

# Pleasanton Weekly

*Little Leagues kick off their season with opening day celebrations » 18*



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A new look at **justice**

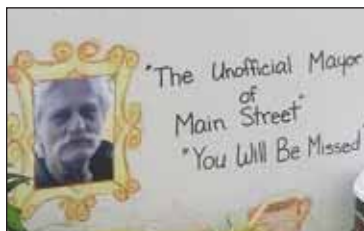


*Foothill High implements alternatives to expulsions and suspensions >> 14*

**POLICE ACTION** 13

**CALENDAR** 19

SECTIONS



## INSIDE THIS WEEK

- **NEWS:** 'Gentle giant' of Main Street will be missed 5
- **NEWS:** \$1.3 million project to begin for Stoneridge extension 8
- **NEWS:** Film explores sexist portrayals in the media 16

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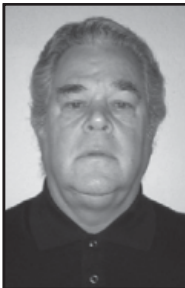
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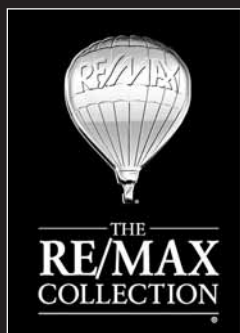
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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Swalwell's 'mobile Congress' comes to Pleasanton

Former Congressman Pete Stark had one or two local forums that I remember, including a Saturday morning public meeting on national health care, so when the health issues had run their course, do did he and he moved on. Congressman Jerry McNerney valued these "Congress at Your Corner" events, as they're called, and held them frequently around the district including in small coffeehouses on Main Street. He considered them more one-on-one discussions and turned away when I moved too close to the discussion with my camera and tape recorder

Now we have a new congressman — former Dublin Councilman and Alameda County prosecutor Eric Swalwell. Last Saturday, he hit a grand slam with his two-hour, ask-me-anything Town Square in the large multi-purpose room at Harvest Park Middle School in Pleasanton. More than 300 showed up, maybe more since his staff of volunteers was busy bringing in more folding chairs during much of the morning. At times, 30 constituents lined up on each side of Swalwell, with aides taking the mike to one on the right, then to the left. Everyone who wanted had a chance to ask questions, some more than one, and he answered them all. He left before noon to go to Hayward where he did it again for voters in that city.

Swalwell is a Dubliner (as they call themselves) who graduated from Dublin High and also played with the Ballistics Soccer Club in Pleasanton. A bachelor, he comes home frequently from Washington, D.C. and is seen often at city, civic and community meetings in both cities. Besides holding his first Town Hall in Pleasanton, he's also set up his District office here at 5075 Hopyard Road, Suite 220.

It was clear Saturday as he handled the multitude of questions about issues concerning us locally that he understands the concerns and interests of the Tri-Valley and that he will be our congressional, almost personal representative in the capital. That includes the federal budget concerns which many expressed, especially those whose paychecks from the national laboratories at Sandia and Lawrence Livermore. At the time



JEB BING

Congressman Eric Swalwell talks to a constituent at a Town Hall meeting in Pleasanton.

he spoke, the sequester fears were paramount, a massive federal spending cut which Swalwell said was totally unnecessary and could affect many here where the labs are our biggest employers. As for immigration reforms, drawing loud applause, Swalwell said his survey shows that 90% in the Valley favor a law that provides illegal immigrants with a path to citizenship, noting that 52% even favor providing these undocumented residents with a California driver's license.

As he spoke, there was some muttering when he favored letting the states decide legalizing marijuana use and having the federal government back off, putting valuable resources to better use. A lot of head-nodding came when he vowed to fight the post offices' plan to end Saturday deliver. The audience applauded when he added that he will work to rein in the large political action groups that post campaign issue advertising without identifying their contributors.

His loudest applause came when he showed various assault rifles in slides on a screen and pointed out in detail how deadly they are. He'll support a federal ban as well as federal laws to force background checks.

Swalwell advocated for rescinding the No Child Left Behind Act, increasing funding for education, decreasing funding for defense and continuing government support of renewable energy projects with federal stimulus money. Several in the audience voiced their disagreement to his plan to remove, the Social Security cap, with wealthier Americans paying into the program. But everyone cheered when he proposed the idea of a "mobile Congress," with members casting votes remotely, while spending more time in their districts as he did last weekend, and intends to continue. ■

## About the Cover

The scales of justice may balance a bit differently for Foothill High students in the future. Design by Kristin Herman.

Vol. XIV, Number 6

## Amador Valley Optometric



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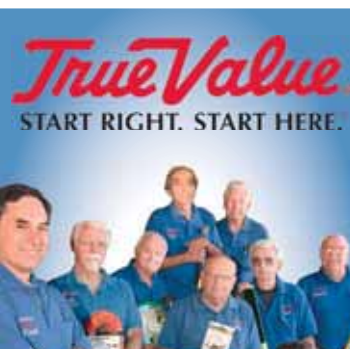


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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

## How do you feel about the recent decision of Yahoo's CEO to eliminate telecommuting?



**Mark Shusterman, M.D.**  
Medical director at Medical Device Co.

A remote arrangement can be beneficial and productive for both employers and employees. However, such arrangements are highly dependent upon the particular needs of the business. Yahoo's management may have made the decision that its current goals require closer collaborative efforts than telecommuting may readily allow.

**Mahbob Yar, Chemist**

Certain jobs need collaboration and the individuals need to be present, and for certain jobs people are more efficient working remotely to eliminate distractions. Therefore to draw such blanket rule for all employees is a little fascist, especially in this era. Furthermore, I think it is hypocritical for some one like herself, who brings her babysitter to work because she can, to then tell others that they cannot work from home.



**Brian Feiger, D.D.S.**  
Endodontist

I think it's a great idea. It means you have to not only roll out of bed in the morning-you have to actually show up and interact with your colleagues. After all, 90% of life is just showing up, at least according to Woody Allen. Such a great idea, except now there will be more cars on the road, making the commute harder for the rest of us.

**Susan Loesche**  
Retired

I believe it should be a person by person decision, based upon the nature of the employee's work as well as the work habits of the individual employee. I don't think it should be an employer's wholesale, across-the-board policy to require all workers to come into the office.



**Jim Hague**  
Retired

I think it is a step backwards and that it will create more traffic on the roads during rush hour. But it may have a positive impact on worker productivity.

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

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

## We're looking for local goods!

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## We want to meet you!

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## DIGEST

### Senator to talk money

State Sen. Mark DeSaulnier (D., 7th District) is holding a Budget Town Hall meeting from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday at the Dublin City Council Chamber. Residents are invited to attend to learn more about the state budget, make comments or ask questions.

The Dublin council chamber is located at 100 Civic Plaza in Dublin.

### Speaker series for parents

The Pleasanton Police Department is hosting a free speaker series targeting topics of interest to parents of children ages 10 and up. They include the growing use of prescription and over the counter drugs, bullying, cyber bullying and Internet safety. One in three teens ages 12 to 17 has experienced online harassment, with girls being more likely to be the victims of cyber bullying, according to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The talks will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Mondays at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St., unless otherwise noted.

The first talk is "Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drug Use," for parents of fifth-graders, on March 11. The rest of the schedule is as follows:

■ March 18 — "Bullying," for parents of fifth-graders

■ March 19 — "Cyber bullying," for parents of middle school students

■ March 25, "Internet Safety," for parents of fifth-graders

■ April 17, "Cyber bullying," for parents of students at Amador Valley and Village high schools at the Amador school library

■ April 24, "Cyber bullying," for parents of students at Foothill High School in its multipurpose room.

For more information, call the Police Department at 931-5100.

### Join cycling tour

Organizers of the 2013 Amgen Tour of California, a professional bicycle race from Escondido to Santa Rosa on May 12-19, are looking for volunteers in the 12 host cities. The leg from Livermore to the summit of Mount Diablo is scheduled for May 18.

Course marshals are needed to assist on the race route, helping to monitor pedestrian traffic, barricades and road closures. Volunteers, who must be over 18 or accompanied by an adult, are also needed for media support, security and volunteer check-in.

Register to volunteer at [www.amgentourofcalifornia.com](http://www.amgentourofcalifornia.com).

## City OKs speed limit increases on 11 streets

New limits comply with state guide to conform to what motorists are driving

By JEB BING

Speed limits are being raised by 5 miles an hour on 11 major streets in Pleasanton after a traffic survey showed that motorists are driving faster on those streets anyhow.

Mike Tassano, city traffic engineer, told the City Council on Tuesday that state law requires speed surveys at least once a year to make sure posted speeds conform to the speeds that 85% of motorists are driving. Certain expectations are allowed based on driveways, pedestrian traffic and other considerations, he said. Otherwise, speeds and posted speed limits must conform.

Police Chief David Spiller said that speed limits that are not in conformance with the 85% rule cannot be enforced by police.

First Street, between Ray Street/Vineyard Avenue and where First turns into Stanley Boulevard, is posted at 35 mph but motorists are

driving it at 40. The survey found the same on Gibraltar Drive between Hopyard and Stoneridge. As a result, speed limits on both sections of those streets will be increased to 40 mph. Johnson Drive between Stoneridge and Commerce Circle also will now be posted at 40 mph.

The basis for the 85 percentile comes from the California Vehicle Code's "Basic Speed Law." Traffic engineers use the 85 percentile speed as a benchmark for what the majority of drivers feel is a safe speed. Speed limits set too low when most drivers are traveling faster can pose safety hazards, Tassano said.

Pleasanton streets now posted at 30 mph that will be raised to 35 mph are Bernal Avenue between Vineyard and Nevada; Chabot Drive between Owens and Inglewood; Dublin Canyon Road between Laurel Creek Drive and Foothill;

Inglewood Drive between Hopyard and Willow; and Laguna Creek Lane between Valley and West Lagoon Road.

Pleasanton streets now posted at 25 mph that will now be raised to 30 mph are Deodar Way between Foothill and Stoneridge Mall Road; and Valley Avenue between Case Avenue and Sunol Boulevard.

Speed limits on Willow Road now posted at 40 mph will be reduced to 35 mph, and Owens Drive between Chabot Canal and Rosewood will be cut from 45 to 40 mph.

Streets where speed limits are being reduced by 5 mph include portions of Johnson Drive, Pleasanton Avenue and Springdale Avenue.

The City Council approved the speed limit changes 3-1 with Councilman Jerry Pentin opposed, saying the higher speeds on some streets could endanger bicyclists. ■



A cardboard memorial for Gene Artemow rests among the flowers in front of Tully's at the corner of Main Street and Angela.

DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

## So long, Gene

'Gentle giant' of Main Street will be missed

Gene Artemow, a fixture on Pleasanton's Main Street for many years, died two weeks ago in a nursing home in Castro Valley after a bout from pneumonia.

Alicia Finken, a lead barista at Tully's Coffee, put together photos and a poem on a cardboard memorial that rests among the flowers in front of Tully's at the corner of Main Street and Angela.

"The poem was one I found online. I gave it a mild edit of my own and made it more personal for Gene," Finken said. "I knew him for about seven years. I'd sit out and talk to him before work. He was always helpful."

He once showed her a card, which was expired, that showed he'd been a security guard.

"He thought he was in charge of keeping stores safe downtown," Finken said, "and ironically enough a week after he passed someone broke into High Tech Burrito."

"He was just a nice guy," said artist Gary Winter, who is also a regular at Tully's. "He was around 64 years old."

For awhile Gene lived in the Victorian two-story house on Angela behind Café Main but when it sold he began to sleep in one of the

two cars he owned.

"Nobody ever bothered him," Winter said. "Everyone was nice to him, and he was nice to everybody."

Realtor Deborah Cilk got to know Gene when her office was on Angela Street.

"He was a fixture in downtown Pleasanton as long as I can remember," she wrote in an email. "No matter what time of day it was, he'd be guarding his post at the corner by Tully's or on his dedicated chair behind Café Main."

"You couldn't miss the 'gentle giant' who stood about 6 feet 3 with a full head of gray hair that sometimes grew to shoulder length. He was tall and rail thin, with piercing blue eyes, a deep tan and a genuine, toothless grin. Cigarettes were his constant companion and his Suburban was his faithful steed," she continued.

"He was the self-appointed keeper of the watch for our little downtown. He was quick to share stories of his days as a security guard, or regale of his youth or his life experience.

"He'd delight in sharing the latest news of  
See **SO LONG** on Page 9

## Zone 7 water agency inches toward independence

Supervisors express concerns over rates, flood control

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Would an independent Zone 7 water agency result in higher or lower rates for residents?

Zone 7 representatives say that separating from Alameda County would remove a layer of administration resulting in lower rates. But Supervisor Scott Haggerty said Tuesday night that this would not necessarily be the case.

In the past, Alameda County has turned down an enhanced retirement benefit for Zone 7, Haggerty told the several dozen people who attended the meeting.

"If Zone 7 separates and gives the enhanced retirement benefit, I'm not sure the rates wouldn't be raised," he added.

Zone 7, which already sets its own salaries, has reported that raising employee contributions for higher benefits in order to keep employer contributions stable was discussed at a meeting in 2007 but no more discussions have taken place.

"I've never seen if you create another bureaucracy that rates wouldn't go up," Haggerty said.

At Tuesday's meeting, which was held at the County Public Works Agency in Dublin to get input from the public, Haggerty and Supervisor Nate Miley expressed concerns about coordinating flood control between Zone 7 and the rest of Alameda County.

Zone 7 participates in the Bay Area Flood Protection Agencies Association, and it represents the Flood Protection/Stormwater Management Functional Area for the entire Bay Area.

"The mission is to provide an effective flood control system for the Livermore-Amador Valley in a fiscally responsible, innovative, proactive and environmentally sensitive manner," Zone 7 General Manager Jill Duerig said in her presentation. "We try to leverage the money we have by working with others."

Zone 7 provides water to more than 200,000 people in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and the Dougherty Valley in San Ramon, as well as managing local run-off and groundwater. It imports 80%  
See **WATER AGENCY** on Page 10



GLENN WOHLTSMANN

## Protest on Owens Drive

John Hughes and Curtis Day protest non-labor union being used to expand the Mercedes Benz dealership on Owens Drive on Tuesday. A subcontractor, Allglass Global, "pays substandard wages to its employees," said a spokesman for District Council 16 International Union of Painters and Allied Trades.

ValleyCare  
Medical Foundation  
Welcomes

# Anthony K. Koh, MD

Board Certified in Internal Medicine

Dr. Anthony Koh has joined the ValleyCare Medical Foundation specializing in Internal Medicine.

Dr. Koh has been an inpatient hospitalist for Kindred Hospital of San Francisco Bay Area in San Leandro and Doctor's Medical Center in San Pablo since 2009. Previously, he practiced at St. John's Hospital, Cannon Valley Clinic of the Mayo Health System and Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital, all in Minnesota.

Dr. Koh completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York — a member of the Sinai Health Care System and received his medical and undergraduate degrees from the Institute of Medicine in Yangon, Myanmar (Burma). He has been involved in several research projects and received an award from the New York chapter of the American College of Physicians and American Society of Internal Medicine for research.



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# BART to increase fares every two years

Board also OKs parking lot fees to vary according to use

By DOLORES FOX GIARDELLI

The BART Board of Directors voted Feb. 28 to continue its fare increase program, which is based on inflation and helps pay for new trains and other system improvements.

The program, which has been in place since 2003, will raise fares in 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2020.

"We want our passengers to know we don't make decisions like this without great consideration," BART Board President Tom Radulovich said. "The money generated will only be allowed to go toward capital needs such as paying for BART's share of the new rail cars and a new train control system, which will allow us to run trains closer together."

The increase is calculated based on the average rate of inflation over the two-year period minus 0.5% for improvements. It is estimated that this program will generate \$325 million over the next eight years.

The first increase, which will go into effect Jan. 1, 2014, will be 5.2%. BART's average fare is \$3.59 so a 5.2% increase would cost an extra 19 cents.

"These small increases are an important part of BART's financial health, especially as we face a \$10 billion unfunded capital need," Radulovich said.

The board also OK'd a parking program to raise or lower the charge based on the usage of each lot, although almost all BART lots fill up at an early hour every day, officials reported.

The money collected for parking

does not cover the cost to provide it. Some \$21.7 million a year goes to provide security, maintenance, lighting, landscaping and cleaning, while BART collects \$15.6 million.

Parking at the Pleasanton BART stations currently costs \$1 until 4 p.m. on weekdays. Under the new parking program, all lots will cost at least \$1. If a parking lot fills up every weekday for six months, the daily fee will be increased by 50 cents. If the occupancy is less than 95%, the fee will decrease 50 cents.

The cost for long term/airport permits may be raised or lowered in the equivalent of 50 cents daily increments according to the changes to the daily fee at a particular station.

This new parking rate policy is expected to generate \$6 million in the first year and \$10 million in subsequent years. The additional revenue can only be used for station access, and to renovate or modernize stations.

"Many of our aged stations are in desperate need of upgrades and improvements," Radulovich said. "This new money will go towards projects such as escalator and elevator reliability, improved lighting, more secured bike parking, shuttle programs, better drop-off areas, and other improvements to stations and access."

A survey showed that about 60% of BART passengers support the continuation of the inflation-based fare increase program. In the 2012 Customer Satisfaction Survey, 70% of passengers rated BART a good value for the money. ■



## Thank you, Safeway

Amador Valley High School recently met at Safeway Santa Rita to say thank you for all of the eScrip funds Safeway has contributed to AVHS in recent years. Representatives from AVHS/PTSA and Athletic Boosters included (front row, l-r) Lauren Copenhaver, Hannah Stoik and Megan Sensiba from the Spirit Squad, and Anthony Pirounakis from PTSA; (back) Principal Jim Hansen, PTSA Reps Manos Pirounakis and Natalie Mataras, Boosters President Trevor Knaggs, Safeway Manager of Public Affairs and Amador Grad Wendy Gutshall, Safeway Store Manager Steve Kozak, Boosters VP Tessie Wagner-Pease, AVHS eScrip Coordinator Kim Guidice and eScrip Regional Development Director Jean Wilkie.

A sign from AVHS eScrip groups including PTSA, Athletic Boosters, Amador Friends of Music and AVHS Choir and Orchestra was presented to Kozak and local Safeway stores. With the help of the eScrip Program and all of its eScrip supporters, AVHS has received at least \$1 million in contributions from Safeway and its Partner Stores from 2006-12.

# “What Do You Want YOUR Body to Look Like?”

Discover Why Tri-Valley Area Men and Women Are Flocking to Cutting-Edge Laser Therapy to Sculpt “Problem Areas” – Without the Pain of Liposuction

Despite exercising and eating right, are you finding it **nearly impossible to get rid of your:**

- Love handles or a “muffin top”
- Saggy stomach
- Jiggly upper arms
- Extra “padding” on your buttocks or thighs

**If you said “yes” to one or more of these common problems ... good news!**

There’s a new type of treatment that can help you get the body you want – without the pain, risks and hassle of liposuction. The best part? It’s now available in San Ramon.

## Stubborn Inches Plague Everyone – Really!

Hi, I’m Dr. Bob Dees, DC, owner of Canyon Chiropractic. I see patients like you every day. One of their top complaints is “I just can’t get rid of the ‘jiggly’ parts – no matter what I do.”

So if you’ve ever felt frustrated, embarrassed, guilty or ashamed about how your body looks – especially when you work so hard to eat right and exercise – let me reassure you ... You are NOT alone.

Even highly athletic people can struggle! And unfortunately, the chance of having stubborn inches that refuse to away only increases the older you get.

That’s why thousands of people across the country are embracing a new, non-invasive body sculpting treatment designed to painlessly release fat in “trouble zones.” It’s called lipo-laser therapy (a.k.a. “cold laser”) ... and you may even have seen it featured on Dr. Oz, The Doctors, and Rachel Ray.

## A Non-Invasive Approach

Carrying extra fat around is painful -- even when the extra padding comes from a “good” reason like a recent pregnancy or naturally gaining a “winter layer.” You feel self-conscious, insecure and unattractive. You may find yourself holding back

in social situations ... or even avoiding attention because you don’t want to be seen.

Until now, liposuction has been the most common solution for body contouring. But many people have avoided this invasive surgery because of the pain, health risks, bruising, pain medications, and recovery time associated with liposuction.

But, like cold-laser treatments in general, our lipo-laser treatment should be painless. And it requires...

- no surgery
- no recovery
- no anaesthesia
- no downtime

With Body By Laser™, you can look and feel better in just a matter of weeks. Imagine how much more confident, secure and amazing you’ll feel with the slimmer, trimmer, healthier you.

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## \$1.3 million project starts next month for Stoneridge Drive extension

New traffic lights, turning lanes to be added at Santa Rita Road

By JEB BING

Construction will start next month on a \$1.3 million intersection improvement project at Santa Rita Road and Stoneridge Drive in Pleasanton, another in a series of multi-million-dollar road and bridge building programs now under way to extend Stoneridge Drive east to El Charro Road and Livermore.

The long-awaited and often controversial extension goes back more than a decade and, at one time, was at the heart of political campaigns for City Council and regional agency posts.

The intersection project approved by the Pleasanton City Council on Tuesday will widen the busy Santa Rita/Stoneridge intersection to three lanes, adding new left and right turn lanes, better pedestrian pathways, a new bus turnout where passengers can board more safely, and a multi-phase, computer-operated signal system to give more time on what's likely to be a heavier-traveled Stoneridge Drive.

Traffic signals also will be installed at Newton Way, Guzman Parkway and Trevor Parkway, streets and neighborhoods that will see through traffic on Stoneridge for the first time when the roadway extension is completed. Sound walls in those neighborhoods will be improved or installed along with noise-lessening pavement between Santa Rita and Trevor.

The council awarded the contract to Carone and Co. Inc., the lowest competitive bidder for the

work. The project is being funded entirely with various "non-city" sources, including funding from the Alameda County Surplus Property Authority paid to the city of Pleasanton to offset the cost of Staples Ranch traffic mitigations, as well as from other sources.

The extension of Stoneridge Drive will be completed and the roadway opened once work is completed on a new four-lane bridge now under construction just east of Trevor Drive. For years, a "Road Closed" sign as marked the end of Stoneridge at that point even though the city of Livermore completed the extension of Jack London Boulevard to El Charro last year.

When Stoneridge opens, motorists will have a new through street to drive between the two cities, a long anticipated, though often controversial goal of city and civic leaders. A main concern on the Pleasanton side is the possibility that commuters may use Stoneridge between the El Charro interchange at I-580 and the Stoneridge Drive interchange at I-680 to bypass the often-congested interchange of those two freeways, especially during rush hours.

Proponents of the Stoneridge Drive extension, however, have said the new roadway will provide faster, easier access for residents on both sides of El Charro to Pleasanton businesses where they work, ValleyCare Medical Center and now the new outlets shopping center at El Charro and I-580. ■

## Gene's offers nutritionist

Nutritionist Didi Sindelar will be available for customers at Gene's Fine Foods each Friday starting today from 3-7 p.m.

"With the broad variety of specialty products, produce, meats and seafood that Gene's Fine Foods carries we felt it would be helpful for our customers who might have questions about certain diets, concerns of ingredients in products or just would like someone to discuss nutritional values with," said store director Casey Rodacker.

"We invite you to stop in and visit with Didi. She will also help explain our healthy shelves program, which identifies healthy items in categories throughout our store."

Sindelard graduated from Bauman College in Berkeley, where she studied Holistic Nutrition. She is a member of the Weston A. Price Foundation, which is dedicated to restoring nutrient-dense foods to the human diet through education, research and activism.



Nutritionist Didi Sindelar

After growing up in Ohio and living in Chicago, Sindelar moved to the Bay Area in 2005 to seek a healthier and more active lifestyle, after 15 years as an international flight attendant. She loves to be outdoors enjoying nature, whether on a hike or in the seat of an off-road vehicle. ■

## SO LONG

Continued from Page 5

the newest businesses moving in — and yes, he knew all the gossip. How could he not? His perch outside Tully's was his daily news feed, where business deals were consummated and friendships were forged.

"Some mistook him as a vagrant or a panhandler. If those misconceptions bothered him, he never let on. Not much bothered him, really. He would try to see the good in people and was quick to share a friendly greeting or a word of encouragement. He would gladly share a cup of coffee, and he appreciated when his friends would share their resources, their car repair skills, their 'extras' and most importantly — their time.

"His was a simple life. His possessions were few but his basic needs were met and he was happy. A cigarette — a cup of coffee — and a place to keep watch into the window of his little world."

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



GLENN WOHLTANN

## Kindness comes in all shapes

Emma Washam and Ally Bierde- man, 10-year-old students in Adrian Cukar's class at Vintage Hills Elementary School, show off the \$1,000 in goods the pair collected for Tri-Valley Haven as part of the fifth-grade Kindness Project.

"When we decided to do it together, we started collecting cans in my neighborhood, then hers," Emma said.

Ally said they collected food, toys and non-perishables starting in September, along with about \$300 in cash. Ali Frey, owner of Coffee Ali, let the girls set up a donation barrel that boosted the amount contributed, and Raley's supplied paper bags at no cost.

## School board reviews steps being taken to boost grades

District failed to meet 5 out of 38 goals imposed by No Child Left Behind

BY GLENN WOHLTANN

The Pleasanton School board received an update on the district's plan Tuesday night that addresses its federally imposed mandate to boost grades for some students.

The district has to file a document with the state Department of Education by the middle of March on how it is meeting goals to improve scores for English and math for socio-economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities, and boosting the graduation rates for disabled students.

"There's nothing new in this plan, it's just a recap of what we already have in place," noted Board Member Joan Laursen.

Valley View Elementary and Pleasanton Middle School were placed on the state list of program improvement schools a year ago because some students didn't make the cut under increasingly tough standards imposed under No Child Left Behind.

The document notes that the district is implementing Common Core State Standards and has hired instructional coaches for the 2013-14 school year. The

"There's nothing new in this plan, it's just a recap of what we already have in place."

Joan Laursen,

Pleasanton school board member

district is, among other things, conducting instructional rounds, with teachers stepping into class-

rooms to observe other teachers, and is doing benchmark assessments, short tests administered to give teachers immediate feedback on how students are meeting academic standards.

Scores have already begun to climb. Poor readers at PMS have jumped for 25 out of 34 students who were put into a special program called "Read 180," and an after-school intervention called "Language for Learning" has been initiated for Spanish speakers and poor readers at Valley View.

Those schools aren't the only ones that could end up in pro-

gram improvement, due to increasingly tough standards laid out under NCLB. Lydiksen and Alisal elementary schools are working to improve scores for students with poor reading and math skills.

Failing to improve could trigger a series of increasingly serious interventions for schools that remain in program improvement. Those interventions begin with revising a plan for the school and giving parents the option to transfer their students to other schools, with the district providing transportation. ■

## Congressman Swalwell announces first bill

Main Street Revival Act hopes to boost small businesses and neighborhoods

BY GLENN WOHLTANN

Three months into office, Congressman Eric Swalwell (D., Dublin) is announcing the introduction of his first bill.

The bill, HR 952, is also called the Main Street Revival Act. The act would allow some small businesses in economically depressed areas to defer their first year of payroll taxes to help spur economic development in the East Bay.

Swalwell's proposed legislation would limit the tax deferral to new businesses with fewer than 25 employees in specific zones

designated by the Small Business Administration.

The congressman will hold a news conference this afternoon at 12:30 p.m. to formally announce the bill. He'll speak in front of empty storefronts on the corner of B and Main streets in Hayward to highlight one of the neighborhoods that would benefit



Congressman Eric Swalwell

from the legislation.

Swalwell will be joined at the event by business, community and political leaders in Hayward and the surrounding areas.

During his recent campaign, the 15th District congressman promised that his first bill would focus on economic development to help create jobs and grow the local economy.

Swalwell was elected in November 2012, beating longtime Democratic Congressman Pete Stark. ■

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# An Evening with Lady Carolyn

Clothes through the ages for Women's History Month

Museum on Main celebrates Women's History Month with "An Evening with Lady Carolyn" on Tuesday.

Carolyn Runnells entertains as Lady Carolyn, wearing and displaying clothing that brings history to life by sharing stories about people who wore the clothing and the occasions when it was worn.

A retired history teacher, Runnells owns more than 100 different outfits ranging over 400 years, from the Renaissance Era in the early 1560s to vintage clothing from the 1960s.

Her presentation begins with the 1870s Victorian period clothing, one of 17 layers that weigh more than 27 pounds. Piece by piece she will remove the clothing, discussing the design and



Carolyn Runnells as Lady Carolyn

history of each piece.

"Women love it and men are amused — and thankful by the time I finish," Runnells joked.

A recent certification by the National Association of Interpretation allows Runnells to combine her love of history and her collection of award-winning costumes into informative and educational presentations.

The evening is part of the museum's monthly Ed Kinney Lecture Series. It begins at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$10 general admission; \$5 museum members and seniors; and \$3 students and teachers. The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main St. Call 462-2766. Learn more at [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org). ■

## WATER AGENCY

Continued from Page 5

of the water from the South Bay Aqueduct, which is run by the state.

The seven-member Zone 7 board of directors is elected by Alameda County residents; separating from the county would enable Dougherty Valley residents to run for the board and vote for its members, Duerig said.

"Through its retailer, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD), Zone 7 serves over 15,000 residents in Dougherty Valley, in south San Ramon within Contra Costa County," she said. "With separation, they would no longer be disenfranchised."

DSRSD Board Member Georgen Vonheeder Leopold read a letter supporting Zone 7 separating from the county. It noted that in addition to creating equality for

Dougherty Valley, it would eliminate the duplication of services.

Jill Ray of Contra Costa Supervisor Candace Andersen's office also spoke to express Andersen's concern that Dougherty Valley residents currently do not have a say with Zone 7.

Supervisors Miley and Haggerty also had opinions about how the separation should be done.

"The county doesn't want it to happen piecemeal," Miley said. "We want it to be comprehensive, thorough and complete. Fiscal implications must be resolved."

"LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission) is the appropriate venue for this to be vetted," he added. "I want this to go to LAFCO. Any attempt to go by LAFCO, I would oppose."

He noted that the county has had other entities separate from it, such as Alameda County Medical Center.

"I know it isn't going to happen quickly," he said. "It's not a sprint, it's a marathon. I want to make sure the county is maintaining its integrity as well."

"I'm supportive of this separation but want to see it done right," Haggerty said. "I want to see a comprehensive plan."

He noted that giving Dougherty Valley a say in the running of Zone 7 does not guarantee that one of its residents will be elected to a seat on the board.

Miley suggested a meeting between Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Duerig said after the meeting that because Zone 7 has existed since 1957 and has always worked incrementally toward separation, that she had not thought it needed to start with LAFCO but if the supervisors are more comfortable with that route, she was amenable. ■

## TAKE US ALONG



**McCarthy's visit Sweden:** Shannon, Cathy and Lauren McCarthy keep up with local news while visiting Lund, Sweden, where Lauren was studying abroad at Lund University.



**Hawaiian sunset:** The Shapiro and Worsley families ignore the sunset in Maui to enjoy their Weekly.



**Vegas magic:** The Weekly visits Las Vegas while helping Ryan Snow, far right, celebrate his 21st birthday, along with his mom Lauren Fuller, stepdad Clark Fuller and friend Tyler Wolford. They had front row seats to some amazing magic.

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## Hacienda sees strong growth for business park in 2013

New tenants, new products highlight economic recovery in 2012

Nearly 20 companies have moved into Pleasanton's Hacienda Business Park in 2013 as the city's major corporate and research center rebounds from a recessionary economy.

"Hacienda saw very positive growth in 2012 and we are pleased that 2013 has gotten off to a good start," said James Paxson, Hacienda's general manager. "We are expecting to see a good pace of additional tenant arrivals over the next several months."

Acquisitions, new product introductions and other innovations are leading the business park's growth. These include:

■ Equity Administration Solutions Inc., or EASi, has been named to Deloitte's annual Technology Fast 500 for the second consecutive year. The list recognizes the fastest growing North American companies in technology, media, telecommunications, life sciences and clean technology.

■ Wireless power specialists Powerby-Proxi has unveiled its latest technology for wirelessly recharging a host of items from smartphones and tablets to TV remotes and other battery-operated devices. The Hacienda company's solution comprises a miniature receiver efficient enough to be integrated into the processor board of a smartphone without causing overheating, which works with a transmitter that provides complete spatial freedom of positioning.

■ Maddie's Fund, an animal welfare foundation working to end the killing of unwanted companion animals by shelters, announced last month that it had received over \$44 million in donated media exposure for the Shelter Pet Project (SPP). The SPP, a collaborative effort conducted in 2012 between Maddie's



Fund, the Humane Society of the U.S., and the Ad Council, encouraged potential adopters to turn to shelters in their search for a new pet.

New tenants arriving in Hacienda over the past three months include:

Anderson's Uniforms, 5627 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 325.

Colliers International, 3825 Hopyard Road, Suite 182.

Congressman Eric Swalwell, 5075 Hopyard Road, Suite 220.

Crown Castle USA Inc., 4301 Hacienda Drive, Suite 410.

Deluxe Computer, 5933 Coronado Lane, Suite 102.

Eastern Medical Center, 5933 Coronado Lane, Suite 100.

Goju Ryu Karatedo, 5860 W. Las Positas Boulevard, Suite 7.

Nano En Tek USA, 5627 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 304.

Pho Tastic, 4555 Hopyard Road, Suite 25. Restaurant featuring Pho Noodles.

Protingent Staffing, 5990 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 105.

Tectura Corp., 4308 Hacienda Drive, Suite 550.

Tri Valley Dental Lab, 5933 Coronado Lane, Suite 204. ■

## Adept Technology names Robert Cain as CEO

Turn-around expert to focus on restructuring, profitable growth of Pleasanton firm

Rob Cain, 47, who has 25 years of experience in the high tech and capital equipment industries, has been named president and chief executive officer of Pleasanton-based Adept Technology, succeeding John Dulchinos, who has resigned.

Cain's background includes undergraduate work in mechanical engineering and a graduate degree in business education. He has been a key figure in the turnaround and return to double-digit growth at multiple companies, most recently at Telanetix as chief operating officer and prior to that at Avure Technologies as senior vice president of operations. He is also a Hale Capital Partners Operating Partner.

Working with Adept over the past several months in an advisory capacity, Cain has been a primary architect of the restructuring plan adopted by the company and now leads the corporate vision toward an increased emphasis on profitable growth in both its traditional markets and its new mobile business.

"Rob came to our attention because of his strong

execution skills, his proven ability to lead top performing teams and his track record in driving shareholder value," said Mike Kelly, Adept's chairman.

"We have been impressed

by his emphasis on a culture of accountability and execution as well as a vision for

top and bottom line growth, developing internal talent while reaching outside for new skills," Kelly added. "Additionally, his straightforward style and relentless positive energy is the kind of leadership we want at Adept."

Adept is a global, leading provider of intelligent robots and autonomous mobile solutions and services that enable customers to achieve precision, speed, quality and productivity in their assembly, handling, packaging, testing, and logistical processes.

The company's offices are at 5960 Inglewood Dr. in Pleasanton. ■



Robert Cain

### 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.

## Chamber to host 50th annual awards

Presentations to be made at Firehouse Arts Center

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce will recognize individuals, groups and businesses for their excellence and community leadership in business, volunteer activities and achievement within the community at an awards ceremony March 21 at the Firehouse Arts Center.

Since 1963, the Community Service Awards program has honored hundreds throughout the community for their good work here.

The event is open to the public with a hosted bar and heavy hors d'oeuvre food stations and a silent auction starting at 6 p.m. with the awards presentations and a live auction to follow. Tickets for the event are \$75 per person and can be ordered now at 846-5858. ■



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**Pleasanton, Pres. Julie Lewis** - Hap's Original, Thurs., 12:15 p.m.

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.

A local network of inspired individuals that apply their talents and resources to make a difference in the lives of others on a local and global level to provide education, fight hunger, promote health and advance world understanding with fun, fellowship and lots of laughter.

**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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## LETTERS

### More on food allergies

Dear Editor,

I am a little confused by the food allergy article in the Weekly on Feb. 22. This is an area I am very well versed in, and I was the parent that worked on the school board policy 5536 and pushed it through back in 2003.

The highest mortality of children is in the 14-24 age group, not preschool and kindergarten. It seems this article is pushing a T-shirt instead of educating people about the signs and symptoms of a fatal food allergy. This is what saves a person from dying in 10 minutes — recognizing the signs and avoiding allergens are the key.

I think the article is misleading. We have worked really hard in the Pleasanton Unified School District to educate, communicate and work together to keep students safe. We are one of the few school districts that has a comprehensive policy and procedures in place. We also have a higher than normal average number of food allergic students who may suffer anaphylaxis.

Please consider removing the article from online and replacing it with one that reflects what is happening in our community and with correct/better information.

**Jamie Hintzke**

**Following is the response from Elyssa Thome, writer of the Feb. 22 story, "Food allergies pose threat for preschoolers and kindergartners":**

Thank you so much for weighing in. I appreciate your perspective and hard work to raise awareness. My article focused more on the stresses of parents with young children and the solution by a local business owner, so I was focused on a specific aspect of the issue. Clearly this is a topic that takes more than one article to cover. I would be happy to consider a follow-up article on the signs and symptoms of awareness to build on the story and continue to raise awareness.

I apologize if you found the article misleading, but it was not my intention to disparage the PUSD in any way. Thank you for your efforts within the school district and for informing our readers.

### Callippe fixes

Dear Editor,

The editorial March 1 talking about more players needed at Callippe Preserve golf course stated some reasons why course revenue is down, and that the city of Pleasanton is now having to absorb the revenue loss to service the construction bonds costs.

While the reasoning of a struggling economic recovery and one time play by some golfers is true, you left out two reasons that are paramount for the decline of play at Callippe, and they are the slow pace of play and the poor condition of the putting greens.

Golfers like to play at a reasonable pace of four to four-and-a-half hours for a round of 18 holes and expect a consistent good quality of the putting greens. The higher greens fees do not negatively impact players as much as perceived value for money spent.

Callippe course management must get pace of play and greens conditions corrected and the golfers will return.

**Michael Carmo**

### Good eating on Main

Dear Editor,

We are responding to the Feb. 1 Streetwise section, which had comments from local citizens regarding "What does Pleasanton's downtown need most?"

We agree that there are too many types of salons downtown. People cannot spend time "hanging out" at salons and that's what people enjoy doing in a downtown.

We disagree that there are no quality restaurants because there are plenty of different types of well-known restaurants that can satisfy anyone's needs. Maybe there does need to be a few more shopping stores, or little burger/bar type spots, but our line of restaurants is outstanding overall. Hap's and Barone's are examples of excellent restaurants. Nonni's and Stacey's have excellent burgers and other meals with casual dining.

Overall, people need to appreciate and support our downtown Pleasanton restaurants.

**Bob and Karoline Lee**

## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

### March Madness and TV30

If your Uncle Harry in Chicago needs a breath of spring air after the 10 inches of snow that city received this week, have him tune in to TV30 for a look Arden Lane's nursery report on Pleasanton flowers. That's right, our TV30 that we watch on TV channels 30, 29 and 28 has gone global, easily accessible — with no apps needed on laptops, iPads and smartphones — simply by logging on to [www.trivalleytv.org/](http://www.trivalleytv.org/). This nonprofit television system has morphed from its infancy in 1978 and major operations problems a few years ago into one of the best-managed, best-recognized nonprofit, independent, community broadcast systems in the country.

At their meeting last Monday, the three mayors who are also TV30's board of directors — John Marchand of Livermore, Tim Sbranti of Dublin and Jerry Thorne of Pleasanton — approved another \$400,000 annual budget for the system and also announced the station's biggest fundraiser, "March Madness," set for Friday night, March 22, at the John Madden Sports Center in Pleasanton. The fundraiser marks the start of an aggressive effort to make TV30 less dependent on the Comcast fees that cover capital costs and contributions of \$376,800 from the cities it serves. Sponsorships also help, and the names of those organizations now appear on TV30's colorful and informative Web page.

The mayors also complimented Executive Director Melissa Tench-Stevens, who picked up the pieces of a nearly bankrupt failing system when the mayors hired her five years ago to make things right. Now on the air 24/7, TV30 often was off the air mid-program due to poor maintenance, bad equipment and a revolving-door employee problem, all which she fixed within months. She came with years of experience in nonprofit organization, television broadcasting and management, and with contacts in the industry that helped her solve technical problems and find the camera and production crew she needed. Often seen managing the controls or even at the camera, Tench-Stevens and her crew are welcomed and often applauded at city and civic meetings and on the high school sports fields where her idea to televise football games for later broadcast has won TV30 thousands of first-time viewers in all age groups. As former Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena said at Tuesday's board meeting, TV30 viewers often found the station by surfing, now it's programmed into their TiVos and video devices for regular viewing.

Kamena is president of the new TV30 Foundation, the fundraising arm of TV30 that is sponsoring March Madness. The party will be held from 5-8 p.m. March 22 at the John Madden Sports Center at Goal Line Productions, 5959 Coronado Lane, in Pleasanton. For an admission price of \$60, payable to the TV30 Foundation and tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations, participants can watch the Sweet 16 on 63-inch screens throughout the spacious studio while enjoying food, drinks and more. Tench-Stevens and the TV30 board of Tri-Valley mayors will be there. So will we to give our support to this important broadcast asset in our community. Even Uncle Harry might want to tune in to enjoy a taste of spring in Pleasanton. ■



Executive Director Melissa Tench-Stevens has turned around the operations at TV30.

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## POLICE BULLETIN

### Berkeley man busted in burglaries

A 35-year-old Berkeley resident was arrested Feb. 26 on two counts of felony burglary after a report of a suspicious man in dark clothing near Amador Valley High School.

The prowler report led police to set up a perimeter around the area. Police then received a call to an alarm from a nearby dental office in the 1400 block of Cedarwood Lane where they discovered the front door had been broken open.

They then discovered a plastic surgery office, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Center, in the 1300 block of Santa Rita Road also had had its door smashed.

Esser was detained while attempting to flee the perimeter. He was taken into custody at about 6:49 a.m.

#### In other police reports:

- Two arsons were reported in separate areas less than a day apart. In one, reported at about 3:34 p.m. March 1 near the intersection of Main Street and Del Valle Parkway, leaves had been set on fire not far from the Main Street bridge. The small fire was near the creek and was quickly extinguished.

- In the second, reported at about 1:32 p.m. March 2, a Dumpster was set on fire at Vintage Hills Elementary School. That fire was

contained inside the Dumpster. There's no estimate of damage, and no indication from police reports that the two arsons were linked.

- A rear door to High Tech Burrito was pried open in a burglary to the business in the 300 block of Main Street, reported at about 5:23 a.m. March 1. Both of the restaurant's cash registers had been pried open, with an undisclosed amount of money stolen. An attempt had been made to pry open the safe, but that was unsuccessful.

- A bedroom window was pried open between 7:30 a.m. Feb. 28 and 6:30 p.m. March 1, with electronics and jewelry stolen from a home in the 900 block of Rose Avenue. Items worth more than \$4,400 were stolen, including a \$1,000 flat screen TV, a \$1,000 computer, an opal ring worth \$500, and a \$500 camera.

- Sixty brassieres worth \$2,670 were stolen March 5 from Victoria's Secret in the Stoneridge Shopping Center between 9:45 a.m. and 2:40 p.m. A clerk noticed two drawers of bras missing from a display in the middle of the store; there were no witnesses to the theft.

- Robert Czosnyka, 26, of San Ramon was arrested at Stoneridge Shopping Center on March 3 for possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine possession, and marijuana possession. Czosnyka was also wanted on a

## Pair arrested after shoplifting spree, fight with store security

### One attempted to flee in stolen car

Two Alameda County women were arrested Feb. 25 for multiple felonies after a fracas at Stoneridge Shopping Center.

Heather Leigh Rose, 33, of Hayward and Candace Jane Kirkpatrick, 40, of Castro Valley were arrested at about 2:34 p.m., according to police reports.

The pair entered JC Penney at about 1:30 p.m., and Rose stole merchandise while Kirkpatrick acted as a lookout, the reports said. Rose then reentered the store and attempted

to go back for more. Store security spotted her and attempted to detain her; she resisted, injuring three security officers in the process.

Rose was attempting to meet up with Kirkpatrick, who was waiting in a stolen car in the mall parking lot. Kirkpatrick attempted to escape, but was stopped by police at the Kaiser Permanente parking lot near the intersection of Stoneridge Drive and Stoneridge Mall Road.

Additional merchandise was

inside the car, and police determined the car had been stolen from Hayward.

Rose was arrested for robbery, conspiracy and burglary, with the burglary arrest stemming from her fight with store security while trying to keep what she'd attempted to steal.

Kirkpatrick was arrested for auto theft, possession of burglary tools — a shaved key used to steal the car — receiving stolen property, conspiracy and paraphernalia possession. ■

misdemeanor warrant.

He was arrested after a suspicious person was reported in the parking structure at the lower level of the Sears parking garage.

- A MacBook Pro Silver valued at \$1,800 was stolen along with an 800 iPad and miscellaneous other items worth about \$500 from a home in the 700 block of E. Angela Street, reported at about 5:06 p.m. Feb. 26.

- A MacBook Pro Silver reportedly valued at \$10,000 was reported stolen from Northern California Bible College in the 4400 block of Stoneridge Drive. There was no

evidence of a break-in, reported at about 1:46 p.m. Feb. 26.

- A resident of the 1600 block of Ramblewood Way told police he was the victim of identity theft, when he received a call from a collection agency attempting to collect \$1,200 for a Verizon account that been opened in Georgia. There was no report of any other loss.

- Chris Tran Gerard, 32, of Pleasanton was arrested at about 10:42 p.m. Feb. 27 in the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue on a felony warrant for threats out of San Jose.

- Rodolfo Torres-Rodriguez, 24, of

Tracy was arrested at about 11:42 p.m. Feb. 25 in the 1800 block of Valley Avenue on a felony warrant for a probation violation.

- A \$280 bicycle was stolen through an unlocked garage door in a burglary from a home in the 600 block of Rowell Lane, reported at 9:32 a.m. Feb. 28.

- The front door was broken open, but nothing was reported stolen in a Feb. 28 break-in at a home in the 4300 block of Fairlands Drive, reported at about 4:33 p.m.

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

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Feb. 25

#### Robbery

- 2:34 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Theft

- 3:28 p.m. in the 4300 block of Valley Avenue; bicycle theft

#### Battery

- 8:55 a.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Public drunkenness

- 3:04 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Stanley Boulevard
- 6:21 p.m. at the intersection of Main Street and W. Angela Street

### Feb. 26

#### Theft

- 4:01 p.m. in the 4400 block of Hacienda Drive; theft from structure

#### Burglary

- 5:07 a.m. in the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road; commercial burglary
- 1:46 p.m. in the 4400 block of Stoneridge Drive; commercial burglary
- 5:06 p.m. in the 700 block of E. Angela Street; residential burglary

#### Auto burglary

- 8:12 a.m. in the 4400 block of Black Avenue

#### Vandalism

- 9:02 a.m. in the 3400 block of Norton Way
- 9:56 a.m. in the 300 block of Ray Street

#### Public drunkenness

- 10:03 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

### Feb. 27

#### Theft

- 11:06 a.m. in the 7400 block of Hillview Court
- 4:37 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 8:07 p.m. in the 3100 block of Thistledown Court; bicycle theft

#### Auto burglary

- 2 p.m. in the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Vandalism

- 12:24 p.m. at the intersection of Koll Center Parkway and Valley Avenue

#### Drug violation

- 4:12 p.m. at the intersection of Muirwood Drive and Tulipwood Court

### Feb. 28

#### Theft

- 10:58 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road; auto theft
- 6:31 p.m. in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive; bicycle theft
- 7:21 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Burglary

- 9:32 a.m. in the 600 block of Rowell Lane; residential burglary
- 4:33 p.m. in the 4300 block of Fairlands Drive; residential burglary

#### Vandalism

- 10:55 a.m. in the 3300 block of Smoketree Commons Drive
- 12:28 p.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street
- 1:43 p.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 10:40 a.m. in the 800 block of Main Street; possession of methamphetamine, under the influence of a controlled substance

- 3:39 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; public drunkenness

### March 1

#### Arson

- 3:34 p.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Del Valle Parkway

#### Theft

- 5:37 a.m. in the 9400 block of Blessing Drive
- 1:04 p.m. in the 300 block of Main Street

- 1:59 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive; bicycle theft

#### Burglary

- 5:23 a.m. in the 300 block of Main Street; commercial burglary
- 7 p.m. in the 900 block of Rose Avenue; residential burglary

#### Vandalism

- 11:22 a.m. at the intersection of Puerto Vallarta and Bernal Avenue
- 11:50 a.m. at the intersection of Hearst Drive and Grant Court

#### Public drunkenness

- 9:51 p.m. at the intersection of Main Street and St. John Street

### March 2

#### Arson

- 1:32 p.m. in the 1100 block of Concord Street

#### Theft

- 1:05 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; theft from structure
- 2:28 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 3:43 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 6:48 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Auto burglary

- 5:36 p.m. in the 6200 block of Robin Court

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:32 a.m. at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Black Avenue; DUI
- 11:21 p.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road; possession of marijuana for sale, minor in possession of alcohol

### March 3

#### Theft

- 9:35 a.m. in the 1600 block of Ramblewood Way; fraud
- 12:39 p.m. in the 5700 block of Northway Road; bicycle theft
- 7:10 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Battery

- 12:45 a.m. in the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:14 a.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street; public drunkenness
- 11:17 a.m. in the 6300 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard; possession of marijuana
- 6:33 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Rd; possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine possession, marijuana possession
- 9:08 p.m. on Andrews Drive; DUI

### March 4

#### Shoplifting

- 5:37 p.m. in the 1500 block of

Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Auto burglary

- 2:11 p.m. in the first block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 2:58 p.m. in the 3900 block of Valley Avenue

#### Drug/alcohol violations

- 12:01 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; under the influence of a controlled substance
- 8:58 p.m. in the 100 block of E. Angela Street; public drunkenness

### March 5

#### Theft

- 8:37 a.m. in the 5700 block of Northway Road; bicycle theft
- 9:18 a.m. in the 700 block of Rose Avenue
- 9:21 a.m. in the 700 block of Rose Avenue
- 9:43 a.m. in the 3700 block of Angus Way; fraud
- 10:44 a.m. in the 700 block of Rose Avenue
- 3:35 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Vandalism

- 8:52 a.m. in the 3200 block of Lagoon Road
- 9:07 a.m. at the intersection of Valley Avenue and Via de los Milagros
- 11:38 a.m. in the 3900 block of First Street
- 11:39 a.m. at the intersection of First Street and Stanley Boulevard
- 12:07 p.m. at the intersection of Bernal Avenue and Nevada Court

# A new look at justice

## *Foothill High considers alternatives to expulsions and suspensions*

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

**Y**outh justice is taking on a new face in Pleasanton.

Foothill High School is poised to begin a program called Restorative Justice, which will allow the victim and perpetrator to meet and talk, surrounded by peers.

Pleasanton School Board Member Jamie Hintzke has been a proponent of the program for years. She's seen it at work as part of her day job at the Alameda County Center for Healthy Schools and Communities.

"If it's done correctly it can have a really profound effect on youth feeling empowered," Hintzke said.

Hintzke compared the process to how a tribe might handle justice. Like the tribe, she said, "You've got to work this stuff out, you've got to live together."

"In the old days, the village wise man or the elder would be the one who would convene a circle, there would be a talking stick — each person goes around and shares," she said. "I think that in modern times we've lost the importance of what that feels like, to be living together in community. What does that mean? We've lost that."

As an example, Hintzke described a hypothetical situation where a student stole a laptop from a teacher and got caught.

Each party can invite someone to be part of the circle, so the student might choose his brother or a friend and the teacher might opt for a colleague. Students who are trained in restorative justice would round out the group.

A facilitator would typically begin, summing up: "Joey took this laptop from Mrs. Smith and we're here to talk about how that affects all of us," Hintzke said. A witness might describe what she or he saw.

"Then it would shift to a conversation where the teacher might say, 'When I walked into the classroom and I found out my laptop was gone, I felt really violated,'" Hintzke said. "The kid might say, 'I stole the laptop because I know your husband makes a lot of money.' They get a chance to talk about how they were affected personally."

Traditionally, she said, the student might get expelled and the teacher could harbor bad feelings.

Restorative justice, she said, "is not confrontational."

"It's more about everybody sharing their feelings about how the incident affected them, and because you're having this conversation, the healing can begin. The kid can hear from the teacher what it felt like to have her laptop stolen," Hintzke said. "It sounds touchy feely but that's what it is. But when we're dealing with human emotions, why aren't we dealing in a human way, in a touchy-feely way? What I've seen in schools that are using this is that people are moving beyond harm."

Late last year, Foothill received a \$20,000 two-year

grant to begin restorative justice at the school. Assistant Principal Rich Gorton said about 45% of the grant will go to adding counselor hours, with a bit less than 50% going for staff training and about 10% for materials, mainly books on how restorative justice works.

Foothill will conduct training for administrators, counselors and teachers on restorative circles, Gorton said.

"Really the main thing we're looking at is developing a common approach," he said. "Sometimes people have been trained in different mediation techniques, so this is to get everyone working on the same page with a common philosophy."

Restorative justice at Foothill will be what he described as "adult-facilitated mediation," although students will be involved.

He said the school recently tried an informal approach to restorative justice, around Thanksgiving, after the school had been awarded the grant but before school-wide training had begun. Gorton and a teacher had been to one training session not connected with the grant.

"We had a conflict where students were doing a collaborative project together outside of school and there was a disagreement about the equipment that was being used, who should have access to it — it was a video camera," Gorton said. "During the course of that disagreement, I came in Monday morning and there was an email from a parent to say what had happened."

He got involved, doing some fact finding to find out who was responsible for the camera and what would have happened if the project wasn't completed on time. Some bullying was involved as well, and Gorton had to make the call whether to go the traditional route, with punitive measures, or take the new approach.

"I said, 'Let's just get everyone in the room and talk things out.' Just with having this conversation, we were able to avoid the punitive element. In the end, everyone saw everyone else's perspective," he said. "In that conversation, as people listened and talked and understood each other's perspective, there was an understanding. Everyone stood up and wished each other a happy Thanksgiving. One parent said, 'We need to more of this kind of communication.'"

There was, he said, no residual impact or hard feelings.

"We did kind of take a risk with it but it seemed like a worthwhile risk," Gorton said. "There were some questions about what would happen with grades, what would have happened with equipment. It seemed like it was worth that risk."

Amador Valley High School is watching how restorative justice at Foothill plays out, according to Amador Vice Principal Lori Vella, who worked at Foothill before



transferring to Amador last year.

Foothill is also changing how it handles discipline. The school is creating a suspension diversion program, with a student court of trained volunteers.

"The consequences would be decided by a jury of their peers," Gorton said. "Literally, students would decide about what the consequences should be."

Foothill has already changed the way it deals with detentions.

"We used to have a Saturday school, usually two or three times a month, for students who had medium level discipline violations, things like a forged note or being off campus without a note," he said. "Saturday school was four hours on a Saturday and basically you would have to go in there and sit. You just basically had to do the time."

But that meant teachers were on campus by themselves with no administrators, with 25 to 30 students, and administrators decided that wasn't safe, should a fight break out or if a student had a medical emergency.

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started thinking, 'Let's do this during the week, add a restorative element to it, let's add a reflection,' Gorton said.

"The student turns in that form and that proves they were in that class, if they leave without turning it in, they don't get credit," Gorton said. If the student doesn't meet expectations, he said, "I would call that student in and have a conversation with them with the expectation that they redo the essay."

There are additional benefits as well.

"Sometimes other things come up," Gorton said, pointing to one student who didn't know how to log into her Zangle account, which shows assignments and grades. "Even when things don't go right, it's an opportunity for administrators to interact with students."

That, he said, gives students the opportunity to build positive relationships with adults.

Training on restorative circles is expected to begin within the next month, with training on suspension diversion, including student training, set to begin in April. ■

Each student is given questions to answer, and the school's discipline clerk reviews those answers.

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[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.

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.

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Dublin, CA 94568  
(925) 271-0015

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

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### 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.

### 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.

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(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! students thrive with the time and

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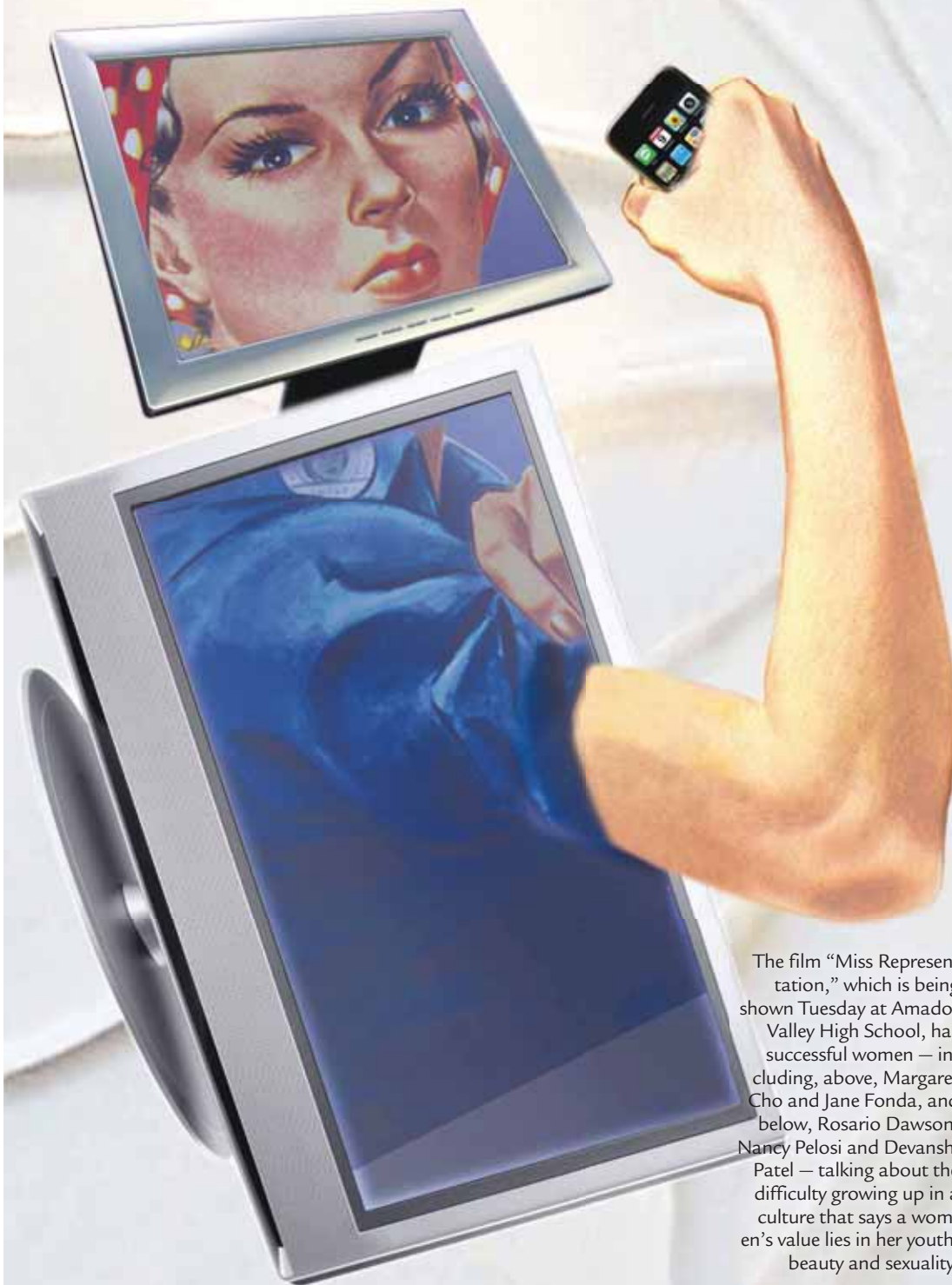
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WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE VALLEY — MUSIC, THEATER, ART, MOVIES AND MORE

## 'MISS REPRESENTATION'

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

film explores sexist portrayals in the media



The film "Miss Representation," which is being shown Tuesday at Amador Valley High School, has successful women — including, above, Margaret Cho and Jane Fonda, and below, Rosario Dawson, Nancy Pelosi and Devanshi Patel — talking about the difficulty growing up in a culture that says a woman's value lies in her youth, beauty and sexuality.



Check out your TV, most magazines and what's showing at the movies. They are delivering a strong message, according to the film "Miss Representation," that a woman's value and power lie in her youth, beauty and sexuality.

This is worth a conversation, say Amador Valley High teachers Julie Boe and Diane Farthing, who next week are showing the film. The documentary, written, directed and produced by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival, and has aired on the Oprah Winfrey Network.

"The movie is pretty strong about how women are sensationalized and minimized," Farthing said. "That's how it is — but what can we do to change it?"

Women hold only 3% of upper management positions in the mainstream media, plus 65% of women and girls have disordered eating behaviors, the film notes.

"Everyone is welcome," Farthing said. "It's not a boy-bashing night."

Males, too, are victims of unrealistic expectations fostered by the media, she added.

"It would be great to have parents and sons and daughters watch it together so they can talk about it afterward," she said.

Boe, 43, explained that she is a liberal person, not into censorship, but as her 7-year-old daughter gets older, she is finding herself more protective.

"What I remember going through as a woman, my child is going through at 7. She's already asking, 'Are my legs too fat?'" Boe said.

The film's motto is "You can't be what you can't see," and it includes stories from teenage girls as well as interviews with successful women including Nancy Pelosi, Gloria Steinem, Condoleezza Rice, Rachel Maddow and Katie Couric. Its message is that young women need and want positive role models, but the media provides just the opposite.

Boe saw "Miss Representation" at a church in Oakland when a friend invited her.

"I immediately flashed back to my life as a teenager," she said. "I thought how difficult it was to grow up to be a secure confident woman."

The discrimination is insidious, she said. Girls looking at magazines know they would never fit those images. When teens see scantily clothed girls dancing in videos on MTV they think that's what they have to do to get male attention.

The movie also talks about the Family Viewing Hour established by the Federal Communications Commission in 1975, which made networks show family-friendly shows from 8-9 p.m. Although the courts ruled the next year that the FCC was overstepping its boundaries, some stations continued to follow the rules.

"It stopped in the '90s," recalled Boe. "Now violence and sex is everywhere. I'm not against watching it or showing it but I am against a 7-year-old having it always in her house. These images are being instilled."

Farthing, who runs the Health and Bioscience Academy, agreed that students are overly concerned about their weight and their bodies.

"The Healthy Kids survey is done in grade 5, 7, 9 and 11, and its data definitely shows that we have a large number of students dieting," Farthing said. "It's not just girls, it's boys as well. Boys feel lot of pressure, too. They want to be bigger, stronger."

Farthing and Boe wrote a grant to fund the film, which will be shown at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, in the school's multipurpose room. Requested donation is \$5, to benefit the Academy Program at Amador; the Culinary Academy will be selling food.

The event will be followed by a discussion led by the school's counseling department.

"Parents can ask questions about how this affects our girls and our boys, and how much our boys are being sold short — they think they understand girls and women, and are given a totally different person," Boe said. ■

# Art, nature walks offered monthly through June

Walk and talk together for fun and good health, urges founder

Celebrate springtime weather by joining in free walks on Saturday mornings in Pleasanton. This is the third year that World Walk to Wellness has invited people to come walk and talk together every Saturday.



COURTESY WALK TO WELLNESS

“The main concept behind World Walk to Wellness is that we can change the walking culture in each community, affinity group by affinity group, at work, at school, and at play or recreation,” said founder W. Ron Sutton.

Most of the walks are in local public parks, but from March through June, special two-hour walks will be offered focusing on public art and on nature. Walk Stars (guest leaders) Nancy and Gary Harrington will offer their popular art walks on the second Saturday of each month. Tomorrow, March 9, they will lead a tour of public sculptures and murals in the northern part of the downtown area.

All of the art walks will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the City Hall parking lot at 200 Old Bernal Ave. The walks are on level, paved pathways and sidewalks with frequent stops. Participants will receive brochures with a map and illustrations of the public art, plus information on how they may join the Harringtons in funding future public art projects. Several sculptures have been donated to the city by the Harringtons, and they have delightful stories to share about the artists and their work.

To see Pleasanton from new perspectives and learn about the flora and fauna in a fun way from

Nancy and Gary Harrington talk about a bronze sculpture of Claude Monet as they lead a tour of public art in Pleasanton.

an expert trail guide, join Walk Star Dolores Bengtson for monthly nature walks. The destination on Saturday, March 23, will be Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area on Stanley Boulevard, in time to see the birds nesting on the island rookery.

These walks, from 8:30-10:30, will include some unpaved trails. Although the walk is free, there is a \$5 parking fee. For details about the other specific meeting places, contact Walks@WorldWalkToWellness.org.

“Our desired outcome is that more people will walk more often — preferably daily — in order to increase the measurable wellness in each community,” Sutton said. “What we know for sure is that when we walk and talk together, the time and miles pass quickly — not a chore, but a pleasure.”

Sutton added that the weekly e-newsletter will also list other local walking opportunities. Sign up at Walks@WorldWalkToWellness.org. ■



## Eagle Scout

Ammar Campwala, 14, became Troop 908’s 100th Eagle Scout on May 16 when he was in the eighth grade at Harvest Park Middle School, coinciding with the Boy Scout’s Centennial Celebrations. He is currently a freshman at Amador Valley High School.



His Eagle project was beautifying the strip surrounding the middle school library, which had overgrown bushes that harbored rodents. His team removed 345 feet of bushes, conditioned the soil and planted hardy flowers. Ammar chose this project because reading is his passion, and he wanted the building to be more inviting. He received donations from the student council and a discount from Alden Lane Nursery, plus sold homemade fragrant soaps with his group of volunteers to raise money.

Ammar has earned 24 merit badges, attended National Youth Leadership Training, held numerous leadership positions in his troop, and is currently serving as Assistant Patrol Leader.



COURTESY ASSISTANCE LEAGUE

## Tea time for Assistance League

The 18th annual Mad Hatter’s Tea Party, hosted by Assistance League of Amador Valley, will be held from noon-4 p.m., Saturday, April 13 at the Castlewood Country Club. Members decorate the tea tables, and the event includes tasty food, drawings, lucky teacups, a hat contest and silent auction. Author Penny Warner will be the guest speaker; Towne Center Books is giving Assistance League a certain percentage of the profits from the sale of her books at the store. Tickets for the tea party are \$50 and must be reserved by March 29. Assistance League programs benefit residents of all ages in the Tri-Valley; the proceeds from the tea provide school clothes and shoes to children in need. For information, call Annette at 462-5275, or go to [www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org](http://www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org).



## Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day at Downtown Pleasanton’s Brew Crawl!

Friday, March 15 – 6pm - 9pm

25 Pouring Locations  
Food & Beer  
The Perfect Fit



### TICKETS AVAILABLE AT

MAIN STREET BREWERY - 830 Main St., REDCOATS - 336 St. Mary St., & STUDIO SEVEN ARTS - 400 Main St.  
TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [PLEASANTONDOWNTOWN.NET](http://PLEASANTONDOWNTOWN.NET)

**\$30 PER TICKET IN ADVANCE • \$35 PER TICKET NIGHT OF EVENT • CASH OR CHECK ONLY**

Must be 21 & over to participate in this event. Designated Driver tickets will be available the night of the event for \$10/each.

**Tickets must be redeemed by 7:30 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Building - 301 Main Street**

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



EVENT PROUDLY PRESENTED BY



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





REBECCA HARPER

## Hooray for opening day

The Angels start off the Pleasanton American Little League season Saturday at Pleasanton Sports Park with a cheer before playing against the Red Sox. The Angels, ages 6 and 7, are coached by Jason Wescott and assistant coach Mike Sedak. Players pictured are Jackson Sedak, Ryan Wescott, CT Harper, Jake DeMichiel, Ryan Ramirez, Joshua Rodriguez, Colin Harrison and Jackson Shore.

Tomorrow is opening day for Pleasanton Foothill Little League with opening ceremonies from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Bernal Sports Park.



## Hoops title for CCOP seventh-graders

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton seventh-grade boys basketball team claimed the Tri-Valley CYO 7A Boys Champions title after its recent 42-22 win against St. Isidore. The teams split league games, giving CCOP its only loss during the regular season. After a slow start in the championship game, CCOP's defensive pressure, ferocious rebounding and ball movement on offense gave CCOP a 21-7 lead at the half. St. Isidore threatened with a run at the end of the third quarter, but CCOP responded in the final period to extend the lead and secure the title.

Celebrating are team members (l-r) KC Tompkins, Coach Matt Smith, Sam Novitske, Luke Valentine, Michael Smith (front-back) Anthony DelNevo, Paul Jackson, Mitch Lawrence, JT McDermott, Esteban Kovacs, Anthony Costello and Coach Ed Costello.



## Kyle Suchland named state scholar athlete

Foothill grad holds team records at Las Positas

Las Positas College announced that Hawks swimmer Kyle Suchland has been selected for inclusion on the 2012 California Community College Athletic Association's (CCCCAA) Scholar Athlete Honor Roll. Suchland will be among a select group of recipients of this honor at a luncheon during the 16th annual CCCCCAA Convention on March 27 at the San Mateo Marriott Hotel.

Suchland, who graduated from Foothill High School, is a backstroke and freestyle specialist at Las Positas. His athletic accomplishments include holding the team records in the 100 (53.32) and 200 (1:57.39) yard backstroke, and the 200 (1:52.21) and 500 (5:01.03) freestyle, as well as the fastest 100 yard freestyle (46.72) in a relay.

While deeply involved in his extra-curricular, time-intensive, swimming activities, Suchland also maintained a 4.0 GPA while carrying a full load of academic courses.

The CCCCCAA is the governing body providing oversight of intercollegiate athletics within the California Community College System. It establishes the rules and regulations to administer the intercollegiate athletic activities of the nearly 27,000 student athletes attending California's community colleges. ■

## Check out your new San Ramon ER



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.



**SAN RAMON**  
REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Try out our new technology:

**InQuickER and New Free App**  
on our website  
[www.OurSanRamonHospital.com](http://www.OurSanRamonHospital.com)



## Clubs

### DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN

**REVOLUTION** The Jose Maria Amador Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will hold its next chapter meeting at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 16, in San Ramon. Keynote speaker will be Karen Theofanides discussing "Women in the Revolution." For meeting location and other details, call Diane Groome at 510-866-3042.

**GARDEN CLUB MEETING** The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will meet from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, March 14, at Alisal Elementary School's multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road. Robin Parer, owner of Geraniaceae, will speak on hardy and tender geraniums and pelargonium. Visitors welcome. For details, call Bev at 485-7812 or visit [www.lavgc.org](http://www.lavgc.org).

**GETTING \$\$\$OUT OF POLITICS** On Sunday, March 10, 12:30-3 p.m., at IBEW 595, 6250 Village Pkwy, Dublin, Congressman Eric Swalwell will present "Getting \$\$\$out of Politics," discussing Supreme Court rulings and their effect on democracy and constitutional remedies. Meet new people, bring finger food and beverages to share, have fun, and get involved. For details, call Ellis Goldberg at 831-8355 or visit <http://trivalleydems.com/Calendar.htm>. Free.

**JOIN GNON FOR FUN AT THE MUSEUM** Girls Night Out Networking and the Museum on Main invite you to join them for networking opportunities and fun from 5-8 p.m., Thursday, March 14, at the Museum on Main, 603 Main St. Cover is \$10/members; \$15/non-members. RSVP to [gnoners@gmail.com](mailto:gnoners@gmail.com). For details, call Frances Hewitt at 487-4748 or visit [www.gnontrivalley.com](http://www.gnontrivalley.com).

**TRI-VALLEY CHAPTER OF NARFE** Federal employees and retirees are invited to attend the monthly luncheon of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), Tri-Valley Chapter 397, from 11:30-2 p.m., Thursday, March 14, at Vic's All Star Kitchen, 201-A Main St. Josh Laine, owner of Valor Winery in Livermore, will be the guest speaker. For more information, call Gary at 373-6758 or visit [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).

**TRI-VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN** Tri-Valley Republican Women club welcomes former State Legislator Lynne Leach to its annual Membership Luncheon at 12:30 p.m., Saturday, March 9, at Cattlemens Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Road in Livermore. Cost is \$24. For more details and to reserve your spot, call Devy Torrance at 234-2209.

## Concerts

**CHAMBER PLAYERS' 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** The Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., invites you to celebrate the Pleasanton Chamber Players' 10th Anniversary from 2-5 p.m., Sunday, March 17. Enjoy beloved favorites and rare gems from Brahms to Faure - it promises to be a classical romantic afternoon. Adult: \$15, \$20, \$25; Child:

\$12; Senior: \$22. Group discounts available. Call 931-4848 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Events

**ART CRITIQUE AND COFFEE ACC** (Art Critique and Coffee) meets at 10 a.m. for Fine Art on Friday at the Corner Bakery Cafe at the Pleasanton Gateway Plaza on Bernal Avenue. Pull up a chair under the umbrellas with professional, local and emerging artists of the Bay Area. For details, call Claudette McDermott at 510-543-4776.

**GOODGUYS 31ST ALL AMERICAN GET-TOGETHER** A giant Goodguys event will take place 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday-Saturday, March 23-24, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. This class event features more than 3,000 American-powered show cars and trucks of all years, makes and models. Vendor exhibits, swap meet, free kids entertainment, arts and crafts, model car show, high-speed AutoCross and fun for the entire family. Tickets: adults, \$17; kids 7-12, \$6. For details, call 838-9876 or visit [www.good-guys.com](http://www.good-guys.com).

**LUNCH IN DUBLIN** The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California would like to invite you to join us for lunch in Dublin on Thursday, March 14, 2013. Please RSVP to David by Monday, March 11, 2013. 11:30 a.m. Your menu choice Koi Palace Express, 4288 Dublin Blvd. Ste. 120, Dublin. 925-833-7647.

**PDA HOSTS ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREW CRAWL** Downtown merchants, restaurants and local breweries come together 6-9 p.m. on Friday, March 15 for the Second Annual St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl, hosted by the Pleasanton Downtown Association. Patrons can shop along Main St. and sample more than 25 varieties of beer while enjoying the spring evening. Designated driver tickets (\$10) will be available the night of the brew crawl, and the program will include taxi contact information. Purchase tickets (\$30) online at [www.PleasantonDowntown.net](http://www.PleasantonDowntown.net).

**TRI-VALLEY ARTHRITIS WALK LAUNCH PARTY** You're invited to this launch party at 3-5 p.m. on Saturday, March 9 at Lifestyle RX, 1119 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore. The Arthritis Walk is the Arthritis Foundation's signature community event that supports public awareness and raises vital funds to fight arthritis, the nation's most common cause of disability. For more information, call Beth Miller at (415) 356-5483 or visit [www.TVArthritisWalk.kintera.org/](http://www.TVArthritisWalk.kintera.org/).

**VFW TEA DANCE** Pleasanton VFW Post 6298 is hosting a Tea Dance from 1-3 p.m., Wednesday, March 20, at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 301 Main St. Come dance to the music of the '30s and '40s played by the Mellotones Combo. Only \$7, including refreshments.

## 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. 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

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

## Fundraisers

**AV SOFTBALL GARAGE SALE** The Amador Valley Softball Team is hosting its first annual garage sale to help generate much-needed funds for the program. The sale will be held 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, March 9, at 4662 First St. For details, contact Kevin Gallagher at [kg24@comcast.net](mailto:kg24@comcast.net).

**AXIS APRIL FOOLS 5K WALK/RUN** Come out for healthy fun and giggle your way through Hacienda Business Park from 7:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, April 7, at Axis Community Health Hacienda Location, 5925 W. Las Positas Blvd. For individuals, families and teams. Cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for youths in advance. Register online at [www.axisaprilfools5k.org](http://www.axisaprilfools5k.org). Check-in at Axis Hacienda from 7:30-8:30 a.m., race starts at 9 a.m. Costumes encouraged. Call 201-6221.

**NINTH ANNUAL MAGIC OF MUSIC** Guests will be treated to Tastes of Terror (a delicious feast) while they view a sidewalk sale and bid on interactive drawings at the ninth annual Magic of Music to benefit AVHS Music programs. The event is from 4-8 p.m., Sunday, March 24, at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Tickets are \$100. The show features special performances from AVHS Jazz bands. Call 699-7921 or visit [www.amadormusic.org](http://www.amadormusic.org).

## Holiday

**SECULAR PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER** Tri-Valley Cultural Jews are hosting an English haggadah that is secular, progressive and includes music as well as ritual elements with humanistic explanations, from 5-8 p.m., Saturday, March 30. Followed by a non-kosher-for-Passover potluck dinner. Held at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Cost is \$10/non-member adult. For reservations, call Jamie at 510-888-1404. Visit <http://trivalleyculturaljews.wordpress.com>.

## Kids & Teens

**CALICO CRITTER TEA** Golden Apple Learning Store, 4807 Hopyard Road, is hosting this event 3:30-5 p.m. on Thursday, March 14 when kids can visit with Belle Bunny and enjoy a sing-along and story time, prize drawing for a Cozy Cottage,

Adventure Tree House, and more. Crafty fun with Aquabeads, too. For details, call Nancy Halseth at 469-5163 or visit [www.goldenappletoys.com](http://www.goldenappletoys.com). Free.

**LUCK OF THE IRISH** The Museum on Main, 603 Main St., hosts Preschool Reading Time on Wednesday, March 13, with "Luck of the Irish," fun books and activities celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Book reading begins at 10 a.m. with theme crafts immediately following. No reservations required, but large groups should call in advance, 462-2766. Free.

**MEET AN OLYMPIAN** Fencer Barbra Higgins, who competed in the 1984 Olympics and whose life and message will inspire and entertain you, will be at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., from 10:30-11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 9. Hear her first-hand account of competing in the Olympics, learn about the sport of fencing, and enjoy film excerpts. Best for ages 8 and older. For details, call 931-3400, ext. 8. Free.

**VALLEY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM** Bring your children to "Save, Share and Spend" at the Valley Children's Museum from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, March 9 - each child will make his/her own Moonjar Moneybox. The mobile museum is in Emerald Glen Park, 4201B Central Parkway, Dublin, next to the preschool building and playground.

## Lectures/ Workshops

**DESIGNING STRATEGIC INITIATIVES** Join the Northern California Human Resources Association in examining the new rules of engagement and discover how designing strategic initiatives will create a one-of-a-kind organizational culture, from 7:30-9:30

## 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).

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

Share your local sports news & photos



Email sports@PleasantonWeekly.com

Remember to include caption information: who, what, when, where—and the score.



# NOTICE



## Pleasanton Residents Only

— It's Garden Clean-up Time —  
Pleasanton Garbage Service  
will do its part to have a safe and clean city!

## FREE DUMPING OF GARDEN CLIPPINGS ONLY

No dirt or rocks!  
Saturday, March 16, 2013

## Pleasanton Transfer Station

3110 Busch Rd. • 8am - 4pm  
Please show drivers license for ID

a.m., Wednesday, March 13. To be held at ADP, 4125 Hopyard Road. General: \$35/NCHRA members: Free. Call Denise Granados at 415-291-1992 or visit [www.nchra.org](http://www.nchra.org).

**GARDEN TALKS AT ACMG**

**LIVERMORE DEMO GARDEN** The ACMG Livermore Demo Garden, 3575 Greenville Road, has released its 2013 schedule of monthly Saturday Garden Talks. Mark your calendars for: Mar. 9 "Amending Your Soil," April 13 "Selecting Low Water Shrubs;" May 11 "Selecting Ornamental Grasses;" and June 8 "Attracting Honeybees." All talks are 10-11 a.m. and are free. Visit <http://acmg.ucdavis.edu/files/158834.pdf> for more details.

**JENNY LYON** Jenny Lyon will speak from 1:30-4:15 p.m., Saturday, March 9, at the Amador Valley Quilt Guild, Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Jenny Lyon has been working with fabric since she was a little girl, and loves to watch her stitches create line, texture and shadow on fabric. Everyone is invited. Meetings are free. Call 510-209-1187 or visit [www.amadorvalleyquilters.org](http://www.amadorvalleyquilters.org).

**SELPA/CAC SPECIAL ED. PARENT**

**WORKSHOP: SCHOOL TRANSITIONS** Please join the TV-SELPA at Village High School's Multi-Purpose Room, 4665 Bernal Ave., for an informative evening to discuss "Transitions" at 6:30-8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13. Pre-school to elementary, elementary to middle school, and middle to high school are all

important transitions. For details, call Lisa Lorentz at 426-9144 or visit [www.TriValleySELPA.org](http://www.TriValleySELPA.org). Free. Reservations not required. Pleasanton.

## Miscellaneous

**CALLING ALL STREET ARTISTS FOR THE BIG DRAW**

The Pleasanton Arts Celebration, "The Big Draw," happens Saturday, May 11, in downtown Pleasanton at Division and Main streets. Artist applications, available at [www.the-big-draw.com](http://www.the-big-draw.com), are due Monday, April 15. Cost is \$125 per square. Sponsorships are available.

**FRIENDS OF THE PLEASANTON**

**LIBRARY BOOKSALE** Friends of the Pleasanton Library are holding its 2013 Spring Book Sale from 6-9 p.m., Friday, March 22; 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, March 23; 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, March 24 at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Over 40,000 sorted, clean items most priced at \$1. Friday night for members only, memberships cost \$10, buy at the door. Visit [www.friendsofthepleasantonlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofthepleasantonlibrary.org).

## On Stage

**'FOREVER PLAID'** Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre is presenting "Forever Plaid," a deliciously goofy revue that centers on four young, eager male singers killed in a car crash in the 1950's on the way to their first big concert, at the Village

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



## Swinging, Sinatra-style

The Silver Moon Big Band is bringing its swinging sound to the Pleasanton Public Library at 2 p.m. Sunday for a free show of favorite ballads sung in the style of Old Blue Eyes, Bobby Darin and others. The musicians in this 11-piece all-star group have appeared with such notables as Steve Allen, Ray Charles, Paul Anka, Tito Puente, Jack Jones, Maynard Ferguson, The Drifters and many others. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave.

Theatre, 233 Front St. in Danville from March 22-30. For more information, visit [www.trivalleyrep.org](http://www.trivalleyrep.org) or call 314-3400.

**'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).

**'PIPPY' AT THE FIREHOUSE** The Firehouse Theatre, 444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton, presents the classic children's tale of Pippi Longstocking, a wacky youngster with a heart of gold, on two weekends, March 1-10. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$6-\$18 at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), 931-4848 or at the box office.

**CREATURES OF IMPULSE TEEN IMPROV TROUPE** Creatures of Impulse Teen Impro Troupe presents "Improv Face Off" in several performances, all at 7:30 p.m.: Wednesday, March 13 (free preview show) with Livermore Valley Charter Prep's High School Improv Team; Thursday, March 14 with Think Fast from Granada High School; Friday, March 15 with Improv the Nation from Dublin High School; and Saturday, March 16 with professional troupe The UN-Scripted Theater Company from San Francisco. At the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. General admission: students \$5 advance, \$8 at the door; for adults \$10 advance, \$15 at the door. Visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or the box office, or call 931-4848. Free parking.

## Recreation

**DOCENT TRAINING AT SUNOL WILDERNESS** Share your passion for nature and cultural history by joining East Bay Regional Park District's vital volunteer community. Sunol-Ohlone Regional Wilderness docent training appli-

cations are now available for the sessions taking place Friday mornings, March through May. Contact Volunteer Coordinator and Naturalist Katie Colbert at 510-544-3243 or email [kcolbert@ebparks.org](mailto:kcolbert@ebparks.org). Visit [www.eparks.org/getinvolved/volunteer/docent/form](http://www.eparks.org/getinvolved/volunteer/docent/form).

## Scholarships

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated announces its sixth annual College Scholarship Program directed toward local eligible high school seniors who will be attending two- or four-year academic colleges in September 2013. Three non-partisan scholarships will be awarded, one for \$1,000 and two for \$500. Students must submit an original essay of not less than 500 words on the theme, "Why Do People from Other Countries Want to Come to the United States?" in Microsoft Word format and email to [mrs.w@comcast.net](mailto:mrs.w@comcast.net) between April 15-19, or mailed by April 19 to: Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated, 6 La Sonoma Dr., Alamo, CA 94507. Include home telephone number and name of school attending. Winners will be decided by May 10.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE** Guidelines and applications for Amador Valley Scholarships Inc. (AVSI) can be downloaded from [www.amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org](http://www.amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org). AVSI awards scholarships each year to graduating seniors from Foothill, Amador Valley and Village high schools who plan to attend vocational/technical schools, community colleges, or four-year state colleges or universities. Completed applications will be picked up from each school at 3 p.m. March 18. Questions? Call Mary Reding, 846-3933.

**TRI-VALLEY RETIRED EDUCATOR'S SCHOLARSHIP** Up to six scholarships, each worth \$2,000, are offered by the Tri-Valley Retired Educators Scholarship Foundation to high school graduating seniors and college/university students who are planning a career in education. Requirements are: a) applicants must reside in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol area; b) high school applicants must be seniors planning to attend a four-

year college in fall 2013; c) community college applicants must be qualified to transfer as juniors to a four-year institution in fall 2013; d) four-year college applicants must be sophomores who will continue as juniors in fall 2013. Send questions to [greegno@pacbell.net](mailto:greegno@pacbell.net) or call 443-6097. Application deadline is March 15. Download application at the retired educators' website, [www.div85.calrta.org](http://www.div85.calrta.org).

## Seniors

**BBQ 101** Summer is just around the corner, and the weather is perfect for a BBQ. On Tuesday, March 12, 10:30-11:30 a.m., at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., join Henry Siu, Grill Master. He will share various marinating recipes, grilling techniques, grilled side dishes and more. Learn the differences of grilling on an open charcoal vs. gas propane grill. Call 931-5365 or visit [www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org](http://www.pleasantonseniorcenter.org) for details. Free.

**HAWAIIAN LUAU** Pleasanton Senior Center is holding a Hawaiian Luau from 11:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., Monday, April 22, at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., presented by the Senior VIP Club. It's open to everyone. Entertainment, plus a Hawaiian lunch. Cost is \$8. Tickets on sale now through April 22 at the Travel Desk. Call George Mirande at 202-6905 or email [drlions2012@aol.com](mailto:drlions2012@aol.com).

## Support Groups

**MOTHERS WITH A PURPOSE SPEAKER BRADLEY DEHAVEN** Mothers With a Purpose will host guest speaker Bradley DeHaven, author of "The Addict Among Us," from 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday, March 14, at Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Road, Room C6. His book tells his story plus those of more than 400 people afflicted by addiction plus provides information about preventing, detecting, treating and living with drug abuse. Mothers With A Purpose's goal is to raise awareness of the epidemic use of prescription and illicit drugs in our community.

## Join the Pleasanton Weekly for a debate and candidates forum!

Find out where the city council candidates stand on a range of issues

### City Council Candidates



Mark Hamilton



Kathy Narum



David Miller



Olivia Sanwong

**Tuesday, April 9 from 6 to 8 p.m.**  
Doors open at 6 p.m.; Debate begins at 6:30 p.m.

**City Council Chambers**  
200 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton

**Moderators:**

Pleasanton Weekly Publisher Gina Channell-Allen and Editor Jeb Bing

For information call 925-600-0840 or visit [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com)

**Debate sponsors:**



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## INDEX

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

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

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

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**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

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## PET OF THE WEEK

### Delightful Darla

Darla, a 1-year-old female Cairn terrier cross, is a proper lady, despite her scruffy fur. She views her coat as wonderful curls that outline her petite physique. She will be excited to meet you and will warm up so fast that you'll immediately fall in love. Meet delightful Darla at the Dublin Adoption Center, 4651 Gleason St. in Dublin. To see other animals available for adoption, visit www.eastbayspca.org or call 479-9670.

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## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

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.



## Shortages, seasonal slowdown affect home sales in January

Pleasanton Realtor says capital gain tax hike rushed buyers to take action in December

By JEB BING

A typical seasonal slowdown, combined with a scarcity of available homes for sale, put a damper on the California housing market in January, with both home sales and median price declining from December, the California Association of Realtors reported this week.

"A rush by home buyers trying to complete sales of higher-priced homes by the end of last year in order to avoid capital gains increases pulled forward sales that might have closed in January instead," said Don Faught, vice president and managing broker for Alain Pinel Realtors in Pleasanton and this year's president of the CAR.



Don Faught

"Additionally, the extreme shortage of homes for sale continues to hinder California's housing market, as demonstrated by the nearly two months' supply drop compared with last year," he added.

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 491,720 units, according to information collected by CAR from more than 90 local Realtor associations and MLSs statewide. Sales in January were down 6% from a revised 523,090 in December and down 3.9% from a revised 511,760 in January 2012.

The statewide sales figure represents what would be the total number of homes sold during 2013 if sales maintained the January pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

The statewide median price of an existing, single-family detached home fell 8.1% from December's \$366,930 median price to \$337,040 in January. January's price was up 24.1% from a revised \$271,490 recorded in January 2012, marking the 11th consecutive month of annual price increases and the seventh consecutive month of double-digit annual gains.

"The drop in the median price from December to January is in line with the seasonal pattern that we've observed in recent years, when the sales share of lower-priced homes usually increases at the start of the year," said CAR Vice President and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young.

"For example, homes priced under \$200,000 made up 28% of sales in January, up from 25% in December. Conversely, homes priced \$500,000 and higher made up nearly 24% of sales in January, down from nearly 28% in December."

Other key facts of CAR's January 2013 resale housing report include:

- The available supply of homes for sale loosened in January, primarily as a result of fewer home sales. The January Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes rose to 3.5 months in

See **MARKET** on Page 24

### OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

#### Danville

##### 4 BEDROOMS

**3486 Canfield Dr \$860,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

#### Dublin

##### 3 BEDROOMS

**3385 Dublin Blvd, #246 \$499,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

##### 5 BEDROOMS

**7821 Galway Court \$1,950,000**  
Sun 1-7 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

#### Livermore

##### 3 BEDROOMS

**5416 Arlene Way \$575,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 J. Rockcliff Realtors 251-2500

##### 5 BEDROOMS

**2445 Ancona Circle \$1,050,000**  
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

#### Pleasanton

##### 3 BEDROOMS

**2779 Chocolate Street \$698,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Jan Pegler 519-1455

##### 4 BEDROOMS

**2413 Romano Circle \$1,135,000**  
Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273

**2970 Moreno Avenue \$798,000**  
Sun 1-4 Weiner McDowell Group 251-2585

##### 5 BEDROOMS

**3273 Novara Way \$2,750,000**  
Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

**3916 Vierra St \$2,550,000**  
Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario 260-2220

**1440 White Stable Drive \$1,480,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111

**3099 Bersano Court \$2,488,888**  
Sun 1-4 Sherri Stoneberger 510-504-7177

#### San Ramon

##### 4 BEDROOMS

**1 Plum Tree Ln \$770,000**  
Sat 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-valley 397-4200

### SALES AT A GLANCE

#### Dublin (Jan. 23-30)

**Total sales reported:** 11  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$360,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$581,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$447,227

#### Livermore (Jan. 23-30)

**Total sales reported:** 10  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$350,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$950,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$529,000

#### Pleasanton (Jan. 23-30)

**Total sales reported:** 10  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$500,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,800,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$858,600

#### San Ramon (Feb. 5-19)

**Total sales reported:** 13  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$132,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,800,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$643,308

Source: California REsource

## Tri-Valley Real Estate Directory

**Darlene Crane,**  
Real Estate Mortgage Advisor  
OPES ADVISORS  
925-699-4377  
dcrane@opesadvisors.com  
www.darlenecrane.com  
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349 Main Street #203, Pleasanton

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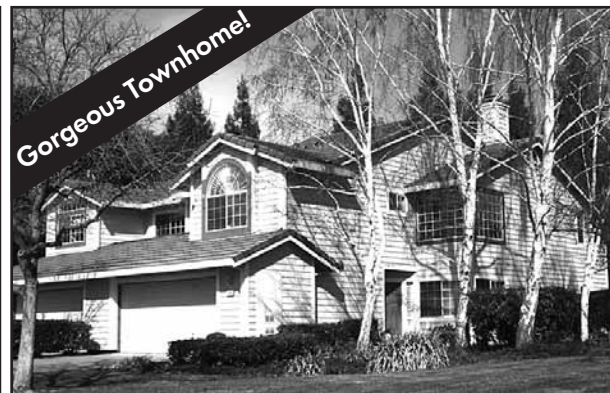
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3888 Inverness Way, Livermore  
Former model & it shows! The best location in Portola Glen, this 3-br, 2-ba, 1985 sq.ft. end-unit has loads of windows & natural light. You'll love the eat-in kitchen w/garden window, dual-sided fireplace, updated baths, hardwood & tile flooring, volume ceiling, skylights & more. Start packing today! \$498,000

**Bob & Deb Cilk**

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# HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

3273 SARATOGA CT., LIVERMORE, \$1,227,000



This stunning 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom home offers 4,479 square feet of living space. The luxury home features a grand slate entry, media/game room, loft, library/study, high ceilings, new wood flooring, sub-zero wine cellar, large backyard and over \$250K in upgrades. **Gail Boal at Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty represented the buyer (925) 577-5787.**

## MARKET

Continued from Page 22

January, up from 2.6 months in December, but down from a revised 5.8 months in January 2012. The index indicates the number of months needed to sell the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate. A six- to seven-month supply is considered normal.

■ Mortgage rates edged up in January, with the 30-year fixed-mortgage interest rate av-

eraging 3.41%, up from 3.35% in December 2012 but down from 3.92% in January 2012, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable-mortgage interest rates also edged up, averaging 2.58% in January, up from 2.54% in December but down from 2.76% January 2012.

■ Homes moved off the market faster in January, with the median number of days it took to sell a single-family home decreasing to 36.6 days in January, down from 38.1 days in December and down from 59.6 days for the same period a year ago. ■

## Are you buying or selling a home?

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

For marketing opportunities call Carol Cano at 600-0840, x226.

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2779 CHOCOLATE STREET  
PLEASANTON

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- Well-equipped kitchen with granite counter top and backsplash, under-cabinet lighting, spacious dining nook and a center island with butcher block top.



Offered at \$698,000



*Jan Pegler*  
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Open Sun 1-4 New Listing

2970 Moreno Ave., Belvedere, Pleasanton

Better than new, absolutely gorgeous, highly upgraded home with 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2104 sq.ft. on fantastic, North/East facing inside lot, highly rated Mohr Elementary School. Listed At \$798,000



Coming Soon

Kottinger Ranch Hills

Call for details.

Exceptional custom home high in the Kottinger Ranch Hills. 5 bedroom plus office, 5800 square feet with panoramic views Pool, spa, outdoor kitchen, so much more! Privacy, Luxury and Location!



SOLD 38 Castledown Rd



SOLD 1643 Tanglewood Ct



SOLD 2917 Moreno Ave



SOLD 180 Kottinger Dr





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Julia on



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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.  
**SOLD FOR \$701,000**  
**\$51K OVER THE ASKING PRICE**



**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**



**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**



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



**2327 Woodthrus 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**



**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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**DANVILLE**  
**1026 MCCALULEY RD**  
**HIDDEN VALLEY HOME!** **\$1,388,000**  
4 BR 3.5 BA Bonus Rm/Office.Fireplace in  
Liv,Fam,&Mstr.Private 1/3 acre lot.Open Space.Valley  
Views 925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**  
**4706 BEL ROMA RD.**  
**LOVELY SINGLE STORY** **\$1,749,000**  
4 BR 2.5 BA Din/Liv rms.Fam rm-wet bar.Remodeled  
kit w/granite,Thermador stove +hood.6 st horse barn  
925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**  
**1215 GONZAGA CT**  
**COURT LOCATION!** **CALL FOR PRICING**  
4 BR 3 BA 2 Story w/In-Law Unit.Gleaming Hrdwd  
Flrs.Lovely Upgrades.Fireplace.Bckryrd w/fruit trees.  
925.847.2200



**LIVERMORE**  
**Open SUN 1-4** **2445 ANCONA CIR**  
**DESIRABLE SOUTH LIVERMORE** **\$1,050,000**  
5 BR 4.5 BA Plus Office. Pool/Spa.4 Car garage.Large  
Side Access Area.Chef's Kit w/Granite/Maple Cbnts.  
925-847-2200

### DANVILLE

**1250 COUNTRY LANE**  
**HIDDEN TASSARA GEM!** **\$1,348,000**  
5 BR 3.5 BA Upgraded home w/In-law Apt.Kit/Ba  
w/Granite.Formal Liv/Din Rrm.5 Stall Barn &raised  
garden 925.847.2200

### DUBLIN

**Open SAT/SUN 1-4PM** **3385 DUBLIN BLVD, #246**  
**GORGEOUS ARRONA MODEL!** **\$499,000**  
3 BR 2 BA Beautiful courtyard/waterfall view.Hrdwd  
Flrs.Ceiling Fans in all bdrms. 925-847-2200

### FREMONT

**4241 NERISSA CIR**  
**RESORT LIVING IN ARDENWOOD** **\$700,000**  
4 BR 2.5 BA Beautiful Remodeled Kitchen & Bath.  
Real Hardwood Flrs.Awesome Landscaped Backyard.  
925.847.2200

### LIVERMORE

**271 BURGESS STREET**  
**SINGLE FAMILY HOME!** **CALL FOR PRICING**  
4 BR 2 BA Family Room w/Fireplace.Formal Din-  
ing Area.Hardwood Flrs.Spacious Backyard.Great  
Schools! 925.847.2200

**1158 VIENNA ST**  
**SUNSET EAST BEAUTY!** **\$459,000**  
3 BR 2 BA LivRm-vaulted ceilings/ fplc;Kit w/newer  
DWW/Stove.New Water Heater & Copper Plumbing  
2012 925.847.2200

**2833 ALNWICK AVE #2**  
**DESIRABLE MONTGOMERY FLR PLN** **\$440,000**  
2 BR 2.5 BA Two Car Garage!Wonderful Layout.  
Hurry Builder is Raising Prices!This one will go  
quickly! 925.847.2200

**341 N STREET**  
**LOTS OF POTENTIAL!** **\$180,000**

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

**1264 VIA JOSE**  
**NICELY MAINTAINED MOBILE HOME!** **\$48,500**  
2 BR 2 BA Open Floor Plan.Vaulted Ceilings.New  
Capet.Washer/Dryer/Refrigerator included.Storage  
shed 925.847.2200

### SAN LEANDRO

**Open SAT 1-4** **14988 ENDICOTT ST**  
**WASHINGTON MANOR HOME** **\$380,000**  
3 BR 1 BA Cute as a Button.Spacious Flr plan.  
Lrge Kit.w/island,& double ovens.Security Alarm.  
925.847.2200

**1270 OBERLIN AVE**  
**GREAT FOR INVESTORS!** **\$305,000**

3 BR 1 BA Fixer with newer roof & gutters & newer  
furnace.Great location.Glose to Park & Schools.  
925.847.2200

### SAN RAMON

**6 BOARDWALK PLACE**  
**GREAT LOT FOR OWNER BUILDER** **\$525,000**  
Location is ideal right off of Crow Canyon Rd.Bldg  
area is approx. 4400 sq.ft. 925.847.2200

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### STONERIDGE PARK



#### 2812 GARDEN CREEK CIRCLE, PLEASANTON

Beautiful Pleasanton single level close to great neighborhood parks & award winning schools. Open floor plan with three bedrooms, two updated bathrooms, 1720 square feet. Excellent condition, remodeled kitchen and master bathroom, spacious family room/kitchen area. Newer dual pane windows, wood flooring, updated fixtures, vaulted ceilings, completely finished garage. Large private rear yard with mature trees and concrete stamped patio. 6264 square foot lot. Convenient to Downtown. **OFFERED AT \$649,000**

### RUBY HILL



**PENDING SALE!**

#### 4355 CAMPINIA PLACE, PLEASANTON

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

### CUSTOM



**SOLD!**

#### 3834 ORION COURT, PLEASANTON

Quiet court location near downtown, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2800 plus square feet. Lot size is 9074 sq. ft. Highly upgraded custom home, gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances, expansive master suite with retreat, fireplace and upgraded bathroom. Large family room with fireplace, plantation shutters and crown molding. Newer landscaped private rear yard with built-in BBQ, refrigerator, sitting area, fire pit and beautiful stone patios and landscaping! **SOLD FOR \$958,000**

### BRIDLE CREEK



**SOLD!**

#### 5206 SELENA COURT, PLEASANTON

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

### CUSTOM HOME



**SOLD!**

#### 6513 ARLINGTON DRIVE, PLEASANTON

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

### PLEASANTON VALLEY - "BIRDLAND"



**SOLD!**

#### 2449 MINIVET COURT, PLEASANTON

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

### AVILA



**SOLD!**

#### 5284 ARREZZO STREET, PLEASANTON

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

### PRIMA



**SOLD!**

#### 176 PRATO WAY, LIVERMORE

Upgraded 5 bedroom, 3 bathrooms, approximately 3325 square foot Centex home. Spacious gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, island, and breakfast bar! Expansive master suite with spa tub and walk-in closet. Plantation shutters, crown molding, custom tile and Brazilian cherry hardwood floors throughout downstairs. Dual heating & air conditioning. Beautifully landscaped front and rear yards, in-ground pool/raised spa and private courtyard area, three car garage with electric gated private driveway. Close to golfing, Ruby Hill Country Club, renewed downtown and adjacent to the Livermore Wine Country! **SOLD FOR \$850,000**

### VALENCIA



**SOLD!**

#### 5019 RIGATTI CIRCLE, PLEASANTON

Newer upgraded Valencia home. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2321 Sq. Ft. Downstairs bedroom/office (5th). Spacious master suite. Large family room with built-in entertainment center. Formal dining room. Modern gourmet kitchen has granite counter tops, maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances. Community amenities include Club House, Greenbelt, Playground, Pool/Spa, and Tennis Court(s). Close to Owens Plaza Park, BART, & 580/680 access. **SOLD FOR \$825,000**

PLEASANTON 900 Main Street





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Pending



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

Just Sold

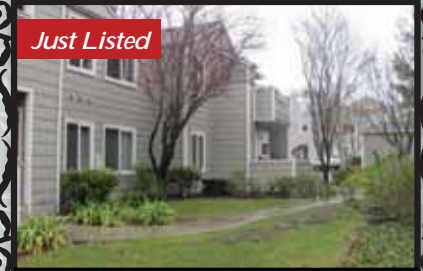


— \$1,400,000 —  
4821 Livingston Place, Pleasanton

BE DARING,  
BE DIFFERENT, BE IMPRACTICAL,  
be anything that will  
**ASSERT INTEGRITY**  
OF PURPOSE AND IMAGINATIVE  
VISION AGAINST THE PLAY-IT-SAFERS,  
the creatures of the commonplace,  
**THE SLAVES  
OF THE ORDINARY.**

NOTE TO SELF/CECIL BURTON

Just Listed



— \$350,000 —  
327 Norris Canyon Terrace, San Ramon

*"Tiffany, thank you for all your help with many transactions. I have always appreciated your integrity and genuine care. You address issues and take care of each transaction as if it was yours or a close family member. I will most certainly come back to you in the future."*

*Fariba Danesh, Pleasanton*

Pleasanton | 900 Main Street



**Emily Barraclough**

emilyb@apr.com  
(925) 621-4097  
DRE# 001479356

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*Just Listed*

*4140 Foothill Road, Pleasanton*

Breathtaking views of Mount Diablo and the Tri-Valley from this stunning custom home nestled in the foothills of Pleasanton. This exquisite single level home was built by Young & Burton in 2000 and has approximately 8600 square feet of living space. This spacious estate features world class finishes with full crown molding, custom Wood Mode cabinetry, 24" heated limestone flooring, Anderson windows and Marvin doors. The gourmet kitchen features large granite slab counters, Wood Mode cabinetry, center island, Thermador gas range, 2 Sub Zero refrigerators, Viking double ovens and spacious breakfast nook with panoramic views. The north wing of the home is dedicated to the generous master suite, complete with a sitting area, fireplace, separate office, exercise room, dressing room, walk-in closet and a luxurious spa like master bathroom. Four guest rooms are located in the south wing of the home and each has its own private bathroom. There is an Au Pair/ In-Law Suite that features its own living room with stunning views and bedroom with a beautiful private bathroom. Located just minutes away from downtown Pleasanton and Castlewood Country Club. Offered at \$6,900,000



PLEASANTON 900 Main Street



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COMING SOON

**Coming Soon in Vintage Heights**  
Stunning one level custom 4 bed, 2 bath home with ridge views. Large master suite. Cozy family room overlooks a wonderful yard. Priced in the mid to high \$900,000's



COMING SOON

**Coming Soon in Pleasanton**  
One level 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on a quiet court in Pleasanton. Beautifully updated kitchen and bathrooms. Priced in the high \$600,000's



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

**746 Vinci Way  
Livermore**  
Former Model with over \$170K in upgrades. Hardwood floors, slab granite, stainless steel appliances. Custom window treatments, Wine cellar, in-ground spa. 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 car garage. Corner lot. Gorgeous home!!



Call us for New Listings COMING SOON!

**Cindy and Gene Williams**

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925-426-3858

MikeChandler.kwrealty.com

**Jill Denton**

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**3916 Vierra St,  
Pleasanton**

Gorgeous, custom estate style home in Ruby Hill with luxury amenities throughout. 5 bedroom, 5.5 bathrooms among 6781 +/- sq. ft. on approx.

1/2 acre lot. Decadent gourmet kitchen, huge family room, executive office, movie theater, wine cellar, 3 fireplaces, 4 car garage and so much more! **Offered at \$2,550,000**

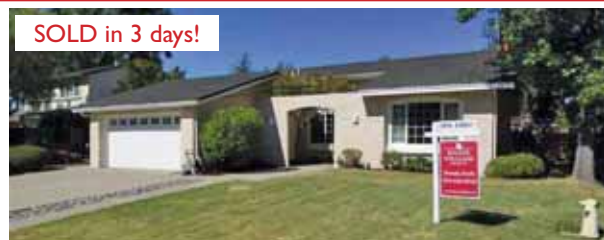


Open Sun 1-4

**DeAnna Armario**

REALTOR® DRE # 01363180

925.260.2220 www.armariohomes.com



SOLD in 3 days!

**2703 Corte Bandera, Pleasanton**

Curb appeal! Must see 4 bedroom, 2 bath home in popular Del Prado; quick access I-680 S/I-580 W. Great backyard; corner lot in a court. Exterior just painted with new flooring throughout. Both baths remodeled with tile, vanities and fixtures - walk to pool/cabana.



**Dennis Gerlt**

Broker Associate DRE # 01317997

925.426.5010

www.buytrivalleyhomes.com

**2413 Romano Circle  
Pleasanton (Ruby Hill)**

4 Bed/3 Bath, 2,627 sq. ft. rarely available, single-story Monterey Spanish design Ascona home on 8,386 sq. ft. lot. Backs to open space with stunning views. Hand-laid marble tile, dramatic volume ceilings, well appointed kitchen and raised-panel alder cabinetry. **Offered at \$1,135,000**



Open Sunday 1-4

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**Represented Buyer**



**SOLD! \$1,227,000 | 3273 Saratoga Court, Livermore**

4 bed/4 bath, 4479 sq ft

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**2476 Heatherlark Circle, Pleasanton**

2 Bedrooms • 1 Bathroom • 2 Car Garage  
Living Room w/Fireplace • Eat In Kitchen  
Beautiful Floors • Dual Pane Windows

**Priced to sell at \$425,000**



**Melissa Pederson**

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