

# Pleasanton Weekly

Presidents Day Junior Tennis  
Tournament draws 32 players » 18



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TRADITION-STEPPED  
SPORT HITS THE BIG  
TIME IN PLEASANTON

PAGE 12

## SPRINGTIME NOW MEANS LACROSSE



BUSINESS NEWS 8

TRI-VALLEY LIFE 15

Arts & Entertainment

NEW  
SECTIONS



### INSIDE THIS WEEK

- NEWS: Strong growth ahead in 2013, says mayor 5
- NEWS: Bank to replace Santa Rita Junction shops 8
- LIVING: Kids' shirts flag their food allergies 15

# The RE/MAX Collection (925) 847-8900

1549 Ridgewood Road, Pleasanton • \$750,000

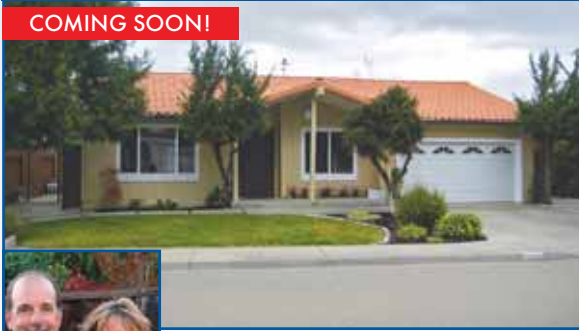


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**Brad Slabaugh**  
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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Amador's Comp Civics team needs our help

Congratulations have been pouring in to the Amador Valley High School's Competition Civics "We the People" team that just won the state championship. But more than praise is needed. The team and its 25 students and coaches need financial support to make the trip to Washington, D.C., in late April for the national finals. The team, coached by social studies and civics teachers Brian Ladd and Mairi Wohlgemuth on the Amador faculty, topped 10 other California high school We the People teams Feb. 9 in Bakersfield to earn the privilege of representing California in the nationals.

In Washington, the Amador students will be tested on their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights by a panel of judges well versed in the subject. The top teams from other states will vie for the top honor during presentations on April 27-29 with the winning team to be announced at a banquet on the final night. The competition will be conducted on the campus of George Mason University in Fairfax County, Va., and in hearing rooms on Capitol Hill.

Members of the We the People team, their coaches, school leaders and community and parent supporters are now launching a fund-raising campaign for the \$50,000 it will cost to go to Washington. The program is totally self-funded and doesn't receive any money from Amador Valley High or the school district. In fact, the We the People portion of competition civics is only taught during the seniors' first semester, unlike in some other states where it's a year-long program.

That means that the teachers and students must meet after school, evenings and on weekends to study together, test each other, practice and rehearse how they will respond to sets of questions provided by the national We the People organization. Because the course is taught in the first semester only, the team can't even start to raise funds for a Washington trip because the state finals, where the state winner is announced, doesn't occur until February. That makes it even tougher on the teacher-coaches and the students who now must scramble to raise the funds needed for the trip while also continuing to refine their skills on the Constitution.

Ladd and Wohlgemuth will get help in preparing for the finals from Jeremy Detamore, who coached the team from Foothill, where he is a world history and



ARICK LITTLE

The "We the People" competition civics team is raising money to go to the national finals April 26-29 in Washington, D.C.

economics teacher, and Pleasanton City Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kallio, who coached the team from Irvington High, where she teaches U.S. government and honors economics. In fact, Cook-Kallio said at Tuesday night's City Council meeting that her team would help raise funds for Amador and she has offered her help in the Amador team's practice sessions. Also at the council meeting, Councilman Jerry Pentin said his Pleasanton North Rotary Club would donate \$500 toward the Washington trip and a bicycle riding group he's on will add another \$500. Timing is important because Ladd said the group will have to have the funds on hand in early April to book reservations for the trip.

I'll admit to being a big booster of the Amador We the People team. My grandson Jordan Nally is on this year's state championship team and my son Chris Bing was on the 1995 team that won the national competition that year in Washington. I also know firsthand about the late night hours these students put in week after week leading up to the competition, reviewing papers, books and data about the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the authors of those documents.

Officially called "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution," the program has reached more than 30 million students and 90,000 teachers since its inception in 1987. Two years ago, the Congress declined to fund the Education for Democracy Act, leaving individual states and school districts to continue the program on their own. They made this decision after independent research showed that high school students who participated in the We the People program scored 30% higher than matched comparison government classes on a comprehensive test that measured understanding of core values and principles of democracy.

You can help the Amador We the People team by sending a tax deductible donation to Amador Valley Comp Civics, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton 94566. ■

## About the Cover

Jerome Rigor of Foothill High School, No. 20 in blue, who is playing his fourth year on the varsity lacrosse team, is one of the top attack players in all of Northern California. Photo courtesy of the Rigor family. Design by Lili Cao.

Vol. XIV, Number 4

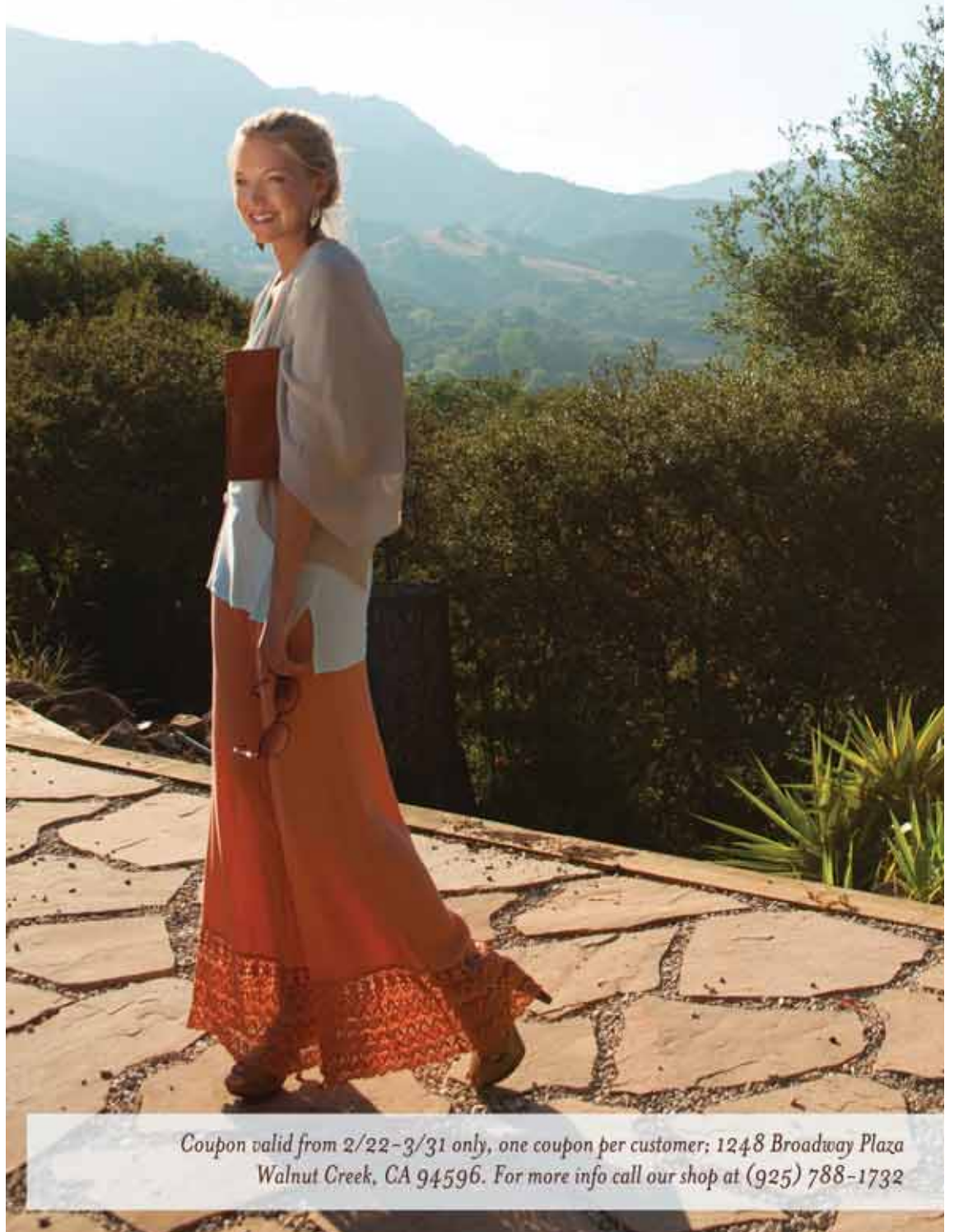
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## State of the Market Event

Find out what is happening with the Real Estate Market today and what we're expecting to see in the very near future.



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Public Affairs Director for  
the Bay East Association  
of Realtors



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### Rotary Clubs & Weekly Meetings

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We are a group of professionals and community leaders dedicated to "Peace Through Service" as we serve our seniors, deliver wheelchairs to Latin America and award youth scholarships in the community. We form friendships and grow leaders while doing good things and having fun.

**Pleasanton North, Pres. Tina Case** - Hilton Hotel, Fri. 12:15 p.m.  
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**Tri-Valley, Pres. Gary Armstrong** - Castlewood Country Club, Thur. 6:00 p.m.  
Tri-Valley is the only Rotary club in our area that meets in the evening. We are a small but energetic group! The club is motivated and eager to help make a difference both locally and globally. Join us and learn more about our goals, projects and membership activities.

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[www.endpolionow.org](http://www.endpolionow.org)



# Streetwise

ASKED IN DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON

## Should employers restrict the use of websites at work?



**Jayne Paulus**  
Audio Engineer

It just depends on the website. If it's appropriate for work and related to the work that they are doing then I think it's OK for them to be able to use it. Take the day off if you want to use the web for shopping or other activities.

### Andrew

Works in an Auto shop

I would only be in favor of restriction if it's proven to be an issue with a certain employee where it hampers his or her ability to do the job. For example if a person works in an office and they spend all day looking on craigslist for this, that or the other thing and they're not getting the job done, that would be an issue.



### Kristy Chew

Works for Ford Motor Co.

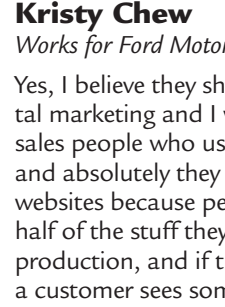
Yes, I believe they should. Actually I work in digital marketing and I work with dealers and their sales people who use websites to sell vehicles and absolutely they should restrict the usage of websites because personally I know I can't believe half of the stuff they look at. It would help in production, and if they don't close a website and a customer sees something then the dealership or company could be held liable.



### Duncan Morrow

Student

If they're at work I think it's definitely reasonable, but if they are outside of work they should be totally allowed to do whatever they want. But on the job, the employer should be able to restrict the Internet usage to increase productivity.



### Arzu Saber

Accountant in a Pediatric dental office

Oh, yes, if they are clocked in, if they're using the Internet for killing time, then they are not doing their work, and it just distracts them, and it could cause problems. So yes, the employer should be able to restrict the use of the Internet.



—Compiled by Jay Flachsbarth

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

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## DIGEST

### Donate prom dresses

The Princess Project is holding its 2013 Dress Drive through Feb. 24 to receive donations of prom dresses — from long and formal to short and simple — to make sure all girls can go to their school dances in style. Dresses, which should be dry-cleaned and on a hanger, can be dropped off at Stoneridge Shopping Center at guest services on the lower level. Accessories are also welcome.

The Princess Project began in 2002 when a high school girl in a youth leadership program mentioned to staff members that lots of girls can't go to their proms because they don't have the money to buy a dress or accessories. The Princess Project, run entirely by volunteers, now helps about 4,000 girls each year at its March giveaways in San Francisco, Silicon Valley and San Diego. To learn more, visit [www.princessproject.org](http://www.princessproject.org).

### PPIE Spring Giving

The Pleasanton Partnerships In Education Foundation (PPIE) has started its 2013 Spring Campaign to raise funds that help maintain quality education despite the state's reduced spending of \$1,600 per student. PPIE funds continue to go toward district-wide programs that include literacy coaches, extra class sections, class size reductions, counselors and specialists in technology and physical education.

PPIE is suggesting a voluntary donation of \$350 per elementary student and \$200 per middle and high school students, while noting that nearby education foundations are requesting an average of \$570. Donations are tax deductible. Learn more at [www.ppie.org](http://www.ppie.org). The campaign for the 2013-14 fund ends March 31.

### Wanted: Students to travel to Mexico

The Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Association Youth Cultural Exchange Program is holding information sessions at Foothill and Amador Valley high schools for teens and in the evening for students and their parents. Students need to be entering their sophomore-senior year in the fall and have completed two years of Spanish.

The Foothill parent/student meeting is at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 27, at the school library. The Amador parent/student meeting is at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 26, in classroom Q201.

For more information go to [ptsca.org](http://ptsca.org).

### Notice

The March 3 concert by the Bonfiglio-Bedrossian-Cho Trio featured in last week's Living section has been canceled.

## Thorne says Pleasanton in good shape, getting better

In first 'State of City' address, mayor cites major gains

By JEB BING

Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne, in his first "State of the City" address since his election last November, told a sell-out crowd of city, civic and business leaders Tuesday that 2013 is already turning out to be better in terms of municipal revenue, new businesses, retail expansion and housing gains than last year, and "everything is just getting better."

"I'm confident that 2013 will be just as great as 2012, if not better, and that Pleasanton will continue to master the challenges ahead while being true to the unique spirit of our community," Thorne said at a luncheon presentation hosted by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce.

"Chief among them, a commitment to actively engage with our civic partners, while upholding the transparency that strengthens us as community," he added. "This lasting commitment continues to enhance our reputation as a vibrant, forward-thinking community."

Accomplishments last year, as cited by Thorne, included a decision by Workday to stay in Pleasanton and acquire a nearby office center to meet its expansion requirements. The company, which also plans to create 4,000 high-tech jobs in Pleasanton, was being seriously wooed by San Ramon but agreed with Pleasanton leaders that staying here made more sense.

Other gains last year included the decision by the University of San Francisco to relocate its San Ramon branch campus to Pleasanton, a move by Mercedes Benz to add a 72,000-square-foot



JEB BING

Mayor Jerry Thorne prepares to give his first "State of the City" address on Tuesday.

showroom, and the construction of the Gateway Shopping Center on Bernal Avenue, where Safeway opened its new Lifestyle supermarket. With CVS Pharmacy about to finish construction on its new building, that shopping center is 100% filled, Thorne said.

Plans are under way, too, to add an additional 350,000 square feet of retail space at Stoneridge Shopping Center, he said.

"Let's talk about downtown Pleasanton," Thorne said. "The vacancy rate is only 6%, a real accomplishment in this economy and a testament to the economic value of our historic downtown."

He also announced that a "national retailer" will move into the now-vacant Domus store on Main Street, although the name of the firm remains a secret until the leasing papers are signed.

Pleasanton's economy is also rebounding from

the recent recession. The unemployment rate for the city stands at 4.8%, well under the state's 9.8% rate and the current national rate of 7.9%. That, coupled with a 7% increase in home values during 2012 and still climbing, "makes Pleasanton a desirable place to live" and do business, Thorne said.

In fact, the combined assessed value of the city's commercial and residential properties was just over \$12 billion in 2012, resulting in property tax revenues coming in at approximately \$50 million.

Development activity is improving, with building permit revenues up 24% from last year; revenues from checking plans are up 75%. Most of the activity is from the ongoing construction of the Stoneridge Creek retirement community on Staples Ranch and Pleasanton Gateway Plaza, as well as Clorox's relocation to Pleasanton and the Safeway Corporate expansion at the former Farmers Insurance Building off Dublin Canyon Boulevard.

Pleasanton ended fiscal year 2012 with business licenses up by 6% over fiscal year 2011, he added.

"Pleasanton is in great financial shape, a position envied by communities around the Bay," Thorne said. "Our conservative fiscal policies and comprehensive budgeting approach enable Pleasanton to deliver the high quality of services our residents deserve."

See **THORNE** on Page 8



TOM CAYTON

Jonathan Grantham directs the Amador Valley High School Jazz B, with soloist Gary Briggs on alto sax.

## Campana Jazz Fest draws 38 bands

Event awards \$12,000 in scholarships

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

For 38 years, some of the area's best school bands and musicians have been coming to Amador Valley High School in February to play and compete for scholarships at the Campana Jazz Festival.

Although Amador has laid claim to the festival and named it in honor of former Music Director Jim Campana, it didn't start out that way.

"The festival was actually originally the city's event," said Marilyn Palowitch, who's been spearheading the festival for years. "When Jim Campana started the event, it was at the request of the city. At some point along the way, he was honored with the festival being named for him and all the work he had done as an educator in Pleasanton."

Over the decades, the festival has grown

from about 14 ensembles to a peak of 51, with 38 bands competing this year. That includes a stretch of years when Amador was having a hard time finding and keeping music directors. The school had 10 band directors between Campana's retirement in 1979 and 2002, when Jonathan Grantham was hired.

Campana, known in the area as Mr. Music, ran the music programs at Amador for 20 years.

Starting in 1959 with about 20 students, Campana — a professional musician in the Bay Area, who played saxophone and clarinet — built the program to more than 300.

Campana was unable to attend the festival this year, but he and his wife, Rosemary, who died in

See **CAMPANA** on Page 8

## Amador grad dons Pleasanton police uniform

One of Pleasanton's own, Tony Repetto, has come back to wear a police officer's uniform.

Repetto was born and raised in Pleasanton and graduated Amador Valley High School in 2002.

He served in the U.S. Air Force as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician after graduation, and was stationed at Patrick Air Force Base in Florida. He was a member of the bomb squad servicing Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, and deployed to Afghanistan from September 2005 through March 2006 as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Tony Repetto

After his service, Repetto joined the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department where he worked for more than five years. He was assigned to the detention facility in Richmond and was a member of the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT).

Repetto will go through a 16-week field training program, after which he will be assigned as a patrol officer. He was hired to fill a vacancy created when an officer recently retired.

Repetto is not alone in coming back to Pleasanton to work as a police officer. About a half dozen officers grew up in Pleasanton including both school resource officers, Craig Hobizal and Ryan Dawson, are local graduates.

—Glenn Wohltmann

## TAKE US ALONG



**Wall walk:** Bob and Marianne Eisberg on the Great Wall of China near Beijing in the spring.

## Convention bureau narrows search for new leader

'It's not just about promoting Livermore wineries and the restaurants in Pleasanton'

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

The Tri-Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau is hoping to name a new president and CEO by the end of February, following the ousting of Grant Raeside late last year.

Raeside resigned from his position as president and chief executive officer effective Sept. 10, with no notice to the media.

Tom David, a member of the bureau's executive board and general manager of the San Ramon Marriott Hotel, said a third-party search firm was hired to screen potential candidates.

"I believe we're down to five or six and we're conducting interviews next Wednesday and Thursday with the hope of narrowing it down to one or two, which would then be presented to the executive committee of the

board," David said last week.

Faye Cater, manager of special events at the Alameda County Fairgrounds and a member of the CVB board, said the bureau wants someone who can speak to everyone from hoteliers to vintners.

Beyond that, she said, "We really wanted somebody with hospitality experience, and a good financial background and some sort of board experience."

The CVB is looking for someone with sales and marketing experience as well, she said. "The role of the CVB is to increase room nights (hotel stays). We want somebody who knows what that means."

Whoever's hired will pay more attention to San Ramon, David said.

"I honestly think that's the direction of the entire committee and

the executive board, that they're well aware of San Ramon, which has spoken with a loud voice," he said. "First and foremost, their goal is to drive room nights into the Tri-Valley. It's not just about promoting Livermore wineries and the restaurants in Pleasanton."

The additional focus on San Ramon came in part when David sent a letter to San Ramon Economic Development Director Marc Fontes suggesting that it pull out of the TVCVB.

"During my two years of involvement on the Tri-Valley CVB Board of Directors, I cannot recall any specific promotional activities, other than an occasional listing on their website, to market a San Ramon Hotel, community event or other business in the city," David wrote in the May 1 letter.

Acting on the letter, San Ramon's City Council voted 5-0 in a May 8 resolution to send a letter to the bureau's board of directors, asking it to "redirect the Tourism Business Improvement District fees generated by San Ramon hotels ... so that those funds may be better utilized to promote and market hotel stays in San Ramon."

San Ramon hotels generated nearly \$404,000 to the CVB for 2010-11 and an estimated half million dollars in 2011-12, more than 21% of all the rooms to which the fee applies.

The city's five-year contract with the CVB was renewed in 2010. That left the city with three years' obligation to provide the visitors bureau with funds generated by San Ramon hotels.

Raeside served as president and CEO of the Convention and Visitors Bureau for 10 months. He was appointed in late 2011.

A statement posted on the CVB website says that Raeside "is leaving to pursue other avenues."

Raeside was the second CEO that left with little notice.

The position was vacant for much of 2011 after Amy Blaschka, the TVCVB's longtime executive director, resigned "to pursue other interests" in early 2011 — and without explanation. ■

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PLU7004



**Post Honey Bunches of Oats**  
18 oz. selected varieties  
**2 for \$5**  
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Valid 2-22-13 to 2-28-13  
PLU7005



**V-8 Splash Blends**  
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3 ct. Ice Cream Bars  
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PLU8006



**Starbucks Coffee**  
12 oz.  
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**Bounty Basic 6 Roll Paper Towels**  
**\$2<sup>99</sup> each**  
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Valid 3-1-13 to 3-7-13  
PLU8008



**Tropicana Orange Juice**  
Selected varieties 59 oz.  
**\$2<sup>99</sup> each**  
Limit 2.  
Valid 3-1-13 to 3-7-13  
PLU8009



**Coffeemate Creamers**  
Selected varieties 16 oz.  
**2 for \$3**  
Limit 2.  
Valid 3-1-13 to 3-7-13  
PLU8010



**THORNE**

Continued from Page 5

As for 2013 priorities, Thorne said they include more sports fields on Bernal Community Park and careful planning and design reviews of housing projects being planned.

Among these, South Bay Development Corp. is proposing 210 apartment units and 88 single family homes near the new Pleasanton Gateway Shopping Center; E.S. Ring Corp. is planning 345 apartments and approximately 38,000 square feet of neighborhood retail space at the corner of the Valley/Bernal/Stanley; the

Nearon Co. is planning an up-scale 168-unit transit-oriented project in the Hacienda Business Park; and the California Center is planning a 205-unit transit-oriented development and approximately 7,500 square feet of neighborhood retail.

With regard to city finances, Thorne said the city has a AA rating by Standard and Poor's with assets exceeding liabilities as of last June 30 by \$872.4 million.

The city is debt-free except for approximately \$25 million in outstanding bonds that were used to finance Callippe Preserve golf course, and Thorne plans to somehow pay those off while he is mayor. ■

**WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES****Planning Commission**

Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **P12-1821, Eric DeBlasi, Coconuts Beach Bar and Seafood Grill**

Application for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a restaurant and bar/night club within an approximately 10,746 square foot tenant space located at 4825 Hopyard Road, Suites 4 10, in the Gateway Square Shopping Center.

- **P12 1823, Terry C. Morris, Eagle Electric**

Application for a Conditional Use Permit to operate an electrical contractor business at 3942 Valley Avenue, Suite J, within Valley Business Park.

- **P12 1791, Rajitha Sumanasekera, Little Flowers Montessori, Appellant**

Appeal of the Zoning Administrator's denial of an application for Sign Design Review to retain a non approved but already installed non illuminated wall mounted sign at 3550 Bernal Avenue, Suite 110.

- **P12 1797, Rina Morningstar, Colliers International**

Application for Sign Design Review approval to amend the Master Sign Program for the Pleasanton Gateway shopping center to add three tenant signs to the west side of the Shops #8 building located at 6786 Bernal Avenue (northwest corner of Bernal Avenue and the northbound I 680 off ramp).

**Energy & Environment Committee**

Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.  
Operations Services Center, 3333 Busch Road

- Committee term limits and renewal recommendation
- Committee recommendation on polystyrene ban
- Committee focus areas for 2013: CAP Implementation and Water Use/Reuse

- Determine specific objectives/deliverables
- Identify committee lead(s), tasks, and timeline for each item

- Outreach update

**Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee**

Monday, February 25, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.  
Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

- Proposed Grant Applications for One Bay Area Grant

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

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

**Class pet**

Caleb Ramirez, a fourth-grade student in Jacob Berg's class at Lydixsen Elementary School, meets 7-year-old Donner the German Shepherd during the East Bay SPCA's Drive to Thrive program, which brings pets to local schools around Valentine's Day. SPCA workers and volunteers stopped by four Pleasanton schools as part of Drive to Thrive, and students made Valentine's Day cards that will be posted at the shelter.



GLENN WOHLTMANN

## Chase gets OK to demolish Santa Rita shopping center for new bank

Work could start late this spring, forcing retailers, others in center to move

By JEB BING

The Pleasanton Planning Commission has approved a bid by J.P. Morgan Chase to tear down the aging Santa Rita Junction Shopping Center and to replace it with a new Chase Bank.

The shopping center, marked by an historic tall flagpole that used to help motorists on old Highway 50 find the Pleasanton exit, now serves a number of small retailers and service businesses. These include a flower shop, nail salon, photo studio and supply store, and medical, real estate and insurance offices.

Those businesses expect to receive eviction notices shortly with Chase planning to demolish the two buildings that occupy nearly 12,000 square feet of the shopping center site.

The new bank will be Chase's fourth in Pleasanton with other Chase banking locations now on Main Street, Stoneridge Mall Road, Hopyard Road and with an ATM



JEB BING

Chase Bank will tear down this long-standing Santa Rita Junction Shopping Center at Santa Rita and Old Santa Rita roads this spring to build a new bank, Chase's fourth in Pleasanton.

machine in the CVS Pharmacy in the Rosewood Pavilion.

The new bank site will include a 3,431-square-foot building, a detached drive-through banking facility and 32 parking spaces. A one-lane drive-through facility will include an ATM machine and banking services.

The site is across from ValleyCare Medical Center.

The Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve the Chase Bank plan with no one appearing at a public hearing to oppose the plan. Unless the decision is appealed, the commission's decision becomes effective in 30 days. ■

**CAMPANA**

Continued from Page 5

August, have been regulars at the event.

Grantham, the district's Teacher of the Year, gets much of the credit for developing the quality music program at Amador. When he started, the number of musicians coming to the school from the district's middle schools had dwindled to about 90; now there are more than 200 in Amador's marching band alone.

Even with Grantham, the Campana Jazz Festival wouldn't be possible without the work done by the parents of the young musicians and the volunteers they recruit. They dedicate hours behind the scenes, coordinating transportation, arranging for advertising, creating and passing out the programs and

setting up scholarships.

This year the festival gave out about \$12,000 in scholarships, according to Palowitch.

She said students who won will have the opportunity to attend one of nine different summer camps ranging from programs costing about \$300 to the Stanford Jazz workshop, which has a price of \$1,300. Over the past 10 years, Palowitch said, the festival has given out more than \$100,000 in scholarships.

"All those scholarships are donated by the camps," she said. "It's not something that's typical."

In return for donating the scholarships, the camps get publicity.

"It's great for the camps and 700 students get exposed to possible opportunities for summer," Palowitch said.

She said that Amador, as the host

of the event, doesn't compete, and its students are not eligible for the scholarships.

This year, Foothill's AA big band placed third and its A big band came in eighth.

Pleasanton took two of the three top slots for middle school big band, with Harvest Park in second place and Pleasanton Middle School in third. Also, Harvest Park won first place in middle school combo bands.

Next year's event has been scheduled for Feb. 8. Band boosters, meanwhile, are getting ready for their big annual fundraiser, the ninth annual Magic of Music, from 4-8 p.m. March 24 at the Firehouse Arts Center. In addition to a live auction and student performances, the night will feature "Tastes of Terror." Tickets for the fundraiser are \$100 per person. ■

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# Opinion

## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### '2013 promises to be Pleasanton's best year yet'

We're encouraged by remarks made Tuesday by Mayor Jerry Thorne that he will push for reforms and more mutual cooperation to help businesses stay in California, come to California and expand their operations here. In his "State of the City" remarks to business leaders at a Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Thorne also talked about the importance of regional cooperation to make sure that Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley stay competitive with other cities and regions. To sustain municipal services, Pleasanton and our neighboring Tri-Valley cities need strong local and regional economies.

To achieve this, elected leaders need to create an environment where business is once again welcomed in the state of California. An important start would be to reform the unproductive regulations in the California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA. Thorne intends to ask the City Council as well as the League of California Cities, where he's a member, to join him in endorsing Gov. Jerry Brown's recent call for meaningful reform of CEQA. These overly restrictive environmental regulations are stifling business across the state with little benefit to the environment.

We're encouraged also by Thorne's intent to work regionally to freeze regional development impact fees. This will ultimately improve the environment for companies wishing to relocate to the Tri-Valley area.

We're encouraged, too, to see that Thorne recognizes that economic development doesn't stop at our city limits. Regional initiatives such as Innovation Tri-Valley and i-GATE are gaining momentum and adding to the collective recognition of the Tri-Valley as a center of entrepreneurship and enterprise. While Innovation Tri-Valley is a business-led initiative designed to create an inviting business climate that breaks new ground for innovation, the state-designated i-GATE innovation hub is a public-private partnership designed to maximize the economic potential of green transportation and clean-energy technologies by bringing cutting-edge research to the commercial market. Thorne wants Pleasanton to be actively involved in helping both organizations in creating pathways for new business formation and economic growth.

Thorne said he will do all of this in collaboration with local business partners — the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, the Pleasanton Downtown Association, Hacienda Business Park, the Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Alameda County Fairgrounds and Stoneridge Shopping Center. And there's no doubt, he'll create new and exciting connections with other community-based organizations so that the Tri-Valley will work collectively to sustain the extraordinary quality of life we have here in Pleasanton, which attracts residents and companies alike.

We were also encouraged to hear Thorne vow to take whatever actions he can to promote Pleasanton as an excellent place to do business. From trade shows to town hall meetings, he said he will be talking about why Pleasanton is the Right Address for the 21st Century.

In his closing remarks Tuesday, Thorne said: "Pleasanton is great because we are building it together. We are committed to the truth of Pleasanton as a world class city. And if we hold fast to that truth, our journey moves forward, our future is bright and the state of our city will always be strong. This year is Pleasanton's 119th year and it promises to be its best yet."

A well-deserved standing ovation showed business leaders agree. ■



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

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TRADITION-STEPPED SPORT HITS THE BIG TIME IN PLEASANTON

# SPRINGTIME NOW MEANS LACROSSE



STORY BY DENNIS MILLER

It was only a matter of time once lacrosse took hold in the Western United States at the youth levels before California became a major player in the world of the tradition-stepped sport.

That time has arrived and Pleasanton has certainly been among the leaders of the talent brigade of players making their impact across the country in lacrosse. Two direct benefactors of the boom at the youth level are the high school programs at Amador Valley and Foothill.

For years the spring meant it was baseball/softball season, but lacrosse has taken hold and it is commonplace to see lacrosse goals and players out on fields throughout the town.

Over the last few years, players from Amador and Foothill, on both the boys and girls teams, have dotted the rosters of some of the top travel teams, not just in Northern California, but throughout the Western United States. Following their high school careers, the players en masse are moving on to the college game.

It used to be the case that it was news when one player from Pleasanton made a prestigious travel team, but now there are groups of teens so honored each year.

"It seemed like only three to four years ago we might have one kid playing (high-level

It's been great to see the game grow."

McVey is quick to point out the hard work done at the youth levels that has seen the game grow, starting at much earlier ages.

"We've got kids with lacrosse sticks in their hands at the age of 8 now," said McVey. "It has taken a lot of dedication from a lot of people to build this. I am so thankful for all the youth coaches."

One of the coaches who have been around since the start of high school lacrosse is Foothill coach Bob McManus. He agreed with McVey that times have certainly changed for the best in lacrosse.

"We started noticing about three years ago," said McManus in regards to the talent level increasing. "We always had some really good play-



From left, Jerome Rigor of Foothill, No. 20 in the blue, is one of the top attack players in all of North Conner Veit of Amador Valley, No. 5, is a junior and one of the better defensive players in the league.

travel)," said Amador Valley boys' coach Eric McVey. "Now there are a lot of them."

McVey has been there since the beginning of high school lacrosse in Pleasanton, graduating from Amador in 2003. Back then only a few players had serious lacrosse experience, and it was the duty of the players and the coaches to hunt through the student body to fill out the teams.

In fact, initially some teams were made up of players from multiple high schools. Now cuts have to be made on the high school lacrosse teams due to the vast number of players trying out.

"When I was playing we were going to the football team for defense and the basketball team for midfielders and attack players. We were searching for athletes," said McVey. "Now I am seeing all these lacrosse players out there.

ers, but those were guys who had only played for three years (by the time they finished high school). Now the game is so much better off."

McManus, like McVey, was quick to praise the efforts of the people who spent the time to build the youth clubs. In particular, both repeatedly mentioned former Amador coach and Pleasanton youth coach/organizer Rory Manley.

"As far as the high school game advancing, it's all about the youth programs and Rory had a lot to do with that," said McManus. "A lot of credit goes to Rory and the other guys who put it all together."

"It's taken a lot of dedication from people like Rory to make this all happen," added McVey.

On the girls' side, it is much the same. Foothill coach Megan Miller graduated from Foothill in 2003 and has seen the same incredible

growth — both in numbers and talent — on the girls' side of the ledger.

"When we started we were a bunch of athletes and we did well because of that," said Miller, who followed her Foothill career by playing at UC Davis. "Now the club programs have all grown and to see that is awesome."

Bob Mezeul has been involved with the Amador girls' program since 2005 and takes the reins of the program for the first time this year. A former coach on the boys' side of the ledger, Mezeul moved over to the girls' side after having three daughters.

"I remember four to five years there wasn't that many playing," said Mezeul. "Now every high school either has a program or is trying to get one going."

pects for the team.

"We've been doing weightlifting and conditioning for a while now and that is going to make a difference," said McVey. "We've got great leadership and a terrific attitude from the players."

At the top of the list for the Dons is a pair of seniors at either end of the field. Alex Sohn, who will move on to play at Whittier next year, is back in the goal and Geoff Snyder on the attack. Both are capable of taking over a game at their respective positions.

Charged with protecting Sohn are defenders Connor Veit (Jr.), Jordan Cain (Sr.), Alex Olguin (Sr.) and Dominic Ashley (Sr.). The top players in the middle so far are Kevin McManus (Sr.), Mikey Martin (Sr.), Tristan Baylor (So.), Ian Mills (Jr.), and the brother tandem of

The junior class also has a decent amount of varsity experience as Matt Maria Cui (attack), Chet Kozoil (middie), Josh Miller (goalie), Conner McFarlane (goalie), Noah Geib (middie) and Logan Winn (defense) all earned varsity blocks last season as sophomores.

"A couple of years ago we pushed a number of sophomores on to the varsity because we had the room to do it," said McManus. "This year we have a lot of experience. We have the biggest senior class we have ever had and we expect some good things this year."

There are big shoes to fill in the goal for the Falcons as the starters the last two years — Ben Krebs (2011 grad, currently playing at Duke) and Patrick Shevelson (2012 grad, currently playing at Kenyon College) — have taken their

rior Evan Murphy, who has already committed to Oregon, and 5-foot-9 sophomore Jackie Gilbert.

Mezeul is also counting on Lynnea Flaherty and Lauren Hayashi to be key players on the middle of the field.

Up front Cambi Cukar — better known to teammates as "The Distributor" — returns to lead the offense for Amador and is coming off a season where she led the state in assists.

In all, Mezeul has high expectations for the Dons.

"Last year we were No. 5 in California and we want to improve on that," said Mezeul.

### GIRLS: FOOTHILL

The center of the Falcons strength falls right into the center of the field with senior Laura



ern California; Foothill High School girls lacrosse team this season is talented and experienced; Amador girls goalie Allie DeCar is a junior but has already committed to play at Stanford after high school; Photos courtesy of the players' families.

Mezeul has also seen lacrosse go from an outsider sport to a popular one.

"I often think about (why lacrosse has gotten so popular)," said Mezeul. "The sport hasn't changed much, but now it is cool to play and watch."

Mezeul is right. Head out on a Friday night for a lacrosse game at either Foothill or Amador and it is a raucous affair, with the student body at each school embracing the sport.

Following is a look at the Amador and Foothill varsity teams this year.

### BOYS: AMADOR VALLEY

Last year was a roller coaster season for the Dons with some high points but a fair share of low points as well.

This year McVey is excited about the pros-

Broder and Tor Heggelund (Jr.).

Mitch Sherman (Sr.) joins Snyder up front to bolster the attack, adding more senior leadership.

### BOYS: FOOTHILL

Foothill returns a majority of its team from last year and is senior-laden with a talented lot.

Jerome Rigor (attack) and Mike Barbier (middie) are in their fourth year on the varsity, while seniors Brandon Becker (defense), George Curtis (defense), Elijah Caluya (middie), Collin Dal Porto (defense), Steven Patrick (attack), Zach Whilhite (middie) and Justin Gibson (defense) are getting ready for their third year on the Foothill varsity. In addition, there are eight more seniors with one year of varsity experience.

talented games to the next level.

But Miller and McFarlane — who both saw varsity duty last year — have plenty of experience on high-level club teams.

### GIRLS: AMADOR VALLEY

The Dons will start with one of the best goalie tandems in Northern California and build from the back.

Allie DaCar and Molly Grozier are both juniors and both highly touted. DaCar has committed to Stanford and Grozier to Marquette.

Right in front of the goal Mezeul sends out Madison Steele.

"She is our key on our low defense," said Mezeul.

Joining Steele on defense is Kira Ewanich and Hannah Stapp. In the midfield the Dons boast ju-

Klein. Headed to Stanford next year, Klein has been among the top players in the area for a while now and will lead the Falcons.

Fellow seniors Katie Sieverding and Alyssa Keiner lead the defense for Foothill, with junior Lindsay Kail (already committed to Oregon) and Sabrina Ehlert also being key players. Senior Alexa Milus is another key player for the Falcons and will take her game to Wash College in Maryland next year.

It is a talented and experienced team — the Falcons return seven seniors — but Miller knows it will be a battle from the beginning to the end.

"There will hard games from the very start," said Miller. "But I expect a lot of this team. We will work very hard every day. We won some games in overtime last year and it was because of the hard work we put in every day." ■



**Did you know that 886,814 tons of clothing and textiles goes to waste in California every year?**

USAgain, a for-profit textile, clothing and shoes collection company is helping the environment and reducing the amount sent to landfills by providing residents with a convenient way to dispose of their unwanted clothing, shoes and textiles in our clothing collection bins.

USAgain has bins at the following locations in Pleasanton:

- 7-11 located at 3760 Hopyard Road
- Alisal Elementary School
- Fairlands Elementary School
- Foothill High School
- Village High School
- Walnut Grove Elementary School

**For more information about textile recycling and for the location of the bin nearest you, visit our website at [www.usagain.com](http://www.usagain.com). And look for USAgain at the City of Pleasanton's Earth Day Event on Saturday, April 13.**

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

# Community Pulse

By Glenn Wohltmann, [gwohltmann@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:gwohltmann@pleasantonweekly.com)

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Prostitute reports robbery attempt

Police are investigating a report of an early morning robbery attempt from an admitted prostitute at a room in the Best Western in the 5300 block of Owens Court.

According to a Feb. 19 report, the victim told police that around 2:12 a.m. a man used a silver handgun and attempted to rob her inside her room. When she refused to give him money, the suspect broke a window of the room and left.

Under questioning, the woman admitted she was there to engage in prostitution, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Kurt Schlehuder. No arrest was made.

### In other police reports:

- Vanessa Susana Palma, 29, of

Millbrae was arrested Feb. 12 for felony theft from the Stoneridge Shopping Center. Palma was caught after bringing clothing into the dressing room and stashing 10 items worth more than \$2,095. She was taken into custody at 9:08 p.m.

- Gregory Soto, 42, of Pleasanton was arrested on a felony warrant for auto theft in Tracy. Soto was arrested at about 11:02 p.m. Feb. 15 in the 2000 block of Santa Rita Road.

- Three thousand dollars in cash and a U.S. residency card worth \$500 were reportedly stolen in an auto burglary in the 2000 block of Raven Road. The theft occurred between 6 p.m. Feb. 18 and 7:30 a.m. Feb. 19; the vehicle's doors had been left unlocked.

- Computers worth \$1,900 and camera equipment worth \$1,050 was reported stolen in two Feb. 18 auto burglaries at Stoneridge Shopping Center. In one, reported at 3:03 p.m., a \$1,500 laptop and a

\$400 iPad were stolen, along with a \$50 laptop bag. In the second, reported at the same time, a \$600 camera and \$400 lens were stolen along with a \$50 backpack. The rear passenger windows on both vehicles were shattered as well, with a replacement cost estimated at \$300 apiece.

- Jewelry worth an estimated \$2,850 was stolen from a structure in the 2700 block of Curry Street between 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Taken in the theft were two gold necklaces worth \$950 each and a gold ring also valued at \$950.

- A \$500 laptop was stolen from a vehicle parked in the 300 block of St. Mary Street between 5 p.m. Feb. 16 and 1:15 a.m. Feb. 17. The vehicle's lock was punched, and a lock was punched on a second vehicle at the same location near the same time.

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

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Feb. 12

#### Battery

- 3:57 p.m. in the 4700 block of Harrison Street

#### Drug violations

- 10:57 p.m. at the intersection of Foothill Rd and Deodar Wy; under the influence of a controlled substance

### Feb. 13

#### Sex offense

- 1:29 p.m. in the 400 block of Old Bernal Avenue

#### Theft

- 9:26 a.m. in the 6000 block of Gibraltar Drive
- 4:33 p.m. in the 450 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting

#### Vandalism

- 8:15 a.m. in the 4300 block of Black Ave
- 1 p.m. in the 1100 block of Hearst Dr

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 4:08 p.m. in the 300 block of Rose Avenue; bicycling under the influence
- 5:10 p.m. in the 4900 block of Pleasanton Ave; public drunkenness
- 10:41 p.m. in the 4200 block of Katie Avenue; drug violation

### Feb. 14

#### Theft

- 2:30 p.m. in the 2700 block of Curry Street; theft from structure
- 6:05 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 8:44 p.m. in the 7600 block of Stoneridge Drive; auto theft

#### Auto burglary

- 7:49 a.m. in the 1300 block of Hopyard Road
- 1:57 p.m. in the 300 block of Junipero Street
- 2:26 p.m. in the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive

#### Vandalism

- 12:15 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Vineyard Avenue
- 1:45 p.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson drive

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 4:07 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Santa Rita Road; DUI

- 5:28 p.m. in the 7600 block of Stoneridge Dr; possession of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

- 10:57 p.m. in the 6400 block of Owens Dr; paraphernalia possession

### Feb. 15

#### Theft

- 3 p.m. in the first block of California Avenue; auto theft
- 4:40 p.m. in the 4600 block of Del Valle Parkway; bicycle theft
- 5:09 p.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

- 7:54 p.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive; shoplifting

#### Auto burglary

- 8:18 a.m. in the 4700 block of Willow Road

#### Vandalism

- 10:20 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive
- 8:40 p.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

### Feb. 16

#### Theft

- 1:59 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 4:22 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 7:01 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Vandalism

- 9:40 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive
- 10:22 p.m. in the 6900 block of Corte Madrid

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:19 a.m. at the intersection of Stoneridge Dr and Santa Rita Rd; DUI
- 5:10 p.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road; possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine possession, paraphernalia possession

### Feb. 17

#### Theft

- 5:26 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Auto burglary

- 1:03 a.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street

- 1:12 a.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street

- 10:40 a.m. in the 1500 block of Trimmingham Drive

- 11:55 a.m. in the 4000 block of Peregrine Way

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:01 a.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road; DUI

- 1:07 a.m. at the intersection of Norton Wy and Merlot Ct; possession of a prescription in another's name, under the influence of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

### Feb. 18

#### Auto burglary

- 2:50 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 3:25 p.m. in the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Vandalism

- 7:29 a.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

- 1:48 p.m. in the 500 block of St. Thomas Way

#### Drug violations

- 12:57 p.m. in the 600 block of Merlot Ct; possession of a controlled substance, under the influence of a controlled substance, paraphernalia possession

### Feb. 19

#### Robbery

- 2:12 a.m. in the 5300 block of Owens Court

#### Theft

- 7:25 a.m. in the 4400 block of Black Avenue

- 9:45 a.m. in the 5700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Auto burglary

- 6:55 a.m. in the 4400 block of Sutter Gate Avenue

- 8:18 a.m. in the 2000 block of Raven Road

- 8:18 a.m. in the 4400 block of Sutter Gate Avenue

#### Battery

- 12:21 p.m. in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Vandalism

- 8:14 a.m. in the 4700 block of Muirwood Drive

- 10:37 a.m. at the intersection of Touriga Drive and Palomino Drive

- 10:42 a.m. in the 5300 block of Sunol Boulevard

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

## food allergies pose threat for preschoolers and kindergarteners

Parents  
working  
to raise  
awareness  
and save  
young lives

BY ELYSSA THOME

Summer may feel far away, but many parents of young children are already gearing up for fall. At a recent Tri-Valley preschool fair, parents scouted out the options.

Sending toddlers off for the first time is emotional enough, but for parents of children with life-threatening food allergies, it is even more nerve-racking.

Nearly 6 million children have food allergies with young children affected most, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Snack time is a danger zone for these kids — especially the ones too young to read labels on their own. More than 15% of school-age children have had a reaction in school, the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network says.

When a child is diagnosed with food allergies, the whole family's diet often changes. But for parents with peanut-free kitchens or gluten-free cupboards, the real danger lies outside the home. Other adults often underestimate the danger these conditions pose or fail to recognize potentially harmful ingredients.

Sarah Chuck's son was diagnosed with food allergies at 1 year old. She brought him to the doctor at 9 months but was told his vomiting was a result of the flu. Now 8 years old, her son has had an EpiPen administered three times. EpiPens are kept on hand and in schools to administer emergency epinephrine, which opens airways in the lungs.

Chuck said the real danger is lack of awareness among adults distributing food, who often do not know the ingredients.

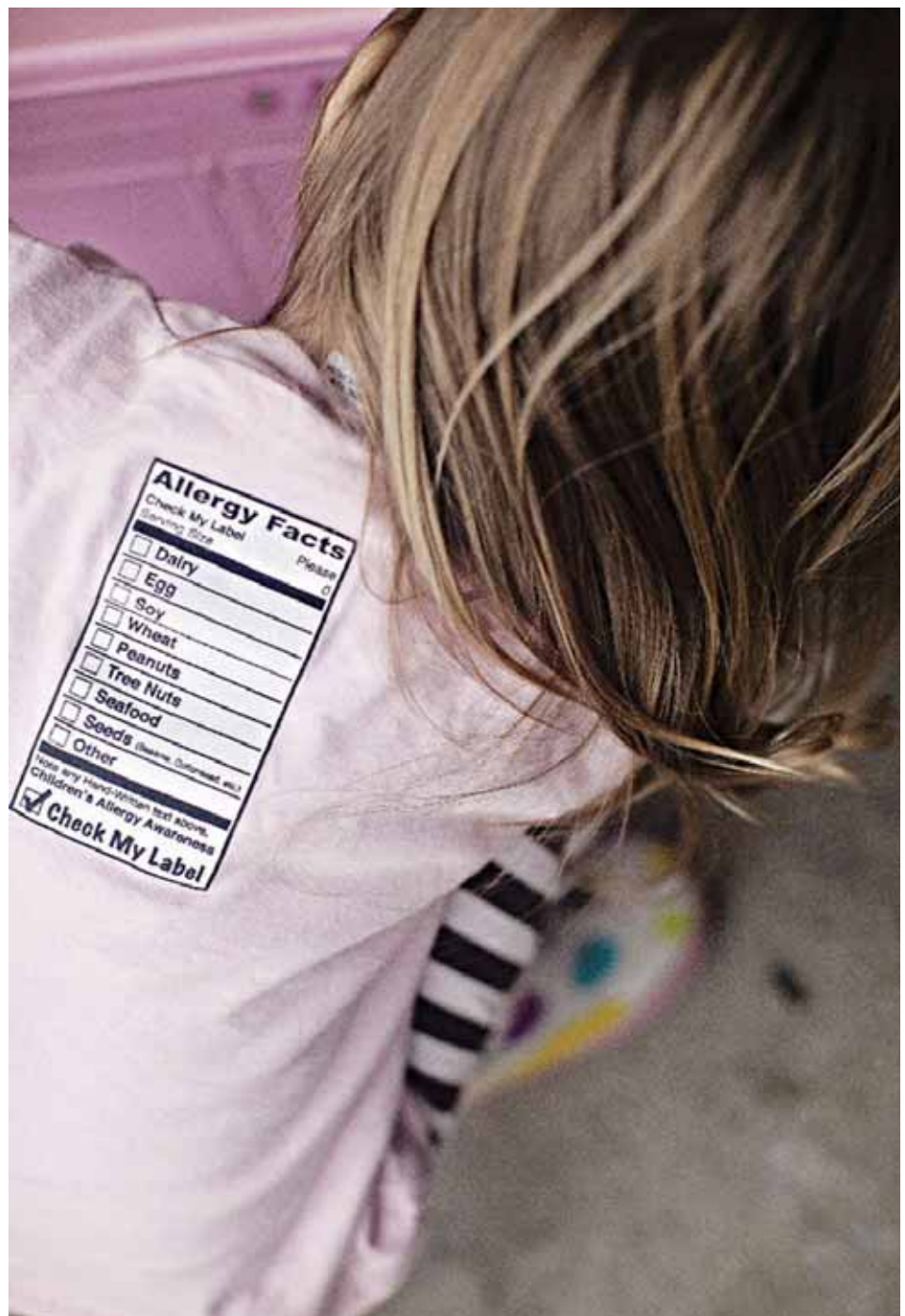
"At 3 years old he would say, 'I don't think I can have this.' He's always been pretty cautious," said Chuck. "The only times we've had problems is when adults have said, 'Oh, no, this is fine.' It's always the adults."

For that reason several groups are working to raise the awareness of children's food allergies. Jessica Brooks of Pleasanton has started a new website that offers information, resources and shirts to notify adult caretakers of specific children's allergies.

Brooks found out her youngest son Joseph had life-threatening food allergies when he was 18 months old.

Two emergency room trips later she went into business to help parents like her put their minds at ease. Today she has a line of clothing called Check My Label, which children can wear to let everyone easily understand exactly what their allergies are.

"I created the shirts as a way to notify other caretakers of the danger certain foods pose to



LORI HUNEKE

Joseph Brooks, at left, was found at 18 months to have life-threatening food allergies, leading his mom Jessica to create a line of clothing to clearly state the allergies of the wearer in a friendly way.

my son," Brooks said. "I wanted to remind babysitters, friends and even family that he can't eat everything my older son can — and at the same time remind them to check food labels for those things. I wanted the shirts to be customizable for different foods and also cute, so wearing them isn't alienating."

Willie Victor, a nutritionist in Mill Valley and advocate with the National Foundation for Celiac Awareness, echoed Brooks' sentiments on advocacy and awareness. She also emphasized the importance of getting chil-

dren and the family involved in early on.

"Get kids involved and allow them to own (food allergies) so they aren't embarrassed by it," said Victor. "The child has to grow up understanding certain foods can be harmful to him."

More information on Brooks' company can be found at [childrensallergyawareness.com](http://childrensallergyawareness.com). Information and resources for parents of children with allergies can be found through Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE) at [www.foodallergy.org](http://www.foodallergy.org). ■





AARON ZWIEFEL

"Pippi," which begins March 1, features (l-r) Natalya Ribovich as Annika, Arianna Feemster as Pippi, and Ian Taylor as Tommy in one of its two casts.

## Here comes Pippi Longstocking

Fun classic tale opening at Firehouse Theater

### Theater fun

**What:** "Pippi"

**When:** 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; March 1-10

**Who:** Civic Arts Stage Company

**Where:** Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave.

**Tickets:** \$10, \$15, \$18; child or senior: \$6, \$9, \$12. Call 931-4848; visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org); or go to the box office.

Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company is presenting an adaptation of the classic children's tale "Pippi Longstocking," about the irrepressible youngster with a heart of gold, starting next weekend at the Firehouse Arts Center.

"Pippi" features more than 40 local children in two alternating casts and is directed by Pleasanton playwright, theater artist, educator and dad John Ribovich, artistic director of Calaveras Repertory Theatre in Milpitas.

"Civic Arts combines the best of the youth and professional theater worlds, allowing young actors to work with professional designers and directors to produce consistently high quality theater while learning the importance of teamwork, community and the performing arts," Ribovich said.

Guest artist Jessica Smith plays the role of the imperious Mrs. Prysselius, and the title role will be shared by Peyton Cook of Pleasanton and Arianna Feemster of Danville. Both girls have appeared in previous Civic Arts Stage Company shows, but this is their first leading role.

Based on the children's books by Swedish author Astrid Lindgren, and adapted by Thomas W. Olson with music by Roberta Carlson, this popular version features Pippi's most famous and lovable antics — flying off the top of her house, lifting a strongman with one hand, and causing chaos at a ladies' tea party — complete with her crazy mismatched outfits and signature red braids.

"Pippi" is so much fun because she does the things we all wish we could do — she has superpowers, she defies authority, she has unlimited access to pirate gold — but in the end she chooses friendship with other children over everything else," said Artistic Director Rebecca J. Ennals of the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, which partners with Pleasanton for the three Civic Arts Stage Company productions this season.

The production design team includes set and lighting designer Steve Mannshardt, sound designer Ryan Lee Short, and props designer Kristin Werder, all core company members who return from previous shows with Civic Arts. New costume designer Magenta Brooks and Assistant Director Maryssa Wanlass join the team for the first time. ■

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## Author Visits

**HAWKEYE SETS UP CAMP** Join Timber Hawkeye, author of "Buddhist Boot Camp," at 11 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 28, at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Boot Camp is a training method for people who claim they don't have time to meditate every morning, but still want spiritual guidance. For details, call 846-8826.

## Concerts

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY CONCERT** The Livermore-Amador Symphony will feature Shostakovich Symphony No. 5 plus solos by the two winners of the Symphony's Competition for Young Musicians: Angel Kim from Amador Valley High on violin and Vivian Sung from Dublin High on piano, from 8-10:15 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23. Tickets (\$10-\$29) available at Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Prelude talk at 7 p.m. For tickets, call 373-6800 or visit [www.livamsymph.org/tickets](http://www.livamsymph.org/tickets).

## Events

**A CELEBRATION OF FIVE YEARS** Faz Restaurant, 5121 Hopyard Road, will host "A Celebration of Five Years of Inspiration, Motivation and Belonging," featuring best-selling author, motivational speaker, and teacher from The Secret, Lisa Nichols, from 6-9 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 28. Her topic will be "Leading From Your Place of Power." Tickets are \$30 (before 1/31), and \$40. To register, visit [www.events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=54ccttcab&oeidk=a07e6vdq6y3e2ee6f7a](http://www.events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=54ccttcab&oeidk=a07e6vdq6y3e2ee6f7a).

**AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLE** The class is from 3-5 p.m., Sunday, March 17 at Bothwell Art Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Enjoy a free community drum circle facilitated by master drummer and dance teacher Ibrahim (Ibou) Ngom. No prior knowledge of drumming or musical skill is necessary. Register: [www.chezanami.org/community-drum-circle-in-livermore.html](http://www.chezanami.org/community-drum-circle-in-livermore.html). Call 510-375-9929 or visit [www.chezanami.org](http://www.chezanami.org).

**ESTATE FURNITURE ART AND ACCESSORIES** The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in Mission Plaza on Santa Rita Road has received a large donation of furniture and household items. Bedroom sets, dining tables, lamps and art work will be featured from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday-Saturday, Feb. 22-23. For details, call Monda Wiseman at 462-7374.

**STATE OF THE REAL ESTATE MARKET** Find out what's happening in the real estate market and what's expected to happen in the future at the "State of the Real Estate Market Event" from 6:30-8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 28, at the Livermore Library, 118 S. Livermore Ave. For details, call Lea Dunn at 417-2250. Free.

**TRI-VALLEY HOME ENERGY FORUM** The city of Pleasanton and Energy Upgrade California will host a free forum 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 28, at the Operations Services Conference Center, 3333 Busch Road. Participants will learn about rebates worth up to \$4,500 on home energy upgrades and be able to meet with local participating contractors. RSVP to [www.tri-valleyenergyforum.eventbrite.com](http://www.tri-valleyenergyforum.eventbrite.com) or call 510-891-6528.

## Exhibits

**'CALIFORNIA: EARTH, AIR, WATER, FIRE, LIFE'** The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center is presenting this unique exhibit from March 2-April 6, which interprets and honors nature in California. An artists' reception will be held from 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, March 6, with performance art by Le Tableau Magnifique at 6:30 p.m. The gallery is located

at 4444 Railroad Ave.; hours are noon-5 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. Free; donations appreciated.

## Film

**'GIRL RISING' FILM SCREENING** Make reservations to see the film "Girl Rising," which tells the story of nine girls from around the world who overcome incredible odds to reach their potential. Viewing is 5-7 p.m., Sunday, March 10, at the Regal Hacienda Cinema, 5000 Dublin Blvd., Dublin. Reserve tickets for \$10 at <http://gathr.us/screening/1114>. For details, call Maureen Nikaido at 206-293-4772. A portion of sales will go to girls education programs.

## Fundraisers

**ALISAL ELEMENTARY CRAB FEED** The public is invited to the fourth annual Alisal Elementary School Crab Feed on Saturday, March 2, at the California Center, 4400 Rosewood Dr. The goal for this year's fundraiser is \$20,000 to purchase new laptops for the teachers. Come enjoy silent and live auctions and delicious crab. For more details, contact Marcey Donnelly at [auction@alisalpta.org](mailto:auction@alisalpta.org).

**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](http://www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org). Sponsorships available.

## Kids & Teens

**PIPPY LONGSTOCKING AT THE LIBRARY** Enjoy scenes from the upcoming Firehouse Arts Center performance of "Pippi Longstocking," meet the cast, and make simple Pippi-inspired crafts, from 11 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Feb. 23, at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Best for ages 5 years and older. Call 931-3400, ext. 8, or visit [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library). Free.

**TRI-VALLEY TEEN JOB FAIR** The city of Pleasanton has partnered with San Ramon and Dublin and the Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club to present a Teen Job and Career Fair at 1-4 p.m., Saturday, March 2, at the Dougherty Station Community Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road in San Ramon. Teens ages 14-18 can meet with employers and attend workshops such as Managing Finances; Social Networking and Use of Media; Job Search, Research and Applications Process; Interview Techniques; How to be a Great Volunteer; and Resume Development. For more details, call 931-3432. Free.

## Live Music

**FREE OPERALIVE!** Continuing its commitment of making opera accessible to the community, Livermore Valley Opera will showcase singers from the March production of Verdi's "La Traviata" in two free Operalive! performances. They are at 1 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 24, at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave.; and at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 3, at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. Operalive! events are free. For more details, visit [www.livermorevalleyopera.com/](http://www.livermorevalleyopera.com/).

## On Stage

**'LA TRAVIATA'** The Livermore Valley Opera is presenting Verdi's "La Traviata," a romantic story of love and heartbreak, at 8 p.m. March

9 and 16; and at 2 p.m. March 10 and 17 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. The Opening Night Gala will be held on Saturday, March 9, at Uncle's Yu's at the Vineyard. Enjoy ice cream and opera on Sundays. Tickets \$39-\$74. For more details, call 373-6800 or visit [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

## Support Groups

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

## ON THE TOWN



### AMERICAN

#### Eddie Papa's American Hangout

4889 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, 469-6266. Winner of The Pleasanton Weekly's Reader Choice Awards for "Best American Food," "Best Meal under \$20" and "Best Kid Friendly Restaurant," Eddie Papa's American Hangout celebrates the regional food and beverage cultures of America. Bring the whole family to enjoy iconic dishes from across the United States, Old World Hospitality, and hand crafted artisan cocktails. [www.eddiepapas.com](http://www.eddiepapas.com).

## Camp Connection

### GUIDE TO 2013 SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS

**Critter Camp at Valley Humane Society**  
3670 Nevada Street  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
(925) 426-8656  
[www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org)

Whether you're curious about cats or dedicated to dogs, Valley Humane Society has the camp for you! Our fun, fur-filled humane education programs for ages 7-15 offer kids and teens an exciting variety of animal activities, games, crafts, special guests, and hands-on opportunities. Week-long day camps start June 17 and run until August 2.

**East Bay SPCA Summer Animal Camp**  
4651 Gleason Drive  
Dublin, Ca 94568  
(925) 230-1302

Register: [www.eastbayspca.org/camp](http://www.eastbayspca.org/camp)

East Bay SPCA Summer Animal Camp (for kids entering grades 1-8) is a fun-filled learning adventure complete with daily animal interactions! Kids learn about kindness and compassion, as well as basic animal care. Your child will be sure to make new friends, play with animals, and have a great time! We offer full day or half day camps from June through August at our Dublin Adoption Center. Visit website for details.

**enGAGE! Summer Enrichment Camp at Harvest Park Middle School**  
(925) 577-6981  
[www.engagethegifted.org](http://www.engagethegifted.org)  
[info@engagethegifted.org](mailto:info@engagethegifted.org)

enGAGE! Summer Enrichment Camp inspires kids to stretch themselves beyond grade-level standards and use higher order thinking skills to become creative problem solvers. enGAGE! stu-

dents thrive with the time and encouragement to deeply investigate topics of interest and learn to ask questions that will lead to a lifetime of discovery. Two-week or four-week options for incoming 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th graders. Courses include Creative Writing Through Creative Reading, Brain Fitness Through Art, Creative Problem Solving, Music Production, Digital Art & Animation and LEGO NXT Robotics. Session 1 is June 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, July 1, 2 & 3. and Session 2 is July 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17 & 18. Hours are 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.

#### Fashion Design & Sewing Camp @ KIDZ KRAFTZ!

7690 Quail Creek Cir.,  
Dublin, CA 94568  
(925) 271-0015  
[www.KidzKraftz.com](http://www.KidzKraftz.com)

Focus on sewing stylish, wearable clothing, accessories, craft and jewelry projects, while introducing children to fashion design concepts, sewing techniques, basic pattern manipulation and fashion illustration. Sewing machines and notions provided. FREE fabric for first day of the camp. Pizza Party on last day of the camp. Early Bird Registration Special, as well as many Discount options available.

**Write Now! Summer Writing Camps**  
Website: [www.headsup.org](http://www.headsup.org)  
Telephone: Emerson  
(650) 424-1267  
and Hacienda (925) 485-5750

Emerson School of Palo Alto and Hacienda School of Pleasanton open their doors and offer their innovative programs: Expository Writing, Creative Writing, Presentation Techniques, and (new!) Test-Taking Skills. Call or visit our website for details.

For more information about these camps, see our online directory of camps at [PleasantonWeekly.com/Camps](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/Camps).

To advertise in a weekly directory, call (925) 600-0840 or email [sales@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:sales@pleasantonweekly.com).

## 32 in junior tennis tourney

The Lifetime Tennis Presidents Day Junior Tournament at the Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park drew 32 players from Pleasanton, Dublin and Castro Valley. From left: Christopher Ma, 13, from Castro Valley was the Silver/Gold Division Champion; Vasvi Mongia, 13, was a finalist, and Anuraag Aravindan, 8, champion of the Invitational/Bronze Division; Casey Guan, 12, was the first recipient of the Player of the Year award for his tournament accomplishments in 2012.



## CCOP places first

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton's CYO sixth-grade boys took first place in the Tri Valley National Division's 2012-13 season. The final game against St. Isidore of Danville in their home gym ended in CCOP's favor, 29-26. Team members are (l-r) Coach Bret Wilbur, Drake Wilbur, Logan Miller, Trent Howell, Payton Henry, Cooper Eastman, Tyler Sensiba, Satchel Petty, Jake Benson, Coach Martin Miller, Wilmer Lin and Nate Huey.

## SPORTS DIGEST

### Hole in one with love

Sports ace Tom Taboada made Valentine's Day news at Callippe Preserve Golf Course: At about 1 p.m. Feb. 14, he shot a hole-in-one.

Taboada made the historic shot on the 13th hole at 137 yards using an 8-iron, said golf course general manager Mike Ash.

### High school hoops

North Coast Section basketball playoffs began Tuesday for Division 1 girls and boys. The Lady Dons had a bye in the first round, due to their successful regular season, finishing 18-8 overall and 11-3 in the East Bay Athletic League. Tonight at 7 p.m. at home they face Foothill (14-12), which defeated Mission San Jose, 41-31, in the first round Tuesday.

Amador Valley boys (14-12) also played in the first round of Division 1 NCS, but lost Tuesday night to Berkeley, 59-41.

### Soccer seasons end

Both Pleasanton high schools' girls and boys soccer teams made it to the North Coast Section playoffs after suc-

cessful seasons in the East Bay Athletic League.

On the girls side, Amador Valley (11-8-2) lost to Freedom, 2-1, in the first round Feb. 13. Foothill (7-6-7) prevailed in the first round against Washington, 2-1, but lost in the second round, 1-0, to Monte Vista on Saturday.

In the boys bracket, Foothill (11-6-6) lost in the first round to Newark Memorial, 3-1, while Amador Valley (11-9-4) lost to San Ramon Valley, 2-1.

### 'Battle of Pleasanton' airs

Tri-Valley Community Television is broadcasting the Amador Valley-Foothill cross-town rivalry basketball game from Feb. 14 on Comcast TV Channel 30 and AT&T U-verse Channel 99 at various times. Foothill prevailed, 51-50, in the close contest.

Play by play and color announcing includes TV30 sports personalities Ian Bartholomew and George "Dr. B" Baljevich. Interviews during the game include coaches, principals, players, students, and others. For complete air dates and times, visit [www.trivalleytv.org](http://www.trivalleytv.org), where the games also can be viewed via Video on Demand. DVDs of the games can also be purchased on the website.

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We're proud to introduce our sparkling new facility for treating everything from cuts and breaks to life-threatening illnesses. Our 24-hour Emergency Department has private treatment rooms, and a comfortable, large waiting room. While we hope you never have an emergency, our experienced physicians and nurses are here, close to home and around the clock.



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## 115 Announcements

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

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## 130 Classes & Instruction

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Train for hands on Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - Housing available CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-804-5293 (Cal-SCAN)

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

**Paralegal**  
Be an Immigration or Bankruptcy paralegal. \$395 includes certificate, Resume and 94% placement in all 58 CA counties. For more information call 626-552-2885 or 626-918-3599 (Cal-SCAN)



## 202 Vehicles Wanted

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

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Fast Free Towing 24 hr. Response - Tax Deduction. UNITED BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION. Providing Free Mammograms & Breast Cancer Info 888-792-1675 (Cal-SCAN)

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

**Wanted: Pre 1973 Mercedes**  
SL. Any condition, other convertibles, Porsche 356, 912, 911, Jaguar XK150 through E-types. Gas station signs. Other interesting cars considered. 714-267-3436 or michaelcanfield204@gmail.com (Cal-SCAN)

**235 Wanted to Buy**  
**Diabetic Test Strips Wanted**  
Cash Paid. Unopened, Unexpired Boxes Only. All Brands Considered. Help Others - don't throw boxes away. For more information, CALL (888) 491-1168 (Cal-SCAN)

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

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Starting at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) and High Speed Internet starting at \$14.95/month (where available.) Save! Ask About Same Day Installation! Call Now! 1-888-540-4727 (Cal-SCAN)

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From only \$3997.00. Make and save money with your own bandmill. Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. Free Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com (Cal-SCAN)



## 550 Business Opportunities

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Open Red Hot Dollar, Dollar Plus, Mailbox, Discount Party, \$10 Clothing Store, Teen Store, Fitness Center from \$53,900 Worldwide! www.drss25.com 1-800-518-3064. (Cal-SCAN)

## 560 Employment Information

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

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Qualify for any portion of \$.03/mile quarterly bonus: \$.01 Safety, \$.01 Production, \$.01 MPG. Two raises in first year. 3 months recent experience. 800-414-9569 www.drivекnight.com (Cal-SCAN)

**Drivers: 13 Positions**  
Apply Now. Top 5% Pay & Benefits, Credential, Fuel, and Referral Bonus Available. Class A CDL required. 877-258-8782 www.ad-drivers.com (Cal-SCAN)

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Now hiring 10 spontaneous individuals. Travel full time. Must be 18+. Transportation and hotel provided. Call Shawn 800-716-0048 (AAN CAN)

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## 645 Office/Home Business Services

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

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

## 695 Tours & Travel

**Cabo San Lucas: \$449**  
All inclusive special. Stay 6 Days In A Luxury Beach Front Resort with Unlimited Meals And Drinks For \$449! www.luxurycabohotel.com 888-481-9660 (Cal-SCAN)



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We work according to your expectations, necessities, and budget. We promise to satisfy and delight you with our quality work. License & Bonded. Call Sara Solar at (925) 339-2193. \$15 off for The First Cleaning.

## 751 General Contracting

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



## 805 Homes for Rent

**Menlo Park, 2 BR/2 BA**  
Ideal location with great schools! E-mail: martulino@yahoo.com

## 809 Shared Housing/Rooms

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

## 825 Homes/Condos for Sale

**Palo Alto, 4 BR/3.5 BA**  
New built in 2012 two story SFR 2,850 sq. ft. including 1 car garage at 7,000 sq. ft. lot (Buyer to verify). Will be shown by ap appointment with Owner - cell phone 650-465-3773, vergassov1@yahoo.com

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Own 60 acres for 40 acre price/payment. \$0 Down, \$198/mo. Money Back Guarantee, no credit checks. Beautiful Views. 1-800-343-9444 (Cal-SCAN)



## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

**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 PUB DATES Feb. 8, 15 and 22, 2013, and March 1, 2013.

**BLUE STAR CRYSTALS, BLUE STAR BLESSINGS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No.:474569-70  
The following person(s) doing business as: (1) Blue Star Crystals,(2)Blue Star Blessings, 3107 East Ruby Hill Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):Debra Jasper Wright, 3107 East Ruby Hill Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business(s) is conducted by an individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein (1) 4-12-06, (2) 1-1-13. Signature of Registrant(s): Debra Jasper Wright. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 4, 2013. Pleasanton Weekly, PUB DATES Feb. 22, March 1, 8 and 15, 2013.

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# Marketplace

## Help Wanted

**Sr. Solutions Architect Job Location: Pleasanton, CA.**  
Duties: Resp. for supp. sales by provid. the tech. & sol. expert. to effectively pursue qualified opportun., incl. sol. design, client proposals & presales deliverables. Design & config. call center app. using the Cisco suite of IP Call Center products (CCIE (R&S), CCIP, & Cisco Datacenter Application Services Design Specialist). Identify new opportun. to pursue applying BOM, SOW, Diagram & PCT. Assist mgmt. teams in assessment of tech. resources, comm. with pre-sales/sales members. Reqs: Bach degree or foreign equiv. in Elec.Engg. or Comp. Sci. plus 3 yrs. of exp. as Solution Architect. Must have certifications in CCIE (R&S), CCIP, & Cisco Datacenter Application Services Design Specialist. Mail resume to Rachel Briele, Dimension Data, 4101 Lake Boone Trail, ste 200, Raleigh, NC 27607

## 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 Dyrmishi & Felica M. Dyrmishi 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 Anchundo CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT (Pleasanton Weekly February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2013).

## PLACE AN AD

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## PET OF THE WEEK

### Meet Eclair

Eclair is a regal young adult who is a sassy girl with a lot of spunk. She was rescued in 2012 with her three young kittens, who were all adopted right away. Eclair prefers a luxurious lifestyle with sunny windows, no other kitties to bother her, and a warm lap to lie next to. She has lived with dogs before and can hold her own. For more information, call 426-8656 or go to www.valleyhumane.org to see other adoptable dogs and cats. Visit Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St., open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; and noon-4 p.m. Sunday.



DAVID SMITH

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## Builder confidence virtually unchanged in February

Western state top confidence levels in rest of U.S.

By JEB BING

Builder confidence in the market for newly built, single-family homes was virtually unchanged in February with a one-point decline to 46 on the National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI), released this week.

"Following solid gains over the past year, builder confidence has essentially leveled out and held in the same three-point range over the last four months," noted NAHB Chairman Rick Judson, a home builder from Charlotte, N.C.

"This is partly due to ongoing uncertainties about job growth and consumer access to mortgage credit," he added, "but it's also a reflection of the fact that builders are now confronting rising costs for building materials and, in some markets, limited availability of labor and lots as demand for new homes strengthens."

NAHB Chief Economist David Crowe agreed.

"Having risen strongly in 2012, the HMI hit a slight pause in the beginning of this year as builders adjusted their expectations to reflect the pace at which consumers are moving forward on new-home purchases," he observed. "The index remains near its highest level since May of 2006, and we ex-

pect home building to continue on a modest rising trajectory this year."

Derived from a monthly survey that NAHB has been conducting for 25 years, the NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index gauges builder perceptions of current single-family home sales and sales expectations for the next six months as "good," "fair" or "poor." The survey also asks builders to rate traffic of prospective buyers as "high to very high," "average" or "low to very low." Scores from each component are then used to calculate a seasonally adjusted index where any number over 50 indicates that more builders view conditions as good than poor.

Holding above the critical mid-point of 50 for a third consecutive month, the HMI component gauging current sales conditions fell by a single point to 51 in February. Meanwhile, the component gauging sales expectations in the next six months rose by one point, to 50, and the component gauging traffic of prospective buyers slipped four points, to 32.

Three-month moving averages for each region's HMI score were mixed in February, with the Northeast up three points to 39 and the West up four points to 55, and the Midwest and South each down two points, to 48 and 47, respectively. ■

## Real Estate Matters: Does buying a second home make sense?

Sure it does, mortgage broker says, but do it now when prices, loans are at their best

By MICHAEL DREYFUS

I get this question a lot from friends and clients who own homes: Does it make sense to buy a second home? My short answer is, sure, I think it makes a lot of sense.

Now I can hear a good friend of mine giving me the "I can take a vacation anywhere I want and stay anywhere I want for less than the cost of paying for and maintaining another house and don't get me started about the hassle" speech (he recently bought a second home).

Which is largely true. But that thought string fails to address a couple of larger considerations about the value of a second home outside of its immediate weekend use and some very good reasons to make that purchase now.

First and most fundamentally, the financial climate is in your favor, and it won't be forever. Interest rates are low, rents are high and real estate in many vacation resort areas is relatively reasonable, at least when you compare it to local real estate prices.

The second factor: The baby boomers are coming, and they're coming in droves. These 76 million Americans born between 1945 and 1964 control over 80% of personal financial assets and more than half of all consumer spending, and they're heading into retirement en masse.

I have nothing against baby boomers, being on the tail end of this boom myself (and I mean VERY tail end, of course), but if you're considering investing in a second home, the time is now or possibly never. The longer you wait, the more likely it is you'll be duking it out with an ever-growing number of newly retired baby boomers. It's a game of whoever gets there first as market pressures become increasingly intense in the more competitive real-estate markets.

Which are those? There is a big trend for retired folks to want to buy a small place in town. If you envision yourself downsizing your current home and living in a pied-à-terre in the city, be it San Francisco, Manhattan, even here, now would be a good time to consider nailing down that place. If you don't plan to use it for a few years and need the income, consider making it a rental property, or, if you can afford to, use it as an urban escape.

A final and very important factor to consider is that your second home might become your primary residence, or at a minimum, your extended family's home base, so you might want to envision it that way. The more likely it is to become your



Michael Dreyfus



home, the more important it is that you feel great about the house, its layout, location and community.

Let me give you an example that's very close to home, because it's mine. My wife and I love the idea of downsizing to a small place in San Francisco when we retire so we can experience a more urban lifestyle (see baby boomers above). We also want our kids and their kids down the line to feel like they have a home, a place they feel connected to, and where multiple generations can congregate. Enter the second home in Tahoe.

The fact is that families tend to get spread out over time and the high cost of living in our area probably increases the odds of our children living elsewhere. We need to lure them back somehow, even just for vacations and holidays.

Unless you're in the group of folks who plan to stay in your family home after your retirement (or one of the lucky few who can help your kids buy one), you might want to consider establishing a home base somewhere else, be it in the mountains, at the lake or near the beach, that's attractive to the entire family. The sooner you make it a part of your traditions, the more it will feel like home sweet home down the line, even if it's home sweet second home right now.

I've seen a lot of my friends and clients go through the emotional experience of selling the family home, the place where steps were taken and bikes ridden for the first time, where beloved dogs have come and gone, where hundreds of family meals were shared and sibling squabbles resolved. Believe me, it can be heart wrenching.

Having that other home base where your family has created memories and shared life experiences makes it a whole lot easier to say goodbye when it comes time, knowing you all have a sense of place in this second home as well. And you won't get a lot of complaints from the kids that they have to ski the bumps or ride the waves on Christmas day either.

Michael Dreyfus founded boutique brokerage Dreyfus Properties, with offices in Palo Alto.

### OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

#### Alamo

4 BEDROOMS

2090 Pebble Drive \$1,199,000  
Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 934-1111

#### Blackhawk

4 BEDROOMS

37 Chestnut Place \$2,499,000  
Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc 855-4000

7 BEDROOMS

567 Blackhawk Club Dr \$2,750,000  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333

#### Danville

4 BEDROOMS

3416 Cashmere St \$1,299,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333

106 Windover Dr \$1,399,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors Inc 855-4000

5 BEDROOMS

1250 Country Lane \$1,348,000  
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

#### Dublin

2 BEDROOMS

7354 Cronin Circle \$314,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Andrea & Earl Rozran 858-4198

3245 Dublin Blvd \$399,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

#### Livermore

3 BEDROOMS

1857 El Padro Dr \$499,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

4 BEDROOMS

1914 Santa Croce Dr \$795,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

710 Wimbledon Lane \$575,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 RE/Max Accord 997-4905

#### Pleasanton

4 BEDROOMS

7755 Country Lane \$1,899,000  
Sun 1:30-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

5248 Ridgevale Way \$739,000  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 998-2980

6 BEDROOMS

1124 Piemonte Dr \$2,450,000  
Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario 260-2220

#### San Ramon

4 BEDROOMS

2719 Derby Dr \$868,000  
Sun 12-4 Keller Williams Realty 855-8333

5 BEDROOMS

208 Riverland Ct \$969,000  
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

7556 Corrinne Street \$699,000  
Sun 12:30-3:30 RE/Max Accord 242-8999



## The market is HOT!

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Publishing April 19, 2013

The 2013 BUYING AND SELLING special Real Estate section includes news and articles of interest about the local market. Use this opportunity to showcase properties or tell your prospective clients about your successes!

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## Helping Sellers and Buyers in the Tri-Valley



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"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**



**REPRESENTED BUYERS**  
1485 Chianti Court, Livermore  
Wonderful home in Livermore, 3126 sq. ft.  
4 bedroom/3 baths on 16,000 sq. ft. lot.  
Huge backyard with custom pool and spa.  
**JUST SOLD FOR \$925,000**



**REPRESENTED BUYERS**  
1938 Clover Court, Pleasanton  
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**



**REPRESENTED BUYERS**  
6221 Detjen Court, Pleasanton  
Beautiful home on 1/2 acre in Preserve,  
5 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms.  
**SOLD FOR \$1,510,000**



**SOLD**  
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.  
**SOLD FOR \$610,000**



**SOLD FOR OVER ASKING**  
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**

### COMING SOON

4 bedrooms, 2 baths. 1529 sq. ft. Central Pleasanton location **\$650,000**

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



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Andrea & Earl Rozran

**7354 Cronin Cir. — Dublin — \$314,000**  
Adorable 2BR, 1.5BA condo with attached one-car garage. Updated kitchen and baths plus indoor laundry and a nice ground floor patio. Great location near 580, 680, and BART.



Jennifer Branchini

**810 Oak Grove Rd — Concord — \$110,000**  
Great single level condo near shopping and services. Updated with newer kitchen, appliances, laminate floors, newer carpeting and dual paned windows. Updated bath with shower over tub. Super opportunity!



Norm Nelson

**1171 San Ramon Valley Blvd — Danville — \$279,000**  
Sparkling single story that is in "move-in ready" condition. Upgraded kitchen (corian counters) and baths. Spacious living area, private patio. Great location, close to town and freeway access.



Carol Beck

**3275 Dublin Blvd. — Dublin — \$395,000**  
Exceptional, spacious San Sebastian model. Single story, corner unit with separate living and dining areas. Granite kitchen counters, gleaming wood flooring, tile floor coverings in baths and kitchen. Close to BART, shopping, and 580 access.



Gina Piper

**4020 Nice Ct. — Pleasanton — \$515,000**  
Fantastic location and spectacular home! Many upgrades including wood floors and beautiful granite counters. Inside laundry, walk-in pantry in large inviting kitchen. Ample storage. Walk to parks, walking trails, BART, work, dining and more.



Jan Pegler

**7349 Stonedale Dr. — Pleasanton — \$475,000**  
3 bedrm/2.5 bath 1502 sq.ft. many upgrades — stainless steel appliances, new fixtures, plantation shutters, updated baths, AC & hot water heater less than 3 yrs., dual pane windows, upstrs laundry, woodburning fireplace, oversized garage with storage cabinets & workbench. Easy walk to BART & mall.

# HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

2202 KAMP CT., PLEASANTON, \$1,150,000

This beautiful Gibson model in Mohr Park Estates offers nearly 3,400 sq. feet of living space on a generous 8,800 sq. foot lot only one block away from Nielsen Park. It has five bedrooms and three full baths including a full bedroom and bath downstairs. Additional features include an updated kitchen, great backyard for entertaining, and a three-car garage. Offered at \$1,130,000 and received multiple offers closing at \$1,150,000. **Listed by Andrea & Earl Rozran of Better Homes and Gardens Tri-Valley Realty (925) 858-4198.**



## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during January 15- February 6, 2013

### Dublin

- 2520 Brandini Drive** I. & E. Antiniw to A. & A. Marotta for \$881,000
- 5501 De Marcus Boulevard #217** J. Oh to J. Derickson for \$340,000
- 5501 De Marcus Boulevard #442** C. Hoang to M. Anka for \$290,000
- 3465 Dublin Boulevard #414** A. Jaijaa to A. Tang for \$410,000
- 3420 Finnian Way #106** Toll Dublin Limited to A. & D. Davis for \$451,500
- 3420 Finnian Way #116** Toll Dublin Limited to L. Hettick for \$300,000
- 3420 Finnian Way #128** Toll Dublin Limited to J. Perez-Rosales for \$300,000
- 3774 Hobstone Place** A. & S. Pilkington to R. Raghavan for \$1,025,000
- 7872 Oxbow Lane** G. & L. Dunham to T. & C. Chen for \$319,500
- 7491 Oxford Circle** A. Saikia to K. Hoke for \$401,000
- 2613 Whitehorse Way** Brookfield Windwood to H. & M. Luis for \$746,000

### Livermore

- 835 Adams Avenue** S. & J. Guzman to J. & J. Lewis for \$390,000
- 502 Adelle Street** L. & R. Carlson to M. Christiansen for \$225,000
- 750 Alexander Street** S. Williams to T. Zheng for \$457,000
- 2090 Buckskin Road** M. & S. Coats to A. & R. Dieter for \$425,000
- 839 Catalina Drive** US Bank to M. & A. Leeds for \$503,000
- 378 Coleen Street** Bruno Trust to B. Johnson for \$402,000
- 980 Cromwell Street** B. Vannatter to A. & N. Helm for \$435,000
- 936 Dolores Street** Rvest Limited to G. Wong for \$309,000
- 1925 Linden Street** Springer Trust to D. & N. Swanson for \$250,000
- 1150 Lucille Street** R. Garcia to C. & C. Nunes for \$405,000
- 3670 Montrose Place** US Bank to J. Korhummel for \$681,500

- 170 North North N Street #112** Signature at Station Square to G. Rawlings for \$382,500
- 1117 Pine Street** Ann Apartments to K. Campson for \$412,000
- 2348 Rosewood Court** R. & J. German to C. & J. Brand for \$990,000
- 3273 Saratoga Court** I. Kalkat to A. & K. Wells for \$1,227,000
- 5354 Theresa Way** Fuller Trust to Chu Investment for \$525,000

### Pleasanton

- 435 Ewing Drive** Sernach Trust to J. Alexander for \$760,000
- 2860 Garden Creek Circle** A. & N. Felix to S. Bodireddygar for \$675,000
- 3325 Hadsell Court** D. & K. Wade to L. & C. Nilsen for \$725,000
- 4927 Hillcrest Way** M. & R. Gibson to N. Srinivasan for \$683,000
- 252 Main Street** Macer Family Partnership to M. MacEr for \$845,000
- 237 Rachael Place** R. Coelho to J. Buzi for \$200,000
- 1181 Vintner Way** Renslow Trust to D. Kjos for \$701,000
- 337 Yearling Court** Whitaker Trust to T. & A. Whitaker for \$1,854,000

### San Ramon

- 2826 Ascot Drive** Rodriguez Trust to V. Novikov for \$910,000
- 9609 Broadmoor Drive** M. Stern to W. Thean for \$590,000
- 6052 Dalton Way** Tang Trust to A. & R. Singh for \$670,000
- 305 Daybreak Court** K. Jennings to E. & H. Salas for \$405,000
- 12016 Harcourt Way** B. Hahn to Legris Trust for \$475,000
- 62 Hazelnut Court** Monday Trust to M. Vigil for \$575,000
- 3061 Lakemont Drive #4** Junge Trust to R. Kang for \$502,000
- 3071 Pine Valley Road** D. Groetsch to D. & V. Barcelos for \$526,000
- 450 Santander Drive** J. & C. Ha to L. Yang for \$480,000
- 83 Tahoe Court #100** J. & L. Sullivan to L. Lai for \$315,000

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Dublin (Jan. 15-24)

**Total sales reported:** 11  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$290,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,025,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$496,727

### Livermore (Jan. 15-24)

**Total sales reported:** 16  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$225,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,227,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$501,187

### Pleasanton (Jan. 15-24)

**Total sales reported:** 8  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$200,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,854,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$805,375

### San Ramon (Jan. 25-Feb. 6)

**Total sales reported:** 10  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$315,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$910,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$544,800

Source: California REsource

*Find sales information, current listings and open homes at [pleasantonweekly.com/real\\_estate](http://pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate)*


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— \$1,400,000 —  
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— Winston Churchill —



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Reggie Bailey, Pleasanton

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Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4      3890 BUCKNALL ROAD  
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Open SUN 1 - 4      1250 COUNTRY LANE  
**HIDDEN TASSAJARA 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



**DUBLIN**  
Open SAT/SUN 1 - 4      3245 DUBLIN BLVD #307  
**GORGEOUS CONDO!**      \$399,000  
2 BR 2 BA Bright Open Flr Plan.Kit.w/granite.Hrdwd Flrs.Crown Molding.2 Car Garage.Built in 2004 925.847.2200



**DUBLIN**  
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**BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOME!**      \$325,000  
2 BR 2.5 BA Desirable Heritage Commons.Walking distance to neighborhood park.New paint/Carpet 925.847.2200

**ANTIOCH**  
4848 BELFORD PEAK WAY  
**SPACIOUS HOME!**      \$225,000  
3 BR 2.5 BA Kit w/ample storage space.Gas stove & Microwave.Formal Dining rm.3 Car garage plus storage.Nice bckyrd. 925-847-2200

**FREMONT**  
Open SAT/SUN 1-4      42969 NIDO COURT  
**SPANISH VILLA HOME**      \$899,900  
4 BR 2 BA Spacious Floor Plan. Many Upgrades. Formal Liv Rm.Lrg Fam rm w/hrdwd flrs.Excellent Value! 925.847.2200

2866 ALNWICK AVE #5  
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3 BR 3.5 BA Lovely Nassau Model Condo w/balcony. Upgraded w/maple flrs.gourmet kit.,decorator paint. 925.847.2200

**SAN RAMON**  
9640 DAVONA DR  
**BEAUTIFUL HOME W/OPEN FLR PLAN**      \$595,000  
4 BR 2 BA Hardwood Flrs.Kitchen Updated w/SS Appl.French Doors to Patio.Dual Pane Windows. Backyard. 925.847.2200

**CASTRO VALLEY**  
2869 THERESA CT  
**COMING SOON!**      \$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

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1914 SANTA CROCE DR  
**SINGLE LEVEL HOME!**      \$795,000  
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926 SPRINGVIEW CIR  
**FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY!**      \$549,950  
3 BR 2.5 BA Eat-In Kit.w/granite,Lam Flrs.Liv Rm w/fireplace,Lrg Mstr.Newer Roof.Community Pool 925.847.2200

**DISCOVERY BAY**  
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**DISCOVERY BAY-GOLF COURSE HOME**      \$525,000  
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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.Lrg yrd 925.847.2200

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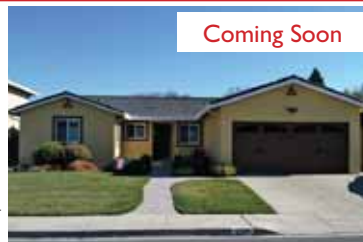
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SOLD!

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Coming Soon

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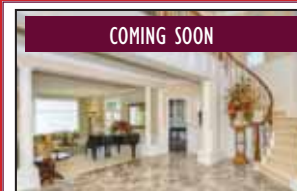


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Jennifer Malakoff is a broker associate with a wide range of professional designations as CRS, GRI, ABR, SRES, QSC. She is a longtime Livermore resident with a local expertise to the Tri-Valley that few can match. We are honored to have Jennifer as part of the Keller Williams family as she continues to provide her knowledge to the real estate buyers and sellers in Tri-Valley.

Chester Hall is an experienced realtor in the Tri-Valley with the SRES and CDPE professional designations. Chester has honed skills that are well suited for his role as a Real Estate Professional. We are honored to have Chester as part of the Keller Williams family as he continues to provide his skills and expertise to the Tri-Valley.



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