come in their PJs and we had a potluck." They were still going strong at 2 and many continued to work until 5, with a few staying as late as 11:30.

That day, 150 headbands were completed but some fabric remains so the project wasn't finished quite yet, Nicole said. They will give the headbands to hospitals to make sure they go to cancer patients who can use them.



SUSAN DEES

# Smile. Your search for a new dentist is over.

You deserve thoughtful, state-of-the-art dental care. Call for an appointment today.



925 461-3100  
PleasantonRidgeDentalGroup.com



smile generation  
approved

 PLEASANTON RIDGE  
DENTAL GROUP AND ORTHODONTICS

Amardeep Gill DDS  
6766 Bernal Ave, Ste. 560  
Pleasanton

\*Regular value of at least \$290.00. In absence of periodontal (gum) disease. New patients only. Discounts may vary when combined with insurance and cannot be combined with other offers or discount plans. †Not valid on previous or ongoing treatment. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Coupon must be presented at appointment. Limit 1 per patient. Excludes cleaning, exam, digital x-rays, and perio maintenance. Not valid for appointments with My Kid's Dentist. Subject to insurance restrictions. Cannot be applied to insurance co-payment.

## Corner Bakery opens in Safeway's Gateway Center

Restaurant offers breakfast, lunch, dinner in a casual setting

Corner Bakery Cafe opened this week in Safeway's Gateway Center at Bernal and Valley avenues with crowds standing in line at 7 a.m. for free coffee travel mugs and a year's worth of refills handed out to the first 100 customers when the cafe opened.

The new Pleasanton restaurant is the first of 32 Corner Bakery stores planned for the Bay Area in the next seven years, according to John Sweeney, general manager of restaurant operations for the parent company, Buon Hospitality. Buon is a franchising company that operates more than 500 fuel, restaurant and convenience businesses in the country.

Sweeney and Corner Bakery general manager Todd McDermott welcomed members of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday for a ribbon-cutting celebration.

"Having a past relationship with Corner Bakery Cafe as a regional director, I knew it was a solid brand with a dedicated following," Sweeney said. "I'm excited to share my passion with the Pleasanton community and show them why I fell in love with this concept in the first place."

Corner Bakery Cafe is a fast-casual restaurant serving breakfast, lunch and dinner with a price range of 99 cents to \$8.59. The made-to-order food is delivered fresh to the customer's table. The restaurant features seasonal menu options ranging from hot breakfasts and signature Pa-



JEB BING

John Sweeney (left), general manager of restaurant operations for Buon Hospitality in Pleasanton, and Todd McDermott, general manager of the Corner Bakery, greet customers as the bakery opens for business in the Safeway Gateway Center at Bernal and Valley avenues. Bakery offers made-to-order food delivered to customers' tables.

nini to handcrafted salads, sandwiches and desserts.

To learn more about Corner Bakery Cafe in Pleasanton, California, visit [www.cornerbakery-cafe.com](http://www.cornerbakery-cafe.com) or call 484-0102. ■

## Safeway cuts eScrip earnings for Amador Valley High by 50%

School urging students, parents to add other stores for their shopping trips

A newsletter distributed by the Parent, Teacher & Student Association at Amador Valley High School is advising students and their parents to expand their selection of grocery stores to bring more contributions to the school's eScrip program.

The school's eScrip earnings were cut after Safeway imposed a \$25,000 cap on eScrip earnings, which the AVHS newsletter said would cut contributions from eScrip by 50% this year.

"In addition to shopping at Safeway, it's more important now than ever to spread the word about raising funds from other means," Kim Guidice wrote in the newsletter.

She urged students and their parents to register in store and shop at the new Gene's Fine Foods supermarket, which has a community eScrip card with no cap to earnings. Shoppers also can sign on for the new Raley's Something Extra Program, which also has no earnings cap. Another Pleasanton supermarket, Lucky, has a Lucky S.H.A.R.E.S. community giving card that provides eScrip

earnings for Amador.

"We can rebuild our eScrip and electronic funds engine" through these other programs, Guidice said.

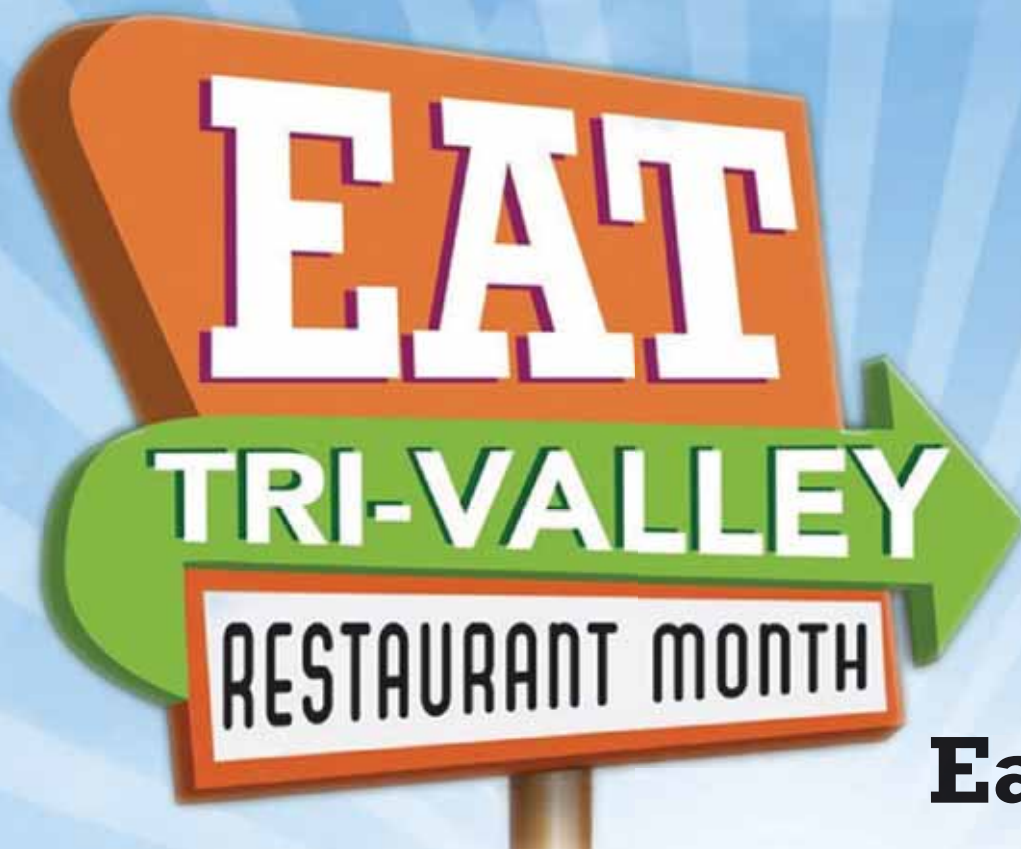
eScrip earnings can also be obtained at Tri-Valley restaurants, including Fontina, Red Smoke Grill, Extreme Pita, Mama Rosa's, Little Home Thai, Zepher's Livermore, 101 Bangkok, Hana Japan, Black Angus, and Romano's Macaroni Grill.

Registered credit and debit cards at stores like Nordstrom, JC Penney, Sephora, Forever 21, drugstore.com, and Big-O Tire also offer eScrip revenue for Amador, Guidice said. Even online purchases made from Macy's, Apple, Nordstrom, Expedia, Amazon, Hotels.com, and Home Depot participate in the eScrip rewards program.

To participate in the eScrip program, Guidice said go to: [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com), click on "My eScrip" and enter your username and password, click on "Register credit and debit cards" and register and update. Also, be sure to enter your email address so you can receive important updates. ■

# EAT SLEEP... GIVE BACK!

## January, 2013



For more information visit:

# EatTriValley.com

## Pleasanton Weekly

### PUBLISHER

Gina Channell-Allen, Ext. 119

### EDITORIAL

#### Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

#### Managing Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli, Ext. 111

#### Online/Community Editor

Jessica Lipsky, Ext. 229

#### Reporter

Glenn Wohltmann, Ext. 121

#### Contributors

Jay Flachsbarth

Jerri Pantages Long

Kerry Nally

### ART & PRODUCTION

#### Lead Designer

Katrina Cannon, Ext. 130

#### Designers

Lili Cao, Ext. 120

Kristin Herman, Ext. 114

### ADVERTISING

#### Account Executives

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

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840.

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Community support of the Pleasanton Weekly is welcomed and encouraged through memberships at levels of \$5, \$8 or \$10 per month through automatic credit card charges. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com) to sign up and for more information.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

© 2012 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### No more housing on Pleasanton's hills

For years, hillside preservationists have sought rulings to keep housing off the steep slopes in and around Pleasanton. Their campaign started in earnest when plans were being made in the 1970s and 1980s to build residential and some commercial projects on the Pleasanton Ridge. With those plans finally scuttled, work began to draft similar legislation to protect the rest of the Ridgeland and the hills in southeast Pleasanton, including hillside protection language that was part of the city's 1996 General Plan. Measure PP, approved by voters two years ago and ratified and strengthened by the City Council last month, now completes that work, banning hillside development on or close to slopes with a 25% grade with few exceptions.

If PP had been in effect back in the 1970s, Pleasanton would be a much different, and smaller, city. Much of upper Vintage Hills, Vintage Heights, Foxbrough, Grey Eagle, Kottinger Ranch and developments along the west side of Foothill Road could not be developed within the new guidelines. There's even a question now if homes can be built along a proposed bypass road to the Callippe Preserve golf course, or even if the road can be built, since some interpretations of PP include roads as structures. Oak Grove, a 51-luxury home development planned for the hills above Kottinger Ranch, is still on the last remaining list of hilltop developments that could be built. A suit to set aside a voter-approved referendum that cancelled the council's approval of the project continues to languish in the State Court of Appeal.

With the City Council's approval of a strengthened Measure PP, city staff will now prepare final documents that will clarify the "Save Pleasanton's Hills" initiative and turn it into an ordinance that the council will consider and is expected to approve next month or in early February. Once done, hillside preservationists, developers, city staff and lawyers will have a document they can readily understand to protect the hills of Pleasanton in perpetuity. It will protect our scenic hills from development, including roadways, to preserve the character of our city and keep development and development speculation away from lands with environmentally sensitive features, lands with primary open space values and lands that the public can enjoy visually and on hikes along pathways that will still be allowed.

The only exemptions that will be allowed will be housing developments of 10 units or less, but even these will have to meet critical reviews to make sure that no homes will again be built on highly visible hilltops. For those who have long promoted these restrictions, theirs is a well-deserved victory that all who live here can enjoy. ■



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

## SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM

To begin your membership, call us at 600-0840 or go to [SupportLocalJournalism.org/Pleasanton](http://SupportLocalJournalism.org/Pleasanton) and sign up online.

## LETTERS

### Can't afford 'convenience'

Dear Editor,

I am very concerned about the negative impact a 24-hour, 7-Eleven convenience store will have in our neighborhood. Please consider the following:

- Pleasanton's leaders have worked hard to retain a unique downtown atmosphere;
- Selling alcohol drives profits for many 7-Elevens; even though this application does not seek an alcohol permit, it would be easy to seek such a permit after the fact, once the store is placed;
- The downtown area does not need another place to buy liquor; there are more than enough already in this condensed geographic area;
- Downtown Pleasanton does not need a national, 24-hour franchise to take business away from locally owned, non-franchise businesses

— Cole's and Meadowlark Drive-Thru Dairy are two examples; and

- Research indicates a higher crime rate for 24-hour stores. The Department of Justice drafted a report as a guide for police officers on how to deal with this specific problem, which suggests the following:

- Convenience store robberies warrant special attention because they have special characteristics;
- Repeat victimization occurs due to low security and small staff;
- Factors contributing to crime include stores operating 24-hours a day;
- Parking lots increase chances for crime;
- Stand-alone structures, such as this store, are subject to an increase in robberies;
- Like most robbers in general, convenience store robbers are males (95%) and under the age of 25; and
- Offenders commonly use guns in convenience stores robberies.

Tracy Dunne

**Gene's fine foods**  
The Perfect Meat, Produce and Wine for Your Holiday Party

**Congratulations  
Cassandra  
Bankson  
Tri-Valley  
Heroes Role Model**

925-846-8220 | 2803 Hopyard Rd  
[genesfinefoodspleasanton.com](http://genesfinefoodspleasanton.com)  
Store Hours: Mon-Sat 8PM-9PM Sunday 9AM-8PM

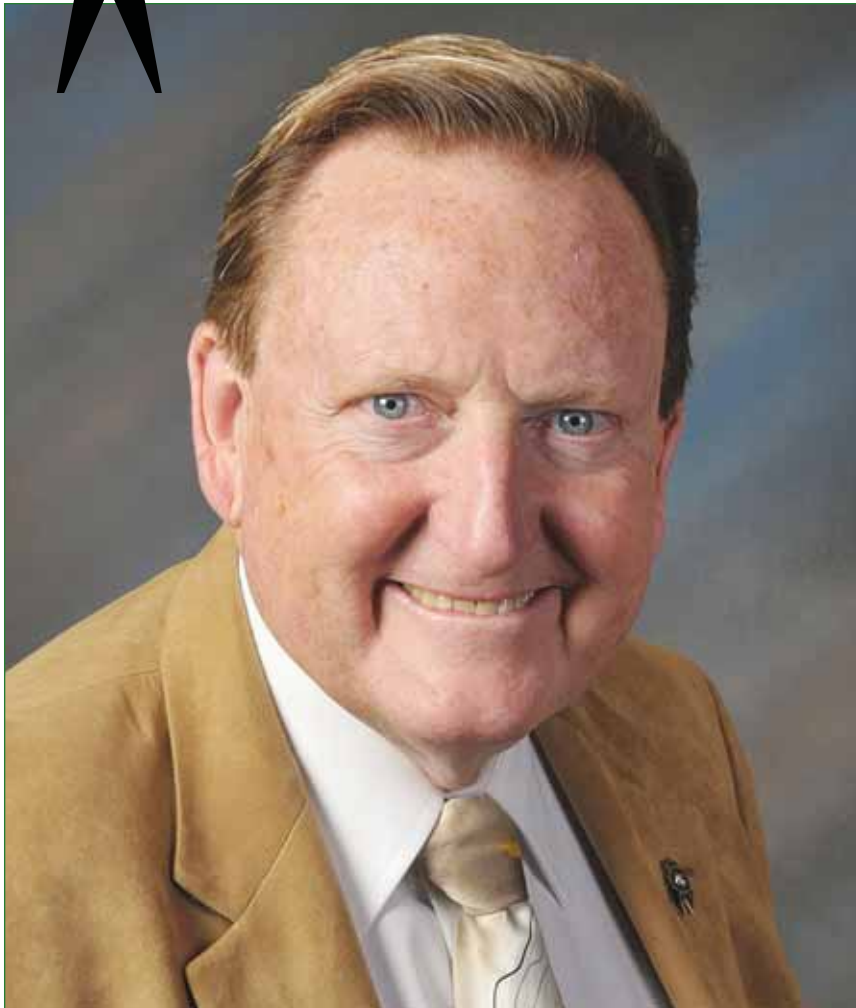
# Your Hero of the Tri-Valley

2012



## BOB TUCKNOTT

*Lifetime Achievement*



Bob Tucknott is known locally as an aviator, speaker and “go to guy.”

by Glenn Wohltmann

Around Pleasanton, Bob Tucknott is known as a go-to guy. Whether it's flying a search-and-rescue mission or transporting a sick child to a hospital or giving a speech, ask him and he'll be there.

“I guess I've got a reputation for getting things done,” Tucknott said.

Tucknott has been a member of too many organizations to list. He's been chairman of the board or the president of the Dublin Rotary Club, the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce, the San Leandro Boys and Girls Club, the Eden area YMCA, the San Leandro Exchange Club and a commander of the Alameda County Sheriff's Air Squadron — just to name a few.

He is currently an honorary member of five local Rotary Clubs, and a member of the Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon, Alamo and Livermore chambers of commerce.

As Past Captain of the Alameda County Sheriff's Air Squadron, he logged hundreds of hours in his Cessna, helping law enforcement, search and rescue, and disaster assessment, plus giving relief and administrative support.

He has a longstanding commitment to Angel Flight, a volunteer organization that arranges free air transportation, via private aircraft, for those in medical and financial need.

“When it looks like a good thing, I join it. There's more to life than work,” Tucknott said. “I get more out of it than I get from my work. Money comes and goes.”

Tucknott has personally flown more than 268 missions since 1999, and has volunteered for them since 1996.

According to Angel Flight, their pilots log an average of five hours per flight at a cost of \$185 per hour for a Cessna 185 like Tucknott's.

That totals nearly \$248,000 in personal expense to serve people who can never repay him.

“During his tenure as the Northern California Wing Leader, Bob liked to accurately boast that the Northern California wing was the ‘flyingest’ wing in the organization,” said Cheri Cimmarrusti, associate executive director of Angel Flight West in her nomination of Tucknott for the Pleasanton Weekly's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Tucknott said he joined that organization on a whim.

“One day, about 20 years ago, I was at a pilot's show in San Jose, and I walked past a booth. There was one guy there manning it and it was Angel Flight,” he said. “I didn't have any reason to fly at the time. I just came back and joined.”

Tucknott's office walls are filled with awards that came from a lifetime of giving, but he said what he treasures most is a handwritten letter from someone he flew during an Angel Flight mission.

“I broke all the rules. We're not supposed to take a flight unless they're ambulatory,” he explained. In this case, a dying woman and her husband needed to go from Reno to Salinas.

“She wanted to be home to die with her family,” Tucknott said. The woman arrived in an ambulance, on a gurney. “I said, ‘I can't take this mission, I'm not an air ambulance.’”

But true to form, he folded a seat down, set up a hanger for the woman's IV drip, and made it work.

Tucknott said his first volunteer work came young.

“It was a paper drive when I was a Cub Scout,” he said. “We went out and collected newspapers. We sold those and used the money for our Cub Scout troop.”

It was around the same time that Tucknott had his first experience as an entrepreneur. “As a kid,” he said, “I raised tropical fish and sold them to pet stores.”

That entrepreneurial spirit never left him.

In 1972 he started Tucknott Electric Co. in San Leandro, with “a couple of old trucks, one electrician and an old building I paid \$800 a month for.”

But it's his volunteer works that clearly makes him most proud, and his ability to get done pretty much anything that's put in front of him.

He recalled being challenged to get a patient from New York to the Bay Area — too far for Angel Flight and too sick for a commercial flight.

Tucknott set it up with a single phone call.

“I never look down and say something's impossible. You just have to figure out how to get it done,” he said. ■

### ▲ Hero FYI

▲ Bob Tucknott considers raising his four children as a single father his greatest achievement. All of his children graduated college and bought homes before they were 25 years old.

▲ He spent 10 years racing cars and one year as a professional racecar driver.

▲ Tucknott is a forensic electrical expert, qualified to testify in court as an expert witness about electrical fires.

▲ When he had his hip replaced for a second time after hitting a tree in a skiing accident, doctors told him he'd never ski again. Tucknott went on to win the Far West Ski

Championship for slalom racing at Lake Tahoe's Northstar resort.

▲ Tucknott took Dublin Rotary from 30 members to 66 members and raised three times the amount of money than any year in the history of the club. It was operating at a deficit when he joined, but he left the treasury with \$60,000 in it.

▲ On a Rotarian trip to Africa in 1988, Tucknott administered polio vaccine drops to children. He still has friends in Africa from that trip.

▲ Tucknott was among a team that built a school in Zihuatanejo, Mexico, a five-year project.

Heroes  
Sponsors



# Your Hero of the Tri-Valley

2012



## CASSANDRA BANKSON

*Role Model*



COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

As a beauty guru, model and YouTube sensation Cassandra Bankson is determined to help those struggling with self worth gain confidence.

by Jessica Lipsky

Like many of her peers, 20-year-old Cassandra Bankson has a penchant for make-up. Except when she puts on foundation, mascara and employs a beauty trick or two, she does it for millions of people.

Over the past two years, the 6-foot-tall curly haired beauty has become an Internet sensation for sharing her battle with severe cystic acne alongside her makeup tips. Under the handle DiamondsandHeels14, the Danville resident films makeup tutorials on creating flawless skin with concealers, shadows and brushes of all types. Bankson's YouTube channel has more than 300,000 subscribers, her videos have received over 44 million hits, and she often receives comments on her positivity, looks and humble attitude.

"It's kind of mind-boggling and I haven't wrapped my head around it," Bankson said of her success.

Bankson was bullied so severely during middle and high school that she dropped out of San Ramon Valley High to do private study and graduated two years early. The bullying had enough of a traumatic effect that Bankson felt she couldn't be seen without makeup and she soon began researching and perfecting flawless-looking skin.

"I didn't have to be around other students but I completely reclused myself. I didn't hang out with friends. I didn't go outside. I was completely homebound because I was afraid," she said. "When you go on YouTube, you see beautiful, perfect girls with perfect skin, that wasn't where I was at."

At the behest of her boyfriend, Bankson made her first video on creating clear-looking skin with foundation in November 2010 but didn't visit YouTube for months because she was nervous about the response.

"I came back expecting all this hate; it was like a new side of humanity for me. The people who haven't known me since birth could actually like me," she said. "They wrote, 'You're brave, you helped me in some way.' (My fans are) really my support system and that's how I started filming videos regularly."

After making the first video, Bankson began doing print modeling and continued to gain self-confidence that she could pass on to her YouTube followers. The acne-plagued teen took her upbeat attitude for a walk at designer Stacey Igel's "Boy Meets Girl" show during New York's fashion week and even appeared on the "Today Show."

"Models are beautiful and perfect and successful and those are all things I never considered myself or thought I could be," Bankson said. "I thought, if you can model and be this confident with makeup, why don't you show other girls in the same situation what they can do?"

As her modeling career and fan base grew, Bankson began discussing life lessons, fashion, stress and, of course, makeup on YouTube. Viewers will also give Bankson advice, creating a "social interaction that everyone values."

"We're connecting like you would talk to a best friend. There are some people who said they ... were shutting down, blocking people out and it's great that they can use this makeup to help them. They can actually feel confident going out," she said.

As a result of her growing fame and openness, Bankson was invited to speak at a European dermatologist conference on behalf of all patients. Although dermatologists can improve acne, they often don't know what the patient feels or how to treat the whole issue, she noted.

Bankson said she hopes to become a dermatologist and use her personal experience to help treat and connect with patients. Although she still battles acne and sadness, Bankson said she is appreciative of the lows she once hit because she can now appreciate the highs in life.

"I was dealing with self worth with different crutches; I was dealing with makeup so I didn't have to deal with acne, then modeling," she said. "Eventually I got through it somehow. And having the support of my family, my boyfriend and people online is what got me through it completely and kept me positive."

Bankson encouraged men and women with acne and depression to seek out support networks and said even models that seem flawless have problems to overcome.

"We can still be proud of ourselves even with our flaws, even if we have to cover them up sometimes. There's more to you than just your face," she said. ■

Role Model Sponsored by



### ▲ Hero FYI

▲ Cassandra is involved in several anti-bullying organizations, including Bully Bust and the National School Climate Association, where she was recently honored.

▲ After graduating from high school early, Cassandra studied to be an esthetician. Although she put those plans on hold, she is only 50 hours away from completing her credential.

▲ Having noticed that some modeling agencies take advantage of their clients, Cassandra briefly ran Cassandra Bankson Talent, a nonprofit to help aspiring models not get taken advantage of, financially or physically.

▲ Have stretch marks you'd like to see disappear? Treat

reddish or white marks with olive oil, Vitamin E oil or Vitamin C oil to produce collagen and improve skin elasticity. You can also take Omega 3 or Vitamin E as a supplement.

▲ Picking pimples can cause scarring and induce bacteria into the skin. Cassandra's advice to quit picking includes wearing makeup or moisturizer, getting your nails done professionally or cutting them short and keeping your hands busy to avoid compulsive picking.

▲ For flawless skin, use an anti-shine serum to absorb oil, a skin primer, then your choice of foundation. Set foundation with powder and make sure to carry everything down the neck for consistent tone.





# Holiday Fund will help Axis Community Health provide a safety net for our neighbors

‘No one is turned away, and the need is growing’

By JERRI PANTAGES LONG

For 40 years, Axis Community Health has been the sole safety net for growing numbers of Tri-Valley residents, providing access to medical care for people who cannot get care in the traditional system for any number of reasons, such as lacking insurance (or having it lapse due to unexpected unemployment) or having a pre-existing condition that has made them ineligible.

“We’re really committed to making quality, affordable health-care available to everybody in the community,” said CEO Director Sue Compton. “We’re proud of the quality of care we provide, which exceeds every national indicator in terms of patient standards and outcomes.

“No one is turned away, and the need is growing: More than 300 new patients each month are coming to Axis for primary care. In the last year, Tri-Valley residents made over 115,000 visits to our five locations.”

Compton noted that the rapid growth is due to three factors: the growing population in our area (a 22% increase in 10 years); the economic downturn that has left more local people in need of access to affordable, quality primary care; and changes in the health-care delivery system.

Axis will be expanding its service by opening a new clinic in 2014 to double its capacity.

“Healthy communities matter to everyone,” pointed out Compton. “Studies show that increased access to medical care significantly reduces the need for more costly types of medical treatment, such as hospital emergency ser-



COURTESY OF AXIS

Axis Community Health staff member Monica Hernandez, right, takes a retinopathy image of a patient’s eyes, one of many services the organization provides. Below, Dr. Nurjehan Kurwa comforts a tiny patient. Axis, which is a recipient of this year’s Holiday Fund, is committed to making quality, affordable healthcare available to everyone in the community.

vices and in-patient care. In fact, access to care is a key element to stemming the rising costs of healthcare.”

Currently Axis provides a “medical home” for over 12,000 people. Your “holiday angel” donation will help them continue to provide services, such as the following examples:

Tony, 56, first became connected with Axis when his mother became very ill.

“They saved my mom’s life,” he said, describing the six years that Axis medical staff treated her and referred her to specialists when needed. “We are so glad to have been able to have had those extra years with her.”

For the past three years, Tony has turned to Axis for his own primary care, particularly with monitoring his high blood pressure and his thyroid condition.

“They’ve always been there for us, and their service has been excellent,” he said. “I can highly recommend them. They have always treated me kindly, and Dr. (Sepideh) Tafreshian in particular has been real helpful to me.”

Monica, 46, feels very lucky that she went to Axis for a check-up five months ago. The doctor discovered that she had breast cancer, but it was in the early stage so that Monica is recovering from what could have been a fatal disease.

“They treat me very well, like they do everybody,” she said of Axis Community Health.

One of the clerical staff members, Kelly, was able to help Monica apply for Medi-Cal health coverage for which she was eligible. Axis staff members referred her to other doctors as needed for her treatment at Highland Hospital.

“If you don’t know what to do,

or where to go, the people at Axis are very helpful — especially if you don’t have health insurance,” said Monica.

She is grateful that many of the staff members speak Spanish.

The experiences of Axis patients Tony and Monica exemplify the kinds of services provided in a typical day at the main Axis clinic at 4361 Railroad Ave. here in Pleasanton. Community members of all ages, children through seniors, receive quality care from a dedicated medical team.

A nonprofit organization, Axis Community Health was founded in 1972 to help children of low-income families with no other access to health care. Adult health services and WIC (Women, Infants and Children) nutrition programs were added the following decade. By 1996, drug and alcohol recovery services were added, along with mental health counseling.

For further information about Axis Community Health Services, call 462-1755 or visit [www.axishealth.org](http://www.axishealth.org). ■

## The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund

The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund was created to provide financial support from our readers for a select group of local nonprofit organizations to help alleviate the needs that exist, despite our community’s prosperity. This marks the ninth year of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. It provides an opportunity to aid local groups at a time when the numbers of those without jobs or with low-paying jobs and few if any health benefits have increased.

We are pleased to announce that this year we will partner with Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which will provide all the administrative support for the campaign at no cost. As before, the Pleasanton Weekly will donate marketing services, as well as advertising space. This means that all money raised can support the people in our community.

We appreciate your support of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund and these worthy nonprofits.

## Holiday Fund donors

At the launch of the 2012 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, 221 donors have contributed \$43,546 to the fund.

### Individuals

- Alan and Carol Cohen .....500
- Alan and Julia Casamajor ..... 100
- Alice Desrosiers ..... 100
- Andy and Valerie Poryes..... 100
- Ann and Don Rathjen ..... \*\*
- Barbara W. Daniels ..... \*\*
- Bert and Dee Brook .....200
- Bill and Carolyn Lincoln..... \*\*
- Bill and Dottie Berck ..... 200
- Bill and Fran Hirst ..... \*\*
- Bill and Maggie Foley..... \*\*
- Bill and Pat Ruvalcaba.....300
- Bill and Peggy Paris ..... \*\*
- Blaise and Amy Lofland .....250
- Bob and Julia Murtagh .....250
- Bob and Kathy Russman..... \*\*
- Bob and Orley Philcox .....500
- Bob Williams .....500
- Bobby Jensen.....250
- Bruce and Cindy Yamamoto..... \*\*
- Bryan and Kim Baptist.....250
- Carlo and Geraldine Vecchiarelli...100
- Carol Guarnaccia ..... 100
- Carole Peterson and James Brice... \*\*
- Chris and Debbie Scott.....50
- Chris and Linda Coleman ..... \*\*
- Chuck and Mary Shoemaker .....500
- Clint and Tina Onderbeke..... \*\*
- Dave Cryer ..... \*\*
- Deborah Sweeley ..... \*\*
- Dee Haag ..... \*\*
- Dick and Peggy Karn..... \*\*
- Don and Jean Kallenberg ..... \*\*
- Douglas and Mary Safreno ..... \*\*
- Drs. Steven and Harley Williams ... \*\*
- Earl and Dorothy Maddox ..... 100
- Ed and Bernadette Dantzig .....250
- Frank and Teresa Morgan .....200
- G. Gary and Nancy Harrington ...100
- Gary and Mary Lazarotti..... \*\*
- Gene and Linda Johnson..... 100
- Glenda Beratlis.....500
- Glenn and Janet Wenig .....100
- Greg and Peg Meagher ..... \*\*
- Greg Landrum .....500
- Gretchen and John Clatworthy....200
- Herbert and Stella Chang ..... \*\*
- Hermann Family.....100
- Howard G. and Emilie Seebach...100
- Iqbal and Tasneem Omarali MD... \*\*
- Isabel Curry..... \*\*
- Jan and Jeb Bing.....200
- Jeff and Jeri Oh..... \*\*
- Joe and Sue Silva ..... \*\*
- John and Kay Stewart ..... \*\*
- John and Roxanne Plotts..... \*\*
- John and Sharon Piekarski ..... 100
- John and Sheila Sanches ..... \*\*
- John H. Marshall .....100
- Jonathan and Janet Allen ..... \*\*
- Julie and Miguel Castillo ..... \*\*
- Kathleen Glancy .....50
- Kathy and Jeff Narum ..... 100
- Kay and Charles Huff ..... \*\*
- Kem and Renee Kantor..... \*\*
- Ken and Barbara McDonald ..... \*\*
- Lonnie and Ronald Shaw ..... 100
- Lori and Mike Rice ..... \*\*
- Marc and Becky Randall .....500
- Margaret Mathias.....500
- Mark and Amy Arola .....250
- Marvin and Nancy Rensink ..... \*\*





Merlyn Chestnut.....	10	Chris Beratlis by	
Mike and Ilene Forman.....	250	Coffee Shop Guys.....	**
Mike and Kris Harnett.....	150	Dody Guasco.....	200
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Sapone and		Doris Cink and Charles Glass.....	**
Gretta Speakman.....	100	Doris T. Walberg.....	100
Mr. Alan Purves.....	120	Dorothy Gomez.....	50
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Malatesta....	100	Frank Gomez.....	50
Mr. and Mrs. John G. O'Neill.....	**	Debra Gomez.....	50
Mr. John P. Ferreri.....	100	Elizabeth Traille.....	250
Mrs. Terry Messick-Cass and		Eugene Stanley.....	**
Mr. Barry Cass.....	100	Gam and Papa Abbott.....	**
Ms. Betty Kirvan.....	100	Jacqueline Woodruff.....	250
Ms. Deborah MG Tomlin.....	**	Janet Reichlin, From Mike, Lori,	
Ms. Lilibeth Smith.....	200	and Michael Reichlin.....	100
Ms. Martha Mantei.....	50	John A. Mavridis.....	**
Nancy Cowan.....	**	Judy Perko.....	100
Nanda and Sangeeta Gottiparthi... **		Karen and Tom Elsnab from Hathi	
Nicole, Ana, and Michael Fong... 250		Winston and Jerry Prettyman... 100	
Olivia Sanwong.....	50	Kathy Capitani.....	100
Pat and Ran Costello.....	**	Mary L. Erickson.....	**
Patrick Moore.....	50	Mary May.....	300
Paul and Ann Hill.....	**	Mike (Whitey) Whitener.....	**
Paul and Lorraine Ebright.....	100	Nicholas Daniel Lesser.....	**
Pauline Coe.....	**	Norm Bottorff.....	100
Pearce Family.....	100	Our Mom Lora Bulatova.....	**
Pentin Family in honor of		Owen Saupe.....	**
Mike, Matt & Diane.....	100	Robert D. Williams.....	**
Pete and Julie Mason.....	**	Robert S. Kilpatrick.....	**
Randy and Emily Yim.....	100	Roselle Grimes, Verna Plummer,	
Richard and Gloria Fredette.....	**	and Evelyn Schrick.....	**
Rick and Dawn Marie Barraza.....	250	Roy, Eva, Archie and Adeline.....	100
Rick and Susie Decker.....	100	Sharon Carroll, from The Staff at	
Rita Rollar.....	150	Valley Humane Society.....	100
Robert and Marianne Eisberg.....	**	Sheldon Thorson.....	50
Rodger, Laura, and		Zelinsky.....	250
Stephanie Miller.....	50	Tricia Martin - Love You Always &	
Ron and Kathy Anderson.....	350	Forever, Love, Mom.....	**
Ron and Marlene Sandberg.....	**	Elizabeth Ng.....	500
Roseann Csencsits and		Sarah Anne Lees.....	100
Mike Kundmann.....	**	George Speliotopolous, Ed Kinney,	
Rudy and Marge Johnson.....	100	Hank Gomez, from Roger Dabney,	
Ryan Brown and Julie Harryman... 100		Dee Wilson, Ralph Romero.....	**
Sonal & Ajay Shah.....	**	WM and Alice Marsh.....	**
Srikant and Christina Mantha.....	30	Gene Strom, Keith Strom, Donna	
Stuart and Cheryl Craig.....	250	Kolb-Miller, William Kolb.....	400
The Browning Family - Rod,		John Manzone from the Manzone/	
Christina, Alyssa, Danielle.....	100	Crabill Family.....	**
The Caldwell Family.....	**	Lee Montgomery, from Frank and	
The Richwood Family.....	100	Muriel Capilla.....	**
The Ristow Family.....	**	Bill Haraughty.....	25
Thomas and Patrice Morrow.....	200	Richard and Cheri Stout.....	100
Thomas Rasmus.....	20	June and Michael Carboni.....	100
Tim and Belinda Schultz.....	100	Rick Aguiar.....	**
Tim and Robin Neal.....	100	Dr. E. John Ainsworth.....	75
Tim and Teri Bush.....	**	Harold, May, and Mike Consedine .. **	
Vincent and Sarah Ciccarello.....	**	Mary Ann Butler and Juanita Haugen,	
Violet T. Masini.....	50	from Sarah A. Warnick.....	**
		Mary Ann Butler and Juanita Haugen,	
		from Jerry T. Thorne.....	**
		Mary Ann Butler and Juanita Haugen,	
		from Robert J. Lane.....	**
		Thomas McCague, donated by	
		Annie Sjodahl.....	150
		Raymond Ulatoski, donated by	
		Jeff Ulatoski.....	150
		Dick Waldron.....	100
		Karl K Witze.....	500
		James B. Kohnen.....	150
		Richard Briery.....	100
		Ruth DeFreece.....	**
		Our beloved dog, Georgia.....	100
		Ron Silva.....	**
		John A. Silva.....	100

**Businesses & Organizations**

Beratlis Automotive.....	**
California Self-Defense	
Consultants.....	**
DeBernardi Development	
Construction and Remodeling... **	
E. Dennis Glafkides Medical	
Corporation.....	25
Mission Pipe Shop and	
Cigar Lounge.....	100
Pleasanton Pet Sitting.....	100
Time 4 Order-Professional	
Organizing.....	100
Tim McGuire - Alain Pinel	
Realtors.....	1000
Chamberlin Associates.....	10000
Ponderosa Homes.....	500
Walt Lupeika, CPA.....	100
Karen E. Morliengo MFT.....	50

**In Memory of**

Allan Hillman, Randy and Margie	
Warner.....	150
Barbara Burton.....	100
Betty Patrick.....	**

**In Honor of**

Ernie Noble from Bob and Marilyn	
Grimes.....	**
Our "3 R's".....	**
My Grandchildren.....	25

**As a Gift for**

Dan and Lou Lincoln.....	**
--------------------------	----

**The following agencies will be supported by the Holiday Fund.**

**Scheduled to receive 75% are:**

- Axis Community Health
- Open Heart Kitchen
- Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation
- Valley Humane Society
- ValleyCare Health System
- Hope Hospice

**Receiving the other 25% are:**

- Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council
- REACH (Resources Education Activities Community and Housing) for special adults of the Tri-Valley
- Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation
- Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley



**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)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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](http://www.siliconvalleycf.org/pleasantonweeklyholidayfund)



\*\*The asterisk designates that the donor did not want to publish the amount of the gift.



Above: Eight-year-old boxer Kyle Lacanlale blocks a punch thrown by 11-year-old Nikolai Mallot. Left: Tim Minkel, 14, works out the coaching of Paul Rubio.

**W**alk into Paul Rubio's gym, Elite Training Center, any given night, and odds are you'll find them: three young boxers who are already making names for themselves in the world of youth boxing.

At the Silver Glove Boxing Championships, two of them, Kyle Lacanlale, 8, and Nikolai Mallot, 11, both won gold medals while Tim Minkel, 14, won silver in the championship, held last month at American Canyon Middle School.

Minkel, with just about six weeks of training, weighed in at 115 pounds; he defeated his first opponent and made it to the finals where he won a silver medal.

Lacanlale, who's been training for more than a year, competed in the 60-pound division. The San Ramon third-grader fought three rounds to take home the gold in the youngest division.

Mallot competed in the 75-pound division. He's been training five days a week for just six months. In what was his second amateur match, Mallot defeated a boxer who weighed in and competes two divisions above him.

In addition to winning his Silver Gloves debut, Mallot also won a championship belt as Best Fighter of the Night and Best Fight of the Night for all divisions, ages 8 to 25, taking home two trophies and one championship belt.

"I have never seen such true, raw talent at such a young age as I see in Nikolai," Rubio said. "I guarantee we will be seeing his name a lot more in the sport of boxing."

Silver Gloves is a national program for young men and women ages 8 to 18. Mallot and Lacanlale were eligible to move on in the Silver Gloves competition, but opted not to compete in regional matches.

"We're getting ready for the Junior Olympics next year," Rubio said.

All three young boxers had to convince their parents to let them get in the ring.

"I wanted to start when I was young but my mom and dad said no," said Mallot.

He was persistent enough to get his father to take him to a ring.

"My dad got tired of me asking to learn boxing," Mallot said, adding that finally, his father took him to a ring in Brentwood. "My dad said, 'Train him hard enough that he won't want to come back.'"

As soon as they were done, he asked when they could return, and they discovered Elite. Mallot said Rubio watches out for his boxers.

"Coach Paul won't just put you against someone. He'll put you against someone who's a good match," he said.

Although the three are anxious to fight, Rubio said

a lot of opponents back out at the last minute. He said that's especially true for Mallot.

"They see him shadow box or work out on the bag — it's a fear factor," he said. "They see how good he really is and they get scared."

Lacanlale admitted getting punched isn't fun.

"It's hard to get hit, especially when you're fighting someone bigger than you," he said.

But Rubio describes boxing as "safer than football."

"It's one of the safest sports around. If a kid takes more than two head shots in a row, they give him a standing eight count," Rubio said. "The kids at this age don't have the strength. They haven't developed the power."

Under USA boxing, they're required to wear headgear, a mouthpiece and a cup. The fights are three rounds.

All three are dedicated to the sport, training five days a week and eager to slip on the gloves whenever they can.

Four days a week, the kids get basic boxing training. Rubio stands on the sidelines issuing specific instructions as they spar, for example.

Beyond that, they get strength and conditioning work to develop speed, agility and coordination. One day a week they do cardio work.

Rubio was a boxer himself. He was born with a birth defect, spina bifida, in which the bones of the spine do



# KID GLOVES

Young boxers learn art of sparring  
in Pleasanton gym

story and photos by **GLENN WOHLTMANN**

ut with a heavy bag. Above left: Mallot bobs and weaves under



Nikolai Mallot, 11, displays the championship belt he won at the Silver Glove Boxing Championship, his second amateur match, where he defeated a heavier, more experienced boxer.

not form properly around the spinal cord, but with the encouragement of his father, he learned to fight to protect himself from bullies.

In 1998, Rubio climbed into the ring on a dare during a contest — Battle of the Big Boys — held by a Bay Area radio station. He knocked his opponent out in less than 30 seconds and a career was born.

He went undefeated until 2004, when he snapped two ligaments in his shoulder, both losing the fight and ending his career as a professional boxer.

Rubio spent time as a personal trainer and opened Elite in 2008. He knew he wanted to coach boxers, and began with professionals. That turned out to be a poor choice.

“They’re harder to work with,” he said, explaining that many of them had already developed habits that are difficult to break. “It’s easier to mold them from nothing and create a good boxer.”

Rubio also offers anti-bullying seminars, and has taken his message to local schools, including Mohr and Donlon elementary schools.

Although Rubio’s gym is filled on any given night of the week with would-be boxers, the gym’s youngest boxer, Lacañlale, said it’s not for everyone.

“If you’re a person that likes to get hit, this is the sport for you,” he said. ■

## Liquidation Sale!

After 46 Years

Fine Jewelry 14K-18K & Platinum

Diamonds • Rubies

Sapphires • Emeralds & More

Antiques & Fine Art

**Everything Must Go!!**



*Jay Alan Jewelers*

739 Main Street, Suite J

Pleasanton

(925) 462-5200

Tues-Sat

10:30am-4:00pm

 **ShopPleasanton.com**

The online  
guide to  
Pleasanton  
businesses

- Make purchases
- Write and read reviews
- Find deals and coupons
- Buy gift certificates
- Discover local businesses

Good for **Business**. Good for **You**.  
Good for the **Community**.

Visit [ShopPleasanton.com](http://ShopPleasanton.com) today

## wellness at your door

**NEW!**



Order Online for  
**FREE DELIVERY or In-store Pick-up**

- full menu available
- hours of delivery: 1pm-7pm daily
- serving the Greater Bay Area  
(see map online)

**(888) 99-Harborside**  
[www.harborsidehealthcenter.com/ep](http://www.harborsidehealthcenter.com/ep)



1840 Embarcadero, Oakland • 2106 Ringwood Ave, San Jose  
DISPENSARY HOURS: 10am-8pm daily



# Holiday Magic

## Crafts and cookies: Creating decorations and gifts can be tons of fun

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

'Tis the season to be sparkly and bright. This can translate into family fun as you join your children in creating some holiday fun this year.

Making decorations is a good project at home on a cold winter day. If they turn out a little too tacky, you can put them away for good when the season ends. But chances are that holiday craft sessions will result in something that you'll be pleased to nostalgically unwrap each year and display.

Check out ideas on the Internet and you'll be amazed at what can be created even with what you have around the house. But, inspired by glitter and glue, you'll probably want to head to the store for supplies to create ornaments or gifts.

Buy plain boxes of many different sizes — it's easy and fun to decorate them for gifts.

How about plain glass votive candleholders? Let kids glue on translucent sparkles for a lovely effect when the candle is lit.

Decorating small gift tags may be perfect for a younger child's attention span. Punch a hole and tie it to a package for a pretty

extra touch on any present.

Gingerbread houses become easier to make each year as new kits come on the market. Fun to make, cheerful to look at, and delicious to eat — bake an extra little wall just for nibbling. Don't forget the old preschool trick of assembling mini-houses using graham crackers and frosting. These are quick and easy, and don't take up too much space to display.

Then of course there is always the tradition of baking Christmas cookies, taking a festive step beyond oatmeal, peanut butter and chocolate chip.

Even the youngest child can add sprinkles to the cookies before or after they are placed in the oven. If you are pressed for time, pre-made dough is available, some complete with holiday shapes in the center.

Baked items are wonderful gifts as well as fun treats for the family. Arrange some in a hand-decorated box, add a gift tag, tie on an ornament, and your children will take great pleasure in delivering this special present that comes from the heart, the home and their own little hands. ■

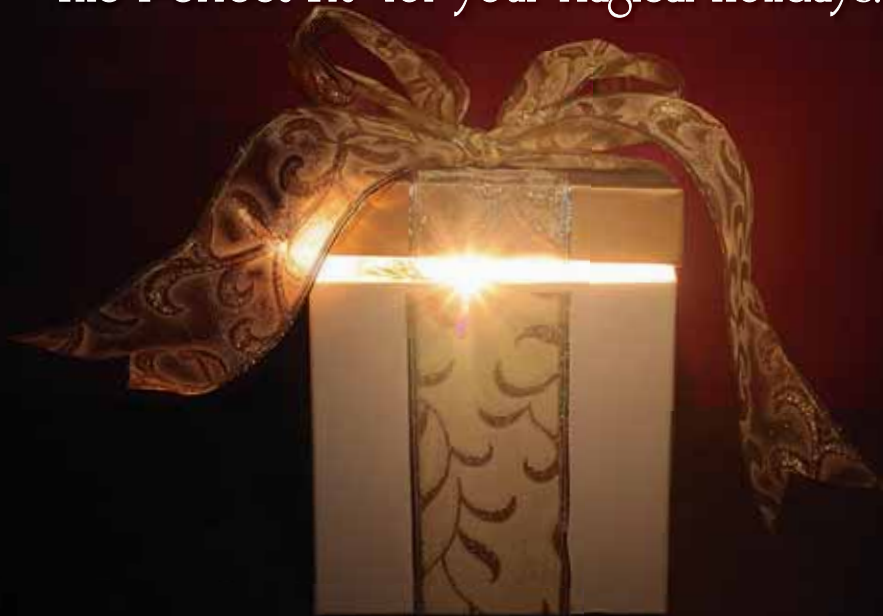


DOWNTOWN  
**PLEASANTON**  
THE NAME FITS

## Magical HOLIDAYS

Shopping ♦ Dining ♦ Twinkling Lights

Enjoy Downtown Pleasanton...  
"The Perfect Fit" for your Magical Holidays!

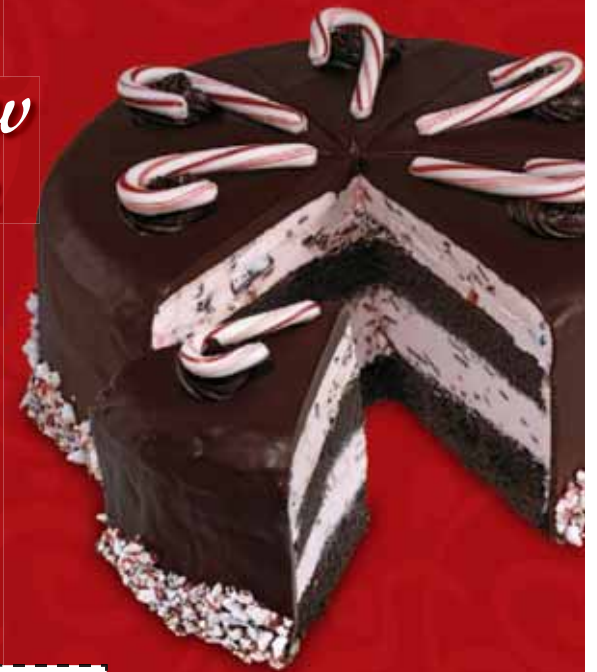


[www.pleasantondowntown.net](http://www.pleasantondowntown.net)



## Start a New Tradition

**CANDY CANE WONDERLAND™**  
Layers of Moist Devil's Food Cake and Candy Cane Ice Cream mixed with Chocolate Shavings wrapped in a rich Fudge Ganache and topped with Candy Canes.



**\$3 OFF**

any Signature Cake  
(excludes Pies, Petite Cakes & Cupcakes)



Downtown Pleasanton • 349 Main Street  
925-600-9177

Limit one per customer per visit. Excludes pies, petite cake & cupcakes. Valid only at participating locations. No cash value. Not valid with other offers or fundraisers of if copied, sold, auctioned, exchanged for payment or prohibited by law. 16.1678\_©2011 Kahala Franchising, L.L.C. COLD STONE CREAMERY is a registered trademark of Kahala Franchising, L.L.C. and/or its licensors. Expires 1/31/13. PLU#104



Downtown Pleasanton  
349 Main Street  
925-600-9177

CSF9854 © 2011 Kahala Franchising, L.L.C. COLD STONE CREAMERY is a registered trademark of Kahala Franchising, L.L.C. and/or its licensors.

# Holiday Magic



## Magical time of the year

Holidays light up our lives when skies may be gray

The holidays are a time for all of us to be children again — if you're not feeling the spirit, you may need a "kid fix." Parents and grandparents get them all the time, the pleasure of observing children as they anticipate the coming of Christmas and Hanukkah.

What's not for children to like in the holiday season? Fun decorations, special foods, gifts, both giving and receiving. Spending more time with family and relatives. A break from school and other routines.

Seeing Santa can be exciting or terrifying, embarrassing or boring, depending on the age of the child. But almost everyone enjoys the magic of the holidays created by decorated homes and shops at this time of year.

Christmas lights and decorations probably follow the tradition of bringing trees into the home and lighting candles to relieve the dreariness of winter. In ancient times during Winter Solstice time, people burned large bonfires to "lure" the sun back. Later, Christians saw the symbolism of putting up lights as a sign that Jesus is the light of the world.

Prior to electricity, and way before rooms began to twinkle 24/7 with bright little lights indicating the cable box and other devices were doing their jobs, people would put lighted candles on their windowsills to help travelers find their way. Of course children wanted to use candles on Christmas Eve to show St. Nick they were waiting for him.

Outdoor Christmas lights have grown in popularity over the last few generations, but the practice still raises questions for novices: When do you put up your Christmas lights? And how do you put up your Christmas lights? The best tip around, whether for a tree or the outside of the house, is to plug them in and make sure they work before you string them up.

Whether you light up the outside of your home or not, your children can enjoy the lights all over Pleasanton and beyond as enthusiasts get into the spirit of the season. Take a walk downtown to enjoy the city's big holiday tree in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main St. Or visit [www.lightsofthevalley.com](http://www.lightsofthevalley.com) to find local lavish displays. ■



### REGENERATE DUO

Lavandu Botanicals Facial and  
Lavandu Wellness Massage

**Just \$205 for two hours**  
(regular price \$240)

Valid w/coupon only; one package type per person,  
Not valid with other offers, promos, coupons or  
third party gift card/voucher; purchase by 1/31/13.

### Gift Card Packages

Available for  
Purchase in  
December and January

### RENEW TRIO

Swedish Massage and  
Refreshing Mini Facial and  
Back Purifying Facial

**Just \$215 for over two hours**  
(regular price \$250)

Valid w/coupon only; one package type per person,  
Not valid with other offers, promos, coupons or  
third party gift card/voucher; purchase by 1/31/13.



**Consider a gift that will be fully appreciated and never returned!**

**About GIFT CARD giving ...**  
A gift that rewards and pampers  
Ready to gift— lovely box and bow  
Never expires and appreciated anytime  
Preferred over a traditional gift  
Available in any denomination,  
for any service, at any time

**...a tranquil place**

**1987 Santa Rita Road  
Pleasanton**

**(925) 399-6959  
lavandu.com**

### GIFT WITH GIFT CARD PURCHASE

Receive bottle of  
Barreme Lavender Essential Oil  
(for card purchase of \$100+ while supplies last)

Receive an Italian Heart pendant  
w/ .925 Sterling Silver Chain  
(for card purchase of \$200+ while supplies last)

TREAT YOURSELF TO A LITTLE EUROPEAN PAMPERING  
Complimentary wax for first time guests.

Must be state resident. See center for details.

facebook twitter  
europeanwax  
waxcenter.com

WAXING FOR ALL EUROPEAN WAX CENTER

PLEASANTON / 925 484 2900  
6770 Bernal Ave., Suite # 430 / Pleasanton, CA 94566  
In the Safeway shopping center

## Holiday Magic

### Cantabella Children's Chorus presents: 'Counting the Joys of Christmas'

Continuing the season of musical works onstage is the Cantabella Children's Chorus, presenting its 21st annual winter holiday concert, "Counting the Joys of Christmas," at 1 p.m. and at 3:30 p.m. tomorrow, Dec. 15, at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Ave.

The concerts will present the 12 joys of attending Cantabella Children's Chorus' winter concert:

1. A dancing Christmas tree.
2. Tinsel "snow" and jingle bells.
3. Traditional arrangement of "I Saw Three Ships."
4. Audience sing-alongs to familiar Christmas carols.
5. Harmonious choral students serenading everyone with holiday joy.
6. Accompaniment by professional piano and chamber musicians.
7. A concert theme centered around "The Seven Joys of Christmas."
8. A gospel spiritual of "Go Where I Send Thee."
9. Not so familiar gems in Basque and Hebrew.
10. Traditional carols sung in English, French, Latin and Spanish.
11. Harp accompaniment by renowned Bay Area virtuoso Dan Levitan.
12. A whimsical arrangement of "Twelve Days of Christmas."

The Cantabella Children's Chorus includes children ages kindergarten through high school, trained by the staff and led by Artistic Director Bee Chow.

More than 200 young people rehearse

weekly in three training choirs and three performing choirs that include Children's, Chamber and the Honors Choirs. The first concert will feature the training and performing choirs; the 3:30 concert features the performing choirs only.



The Honors Choir recently won two silver medals at the World Choir Games in Cincinnati and has accepted an invitation to the prestigious World Vision Korea Children's Choir Festival to be held in South Korea in 2013.

Tickets for Cantabella's annual holiday performance are: adults, \$17 in advance/\$20 at the door; youths, ages 2-17, \$8 in advance/\$10 at the door. For information and tickets, go to [Cantabella.org/tickets](http://Cantabella.org/tickets) or call 292-2663. ■

### Christmas Eve Dinner

Monday, December 24th  
À la carte menu

Pleasanton: 4 - 8pm  
Danville: 4 - 9pm



### Christmas Day Buffet in Pleasanton

Tuesday, December 25th • 10:30am - 3pm & 4pm to 8pm

Adults 36.95 Seniors 34.95 Children 6-10 17.95 Children 5 & Under FREE  
Reservations strongly suggested — 925.460.0444

### Christmas Day A la Carte in Danville

Tuesday, December 25th • 4pm - 9pm

Reservations strongly suggested — 925.838.1320

925 460 0444 • 5121 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton  
925 838 1320 • 600 Hartz Avenue, Danville

Call To Make Your Reservations Today!

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



Hilton

Pleasanton at The Club  
presents

2013

New Years Extravaganza



BRING  
IN THE  
NEW  
YEAR

With DJ JAMMIN J  
NDAMIXX

#### Package for Two: \$279

- Guest Accommodation • Two Tickets to the Show
- Champagne Toast at Midnight
- Full American Buffet Breakfast for 2
- Late Check Out

#### Package for One: \$199

- Guest Accommodation • One Ticket to the Show
- Champagne Toast at Midnight
- Full American Buffet Breakfast for 1
- Late Check Out

For Details Call (925) 737-5623

or Visit our website at

[www.hiltonpleasanton2013.evenbrite.com](http://www.hiltonpleasanton2013.evenbrite.com)

7050 Johnson Drive | Pleasanton

40% OFF  
All Christmas Decorations  
and Artificial Trees

All sales are final. Cannot  
be combined with any other offer or promotion



WESTERN GARDEN  
NURSERY

Great Gardens Begin Here!

Quality • Service • Selection

2756 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton

Winter hours are

Monday-Saturday 9-5, Sunday 10-5

925-462-1760



[www.WesternGardenNursery.com](http://www.WesternGardenNursery.com) | [facebook.com/WGNursery](http://facebook.com/WGNursery)

an escape is only moments away...



Celebrate the holidays with a glowing peppermint facial or a luxurious peppermint body scrub & massage. You will love the refreshing and hydrating effect of peppermint on your skin.

Massages • Facials • Precision Cuts, Coloring & Styling  
Manicure/Pedicure • Microdermabrasion • Body Wraps

\$15 OFF PEPPERMINT FACIAL  
OR MASSAGE WITH AD. EXP. 12/31/12



As Seen On...  
KRON 4  
The Bay Area's News Station  
Voted Best in  
Northern California

Heavenly  
Day & Spa  
Salon

357 RAY STREET IN PLEASANTON • 462-4200 • [WWW.HEAVENLYREMEDIES.NET](http://WWW.HEAVENLYREMEDIES.NET)

## Try some ho-ho-holiday humor

Seasonal jokes can add to the fun

Holiday humor is always a hit with the young ones. Here are some old (admittedly corny) jokes for the holiday season. Start out with one and see if the children or other family and friends in your life come up with others.

**Q.** What kind of music is best when getting presents ready to give to others?

**A.** "Wrap" music.

**Q.** What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?

**A.** It's Christmas, Eve.

**Q.** What did one snowman say to the other snowman?

**A.** Can you smell carrot?

**Q.** What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

**A.** Snowflakes.

**Q.** How does a snowman lose weight?

**A.** He waits for the weather to get warm.

**Q.** What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

**A.** Frostbite.

**Q.** What do you call a cat on the beach at Christmas time?

**A.** Sandy Claws.

**Q.** What do elves learn in school?

**A.** The Elf-abet.

**Q.** What nationality is Santa Claus?

**A.** North Polish.

**Q.** Why did Santa spell Christmas N-O-E?

**A.** Because everyone was saying, "No L."

What was your response to these bits of humor? Hopefully, ho, ho, ho!



**Rick's Picks**  
great deals everyday!

**40% - 80% OFF**  
**YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS**

**Holiday Entertaining**  
**NEW ARRIVALS**

**Holiday "Naughty or Nice" Apron**

The perfect gift for any hostess or just buy it for yourself to get you into the holiday swing of things! This Apron is a closeout from a top quality manufacturer who sells to all the premier retailers in America such as Williams Sonoma, Pottery Barn and the like. Quantities limited. **Holiday Special \$11.99**



**Poinsettia Place Mat (Set of 4)**

Spruce up your holiday table with these beautiful placemats. They are the perfect compliment to many of our tablecloths and napkins now in stock. Quantities limited. **Holiday Special \$12.99 per set!**



**\$5 OFF** Any purchase over \$30

Valid until Dec. 30, 2012. May not be used with other offers. Sale & clearance items do not qualify. Coupons may only be used for future purchases. PW-1207

**www.rickspicks.biz**  
Danville • 375 Hartz Avenue • 925.837.DEAL (3325)  
Pleasanton • 719 Main Street • 925.426.SAVE (7283)

# Lokanta

Mediterranean Grill & Bar

*Wishing You  
Happy Holidays*

Celebrate your Holiday with Us!

925.223.8074

443 Main Street, Pleasanton

Hours: Monday-Friday 11:30am-10pm Saturday/Sunday 10am-10pm

Late Night Happy Hour Every Fri-Sat 9:30-11pm

# Community Pulse • Transitions

POLICE BULLETIN & LOG • OBITUARIES • BIRTHS & WEDDINGS

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Scams net more than \$7,500 from two victims

Two residents were victims of the same scam on Dec. 5, losing a total of \$7,540, according to police reports.

The scam, in which a person claims to be the victim's grandson, in trouble and outside the U.S., has been growing in popularity with thieves.

One victim, a resident of the 4300 block of Valley Avenue, reported sending a total of \$2,740 in two wire transfers. That report came in at 9:50 a.m.

Later that day, another victim called from Western Union in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue. That victim sent a total of \$4,800

in two transactions.

In both cases, the scammer claimed to be calling from the Philippines.

#### In other police reports:

- Two residents reported that their identities had been stolen and accounts had been opened in their name without their knowledge.

In one, reported at about 7:15 a.m. Dec. 11 from a resident of the 6000 block of Allbrook Circle, \$2,800 was reported stolen.

An account was opened but nothing had been stolen in the other, reported at 9:28 p.m. by a resident of the 5000 block of Rigatti Circle.

- A Dec. 5 traffic stop in the 460 block of Denker Drive led to the

arrest of Carl Smith, 45, of Sherman Oaks on felony warrants from Sacramento. Smith was wanted on charges of grand theft, perjury and felony welfare fraud. He was arrested at about 7:28 p.m.

- \* Three laptops worth \$700 apiece were stolen from Safeway's corporate offices in the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road on Dec. 6.

- An auto burglary in the 4600 block of Ithica Way netted more than \$2,500 in miscellaneous items, including a \$500 gold necklace, a \$350 bracelet and a \$250 ring. The items were stolen from an unlocked vehicle between Nov. 13 and Nov. 21, but not reported until Dec. 11.

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

## Teen with contentious yearbook photo arrested for hashish possession

Spotted after hours at city park

By Glenn Wohltmann

The Amador senior who made news last week for a controversial yearbook photo is back in the news, this time with a felony arrest for possessing hashish.

Kenton Koos, 18, was with a young woman at Bernal Community Park after hours on Dec. 8, according to a police report. An officer on patrol spotted the pair and smelled marijuana when approaching them.



Kenton Koos

That created probable cause for a search, and Koos was in possession of 1.1 grams of hash, the report said.

He was arrested at about 9:22 p.m.; the woman he was with did not have any contraband and was released.

Koos made the news recently for an outrageous yearbook photo that was initially banned by Amador Valley High Principal Jim Hansen. The photo, of Koos with green-dyed spiky hair, a painted on facial tattoo and a large nose ring, was later allowed in the yearbook after a quick reversal of Hansen's decision by the district administration. ■

## OBITUARIES

PAID OBITUARIES

### Carroll Dale Steele 2/9/1937-12/07/2012

Carroll Dale Steele was born in Alden, Minnesota, the son of Melvin and Irma (Schmidt) Steele. He grew up in Alden on a farm and graduated from Alden High School.

He enlisted in the US Army when he was 18 and served in an active and reserve role from 1955-1961.

He lived in Albert Lea, MN and Minneapolis, MN until he was 36 when he moved to California with his family.

He got degrees at Foothill College in Los Altos, CA and San Jose State University, San Jose, CA (MBA).

Among some of the places he worked are: Streater in Albert Lea, MN; Control Data in Minneapolis, MN, Mosinee Paper Mills in Wausau, WI; Measurex in Cupertino, CA; BTI in Sunnyvale, CA.

On Sept. 7, 1991, Carroll was united in marriage to Jo Hesterly at Immanuel Lutheran Church in San Jose. They lived in San Jose until 2000, when they retired and bought a small ranch in Acampo. It is here where Carroll started collecting vintage John Deere tractors and built a barn to house all of them. Carroll loved playing softball, as he was on as many as 3 teams at any one time. His greatest passion was being surrounded by



his family.

Carroll went to be with the lord Dec. 7, 2012 at Kaiser Foundation Rehabilitation Center in Vallejo. He was 75. He is survived by his loving wife of 21 years, Jo; children: Scott (Diane) Steele of Roseville, Kent (Chary) Steele of Pleasanton, Terry (JoAnn) Steele of San Jose (all three are sons of Margaret Steele); step children: Sabrina (David) Kampfe of Avondale, AZ, Wendal (Dayle) Hesterly of Auburn; grandchildren: Sharon (Greg) Fenton of Lincoln, Ryan, Alysha, Sara, Andrew & Jonathan Steele of Pleasanton, Shaun & Kelsea Steele of San Jose; step grandchildren: Tyrone Milner Kampfe of San Jose, Coleton & Casey Kampfe of Avondale, AZ, Sharylen Hesterly of Auburn; great grandchildren: Amanda & Kelly Fenton of Lincoln. He is also survived by his mother Irma Steele of Albert Lea, MN, sister Janice (Holland) Laak of Inver Grove Heights, MN, brother Richard (Beverley) Steele of Alden, MN, sister Myrna (Harold) Paulson of Georgetown, TX; sister-in-law Pat Steele of Albert Lea, MN, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father Melvin Steele and his brother Dennis Steele.

Friends and family are invited to a visitation on Saturday, Dec. 15, 2012 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and a funeral service at 12:30 p.m. at the Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street in Pleasanton. Burial will follow at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery.

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Dec. 4

#### Theft

- 1:19 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive; fraud

#### Battery

- 12:41 p.m. in the 400 block of Main Street

### Dec. 5

#### Theft

- 8:26 a.m. in the 200 block of Rachael Place; fraud

- 9:50 a.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue; fraud

- 11:24 a.m. in the 3700 block of Gettysburg Court

- 1:18 p.m. in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; fraud

- 3:12 p.m. in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive; bicycle theft

- 6:19 p.m. in the 1200 block of Stoneridge Mall Drive, theft from structure

#### Residential burglary

- 10:22 a.m. in the 3400 block of Andrews Drive

- 11:13 a.m. in the 3400 block of Andrews Drive

#### Auto burglary

- 9:45 a.m. in the 800 block of Bonita Avenue

- 10:36 a.m. in the 500 block of Bonita Avenue

- 11:29 a.m. in the 4000 block of Page Court

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:08 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Blackbird Drive; DUI

- 10:31 p.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road; possession of a controlled substance, under the influence of a controlled substance

### Dec. 6

#### Theft

- 9:25 a.m. in the 7500 block of Maywood Drive; fraud

- 12:28 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; auto theft

- 2:25 p.m. in the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from structure

- 3:17 p.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Blvd; theft from structure

#### Drug violations

- 1:41 a.m. in the 4100 block of Peregrine Way; possession of a non-narcotic controlled substance

### Dec. 7

#### Theft

- 12:16 p.m. in the 4300 block of Rosewood Drive; auto theft

- 3:35 p.m. in the 4000 block of Nevis Drive; fraud

- 4:33 p.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; fraud

- 5:31 p.m. in the 5000 block of Hopyard Road; theft

- 6:49 p.m. in the 4400 block of Hacienda Drive; theft from structure

#### DUI

- 12:39 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Blackbird Drive

### Dec. 8

#### Vandalism

- 9:23 a.m. in the 4900 block of Pleasanton Avenue

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:15 a.m. in the 5400 block of Blackbird Drive; DUI

- 9:22 p.m. in the 7000 block of Pleasanton Avenue; hashish possession

### Dec. 9

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:54 a.m. at the intersection of Valley

Avenue and Hopyard Road; DUI

- 9:31 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; under the influence of drugs, possession of a prescription in another's name

### Dec. 10

#### Theft

- 4:37 p.m. in the first block of Mission Drive

- 6:35 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 9:28 p.m. in the 5000 block of Rigatti Circle; fraud

- 9:39 p.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road; theft from structure

#### Prowling

- 12:10 a.m. in the 2000 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Vandalism

- 10:08 a.m. at the intersection of Laurel Creek Drive and Klemetson Drive

### Dec. 11

#### Theft

- 7:15 a.m. in the 6000 block of Allbrook Circle; fraud

#### Switchblade possession

- 11:10 p.m. at the intersection of Oak Vista Way and Whispering Oaks Drive

#### Auto burglary

- 11:37 a.m. in the 4600 block of Ithica Way

#### Vandalism

- 4:59 p.m. in the 2900 block of Chardonnay Drive

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:30 a.m. in the 1500 block of Hopyard Road; possession of methamphetamine

- 5:56 p.m. in the 1200 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness

# Lasting Memories

An online directory of obituaries and remembrances of Pleasanton residents

Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries) to submit a memorial (including photos and video), search recent obituaries and write a remembrance through Pleasanton Weekly's obituary directory.

For more information call 600-0840.



## Author Visits

**'LOST DECENCY: THE UNTOLD AFGHAN STORY'** In his memoir, "Lost Decency," author Atta Afghandiwal shares his turbulent journey to escape his war-torn country. He wrote his story to increase awareness about his country's political upheaval and the innocent people caught in the chaos. He will share his story at a book-signing event at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Bernal Ave., at 7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 24. Call 931-3400 for details.

**ARTIST SIGNING: LUIS CALDERON** Meet writer and artist Luis Calderon, creator of Space Johnny, at Heroes and Villains Comics, 264 Main St., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15. This L.A.-based artist combines traditional, watercolor and digital art to create a surreal blend of fantastic creatures and settings. For details, call Jim Cravens at 399-5352 or visit [www.heroesvillainscomics.com](http://www.heroesvillainscomics.com). Free.

## Concerts

**BROADWAY STAR JERI SAGER: A VERI JERI CHRISTMAS** Broadway star of "Cats," "Evita," and "Les Miserables," Jeri Sager brings her trademark powerhouse voice and celebrated Holiday Show to the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 16. Tickets: \$18, \$23, \$28; child \$12; senior \$25. Group discounts available. Purchase online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), by phone at 931-4848, or at the Firehouse box office.

## Events

**CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM: AN INTERFAITH EVENT** The purpose of the Children of Abraham: An Interfaith Event is to promote interfaith harmony through dialogue and education and celebrate the shared heritage of the three great Abrahamic Religions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam. register at [www.eventbrite.com/event/4971700490?ref=elink#](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/4971700490?ref=elink#) 2:30-5:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 16. Free. MCC Banquet Hall, 5724 W. Las Positas Blvd, Ste. 300, Pleasanton.

**LIONS CRAB FEED** Pleasanton Lions will host its annual crab feed from 6-11 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 26, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. No-host bar opens at 6 p.m., with crab feed following at 7:30 p.m. Also casino night and dancing. Tickets \$48, including parking. For details, contact Steve Grimes at 484-3524 or [grimes3@comcast.net](mailto:grimes3@comcast.net).

**PLEASANTONIANS 4 PEACE** Pleasantonians 4 Peace is sponsoring a candlelight vigil in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main St., at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 12. The fourth Wednesday War Protest will not be held in December and will resume from 5-6 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 23, at the corner of First and Neal streets. For details, call Cathie Norman at 462-7495.

## Exhibits

**'CONFRONTATIONS: ARTISTS AND THE NATURAL WORLD'** The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center,

4444 Railroad Ave., will presents its new exhibit, "Confrontations: Artists and the Natural World," 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/](http://www.firehousearts.org/).

**ANIMAL ATTRACTIONS AT MUSEUM ON MAIN** Animal lovers of the Tri-Valley are sharing their collections with the public in Museum on Main's exhibit, Animal Attractions, through Sunday, Jan. 20. The exhibit features selected treasures from nine local collectors. Museum on Main is at 603 Main St. Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun. 1-4 p.m. No admission, but donations appreciated. Call 462-2766 or visit [curator@museumonmain.org](mailto:curator@museumonmain.org).

## Fundraisers

**CALENDAR BENEFITS OPEN HEART KITCHEN** Sue Evans Photography has created a desktop calendar

that highlights the beauty of the Tri-Valley area, and sales benefit Open Heart Kitchen. Contact Sue Evans at 989-4113 or [sueevansphotography@comcast.net](mailto:sueevansphotography@comcast.net) for more information.

**FOOD DRIVE BICYCLES!** Pleasanton Inc. is joining the ACCFB to collect canned food and money for the 2012 food drive. BICYCLES! Pleasanton is offering discounts on bikes, accessories and clothing to commensurate with cans or money brought in. Donations are accepted from Dec. 1-24 at BICYCLES! Pleasanton, 537 Main St. Call 449-7235 or visit [www.bikebp.com](http://www.bikebp.com).

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CRAB FEED** Pleasanton Knights of Columbus will host its 44th annual Crab Feed from 5-11:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 21, at St. Augustine Church Hall, 3999 Bernal Ave. The proceeds are used to benefit the church and community through the Knights of Columbus activities. Tickets are \$40. Steak tickets available for non-crab eaters. There will be a silent auction. Call 846-7181 or email [crabfeed@comcast.net](mailto:crabfeed@comcast.net).

**TOY DRIVE FOR CHILDREN FIGHTING CANCER** Downtown Pleasanton-based Wealth Management Associates is collecting new, unwrapped toys, books, games and art supplies for The Nicholas Colby Fund through Wednesday, Dec. 19 (<http://www.nicholascolbyfund.org/Home/tabid/2285/Default.aspx>). Donations can be made at the WMA offices, 400 Main St., #200, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. For details, call Erin Haubner at 462-6007.

## Health

**DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT CLASSES** This seven-week series, from 10 a.m.-noon, beginning Friday, Jan. 11, will teach you how to manage your diabetes with exercise, healthy eating (including the foods you love) and medications, and answer all your questions about living with diabetes. Held at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd, Dublin. For details, call 1-510-383-5185 or visit [www.acphd.org/diabetes.aspx](http://www.acphd.org/diabetes.aspx). Free.

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

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

# COME WORSHIP WITH US

**Quiet Christmas** Dec. 20, 7:30 pm

**Christmas Sunday** Dec. 23  
with orchestra: 9:00 & 10:30 am

**Christmas Eve** Dec. 24  
Family Service: 5:00 pm  
Candlelight Services with Choir:  
7:30, 9:00 pm



**Lynnewood United Methodist Church**  
4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton  
925 846-0221 • [www.lynnewood.org](http://www.lynnewood.org)

### Christmas Eve Service 2012

4:30pm Family Worship: A service for families with favorite carols and a children's message  
8:00pm & 10:00pm Candlelight Communion Worship: A traditional Christmas worship, with candle lighting, carols and brass

Join us every Sunday for Traditional Service at 8:30am and Family Worship and Sunday School at 10:00 am



"At Trinity Lutheran Church, we encourage people to serve each other and experience God's Love. All are welcome."

1225 Hopyard Road  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
925.846.6363  
[www.trinitypleasanton.org](http://www.trinitypleasanton.org)

Shop all you want, but you won't find the perfect Christmas gift in any store



The best Christmas gift didn't come from a store. *It came from God.*  
Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Christmas Eve, Monday December 24**  
3 p.m. Nativity service and Holy Eucharist for young children.  
5 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Christmas Pageant  
8:30 p.m. Prelude with String Quartet, Organ, and Flute  
9 p.m. Festive Choral Eucharist with the Amador Valley High School String Quartet

**Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25**  
11 a.m. Festive Choral Eucharist

**St. Clare's Episcopal Church**  
3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton  
[www.stclarespleasanton.org](http://www.stclarespleasanton.org) • 925.462.4802

To advertise here contact Karen Klein at 925-600-0840 x122 or email [kklein@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:kklein@pleasantonweekly.com)

# Holiday

**'HOLIDAY SONGS OF JOY'** Valley Concert Chorale will present "Holiday Songs of Joy" at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 15, at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore. Joining the Chorale is the Tri-Valley's Cantabella Children's Chorus. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door; high school and college students, \$10; free for children under 12. For tickets, call 866-4003 or visit [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org).

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** Join us for a pancake breakfast with Santa Claus from 8 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 15, at St. Clare's Episcopal Church & Preschool, 3350 Hopyard Rd. Bring your camera for pictures with Santa. Proceeds benefit St. Clare's Episcopal Church & Preschool. E-mail Alison Wildy at [tslorax@comcast.net](mailto:tslorax@comcast.net) for tickets. Adults/teens, \$10; Kids 3-12, \$5; 2 & under free.

**CANTABELLA CHILDREN'S CHORUS** Enjoy the music of the Tri-Valley's Cantabella Children's Chorus winter concert, "Counting the Joys of Christmas," at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 15, at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. This musical celebration features children from kindergarten through high school age. Tickets are \$8-\$20. For more information and ticket purchase, visit [Cantabella.org/tickets](http://Cantabella.org/tickets).

**CHANUKAH CELEBRATION** Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will be hosting its annual Chanukah celebration at

the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore, from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 16. There will be latkas, dreidals, Menorah lighting and fun for the whole family. Bring a potato to contribute to the latkas. Bring gift cards for local stores or new household items for the adopted family in need. For details, call Kevin Coren at 240-5612 or visit [www.tri-valleyculturaljews.org](http://www.tri-valleyculturaljews.org). Free to members/\$15 donation non-members.

**COMMUNITY HOLIDAY 'POSADA' CELEBRATION** The Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Association is sponsoring a traditional Christmas celebration "Posada" from 7-8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 16 at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. The Posada is celebrated in Mexico through music, carols and everyone's participation. This fun family event with local school students and the Pleasanton community will include desserts and refreshments. Contact Sylvia or Jorge at 462-6723 or email [jvictoria45@comcast.net](mailto:jvictoria45@comcast.net).

**MOSCOW BOYS CHOIR** The Moscow Boys Choir will be at the Bankhead Theater on its "Christmas Around the World" tour at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 22, with traditional melodies, folk songs and Christmas classics from many countries. Tickets range from \$43 to \$63; \$14 for students. Call 373-6800 or visit [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org). The theater is located at 2400 First St., Livermore.

**PUSS IN BOOTS HOLIDAY PANTO** The Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company will present "Puss In Boots" Holiday Panto at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7, 8, 14 and 15; and at 2 p.m. Dec. 8, 9, 15 and 16. This popular annual fractured fairy tale/musical comedy production will be held at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are available online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), by calling 931-4848, or at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Ave. Cost is \$10, \$15, \$18 for general admission; \$6, \$9 and \$12 for children or seniors.

**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](http://www.valleyhumane.org).

**SING-IT-YOURSELF MESSIAH** Valley Concert Chorale will host its annual "Sing-It-Yourself Messiah" where you're invited to sing Handel's choral masterpiece, at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 14, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road. Singers are encouraged to bring their own copy of "Messiah," although extra copies will be available. This event is also open to those who just wish to listen. Tickets are \$10 and available by calling 866-4003 or visiting [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org).

**SLEEP TRAIN'S TOY DRIVE FOR FOSTER KIDS** Help Sleep Train ensure every foster child has a mag-

ical holiday this year by donating new, unwrapped gifts to its annual toy drive. Individuals and businesses are encouraged to contribute age appropriate gifts such as DVDs, sporting equipment or gift cards at a Sleep Train near you, from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. (6050 Johnson Dr. Ste C) For details, call 800-378-BEDS (800-378-2337) or visit [www.sleep-train.com](http://www.sleep-train.com).

**TINGSTAD AND RUMBEL HOLIDAY SHOW** Grammy Award winners Eric Tingstad and Nancy Rumbel will be performing at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., a special holiday mix of original and cover tunes with Tex-Mex stylings, Caribbean rhythms and Americana finger-picking. Cost \$15-\$25 for adults, \$12 for children, and \$22 for seniors. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**VALLEY DANCE THEATRE'S 'THE NUTCRACKER'** Valley Dance Theatre will perform its 33rd annual classical production of "The Nutcracker," through Sunday, Dec. 16, at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. This holiday classic will be accompanied by the Livermore-Amador Symphony. Details on show times and tickets (\$18-\$34) are available at [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org), by phone at 373-6800, or at the theater's box office.

## Lectures

**AN EVENING WITH GEORGE BURNS** The 2013 Ed Kinney Series, "An Evening With..." kicks off at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 8, when Broadway actor Duffy Hudson portrays George Burns, the beloved cigar-smoking comedian whose life spanned 100 years. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, \$3 students and teachers. For tickets and more information, call the Museum on Main at 462-2766 or visit [www.museumonmain.com](http://www.museumonmain.com). The lecture series takes place at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave.

## Political Notes

**CULTURAL PLAN UPDATE STEERING COMMITTEE** Applications are being accepted for Pleasanton's Cultural Plan Update Steering Committee and are available at the City Clerk's office, 123 Main St., or can be downloaded at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us). Applications are due to by 4:40 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 27. For details, contact Michele Crose at 931-5347 or [mcrose@cityofpleasanton.gov](mailto:mcrose@cityofpleasanton.gov).

## Spiritual

**CHRISTMAS DAY AT ST. CLARE'S** Celebrate Christmas Day at 11 a.m. Dec. 25 at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Festive Choral Eucharist. All are welcome. Call 462-4802 or visit [www.stclare-spleasanton.org](http://www.stclare-spleasanton.org).

**CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST. CLARE'S** Celebrate Christmas Eve at 3 p.m. Dec. 24 at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road. Nativity Service & Holy Eucharist for young children. 5 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Christmas Pageant.

# TAKE US ALONG



**Birds and the Weekly:** Arvind and Meera Swamynathan stand with their Weekly at the entrance to the Jurong Bird Park in Singapore last December.

8:30 p.m. Prelude with String Quartet, Organ and Flute. 9 p.m. Festive Choral Eucharist with Amador Valley HS String Quartet. All are welcome. Call 462-4802 or visit [www.stclarespleasanton.org](http://www.stclarespleasanton.org).

## Support Groups

**BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** The American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Support group meets from 7:30-9 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at LifeStyleRx, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Call 833-2784 or visit [www.valleycare.com](http://www.valleycare.com). 7:30-9 p.m. Free

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** Caring for a loved one is challenging physically and emotionally. Join this support group to explore resources and generate problem solving ideas from 1-3 p.m., on the second Monday of every month at 5353 Sunol Blvd. Get the support you deserve at the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. Call 931-5389.

**CLUTTERLESS SELF HELP GROUP** Overwhelmed by clutter? Learn how to deal with it by attending this support group, which meets from 7-8:30 p.m. every Monday at St. Mary & St. John Coptic Orthodox Church, 4300 Mirador Dr., Rm. 7. Call 200-1943 or visit [www.clutterless.org](http://www.clutterless.org).

**EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR SUPPORT GROUP** If you would like to learn more about this common movement disorder in a safe and supportive environment, please join us from 10 a.m.-noon on the third Saturday of each month, in the Blackhawk A and B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Rd. For more information, view their blog at [www.eastbayet.com](http://www.eastbayet.com) or call 487-5706 or email [eastbayet@comcast.net](mailto:eastbayet@comcast.net).

**GRIEF WORKSHOP** The grief workshop is at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, from Dec. 13-March 24, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., open to all, regardless of religious affiliation.

For more information, call Mary Hagerty at 846-5377.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI)** NAMI Tri-Valley Parent Resource and Support Group meets twice a month for parents with children to age 17 diagnosed or suspected of having bipolar or other mood disorders. It meets from 7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month at Pathways To Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 114, Pleasanton. The group is drop-in, no registration required and is free. Contact Suzi Glorioso at 443-1797 or email [glorios4@comcast.net](mailto:glorios4@comcast.net).

**PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES SUPPORT GROUP** 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](http://www.pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org).

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

## Volunteering

**BECOME A LITERACY TUTOR** Pleasanton Library's Project Read (400 Old Bernal Ave.) needs volunteer tutors to help adults with English skills. Project Read supplies the workbooks and study guides; you supply the energy and creativity. Tutors should be 18 years or older, fluent in English but necessarily a native speaker, and be able to devote one to two hours each week to a student for a semester. For more information, contact Penny at [PennyJohnson@CityofPleasantonCa.gov](mailto:PennyJohnson@CityofPleasantonCa.gov) or call 931-3405.

**True Value**  
START RIGHT. START HERE.

3pk 28" Lighted Candy Canes \$5.99 (reg retail 12.99)  
sku = 126071, Limit 2. While supplies last. Exp. 12/21/12

**PROPANE TANK EXCHANGE**  
\$19.99 (Some Restrictions Apply)

**Ask Us About:**  
Rescreening Or New Window Screens, Sharpening Knives, Scissors, Chainsaws, Mower Blades and Many Garden Tools.

**WORKBENCH**  
TRUE VALUE HARDWARE  
1807 Santa Rita Rd, Pleasanton  
Phone (925) 846-0660  
[www.truevalue.com/pleasanton](http://www.truevalue.com/pleasanton)

## Double Road Race holding U.S. debut in Pleasanton

Dec. 23 event to include Kids Christmas One-Mile Race

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

A new race is coming to America on Sunday, Dec. 23, and organizers have picked Pleasanton for the debut. The running competition is the Double Road Race, called the Double for short.

The race has two legs, an opening 10K leg, followed by a 5K leg, with a short break in between. Winners are decided on their best aggregate time.

The Double is the brainchild of Bob Anderson, founder and former publisher of Runner's World magazine, and an avid runner for 50 years.

"It's not two races in one day," said Anderson. "It's one race with two legs. This is the only running event with a halftime."

Seven Doubles have been held thus far, all in Mexico, where Anderson's company, Ujena Swimwear, does promotional events.

Asked why Pleasanton was selected for the inaugural Double in the U.S., Anderson said, "Pleasanton is a community that is very partial to sporting events, and it was very supportive of us holding the event there. Besides, the roads are wide, smooth and flat, and we wanted a fast course. The courses for both the 10K and 5K are fast and flat."

The Pleasanton Double will start and finish at Hart Middle School, 4433 Willow Road. The morning of competitions will include the Christmas 5K Run/Walk — to be held in conjunction with the 5K leg of the Double — and the Kids Christmas One-Mile Run.

After completing the 10K leg, Double runners will go to an area tagged the Recovery Zone for hydration, nutrition and physical support, such as massage, to help them recover and prepare for the second leg. The Recovery Zone will be set up indoors in case of bad weather.

By regulation, the 5K of the Double starts 105 minutes after the start of the 10K.

The Double is being billed as a Christmas family event and world-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The Double Road Race has been held seven times in Mexico, smaller events than the one next weekend in Pleasanton, and several world records were set June 16 in Puerto Vallarta. The Doubles is the brainchild of Bob Anderson, below.

class athletic competition rolled into one. As of Tuesday, 906 had registered, ranging from parents and their children, for the Kids Christmas One-Mile Run, to elite runners. The race is limited to 1,200 runners. The Doubles in Mexico were smaller events with fewer participants.

Special two sided medals will be given to the top five in each age group; \$4,200 in prize money will be awarded plus the Double Road Race Federation is offering an additional \$1,000 for world record performances.

The men's world record at this time is 49:15 (33:41 for the 10K and 15:34 for the 5K), and the women's world record is 55:02 (36:45 10K and 18:17 5K). Both were set June 16 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, in hot and humid weather so organizers say they expect "a wholesale revision of the existing records."

Sign up at [www.doubleroadrace.com](http://www.doubleroadrace.com). Entry fee by Dec. 22 is \$30 for Christmas 5K; \$15 for Kids One Mile; and \$45 for the Double. Same day entry is \$40, \$20 and \$60.

The Pleasanton Double will also serve as the conclusion of a movie, "A Long Run," documenting Bob

### Double Road Race Schedule of Events

- 7:45 a.m. Dec. 23  
Start of the Double 10K
- 9:30 a.m.  
Start of the Double 5K and the Christmas 5K, which will be run together
- 11 a.m.  
Start of the Kids Christmas One-Mile Race (10 and under)
- 11:30 a.m.  
Awards Ceremony

Anderson's year-long campaign to complete 50 races in one year in celebration of his 50 years of running. Anderson, 64, is covering a total of 350 miles, at an average speed of seven minutes per mile.

The 10K and 5K legs of the Double will count as his 49th and 50th races of the year. The question is: Will the man who founded Runner's World at age 17 because of his love of running ultimately achieve his goal of averaging under seven minutes a mile when his 50-race series comes to an end at Pleasanton?

"We will be filming in Pleasanton — and the Double and many of its participants will be part of our film," said Director Michael Anderson. The film is scheduled for release in 2013. ■



## PREP LINE-UP

Dec. 14

- Boys Basketball: TBD, Amador @ Dougherty Tournament, away
- Girls Basketball: 7 p.m., Foothill vs. Castro Valley, away

Dec. 15

- Boys Basketball: TBD, Amador @ Dougherty Tournament, away
- Boys Soccer: 5 p.m., Foothill vs. Pittsburg, away
- Wrestling: 9 a.m., Foothill @ Bill Martell Invitational Tournament, at Northgate HS

America's Largest Awards Supplier

## CROWN TROPHY

**CAROL, JERRY, AND JEREMY ROSENBLATT**

Phone: 925.249.1133 Fax: 925.249.1131  
Oak Hills Shopping Center 5424-3 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton  
Catalog On-Line: [Crowntrophy.com](http://Crowntrophy.com)  
E-mail: [crownpleasanton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crownpleasanton@sbcglobal.net)

**TROPHIES  
AWARDS  
PINS  
CORPORATE AWARDS  
GLASS AND CRYSTAL  
MEDALLIONS  
PLAQUES  
RIBBONS  
APPAREL  
PROMOTIONAL ITEMS**

Our local news comes at a (very low) price.

To begin your membership, call us at 600-0840 or go to [SupportLocalJournalism.org/Pleasanton](http://SupportLocalJournalism.org/Pleasanton) and sign up online.

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM

Pleasanton Weekly  
Print and Online

Pleasanton Weekly  
express  
Today's top stories & hot picks



5506 Sunol Boulevard, Suite 100, Pleasanton (925) 600-0840

A BIG IDEA just got better.



AS INTEREST CONTINUES TO GROW, new homes — and additional floor plans — are now available at Stoneridge Creek, the new retirement community under construction in Pleasanton. It's easy to see why so many have already secured their future at California's latest *Continuing Life*® community. Live without the worries and hassles of landscaping, home maintenance and housekeeping. Instead, enjoy convenient amenities such as restaurant dining, a state-of-the-art fitness center, open-air pool, performing arts theatre, plus walking and cycling trails. Choose from more than 20 floor plans, including spacious single-story homes — all with access to long-term care, which is included, if ever needed.

Attend an upcoming event in your area to learn more. To RSVP, call 1-800-924-6430 today, or visit [StoneridgeCreek.com](http://StoneridgeCreek.com).

STONERIDGE CREEK PLEASANTON  
A CONTINUING LIFE® RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

5698 Stoneridge Dr. ~ Pleasanton ~ [StoneridgeCreek.com](http://StoneridgeCreek.com)  
1-800-924-6430



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

PLACE AN AD IN FOGSTER ONLINE - fogster.com E-MAIL - ads@fogster.com PHONE - (925) 600-0840

## PLACE AN AD

- ONLINE  
fogster.com
- E-MAIL  
ads@fogster.com
- PHONE  
(925) 600-0840

Fogster.com is a unique Web site offering postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Pleasanton Weekly.

Now you can log on to fogster.com, day or night and get your ad started immediately online.

So, the next time you have an item to sell, barter, give away or buy, get the perfect combination: print ads in your local newspapers, reaching more than 35,000 readers, and unlimited Web postings reaching hundreds of thousands additional people!

## INDEX

- BULLETIN BOARD  
100-155
- FOR SALE  
200-270
- KIDS STUFF  
330-355
- JOBS  
510-585
- BUSINESS SERVICES  
600-690
- HOME SERVICES  
700-799
- FOR RENT/  
FOR SALE  
REAL ESTATE  
801-860
- PUBLIC/  
LEGAL NOTICES  
995-997

The publisher waives any and all claims or consequential damages due to errors. Embarcadero Publishing Co. cannot assume responsibility for the claims or performance of its advertisers. Embarcadero Publishing Co. reserves the right to refuse, edit or reclassify any ad solely at its discretion without prior notice.



## 115 Announcements

### Did You Know

that ten million adults tweeted in the past month, while 164 million read a newspaper in print or online in the past week? Advertise in 240 California newspapers for one low cost. Your 25 word classified ad will reach over 6 million+ Californians. For brochure call Elizabeth (916)288-6019. (Cal-SCAN)

### HAVE A \$1000 IDEA

TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE IN AMERICA? SUBMIT IT TODAY AT <http://www.thepopleschoice.org> TO WIN CASH+TRIP TO KICKOFF. REGENSTRIEF INSTITUTE WILL CONDUCT STUDY ON WINNING IDEA.

### REACH 5 MILLION

hip, forward-thinking consumers across the U.S. When you advertise in alternative newspapers, you become part of the local scene and gain access to an audience you won't reach anywhere else. <http://www.altweeklies.com/ads>



New Years Eve San Ramon Marriott  
Call 800-838-3006 [www.PGuild.com](http://www.PGuild.com)

## 130 Classes & Instruction

**ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE**  
From Home. \*Medical, \*Business, \*Criminal Justice, \*Hospitality. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV authorized. Call 800-481-9472 [www.CenturaOnline.com](http://www.CenturaOnline.com) (AAN CAN) Class: Career Training/ Misc.

**Aviation Maintenance Tech**  
Airline careers begin here! FAA approved training. Financial assistance available. Job placement assistance. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance 888-242-3382. (Cal-SCAN)

**Medical Billing Trainees**  
Needed! Train to become a Medical Office Assistant! No experience needed Online training gets you Job ready ASAP! HS Diploma/GED and PC/Internet needed! 1-888-407-7063. (Cal-SCAN)

## 140 Lost & Found

### LOST CAT (reward!)

Hello! Our beloved 2 year old Tabby cat disappeared near Ovella Way in Ruby Hill on Dec. 3 around noon. She is an indoor/outdoor cat and usually returns home before dark. She is about 8 lbs and has a pink collar with a black bow (though she could have lost it by now). She is also microchipped. We are offering \$200 for her, no questions asked. If you find her, please contact us at 925.487.6656 or 925.487.9199. We miss her dearly and are worried sick!!!



## 202 Vehicles Wanted

### CASH FOR CARS

Any Car/Truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 [www.cash4car.com](http://www.cash4car.com) (AAN CAN)

**Donate Your Car, Truck, Boat**  
to Heritage for the Blind. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. 888-902-6851. (Cal-SCAN)

## 210 Garage/Estate Sales

**Pleasanton, Moving Sale**  
9339 Benzon Dr, Dec 15  
12:00-3:30 MOVING. Dining room, bedroom, sofa sleeper, recliners, tables, couches, art, desk, piano, etc.

## 245 Miscellaneous

**AT&T U-verse**  
for just \$29/mo! Bundle and Save with AT&T Internet+Phone+TV and get a FREE pre-paid Visa Card! (select plans). HURRY, CALL NOW! 800-319-3280. (Cal-SCAN) (Cal-SCAN)

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

**STEEL BUILDINGS**  
6 only 20x20, 25x30, 30x38, 40x54, 45x74, 60x140 Must Move Now! Selling for Balance Owed! Still Crated/Free Delivery! 1-800-211-9593x30



## 425 Health Services

**Medical Alert for Seniors**  
24/7 monitoring. Free equipment. Free shipping. Nationwide service. \$29.95/Month CALL Medical Guardian Today 866-944-5935. (Cal-SCAN)

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



## 500 Help Wanted

**Office Manager**  
Ballistic United Soccer Club. Register players, coordinate club activities, manage AGCs. Visit [www.busc.org](http://www.busc.org).

**Part time after school help for kids needed!**  
Needed a part time caregiver to help with kids after school Monday - Friday 4 - 7 pm in Pleasanton. Assist in taking them to activities and some homework.

**Payroll Specialist(CPS) Needed**  
We are Payroll Specialist(CPS). We work for few companies on their payroll tasks. We need trust worthy people as our data entry/typist Assistant who want to work on flexible hours on part time. Be sure to earn up to \$10,000 monthly salary for a start Serious inquiries only. Email: [dovertech99@gmail.com](mailto:dovertech99@gmail.com).

**550 Business Opportunities**  
Start Now!  
Open Red Hot Dollar, Dollar Plus, Mailbox, Discount Party, \$10 Clothing Store, Teen Store, Fitness Center from \$51,900 Worldwide! [www.DRSS25.com](http://www.DRSS25.com) 1-800-518-3064. (Cal-SCAN)

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

**AIRLINE CAREERS**  
Become an Aviation Maintenance Tech. FAA approved training. Financial aid if qualified. Housing available. Job placement assistance. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-492-3059 (AAN CAN)

**Driver: Quarterly Bonus**  
Driver - \$0.03 enhanced quarterly bonus. Get paid for any portion you qualify for: safety, production, MPG. CDL-A, 3 months current OTR exp. 1-800-414-9569. [www.driveknight.com](http://www.driveknight.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Drivers: Apply Now**  
12 Drivers Needed, Top 5% Pay & Late Model Equip. Guaranteed Home for Xmas. Need CDL Class A Driving Exp. 877-258-8782 [www.ad-drivers.com](http://www.ad-drivers.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Drivers: Class A CDL**  
Driver Training. \$0 Training Cost with employment commitment if you enroll in the month of December! Central Refrigerated (877) 369-7126. [www.CentralTruckDrivingJobs.com](http://www.CentralTruckDrivingJobs.com) (Cal-SCAN)

**Drivers: Hiring OTR**  
Class A CDL drivers, late model equipment, scheduled home time, no east coast. Insurance available. Excellent miles. Call Chuck to qualify at 800-645-3748. (Cal-SCAN)

**HELP WANTED!!!**  
MAKE \$1000 A WEEK mailing brochures from home! FREE Supplies! Helping Home Workers since 2001! Genuine Opportunity! No Experience required. Start Immediately! [www.mailng-usa.com](http://www.mailng-usa.com) (AAN CAN)

**Medical**  
Medical Vacancies. Spanish Peaks Behavioral Health Centers in Pueblo, Colorado is seeking RNs, Nurse Supervisors, and Directors. Requirements, salary information and applications available at [www.spanish-peaks.org](http://www.spanish-peaks.org) (Cal-SCAN)



## 605 Antiques & Art Restoration

**ANTIQUE RESTORATION**  
"A Labor of Love"  
Impeccable Quality  
Integrity of Workmanship  
Consider the Gift of Restoration  
Gift Certificates Available  
Credit Cards Accepted  
925-462-0383 or 925-216-7976  
All inclusive License #042392

## 624 Financial

**Credit Card Debt?**  
Get free of credit card debt now! Cut payments by up to half. Stop creditors from calling. 888-416-2691. (Cal-SCAN)

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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

**A 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](http://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.



## 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)

## 850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

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

TO RESPOND TO  
ADS WITHOUT  
PHONE NUMBERS  
GO TO  
FOGSTER.COM

## PET OF THE WEEK

### Meet little Elf

Elf, a 3-year-old, tan and white, Chihuahua/terrier cross, is a quick and clever little guy. He enjoys practicing his moves on agility courses and he can fly through the air with the greatest of ease. He loves to be home with human companions and can be quite the snuggler. Elf is one of the East Bay SPCA's "Home for the Holidays" animals, so his adoption fee is waived. Meet Elf at the Dublin Adoption Center, 4651 Gleason St. in Dublin. Learn more about the holiday promotion and see other available animals at [www.eastbayspca.org](http://www.eastbayspca.org) or call 479-9670.



## 997 All Other Legals

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Robert Decker aka Robert W. Decker, Robert Walter Decker**  
Case No.: # RP12655600  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Robert Decker, also known as Robert W. Decker. aka Robert Walter Decker.  
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Janice E. Decker in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that: Janice E. Decker be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on January 2, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in Dept. #201, Probate Division of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA, 94704. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: /s/ Alexandra Gadzo, 2600 El Camino Real, Suite 412, Palo Alto, CA 94306 (650)321-3050 Pleasanton Weekly Dec. 7, 14, and 21, 2012

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during November 2012

### Livermore

- 5416 Arlene Way** Harvey Trust to D. Manning for \$575,000
- 5618 Bridgeport Circle** Para Firma Investment Group to G. & R. Aguirre for \$405,000
- 4101 Bristlecone Way** D. Pandher to J. & L. Kurtzer for \$277,000
- 2252 Broadmoor Street** S. & S. Blaney to A. Murphy for \$405,000
- 2067 Buckskin Road** L. Griffith to A. & T. Sachs for \$400,000
- 620 Caliente Avenue** Beha Trust to M. & C. Baird for \$415,000
- 308 Cambridge Way** C. Quinonez to J. & C. Dershem for \$368,500
- 4030 Camrose Avenue** Salas Trust to E. Tao for \$665,000
- 3034 Danielle Lane** M. Riedy to Musumeche Trust for \$1,235,000
- 459 Dover Way** L. Mottin to M. & J. Audiss for \$421,000
- 351 El Caminito** J. & A. Frazier to Newport Murrieta Land Company for \$395,500
- 902 El Rancho Drive** Lindahl Trust to W. Kowalsky for \$350,000
- 168 Gillette Place #106** Signature at Station Square to R. Pala for \$368,500
- 864 Havasu Court** M. Jagannath to B. Hackwell for \$315,000
- 4724 Kimberley Common** US Bank to L. Tang for \$410,000
- 1548 Klondike Place** A. & B. Hartrum to N. & J. Wolfe for \$880,000
- 1286 Lambaren Avenue** Federal Home Loan Mortgage to Hello Housing for \$217,000
- 1072 Larkspur Drive** J. Schlick to R. & K. Nielsen for \$452,500
- 3728 Madeira Way** A. Sidhu to D. & S. Persin for \$380,000
- 1332 Marigold Road** A. Zwain to T. Ratto for \$275,000
- 5482 Martingale Court** R. & R. Castillo to P. & J. Postolaki for \$540,000
- 16975 Mines Road** S. & D. Pelovsky to L. & S. Widger for \$210,000
- 907 Miranda Way** Chang Rong Limited to B. & D. Pasut for \$500,000
- 1087 Murrieta Boulevard #248** B. & H. Cetin to J. Wang for \$101,000
- 1085 Murrieta Boulevard** DADB Inc. to C. Waller for \$158,000
- 170 North N Street #114** Signature at Station Square to J. Carpenter for \$297,000
- 915 Old Oak Road** J. Barnes to N. Rios for \$725,000
- 444 Olivina Avenue** M. Blum to T. & K. Hoffmann for \$290,000
- 6332 Owl Way** Ocampo Trust to T. Vargas for \$578,000
- 4829 Primrose Lane** Halseide Trust to S. Vincent for \$355,000
- 565 Rachelle Street** G. Stickney to C. Kunzman for \$485,000
- 6410 Scenic Avenue** Meritage Homes to S. Siddiqui for \$700,000
- 3905 Silver Oaks Way** K. Jenkins to W. Taylor for \$370,000
- 655 Sonoma Avenue** S. Williams to J. Gerling for \$465,000
- 6167 St. Andrews Way** F. Omar to M. Tarin for \$300,000
- 10 Terra Way** Barry Trust to S. & N. Deshmukh for \$835,000
- 6546 Tiffany Common** Grayson Trust to Seabrook-Lenz Trust for \$440,000
- 476 Tyler Avenue** H. & C. Dalhed to K. Johnson for \$498,000

### Pleasanton

- 3608 Annis Circle** Jesusa Trust to A. & C. Delapena for \$625,000

- 2122 Arroyo Court #3** L. Dourneau to P. Tong for \$200,000
- 8059 Arroyo Drive #2** D. & J. Chimpky to R. Lin for \$277,000
- 5758 Athenour Court** Wells Fargo Bank to R. Konda for \$755,000
- 5660 Belleza Drive** D. & F. Wong to A. & L. Stacks for \$434,000
- 8143 Canyon Creek Circle** B. & K. Wilson to J. Han for \$580,000
- 7635 Canyon Meadow Circle #D** Marifat Family Limited to H. Wang for \$286,000
- 6221 Detjen Court** G. Poirier to A. & C. Reid for \$1,510,000
- 4112 Georgis Place** N. Patel-Venketsamy to S. Nair for \$510,000
- 5919 Hansen Drive** R. Greenlee to R. & B. Burk for \$686,000
- 3722 Hawaii Court #N** K. & B. McKeever to N. Chen for \$565,000
- 2766 Longspur Way** P. & L. Harbottle to A. & M. Solofnenko for \$784,500
- 3419 Norton Way #17** R. Wang to K. Lai for \$222,500
- 5135 Oakdale Court** Harrington Trust to B. Garcia for \$425,000
- 1156 Piemonte Drive** Strain Trust to M. & M. Shaghasi for \$1,540,000
- 434 Rose Avenue** Dbalt Trust to Sanctify Inc. for \$250,000
- 5584 San Jose Drive** Davis Trust to C. Wang for \$785,000
- 7553 Trotter Way** W. Tanner to J. & K. Kail for \$750,000

### San Ramon

- 212 Arden Court** B. & R. Turner to H. Krishnappa for \$735,000
- 113 Arianna Lane** M. Bloom to A. & J. Ferreira for \$448,500
- 1155 Arrowfield Way** T. Ta to A. Thillavillagam for \$680,000
- 109 Barberry Lane** S. & P. MacK to Motavalli Trust for \$882,500
- 3024 Bernard Avenue** Louie Trust to S. & L. Yenamareddy for \$610,000
- 13 Burns Court** Moyer Trust to J. Casey for \$835,000
- 165 Canyon Lakes Way** J. & T. Dick to A. & R. Cort for \$835,000
- 1336 Canyon Side Avenue** C. & J. Ramnitz to Marguglio Trust for \$630,000
- 92 Coyote Place** Billiet Trust to J. Ericson for \$675,000
- 502 Deer Terrace Court** A. & E. Sciaky to D. & K. Roth for \$700,000
- 5062 Fioli Loop** M. & M. Wu to J. Yang for \$550,000
- 1027 Hoskins Lane** Smith Trust to M. & B. Patel for \$794,000
- 7516 Interlachen Avenue** D. Garcia to L. Tran for \$576,000
- 2480 Millstream Lane** G. & J. Prasad to S. Thiruvengkatachari for \$499,000
- 255 Reflections Drive #11** California Housing Finance to A. & S. Yuan for \$170,000
- 135 Reflections Drive #23** J. & H. Aguilar to K. & K. Davis for \$201,000
- 124 Shadowhill Circle** K. & R. Rosicker to M. Soni for \$515,000
- 5416 Sherwood Way** M. Mickalko to R. Hu for \$981,000
- 2813 Sombrero Circle** DSW Family Partnership to L. Nawabi for \$585,000
- 7676 Stoneleaf Road** Fabregas Trust to Legris Trust for \$595,000
- 12232 Toluca Drive** W. Dawson to J. & T. White for \$830,000
- 350 Winterwind Circle** BPJ Investments to A. & I. Dzerushau for \$580,000

### Sunol

- 12000 Glenora Way** Nelson Trust to P. Avanzino for \$680,000

Source: California REsource

## Mortgage applications up 4.5%

Refinance share of mortgage activity climbs to 83% of total

By JEB BING

Mortgage applications increased 4.5% from one week earlier, according to data from the Mortgage Bankers Association's (MBA) Weekly Mortgage Applications Survey for the week ending Nov. 30.

The refinance share of mortgage activity increased to 83% of total applications from 81% the previous week. The HARP share of refinance applications increased to 27% from 26% although the adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM) share of activity decreased to 3% of total applications.

The average contract interest rate for 30-year fixed-rate mortgages with conforming loan balances (\$417,500 or less) decreased to 3.52%, matching the lowest rate in the history of the survey, from 3.53%, with points increasing to 0.41 from 0.40 (including the origination fee) for 80% loan-to-value ratio (LTV) loans.

The average contract interest rate for 30-year fixed-rate mortgages with jumbo loan balances (greater than \$417,500) increased to 3.79% from 3.75%, with points

increasing to 0.32 from 0.31 (including the origination fee) for 80% LTV loans.

The average contract interest rate for 30-year fixed-rate mortgages backed by the FHA decreased to 3.34%, matching the lowest rate in the history of the survey, from 3.36%, with points decreasing to 0.62 from 0.65 (including the origination fee) for 80% LTV loans.

The average contract interest rate for 15-year fixed-rate mortgages decreased to 2.86%, the lowest rate in the history of the survey, from 2.89%, with points decreasing to 0.27 from 0.35 (including the origination fee) for 80% LTV loans.

The average contract interest rate for 5/1 ARMs increased to 2.62% from 2.60%, with points increasing to 0.40 from 0.37 (including the origination fee) for 80% LTV loans.

The survey covers over 75% of all U.S. retail residential mortgage applications and has been conducted weekly since 1990. Respondents include mortgage bankers, commercial banks and thrifts. ■

### Are you buying or selling a home?

Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) and click on the **Real Estate** link for sales information, current listings, open homes and virtual tours.

## 641 Varese Court, Pleasanton



- 5 Bedrooms, 4 Baths
- Approx. 4,027 Sq. Ft.
- Lot Approx. 21,769 Sq. Ft.

- Built in 1995
- 3 Car Garage
- Den/Office

- Possible Au Pair Set Up
- Stunning Floor Plan
- Lush Landscaping

### Priced at: \$1,475,000

This magnificent single level home has been updated with custom interior paint, new brushed nickel faucets, knobs & finishes throughout. The upgraded kitchen is perfect for the avid cook with granite counters, 2 dishwashers, and a gas cook top. There is plenty of room for all of your entertaining needs with a family room, formal living & dining room, den/office and a butlers pantry. The 5th bedroom could easily be an in-law or au pair set-up with its own entrance. With the lot just under 1/2 of an acre, the lush manicured gardens contain over 40 rose bushes & trees and many perennials. There is a great entertaining area with a built in double BBQ. Other features include updated laundry room, bathrooms & alarm system.



**RE/MAX ACCORD**

### John Rocha

5950 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton  
phone: 925.484.0700

email: [offers@johnrocha.com](mailto:offers@johnrocha.com)

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

DRE# 01002225



Coming Soon



**387 Ewing Drive, Pleasanton \$895,000**

This gorgeous home offers 4 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms with 2,859 SF on 7,100 SF lot. It is located close to downtown, and just around the corner from Valley View Elementary. Remodeled kitchen has granite countertops, cherry cabinets, and stainless steel appliances. Glowing hardwood floors throughout, a large master suite and an enormous downstairs bonus room that would make a great playroom, man cave, workout room, office...let your imagination soar! Call Sylvia for information! 925.413.1912



**Sylvia Desin**  
Direct: 925.621.4070  
Cell: 925.413.1912  
sdesin@apr.com  
DRE# 01280640



apr.com | PLEASANTON 900 Main Street 925.251.1111



**SALES AT A GLANCE**

**Dublin**

Total sales reported: 36  
Lowest sale reported: \$200,000  
Highest sale reported: \$1,285,000  
Average sales reported: \$593,542

**Livermore**

Total sales reported: 38  
Lowest sale reported: \$101,000  
Highest sale reported: \$1,235,000  
Average sales reported: \$448,868

**Pleasanton**

Total sales reported: 18  
Lowest sale reported: \$200,000

Highest sale reported: \$1,540,000  
Average sales reported: \$621,389

**San Ramon**

Total sales reported: 22  
Lowest sale reported: \$170,000  
Highest sale reported: \$981,000  
Average sales reported: \$632,136

**Sunol**

Total sales reported: 1  
Lowest sale reported: \$680,000  
Highest sale reported: \$680,000  
Average sales reported: \$680,000

Source: California REsource

**OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND**

**Blackhawk**

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**3108 Fox Creek Dr \$1,249,900**  
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc. 648-5400

**Danville**

**3 BEDROOMS**  
**404 Old Orchard Ct \$448,500**  
Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111  
**897 La Gonda Way \$949,000**  
Sun 1:30-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc 855-4000

**7 BEDROOMS**

**567 Blackhawk Club Dr \$2,950,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333

**Livermore**

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**5872 Welch Ln \$739,900**  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 667-2100

**5354 Theresa Way \$485,000**  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 667-2100

**Pleasanton**

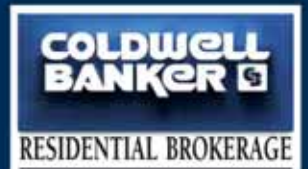
**4 BEDROOMS**  
**4644 Cope Court \$789,000**  
Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 895-9950

**San Ramon**

**4 BEDROOMS**  
**6192 Kearny Way \$969,000**  
Sat 12-4/Sun 2-5 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

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

**Coldwell Banker** #1 IN CALIFORNIA



**DISCOVERY BAY**  
**2205 PRESTWICK DR**  
**DISCOVERY BAY COUNTRY CLUB! \$379,900**  
3 BR 2.5 BA Spacious Home located in gated community. In-ground pool. Backs to golf course. Great Views. 925.487.2200



**FREMONT**  
**25 JAPALA CT**  
**GREAT COURT LOCATION! \$699,950**  
4 BR 2 BA Living Rm w/high ceilings. Fireplace. Dual pane windows. Landscaped backyard w/swimming pool. 925.487.2956



**LIVERMORE**  
**1864 GALAXY COURT**  
**COMING SOON! CALL FOR PRICING**  
3 BR 2 BA Corner Lot! RV/Boat Access. Updated Kitchen & Baths. Huge backyard w/pool. 3 car garage. 510.599.2024



**LIVERMORE**  
**1233 ASTER LANE**  
**COMING SOON! CALL FOR PRICING**  
3 BR 2 BA Completely remodeled! Open floor plan. Great for entraining. Lots of Natural Light. Backs to Golf Course. 925.200.3600

**CASTRO VALLEY**

**20893 NUNES AVE**  
**CHARMING RANCHER! CALL FOR PRICING**  
Hardwood Flrs. Fresh Interior Paint. Large Living Rm & Family Rm. Laundry Rm. Private Backyard. 925.847.2200

**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

**OAKLAND**  
**4329 EVANS AVE**  
**WONDERFUL HOME IN GLENVIEW! \$661,500**  
4 BR 2.5 BA Major Upgrades: dual pane windows, crown molding, hrdwd flrs, granite countertops & more! 925.847.2200



Give a Toy,  
Spread the Joy

Coldwell Banker is partnering with Toys for Tots to help make the holiday season memorable for children in our community.

Our office is accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys now until **December 14.**

To make a donation, contact one of our local offices today.



SHARE THE WARMTH  
AND SPREAD THE LOVE  
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Coldwell Banker is partnering with One Warm Coat to provide warm coats to those in need in our community.

Our office is accepting donations of new or gently used coats now until **December 14.**

To find out more, contact one of our local offices today.

©2012 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office Is Owned And Operated by NRT LLC. DRE License #01908304

**PLEASANTON**

925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste. 122

**CaliforniaMoves.com**



**TIFFANY**  
*Merie-Rose*  
Let Your Dreams Bloom

**ALAIN PINEL**  
REALTORS  
tiffany@apr.com  
925.200.4723  
DRE# 01317868

www.TiffanyMerieRose.com



Just Sold

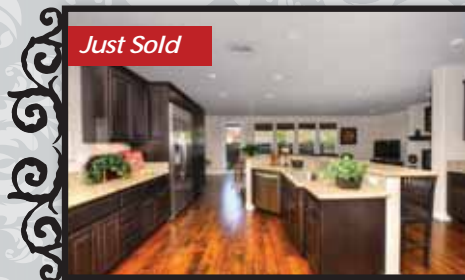
— \$1,375,000 —  
2431 Pomino Way, Pleasanton



Just Sold

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

IF YOU CAN'T **Solve a**  
**PROBLEM**  
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE  
**PLAYING**  
BY THE **Rules**  
PAUL ARDEN



Just Sold

— \$1,060,000 —  
305 Kami Court, San Ramon

"I hired Tiffany to sell 30 custom homes sites at Mariposa Ranch in Pleasanton. Tiffany was recruited to take the job over and luckily she turned things around. She went above and beyond my expectations. I fully recommend Tiffany to professionally and responsibly work hard for her clients, with excellent results."

Manny Del Arroz, Diablo

Pleasanton | 900 Main Street



**BLAISE**  
**LOFLAND**

**ALAIN PINEL**  
REALTORS

925.846.6500  
www.blaiselofland.com  
Blofland@BlaiseLofland.com  
DRE# 00882113  
apr.com

CUSTOM HOME



PENDING

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

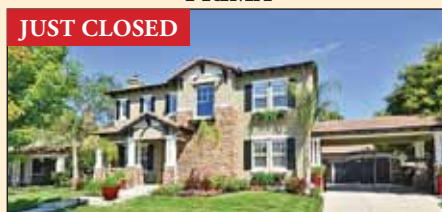


SOLD

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



JUST CLOSED

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 entertainers 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



3 YEARS IN A ROW!



KELLER WILLIAMS  
TRI-VALLEY REALTY

#1 OFFICE  
IN PLEASANTON  
IN VOLUME  
AND SALES

**Melissa Pederson**  
REALTOR® DRE # 01002251  
925.397.4326  
www.melissapederson.com

**1817 Spumante Place, Pleasanton**  
Amazing custom home in Ruby Hill! Exquisite French Country estate w/5 BD, 4.5 BA, 6,374 sq ft. Gourmet kitchen w/ granite counters, maple cabinets & hickory floors. One of a kind 27,170 sq ft view lot w/black bottom pool, rock waterfall and spa. **Offered at \$2,600,000**

**Want to sell?**  
Great time to sell inventory is low, multiple offers.  
**Call me today!**

**Danielle Peel**  
925.998.9692  
DRE #01293873  
salesbydani@gmail.com  
www.DaniellePeel.com

**I go the "extra" mile for you**

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

**7123 Cedar Mountain Dr South Livermore Wine Country Living** — the Vineyard Life You've always Dreamed of! Built in 2010, the property boasts +/-8,400sf of living space, 4 bedrooms/5.5 bathrooms, 9 car garage, located in a gated community at the end of a cul-de-sac with endless vineyard views. Total acreage of 16.84 acres includes 14+ acres of planted Chardonnay grapes. **\$3,899,000**

**Coming Soon**

**4239 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton**  
4 bed/3.5 bath, 3,100 sq. ft. Custom Tudor home in the heart of downtown. Updates and decorator touches throughout. High ceilings, custom lighting, and spacious kitchen with SS appliances and granite counters. Private backyard features built-in BBQ, pergola and two covered porches. Gorgeous curb appeal. Coming January 2013.

**FABULOUS PROPERTIES**  
www.FabulousProperties.net CA Lic #s 01735040, 01713497

**Donna Garrison, REALTOR®** 925-980-0273  
**Susan Schall, REALTOR®** 925-519-8226

**We Make Dreams Come True!**

*Merry Christmas from Mike, Santa and Jill!*

**Mike Chandler**  
DRE#01039712  
925-426-3858  
MikeChandler.kwrealty.com

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

**PENDING!**

**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 \$1,500,000**

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

**OFFER ACCEPTED = HAPPY FAMILY**  
"We have met several realtors and you are truly the first one that we felt comfortable with. You have always had our best interests at heart. We knew we could trust you 100%. Marc and I are constantly in awe at how hard you work. We put all our trust in Dorothy from day one. As long as you are in the business you're the ONLY realtor for us! We will always be grateful."  
—The Ryback family

**Dorothy Broderson**  
REALTOR® DRE #01779623  
925.963.8800  
YellowBrickRoadHOMES.com

**Price Reduced**

**3127 Cassia Ct, Pleasanton**  
Highly desirable 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 1536 sq ft single family home. Walking distance to Mohr Elementary School. Sunny kitchen and breakfast combo. Large bedrooms and baths upstairs. 2 car tandem garage. This is a must see home!! Call for a private showing. **Offered at \$612,000**  
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

**14 Offers!**

**Simply Stunning One Level Home in Pleasanton!**  
4 bedrooms, 2 remodeled baths with 1947 square feet. Ora Vista model. Beautifully updated kitchen, hardwood floors. \$680,000  
**6829 Rayland 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

**Ingrid Wetmore, Natalie Kruger & Lisa Sterling-Sanchez**  
Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty  
925.918.0986 | 925.847.5377 | 925.980.9265

**Pending**

**Dennis Gerlt**  
Broker Associate DRE # 01317997  
925.426.5010  
www.buytrivalleyhomes.com

This BMR Livermore home is available now for qualifying buyers (income/family size requirements - City of Livermore approval required). 3 bedroom, 3 bath detached two story family home approximately 1533 square feet built in 2002. A must see! Please call for more information.



# Amazing Agents Doing Amazing Things

"Highest in Overall Satisfaction for both Home Buyers and Home Sellers Among National Full Service Real Estate Firms"

Awarded in 2012 by J.D. Power and Associates

5994 W. Las Positas, Suite 101, Pleasanton | www.KWTrivalley.com | 459 Main Street, Pleasanton

BROKER LICENSE #01395362

