

Pleasanton Weekly

Prominent watercolorists in new exhibit at Harrington Gallery» **15**

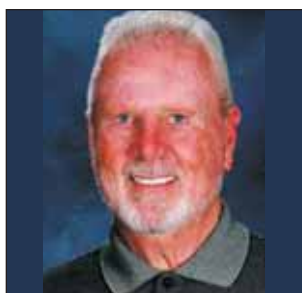
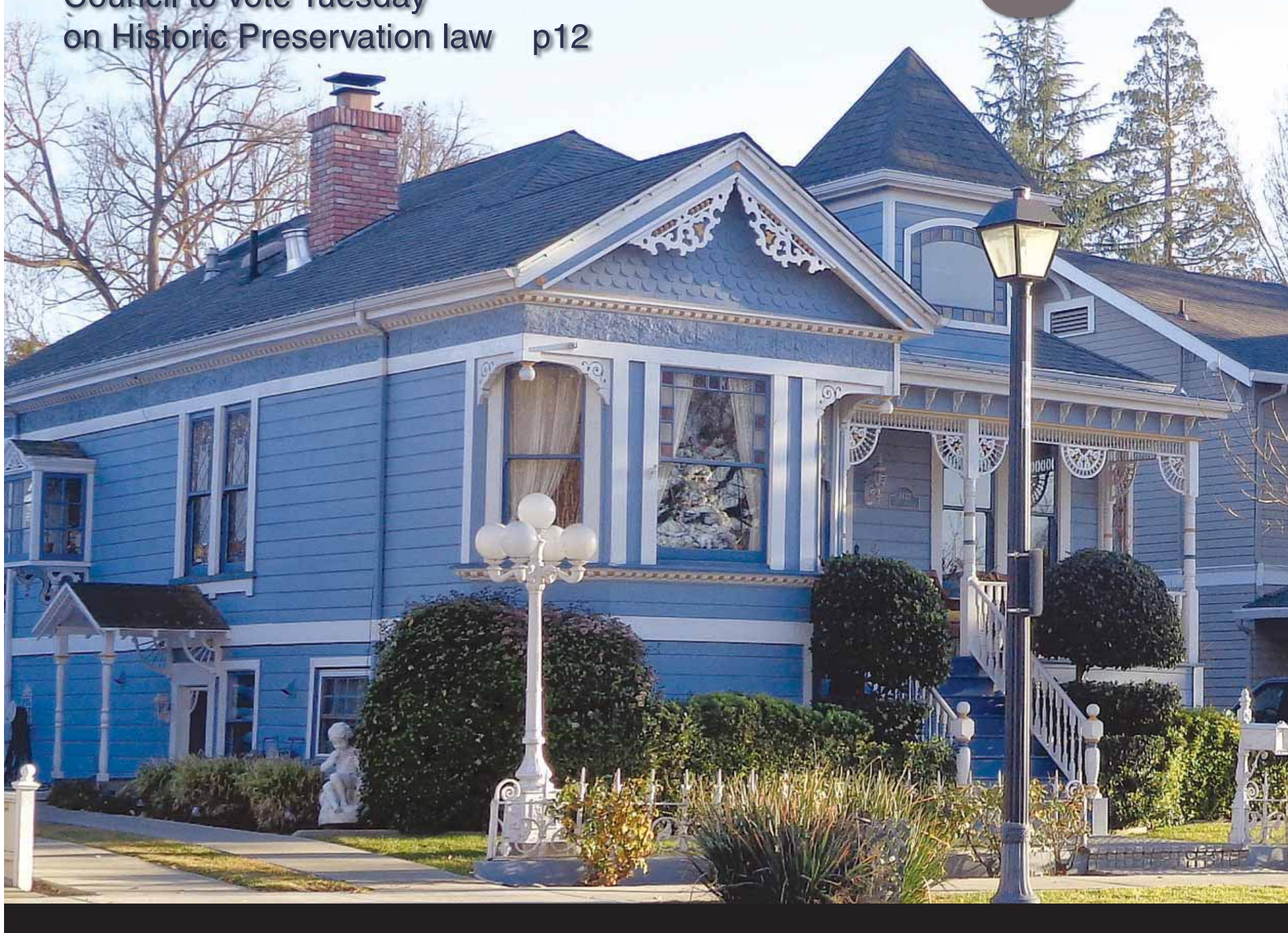


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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Brown budget: More spending but fiscal restraint

Vowing to keep the state on a path to long-term fiscal stability, Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. has proposed a balanced budget that pays off more than \$11 billion in debt and builds a lasting rainy day fund while continuing to invest in public schools and expand health care coverage for millions. This is certainly good news for Pleasanton and especially the school district that has faced troubled financial times since 2008. Now, with a decade of intractable deficits behind us, California is poised to take advantage of the recovering economy and the tens of thousands of jobs now being created each month.

But given the vagaries of the business cycle, let's hope the governor and state legislators are vigilant in their commitment of public funds. Brown said that "wisdom and prudence should be the order of the day." But then he quickly ordered modest pay raises for state employees, no doubt deserved after several years of salary freezes, and has committed more funds for welfare projects.

Remember that when Brown took office, the state faced a massive \$26.6 billion budget deficit and estimated annual shortfalls of roughly \$20 billion. The state has eliminated some of these deficits with billions of dollars in cuts and new temporary revenue approved by California voters. Independent experts agree that California's unfunded public employee pension obligations are becoming more and more of a budget problem, both for state and local governments. Just five years ago, the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) reported that its unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities in its main pension fund for state and local governments was over \$49 billion, consisting of about \$23 billion for the state and \$26 billion for other public agencies. Showing a bigger problem, a report by the bipartisan Little Hoover Commission found that the top 10 public employee pension systems in California, including plans for both state and local government workers, faced a combined \$240 billion shortfall as of 2010.

Fortunately, the significant details of Brown's proposed 2014-15 state budget include maintaining long-term fiscal stability, strengthening and investing in the state's "Rainy Day Fund" and continuing to pay down the wall of debt,

which is the most immediate liability constraining the ability of the state to emerge from its fiscal troubles.

Specifically, the budget makes a \$1.6 billion payment into the Rainy Day Fund, also known as the Budget Stabilization Account, which marks the first deposit since 2007, and also directs \$967 million to a Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties. And, in lieu of Proposition 58 and ACA 4, the budget proposes a constitutional amendment to bolster the Rainy Day Fund.

The budget also continues to address the \$25 billion "Wall of Debt," directing more than \$11 billion to pay off past budgetary borrowing. This debt, which totaled \$34.7 billion in 2011, will be eliminated entirely by 2017-18 under this budget.

Investing in education, the budget provides an infusion of \$10 billion in new Proposition 98 funding this year. For K-12 schools, funding levels will increase by \$3,410 per student through 2017-18, including an increase of more than \$2,188 per student in 2014-15 over 2011-12 levels. This reinvestment provides the opportunity to correct historical inequities in school district funding with continued implementation of the Local Control Funding Formula, which directs additional resources to students who need the most support: English language learners, low-income students and foster youth.

The budget also provides the second year of guaranteed increases in funding of \$142.2 million each for the University of California and the California State University systems, predicated on a continued freeze on increases in student tuition and fees.

Strengthening the state's infrastructure, the budget reflects the release of the state's five-year infrastructure plan, last produced in 2008, and includes an \$815 million package of investment to address critical deferred maintenance projects in state parks, on highways, local streets and roads and at K-12 schools, community colleges, courts, prisons, state hospitals and other state facilities. Implementing federal health care reform, the budget invests \$670 million in new General Fund dollars to expand Medi-Cal benefits, including mental health, substance abuse, adult dental and specialized nutrition services.

Although Brown with the Legislature's agreement has addressed pension reform and too-early, too-hefty retirements, pension debt reduction should continue to be a top priority as considerations get underway on the new budget plan. ■

About the Cover

The Pleasanton City Council will vote Tuesday on a proposed historic preservation law that will place tighter controls on how homes built before 1942 can be remodeled, renovated or rebuilt. The measure is designed to maintain the architectural integrity of old neighborhoods in the downtown district. Photo by Jeb Bing. Cover design by Rosanna Leung. Vol. XIV, Number 51

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Would you be more likely to donate blood if you had the option of deciding where it goes?



Sharon Tietgens

Retired

Yes, actually. When the Red Cross contacted me to let me know I have a very rare type of blood that qualifies me to donate blood to premature babies, and that I could request to have my blood donated for that purpose, I started donating more often. It is a great motivator for me to know that I'm helping these little preemies get off to a good start in life.

Dick Tietgens

Retired investigator

No. I'm perfectly happy to let the donation center determine where my blood can best be put to use, and to then make sure that it gets there.



Kelly Jong

College student

Sure, I'd be a little more likely to donate if I could choose where my blood goes. But what would really get me to donate blood more often would be if I could specify where I didn't want my blood to go. You know, like if I could request that it never go to a recipient who has abused an animal, or a child, or an elderly person. I understand that it's not very realistic, but if I could get that guarantee, I would donate as often as possible.



Nikki Bartels

Volunteer at Valley Humane Society

No. Not at all. I'm happy for my blood to go wherever it is needed, and to whoever might need it.



Errasto Lopez

Barristo

No. It doesn't matter to me who gets my blood. If someone is in such bad shape that they need a transfusion, if they are then lucky enough to survive, I think they will take a good look at themselves and become a better person because they almost died. I like the idea of being part of that.



—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

MLK holiday Monday

Pleasanton schools and city offices, including the library, will be closed Monday, Jan. 20, for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. State and federal offices also will be closed.

The Pleasanton Garbage Service Transfer Station and Recycling Center will remain open, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at 3110 Busch Road. Most retail establishments also will be open.

Tomorrow's Make a Difference for Pleasanton Festival, being held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the library to help people find volunteer opportunities, was scheduled to coincide with the holiday honoring Dr. King, who dedicated his life in service to others.

Science on Saturday

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's popular four-lecture series, "Science on Saturday," will be held Feb. 1 through March 1 for the 20th year. Lectures and demonstrations are targeted to middle and high school students, each highlighting cutting-edge science presented by Lab researchers joined by master high school science teachers.

The lectures are free, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, with shows at 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. There is no preregistration, and seating is on a first-come basis. The lecture series also will be available at <http://new.livestream.com/LivermoreLab>.

The series kicks off with "Computer Simulation: Exploring Nature With a Computer." Find more information at education.llnl.gov or call Richard Farnsworth at 422-5059.

Help for aspiring teachers

The Tri-Valley Retired Educators Scholarship Foundation has posted its application online for students attending a four-year college in the fall and planning a career in education. The group offers up to six scholarships, each worth \$2,000.

Applicants must be residents of the Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Sunol area. They may be high school seniors or community college students who are qualified to transfer as juniors to a four-year institution this fall.

The application packet is at www.div85.calrta.org. The deadline is March 15. Send questions to greegno@comcast.net or call 443-6097.

Correction

An arson attempt reported in the Jan. 10 issue should have said the report was filed by a resident of Promenade Apartments in the 5300 block of Case Avenue.

Cancer takes life of former Pleasanton Mayor Ken Mercer

Served on City Council 14 years, many as mayor

By JEB BING

Former Pleasanton Mayor Ken Mercer, 71, died Tuesday after a long battle with cancer.

He was first elected to the City Council in 1976 and was re-elected twice to four-year terms, and then as mayor in 1986, winning reelection to that post in 1988, 1990 and then stepping down in 1992.

Prior to 1986, the term of mayor in Pleasanton was assigned on a rotational basis by the City Council and Mr. Mercer served in that capacity a number of times before becoming the city's first directly elected mayor.

He will be remembered for his strong support of the development of Hacienda Business Park and Stoneridge Shopping Center, to name just two of the large-scale projects he backed during his service on the council, said City Manager Nelson Fialho.

Flags at municipal buildings in Pleasanton have been lowered to half-staff in honor of the former mayor.

He is survived by a son Chuck and a daughter Shelley Despotakis.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 25, at the Pleasanton Senior Center. ■



JEB BING

Ken Mercer (right), former Pleasanton mayor and a retired executive of ValleyCare Health System, who died Tuesday, joins Dublin Councilman Don Biddle at the opening of an urgent care facility in Dublin in 2012.

'New' Stoneridge Drive now 40 mph

Councilwoman objects to higher speed

The speed limit on the newly extended section of Stoneridge Drive has been raised to 40 mph despite objections from City Councilwoman Karla Brown who said it should stay at 35.

Pleasanton Traffic Engineer Mike Tassano said a speed survey taken after the new roadway opened Nov. 1 showed that 85% of the motorists clocked were traveling at an average speed of 43 mph. State law requires speed limits to be posted in the nearest 5-mile segment, which would be 45 mph, but Tassano said the law gives some cushion to regulators to post it at the next 5-mile segment down.

Brown said the road was just opened and that many in the Mohr-Martin neighborhood who opposed the extension in the first place at least urged the city to restrain speeders.

But Police Chief Dave Spiller said motorists ticketed for speeding in a zone that didn't meet state requirements could have their tickets dismissed in court. Excessive speeds, he said in response to a question from Brown, could warrant a ticket for reckless driving, but not speeding.

Tassano said the 35 mph posted speed limit would remain unchanged on Stoneridge between Trevor Parkway and Santa Rita Road



although even the section at Trevor has not yet been surveyed.

The City Council voted 4-1 to approve the speed limit change on Stoneridge. The new 40 mph signs are already posted on Stoneridge between Trevor Parkway and El Charro Road. ■

Family of beaten man offers thanks for donations

The family of a man who was beaten and left unconscious on the street in front of his Middleton Place home is thanking those who provided donations during the Christmas season.

David Lamont, 51, was left comatose in critical condition after confronting teens outside his home in the early-morning hours of Sept. 21.

"Dave was left for dead but thanks to a wonderful miracle and outstanding medical

care, he is now on a journey towards significant recovery," wife Agnes Lamont said in an email statement this week. "Multiple surgeries and intense rehabilitation have taken their toll but Dave's innate strength and extraordinary work ethic are propelling him through important milestones like breathing independently, relearning to walk, and being able to swallow again."

Police have identified three local teens and an 18-year-

old "person of interest" reportedly present during the attack. No charges have been filed, and police have said they hope to interview Lamont to learn more about what occurred.

The family's situation — with Lamont the sole income earner for the family, according to family friend Craig Mullins — led to Mullins starting a fundraising drive for the family that raised more than \$22,000, exceed-

See **THANKS** on Page 7

Still no decision on ousted principal

Union leader 'concerned about morale'

By GLENN WOHLTMANN

Supporters of former Walnut Grove Principal Jon Vranesh weren't in attendance at the Pleasanton School Board meeting Tuesday night, but he was still on the minds of some.

Representatives from both unions made veiled references to the circumstances that led to Vranesh being removed from office.

Peggy Carpenter, head of the Association of Pleasanton Teachers, quoted President Ronald Reagan, saying, "We have to to what's moral and what's right."

"A decision was made and it was hard," Carpenter told the board. "People helped to make it so that the rights of those involved were honored ... even if it came to the decision the board had to make in December."

In December, after a closed session that lasted more than seven hours, the board voted 4-1 to approve the hiring of a new principal at Walnut Grove, saying there was "merit to complaints" against Vranesh.

Those claims include allegations that Vranesh "created a hostile work environment at Walnut Grove through, among other things, the use of vulgar/derogatory terms to describe female employees of the district," according to a letter from the district's attorney, Kim Bogard of Kingsley Bogard LLC, to Vranesh's attorney, Paul Kondrick.

Alex Sutton, president of the local chapter of the California School Employees Association, told the board it had an opportunity "to fix our little dilemma."

"I'm a little bit concerned about morale in the district," Sutton said, alluding to problems the district has had with principals. "I'd really like to change the perception of this district to get back on track."

Vranesh's ouster marked the seventh of 16 principals to leave the district in the last year. Principals at all three high schools, at Donlon and Mohr elementary schools, and at Pleasanton Middle School have taken other posts or retired.

See **VRANESH** on Page 6

DeSaulnier announces run for Congress

State senator hopes to replace retiring George Miller

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

It didn't take long for State Sen. Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) to throw his hat in the ring for a bid to replace retiring Congressman George Miller.

Miller announced Monday that he decided to retire from office after serving 40 years in Congress. By early afternoon, DeSaulnier, 61, announced he'll run for Miller's 11th district congressional seat, which is up for election next year.

In announcing the election bid, DeSaulnier promised to continue the work done by the man he hopes to replace, whom he said he'd worked with at various levels of government for 20 years. DeSaulnier called Miller one of California's "strongest champions of working people and the middle class."

"I've always greatly admired Rep. Miller's tireless work ethic, his dedication to the residents of his district, along with his deep devotion and perseverance in fighting for the progressive values and issues that matter most to Californians," DeSaulnier said. "Rep. Miller will be missed, but his legacy of working to create good jobs, increase access to healthcare, improve our schools, and help California flourish in a global economy, will live on forever."

DeSaulnier received his first significant public endorsement Tuesday afternoon, with a vote of support from California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson.

"Mark knows this district intimately, and will bring to the job more than 20 years of experience working on local and state issues ranging from education to job creation, healthcare access to energy production, infrastructure improvements to protecting working people and much more," Torlakson

said. "He has my full support."

DeSaulnier's state senate district covers about 70% of Miller's, so he has some name recognition as he begins his campaign.

This is DeSaulnier's second bid for Congress, having lost in the 2009 special Democratic primary for the old District 10 seat — prior to redistricting.

He said he's ready to hit the ground running, with some specific issues already on his agenda.

"I'm running for Congress to help bring an end to the brinkmanship and gridlock in Washington," DeSaulnier said, "so that we can move forward with President Obama's agenda of creating more good paying jobs, growing our middle class, investing in our infrastructure, increasing access to healthcare, advancing the use of renewable and homegrown energy, enhancing our education systems, and making the United States a leader in innovation around the globe."

Before serving in the State Senate's 7th district, DeSaulnier represented California's 11th State Assembly district. He also served as a Contra Costa County supervisor and member of Concord City Council.

Miller, 68, was elected to the House of Representatives in 1974 at age 29 during the Watergate era. He was one of the most powerful Democrats on Capitol Hill and his departure is expected to be a hit to the party.

"Liberals are going to lose a real advocate," San Jose State University political science professor Larry Gerston said. "He was probably the West Coast version of Ted Kennedy in terms of his support for children's issues, health care, employment benefits and minimum wage. So many of the things that Kennedy fought for were also on Miller's agenda."

Miller was born in Richmond and graduated from Diablo Valley

Community College and San Francisco State University. He earned his law degree from the University of California at Davis Law School.

This term he has represented California's recently redrawn 11th District, which encompasses most of Contra Costa County, as far south as Danville.

He serves on the House Education and Workforce Committee, which he chaired from 2007 to 2010, and said he plans to continue pushing for improvements in education after his retirement.

Miller has also chaired the House Natural Resources Committee and the Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, and has long acted as an adviser to House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco).

In a statement released earlier this week, President Barack Obama thanked Miller for his service and called him "an indispensable partner in developing and passing the Affordable Care Act."

"Because of his tireless efforts, our air and water are cleaner, our workers' rights are better protected, more young people can afford to go to college, and more working families can make ends meet," Obama said.

Congressman Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena) called Miller a close friend and noted his willingness to work with those on the opposite end of the political spectrum.

"This is the biggest public service loss to California in my lifetime," Thompson said in a statement. "George leaving Congress will have a greater impact on our state than any past retirement from public office."

"I'm proud of what I have been able to accomplish on behalf of children, working people and the environment, in my district and for our country, especially passage of national health care reform," Miller said in a statement.

"Now, I look forward to one last year in Congress fighting the good fight and then working in new venues on the issues that have inspired me." ■



Mark DeSaulnier



George Miller

New courses coming to Pleasanton schools

Expanded focus on science and engineering

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

Pleasanton students can look forward to a host of new classes in the next school year.

With a unanimous vote Tuesday night, the Pleasanton School Board approved seven new classes, including three music courses and an expansion of science offerings at both high schools and in one middle school.

The science classes are the next phase of courses that began last year at Amador Valley High and this year at Foothill High. Amador will be adding a course called Digital Electronics, part of its engineering program, and Foothill will add Human Body Systems as the next course in its biomedical program and will begin an engineering program with Introduction to Engineering Design.

The expanded offerings are part of Project Lead the Way, a nationwide push to get more students involved in science and engineering as careers.

"This is really about increasing momentum," said Glen Sparks, coordinator of career technical education and apprenticeship programs. "Teachers have to go to summer training — it's a commitment."

Adding new classes is a teacher-driven process, according to Jane Golden, director of curriculum, who said they talk to students to find out if there is interest and talk with colleagues before bringing an idea forward.

The move to emphasize science courses began two years ago at Amador, and Digital Electronics will be offered for students in the third year of their career path. Foothill began its biomedical program this year, and Human Body Systems will be the second in a similar path for students there.

Nearly all middle schools already have Gateway to Technology courses — the first step in the push for technology. Hart Middle School will begin its technology courses in the 2014-15 school

year, although the specifics have yet to be determined.

The effort will next move to elementary schools, with additional emphasis on science and math beginning in kindergarten.

AP Music Theory will come to Foothill in the 2014-15 school year, allowing students to get college credit. String Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra are being offered at Amador; Golden said those will ultimately replace other music classes at the school.

Village High School students will be offered a class in college and career readiness. While most students there are working to meet the requirements they need to graduate, some may be offered the opportunity to take classes at Amador or participate in what Golden described as a "virtual academy."

The additional courses are expected to cost the district more than \$265,000.

Advance placement classes like the one to be offered at Foothill brought opposition from Sherie MacGregor, a parent and substitute teacher.

"I think there is a rush to push for APs that is stressing out the kids," MacGregor said. "We are missing the boat on offering more honors courses," instead of more advanced placement classes — which offer college credit and are tougher than honors courses.

Also at its meeting Tuesday night, the board received an audit report for the 2012-13 school year that showed the most favorable opinion the district can receive, and proposing only minor changes in how money is handled at some schools.

The board also agreed to re-open contract negotiations with CSEA. The district wants to discuss wages, hours, leaves of absence, transfers and promotions, and health benefits; the CSEA wants to discuss those items as well, along with grievance procedures and contracted services. ■

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VRANESH

Continued from Page 5

Vranesh remains on paid administrative leave, which began Oct. 25.

A request by the Pleasanton Weekly for documents surrounding his removal was answered with a reply requesting a 30-day extension. According to the letter from Bogard, "As a courtesy, our office notified Mr. Vranesh's attorney of its intent to respond and produce the documents requested in Pleasanton Weekly's request. Mr. Vranesh's attorney has notified our office of his: 1) client's objection

to the production of the requested documentation; and 2) willingness to take legal action to prevent disclosure."

In an email to the Pleasanton Weekly on Monday afternoon, attorney Kondrick disputed the characterization of the response and stated there was not an objection to producing the documents.

In his email, Kondrick wrote, "Mr. Vranesh indeed did not take the position with the District that he would fight the release of information, but rather, he stated to the District's attorney that he 'expects the District to take all necessary

legal and other action to preserve the confidence and privacy of those matters and documents,' as appropriate, and would be willing to 'join any legal proceeding' necessary to best assure the protection of the privacy rights of PUSD students, parents and staff/employees as pertain to these ongoing District matters."

The Pleasanton Weekly has been asking for, among other documents, an investigator's report on the allegations against Vranesh, something Kondrick has said neither he nor Vranesh has seen.

— By Glenn Wohltmann

Workshop on raising well-balanced students

City continues Parent Education Series

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Moms and dads will get tips Wednesday on raising a well-balanced student, at the parents workshop offered by the Pleasanton Community Services Department.

This is the second in a Parent Education Series offered from 7-9 p.m. at the library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., in conjunction with the Youth Commission to meet the goals of the Youth Master Plan, adopted by the city in 2010.

The workshops are scheduled as follows:

- Jan. 22: The Well Balanced Student. Gina Morris of Stanford Challenge Success will examine tensions over homework, grades and the culture of competition, and will present strategies to create healthier home and school environments.

- Feb. 26: Raising Resilient Children. In this seminar, Parent Coach Rachel Sklar will focus on the challenges of raising children

in today's "hurry up" world, including a discussion on how parents can establish healthy family schedules.

- March 26: A Balanced Approach to Navigating Youth Sports. Parents will learn what kids need at each developmental stage from sports so they can build a foundation for athletic development and lifelong fitness. Morris of Stanford Challenge Success will also discuss what youth sports experts see as an alternative to

the "earlier is better" and "more is better" mindset.

- April 23: The Wonder Years: Transition to Middle School. Presented by On The Edge of Coaching and a panel of local teens, this workshop will discuss the initial acclimation to middle school, followed by the more challenging issues that include body image, conflicts and friendships. Parents will be given 5 Tips to make this transition as smooth as possible.
- May 28: I'm Talking but They're

Not Listening: Communicating with Children. This seminar will provide communication tools to improve a child's ability to listen to, understand and respond to requests. Parent Coach Sklar will give ideas on how to prevent anger and frustration from derailing effective communication.

For more information about the Parent Education Series or teen programs, contact Rachel Mariscal at 931-3434 or rmariscal@cityofpleasantonca.gov. ■

27 months for tax fraud

Fake cancer claim adds time for obstructing justice

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

A Pleasanton woman has been sentenced to more than two years in federal prison for a fake tax refund scheme, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Denise LaShawn Reed, 45, also known as Brooke Nicholson, Lauren Roberts, Denise Berry, Savana Jones and Neyce Roberts, was sentenced to 27 months for her role in the scam, in which she admitted to filing for more than a dozen false tax refunds.

Reed pleaded guilty Sept. 5. According to the plea agreement, from January 2009 through February 2010, Reed filed 14 false and fraudulent federal income tax returns with the IRS.

The total amount of the false

claims was \$94,700. Reed used fake information to file for tax refunds, using only the name of a victim.

As part of the scheme, some of the returns reported that the taxpayer earned income as part of a business they operated when Reed knew the taxpayer did not own or operate a business. The 14 false tax returns fraudulently reported a refund was due.

Reed admitted to receiving tax refunds for 13 of the false claims.

According to court documents, Reed electronically filed tax returns using others' identities to defraud the United States into paying tax refunds, which were deposited into bank accounts or debit cards controlled by Reed. She then used the

funds to pay personal expenses.

Reed was charged on Dec. 18, 2012, with 14 counts of filing false claims. She pleaded guilty to one count on Monday.

In addition to 27 months in prison, U.S. District Court Judge Yvonne Rogers Gonzalez sentenced the defendant to a three-year period of supervised release.

In an attempt to obtain a lenient sentence, Reed provided false information to the court: a forged letter on Stanford Hospital letterhead stating that she was being treated for breast cancer, which was not true.

As a result, at sentencing Gonzalez found that Reed obstructed justice and increased her sentence.

New sex abuse charges filed against golf pro

Ten new counts involve third boy; more victims expected

BY GLENN WOHLTMANN

New charges involving an additional victim were filed Wednesday against an award-winning Livermore golf pro who is accused of sexually abusing boys he had been teaching.

Andrew Michael Nisbet, 31, was charged last month with 65 felony counts involving two young boys. He now faces an additional 10 counts, most of which involve a third young boy.

Nisbet, who worked at the Las Positas Golf Course, was arraigned on the amended complaint against

him — which is 42 pages long — in Alameda County Superior Court in Pleasanton; he is scheduled to return to court Feb. 20 to enter a plea.

Livermore police couldn't be immediately reached for comment on the new charges but said in December that their investigation at that point had indicated that the suspected abuse occurred in their city between 2009 and 2012.

Nisbet coached children throughout the Tri-Valley, across California and elsewhere in the country; police suspected he sexually assaulted at

least several male children between the ages of 12 and 17 years in Livermore. Livermore police spokesman Steve Goard said last month that authorities believe that Nisbet may also have abused boys in other locations where he coached, including Michigan, North Carolina, Mississippi and Alabama.

Last month, the Tri-Valley YMCA held a forum to help parents recognize signs of sexual abuse. A second forum, on prevention, is set for later this month.

Bay City News contributed to this story

THANKS

Continued from Page 5

ing its goal.

"We never thought that we would be at the receiving end of the kind of care and giving with which you have gifted us and we are humbled," Agnes Lamont said in her statement. "We will never deserve this outreach but hope to pay it forward to others when we can. All of your many prayers and good thoughts have sustained us and helped us get a miracle started for Dave."

She said she, her husband and their two teen daughters are still struggling, nearly four months after the attack.

"As his family we can love and encourage him but we cannot lift the burden of his physical suffering. Our suffering has been emotional rather than physical. The girls experienced elemental fear, were stripped of innocence and a sense of security. Please know, though, that you have helped lift our burden and we will always be grateful," Agnes Lamont said. "The tragedy that happened in an instant devastated us on many levels and we will always carry scars."

She offered thanks collectively to those who contributed to the fundraiser and promised to thank individuals whenever possible.

"A single act of evil in no way competes with the love, compas-

sion and decency that we see daily from friends and strangers," Agnes Lamont said. "We offer heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful people who have helped, prayed and comforted our family these past months. However, we are blessed in many ways. Our faith in God, and our bonds with friends and community have deepened."

The fundraising effort, started two months ago through GoFundMe, is continuing. GoFundMe is a crowd-sourcing website where people can donate to projects or causes. Donations can be made by searching for David Lamont's name. A donate button is near the bottom of the page. ■



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Continued from December 17, 2013 – Public Hearing: P13-2446, P13-2447, and P13-2448, City of Pleasanton – Consider: (1) amendments to the General Plan, Downtown Specific Plan, and Downtown Design Guidelines relating to historic preservation and residential design within the Downtown Specific Plan Area; and (2) introduction of an Ordinance approving amendments to the Pleasanton Municipal Code relating to story pole requirements and demolition by neglect within the Downtown Specific Plan Area
- Consider the formation of a City Council Legislative Advocacy Subcommittee and the appointment of two council members

Planning Commission

Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **P13-2078. Summerhill Apartment Communities**
Work Session to review and receive comments on a Preliminary Review application to demolish the existing office building and construct 177 apartment units and related site improvements on a 5.9 acre site located at 5850 West Las Positas Boulevard in Hacienda Business Park.
- **P13-2525. Greg Olson and John Dunphy, Colevan Electric**
Application for a Conditional Use Permit to allow the operation of an electrical contractor with warehouse storage of equipment, tools, and limited materials at 3942 Valley Avenue, Suites E and F

Commission Vacancies Recruitment

The City Council is accepting applications for the following Commission Vacancies:

Housing Commission

Economic Vitality Committee

1 Member from each of the following categories:

Green Economy/Environmental Industry

Medical Technology

Residential Real Estate Developer

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office,

123 Main Street, or on the City's website at

[http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/pdf/](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/pdf/CommissionApplication2.pdf)

[CommissionApplication2.pdf](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/pdf/CommissionApplication2.pdf)

For additional information,

Contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

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

The above represents a sampling of upcoming meeting items.

For complete information, please visit

www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/calendar

Business News

Edited by Jeb Bing, jbing@pleasantonweekly.com

Jewelers Gallery joins exclusive group

'Will be international diamond broker for customers,' owners say

Jewelers Gallery in Pleasanton has joined the independent Jewelers Organization (IJO), an international buying group and educational organization of independent retail jewelers.

The store, located at 614 Main St., will be the area's exclusive Master IJO Jeweler member.

"We seek out one of the top two independent retail jewelers in a market area for exclusive membership in IJO," said Jeffrey Roberts, president and CEO of the organization. "Our buying group is geared for stores that offer

high quality at good values. Our members share the international purchasing power of almost 900 members across the U.S., plus members in Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia."

"Also, our educational, business and marketing programs are unique in the jewelry industry," he added. "They are designed to put the local independent jeweler on an equal footing with the national chains they compete with today."

Robin and Wendy Barnes, owners of Jewelers Gallery, said they

will be taking advantage of as many IJO membership benefits as possible, including having direct access to the international diamond markets of Antwerp, Belgium, through the IJO Buying Office located there.

"Antwerp is our gateway to more than half of the world's finest diamonds," Wendy Barnes said. "It will allow us to act as an international diamond broker for our customers right here in Pleasanton."

Robin Barnes is a 1972 graduate of the IJO Business College. ■

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Top tips on saving for retirement

56% of us don't know how much we'll need

Do you know how much money you need to retire?

Some 56% of the workforce does not know how much they need to save for retirement, and only 14% of Americans believe they will have enough money to retire comfortably. For peace of mind, the Indexed Annuities Leadership Council (IALC) suggests considering these 11 top tips to get you on track for a comfortable retirement:

1. Start saving early so your funds can work for you.
2. Save often and make sure your retirement portfolio includes savings vehicles that balance the amount of risk and reward, like fixed indexed annuities which offer a steady, guaranteed lifetime income stream while protecting you from market volatility.
3. Know your retirement goals and adjust your savings based on the kind of lifestyle you want. Con-

sider things like food, healthcare and housing, as well as elderly parents, children and grandchildren to decide what retirement plan will give you the peace of mind you're looking for.

4. Get a clear picture of your retirement needs. The average couple will spend \$240,000 on health costs alone during retirement.

5. Understand your Social Security benefits. The average monthly Social Security benefit for retired workers is \$1,237. Before you retire, visit www.socialsecurity.gov to find out what benefits you should plan for.

6. Contribute, if your company offers matching 401(k) or profit sharing options. Every little bit you save helps in the long run. Find out how.

7. Fixed Indexed Annuities (FIAs) can give you peace of mind. FIAs are a key component of a balanced financial plan that help you moder-

ate risk and reward. With FIAs, your money has the ability to grow risk-free; your principal is protected and will never decline in value.

8. Balance your retirement plan by having several different income sources. Consider a mix of market-driven plans such as 401(k)s, mutual funds or securities, along with safe, guaranteed plans like Social Security benefits and FIAs. It's all about balancing the risk and reward.

9. Review your spending plan with your spouse or "money buddy" on a bi-monthly basis so you will be able to reach your financial goals and attain fiscal accountability.

10. Find a consultant if you need help with the retirement financial planning process.

11. Don't touch your retirement savings. Many retirement plans have penalties for taking out money too soon. ■

Rotary 'garage' sale set for Amador parking lot tomorrow

Funds will go for wheelchairs for disabled

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton will hold a city-wide "yard sale" from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow in the parking lot at Amador Valley High School.

Club members and their families will be at the site with hundreds of items for sale, including housewares, clothing, baby furniture and accessories, and other merchandise.

Funds raised at the sale will be

used by the Rotary Club to purchase and distribute wheelchairs to people with disabilities in Latin America, including Tulancingo, Pleasanton's sister city.

Donations can be declared as tax deductible gifts to the Rotary Club of Pleasanton Foundation, P.O. Box 352, Pleasanton 94566. All unsold items will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul. ■



PhotoGallery

Share your photos of sports, events, travel and fun stuff at PleasantonWeekly.com



New Leaf food drive raises \$17,336

Pleasanton grocer's 1st year helps county food bank

Customers of New Leaf Community Markets, including Pleasanton's, donated a total of \$17,336 for area food banks during November and December.

Altogether, contributions from New Leaf markets here and in Santa Cruz County, Half Moon Bay and San Jose provided meals for 69,343 families in need, said Scott Roseman, founder and co-owner of New Leaf Community Markets.

The Alameda County Community Food Bank received \$1,202, which translates to 4,808 meals.

New Leaf, which specializes in organic meats, food, produce and other products, opened its newest market last May in Pleasanton's Vintage Hills Shopping Center at Bernal and Vineyard avenues. In addition to its holiday drives, the store contributes 10% of its profits each year to local non-profit organizations.

In November, New Leaf was acquired by Portland-based New Seasons Market, a recognized leader in the organics grocery industry. Roseman, who joined the board of directors of New Seasons, said New Leaf Community Markets will continue operating from Santa Cruz. ■



FILE PHOTO

Donations from customers at New Leaf Community Markets provided meals for 69,343 families in need.

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Thursday, January 30, 2014

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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Joseph Brandel, M.D., General Surgeon

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Opinion

LETTERS

Cell tower risks not 'wives tale'

Dear Editor,

I respectfully disagree with Mayor Thorne's comment that the "wives tales" of "electric and cellular waves harming humans have long been disproved." (Around Pleasanton, Dec. 20).

If that were true, why would the U.S. General Accounting Office recommend, in August 2012, that the U.S. "reassess standards for Radio-Frequency energy from mobile phones" particularly as their usage levels have increased since the guidelines were first set in 1996?

If cell phone emission guidelines are under scrutiny, can emissions from cell phone towers be that far behind? Today's emissions may be considered "safe," but cigarette smoke and asbestos were also deemed harmless at one point in time.

What's good for wireless service providers may not be good for public health. Let's hope our elected officials do their homework next time.

Jill Miller

Tribute to Ken Mercer

Dear Editor,

I just read that one of the best to have ever served the city of Pleasanton as a council member, mayor and Tri-Valley ambassador has passed. His name is Ken Mercer and without Ken's vision and dedication to improving Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley, many of us that live here would have a much different situation and quality of life than what we enjoy today.

I first met Ken playing softball in the early '70s and over the years we would occasionally cross paths and Ken was always positive, affable and sincere.

Ken Mercer has earned and deserves to be formally recognized by the city of Pleasanton as one of its most influential and dedicated citizens. Thanks Ken and rest in peace.

Mike Carmo

EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Remembering Ken Mercer



This photo showing former Mayor Ken Mercer with members of the Pleasanton City Council in 2007 was one of his favorites, standing in the Council chambers where he served our community for 16 years. Mr. Mercer, 71, died Tuesday after a long battle with cancer. A memorial service will be held Jan. 25 in the Pleasanton Senior Center.

Here's how city leaders remember Ken Mercer:

Nelson Fialho, City Manager: "I cannot understate the many contributions made by Ken Mercer during his tenure on the Pleasanton City Council and as a three-term mayor. He was one of the primary forces behind the Pleasanton that we have today, and he created much of the positive synergy between the business community and the residents. His passing is a tremendous loss for the people of Pleasanton."

Jerry Thorne, Mayor: "As Pleasanton's first directly elected mayor, Mr. Mercer set the standard for all of us who have and will follow him. He led this city through some rough times such as the Prop. 13 budget crisis. His 'get it done' leadership style put Pleasanton on the path to becoming an economic and jobs powerhouse in the East Bay. This city will continue to benefit from his leadership for many years to come because of the leadership he provided to build the Stoneridge Shopping Center and the Hacienda Business Park."

Former Mayor Jennifer Hosterman: "We always want to remember those who have passed in their best light, but in Ken's case, there is no other. He was the friendliest, most cordial, warm and charming gentleman, who placed his community at the center of his heart and soul. He was approachable to a fault. I recall a summer evening when I had an issue so pressing I looked up Mayor Mercer's number in the phone book, shocked to find it so publicly available, and called him. He answered! It was a very hot night, and I shared that we didn't have Air conditioning and he replied that his family didn't either, affirmation that we were somehow bound by the same first world problems."

Former Mayor Bob Philcox: "Ken Mercer was an extraordinary individual. I was Mayor when he was elected to City Council and he quickly became a significant asset to the group. As a young man he had cut his teeth in politics as an aide to Assemblyman Carlos Bee and he approached his work as a Councilman with great passion. We worked together on Stoneridge Mall and Hacienda Business Park and his efforts in bringing those projects to fruition were exemplary."

Former City Councilwoman Becky Dennis: "I remember Ken Mercer for encouraging resident involvement. Looking back, it seems to me that he valued civic debate and, as Mayor, created many citizen forums for the thoughtful examination of controversial issues. He set a standard for community participation, consideration of diverse opinion, and stakeholder inclusion that persists to this day."

Former City Councilwoman Sharrell Michelotti: "Ken Mercer's legacy to us all is the Pleasanton we all love and enjoy today. He was a 'Mayor of the People' who inspired participation in major decisions facing the city, a wonderful spokesman and leader to be reckoned with for the betterment of this city and its people. He was the driving force that made things happen: Hacienda, city-school shared facilities, and ValleyCare Medical Center coming to Pleasanton. He never stopped giving his time, energy, influence and heart to make this community a better place in which to live." ■

More letters to the editor regarding former Mayor Ken Mercer will be published next week.

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POLICE BULLETIN

Chemicals stolen from Terminix

Police are investigating the theft of as much as \$180,000 in extermination products in a case that dates from March to December of last year.

A report of a commercial burglary was filed at about 2:21 p.m. Jan. 13, in which Terminix in the 5800 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard noted an unknown number of cases of a chemical had been stolen.

The company uses about \$600,000 in chemicals per year, so the loss — \$18,000 to \$20,000 a month — wasn't noted until recently.

The case has been forwarded to the Police Department's investigations division.

In other police reports:

- What started as a report of a suspicious person in the Nordstrom parking lot in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road turned into a felony fraud investigation after police arrived.

Police who responded to the call at about 11:43 a.m. Jan. 9 found a male and female in the parking lot who turned out to be on probation, which allowed them and their vehicle to be searched.

Two laptop computers were discovered in the pair's car. No charges have been filed, but the case remains under investigation.

- Delfonte Lee Williams, 19, of Antioch was arrested at about 10:20 p.m. Jan. 12 in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Drive on a felony warrant for burglary out of Pittsburg.

- Computer monitors and components worth a total of \$5,100 were reported stolen from Wireless Glue Networks in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road. Police could find no evidence of a break-in through the main doors, although the office doors had been left unlocked.

- A \$2,000 desktop computer and \$400 cash were taken in a Jan. 9 burglary at a home in the 5400 block of Pleasant Hill Road. Entry was made by breaking in the front door.

- Two \$1,000 laptops and a \$400 iPad were stolen in a Jan. 11 residential burglary in the 1800 block of Zenato Place. Entry was gained through a rear door, which the owner said had been locked prior to the break-in.

- Raley's in the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard reported the theft of 26 bottles of wine valued at \$1,745. The thief took the bottles off the shelf and left in an incident that took place at about 8:38 a.m. Jan. 7.

- A resident of the 3900 block of Rockingham Drive reported her credit card had been used to make two online charges for laptops at the Microsoft store for \$755 apiece.

- A resident of the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard reported felony identity theft after receiving a collections call from Comcast for \$421. That led to a check of her credit report, where she discovered a charge from Verizon for \$952 and several unsuccessful attempts to open accounts in her name. The case, reported at about 7:04 p.m. Jan. 10, remains under investigation.

- A local artist working from her home in the 5600 block of Stoneridge Drive and attempting to sell her work reported accepting a fraudulent \$1,000 check, which led police to a victim, who'd already filed a report with police that his identity had been stolen. The check was not cashed in the case, reported at about 2:10 p.m. Jan. 10.

- A sliding glass door was smashed but nothing was taken in a Jan. 9 residential burglary attempt in the 5200 block of Muirwood Drive. Damage to the door was estimated at \$500.

- A resident of the 5500 block of Springdale Avenue reported discovering two fraudulent charges on his account, one for \$85 and one for \$54, made in El Cerrito. The case is under investigation, with a possible lead.

- Marlon Anthony Vargas, 28, of San Francisco was arrested at about 10:35 a.m. Jan. 7 at San Francisco International Airport on a Pleasanton felony warrant for possession of a controlled substance. No additional details were available about why Vargas was taken into custody at the airport.

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

WEDDINGS

Roessler-Plotts

Jessica Lynn Roessler and Bryan Robert Plotts were married Sept. 28 at Calegari Vineyard in Healdsburg.

Jessica is the daughter of Greg and Kate Roessler of Cross Plains, Wisc. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, in marketing, and is a senior marketing manager for Gap in San Francisco.

Bryan is the son of John and Roxanne Plotts of Pleasanton. He graduated from Amador Valley High School in 2000, and from UC Santa Barbara with an accounting/economics degree. He is a CPA and was awarded the CFA designation. Bryan currently works in the finance organization at Oracle Corp. in Redwood City.

Bryan and Jessie went to Bali for their honeymoon and make their home in Pleasanton.



OBITUARIES

PAID OBITUARIES

Kenneth Roy Mercer Sept. 2, 1942 — Jan. 14, 2014 Pleasanton, CA

Former Pleasanton Mayor, Kenneth Roy Mercer, 71, of Pleasanton, died peacefully surrounded by his children early Tuesday morning.

He was born to the late Vera and David Mercer in Vancouver, Canada and moved to San Bruno, CA as a very young boy. He attended Capuchino High School and graduated from San Francisco State University ('64).

Ken began his career with Pacific Bell which brought him to Livermore as Manager where he was involved with many organizations and served as President of the Livermore Chamber of Commerce. He left Pleasanton to serve as Administrative Assistant to Assemblyman Carlos Bee in Sacramento for several years before returning to Pleasanton where he was elected to the Pleasanton City Council in 1976 and served as Councilman and Mayor until 1992.

After retiring from Pacific Bell and politics Ken was a Vice President for Chicago Title and North American Title Company. He retired as a Vice President of Marketing for ValleyCare Health System in Pleasanton.

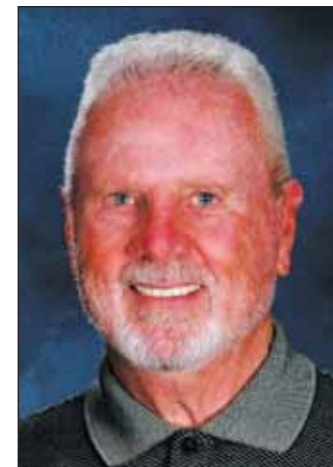
He played Lob Ball for many years, was always involved in local fundraising and enjoyed his many friends helping to barbeque with them at all kinds of charities and events in Pleasanton.

Ken enjoyed his family and grandchildren and never missed a sports event where he could cheer all of them on to victory or comfort them in defeat. He was very proud of his five grandchildren, Katie and Nick Despotakis, and Allison, Emily and Tommy Mercer.

Ken is survived by his children, Shelley Despotakis (Mike) and Chuck Mercer, along with his brothers Ron Mercer and Norm Mercer along with many nieces and nephews.

Ken will be remembered for his dedication and love of Pleasanton, his family and his many friends.

There will be a Memorial Service celebrating his life at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25 at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.



POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Jan. 7

Theft

- 8:43 a.m. in the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard; theft from structure

Battery

- 5:12 p.m. in the 5800 block of Owens Drive

Graffiti

- 2:09 p.m. in the 3900 block of First Street

Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:41 p.m. in the 4600 block of Bernal Avenue; possession of marijuana on school grounds

- 7:30 p.m. in the 2700 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness

Jan. 8

Theft

- 8:15 a.m. in the 3900 block of Rockingham Drive; fraud

- 8:54 a.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 10:15 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; bicycle theft

- 2:40 p.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; bicycle theft

- 4:39 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Graffiti

- 9:55 a.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

Drug/alcohol violations

- 11:32 a.m. in the 5100 block of Hopyard Road; public drunkenness

- 10:18 p.m. in the 5200 block of Hopyard Road; possession of methamphetamine, paraphernalia possession

Jan. 9

Theft

- 5:30 a.m. in the 5100 block of Golden Road; auto theft

- 8:07 a.m. in the 2000 block of W. Lagoon Road; auto theft

- 11:43 a.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; fraud

- 3:57 p.m. in the 1200 block of Concord Street

- 4:07 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 7:22 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

Vandalism

- 9:27 a.m. at the intersection of Main Street and Del Valle Parkway; graffiti

- 9:35 a.m. in the 700 block of Main Street

Public drunkenness

- 5:16 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Jan. 10

Theft

- 2:24 p.m. in the 2400 block of Santa Rita Road

Burglary

- 10:51 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Auto burglary

- 8:31 a.m. in the 2100 block of Laguna Creek Lane

Battery

- 7:35 a.m. in the 4700 block of Willow Road

Vandalism

- 10:35 a.m. in the 1200 block of Quarry Lane

- 7:13 p.m. in the 4400 block of Valley Avenue

Possession of marijuana/hashish

- 2:34 a.m. in the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

Jan. 11

Theft

- 12:38 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 2:38 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 3:59 p.m. in the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting

- 5:49 p.m. in the 5400 block of Coliseum Way; auto theft

Residential burglary

- 6:42 p.m. in the 1800 block of Zenato Place

Public drunkenness

- 11:15 p.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street

Jan. 12

Theft

- 4:58 p.m. in the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Battery

- 12:15 a.m. in the 5000 block of Hopyard Road

Drug/alcohol violations

- 1:55 a.m. in the 300 block of St. Mary Street; DUI

- 6:08 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Valley Avenue; public drunkenness

- 9:53 p.m. in the 800 block of E. Angela Street; paraphernalia possession

Jan. 13

Commercial burglary

- 10:26 a.m. in the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 2:21 p.m. in the 5800 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard

Saving our heritage

Council to vote Tuesday on Historic Preservation law

Story & Photos by Jeb Bing



Historic home at Third and Abbie streets has wrap-around porch, architecture that would have to be preserved under new city ordinance proposal.



New, contemporary-style home built by Jon Harvey on Neal Street might not conform to architectural standards in new historic preservation ordinance.



Fran and Dave Cunningham spent two years before being told by Pleasanton City Council that they couldn't rebuild this pre-WWII cottage-like home on Neal Street.

The City Council will meet Tuesday to continue a public hearing started a month ago on a proposed new law aimed at preserving the looks of downtown Pleasanton homes built before 1942.

If approved, the council's vote would wrap up more than two years of public debate on how to preserve the historic appeal of central Pleasanton while also allowing significant upgrades and even the rebuilding of homes in the downtown district.

"We're not building 100-year-old-homes anymore, and it's important that the ones that we have should be saved," said City Manager Nelson Fialho.

The ordinance would affect only residential areas in the Downtown Specific Plan, not businesses or commercially-zoned properties. That area extends from Third Street on the east to the Alameda County Fairgrounds on the west, and from Bernal Avenue on the south to the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and Old Stanley Boulevard to the north.

In the 1930s and 1940s, some of the older homes on Neal and Abbie streets were renovated with little attention paid to their original style and long before the city government and quasi-public organizations became concerned about preserving old houses. The focus in those years was preserving the looks of downtown Pleasanton, particularly Main Street.

Since then, a greater focus has been placed on neighborhood preservation, particularly by those who own the stately Victorians on First, Second and Third streets. Changes would be made but only after a property owner hired an architect to determine the age of the home and then took remodeling or rebuilding requests through a series of channels, including the Planning Commission and City Council.

The council's action Tuesday is expected to include spending municipal funds to survey all the homes in the downtown zone with a register listing all homes built before 1942. That date was chosen because architectural styles and home sizes changed significantly after World War II with few homes built in Pleasanton during the war years.

Realtor Mike Peel told the council that the date should be pre-1900. Another recommendation was to make any home built more than 50 years ago "historic," which would be a rolling date starting this year with homes

built in 1963 and earlier. Neither suggestion gained any support at the Dec. 17 public hearing.

Under the Historic Preservation measure before the council, owners of the historic-designated homes could still modernize, renovate and even tear down homes, but would have to keep or replace the look of the facade of the older home to a depth of 10 feet. The plan calls for keeping the street appearance the same, although the rest of the house could be altered.

"We have to strike a balance," Fialho said. "We can't create a situation where young families buy a home that's historic and then can't make changes as their families grow. Under these new guidelines, they could still make additions, modernize the interiors, put on new roofs, even solar, and install energy-efficient windows."

Some objections to the proposed new rules have argued that owners of historic-designated homes would have to replace old wooden windows with custom-made and costly wooden frames, and would be blocked from using today's building materials in rebuilding or remodeling.

"That's not the case," Fialho said. "Today's materials, including plastics, look much like the original and would be perfectly acceptable. We just want to make sure that whatever is done preserves the looks of the neighborhood and doesn't look schlocky."

Additions and other modifications to the exterior of historic-designated homes would also have to be in accord with architectural styles dating from pre-1942. These are Gothic Revival, Italianate, Victorian (Queen Anne, Stick and Folk), Bay Tradition, Craftsman, Prairie, Mission Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival and Mediterranean.

By enacting the historic preservation guidelines, Fialho said, homeowners or those buying a historic home in Pleasanton can avoid the costs and time required up to now to get city approvals. If the home is on the historic register, no architect would be needed to confirm that. If the changes are within the new guidelines and the facade of the historic home will look the same, simple over-the-counter permits can be obtained at City Hall.

To make sure a new home is compatible with the neighborhood, the ordinance restricts its floor area ratio to a 25% difference between it and the neighboring homes, or those with-



Linda Garbarino's elegant and historic home on Third Street is one of Pleasanton's prize Victorians.

in 150 feet. Street-facing garages also would be discouraged since most lots in the downtown district are narrower and often irregular compared to development-type lots created after WWII.

Because of widespread interest in the historic preservation proposal, the council's two-hour public hearing on Dec. 17 was continued to Tuesday. At the upcoming meeting, the city planning staff will make no further presentations with Mayor Jerry Thorne planning to resume the public hearing at the start of the meeting. He asked at the December meeting that those who spoke refrain from speaking again on Tuesday, but, of course, anyone can make new or additional comments.

The seven-member Historic Preservation Task Force was formed by the City Council in December 2011. The group has held 12 regular meetings, four public outreach meetings, one public workshop and appeared before both the Planning Commission and City Council with so-called "check-in" reports.

Its members are Bonnie Krichbaum, Paul Martin, Gerald Hodnefield, Linda Garbarino, Phil Blank, Emile Cruzan and Planning Commissioner Jennifer Pearce, who served as chairwoman.

At the task force's last meeting with the council, council members said they opposed creating a local historic district in Pleasanton, but otherwise agreed with most of the group's recommendations. ■



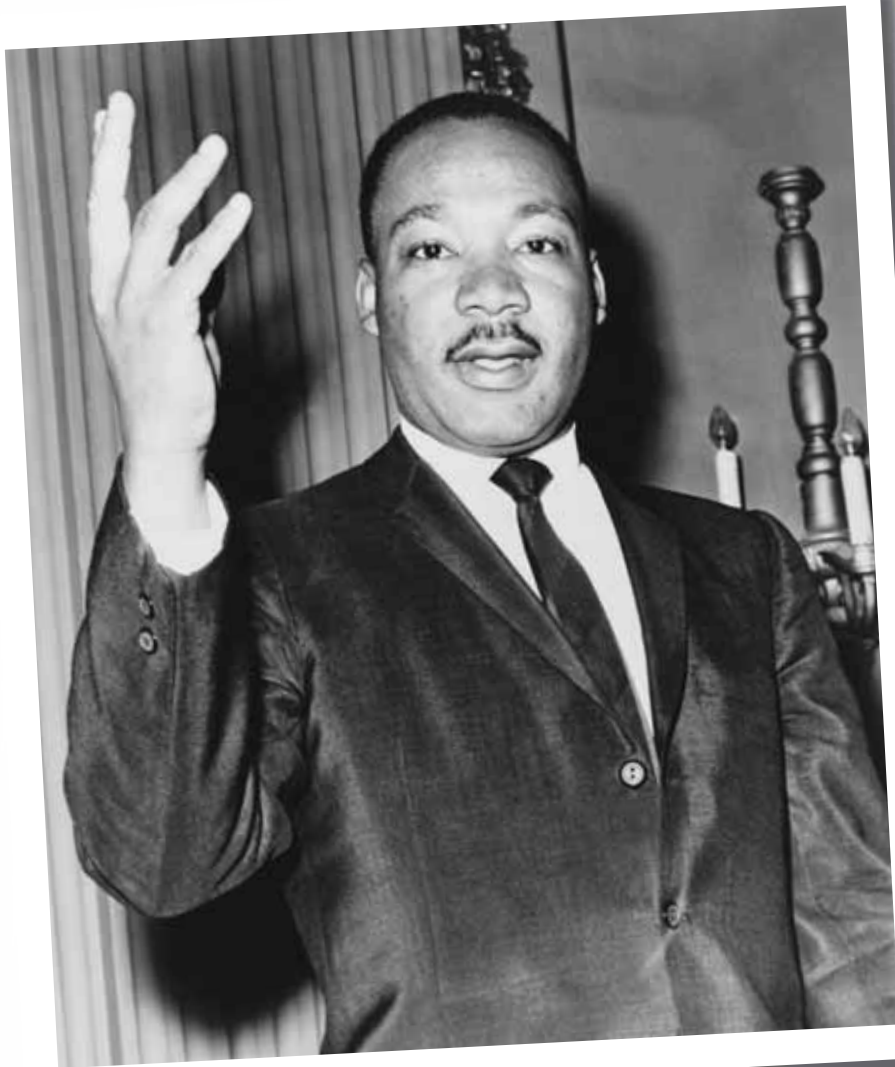
This historic home on Second Street was built before WWII and would be subject to new rules in the Historic Preservation ordinance.

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

Honor Dr. King: 'Make Today Matter'

Annual Y breakfast
to feature inspirational speaker

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM & SUN COLLECTION.
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1964

When community members gather to pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the Y's breakfast each January, one thing is certain: The keynote speaker will have something valuable to say.

"Every year it's a little different," said Kelly O'Lague Dulka, executive director of the Tri-Valley YMCA.

Last year, Pleasanton Police Chief Dave Spiller told of his life's journey as he puts his dreams into action. This year, with the theme "Make Today Matter," inspirational speaker Gary Xavier from Think Kindness will share his story. He speaks on the power of individual resilience and group cohesion as well as kindness.

"Gary Xavier has a pretty impressive story," Dulka said.

He lost his father and his home when his family became bankrupt before he was 17, yet he always continued to push his physical limitations. He earned a first-degree black belt at age 10 and went on to become a national martial arts champ, PGA Golf professional and an elite Marine Corps scout sniper.

Dulka discovered Xavier when he spoke at Bishop O'Dowd High School, where he instigated a 10-day kindness plan.

"He did an amazing assembly on changing the world one act of kindness at a time," Dulka said. "I heard from friends and parents how amazing they thought he was."

The annual breakfast, being held this year for the 14th time, is about honoring Dr. King, emphasizing his message of service to others, Dulka said.

"Legacy awards will be presented to three people who have dedicated their lives to service," she noted.

This year's recipients of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Award are John Sensiba, managing partner at Sensiba San Filippo; Gloria Gregory, executive director of CityServe Tri-Valley; and Sharon White, community activist and volunteer. Videos will be shown on each of them and their service.

Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti will emcee the event.

Another benefit of the morning is that it brings members of the community together, civic leaders and those in education, Dulka said.

"It's a great morning," she added, "and we showcase the Y a little bit, what we're doing for the community. It's always about some call for action." ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gary Xavier from Think Kindness will be the keynote speaker at the 14th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship Breakfast.

Celebrating MLK

WHAT: 14th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship Breakfast

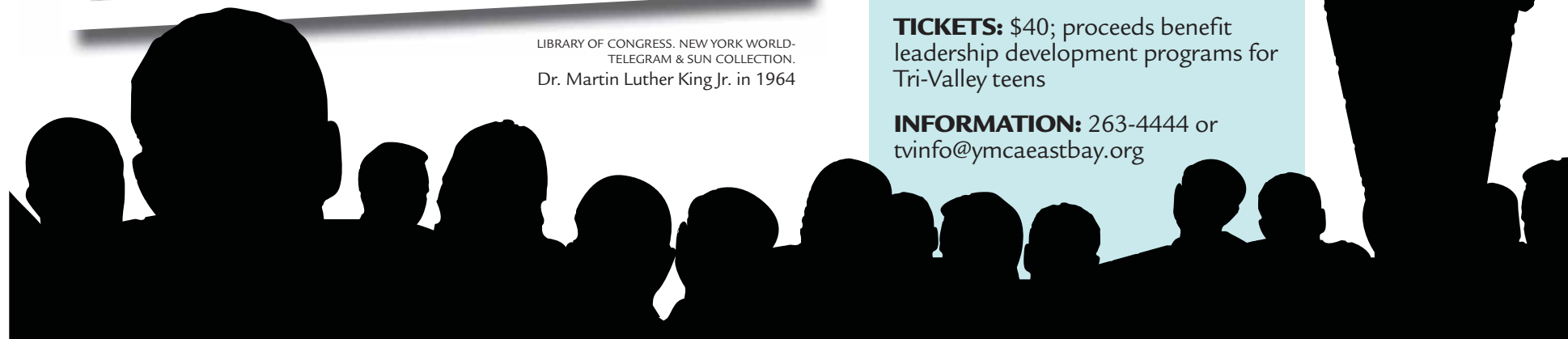
THEME: "Make Today Matter"

WHEN: 7:30-9:30 a.m., Monday, Jan. 27

WHERE: Hilton Pleasanton at the Club

TICKETS: \$40; proceeds benefit leadership development programs for Tri-Valley teens

INFORMATION: 263-4444 or tvinfo@ymcaeastbay.org



'Just Add Water' and 'Black on White'

Major exhibits opening at Harrington Gallery

Meet the artists and enjoy the new "Just Add Water" and "Black on White" exhibits at the Harrington Gallery at the opening reception from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday. This first major exhibit of 2014 takes advantage of the gallery's unique architecture to present the two complementary, yet distinct, exhibits.

The large gallery will host "Just Add Water," with four prominent Bay Area watercolorists, Melanie Lacki, Claire Schroeven Verbiest, Anne F. Fallin and David Savellano. These nationally known, award-winning artists have styles and techniques that range from wet-in-wet, dry-brush, plein air, realism, abstract and sometimes an interesting mix of the above.

"Just Add Water" also includes the work of sculptors Mark Goudy and Liza Riddle, who are art studio partners and husband and wife. Both create burnished earthenware vessels, often extremely fine and smooth, with intricate and surprisingly colorful markings,

but with very different forms and aesthetics.

"These vessels are constructed from asymmetric parabolic surfaces that project a unique contour with each viewing angle," Goudy said. "My approach is to combine ancient methods of stone-burnishing and earthenware firing with computer-aided shape design to produce talismans that fuse traditional and modern aesthetics."

Riddle said of her pieces: "I have been deeply inspired by the rhythm, patterns and forces of life ... during extensive travels around the world."

"Instead of glazing, I paint the bisque vessels with water soluble metals — iron, nickel, cobalt, and other salts — chemicals that permeate the non-vitrified clay," she added. "I have developed my own mixtures of metal salts and techniques for applying these almost transparent 'watercolors.'"

In contrast, the adjacent Old Engine Bay Gallery will exhibit "Black

on White," with artists Cary Bailey, Holly Wach and Rebecca Fox who work, respectively, in ink, charcoal and welded steel. This show was the inspiration of Harrington Gallery Director Julie Finegan in response to the colorful "Just Add Water" installation.

San Francisco artist Cary Bailey uses black ink to create still lifes that are intricately detailed and slightly whimsical. Charcoal artist Holly Wach's works are sensuous and expressive, and show her fascination with the mythical. Rebecca Fox has been creating welded steel sculpture for 16 years, and has developed an extensive following of collectors with her work in over 150 private and public collections throughout the United States. Her works were chosen for "Black on White" for their dark silhouettes in the gallery to complement the wall art, Finegan said.

The Opening Artists' Reception, which is free and open to the public, welcomes guests to explore the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Featured in the new exhibit opening this week at the Harrington Gallery are (clockwise from bottom left) "Transparent Umbrellas" by Melanie Lacki; ceramic vessels by Mark Goudy; and a welded steel sculpture by Rebecca Fox.

exhibit and chat with the artists and gallery staff. Light refreshments will be served.

The Harrington Gallery is located in the Firehouse Arts Center,

4444 Railroad Ave. Admission for this exhibit is free, and donations are gratefully accepted. For more information, visit www.firehousearts.org. ■

Carol Boster — Art Supporter of the Year

Retired teacher has been 'sold on art' all her life

By Dave Wright

Among us are those who give joyously over time to our communities — purely for the love of what they do. Carol Boster is one such person.

As the winner of the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council's Art Supporter of the Year Award for 2013, Carol deserves accolades for her 18-year focused commitment to the Arts in the Schools Program. For most of those years as a PCAC Board Member, she oversaw and managed this program, encouraging teachers to apply for matching grants to support specialized arts offerings in the Pleasanton elementary, middle and high schools.

The program delivers small and larger grants, most ranging from \$50-\$500, for enhanced musical, dance, visual arts, dramatic and literary arts programs. This ensures a variety of results, from a visit to a fourth-grade classroom by a professional visual artist or musical performances staged for an entire middle school to field trips to a theatrical destination.

"My favorite — in 1999, I think — was when PCAC supplied about \$12,000 to help re-establish a Strings in the Schools Program, after approximately 30 years without such," Carol said when asked about her favorite school grant projects. "PCAC purchased a few needed instruments — a cello and a bass fiddle.

"Also I represented PCAC on the committee to move the project forward in the fourth and fifth grades," she continued. "The superintendent of schools agreed to hire one music teacher to teach the orchestra class in all the elementary schools in order to get the program under way. It grew, and finally the middle schools developed enough students who advanced into the high schools



COURTESY PCAC

Carol Boster was named Art Supporter of the Year for 2013 by the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council.

so that Amador and Foothill had full orchestras.

"That accomplishment came about due to the development of a partnership between PCAC and the Pleasanton Unified School District, which was quite exciting."

Another program Carol especially enjoyed in recent years was the Annual Drawing Extravaganza, led by Amador Valley High School visual art instructor Michael Doyle. On that day, 125 Amador and Foothill advanced art students gathered to draw clothed models provided by the Bay Area Models Guild.

"It was wonderfully successful," Boster said. "Students loved having this opportunity and learned much about careful observation, proportions, technique."

For the 18 years that Carol Boster served on PCAC's Arts in the Schools Committee, she often shared the responsibilities of the committee with co-chairmen. The work involved publicizing the program, writing grants, tracking and evaluating applications, and managing grant funds and PCAC dol-

lars to support programs in poetry, dance, music, drama, pottery and the visual arts.

Carol worked closely with other board members such as Diane Wardin and Charlotte Severin, who started the program. Today it serves 1,500-3,500 kids per year, with money provided by the Pleasanton Community Grant Program, PCAC fundraising events and Alameda County ArtsFund Grants.

A longtime Pleasanton resident, now a retired teacher, Carol spent 14 years rearing her family, and 34 years teaching classroom music as well as grades 3, 4 and 5. She has been "sold on art" her whole life, loves the kids, her colleagues, the process, groups and learning.

"I can't stop doing what I love just because I've retired," Carol said, "so I still keep busy."

Indeed, she does: She presently tutors school kids up through the sixth grade, she substitute teaches — and can do so almost every day if she wishes — and she coordinates volunteer tutors in the Quick Reads Program at Fairlands School so that kids with limited proficiency achieve solid reading skills.

The evening Carol was awarded the Art Supporter of the Year Award at a festive gathering at Margene Gerton Rivara's home, Carol was granted the status of PCAC Honorary Director of the Board, assuring her a lifetime membership in PCAC. Also awarded that honor were long-term board contributors Gerry Hedstrom and Charlotte Severin. Congratulations to all of them.

Dave Wright, an English educator for 39 years, mainly at Chabot and Las Positas colleges, is a PCAC board member. He was a founding commissioner of the Pleasanton Civic Arts Commission.

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

Events

CALIFORNIA RETIRED TEACHERS LUNCHEON The January CalRTA Luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Bonnie Weiss will entertain with a tribute to Gene Kelly. Call 462-7495 for more information.

FREE PARENT EDUCATION SERIES The City of Pleasanton presents a free parent education series, starting

with "The Well Balanced Student" from 7-9 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 22 at the Pleasanton Library. For more information, call 931-3434 or go to <http://ptownlife.org/parent-education-series>.

LUNCH IN LIVERMORE The Widows and Widowers of Northern California invite you to Lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at Demitri's Taverna in Livermore. RSVP to David by Sunday, Jan. 19 at 833-7647 or hskoog@comcast.net.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FESTIVAL Come to the Make a Difference Festival, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18 at the Pleasanton Library. The theme is "Get connected, stay connected, through community involvement," encouraging festival visitors to sign up for local volunteer opportunities. Contact PleasantonCommunityOfCharacter@gmail.com for more information.

Fundraisers

OPEN HEART KITCHEN TRI-VALLEY CALENDAR/PRINTS FUNDRAISER Open Heart Kitchen will again benefit from the sale of the unique Tri-Valley calendars and prints created by Sue Evans Photography. Twelve images highlight the local natural beauty. Calendars may be customized for businesses. Cost is \$5.25-\$12. Contact Sue Evans at 989-4113 or sueevansphotography@comcast.net. Go to www.PhotographyBySueEvans.com.

SLEEP TRAIN'S PAJAMA DRIVE FOR FOSTER KIDS Sleep Train's annual

Pajama Drive aims to make nighttime cozier for local foster children ensuring they go to bed wearing their own pair of comfortable pajamas. Donations of new PJs in every size — infant to adult — can be dropped off at any Sleep Train store now through March 2.

SUPPORT THE TRI-VALLEY Y AT HABIT BURGER Come celebrate the opening of The Habit Burger Grill in Dublin, have a great dinner and 100% of your proceeds will go to support the Tri-Valley Y! Go from 5-7 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 19 at Habit Burger, 7295 Amador Plaza Road, Dublin. Every diner will be entered to win fun door prizes!

Kids & Teens

WINTER GARDEN Learn what kinds of plants you can grow in a winter garden and plant some of your own vegetables to take home, from 2-3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18 at Alviso Adobe Community Park. Ages 6-10. Cost is \$5 for residents, \$8 for non-residents. Register at www.pleasantonfun.com using code 56200.

WINTER SKIES The dark skies of winter are truly a sight to behold! Come see how beautiful the night sky can be and participate in naturalist-led activities and telescope viewing from 7-8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18 at Alviso Adobe Community Park. Ages 6-12. Cost is \$8 for residents, \$11 for non-residents. Register at www.pleasantonfun.com using code 56211.

Lectures/
Workshops

'ASK GRANNY' GENEALOGY RESEARCH "Ask Granny" will provide guidance for beginning genealogy researchers with completion of an ancestral chart, from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 23 at the Pleasanton Library. Patrick Lofft, L-AGS President and genealogy docent at the Pleasanton Library, will instruct. Call 443-7957 or go to LPD-CA.AAUW.net/.

'DOORS TO THE FUTURE' WORKSHOP The City of Pleasanton will host a "Doors to the Future" miniseries for families of, and individuals with, developmental disabilities at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at the Pleasanton Library. For more information, contact Jessica Reaber at 931-5373.

GRIEF WORKSHOP The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Get guidance and company on your healing journey at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Jan. 23, and Feb. 13 and 27 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Open to all. Call 846-5377 for more information.

JOHN ROTHMAN: AMERICA'S PRESIDENTS AND THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH ISRAEL America's relationship with the State of Israel, from President Truman to President Obama, has evolved over the decades. John Rothmann, an expert on presidential history, will explore

the US-Israel dynamic through the presidential lens on Wednesday, Jan. 22 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court. Cost is \$10. Call 931-1055.

On Stage

COLIN QUINN: 'UNCONSTITUTIONAL' Emmy nominated SNL comic Colin Quinn tackles 226 years of American history in a new solo show at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 17 at the Firehouse Arts Center. From predator drones to Kardashians, he will be pulling no punches. Tickets are \$30-\$40. Call 931-4848 or go to <http://www.firehousearts.org>.

'THE DROWSY CHAPERONE' Come see "The Drowsy Chaperone" at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 18-Feb. 1 at the Bankhead Theatre, 2400 First St., Livermore. Cost is \$28-\$38. Call 373-6800 or go to www.mylvpc.com.

Support
Groups

WIDOW'S CONNECTION Join this faith based community group for widows, dedicated to discussing and sharing the cares and concerns that pertain to the group, providing opportunities for social activities and connection, and making a difference by serving and reaching out to those in the community and beyond. For more information, or if you know someone who's interested, call Ione Galat at 523-3037.

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Since the launch of the 2013 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund campaign, 361 donors have contributed \$74,250 to the fund. This list includes donations received on or before Jan. 9, 2014.

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Jonathan & Janet Allen.....	**
Jordy & Hilary Strain.....	150
Julia Murtagh & Bob Murtagh.....	500
Julie Lenhart.....	50
Kathie & Lloyd Lortz.....	200
Kathleen Glancy.....	50
Kathryn Anderson.....	400
Kathy & Jeff Narum.....	100
Kay & Charles Huff.....	**
Kay Fogarty.....	100
Kem and Renée Kantor.....	**
Ken Villegas.....	100
Kenneth & Barbara McDonald.....	**
Kevin & Cindy Powers.....	**
Kevin & Sandra Ryan.....	100
Linda & Gene Johnson.....	100
Linda Gill Spiegel.....	**
Linda Jordan.....	**
Lonnie & Helene Chase.....	25
Lonnie Shaw.....	100
Lori Rice.....	200
Lyle & Carolyn Allen.....	100
Marc Louderback.....	50
Mark & Amy Arola.....	250
Mark Miller.....	150
Marvin Rensink.....	200
Mary Jane Bedegi.....	**
Michael Dutra.....	100
Michelle & Peter Weeks.....	**
Mike & Christie Underwood.....	100
Mike Kundmann & Roseann Csencsits.....	100
Mohamed Ziauddin.....	100
Mrs. Terry Messick-Cass and Mr. Barry Cass.....	100
Nancy & Hillary Briemle.....	**
Nancy & Jake Krakauer.....	**
Nancy Cowan.....	**
Nancy McGhee & Clayton Newman.....	**
Nancy Storch.....	**
Norm & Joyce Pacheco.....	**
Patricia A. Bacon.....	200
Paul & Ann Hill.....	**
Paul & Barbara Dubois.....	50
Paul Ebright.....	100
Pete & Julie Mason.....	**
Philip Levine.....	100
Ran and Pat Costello.....	**
Randy & Emily Yim.....	100
Richard & Gloria Fredette.....	**
Richard & Judith Del Tredici.....	100

Rick & Dawn Marie Barraza.....	200
Rita Rollar.....	100
Robert & Janice Hermann.....	**
Robert Silva.....	100
Rod & Christina Browning and family.....	100
Rodger, Laura & Stephanie Miller.....	50
Rudy & Marge Johnson.....	100
Ruth Van Art.....	50
Ryan Brown & Julie Harryman.....	75
S. P. Chase.....	**
Shareef & Renée Mahdavi.....	**
Sonal & Ajay Shah.....	**
Steve & Linda Ethier.....	**
Sue & Tom Fox.....	**
Swati & Manoj Samel.....	100
Terry Abbey.....	100
The Cohen family.....	500
The Craig family.....	250
The Foley family.....	**
The Ristow family.....	**
The Sborov family.....	**
The Seoni family.....	100
Thomas Rasmus.....	25
Tim & Belinda Schultz.....	100
Tim McGuire — Alain Pinel Realtors.....	1,000
Todd & Mindy Miller.....	200
Vincent & Sarah Ciccarello.....	**
Violet T. Masini.....	25

Businesses & Organizations

California Self-Defense Consultants.....	**
Casper Screens NorCal.....	100
DeBernardi Development Construction and Remodeling.....	**
Donna Garrison & Susan Schall — Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty, Fabulous Properties.....	1,000
Friends of Joan.....	40
Hacienda Bunco Group.....	100
Healthy Minds Institute.....	**
J Velling Designs.....	150
Karen Morliengo, MFT.....	75
Kim Ott — Alain Pinel Realtors.....	1,000
LawTech.....	250
Life Science Writing Services.....	**
Mission Pipe Shop & Cigar Lounge.....	75
Pleasanton Pet Sitting.....	75
Pleasanton-Livermore Junior Women's Club.....	250
Ponderosa Homes.....	500
P-Town Push Rods.....	1,000
PUSD Retired Secretaries Luncheon Group.....	**



The 2013-14 Holiday Fund campaign has raised nearly \$75,000 to help support the nonprofit agencies that serve our community.

Contributions will still be accepted through February and recorded as receipts in our 2014 campaign that will start in mid-November.



Checks should be made payable to Silicon Valley Community Foundation and mailed to:

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

- Randick, O'Dea & Tooliatos, LLP - Attorneys at Law 250
Ren Jen & Associates, Ruby Hill Sales 2,000
Sue Evans Photography 100
The Christmas Light Pros of the Tri-Valley 100
The HomeWorks Group **
Time 4 Order - Professional Organizing 100
Valley Real Estate Network 1,605
Walt Lupeika - Certified Public Accountant 100

As a Gift for

- Clark Mitchell and Ron Roudebush from the Miller family **
Dan & Lou Lincoln from Kevin & Barbara Brooks **
Jim & Diane Brittain and Dave & Kris Snyder from Ross & Sheri Kapp **
Kris & Dave Snyder and Sheri & Ross Kapp from Jim & Diane Brittain **
Those in Need in Pleasanton, CA **

In Honor of

- Carol Little from Sharyn Henshaw **
Claudia Wanlin from Sharyn Henshaw **
Donna Mattie from Sharyn Henshaw **
Erwin & Sonya Grant from Eric & Corinne Berendt **
James & Holly Oswalt from W. Lee Oswalt III 50
Jana Grant from Steve & Jori Grant 100
Kristin Brown and Sgt. Patrick Herman, USMC from Mike Herman **
Mike, Matt & Diane from the Pentins 100
Our Precious Gift of "5" Grandchildren 10
Sgt. Mia Munayer from Carole Salerno **
Susan Leirer from Sharyn Henshaw **
The Daggett Children & Grandchildren from Tom & Barbara Daggett **
Trenton Hulsebus from Joe Carlucci 100

In Memory of

- Adrienne Riley from Roger & Brenda Harris **
Allan Hillman, Randy & Margie Warner, David & Marian Hillman from Sharon Hillman **

- Archie, Adeline, Roy & Eva 100
Arleen Neu from LaVern Neu 200
Babette Wodowski from Phillip & Kathy Vermont **
Bert Brook from Dee Brook 100
Bert Brook from Sue Compton 100
Betty & George Ackel from Rick & Pam Ackel **
Betty Patrick from Charles & Joan Brown **
Bill & Alice Marsh from Audrey & Bill Sears **
Bill Haraughty from Anita V. Haraughty 25
Bob Williams from Mavis Williams 25
Buddy & Chloe from Bob & Tina Kahn 100
Carl W. Pretzel from Marilyn Pretzel 100
Chris Beratlis 200
Chris Beratlis from Vic's Coffee Shop Crew 140
Cliff & Jo Chapple from Bernie Thurman 250
Dale & Lucille Griffiths from Sharon Morrison 25
Dale Vaughn-Bowen from Corrine Mavridis **
Dan Gabor from Ann Gabor 100
David & Amber from Connie & Denny Harris 200
Dick Waldron from Virginia Waldron **
Donald D. Reid from George & Susan Reid 200
Doris & Joe Antonini from John & Carolyn Cardinalli 250
Doris Cink & Charles Glass from Vern & Tracy Cink **
Doris T. Walberg from Todd & Brenda Walberg 100
Dorothy & Edward Ruby from Sharyn & Tim Henshaw **
Dr. E. John Ainsworth from Carolyn Ainsworth 100
Edythe Shewfelt from Frank & Muriel Capilla **
Edythe Shewfelt from Ted & Gail Fairfield **
Elizabeth Ng from Chris & Linda Coleman 500
Emily & Richard Prima from Frank & Marie Morley **
Erman & Joyce Theodore from Vicki Leon **

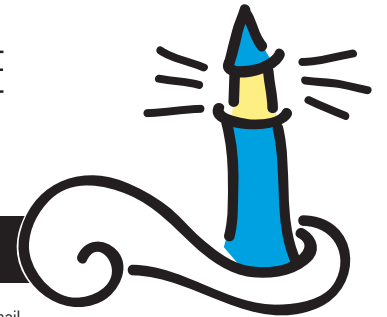
- Ernest L. Goble from Bob & Marilyn Grimes **
Gam & Papa Abbott from the Casey Family **
Gene Gadd from Mitzie Gadd 100
Gene Strom, Keith Strom, Donna Miller and William Kolb from Carol G. Strom 400
Geno & Marge Andreatta from Dave Cryer 100
Grandpa Ray Ulatoski from Jeff Ulatoski 150
Grandpa Tom McCague from Annie & Kevin Sjodahl 150
Gustav Ranis from Debra & Evan Miller 100
Harold Consedine & Hubert Hamm from the Hamm family **
Henry Cupples, DeWitt Wilson and Ralph Romero from John Ferreri **
Howard Hill from Sally Hill 100
Husband, dad, papa - Woody Pereira 200
Jack Emmons 99
James B. Kohnen from Pat Kohnen 200
Janet Reichlin from Mike, Lori & Michael Reichlin 100
Joann "Mrs. K" Koobatian from the Siegel family **
John A. Mavridis from Ted & Corrine Mavridis **
John A. Silva from Manny Silva **
John Ainsworth from the Caldwell family **
John Corley from Barbara A. Jackson **
Judith Perko from Robert Perko 100
June & Michael Carboni from Richard A. & Nancy A. Shockley 100
Karl K. Witze 500
Kris & Kurt Miller from Gerrie Froberg 1,000
Kwok Ying and Pui Chun Hui 100
Linny Hallen Hays from Greg & Peg Meagher **
Lola Palladino & Ray Barsanti from Barbara Barsanti **
Mabel Rich & Joe Kramm from Pat & Randy Kramm **
Marilyn Bowe from Jim Bowe **
Mary L. Erickson from Al Copher **
Mary May from Michael May **

- Mother Lisa & Mother Stewart from Gordon & Elite Stewart 200
Nancy Ann Berkley & Hester N. Bagley from the Berkley family 100
Nicholas Daniel Lesser from Bruce & Kathleen Lesser **
Nick Del Boccio from Susan Del Boccio **
Norm Bottorff from Dory Bottorff 100
Our Grandmas Roselle Grimes, Evelyn Schrick & Verna Plummer from Steve, Pam & Mitch Grimes **
Our Parents - William & Ruth Emery and Ken & Elizabeth McGilvray **
Our Sister Linda Picchi from Mike & Kris Harnett 125
Owen Saupe from Rebecca Saupe **
Patsy Nell "Pat" McGhee from Peter & Jonnelle Iversen 50
Pauline and Ernie DeCoite from Steve & Jane DeCoite 200
Peggy Karn from Richard W. Karn **
Perry Coe from Pauline Coe **
Richard Brierly from Stephanie Brierly England 100
Rick Aguiar 50
Robert C. Bush from Arlene Bush **
Robert Himsl from Charlotte Himsl **
Roberta T. Donnelly from August & Kathleen Reinig 200
Ron Silva from Nancy Silva **
Rosalee Burns from Lou & Susan Astbury 100
Sharon Dirckx **
Sherry Bautista from Steve & Lorraine Mattos **
Specialist Jameson Lindskog, U.S. Army - Killed in action, March 29, 2011, Kunar province, Afghanistan from Chris & Marty Miller 100
Steven Charles Irby and Susie's "Big Cat" **
Those who have gone before us from The Gatlin 3 **
Tom Cook from Steve & Lorraine Mattos **
Tom Elsnab from Nancy Elsnab 100
Tony Costello from Michael & Cheryl Costello **
Wanda Nolan from Julie & Don Lewis 200

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

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115 Announcements

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Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited, and emailed countless times throughout the day by others? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

Pregnant?
Thinking of Adoption? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families Nationwide. Living expenses paid. Call 24/7 Abb's One True Gift Adoptions. 866-413-6293. Void in Illinois/ New Mexico/ Indiana (AAN CAN)

130 Classes & Instruction

Airline Careers
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Airline Careers
begin here. Get trained as FAA certified Aviation Technician. Housing and Financial aid for qualified students. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-492-3059 (AAN CAN)

HVAC Installation and Repair
YOU CAN BECOME an expert in HVAC installation and repair. Pinnacle Career Institute Online HVAC education in as little as 12 months. Call us today: 1-877-651-3961 or go online: www.HVAC-Online-Education.com (Cal-SCAN)

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135 Group Activities

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DID YOU KNOW 7 IN 10 Americans or 158 million U.S. Adults read content from newspaper media each week? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

155 Pets

POODLE WANTED
I WANT TO BUY A SMALL STANDARD POODLE (30# TO 40#), THAT IS FULLY HOUSE TRAINED. A FEMALE IS PREFERRED.

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202 Vehicles Wanted

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

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

235 Wanted to Buy

Cash for Diabetic Test Strips
Don't throw boxes away-Help others. Unopened /Unexpired boxes only. All Brands Considered! Call Anytime! 24hrs/7days (888) 491-1168 (Cal-SCAN)

245 Miscellaneous

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

DirectTV
Over 140 channels only \$29.99 a month. Call Now! Triple savings! \$636.00 in Savings. Free upgrade to Genie & 2013 NFL Sunday ticket free! Start saving today! 1-800-291-0350 (Cal-SCAN)

DISH TV Retailer
Starting at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) & High Speed Internet starting at \$14.95/month (where available.) SAVE! Ask About SAME DAY Installation! CALL NOW! 1-800-357-0810 (Cal-SCAN)

Reduce Your Cable Bill
Get an All-Digital Satellite system installed for FREE and programming starting at \$24.99/mo. FREE HD/DVR upgrade for new callers, SO CALL NOW! (877)366-4509 (Cal-SCAN)

Reduce Your Cable Bill*
Get a whole-home Satellite system installed at NO COST and programming starting at \$19.99/mo. FREE HD/DVR Upgrade to new callers, SO CALL NOW 1-866-982-9562 (Cal-SCAN)

Safe Step Walk-in Tub
Alert for Seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic Jets. Less Than 4 Inch Step-In. Wide Door. Anti-Slip Floors. American Made. Installation Included. Call 800-799-4811 for \$750 Off. (Cal-SCAN)

Sawmills
from only \$4897.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N (Cal-SCAN)

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425 Health Services

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Top-rated medical alarm and 24/7 medical alert monitoring. For a limited time, get free equipment, no activation fees, no commitment, a 2nd waterproof alert button for free and more - only \$29.95 per month. 800-761-2855 (Cal-SCAN)



500 Help Wanted

Locators
UtiliQuest is hiring locators in your area. No exp. req. Company Truck, paid training provided. Apply online www.utiliquest.com. UtiliQuest is an EOE

560 Employment Information

Drivers: CDL-A
Train and Work for Us! Professional, focused CDL training available. Choose Company Driver, Owner Operator, Lease Operator or Lease Trainer. (877) 369-7126 www.CentralTruckDrivingJobs.com

Drivers: Owner Operators
Dedicated home weekly! Solos up to \$175,000/year. \$2500 Sign-on Bonus! Teams up to \$350,000/year \$5000 Sign-on Bonus! Forward Air 888-652-5611

Drivers: Top 1% Pay
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Work Anywhere
29 Serious People to Work From Anywhere using a computer. Up to \$1,500-\$5,000 PT/FT. www.ValleyIncomeOnline.com (Cal-SCAN)



601 Accounting/Bookkeeping

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Over 18 years experience in all aspects of bookkeeping. No job too big or too small! Call Linda at 925-918-2233

605 Antiques & Art Restoration

"A Labor of Love" ANTIQUE RESTORATION
Preserve special memories... Recycle the past into the future
Impeccable Quality
Integrity of Workmanship
Conveniently located in Pleasanton For 12 Years
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624 Financial

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For Your Retirement. Avoid market risk & get guaranteed income in retirement! CALL for FREE copy of our SAFE MONEY GUIDE Plus Annuity Quotes from A-Rated companies! 800-748-3013 (Cal-SCAN)

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and worried about Foreclosure? Reduce Your Mortgage and Save Money. Legal Loan Modification Services. Free Consultation. Call Preferred Law 1-800-587-1350 (Cal-SCAN)

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Injured in an Auto Accident?
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645 Office/Home Business Services

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DID YOU KNOW that not only does newspaper media reach a HUGE Audience, they also reach an ENGAGED AUDIENCE. Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free bro-

chure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)



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We service Heating & Air Conditioning, Repair, change out and install new unit. all made and model. we have more than 12 years of experience. So, call us at (408) 416-6391 (209)338-4475 and (916)474-0173 Lic # 877379 we have special diagnostic fee \$50 we will tell you what is wrong with your unit and how much it will cost to fix it before we do the work. All work performing is in writing.

751 General Contracting

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

A NOTICE TO READERS:
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757 Handyman/Repairs

Reliable Handyman Services
One call, does it all! Fast! Call ServiceLive and get referred to a pro today: Call 800-958-8267 (Cal-SCAN)



855 Real Estate Services

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Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: http://www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)



995 Fictitious Name Statement

LYN SALON
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 486303
The following person(s) doing business as: LYN SALON, 830 D MAIN ST., PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kim Nguyen, 4143 Littleworth Way, San Jose, CA 95135. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 01/05/2014. Signature of Registrant: Kim Nguyen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 12/27/2013. (Pleasanton Weekly, Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7; 2014)

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Wilbur

Wilbur is some dog! This 4-year-old boxer is looking for a companion who thinks he's terrific. Put a new spin on things with Wilbur in your life. Visit him today at VHS, 3670 Nevada St., open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sunday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 426-8656 or visit valleyhumane.org.



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY/V. KELLY

PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Our website has become the place residents turn to for breaking local news, to post their own stories and photos, and to discuss news and events in the community. Can't find your copy of the Weekly? Find the digital version online under **Print Edition**.



Pleasanton agent named president of women's Realtor group

Swalwell, Buchanan join in installation festivities

BY JEB BING

Barbara Clemons, a veteran agent at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's Pleasanton office, has been named president of the Southern Alameda County chapter of the Women's Council of Realtors (WCR) for 2014.

The WCR, which just celebrated its 75th anniversary, is the 12th largest women's organization in the country. It is charged with training and educating its members and officers to become leaders in their profession and community.



Barbara Clemons

Clemons was installed as president in a ceremony at the Dublin Holiday Inn by Sherri Souza, the WCR's newly elected national financial secretary. Don Faught, 2013 president of the California Association of Realtors and Congressman Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) were guest speakers. Clemons also received a certificate of recognition from State Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan (D-16th).

"Barbara is a tremendous asset to local real estate and it's wonderful to see her appointed as president of WCR in Southern Alameda County," said Lynn Gyax, manager of Coldwell Banker's Pleasanton office. "It's important for Realtor organizations to have leaders who will have a positive impact on the local market and do what's best for buyers and sellers."

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's Pleasanton office is located at 5980 Stoneridge Dr., Ste 122. ■

HOME SALE OF THE WEEK

1131 MATARO CT., PLEASANTON, \$1,200,000



Vintage Hills II commands top price! This beautifully updated 5 bedroom home is situated on a very desirable cul de sac. Featuring over 2800 square feet of living space, this home boasts a remodeled kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. The master suite showcases a brand new bathroom and the main floor bedroom and full bath offer lots of flexibility. The private backyard backs to permanent open space.

DeAnna Armario and Liz Venema of Keller Williams Tri Valley Realty represented both the sellers and the buyers. (925) 413-6544

SALES AT A GLANCE

Dublin (Dec. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 20
Lowest sale reported: \$319,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,450,000
Average sales reported: \$688,375

Livermore (Dec. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 18
Lowest sale reported: \$234,000
Highest sale reported: \$985,000
Average sales reported: \$516,944

Pleasanton (Dec. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 21
Lowest sale reported: \$470,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,736,500
Average sales reported: \$904,286

San Ramon (Dec. 19-26)

Total sales reported: 13
Lowest sale reported: \$295,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,290,000
Average sales reported: \$673,885

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Dec. 9-26

Dublin

- 11482 Bay Laurel Street** M. Yoon to L. & E. Ibarria for \$959,000
- 4248 Clarinbridge Circle** B. Denison to J. Liang for \$475,000
- 5425 De Marcus Boulevard #104** A. & Y. Hampton to O. & S. Beas for \$319,000
- 3465 Dublin Boulevard #142** M. Barcelona to Sure Success Management for \$390,000
- 10745 Dulsie Lane** May Trust to K. Maier for \$566,000
- 7758 Georgian Oaks Court** J. Harbin to P. & C. Weber for \$872,500
- 6020 Kingsmill Terrace** Citizen Equity First Credit Union to X. Huang for \$1,450,000
- 4632 Kinsley Street** Brookfield Windwood to S. Devarajan for \$887,000
- 10606 Melvich Lane** Adams Trust to W. Hamasaki for \$490,000
- 10610 Melvich Lane** M. Hedt to J. & T. Childs for \$564,000
- 11551 Obispo Court** Tarman Trust to B. & C. Thomas for \$775,000
- 3709 Penwood Lane** C. & S. Seidler to S. Patel for \$1,111,000
- 4673 Pheasant Court** Bird Trust to S. & M. Gillani for \$825,000
- 6584 Pioneer Lane** Doughlin Trust to M. Varela for \$325,000
- 4603 Rimini Court #33** Clinton Trust to A. Manansala for \$759,000
- 11726 Serra Court** Loth Trust to J. Revey for \$650,000

- 6133 Shadow Hill Drive** W. Henshaw to N. & N. Bhatnagar for \$721,000
- 4255 Somerset Lane** P. Hoffman to Riley Trust for \$780,000
- 6586 South Mariposa Court** J. & Y. Kim to M. & M. Jung for \$349,000
- 7276 Thames Court** Luminent Mortgage Trust to J. & V. Peery for \$500,000

Livermore

- 1391 Anza Way** Rescue Home Now to C. Ferreira for \$610,000
- 1386 Arlington Road** K. & T. Fox to D. & D. Houghtaling for \$500,000
- 1390 Arlington Road** D. & D. Houghtaling to I. & B. Pletikosic for \$485,000
- 307 Bernal Avenue** R. Aldridge to T. Donoghue for \$390,000
- 2991 Bresso Drive** P. & R. Richards to A. Mittal for \$985,000
- 1054 Essex Street** A. & S. Meyer to D. & T. Chaves for \$615,000
- 1826 Meadow Glen Drive** A. Terry to G. Singh for \$590,000
- 1853 Monterey Drive** RWW Properties to J. Lawton for \$303,000
- 4687 Nicol Common #104** A. Bradford to I. Djordjioski for \$295,000
- 4623 Nicol Common #111** C. Dickey to B. Johnson for \$234,000
- 295 Northwood Commons** T. & S. Martin to A. Funke for \$373,000
- 769 Partridge Common** Spacher Trust to R. Kuruppu for \$320,000

See SALES on Page 21

Castro Valley

3 BEDROOMS
22090 Betlen Way **\$450,000**
 Sun 1-4 Linda Love-Rose (510) 290-5353

Danville

3 BEDROOMS
183 Summerside Circle **\$545,000**
 Sat 10-1/Sun 11-2 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

4 BEDROOMS

215 Abigail Court **\$825,000**
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 519-0508

Dublin

4 BEDROOMS
11228 Rolling Hills Drive **\$820,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 699-3884

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS
660 Splitrail Court **\$559,900**
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Anne Athenour Martin 200-5272

Pleasanton

2 BEDROOMS
7650 Canyon Meadow Circle #E **\$399,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Melissa Pederson 397-4326

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

3 BEDROOMS
7 Twelve Oaks Drive **\$1,750,000**
 Sun 1-4 Tom Fox 872-1275

4 BEDROOMS
6714 Rancho Court **Low \$700's**
 Sun 1-3 Dave and Sue Flashberger 463-0436

San Ramon

3 BEDROOMS
3101 Lakemont Drive, Unit #4 **\$570,000**
 Sun 1-4 Joyce Jones 998-3398



Are you thinking of buying or selling a home?

Visit pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate for sales information, current listings and open homes. For marketing opportunities call Carol Cano at 600-0840, x226.

SALES

Continued from Page 20

2885 Quarry Hill Avenue #1 Shea Homes to G. & A. Mitchell for \$614,500
2885 Quarry Hill Avenue #4 Shea Homes to K. & D. Gabel for \$645,000
2262 Ryan Street Halunen Trust to L. Thournir for \$900,000
5487 Treeflower Drive T. & C. Cooper to G. Doann for \$376,000
1080 Via Madrid E. McLaren to Long Trust for \$519,500
6602 Village Drive Gann Properties to J. & E. Klevenberg for \$550,000

Pleasanton

5102 Angelico Court S. Gillani to S. Selvadurai for \$640,000
5751 Athenour Court M. Kim to H. Fung for \$900,000
2125 Camino Brazos B. & G. Franklin to M. Liu for \$912,000
7828 Chestnut Way J. Salamanca to J. Kamlin for \$756,000
343 Christina Court B. Holly to C. Hitchon-Whites for \$660,000
6188 Corte Padre L. & S. Willis to V. Yu for \$595,000
460 East Angela Street Meyer Trust to G. Piper for \$543,000
4539 Gatetree Circle S. & M. Nathan to S. Doyle for \$818,500
1311 Greenwood Road R. & A. Cox to J. Lou for \$817,000
1764 Greenwood Road J. & J. Serra to G. Serra for \$930,000
259 Joseph Lane R. & D. Malone to F. Careccia for \$1,020,000
5920 Laurel Creek Drive Fung Trust to S. & L. Willis for \$1,700,000
1131 Mataro Court J. & S. Daddabbo to A. Kiang for \$1,182,000
127 Monaco Court S. & M. Steele to P. Morton

for \$1,210,000
3549 Norton Way Green Leaf Properties to P. & K. McDermott for \$470,000
6713 Paseo San Leon Rabello Trust to Ford Trust for \$900,000
7356 Stonedale Drive M. North to P. & V. Arora for \$550,000
2126 Tanager Court J. Glass to V. & S. Verma for \$880,000
3757 Trenergy Drive Ponderosa Homes to Zollinger Trust for \$1,736,500
2253 Via Espada Meyer Trust to P. & C. Hoose for \$860,000
3598 Wind Cave Court HJ Home Investments to B. & C. Kogan for \$910,000

San Ramon

8985 Alcosta Boulevard #155 D. White to W. Francis for \$318,000
9025 Alcosta Boulevard #264 M. Chan to W. Francis for \$295,000
9447 Cherry Hills Lane Lynch Trust to K. & R. Jha for \$702,000
13 Elmwood Drive M. & M. Vergara to D. Rambhiya for \$745,000
10066 Foxboro Circle J. Micheau to J. & R. Tran for \$705,000
207 Majorca Drive D. Rottinghaus to L. & J. Pavey for \$751,000
2173 North Donovan Way B. & S. Stone to H. Sunwoo for \$725,000
3362 Nutmeg Park Street A. & C. Hughes to R. Horn for \$1,078,500
464 South Clovercrest Lane Brusher Trust to S. Yetayew for \$632,000
2452 Talavera Drive R. Feldman to S. Harris for \$685,000
9128 Tangerine Street Baptista Trust to T. Houk for \$475,000
5058 Westside Drive Rahimi Trust to Q. Niaz for \$1,290,000
322 Winterwind Circle C. Brooks to B. Pitsker for \$359,000

Source: California REsource

Tri-Valley
Real Estate Directory

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 email: gerltrealestate@gmail.com
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7758 Georgian Oaks Court, Dublin
TOO LATE!! SOLD!
 Beautifully upgraded Hansen Hill home. Gorgeous kitchen with granite counters and beautiful hardwood floors. Fantastic location on a quiet court. One bedroom and full bath on first floor. 3 car garage. Close to schools, shopping, freeway. A must see!!

We Have Buyers!!! We Need Your Listings!



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Joyce Jones, REALTOR®

BRE#01348970
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3101 Lakemont Drive, Unit #4 San Ramon

Stunning Views of Hills and Mt Diablo....

- 3 Bedroom, Plus Large Loft
- 2 Baths
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- Bright and Cozy Family Room and Dining Area
- 3 Sided Fireplace
- Indoor Laundry Room with Storage
- 2 Car Garage
- Located in "The Lake at Beautiful Canyon Lakes"

List Price: \$570,000

900 Main Street, Suite 101 Pleasanton, CA 94566

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Open SUN 1-4
215 ABIGAIL COURT
BEAUTIFUL HOME! \$825,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Handscraped hrdwd flrs-LR,DR,FR & Kitchen. Stainless steel appl. Close to Blackhawk Plaza 925-519-0508



DUBLIN
Open SAT & SUN 1-4
11228 ROLLING HILLS DRIVE
STUNNING WEST DUBLIN HOME! \$820,000
4 BR 3 BA Highly upgraded kit & bath. Hrdwd flrs. Huge Mstr w/Office. Vaulted Ceilings. Bckyrd w/Deck. 925-699-3884



FREMONT
41727 MURPHY PL
MISSION SAN JOSE CUSTOM HOME! \$1,688,888
4 BR 2.5 BA 4 BD, 2.5BA, Stunning architectural design, very RARE, close to schools, Large private lot. 510-701-7616



PLEASANTON
12 DEER OAKS DR
COMING SOON! GATED COMMUNITY! \$1,753,000
5 BR 3.5 BA 2 Mstr Suites. Plus bonus rm & office downstairs. Upg Kit. Granite Counters w/SS Appl. 925-367-7414

DUBLIN

3275 DUBLIN BLVD #402
NICELY UPGRADED!! \$475,000
3 BR, 2 BA 4th Flr, corner unit, courtside, granite countes, wood shutters, built-in entertainment center. 925-784-3068

3240 MAGUIRE WAY #202
GORGEOUS END UNIT \$420,000
2 BR 2 BA Designer paint throughout, granite slab counters, SS & black appliances, crown molding. 925.847.2200

FREMONT

35524 NILES BLVD.
HISTORIC NILES HOME \$899,000
3 BR 3 BA Large Lot; quiet setting. Lrg Bed & Full Bths; Built in bar over patio, brick BBQ, fruit trees 408-480-2854

9 GAZANIA TERR
CENTRAL LOCATION! \$525,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Beautiful Townhome, Niles Crest area, open flr plan, high ceiling, fireplace, lrg patio 925-784-3068

LIVERMORE

SAN ANTONIO VALLEY
WOW! 423 ACRES \$1,199,950
2 BR 2 BA 2 cabins, 2 barns 4 bass ponds. Swimming pool his/her cabana. Road frontage on paved road. 925-575-1735

2823 BRESSO CT
UPGRADES & ELEGANT FINISH \$1,025,000
5 BR 3 BA 4 car garage. Beautiful backyard, swim-spa, large patio, roses, fruit trees 925-216-5108

20850 MINES ROAD
FABULOUS PIECE OF PROPERTY \$617,000
Views to rolling hills, trees and distant vistas. Several lovely spots for home site. 925-963-0887

PLEASANTON

4058 FRANCISCO ST
ELEGANT SINGLE STORY \$839,000
3 BR 2 BA Remodeled & Upgraded! Gourmet Kit w/ Jen-Air SS Appl. Hrdwd Flrs. Rear Yrd w/Covered Patio. 925-200-3600

1549 CALLE SANTA ANNA
GREAT LOCATION! \$465,000
2 BR 1 BA Beautiful Upgrade! 2 car attached garage, single level townhome, move in ready! 925-784-3068

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

11000 DEL PUERTO CANYON ROAD
GOT HORSES, DIRT BIKES, ATV'S \$1,499,950
4 BR 2 BA Lots of trees. 2 bass ponds. Well & Spring water systems. Separate artist/craft cottage. 925-575-1735

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

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PLEASANTON

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COMING SOON • SEE IT FIRST • MARKET UPDATE

5339 Springdale Avenue, Pleasanton **Call for price and showings**
 4 Bedroom 2.5 Bathroom +/-1,800 square feet
 Ideally located, spacious and upgraded townhome in West Side Pleasanton with excellent HOA amenities.

59 Summer Hill Court, Danville **Listed At \$788,000**
 3 Bedroom 2.5 Bathroom +/-1,633 square feet
 Beautifully updated California Chateau home in West Danville! Backs to open space with gorgeous oak trees. Priced to sell. Call for private showing.

The weiner mcdowell Real Estate Outlook **January 2014 Edition**
 Our local real estate market continues to be incredibly strong with inventories remaining lower than normal and interest rates still at historical lows. While we have experienced an amazing 43 percent increase in Bay Area median prices in the past year, we are at a 46 percent deficit, inventory wise in Pleasanton at this time. This supply constrained market makes it a really good time to be a seller; and with interest rates still in the range of 5 percent or less, it is also a terrific time to be a buyer, as your purchasing power is outstanding.

We Are Your Pleasanton Real Estate Experts
 If you have any thoughts of selling, call us today to schedule a free, no obligation evaluation to determine the highest price your home can sell for in today's market. It won't cost you any more to work with the very best but it may cost you a great deal if you don't.



Phyllis Weiner
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 (925) 251.2585
 pweiner@rockcliff.com

Peter McDowell
 REALTOR®
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 pmcdowell@rockcliff.com



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NEW NEIGHBORS • SOLD & PENDING



7888 Golden Eagle Way, Pleasanton **Sold for \$1,750,000**
 5 Bedroom 3.5 Bathroom +/-4,000 square feet



7930 Racoon Hollow Court, Pleasanton **Pending \$1,598,000**
 5 Bedroom 3.5 Bathroom +/-3,670 square feet



3616 Nicole Avenue, Pleasanton **Sold for \$1,838,000**
 5 Bedroom 3.5 Bathroom +/-4,000 square feet

OUR CLIENTS WANT YOU TO KNOW

"When we made the decision to sell our home in Golden Eagle we were determined to find the most effective Realtors to represent us. **We wanted Realtors who did a great deal of business in the luxury home market, were highly connected and knew how to network in order to gain the most exposure and global reach for our home.** In an effort to accomplish these goals we interviewed several well respected Realtors and by the end of our first meeting with Peter and Phyllis we were certain that we had found the perfect team to represent us and our interests.

We were extremely impressed with how hands on both Peter and Phyllis are and how involved they are with every aspect and detail of the process to include preparing the home for sale, staging, photography, marketing and negotiation. They even met every buyer and agent at the house to present the details and attributes of our home in order to ensure that nothing was missed. This was no easy feat logistically and it validated the importance of employing a team versus a single agent.

As a result of their efforts, **we received several offers** for our home and Peter and Phyllis were able to negotiate an **excellent price** and terrific terms to include free rent back to assist with the transition and move.

We can not say enough good things about Peter and Phyllis and their professionalism, work ethic and experience. Not to mention they are extremely personable and fun to work with. We now count them amongst our friends and look forward to staying in touch. If you are ever in the market to sell or buy a home, do yourself a favor and contact this amazing team to represent you."

-Corey & Catherine / 7888 Golden Eagle *featured above



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1265 SHADY POND LANE
 PLEASANTON
 6 BD, 6 BA, 5,096sf. on a 15,159 sf. lot. High end upgrades throughout including hardwood floors, custom woodworking and built in cabinetry. Open floor plan w/ bedroom and full bath on main level. Back yard offers covered patio outdoor BBQ/kitchen and pool w/spa. Large open grass area and 3-car garage.
SOLD FOR \$1,800,000



685 DUNHILL DR.
 DANVILLE
 5 BD, 3 BA, 3,044sf. on a 7,850sf. lot. Bedroom and full bath on main level. Newly installed hickory flooring throughout. Open floor plan with formal dining/living room. Kitchen opens to family room. Master w/ retreat, walk-in closet. Built in BBQ & side yard. Close to community pool.
OFFERED AT \$1,070,000



2487 TANAGER DR
 PLEASANTON
 Located in Willow West neighborhood. 4 BD 2 BA, 1,909sf. on an 8,040sf. lot. Updated throughout and an open floor plan. Master suite with his/hers closets. Located next to park and offering side yard access. Private back yard with large patio and pool. Move in ready!
OFFERED AT \$855,000



4676 JEFFERSON CT
 PLEASANTON
 Located in the Val Vista neighborhood. 4 BD, 2 BA, 1,816sf. on a 6,202 sf. lot. Kitchen opens to family room w/ wood fireplace & dining room combo. Large master suite with sliding door to backyard. Laminate floors, newer windows and roof. Backs to park.
OFFERED AT \$675,000



3546 HELEN DRIVE
 PLEASANTON
 2 BD + LOFT, 2 BA, 1,459sf. on a 4,500sf. lot. Updated top to bottom and including new paint, carpet, windows and roof. Open floor plan with breakfast nook in kitchen. Vaulted ceilings, gas fireplace and formal dining room. No steps on main level.
SOLD FOR \$655,000

Coming Soon:

Downtown Pleasanton
 3 BD, 2 BA, 2,266sf.
 Incredible views.
 Updated throughout.
 Low \$900's

Ironwood Estates
 Single level, 4 BD, 3 Car
 Garage, court location.



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Union City Town home 2 bed, 1.5 bath, inside laundry, 2 car garage, 2 patios! Close to fwys/San Mateo Bridge. **Offered at \$319,000**

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We know Ruby Hill!

Our team closed 7 transactions in the Ruby Hill Community in 2013. Whether buying or selling, our expertise in this luxury home market can help you make a move in 2014. From competitive commissions to expert negotiation skills, to comprehensive listing preparation and experienced advice and guidance along the way, our team has a proven track record of success in this community. Call us today for a complimentary consultation and Ruby Hill market update.

Represented Seller



1153 Via Di Salerno

Represented Buyer



3266 Novara Way



DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema
REALTORS® LIC # 01363180 and 01922957
925.260.2220 925.413.6544
DeAnna@ArmarioHomes.com Liz@VenemaHomes.com
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1288 Concord Street, Vintage Hills, Pleasanton
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6714 Rancho Ct., Pleasanton
Stunning 4 bdrm, one level home. Gourmet granite kitchen with cherry cabinetry & tile floors. Expanded family rm. 1700 sq ft. Sparkling pool. Priced in the low \$1,500,000's



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5728 Westbury Way, Dublin
Dublin Tassajara Creek Home! Built in 2003, 3BD, 2.5BA, 1884 sq. ft. 1 dog okay
Rent \$3200



6334 Shorewood Ct., Pleasanton
Val Vista Location! 3BD, 2BA, + Sunroom 1372 sq. ft. RV/Boat Parking
Rent \$2900



209 Compton Circle # C, San Ramon
Wonderful Condo! 2BD, 1BA, 924 sq. ft.
Rent \$1700



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7650 Canyon Meadow Circle #E, Pleasanton
Wonderful 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with lots of natural light. Fireplace, balconies, inside laundry and detached single car garage. Resort like living with 2 pools, tennis, volleyball & basketball court and a gym.
Priced to sell at \$399,000



Open Sat/Sun 1-4

2014 will be a great year for real estate. If you are thinking of buying or selling, call today to find out how we can help you.

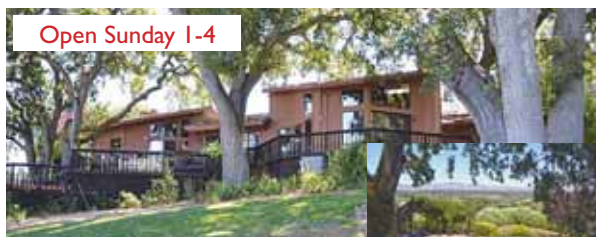
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7 Twelve Oaks Drive, Pleasanton
One of a kind, custom built home! 3 bedrooms • 3.5 bathrooms • 3,457 sf
Spacious living room w/open beam cathedral ceiling • Solar heated pool Casita/pool house • Multilevel decks • Private 1.07 acre lot with sweeping views
Priced to sell at \$1,750,000



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Broker Associate LIC # 00630556
925.872.1275
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7301 Joshua Circle, Pleasanton
Great location near excellent schools. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths on a corner lot. New kitchen appliances, new carpets, freshly painted. Built in 1986. Close to Foothill High School. **Priced at \$690,000.** Call for an appointment to see this amazing home.



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Amazing Agents... Doing Amazing Things

"We are enjoying home ownership for the first time and are so grateful that we found our KW Agent to help us. Their insight, excellent negotiations, and knowledge of the Tri-Valley was amazing! Thank you for being there for us during the entire process."

— Janice & Ryan Spuller

