

Pleasanton Weekly

Young gymnast takes first place in vault » 18



VOL. XIV, NUMBER 2 • FEBRUARY 8, 2013

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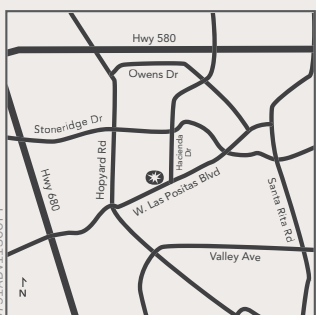
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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



COURTESY JENNIFER HOSTERMAN

Former Mayor Jennifer Hosterman (left) holds her hawk Sarraqa ahead of a birds of prey sprint with her friend Jana Barkley, who runs West Coast Falconry, and Michael Pocięcha, a master falconer. The three are hunting with their Harris' hawks in the East Bay hills.

Hosterman's city skills going viral

Some of us thought that Jennifer Hosterman traveled a lot when she was Pleasanton's mayor, a post she left just two months ago when she was termed out of office after more than 10 years on the City Council, including eight as mayor. Today, we'd be hard-pressed to ever find her at home except for those rare opportunities she has to sprint with her favorite pets Sarraqa, a Harris' hawk, and Faith Eleanor May, her black Labrador retriever.

As mayor, Hosterman was active in the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and in recent years she co-chaired its water resource council. That took her on speaking engagements to Chicago, Providence and other large cities, even to Berlin and Stockholm where she spoke on water issues. Building on those experiences and contacts, she found herself in demand as a leading conduit to many in the country's municipal leadership positions. Now out of a political office, herself, she is seizing on those contacts with vigor as a national consultant on water, storm sewer and other infrastructure issues that are of major concern to cities across the country.

Last week, she was in Milwaukee, meeting with 26 mayors and their staffs who want her help in finding government and private sector funds to help them rebuild their aging sewers and water pipes and systems. Next week, she'll be in Chattanooga and a week later in Florida. Working under her own flagship of Jennifer Hosterman Consultancy, she is sponsored by a multitude of vendors who are in the business of rebuilding utility systems but need her help in finding construction and financing opportunities that she is addressing.

During her meetings with mu-

nicipal leaders, Hosterman has found their cities have major infrastructure problems, lean budgets and ratepayers unable to shoulder any more of the burden to pay the cost of repairs. Some old sewer systems in eastern cities still have wooden conveyances; others have not expanded their systems for decades despite doubling and tripling their populations. The federal government, she argues, has done little to fund the huge infrastructure replacement and repair costs so she is taking the lead in generating financial support from her numerous private sector contacts.

Perhaps Hosterman's best skill, as we remember from her political successes in Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley, is the ability to bring opposite sides together to solve city and regional problems. She did this in her work on regional transportation issues, land development and joining other mayors in lobbying state and federal representatives in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. Using this talent, she is now bringing city and regional leaders together in other parts of the country to provide them with the means to design, build, operate, maintain and finance their aging infrastructure projects from Westchester County, N.Y., to water agencies needing help in Arizona.

What she hasn't forgotten is her zeal as a caretaker of the environment. Remember, this is a woman who while mayor of Pleasanton marched with peace groups on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, went to Canada to protest oil drilling and favored a resolution by her own City Council stating the city's opposition to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. But when it came to keeping Pleasanton in the forefront of green building, solar powered municipal buildings and quality-of-life rules and regulations, she gained a national reputation that now serves her well in her new career. ■

About the Cover

One reporter's two years of online dating has led to her share of doozies and snoozies, rude dudes and even a few seriously groovy guys. Cover design by Lili Cao.

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Streetwise

ASKED AT FARMERS MARKET

What's the best Valentine's Day surprise or gift you've ever received?



Kristen Nance
Esthetician

A diamond ring — which was packaged in a series of boxes that started out large and got progressively smaller.

Allen Havey
IT architect

A Valentine's Day getaway weekend to Lake Tahoe. It wasn't really a surprise but it was a really good getaway.



Kathleen Beck
Sign language interpreter

We are going to Carmel — that's big. We're going to spend two nights at the Hyatt without the kids. I have five kids so time alone is the best part, also going horseback riding.

Mark Koranski
Surgeon

We went to Las Vegas last year and she got us backstage passes for my favorite band, Steel Panther. We got a guitar strap that we got autographed by all of the band members. Also got to go race car driving with Dale Jarrett, but he passed me during the race, which was not a surprise. Also we got to meet Charles Barkley.



Venera Tasienski

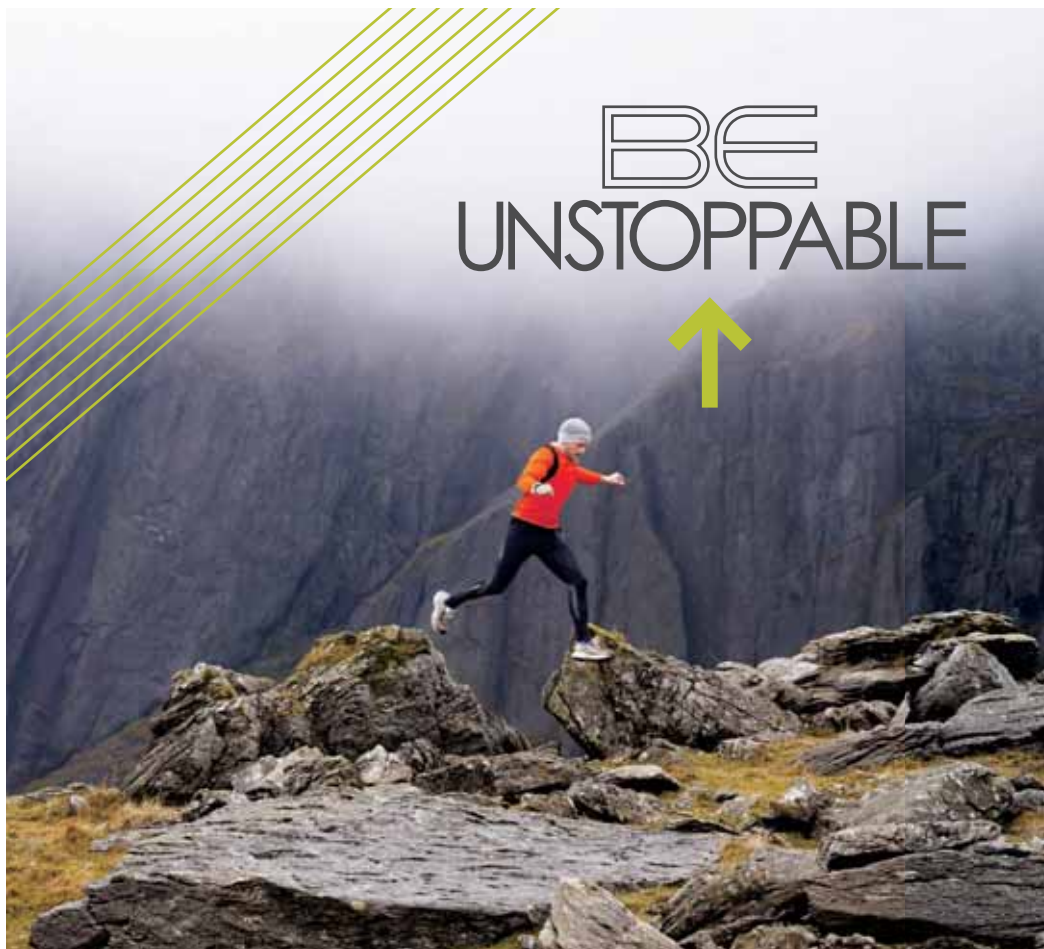
Well, it was probably when I received a large bouquet of roses from my boyfriend. They were really beautiful. I was in Russia and he was here in America so it was really special and a very big surprise.

—Compiled by Jay Flachsbarth

Have a Streetwise question? E-mail 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 to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566. © 2013 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

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DIGEST

Gas stations lawsuit

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley and six other district attorneys filed a civil lawsuit Monday against BP West Coast Products, BP Products North America Inc. and Atlantic Richfield Co. for allegedly violating state laws governing hazardous materials.

Their suit, which was joined by California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris, charges that the companies failed to properly inspect and maintain underground tanks used to store gasoline for retail sale at more than 780 ARCO gas stations in the state. The complaint alleges they tampered with or disabled leak detection devices and failed to conduct monthly inspections, among other violations.

Documents obtained by inspectors from the Alameda County Department of Environmental Health showed that BP officials instructed its service stations in Alameda County to maintain gasoline leak detection sensors at a height contrary to California law. A statewide investigation found violations of hazardous materials and hazardous waste laws and regulations at gas stations in 37 counties across the state, and at 28 gas stations located in Alameda County.

Schools off two Mondays

Pleasanton schools are closed Monday in honor of Lincoln's birthday and then again next Monday, Feb. 18, for Presidents' Day. Only the schools in Pleasanton are celebrating Feb. 11 as a holiday. Everything else will be open as usual.

Comedy benefits vets

Charlene Jones, Mrs. Northern California-America 2013, and Operation Warrior's Foundation are bringing comedian PJ Walsh to the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St., for a special Valentine's Day show. Door open at 6:30 p.m.

Walsh, who toured with Larry the Cable Guy, is donating his time for the evening of comedy. Proceeds will go to help local veterans make co-pays for prescription medications. Tickets are \$20 (must be 18); military, veterans and spouses are \$10. For tickets, call (510) 984-1125 or visit operationwarriorsfoundation.org.

The Pleasanton VFW Post 6298 will be selling food and drink tickets at the door.

Corrections

Last week's story on the musical "Rent" should have said it was based on Giacomo Puccini's opera "La bohème." Its last performance is Feb. 10.

Pleasanton sidesteps Livermore's plan for housing near airport

Council votes to keep residential ban even though regulations now have some flexibility

By JEB BING

Avoiding another of their occasional skirmishes with Livermore over that city's municipal airport, Pleasanton leaders Tuesday said that high density housing near the airport is OK for Livermore, just so long as none gets built on the Pleasanton part of the Airport Protection Area.

The City Council voted 4-0 to keep the cap on allowing residential construction anywhere near the airport's flight path even though regulatory changes will allow high density housing in some portions of that zone.

In its decision, the council followed the city's Planning Commission recommendation to continue banning residential land use designations in the so-called Airport Protection Area. Much

of Staples Ranch and the 1,000 acres that are under consideration for future development are in that protection zone.

Last year, Alameda County's Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) updated a plan governing land uses in the vicinity of airports to allow more flexibility in allowing transit-oriented residential development.

Livermore bought into the plan with expectations that the city will allow commercial and high density apartment complexes close to a new BART station at I-580 and Isabel Avenue when it is opened. The station, which is in the Livermore city limits, is in the protection area which allows transit operations, but up to now no homes or apartments. The ALUC

update now provides flexibility in determining the wisdom of allowing some residential development there.

City staff in Pleasanton asked the Planning Commission to do the same, although no development plans have been submitted to build housing units in the protection zone. With a Pleasanton East Side Specific Plan Task Force now studying future land use possibilities, any relaxation of Pleasanton's long-standing prohibition of residences in the airport zone might make more of the east side land available for housing.

But the Planning Commission rejected that proposal and, last Tuesday, the council did the

See **COUNCIL** on Page 9



GLENN WOHLTMANN

Foothill kicks off carpooling

Some of the most coveted parking spaces at Foothill High are now up for grabs to those who carpool to school. It took about 18 months from idea to completion to get the carpool slots ready to go. Student Ayesha Omarali, who worked on the project, said it "kills my inherent apathy." Cutting the ribbon Wednesday morning to officially open the carpool parking area are (l-r) School Board Member Joan Laursen; Mayor Jerry Thorne and Pamela Ott, Lisa Adamos and Valerie Ott from the city of Pleasanton; Ellen Fetherston from Foothill High; Alissa Kronovet, high school coordinator of Safe Routes to Schools Alameda County; Omarali; Foothill Vice Principal Rich Gorton; and students Reshma Pyala and Sohan Shah.

3 candidates, possibly 4, in race to fill City Council seat

Balloting will be by mail only, a first for Pleasanton

The special election scheduled for May 7 to fill an empty seat on the Pleasanton City Council became a bit more interesting this week as three candidates took out final papers and paid their fees to qualify for ballot positions. A fourth possible candidate was still considering running as of press time late Wednesday.

Planning Commissioner Kathy Narum and David Miller signed in Tuesday in the office of City Clerk Karen Diaz. Mark Hamilton followed Wednesday, but Olivia Sanwong Handerson, who also met with Diaz on Wednesday, said she wasn't sure she'd be a candidate in the May election. The deadline for submitting nominating papers is 5 p.m. today.

The risk in waiting too long to submit the

necessary paperwork and pay the fees is that there's less time to correct any errors found in the applications and the names of those nominating the candidates, who must be registered Pleasanton voters.

On May 7, voters will be asked to choose one of these candidates in a special election that will be by mail-in balloting only. The vote is necessary to fill the council seat vacated by the election of former Councilman Jerry Thorne to the mayor's post in November.

Narum, who was scheduled to spell out her priorities at a fundraising breakfast yesterday at the Fairgrounds Pavilion restaurant, has already named her campaign staff.

See **CANDIDATES** on Page 6

Police dispatcher pleads not guilty to drug charges

Also pleads innocent to accessing police databases

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

A former Pleasanton police dispatcher pleaded not guilty Wednesday to felony drug possession charges and misdemeanor charges, including conducting unauthorized searches of police databases and making more than 700 annoying telephone calls.

Heidi Feathers — who was also listed last year as the Police Department's shop steward for Local 955 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees — was arrested in September following reports of employee misconduct.

According to records at Superior Court in Pleasanton, Feathers accessed two police databases and conducted unauthorized searches on April 8, April 15, May 16 and June 11.

"There was information to believe a dispatcher with the Pleasanton Police Department was conducting confidential law enforcement records searches," Pleasanton police Sgt. Kurt Schlehuber said in documents filed with the court.

Those searches included accessing the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System and the Criminal Offender Record Information system.

Feathers was dating someone involved in a Alameda County Sheriff's Office case, court records show.

A search of Feathers' home in September in connection with the investigation yielded four pills in bindles — small packages used to hold drugs — for which Feathers did not have a prescription. Those included one Oxycontin tablet and one morphine pill, leading to the drug charges.

Superior Court Judge Hugh Walker said Wednesday that Feathers made 728 annoying phone calls between March and September of last year, calling her bond "woefully inadequate."

Walker ordered Feathers not to have any further contact with the four victims.

"If there is any contact in any way, either by yourself or by someone on your behalf, you're going to find yourself in custody without bail," the judge said.

Feathers' trial is set for March 6. ■

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South of the border: Trinity Jacob and grandmother Cathy Jacob enjoy Cabo San Lucas with their Pleasanton Weekly.

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CANDIDATES

Continued from Page 5

She said fellow Planning Commissioner Arne Olson has agreed to serve as her campaign treasurer, and that Planning Commissioner Jennifer Pearce will be co-manager of her campaign. Also named as a co-campaign manager is Nancy Allen, a Danbury Park neighborhood homeowner who is frequently involved in Pleasanton's land use issues.

Narum is in her fifth year on the Planning Commission. She has been active in civic events since moving to Pleasanton in 1996. Prior to her appointment to the Planning Commission, Narum served on the city's Parks and Recreation Commission for five years. She is also a member of the city's East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force and is chairwoman of the city's Heritage Tree board of appeals.

David Miller lives in Pleasanton with his wife and three daughters. Director of engineering program management for a Silicon Valley semiconductor company, he has been a member of the grassroots PleasantonTeaParty.com movement.

Miller also is a frequent speaker at meetings of the City Council and the Pleasanton school board. Last Tuesday, he praised the council for the "transparency" it showed in its review of employee pension reform liabilities and efforts the council is making to reduce those liabilities.

Mark Hamilton is director of financial services at ADP in Pleasanton, where he has worked for the last 15 years. He holds a master's degree in Business Administration and Economics from Golden Gate University, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1982 at Purdue University.

The possible fourth candidate still considering the race, Olivia Sanwong Handerson, is

a graduate of Amador Valley High School and a member of Pleasanton's Economic Vitality Committee. She is a market intelligence leader at Autodesk, an information technology and services firm, and is a volunteer at both Tri-Valley Haven and the Museum on Main.

She earned a master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) in 2011 from Simmons College's School of Management in Boston and a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Mathematics in 2000 from UCLA.

A possible fifth candidate, Warren Dumaniski, took out filing papers last week for the council election but told City Clerk Diaz on Tuesday that he has decided not to seek that office at this time.

Because of a change in the city's Municipal Code a decade ago, vacancies on the council must be filled by election, not appointment as used to be the law.

The mail-in ballot will cost \$250,000, a fee charged by the Alameda County Registrar to conduct the election. That's still \$100,000 under what the county would charge for a traditional election where voters could choose between a polling place or the mail to cast their ballots.

The balloting-by-mail process also can be done about a month faster than an election with polling places that could not be held before June. As it is, the winner of the May 7 election won't be seated on the council until June 4.

It's not clear how a mail-in ballot will affect turnout in the May election. Although a record-high 47% of all voters who cast ballots in the Nov. 6 election cast their votes by mail, a majority, 53%, still preferred going to the polls. That 47%, City Manager Nelson Fialho pointed out, was not only the highest percentage of voters casting their votes by mail in Pleasanton, but also in any city in the county.

—Jeb Bing

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Valid 2-8-13 to 2-14-13
PLU7009



Mountain High Yogurts
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2 \$4
for

Limit 2.
Valid 2-8-13 to 2-14-13
PLU7010



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2 \$4
for

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for

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We the People hits the road; schools crowded with weekend events

Music, science and basketball fundraisers all compete for attention

By **GLENN WOHLTMANN**

It's a busy weekend for students at both Pleasanton high schools, with top tier teams headed out today to Bakersfield for the state Competition Civics finals, also known as We the People.

In that competition, students will demonstrate their knowledge of the Constitution before a simulated congressional committee.

Amador Valley has made the national level 10 times, coming in second in 2011 and winning the national title in 1995. That school is sending 29 students to compete at Golden Valley High School.

Foothill has made the state finals on a regular basis, but has yet to make it to the national competition. In 2009, the school lost to Amador by five points.

"California is one of the most competitive states in the nation in terms of We the People. Our top teams are all national level," said

Foothill Comp Civics teacher Jeremy Detamore.

Foothill is sending 28 students to the finals.

While they're gone, budding scientists will have the run at Foothill High.

More than 1,800 students, teachers and parents will converge at Foothill High School for the Bay Area Science Olympiad. It's the fifth year in a row that Foothill will be hosting the competition, which has teams competing in 23 different events covering biology, chemistry and physics.

In all, 76 teams from 42 area schools are scheduled to compete, with the students deciding who will compete in which events. They're broken into two-person teams, with some events lasting an hour and others taking all day.

The Olympiad runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with an awards ceremony at 4:30. Four events, featuring

robot arms, elastic-launched gliders, boom levers and magnetic levitation racetracks, are open to the public.

Students who win move on to the state finals April 13; the state winners will compete against those from other states at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, in May.

Foothill has made the state finals three times in recent years.

Elsewhere at Foothill, in the school's small gym, basketball players will be lining up to sink some baskets and raise some money to help Coach Wardell Collins.

Collins is an assistant varsity basketball coach who suffered from double kidney failure for most of 2012. He received a kidney transplant in December, donated by his aunt, Yolanda Collins. Doctors say it's functioning well.

But getting the kidney surgery was a pricey operation and has left Coach Collins with a significant financial burden.

To help out, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., players will shoot free throws with donors paying for each basket they make, with Straw Hat Pizza serving lunch.

"Wardell is an inspiration to us all, and I really want to make sure that he feels our support through this very difficult time for him," said Foothill Principal John Dwyer.

Cheryl Bates Rhoades was a parent volunteer when her son Jimmy was on the team from 2009 through 2011. She said Wardell gave the players the confidence that they could win against anyone.

"When we didn't win it was a long ride home, but Coach Wardell was always positive," Rhoades said. "I don't think I ever saw him lose his temper at a game, which is quite an achievement if you've ever seen the local basketball games."

Meanwhile, if you're looking for a day of great music, the answer is across town at the 38th annual

Campana Jazz Festival.

For \$10 (\$8 for seniors and students), you can watch a full day of performances by talented musicians, some among the tops in the state.

The day begins at 8 a.m. Saturday with the Amador Jazz B in the theater, and winds up with performances by the day's winning bands at 5:30 p.m. and the presentation of more than \$12,000 in summer music camp scholarships.

In addition to great music, gourmet food trucks will stop by from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The daylong festival will feature 38 ensembles from 22 Bay Area schools, including those in Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville.

The festival will be held in three different venues, all at Amador High School, 1155 Santa Rita Road. It's named for Jim Campana, AVHS Music Director from 1959 through 1979; he's expected to attend. ■

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New trail connection opens

Segment will link to Arroyo Mocho Trail

By **DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

A community celebration last Thursday marked the opening of the 1.5-mile Pleasanton-to-Livermore Arroyo Trail.

"What an accomplishment. What a partnership. What a success story," said Zone 7 board member Dick Quigley, who was among speakers that included representatives from Alameda County and the California Natural Resources Agency.

The trail, designed for pedestrians, bicyclists and horseback riders, is located in western Livermore along Arroyo las Positas, east of El Charro Road and south of West Jack London Boulevard near the Paragon Outlets. Zone 7 owns this section of Arroyo las Positas for flood protection purposes.

The trail system provides an option for commuters, including those traveling to BART, as well as for recreational users.

For this project, Zone 7 provided the city of Livermore with a recreational use license agreement and a bridge easement for a trail crossing of the arroyo. Quigley noted that Zone 7 has a "trail-friendly" Stream Management Master Plan.

The new trail segment extends from the existing Isabel Trail at West Jack London Boulevard and will connect to Pleasanton's westerly Arroyo Mocho Trail in the fall. This trail connection is part of the Tri-Valley trail system that links local trail networks as well as the regional trails extending north into Contra Costa County and south into the Sunol wilderness area. ■

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 5

same. In their votes, both council members and planning commissioners emphasized that they have no objections to how Livermore uses its portion of the Airport Protection Zone.

In recent years, Pleasanton officials have quarreled with Livermore over airport expansion plans and noise.

“Let me point out that the Livermore airport is a huge asset to our community and the Tri-Valley,” Planning Commissioner Arne Olson said, adding that Pleasanton will continue to support the airport.

In fact, airport noise, which has long been a complaint of Pleasanton homeowners on the east side closest to the airport, received scant mention at the Tuesday hearing. Brian Dolan, director of Community Development, told the council that of the 356 noise complaints the airport received last year, 349, or 95%, were from the same household. ■



Picture purr-fect

Visitors to the Valley Humane Society to see its adorable, adoptable animals, also can enjoy viewing murals painted by local professional artists, representing the five Tri-Valley cities served by VHS. The murals are part of the Girl Scout Gold Award project coordinated by Carly Krakauer (left), a member of the local Crossroads Girl Scout Service Unit. Two of the five murals have now been completed, the latest a scene of downtown Pleasanton painted by artist Debbie Wardrope (right). Other artists donating their time and creativity to help beautify the walls of the visitor rooms are Yang Liu, Megan Parks-Haller, Omar Morineau and Kathleen Hill.

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Safeway names JPMorgan Chase executive as its new CFO

Peter Bocian has extensive financial background with major firms

Peter J. Bocian, executive vice president and head of Corporate Services and Finance at JPMorgan Chase, will join Pleasanton-based Safeway Inc. as its new chief financial officer Feb. 19.

In his new position and also as executive vice president, Bocian, 58, will oversee the Safeway's financial functions including accounting, tax, audit, treasury, investor relations, planning and business development. He will report directly to Robert Edwards, Safeway's president.

Bocian most recently served as executive vice president, head of corporate services and finance at JPMorgan Chase, the New York-based global financial services company.

While at JPMorgan Chase, Bocian had overall responsibility for global real estate, procurement, technology and real estate finance and general services for the firm.

Prior to joining JPMorgan Chase, he

spent three years as executive vice president and chief administrative officer at Palo Alto-based Hewlett-Packard. Earlier, he was CFO and chief administrative officer at Seattle-based Starbucks. He also had a long and successful 24 years with Ohio-based NCR Corp.

"We are pleased to have attracted someone with Pete's demonstrated business leadership skills and deep financial credentials to our senior executive team," Safeway's Edwards said. "His proven ability to effectively manage a broad cross section of complex finance and administrative functions, as well as his extensive experience with retail-focused companies will be of considerable added value to our business."

Bocian holds a master's in business administration in accounting and a Bachelor of Arts in Russian from Michigan State University, and served in the U.S. Navy. ■

Keeping funeral costs affordable

By JASON ALDERMAN

Anyone who's put a loved one to rest knows that death is not cheap.

According to the National Funeral Directors Association, the average adult funeral cost \$6,560 in 2009 (its most current data). That doesn't include such common add-ons as a cemetery plot, headstone, flowers, obituaries and limousine, which can add thousands to the bill.

Because death is a frequently avoided topic, many people aren't armed with information about the many variables and costs involved in planning a funeral. Thus, just when survivors are grieving and most vulnerable, they're bombarded by decisions that must be made quickly, often without even knowing what their loved one would have wanted.

The key message for the living is to decide on preferred funeral arrangements ahead of time and to convey those wishes to your family — ideally in your will.

Another important lesson: Know your legal rights and what funeral-related goods and services cost so you or your survivors don't feel pressured into buying things you don't want or need. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) oversees "The Funeral Rule," which regulates how funeral providers must deal with consumers. Among its provisions:

- Upon request, funeral homes must provide an itemized price list of all their goods and services, whether you call (even anonymously) or visit in person.

- You have the right to choose among their offerings (with certain state-mandated exceptions) and are not required to purchase package deals containing unwanted items.

- Prior to purchasing a casket or outer burial container from a funeral home, they must share descriptions and prices before showing you stock on hand.

- Providers that offer cremations must make

alternative containers (besides caskets) available.

Note: The Funeral Rule does not apply to third-party sellers such as casket and monument dealers, or to cemeteries that lack an on-site funeral home. If your beliefs don't require following specific funeral protocols, here are a few ways to reduce costs while still honoring the deceased and their survivors:

Veterans, immediate family members, members of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and certain civilians who've provided military-related service may be entitled to burial at a national cemetery with a grave marker. Burial is free, but families are responsible for funeral home expenses and transportation to the cemetery.

A \$255 lump-sum death benefit is available to surviving spouses or minor children of eligible workers who paid into Social Security.

For many, cremation is a viable, less expensive option to burial. If you plan to hold a viewing first before the cremation, ask whether you can rent an attractive casket for the ceremony.

Some families prefer not to hold a public viewing. For them, "direct cremation" or "immediate burial" may make sense. Because the body is promptly cremated or interred, embalming and cosmetology services are not necessary, which saves hundreds of dollars. Also, with direct cremation you can opt for an unfinished wood coffin or heavy cardboard enclosure for the journey to the crematorium.

You can purchase a casket or cremation urn from a source other than your funeral home. The funeral home cannot assess handling fees or require you to be there to take delivery.

The death of a loved one is always upsetting, but you may be able to ease your family's emotional and financial burdens by planning ahead.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.



Jason Alderman

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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

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 to sign up and for more information.

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

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY



Thanks for your donations to the Weekly's Holiday Fund

Thanks to you, our loyal readers, the Pleasanton Weekly's Holiday Fund will soon distribute to 10 nonprofits serving our community more than \$75,000 in donations made during the 2012 campaign. These disbursements will take place once a full accounting has been completed by Silicon Valley Community Foundation. The Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of this foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Contributions made to the Holiday Fund are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

As before, the Pleasanton Weekly has handled all costs of the campaign. That means that every dollar will go directly to the nonprofits chosen as this year's beneficiaries, with all administrative expenses being handled by SVCF and the Pleasanton Weekly.

A total of 75% of all dollars raised in the campaign will go in equal amounts to Axis Community Health, Open Heart Kitchen, Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation, Valley Humane Society and ValleyCare Health System. Another 25% of the contributions will go to Hope Hospice, Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, REACH, Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation and Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley.

It's been an ambitious campaign conducted during continued economic uncertainties. Despite a modest economic recovery in the Tri-Valley, these are still-troubling times with unemployment in Alameda County still hovering in the 8% range. Further, the agencies we have targeted for assistance have found they now have many more needs to serve and often fewer dollars from their regular donors who were during 2012 faced themselves with financial, employment and health care challenges. Working hard to serve these needs, the Holiday Fund serves as a simple and important funding source for those that serve the Tri-Valley.

Now, wrapping up our 10th year, the Holiday Fund has become a simple way for anyone to help others without having to research and decide on donating to a specific agency. By giving to the Holiday Fund, donors know that a committee of Pleasanton Weekly employees, with the additional resources of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, have carefully reviewed applications and the qualifications and effectiveness of nonprofits seeking assistance.

We look forward to your continued support when we launch our 11th annual Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund on Thanksgiving week in November. ■



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

LETTERS

Metaphoric trapdoor

Dear Editor,

So much for freedom of speech and welcoming public input: Pleasanton school district officially changed its board policy to restrict speakers from five to three minutes. At three minutes and one second a metaphoric trapdoor opens, effectively quieting concerned residents like myself. At the Jan. 29 board meeting two public speakers were given a total of six minutes to address a \$500 million school facilities plan that will be used to support hundreds of millions of dollars in future bond taxes. Trustees and staff continue to have unlimited time to pontificate and self congratulate.

I used three minutes, condensing 20 years of advocacy, addressing my concern for PUSD's seriously overcrowded campuses. My message was that the community should not support a facilities plan, with a \$500 million price tag, that leaves our schools shamefully over-

crowded by California Department of Education standards.

I had other concerns to express, such as the waste of \$250,000 paid to consultants for this Facilities Plan while Pleasanton's Eastside Plan is not yet developed, my confusion over the inflated cost of building an elementary school and discussions that we spent millions of dollars to get rid of in the last facilities plan. I wanted to challenge PUSD's complicit acceptance of new growth students, who we have no space for, with an expectation that existing residents will pay a bond to fund the added burden of new growth, as well as the low student yield projections. I would have questioned why Pleasanton should support a plan for \$500 million when so many million dollars have been siphoned away from capital projects by the "Gift Agreement" and not effectively spent for facilities. There is so much more that was not said but at three minutes Board President Jeff Bowser cut me off, his finger on the trapdoor button.

Julie Testa

What's your opinion?

Write a Letter to the Editor at Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com or put your opinion on Town Square at www.PleasantonWeekly.com. Letters must be 250 words or less.

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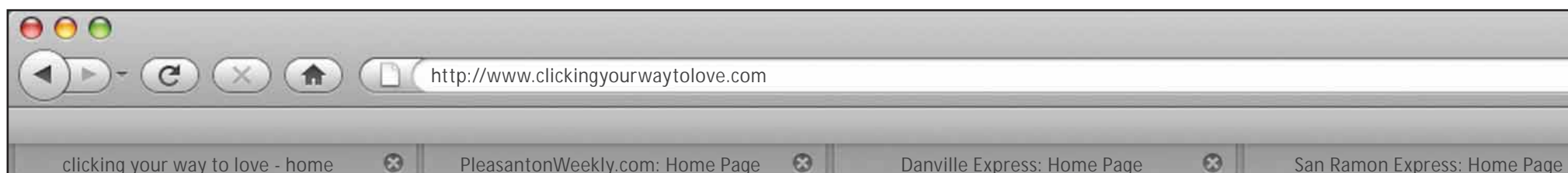
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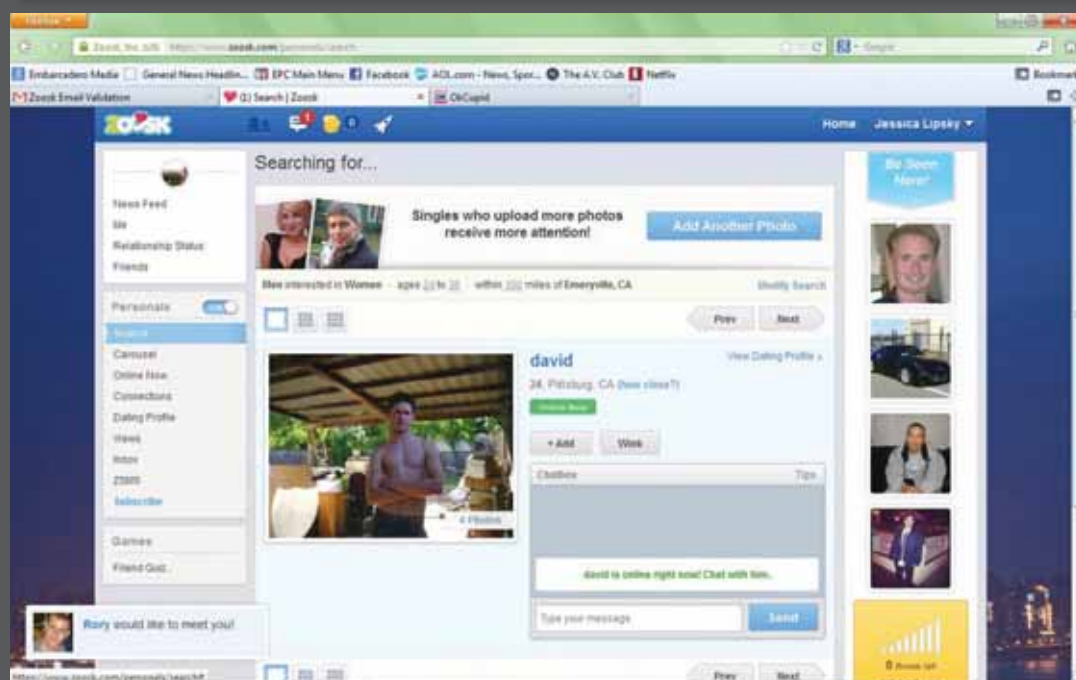
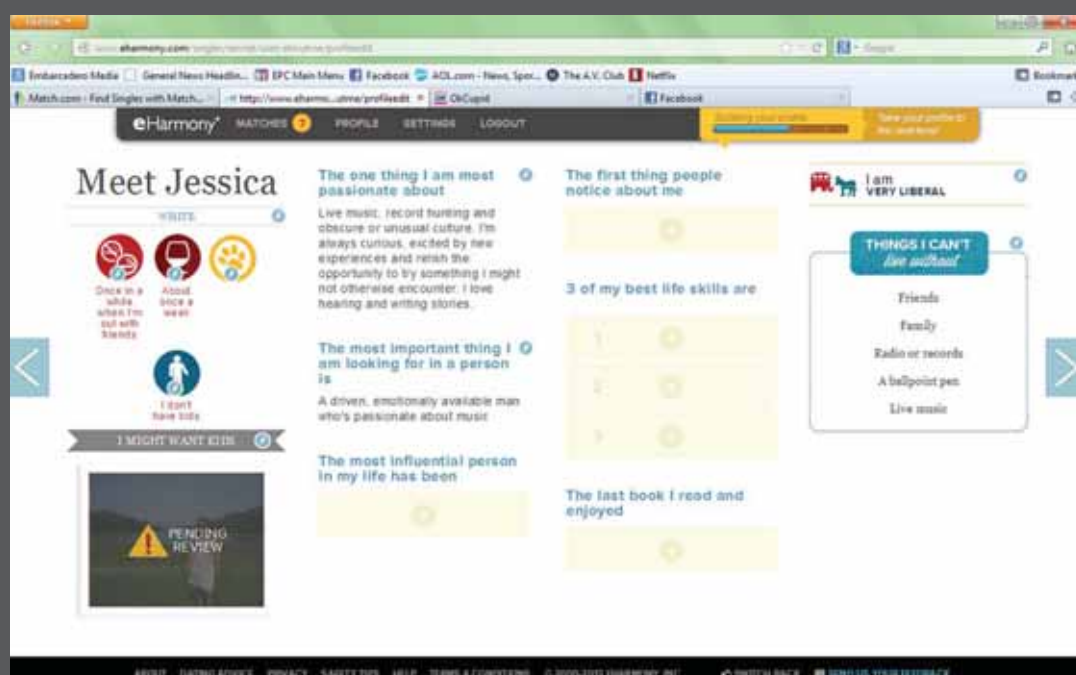
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clicking your way to love

Reporter explores
Internet options
in the dating game

BY JESSICA LIPSKY



Hey there, welcome to my page!

I'm a 20-something writer and audiophile who loves hiking and spicy foods. I would rather go to a show by Lady Gaga and will cut a rug if Tina Turner comes. I'm an emotionally available man between 25 and 35, pre-

I was originally ashamed to have an online dating profile — I'm smart, outgoing and my mom says I'm cute, why would I have to resort to the Internet?

But the answer is pretty simple: My work at the Weekly, San Ramon Express and Danville Express keeps me pretty busy and away from a viable dating pool. In the two years since I started here, I've met but one guy who was in my desired dating age range. Literally one.

Although I was hesitant at first, I took to online dating like a fish to water. It was fun to add photos, answer questions and create witty snippets to highlight my irresistibly funny and cool but definitely not desperate personality with the hopes of snagging the music-obsessed, bordering-on-savant boy of my dreams.

While researchers at the University of Rochester in New York have found that online dating is now the No. 2 form of matchmaking in the U.S., a 2012 Northwestern University study called popular websites such as Match.com and eHarmony “supermarkets” and “real estate brokers” of love.

Associate professor of psychology Eli Finkel said people don't learn much from a profile and often get overloaded by choice. There is also no compelling evidence that matching algorithms used to identify potential partners actually work.

“Even if the algorithms are cutting 2,000 potential partners down to five, if that process is random, is it really any better than strolling into the neighborhood bar?” Finkel questioned.

But dating service advertisements, word of mouth and several other studies would have you believe otherwise. In a marriage study conducted in 2010 for eHarmony by ORC International, 37.8% of couples met at work or school and 12.2% met online. But for the 50-plus age group, 26.8% of surveyed couples met on the Internet, compared with 23.2% at work or school.

Plenty of Fish

POF was the first website I tried a couple of years ago, and I'm not entirely sure how I came upon it. Looking back, it seems to be the Myspace of dating websites — grainy photos, not-so-sleek design and a hookup culture that lingered barely beneath the surface. But at the time, it seemed cool and novel.

Founder Markus Frind said his free site is the top dating site in the United States, Canada, the U.K. and even in Brazil, with over 2 million daily users in the U.S. Frind added that POF avoids niche demographics and is “the top in every age bucket.”

“The more you use the site the more effective the match algorithm becomes We look

at people who use the Internet to find women who use the Internet to find men. We can predict who will be successful in building relationships.

Plenty of Fish is a free dating site that compares statistics to help you find a quality match. It's a free site where people leaving feedback.

“We work with a variety of combinations of people and relationships.”

“We're disappointed that our cause relationship causes relationship in the first place,” Finkel said.

Although Plenty of Fish is a free dating site, I was unattractive, I couldn't write proper grammar, I totally missed one seemed to be a fish after.

I don't know if it's a San Francisco-based company that started in 2007 on Facebook. Officials say it's a “graph” with a premium subscription that's difficult to navigate. I found matches in a matter of days. I found to see a match, I selected feature and determined my profile.

Zoosk asks for a compatibility test, which is enough to determine if you're looking for a relationship. I downloaded the app to people but couldn't figure out how to use it. I am in Zoosk with a 35-year-old who has a nice interface that makes matching profiles.

I used Match.com with little to no success. I think all users find it difficult. Realistically, it's a free site where people leaving feedback. I used Match.com's next five years. Match.com's success is only 25% and only 25% of users still, this is...

no enjoys record hunting, more than a party, can't stand on. Looking for a driven, preferably with a beard.

no are similar to you, millions no filled out a profile in similar e site in similar ways, therefore ct that they will act like you. We eural networks," he said.

Fish monitors user activity to ed preferences with the people ly looking at, improving match actor of four. The site also asks g the site in a relationship to

backwards to see what com- traits and characters lead to

sccovering all the things that nships to break up and what nships never to form in the rind said.

I did meet one nice guy on h, I did not like many of the as shown. They were either in a different stage of life, or te in complete sentences/use mar — I'm a *journalist*, gentle- ly judge you on that stuff. No to fit and I gave up on Plenty about two or three months.

Zoosk

ow anyone who has used San sed Zoosk, which launched Facebook. Although Zoosk of- is "integrated into the social smartphone applications and scriptions, it is extremely dif- frigate. Zoosk doesn't present clear fashion; the easiest way I matches was to use the carou- nd click yes/no/maybe to help y preferences.

s 40 questions to set com- hich seemed vague and not etermine what kind of match or. Users are given an option a messenger in order to talk at the site was so poor that I re out how to do it. Although sk's target audience of 25- to , I was so turned off by its t I didn't get much from the ccess.

Match

ch.com for about three months no success, though the com- have you think that almost a relationship or life partner. this might be because of my of desire to get married in the ars. The 50-plus age group is fastest growing demographic % of its users are under 30. site has a better matching se-

quence and showed me more men I found attractive and compatible. One widely accepted benefit is that, because Match is a paid site, it weeds out a lot of the cheapos and creepers that lurk on free dating sites. Having been on dates with several men who wouldn't so much as offer to buy me a drink or couldn't afford to take the train to meet in a central location, the notion that a guy is willing to pay for a website appeals. I enjoy going out and would like to do so regularly with a significant other.

Although I only know a handful of people my age who have had success on Match, most every person I spoke to over age 45 knew someone who had met their spouse on the site.

eHarmony

This site is slick and easy to navigate. However, the autonomous and curious date-seeker could be deterred from eHarmony, which refuses to let users browse for their own dates and instead requires them to answer a 258-question personality test and then picks potential partners.

Although the process was engaging, I thought there was an underlying conservatism behind many of the questions about experience and priorities that was very thinly veiled. This observation might have been influenced by eHarmony's discrimination against LGBT users, though the com-

pany merged its queer-only Compatible Partner site with eHarmony in 2010.

OK Cupid

OK Cupid is my favorite of the sites I've used and the one I've had the most luck with — I've had one long-term(ish) relationship and am currently seeing someone I met on OKC who has potential. This free site is popular with the 19 to 35 age group, is user friendly and presents information in multiple ways. What I like most about OK Cupid is that matches are partially determined by answers to a variety of questions and you can choose which you'd like to respond to; I love taking surveys so this is right up my alley.

OK Cupid has been very open about how its algorithm works: The more complete your profile, (both the basic who I am and what I'm looking for, as well as unlimited survey questions) the more accurate the matches that are presented are likely to be. The site collects data on daily activities as well as how important certain questions are — for example, having strong emotions around art is very important to me while the need to be in contact every day, always, is not — to calculate match percentages.

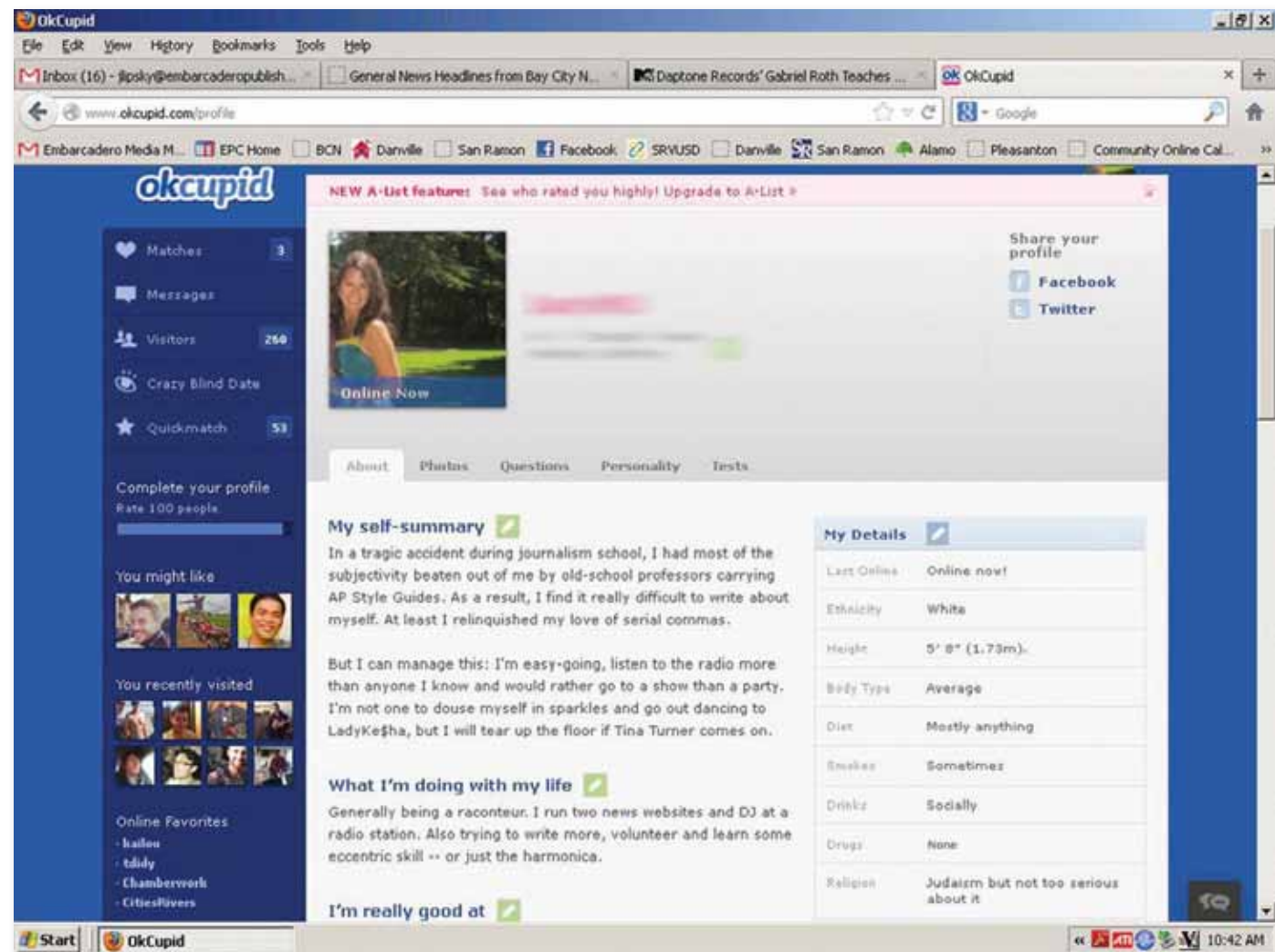
Many friends and acquaintances have used OKC and while about half said they'd met crazies on the site — a self-described King of Sex who assumed he could stay the night; one who couldn't distinguish

a "group hang" from a date that she suggested; an "onion lady" who, although she didn't smell or make the guy cry, got crazier with each successive layer he peeled off — the other half met long-term partners or are in successful relationships.

* * * *

During two years of on-and-off online dating using several sites I experienced my share of doozies and snoozies, rude dudes and even a few seriously groovy guys. I went out with one good looking, successful lawyer who seemed excited to meet me then wouldn't say a word when we met up for drinks. I dated an easy-going teacher for a couple months before leaving his house confused and upset when he asked me to go to a street fair but spent the entire night texting another girl he met online while ignoring me.

Although some of the email conversations, dates and relationships I had were frustrating, confusing or downright ridiculous, I appreciate the experience and time I spent getting to know the men I met. At the most basic level, dating is a numbers game and I figure online dating gives me the opportunity to get to know people I wouldn't otherwise meet while on the job, sitting in suburban city council meetings with people my parent's age. Until another young, enterprising reporter shows up, anyway. ■



POLICE BULLETIN

Parking lot check yields hooker bust

Ciara Capri Garrett, 22, of Sacramento was arrested for prostitution at about 11:49 p.m. Jan. 31 at the Pleasanton Best Western Inn in the 5300 block of Owens Court, according to a police report. The bust followed a routine security check of the parking lot and a check by police, which showed Garrett had been advertising on a prostitution-related website.

In other police reports:

• Pleasanton police are looking into two reports of robbery in recent days.

One, reported at 9:43 a.m. Jan. 30 in the 5700 block of Belleza Drive, involved the theft of a cell phone. That case remains under investigation, although the victim and suspect knew each other.

In the other, which was reported at 11:55 p.m. Feb. 4, the victim told police he had just gotten out of ValleyCare and headed to the bus stop to go to the BART station. When he pulled out his wallet to get money for the bus, another man already at the stop demanded his

wallet. The victim replied he only had \$2 and had put his wallet away when the suspect punched him in the chest and ran off.

• Tin-coated copper bars worth a total of \$50,000 were reported stolen on Jan. 29 from Powermatic Associates in the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane; the theft of the bars, 170 in all, took place between Oct. 28, 2011, and Oct. 11, 2012. The case is under investigation and while there are no suspects, the victim thinks an employee may have been involved.

• Jewelry worth nearly \$16,000 was reported stolen at 11:30 p.m. Feb. 1 from a home in the 2600 block of Lin Gate Court. Among the items taken were five gold pendants with a pearl and three diamonds valued at \$3,500, two emerald rings and necklaces worth \$3,000, and five gold rings with peridot stones, diamonds and rubies worth \$3,000. Access to the home was gained through an unlocked garage door. The theft took place between 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 1.

• A rock was used to break the rear

window of Hairlight Salon in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue between 3:36 and 3:46 a.m. Feb. 1. Taken was a \$1,500 Apple desktop monitor and a keyboard worth \$1,500, a Macbook worth \$1,200, and a \$600 card reader, along with credit cards. It's the second similar break-in in as many weeks, and Pleasanton police Sgt. Kurt Schlehuder said the two had the same modus operandi.

"Two is something we look at, three we can say we have a pattern," Schlehuder said.

• A resident of the 4900 block of Blackbird Way reported being the victim of identity theft. The woman received an American Express and two Zappos credit cards in the mail, with a \$325 charge from American Express made at Ticketmaster.com.

The victim ran her credit through a checking agency and discovered two other accounts — a \$500 charge on fingerhut.com for an Apple iPad, and charges of more than \$600 for a laptop computer, towels and perfume at Gettington.com. The report was made at 10:57 a.m. Feb. 5.

• Aishah Jamilah Jones, 26, of North Highlands was arrested at about 6:16 p.m. Feb. 2 at Macy's Woman's in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road for felony fraud and burglary in the theft of two Gucci watches, one worth \$1,395 and another worth \$950 with a fake credit card obtained through identity theft.

• Tools worth \$1,150 were reported stolen Feb. 4 from a vehicle parked at the construction site of Stoneridge Creek retirement community near the intersection of El Charro Road and W. Jack London Boulevard. The theft occurred between noon and 4:30 p.m. Jan. 29.

• A Jan. 30 burglary at the Muslim Community Center in the 5700 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard netted about \$100 cash. The theft was reported at about 4:31 p.m.

• Nothing appears to have been taken in a residential burglary attempt in the 7800 block of Flagstone Drive, reported at about 10:42 a.m. Feb. 2.

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



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

• P12-1785, City of Pleasanton

Application to amend various chapters of Title 18 of the Pleasanton Municipal Code to comply with California Health and Safety Code Sections 17021.5 and 17021.6 with respect to housing for agricultural employees.

• P12-1796, City of Pleasanton

Application to amend Title 18 of the Pleasanton Municipal Code by adding a new Chapter 18.70, Ridgeline and Hillside Protection and Preservation, with development standards and review procedures for commercial and residential developments in the hillside areas of the City.

• P12-1716, P13-0007, Callison Architects/J.P. Morgan Chase

Applications for Design Review approval to demolish the Santa Rita Junction Shopping Center buildings totaling approximately 11,591 square feet and construct an approximately 3,431-square-foot single-story financial institution building with a detached 24-hour one-lane drive through and for Sign Design Review approval for building and ground-mounted signs for J.P. Morgan Chase located at 3506 and 3510 Old Santa Rita Road.

Youth Commission

Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Conference Room #3, 157 Main Street

- Approve Commission Priorities for Fiscal Year(s) 2013/14 and 2014/15
- Discuss City Grant-Youth Category Applicant Presentations Schedule for March 13, 2013 Youth Commission Meeting.

East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force

Applications are currently being accepted for two at-large representatives for the East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force.

The Task Force guides the planning effort for an approximately 1,000 acre area in east Pleasanton which was formerly the site of sand and gravel mining and will propose new uses and a circulation system for the site, and will recommend a plan for providing and financing needed infrastructure.

Applications are due to the City Clerk's Office by 4:30 p.m., **Friday, February 8, 2013**. Applications are available at the Office of the City Clerk, 123 Main Street, or on the City's website at <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/epscomm.pdf>. For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

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

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

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Jan. 30

Fraud

■ 9:49 a.m. in the 4700 block of First St

Auto burglary

■ 10:41 a.m. in the 2000 block of Greenwood Road

Vandalism

■ 7:17 a.m. at the intersection of Norton way and Tannet Court

■ 7:18 a.m. in the 3600 block of Bernal Avenue

■ 1:27 p.m. in the 700 block of Main Street

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 12:46 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Greenwood Road; DUI

■ 1:18 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Gibraltar Drive; DUI

■ 5:20 p.m. in the 1800 block of Valley Avenue; possession of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

■ 11:07 p.m. in the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road; possession of a controlled substance

Jan. 31

Auto burglary

■ 3:30 p.m. in the 600 block of Main St

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 1:30 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Mohr Avenue; DUI

■ 1:03 p.m. in the 4300 block of Railroad Avenue; public drunkenness

■ 11:16 p.m. in the 1500 block of East Gate Way; possession of a controlled substance

Feb. 1

Theft

■ 6:30 a.m. in the 7000 block of Corte

Blanca; theft from structure

■ 2:54 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 3:51 p.m. in the 1100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from structure

Vandalism

■ 12:21 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Laurel Creek Drive

Alcohol violations

■ 12:48 a.m. in the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road; public drunkenness

■ 2:04 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Mohr Avenue; DUI

■ 9:24 a.m. in the 3600 block of Mohr Avenue; public drunkenness

■ 4:04 p.m. in the 4300 block of Railroad Avenue; public drunkenness

■ 9:27 p.m. at the intersection of Reising Drive and Touriga Drive; DUI

Feb. 2

Shoplifting

■ 4:25 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 9:16 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

■ 9:49 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 12:29 a.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Del Valle Parkway; public drunkenness

■ 12:40 a.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court; possession of methamphetamines, under the influence of drugs

■ 1:56 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Mohr Avenue; DUI

■ 2:10 a.m. in the 4400 block of Mohr Road; DUI

■ 9:23 a.m. in the 5200 block of Northway Road; possession of methamphetamines, paraphernalia pos-

session

■ 9:31 p.m. at the intersection of Muirwood Road and Muirwood Court; public drunkenness

■ 10:57 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road; possession of methamphetamines, paraphernalia possession

■ 11 p.m. in the 4000 block of Stoneridge Drive; DUI

Feb. 3

Vandalism

■ 8:59 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 2:16 p.m. in the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway; public drunkenness

Feb. 4

Theft

■ 11:04 a.m. in the 3900 block of Valley Avenue; theft from structure

■ 1:16 p.m. in the 1700 block of Beachwood Way; bicycle theft

■ 2:41 p.m. in the 4300 block of Railroad Avenue; bicycle theft

Feb. 5

Theft

■ 8:40 a.m. in the 5600 block of Springhouse Drive; bicycle theft

■ 10:57 a.m. in the 4900 block of Blackbird Way; fraud

Battery

■ 5:14 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

■ 8:42 a.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Drive and Santa Rita Road

Drug/alcohol violations

■ 9:26 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; under the influence of a substance

ENGAGEMENTS

Brodnick-Flynn

Dean and Dorothy Brodnick of Pleasanton have announced the engagement of their daughter, Julia Rose Brodnick, to Patrick Michael Flynn, the son of Michael and Lori Flynn of North Haledon, N.J.

Julia, a graduate of Amador Val-

ley High School, received her bachelor's degree in public health from the University of Arizona. She is employed by Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md.

Patrick is also a graduate of the University of Arizona, where he received his bachelor's degree in business communications. He is employed by Under Armour in Baltimore.

A 2014 wedding is planned.



Welcoming the Year of the Snake

Enjoy traditional music, dances

In celebration of Chinese New Year, which is ushering in the Year of the Snake, Xiaopei Chinese Dance will perform traditional music and dance from 2-3 p.m. this Sunday at the Pleasanton library. The program will present solo, duet and group performances plus feature music performed on traditional Chinese instruments.

Xiaopei Chinese Dance was opened in Pleasanton with a dozen students on March 1, 2009, by Xiaopei He Gelb, a professional Chinese dancer who lives in Pleasanton. She won the Gold Medal at Japan's Saitama International Creative Dance Competition in 2003 and was the solo dancer selected to represent Chinese women at 2004's "Year of China in France."

The school, which has a second location in San Jose, has the mission of providing professional and authentic Chinese classic, folk and contemporary dance classes and programs. It also promotes Chinese culture through dance, with student ages ranging from 4 years old to adult. The school is planning to expand its offering with Latin ballroom for adults and also ballet classes in its South Bay studio.

Xiaopei Chinese Dance students perform at many community events and stage productions, including the special overseas edition of "The Same Song" concert, which is produced by China Central Television. Xiaopei's students also did well at the 2010 Sing Tao Chinese Dance competition and the Northern California Chinese Culture and Athletic Federation's 2010 International Martial Arts and Dance Invitational.

Sunday's show is free. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call 931-3400 or visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Young dancers from Xiaopei Chinese Dance perform Happy Childhood at Penghu Bay. Below are photos from last year's performance at the Pleasanton Public Library.



Classical to rock — young musicians onstage

Annual festival concert is performed, produced and directed by students

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Firehouse Arts Center is hosting the 11th annual Youth Music Festival concert next Friday with musicians ages 8 to 18 whose styles run the gamut from classical to rock.

Schools represented include both high schools in Pleasanton, plus Dublin, Livermore, San Ramon and Oakland School for the Arts and Bishop O'Dowd High School. The selection process began in November, and the web-based video submissions were reviewed by the selection committee.

The festival was started 11 years ago for young musicians in the area to share their love of music in a supportive and non-competitive way.

It was during a time where "battle of the band" type events were everywhere and the festival was an alternative to the heavy competitive environment young musicians were experiencing, said Mark Duncanson, a Pleasanton recreation program specialist who is founder and coordinator of the Youth Music Festival.

Duncanson and his team still mentor the

students who produce and direct the music concerts, which gives them the chance to learn all the phases of creating and delivering a multi-faceted show. This is important, Duncanson said.

"The festival engages young performers in collaborating with one another," he said. "At each rehearsal the young musicians are encouraged to be inspired by each other and come up with different ways to collaborate."

"The festival also gives youth a chance to present music on their terms," he added.

This year the Youth Music Festival has three young producers assisting in directing the show: Francesca O'Neil, Claire Wagner and Eric Butler.

"Having youth producers has been an essential part of maintaining the youth-to-youth arts vibe," Duncanson said.

The show begins at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 15, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$12, or in advance for \$8, online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 931-4848, or at the box office. ■

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Author Visits

LOCAL AUTHOR JIM HAMILTON

Meet Pleasanton resident and author Jim Hamilton at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., from 2-5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 9. At the top of each hour, Hamilton will talk about his first newly published book, "It's All About Her: A Man's Guide to Marital Bliss." For details, call 846-8826. Free.

Clubs

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Jose Maria Amador Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, NSDAR, will hold its February student awards and the chapter meeting at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 9, at Pleasant View Church of Christ, 11300 Dublin Canyon Rd., Pleasanton. The annual Awards Ceremony will include a live staging by Pleasanton's Young American Patriots Fife and Drum Corps (YAPS), presentation of awards, and refreshments. Call 510-866-3042 or email dggroome@comcast.net.

LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club meeting will be held from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 14, at Alisal Elementary, 1454 Santa Rita Road. Natalie Elola, owner of the Lucky Garden in Dublin, will speak on unique advantages, techniques and equipment for hydroponic growing. For details, call Bev at 485-7812.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

The Chapter's monthly meeting of the Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind will be held from 1-2:45 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 9, at Valley Memorial Hospital, Cafeteria Room 2, 1111 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Any visually impaired or interested person is invited. Call Carl Martin at 449-9362.

SELF-PUBLISHING: SET YOURSELF UP FOR SUCCESS

Jennifer Basye Sander will be the guest speaker at the next monthly meeting of the California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch, speaking about avenues for becoming published. The talk is from 2-4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16, at Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Rd. Cost is \$15 for non-members and \$10 for members. Call 216-5238 or email reservations@trivalleywriters.org.

TRI-VALLEY CHAPTER OF NARFE

The Tri-Valley Chapter 397 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) will hold its monthly, no-host luncheon meeting at 11:30, Thursday, Feb. 14, at Vic's All Star Kitchen, 201A Main St. NARFE advocates for federal employees and retirees. Call Gary Antone at 373-6758 or visit www.narfe.org.

Concerts

CABARET TRIBUTE TO ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

"The World of Webber: A Cabaret Tribute to Andrew Lloyd Webber" will present the epic Broadway songs of Andrew

Lloyd Webber in an intimate cabaret-style setting performed by Tielle Baker, Kelly Brandeburg and Kyle Martin. The concert is from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 17, at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Cost \$15-\$25. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

Events

BILL HARLEY AT FIREHOUSE ARTS CENTER

Two-time Grammy winning musician, storyteller and author Bill Harley is back at the Firehouse Arts Center with two different shows: a matinee for youngsters and the family at 2 p.m., and an evening show for grown-ups at 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16, at 4444 Railroad Ave. Matinee tickets are \$10; evening show is \$10-\$20. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

LISA NICHOLS TO SPEAK

The Bright Side of Life Women's Gathering is pleased to present Lisa Nichols, author, motivational speaker and TV guest personality, at 5 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 28, at Faz Restaurant, 5121 Hopyard Road. Nichols will present "Leading From Your Place of Power." Tickets are \$35 if purchased by Feb. 14, \$40 thereafter. Go to www.thebrightsideoflife.com.

NEW WAR AGAINST ISRAEL

Jonathan Cary of Blue Star will examine the role of the media in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, exploring how the print, electronic and social media have had an impact on public

perception. The event is from 7:30-9:15 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 20, at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct. Cost \$10. Call 510-318-6453 or visit www.bethemek.org.

PLEASANTONIANS 4 PEACE

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL Pleasantonians 4 Peace is sponsoring a Candlelight Vigil at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 13, in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main St. They will reflect on the human and monetary costs of the war, honor our veterans who have sacrificed, and visualize ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. For more information call Cathe Norman at 462-7495 or email mattsullivan@gmail.com or visit www.pleasantonians4peace.org.

Exhibits

'DIFFERENT PATHS' PHOTO EXHIBIT

The Figurehead Gallery is pleased to present "Different Paths, Alternative Photographic Expressions" featuring photos of Walter Davies, Lisa Rigge and Ron Rigge. The opening reception is from 2-5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16, at Figurehead Gallery, 2222 2nd St. Suite 21, Livermore. The exhibit runs Feb. 16-March 30. Call 353-0419 or visit www.figureheadgallery.com.

FIREHOUSE CALL FOR ART

SUBMISSIONS The third annual "Fresh Works" open juried exhibit at the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center is accepting submissions through Wednesday, Feb. 13. Open to all Bay Area artists age 18 and

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WATER+COLOR: CWA'S 43RD NATIONAL EXHIBITION The California Watercolor Association's new exhibit, Water+Color, will run now through Feb. 16 at the Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Hours are noon-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. Donations are appreciated. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

Film

18TH ANNUAL EAST BAY INTERNATIONAL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL The East Bay International Jewish Film Festival will run March 9-17 and feature 41 independent and international screenings in Pleasant Hill and Orinda, and locally at the Vine Cinema & Alehouse, 1722 1st St., Livermore. Tickets are \$7 and \$10 in advance, \$1 more at the door. For details, visit www.eastbayjewishfilm.org/.

Fundraisers

RAJIN' CAJUN MARDI GRAS Rajin' Cajun is an East Bay Mardi Gras event where you can enjoy music, dancing, dinner, beads, live auctions and more, 6:30-11 p.m., Friday, March 8, at the Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Ave. This annual fundraiser benefits the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation, which provides cancer patients in the area financial assistance. For tickets, call 866-862-7270 or visit www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org. Sponsorships available.

RHINESTONES, CHAPS AND COWBOY HATS Grab your favorite boots and cowboy hat for a night of fun at the Soroptimist International of Pleasanton Dublin's "Rhinstones, Chaps and Cowboy Hats" from 6-11 p.m., Saturday, March 2, at the Palm Pavillion in the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Cost is \$50. BBQ Western style dinner, line dancing instruction, live and silent auctions, fun and much more. Visit www.sipleasantondublin.org.

SIXTH ANNUAL WINES AND VALENTINES The Museum on Main and Castlewood Country Club will pair up for the museum's Wines and Valentines fundraiser at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 8. The evening features a Garre Vineyard guest speaker sharing information about the winery's pairings for the four-course dinner; a vegetarian meal is available. Live and silent auctions are also planned. Tickets (\$85) are available at the Museum on Main, 603 Main St., 462-2766.

Kids & Teens

M.O.M.'S READING TIME The Museum on Main, 603 Main St., has announced its themes for its 2013 preschool pre-literacy program, M.o.M.'s Reading Time, that introduces preschoolers to a variety of holidays, events and cultures through books and activi-

ties. Preschoolers (ages 2-5) and their families are invited to meet at the Museum on Main for this free monthly reading program from 10-11 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month. On Feb. 13 "Snowy Day" by Jack Ezra recognizes Black History Month. Call 462-2776 or visit www.museumonmain.org.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE Sonshine Enrichment Center Preschool, 1225 Hopyard Road, invites you to an Open House from 1-3 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 21. Bring your child and find out about the part-time parent cooperative, preschool program. The preschool is registering children for September 2013. For details, call Rashel Crockett at 417-8411 or visit www.sonshinepreschool.com.

PTOWNLIFE'S YOUTH LITERATURE CONTEST Ptownlife.org, Pleasanton's Youth & Family website, is sponsoring its first Youth Literature Contest. Tell your story about growing up, your childhood, or what it means to be a kid. Pleasanton youths, 3rd through 12th grades, are eligible to submit an original story, and prizes will be awarded to the top stories in each age group (3rd-5th grade, 6th-8th grade, and 9th-12 grade.) The top five overall stories will be featured on Ptownlife. Visit ptownlife.org/play/contests for Official Contest rules and how to submit your entry. Call 931-3430 or email info@ptownlife.org.

TRI-VALLEY PRESCHOOL FAIR Join Child Care Links and the city of Dublin for the 13th annual Preschool Fair. This is a great event for the whole family to visit and personally meet representatives from more than 25 preschools from all over the Tri-Valley in one location. The event is from 2-5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 9, at Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin. Call 417-8733. Each family will receive pizza and a free children's book.

Lectures/ Workshops

AN EVENING FROM A GRANDMOTHER'S PERSPECTIVE The Museum on Main's 2013 Ed Kinney Series, in recognition of Black History Month, will present "An Evening from a Grandmother's Perspective" at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 12. Ann Collins will take the stage to examine the perspectives of African American women during the years of the Civil War through World War II. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, \$3 students and teachers. Call the museum at 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.com. The lecture series takes place at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave.

NOBEL LAUREATE BLACKBURN PRESENTS "Chromosome Ends: Aging, Cancer and Stress" will be presented at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, by Nobel Laureate Elizabeth Blackburn at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 11. Blackburn pioneered the study of telomeres, the specialized ends of chromosomes that erode with each cell division. Tickets are \$30, \$14 students under 21. For details, call 373-6800 or visit www.mylpac.org.

QUILT DESIGNER COLLEEN GRANGER Colleen Granger, owner of Sew Little Time Quilting, loves fabric and isn't afraid to use it. Join Amador Valley Quilters for a lively afternoon. Lecture is from 1:30-4:15 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 9, at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Meetings are free. Call 510-209-1187.

Miscellaneous

'LAWYERS IN THE LIBRARY' Members of the Alameda County Bar Association visit the Pleasanton Public Library on the third Tuesday of each month to give free 15 to 20 minute consultations. Appointments are by lottery. Register from 5:30-

5:45 p.m.; names will be selected at 5:50 p.m. and people must be present when names are drawn. Appointments begin at 6 p.m. and end at 8 p.m. Call 931-3400, ext. 7.

On Stage

VALENTINE'S EVE SHOW The Valentine's Eve Show at the Firehouse Arts Center will star internationally acclaimed comedienne Karen Rontowski, who is not only known for her optimistic and inoffensive humor but also for her quick wit and genius improv skills with audiences. Opening for Karen is self-described comic dork Phil Johnson. The show is at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 4444

Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$15. Call 931-4848 or visit www.firehousearts.org.

Spiritual

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK MASS The Catholic Community invites you to a Mass celebrating World Day of Prayer for the Sick from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16, at St. Augustine Church, 3999 Bernal Ave. Mass will include Anointing of Sick and a special blessing for doctors, nurses and caregivers. RSVP by Feb. 13 to pamcampion@comcast.net. Call 846-4489 or visit www.catholiccommunityofpleasanton.org.

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State Cup run for U11

The Ballistic United U11 Premier soccer team went 6-1-2 during its State Cup run, with members (back row, l-r) Zion Kiehle, Joon Kang, Nate McGinty, Coach John Kinnear, Arjun Mody, Evan Thomas, Nolan Jetter, (front) Jacob Akanyirige, Vinnay Srinivasan, Michael McMasters, Kamran Matin and Ben Schwartz. Ballistic played Santa Rosa for the State Cup Finals, and the game was tied 2-2 after regulation and after double overtime, then Ballistic lost in penalty kicks. It is now ranked 10th in the state.



SARA LING

First meet reaps awards

The West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy optional gymnasts competed in their first meet of the season at the Golden State Classic at Technique Gymnastics in Rancho Cordova on Jan. 12. Sara Ling, shown in photo, finished in first place on vault with a 9.225. Jasmine Saucelo finished in seventh place on bars. Megan Quinton placed fifth on bars and seventh on beam.



Basketball champs

The Foothill High School girls JV basketball team brought home a first place from the Mission San Jose JV Holiday Hardwood Classic played Dec 26-29 with 16 Bay Area teams participating. Foothill team members are (front row, l-r) Haley Isaacs, Daniella Lyng, Kayla Moniz, A.J. Low, Devin Cornish, (back) Elena Shingoitewa, Alyson Issacs, Saoirse Dwyer, Stephanie Nguyen, Assistant Coach Luke Greenaway, Sammi Roney and coaches Emily and Nick Valenziano.



Go, Seahawks

Seahawks swimmers (l-r) Maxime Rooney, Chris Jhong, Tyler Lu and Miranda Heckman represented Pacific Swimming at the Pacific Coast All Star Meet in Santa Rosa on Jan. 5-6, which combines All Stars from Southern California Swimming, Pacific Swimming, Pacific Northwest Swimming, Oregon Swimming and British Columbia Swimming. The fastest eight swimmers in the 11-12 and 13-14 age groups are selected for this team based on the combined results from the December championship meets.

Rooney won six out of his six individual events, 200/500 free, 200 back, 200 fly, and 200/400 IM, and as a member of each relay team he assisted wins in the 400 Free Relay, 200 Medley Relay, and 400 Medley Relay. Jhong set a new PLS Team record in the 50 breast, finished in all six of his events with a second place in the 50 breast and 200 IM, and a third place in the 100 Fly. Lu finished in the top 10 in all six of his events with a third place in the 50 fly. Heckman finished in the top 12 in all six of her events: 50/100/200/500 Free, 50/100 back. Pacific Swimming came in second place behind Southern California Swimming.

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995 Fictitious Name Statement
 INTELLECT; KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITIES FEDERATED FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 473591-2
 The following person(s) are doing business as:
 intellect; Knowledge Communities Federated, 3250 Burgundy Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Stanley & Cynthia Gould, 3250 Burgundy Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566.
 This business is conducted by husband and wife.
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein intellect; Knowledge Communities Federated. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 10, 2013.
 Pleasanton Weekly, PUB DATES Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8 and 15, 2013.

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

TOWER CLIMBER SAFETY SOLUTIONS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
 File No.: 473886
 The following person(s) doing business as: Tower Climber Safety Solutions, 207 Spring St., Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Charles Steven & Lisa Marie Sanford, 207 Spring St., Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by husband and wife. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrants (s): Charles S. Sanford. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 15, 2013.
 Pleasanton Weekly, Feb. 8, 15 and 22, 2013, and March 1, 2013.

997 All Other Legals
 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA. Case No.:HG13664642
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Dritan Dyrmyshi & Felica M. Dyrmyshi filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 DEAN DYRMISHI to DEAN ALLEN DYRMISHI.
 THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: April 5, 2013, 8:45 a.m., Dept.: 504. Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: PLEASANTON WEEKLY Dated: (January 24, 2013)/s/ Cecilia Anchondo CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (Pleasanton Weekly February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2013).



Coldwell Banker collects 5,100 toys in holiday benefit

One Warm Coat drive brings in 2,100 coats for needy

BY JEB BING

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage reported this week that it collected 5,112 toys and 2,152 coats over the past holiday season to benefit families in need throughout Northern California.

The annual Coldwell Banker campaign marked the 26th consecutive year that the brokerage has supported the efforts in partnership with the Marine Corps Reserve and several nonprofit organizations in the area.

"Thanks to the support of our agents, staff and the community, many children and their families were able to enjoy a warm and festive holiday season," said Rick Turley, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "The biggest reward for us is that we were able to help make the holidays a joyous and memorable time by providing coats and toys to those who otherwise may have gone without them."

"Thanks to the support of our agents, staff and the community, many children and their families were able to enjoy a warm and festive holiday season."

Rick Turley,

president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

In all, 45 Northern California Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices participated in the Toys for Tots campaign and 31 offices in the Operation: One Warm Coat drive.

In the East Bay, the Pleasanton office collected 23 toys and 55 coats. The Oakland-Piedmont office collected 100 toys; Walnut Creek office, 77 toys and 38 coats; Berkeley office, 40 toys and 35 coats; and the Castro Valley office collected 10 coats. ■

HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

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173 Heligan Ln #7 \$455,000
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

4 BEDROOMS

821 Orion Way \$789,000
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

Pleasanton

2 BEDROOMS

3468 Smoketree Commons \$279,900
Sat/Sun 1-3 Prudential Ca Realty 249-1600

7730 Canyon Meadow Cir \$329,950
Sat 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc 855-4000

3 BEDROOMS

653 Saint John Street \$1,049,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273

4 BEDROOMS

6376 Hansen Drive \$735,000
Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario 260-2220

7755 Country Lane \$1,899,000
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219 East Angela St \$1,070,000
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SOLD!

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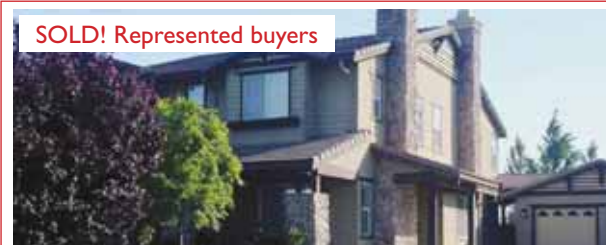


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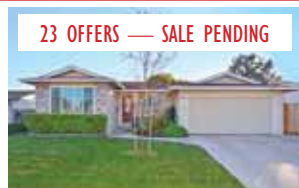


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Open Sat & Sun 1-4

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Open Sunday 1-4



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RUBY HILL

NEW LISTING • OPEN SUN 1-4



4355 CAMPINIA PLACE, PLEASANTON

Gorgeous custom single level on .60 acre premium lot in desirable Ruby Hill private gated community. Beautiful views of surrounding hills and vineyards. Five bedrooms, three bathrooms, custom gourmet kitchen with granite slab countertops. Extensive crown molding, Brazilian cherry hardwood flooring, expansive master suite. Completely finished three car garage. Beautiful grounds include mature professional landscaping, built-in BBQ, viewing/sitting area, large covered patio and extensive lawn area. Ruby Hill community amenities include country club. OFFERED AT \$1,439,000

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, OFFERED AT AND SOLD FOR \$539,500

MURRIETA MEADOWS

COMING SOON



174 SUMMERTREE DRIVE, LIVERMORE

Don't miss this premium West Livermore location! This upgraded Primrose model with 4 spacious bedrooms, 3 bathrooms & approximately 2500 square feet was built in 1994 by Signature Homes. The lot size is 8,331 square feet, which includes a large private backyard with in-ground Pebble Tech pool/spa, waterfall and more room to roam. Also included is an upgraded kitchen with granite countertops, wood flooring, spacious master suite and more! Not far from beautiful downtown Livermore! PRICE TO FOLLOW BUT BETWEEN \$699,000 & \$719,000

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. SOLD FOR \$640,000

PRIMA

SOLD



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. SOLD FOR \$850,000

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! 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. OFFERED AT AND SOLD FOR \$1,399,000

PLEASANTON VALLEY - "BIRDLAND"

SOLD



2449 MINIVET COURT, PLEASANTON

"The heart of Birdland" Location, Location, Location! Quiet court is walking distance to Woodthrush Park, all levels of schools, two shopping centers, Aquatic Center & Sports Park! Premium .28 Acre Lot (12,125 sq. ft.) Single Level-4 bedrooms & 2 Bathrooms with 2112 Sq. Ft. "Gatewood" model in excellent condition. Granite countertops in kitchen. Remodeled master bathroom. Expansive front yard with private gated courtyard. Beautifully landscaped! Large backyard. OFFERED AT AND SOLD FOR \$819,000

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



Coldwell Banker

#1 IN CALIFORNIA



DANVILLE

Open SUN 1 - 4

1250 COUNTRY LANE

HIDDEN TASSARA GEM! \$1,348,000

5 BR 3.5 BA Upgraded home w/In-law Apt.Kit/Ba w/Granite.Formal Liv/Din Rrm.5 Stall Barn &raised garden 925.847.2200



DISCOVERY BAY

2238 PRESTWICK DR

DISCOVERY BAY-GOLF COURSE HOME \$525,000

4 BR 3 BA Features new carpeting/paint.Kitchen has SS Appl & granite counters.Large bckrd w/pool. 925.847.2200



LIVERMORE

2118 ELSA CMN

RARELY AVAILABLE!! \$525,000

3 BR 2.5 BA Open Floor Plan w/lrge eat-in kit.Granite kitchen countertops & Stainless Steel Appliances 925.847.2200



PLEASANTON

6399 ALVORD WAY

PREMIUM CORNER LOT! \$540,000

3 BR 2 BA Val Vista Home!Updates Include-New Interior Paint,Carpet,Linoleum.Fireplace.Hrdwd Flrs. 925.847.2200

CASTRO VALLEY

2869 THERESA CT (COMING SOON)

BEAUTIFUL UPDATED TOWNHOME \$310,000

2 BR 1.5 BA Kitchen w/SS Appl,Granite Counter, Spacious Dining Rm.Travertine Tile Flrs. Fireplace in Fam 925.847.2200

DANVILLE

2112 SHOSHONE CIR

SPACIOUS TOWNHOME!

\$575,000

3 BR 3 BA Gated Community!Open Flr Plan. Kit w/ island. Separate dining & living rms. Mstr w/fireplace. 925.847.2200

LIVERMORE

Open SUN 1 - 4

821 ORION WAY

BEAUTIFULLY EXPANDED HOME \$789,000

4 BR 3 BA Top of the line Remodel!Gourmet Kitchen, Huge Fam rm 2 Ceiling fans, 2 mstr suites. Lrge yrd 925.847.2200

48400 MINES ROAD

WANT ELBOW ROOM?

\$399,950

Some Road grading done.Power & Phone active.8 Separate parcels.-ATV,Jeep, & Dirt Bike use 925.847.2200

17000 DEL PUERTO CANYON

GREAT FOR JEEPS/ATV'S & DIRT BIKES \$214,950

163 Acres.Phone & PG&E Power:\$50,000 in grading a 30 ft.rd.into property & bldg pad. 925.847.2200

4623 NICOL CMN

BEAUTIFUL CONDO!

\$195,000

2 BR 2 BA End Unit.New Laminate Flrs,New Stove,Refrigerator,Energy Saving cellular shades.New Paint. 925.847.2200

341 N STREET

LOTS OF POTENTIAL!

\$180,000

Level lot for building. Check with City Planning for specifics. Lots of potential here! 925.847.2200

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

46200 SAN ANTONIO VALLEY ROAD

GREAT RANCH HOME!

\$1,199,950

2 BR 2 BA 2 Cabins,2 Barns,Huge Swimming Pool & Cabanas.New Well.Got Airplanes...Paved Frontage Road 925.847.2200

SAN LEANDRO

Open SUN 1-4

1729 EDGEHILL ROAD

GREAT SINGLE STORY HOME!

\$689,000

4 BR 2.5 BA Spectacular View of SF Bay. Up-dated Kitchen.Dual Pane windows. 2 car garage. 925.847.2200

SAN RAMON

6 BOARDWALK PLACE

GREAT LOT FOR OWNER BUILDER

\$525,000

Location is ideal right off of Crow Canyon Rd.Bldg area is approx. 4400 sq.ft. 925.847.2200

SUNOL

12058 GLENORA WAY

SUNOL HOME!

\$689,000

4 BR 2 BA plus office area.1/3 Acre(3 Lots)w/1.5 car garage & 22x15 bonus rm.Close to K-8 schools. 925.847.2200

UNION CITY

3116 SAN ANDREAS DR

CONTRACTOR'S SPECIAL!

\$388,888

3 BR 2 BA Lrge Living & Dining Area.Mstr on 1st Flr.Spacious Kit./Fam rm combo.Private Backyard. 925.847.2200

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

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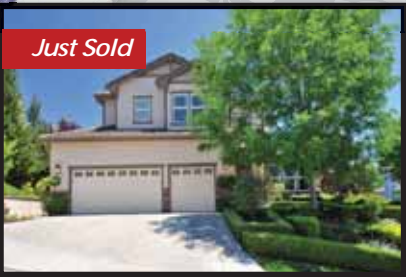
www.TiffanyMerieRose.com

Pending



— \$1,040,000 —
The Summit at Schaefer Ranch, Lot 216

Just Sold



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

I GET UP
EVERY MORNING
Determined to Both
CHANGE THE WORLD
AND HAVE ONE HECK
OF A GOOD TIME.
Sometimes this Makes
PLANNING MY DAY DIFFICULT.
— E.B. WHITE —

Pending



— \$270,000 —
4825 Mulqueeney Common, Livermore

Dear Tiffany, We would like to thank you for your untiring efforts in finding us the right home. You never thought of giving up to help us find the house we wanted under favorable terms, even if everything was going against us. Even when all things were so tough, with no solution at hand-- you found a way to make it happen! You are a real "JEWEL".

Roly Jose, Pleasanton

Pleasanton | 900 Main Street



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Please see
reviews of
Julia on



Helping Sellers and Buyers in the Tri-Valley



"Creekside" in Dublin 4718 Pheasant Court
4 bedroom, 2.5 bathrooms, 2390 Sq Ft
Built in 1997, fantastic location, good condition.
LISTED AT \$650,000



1938 Clover Court
Stunning home, in "Golden Eagle" Estates 5
bedroom/ 4.2 bathrooms, 5784 Sq Ft. Stunning
Views, on just under 1 acre.
JUST SOLD FOR 1,830,000



6221 Detjen Court, Pleasanton
Beautiful Home on 1/2 acre in Preserve,
5 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms.
SOLD FOR 1,510,000



2327 Woodthrush Way, Pleasanton
Great "Birdland" location. 4 bed/2 bath home.
Over 1800 sq. ft. Multiple offers. Call for more
information on this short sale.
LISTED AT \$620,000



5204 Iris Way, Livermore
Single level home, with major upgrades. Sellers
spent 40k, solar, new roof, new windows etc. Just
under 1300 sq. ft., with a wonderful backyard.
SOLD FOR \$380,000



5029 Forest Hill Dr., Pleasanton
Beautiful 5 bed/3 bath, 3440 sq. ft. home on .25
acre. Great layout for family living or entertaining.
SOLD FOR \$1,075,000

SELLER REVIEW

"We highly recommend Julia Murtagh as a partner in any real estate transaction. Julia recently represented us as our Listing agent. We were quite impressed with the level of knowledge she brought and her detailed follow up and commitment to our success with the sale of our home. We do believe that her personal touch and hands on approach assisted in a prompt and painless process. We will definitely look to Julia to handle any future real estate needs." —J. Koidal

DISTRESSED SELLERS

Great News for Sellers needing to Short Sale Home

The Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007 was created to relieve homeowners of the phantom income tax associated with forgiven debt from a short sale, foreclosure, or loan modification. Although this legislation was set to expire at the end of 2012, the recently passed American Taxpayer Relief Act extended this exemption through 2013.

www.JuliaHelpsDistressedSellers.com



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MOXLEY TEAM BY APPT



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

MOXLEY TEAM SUN 1:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$1,899,000
4bd +office, 4.5 ba +.5 in pool house. Vaulted open beam ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows inspire a grandness to the home. This home sits on just under an acre lot & backs to a private creek! 7755 COUNTRY LANE

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 Grey Eagle Estates, 4200+ sf of living space, huge yard and more. Must See! 5 RED FEATHER CT

MARTA RIEDY BY APPT



DISCOVERY BAY \$985,000
Gorgeous Discovery Bay home at end of cul-de-sac, mini marina, 2 docks ~ could accommodate 50' yacht, gourmet kitchen, water views from many rooms, large covered waterproof deck and so much more! 5771 SALMON COURT

MARK LAFFERTY BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$599,950
Absolutely Beautiful! 4bd/3 updated baths, granite counters, ss appliances, custom tile flooring, new carpet & baseboards, pool with 3 waterfalls and more! 1708 PLACER CIR

DAN GAMACHE, JR. BY APPT



DISCOVERY BAY \$595,000
Highly upgraded deep water home ~ perfect for entertaining! Gourmet kitchen with granite counters and cherry cabinets. Wood deck, 2 hydro hoists, covered lift and more! 4328 MONTEREY CT

STACY GILBERT BY APPT



PLEASANT HILL \$529,000
Charming upgraded "Gregory Gardens" home, prime creekside location! 4bd/2ba, new carpet & paint, spacious living room, cozy fireplace, large yard and more! 1771 LUCILLE LANE

JO ANN LUISI BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$455,000
Shea's Portico Penthouse model. Over \$30k in upgrades: 18" tile floor at entry, hardwood flooring in living area, Bosch SS appliances, French Walnut cabinetry, pre-wired for Home Theater package. 173 HELIGAN LN #7

LINDA FUTRAL SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



SAN RAMON \$185,000
Incredible location features shopping, dining, and entertainment within close walking distance. Backs to greenbelt and comprehensive HOA amenities. Walk or bicycle to work. So much to offer! 120 REFLECTIONS DRIVE



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

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