

Pleasanton Weekly

'The Art of Porcelain Painting' at Museum

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REPORT CARD

SCHOOL DISTRICT		SCHOOL YEAR	
PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT		2014-2015	
NAME OF SUBJECT	PASS	FAIL	COMMENTS
ACADEMICS			PAGE 12 TROUBLED SCHOOLS AS SCHOOL STARTS, PARENTS SEEK ANSWERS ON PRINCIPAL TURNOVER, OTHER CONCERNS
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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



MIKE SEDLAK

George Schmitt's house on Hamilton Way as it looks today.



MIKE SEDLAK

Artist's drawing of how George Schmitt's house would look with its proposed two-story addition.

Neighbors' angst shows as they confront one of their own

By JEB BING

Rosepointe is a long-established neighborhood of 53 single story homes just off Sunol Boulevard where only five have added second floors since houses were first built there in the 1960s. That's probably not going to change after neighbors sent emails, letters and then appeared before the Pleasanton Planning Commission last week to object to a bid by George Schmitt to add a second story to his home on Hamilton Way, where he's lived since the 1970s.

It's not often that neighbors gang up on one of their own. After all, Pleasanton is known for its closely-knit neighborhoods where homeowners frequently get together to talk about families, schools and community issues, such as Old Town, the Jensen tract, Pleasanton Meadows, Vintage Hills and Rosepointe. Earlier this month, more than 30 neighborhoods closed their streets to host street parties with potlucks, barbecues and ice cream socials in an annual "National Night Out" event sponsored by the Pleasanton Police Department.

As I listened to the discussions before the Planning Commission, State Farm's commercial, "Like a good neighbor," came to mind.

I wondered just how far that extends. Apparently not to supporting a second story addition that neighbors said could provide a peeping Tom-like view from an upstairs window or destroy a view of the Ridgeland.

Typically, city staff planners try to mediate differences among concerned parties to reach a mutually acceptable consensus. There are hundreds of second floor additions in Pleasanton. But city planner Jennifer Wallis acknowledged that negotiations failed to win an agreement on Schmitt's house as neighbors stood their ground on banning second story homes on Hamilton Way. "We've come to enjoy a neighborhood of single story homes and want it to stay that way," Hamilton Way homeowner Charles Mayer told planners.

They agreed, telling Schmitt and his neighbors that they, too, shared their angst. "I struggle to be the judge and jury of this neighborhood," said Planning Commissioner Herb Ritter, who voted with the other commissioners to deny Schmitt's application. He can appeal that decision to the City Council, but he can expect his neighbors to be back in protest. Hamilton Way may have had its last street party. ■

About the Cover

Schools open Monday, but the district is still dealing with issues from the previous school year. A complete report by Publisher Gina Channell-Allen begins on Page 12. Cover design by Lily Cao.

Vol. XV, Number 30



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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What are you finding interesting in the news these days?



Emily Palange
College student

I'm really disturbed by Robin Williams' suicide. I just can't understand how someone who was so talented, and so seemingly adored and respected by so many people, could not see that he had so many reasons to keep on living.



Pedro Lopez
Publishing

This is probably the one week that I'm not on top of the news because I've been traveling. But I've been paying attention to Robin Williams' suicide. It is upsetting, but at the same time very fascinating to me that those few people who have such incredible also often so tormented and disturbed.



Mike Friar
Retired

I'm captivated by the conflict in Gaza. It's so hard to understand. My wish is that everyone could just co-exist happily and get along.



Michael Lewis
Diesel mechanic

I am most interested in my own local news; what happens when I step outside my own front door, because the national and global news is just so exaggerated and inaccurate that I can't rely on it as being true.



Bill Sigal
College student

I follow my campus news closely, since it is most relevant to my own life. For example, striving to achieve safer, longer-lasting batteries for the modern world's trappings, such as automobiles, cell phones, computers, and autonomous robots.

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Beth Emek hosting stand-up comic Wednesday

Rabbi Bob Alper's comedy show is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, in Pleasanton. Alper is a native of Providence, Rhode Island, a graduate of Lehigh University, was ordained at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and is the first Jewish person ever to earn a doctorate from the Princeton Theological Seminary. He has served congregations in Buffalo and Philadelphia, where he continues to conduct High Holiday services.

In 1986, he entered the "Jewish Comic of the Year Contest" at the Going Bananas club in Philadelphia. Television, radio and personal appearances followed, including on "Good Morning America," "The Today Show," Showtime, the BBC, and CNN.

Tickets are \$20 and can be obtained by calling (925) 931-1055.

Dublin business forum

The city of Dublin, in partnership with the Alameda County Small Business Development Center and the Tech Futures Group, will hold a 10-week series of start-up technology workshops and events, beginning Tuesday, Sept. 9, at Dublin City Hall. The seminars will include workshops on Elements of a Successful Start-up Technology Company, Legal Aspects of Technology Companies, Financing Technology Companies and Marketing Your Technology Company.

Applications are available online now at www.dublin.ca.gov/startupdublin. The deadline to apply is Aug. 29. For more information, contact Hazel Wetherford at (925) 833-6650.

Labor Day tennis tournament

The Tri Valley Doubles Championships, a collaborative effort of the Livermore Valley Tennis Club, Ruby Hill Golf Club and Castlewood Country Club, will be held over the Labor Day weekend. The event serves as a fundraiser for the Valley Humane Society and other local "no-kill" shelters. Last year's tournament had over 300 players. For more information on the tournament or to enter, sign on to www.trivalleydoubleschampionships.com/

Bankruptcy court seeks jury trial for Community Foundation leaders

Some charities left without promised payments through mismanagement, trustees charged

An Alameda County bankruptcy court trustee is seeking a jury trial for the leaders of the now defunct Tri-Valley Community Foundation in an effort to collect \$928,000 in appropriated funds that the foundation didn't have.

In all, the court estimated that the foundation claimed to have \$2.5 million in its "donor advised funds" (DAF) as of March 26, 2012, which it didn't have. These are funds typically given by donors in written agreements with TVCF where they were promised that the contributions would not be spent

prior to having the opportunity to designate where they should be spent.

That didn't happen and Attorney Steven B. Sacks, representing Michael G. Kasolas, Chapter 7 trustee, who filed the claim in Bankruptcy Court, contends that David Rice, the longtime president of TVCF and its board members, failed in their management and administration of the affairs of TVCF and should stand trial before a jury on those charges.

"Each of the defendant board

See **FOUNDATION** on Page 8



JEB BING

Tri-Valley Community Foundation president Dave Rice (right) with TVCF employees at a Rotary Club luncheon in 2011.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ValleyCare Foundation chairman Bob Shapiro promotes "Shop for a Cause" Macy's benefit in lobby of ValleyCare Medical Center.

'Shop for a Cause' discounts at Macy's tomorrow to benefit ValleyCare

For \$5, shoppers can save 25% on most purchases

Macy's and ValleyCare Health System's charitable foundation are sponsoring their 9th annual national "Shop For A Cause" charity shopping event tomorrow.

This unique one-day-only shopping event has been created to support ValleyCare's fundraising efforts and is part of a national event that has raised more than \$44 million for charities across the country since 2006.

Pleasanton customers can participate by purchasing shopping passes at the from the ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton and several other locations, as listed below.

"Macy's is committed to giving back, both nationally and to our

local communities," said Martine Reardon, Macy's chief marketing officer.

"For the last eight years, Macy's 'Shop For A Cause' program has provided our customers and associates a unique opportunity to show their support and give back to their local community organizations, while also enjoying great savings at Macy's," Reardon added.

Macy's has provided ValleyCare with shopping passes to sell for \$5 each. The ValleyCare Charitable Foundation will keep 100% of every shopping pass it sells.

By purchasing a shopping pass from ValleyCare, customers support their local hospital while

enjoying a day of spectacular discounts, entertainment and special events at Macy's.

Pass holders will receive up to a 25% discount on most regular, sale and clearance purchases and 10% off on mattresses, electronics and area rugs all day tomorrow, Aug. 23.

In addition to the front desk at the hospital at 5555 W. Las Positas Blvd., passes may be purchased at the Pleasanton and Livermore Chambers of Commerce, the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore, and at Hairlights Salon, 4307 Valley Ave. and Zen Pilates and Fitness, 3059 Hopyard Road, both in Pleasanton. ■

Kids Club, summer school share 2014 highlights

Parents, students ask board to revoke calendar vote

By **AMANDA AGUILAR**

As summer is coming to an end, the Pleasanton school board and community were able to see and hear highlights from the Kids Club Program and 2014 Summer School Program at Tuesday night's board meeting.

Kids Club director Traci Peterson presented a slideshow of all the great things that have been happening in the Kids Club Program, such as the projects and educational field trips the children were able to participate in.

For example, the Kids Club Program implemented Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education when the kids worked together in groups to design and build their own pinball game.

In addition to field trips and projects, the children participated in community service projects with Project Linus, Half Price Books, the city of Pleasanton and Open Heart Kitchen.

Kids from all the different Kids Club sites — Alisal, Donlan, Hearst, Valley View and Vintage Hills — shared what they thought about their experience in the program.

Valley View Kids Club participant Luna Rabello said, "I am so lucky to go to Kids Club."

In other business, summer

See **SCHOOLS** on Page 6

Goodguys' 28th annual Nationals open today at Fairgrounds

3-day celebration features 4,000 cars, tens of thousands of fans

JEB BING

The Goodguys' 28th West Coast Nationals, a three-day celebration of vintage American iron, opens at 8 a.m. today at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

The event will feature close to 4,000 cars, 1972 and older, and is expected to attract tens of thousands of fans.

Founded in 1987 by Gary and Marilyn Meadors, the Pleasanton-based company today is 70,000 members strong, holds 20 annual events across the country (including four each year in Pleasanton), publishes a monthly color magazine and employs more than 30 full-time staffers at its Serpentine Lane corporate headquarters.

The Meadors' son Marc, now 43, serves as company president.

The West Coast Nationals, called "The Perfect Rod Run" by Hot Rod Magazine, is known as the industry's "Crown Jewel," due to its propensity to attract hot rodding's top cars and star builders, said John Drummond, communications director for Goodguys.

"The pull of Pleasanton and the Goodguys West Coast Nationals is truly international," he said. "Hot rodder Martin Lundqvist of

Stockholm, Sweden shipped his car to Georgia in July and is driving across America to Pleasanton to fulfill 'a lifelong dream.' Years of national automotive magazine coverage have made it like Woodstock for car enthusiasts."

Not only is the event popular around the world, it's a boon to Pleasanton.

"I still remember my first meeting with Gary Meadors," said Scott Raty, president and CEO of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce. "Many years ago Gary came to the chamber office and shared his enthusiasm and vision for a weekend event that would sell-out every hotel room in town."

"There were about 1,000 new hotel rooms coming online at the time, and it was exactly what was needed to put Pleasanton on the map for weekend visitors and convention business," he added. "Not only did Gary make it happen then, the Meadors family is still making it happen today with capacity crowds and every hotel room both here and around the Valley sold for three-plus days each August as well as for the other events Goodguys stages. With all the visitors come signifi-



GOODGUYS

Martin Lundqvist and his wife Mia stand in front of their custom-built 1932 Ford hot rod outside their home in Stockholm, Sweden. They came to Pleasanton to fulfill their "long-held dream" to participate in the Goodguys West Coast Nationals that opens today.

cant boosts in retail and dining all over town."

Indeed, Goodguys and events such as the West Coast Nationals and others throughout the year have been good for Pleasanton.

Goodguys supports Foothill and Amador Valley high school athletic programs and is active in local community events as well as aiding those at the Veterans Hospital in Livermore.

The Goodguys 28th West Coast Nationals event will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

For complete event details, including admission prices, event attractions and more, visit www.good-guys.com or call 838-9876. ■

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 5

school staff shared their highlights of the 2014 Summer School Program, which included 1,076 students completing the program.

One of the more interesting highlights was the new Summer Authors Seminar, a class where students were able to prepare for their first honors or Advanced Placement English class.

Summer school staff presented the board a movie where many students said they believe the Summer Authors Seminar prepared them well enough to be successful in their upcoming honors/AP English class.

During the same open session, board members unanimously approved the 2% compensation increase for management/confidential employees.

In addition, the board heard an update on the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) Field Test. Staff gathered feedback from students and teachers that participated in the "test of the test," which was shared with the Alameda County Office of Education, the California Department of Education, and the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Students are set to take the full assessment test this school year.

During the community comment session, nine people urged the board to revoke their vote on the school calendar change that was approved in June.

Seven parents said the board did not handle the process correctly and didn't let parents get involved enough.

Pleasanton parent and school board candidate Mark Miller said, "It will be a smoother and more successful transition with us behind you."

Trustee Valerie Arkin suggested the calendar discussion be put on an upcoming board agenda.

Also at Tuesday's meeting, the board approved of the consent agenda — which included the approval of using Public Property Advisors as the consultant/realtor to guide the district through the process of identifying and evaluating sites for possible acquisition and potentially disposing of surplus property through sale, lease, or exchange.

However, Pleasanton schools superintendent Parvin Ahmadi postponed the approval of the Student Teaching Agreements as the necessary documents were not ready yet.

During closed session, the board appointed Alisal Elementary principal Karen Johnson, Lydiksen Elementary principal Jacob Berg, assistant director of special education Colleen Palia, human resources coordinator Melinda Trammell, and communications and community engagement coordinator Nicole Steward.

The next school board meeting is scheduled for Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. in the district's boardroom, 4665 Bernal Ave. ■



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Get kids to, from school safely

By AMANDA AGUILAR

With schools opening next Monday, the Pleasanton Police Department is offering safety tips for getting students to school safely.

Whether you are a parent driving your child to school or an everyday commuter, streets get busier with cars, bicyclists and pedestrians. To accommodate the increased traffic, schedules and ask for driving patterns should be adjusted, according to police.

Give yourself plenty of time in the morning. Leaving earlier reduces stress, increases awareness and improves driving.

Obey the posted speed and di-

rection signs. This includes marked curbs and signs in school zones that indicate bus parking only. One poorly placed, unattended vehicle can lead to disruptions in the school parking lot.

Be patient. Impatience leads to aggressive driving, rude or unwarranted behavior, pedestrian collisions and gridlocks.

Have your kids ready when you get to the school curb. In addition, have a designated plan for picking up the children in the afternoon - select a time and place for the children to be waiting and ready.

Explore carpool, ride-sharing and walking alternatives. The City

of Pleasanton and the Pleasanton Unified School District have worked together to come up with a variety of traffic calming solutions. Look for and obey school crossing guards. Crossing guards are present near the surrounding streets of each elementary school. Be aware of their needs and slow down when approaching them. Prepare to stop and follow their directions so the children can get to school safely.

Children riding bicycles should always wear helmets and obey traffic laws.

The Pleasanton Police Traffic Bureau and patrol officers will be increasing their efforts at all Pleasanton schools for the next several weeks. ■

Police department feedback

The Pleasanton Police Department is asking community members to participate in a three to five minute survey that will help the agency learn how to better serve residents, business owners and those who work in Pleasanton.

"Your feedback will be vital as we strive to discover new and innovative ways to meet the needs of our community," said Pleasanton police chief Dave Spiller.

The survey consists of 21 questions, such as:

- When you think of the Pleasanton Police Department, what

are the first three words that come to mind?

- What are three qualities every Pleasanton Police Officer should have?

- What do you think the biggest challenge is for the Pleasanton Police Department

The survey will only allow one response per computer. All responses are anonymous and will be kept confidential.

The survey can be found online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/pleasantonpolicesurvey. ■

— Amanda Aguilar

12th Annual CITIZENS WATCHDOG COMMITTEE Report to the Public

Measure B Sales Tax Activities

IN NOVEMBER 2000, ALAMEDA COUNTY VOTERS APPROVED MEASURE B, which extended the county's half-cent transportation sales tax to 2022 and set forth a 20-year Expenditure Plan. Measure B also established a Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) to represent the different perspectives of taxpayers throughout the county and to review all Measure B expenditures on projects, programs and administration for compliance with the Expenditure Plan.

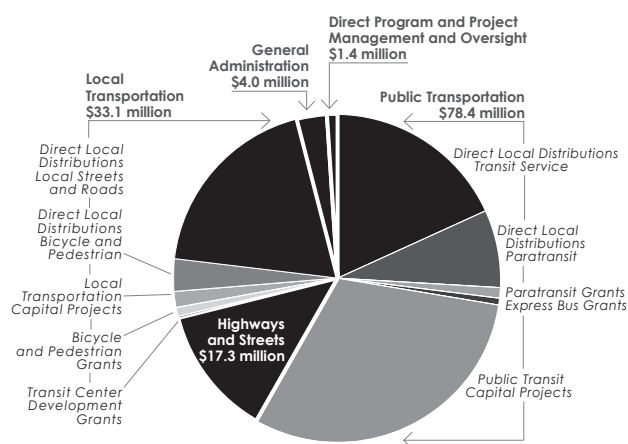


This 12th annual report covers expenditures during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013 (FY12-13), and CWC activities through July 2014. The full report is available online at <http://www.AlamedaCTC.org/CWC2014Report>.

Summary of Expenditures

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is responsible for administering the Measure B half-cent transportation sales tax measure as well as congestion management agency functions. In FY12-13, Measure B revenues totaled \$121.1 million, and audited expenditures totaled \$134.2 million for different transportation projects and programs, oversight and administration.

FY12-13 Project and Program Expenditures



Alameda CTC Projects

Alameda CTC allocates 40 percent of Measure B funds, net of administrative funding, to capital projects. In FY12-13, Alameda CTC expended \$60.6 million on capital projects.

Alameda CTC Programs

Alameda CTC allocates 60 percent of Measure B funds, net of administrative funding, primarily on a monthly, formula basis (direct local distributions) and through competitive grants to Alameda County, cities and transit agencies for programs. In FY12-13, Alameda CTC expended \$68.2 million in Measure B funds on programs.

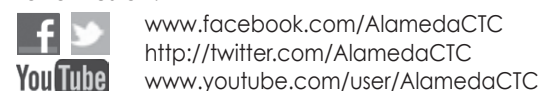
Citizens Watchdog Committee Activities

The following highlight the main activities the CWC has undertaken since July 1, 2012.

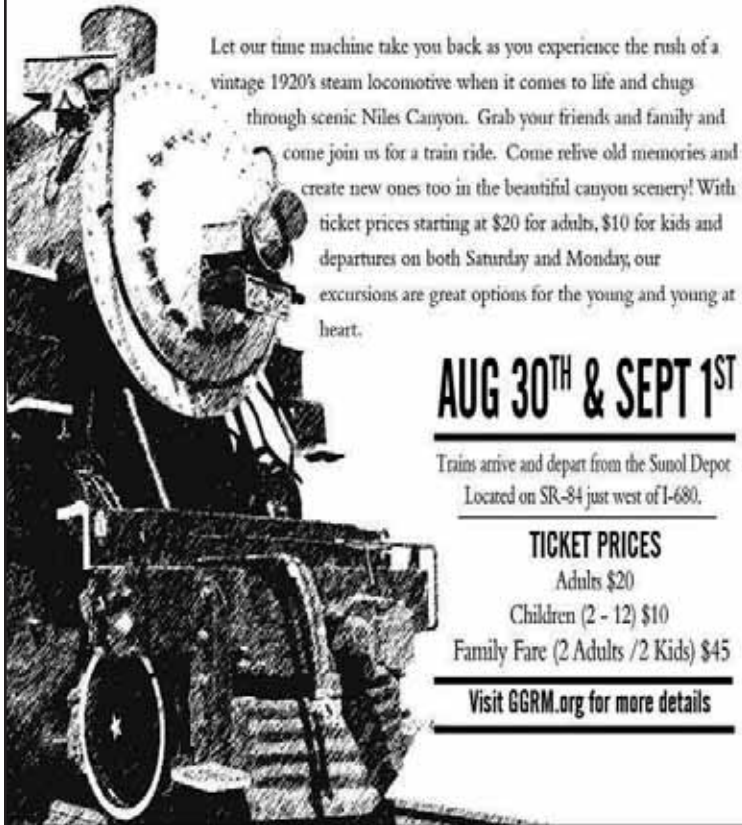
- Ongoing Programs and Capital Projects Watch (FY12-13): The CWC continued to watch specific programs and capital projects and to monitor any issues of concern.
- Ongoing Areas of Interest (FY12-13): The CWC requested information from Alameda CTC on issuing limited tax bonds secured by a pledge of sales tax revenues to finance capital expenditures, AAA credit ratings issued by Fitch Ratings and Standard and Poor's for financial management of the Measure B sales tax, capital project expenditures, the project invoice review process and CWC Annual Report outreach efforts.
- Ongoing Budget Update (FY12-13): The CWC received and reviewed the annual budget and mid-year budget updates.
- Audit and Compliance Report Review (Jan. 2013 and Jan. 2014): CWC members reviewed FY11-12 and FY12-13 audited financial and compliance reports and requested more information from agencies and jurisdictions. The CWC was satisfied with the information received.
- Independent Financial Audits: The CWC met with and received presentations from the independent auditor on expenditures and administrative caps. The auditor did not identify any accounting concerns.
- CWC Audit Subcommittee Process: The CWC formed a subcommittee and process to provide input to the independent auditor. This resulted in the need for more testing and the provision of more detail on items of interest to the CWC Audit Subcommittee.
- Annual Report to the Public (2013-2014): CWC members formed a subcommittee to develop its annual report to the public. In July, the CWC held a public hearing to provide comments on the report.
- Information Received by CWC (Ongoing): The CWC received updates on Alameda CTC's implementation of the One Bay Area Grant Program, which will fund an estimated \$63 million for transportation projects in Alameda County. Also in FY12-13, Alameda CTC's Local Business Contract Equity Program exceeded its 70 percent Local Business Enterprises goal for professional and administrative services.

How to Get Involved

In addition to the CWC, the public serves on other community advisory committees. Join a committee or participate in public meetings. Visit www.AlamedaCTC.org to learn more and follow us on:



This LABOR DAY WEEKEND Take a ride in our 1920's STEAM POWERED time machine!



Let our time machine take you back as you experience the rush of a vintage 1920's steam locomotive when it comes to life and chugs through scenic Niles Canyon. Grab your friends and family and come join us for a train ride. Come relive old memories and create new ones too in the beautiful canyon scenery! With ticket prices starting at \$20 for adults, \$10 for kids and departures on both Saturday and Monday, our excursions are great options for the young and young at heart.

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Services, equipment and dates are subject to change without notice. Complete details available at ggrm.org. This event is made possible through a partnership between the Golden Gate Railroad Museum and the Pacific Locomotive Association to continue to restore historic railway equipment and bring it back to life for today's and tomorrow's generations.

FOUNDATION

Continued from Page 5

members filed to adhere to their fiduciary duty to adopt policies, procedures and effective controls that would have prevented the comingling of funds, the misallocation of funds the spiraling of liabilities and ultimately the failure of TVCF," Sacks said in his complaint and demand for a jury trial.

David Rice was fired April 30, 2012, after an independent audit found discrepancies in the organization's finances and reserves. Ron Hyde, chairman of the Foundation's board of directors, was named chief executive and president. A former Alameda County Superior Court judge, Hyde had long been active in both the Foundation's charitable giving work and in other charities and philanthropies throughout the region.

"The board did an independent audit of expenses and other items," Hyde said. "Unfortunately, we found that there were a number of contracts and expenditures made that weren't properly cleared by the board and which we knew nothing about and never approved."

But Sacks argues that Hyde and other board members should have known about the discrepancies. In January 2010, Sacks stated, Rice, Hyde and board members Kirsten Niemeyer, Kenneth McCarthy, Michael Santimauro and Donald Lewis discussed the organization's liabilities and agreed to use the DAF endowment to pay down pass-through obligations owed to other nonprofit organizations, including funds contributed through workplace campaigns that Rice conducted.

But the payments continued to exceed available, non-committed (DAF) funds. According to TVCF's records, its liabilities of \$113,901 at the end of fiscal 2008 spiraled to \$839,811 by the end of June 2012.

By September, it was over. The Tri-Valley Community Foundation filed for Chapter 7 liquidation bankruptcy with more than \$153,000 in debts, and leaving some charities without funds owed them, according to bankruptcy documents. Among the debts left behind by the TVCF is \$33,000 owed to the Tri-Valley Rotary Club; \$25,000 owed to Amador Valley Education; and \$11,000 owed to the Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center, court records show, along with many smaller debts, including \$4,081 owed to the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District.

The TVCF's offices were closed, its telephone and websites were disconnected, with Hyde acknowledging in an interview that the foundation was more than \$3 million in debt and he expected it to file liquidation bankruptcy. He also said the TVCF was seeking to file criminal charges against Rice.

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office said no charges have been filed against Rice. Hyde also seemed unsurprised about the bankruptcy filing, saying he knew little else, and adding, "We haven't had a board meeting in months."

In his Bankruptcy Court filing, Sacks said that Rice, during the last two years of his presidency and at a time when financial discrepancies were known, raised what he said were additional funds that would be used to reduce liabilities. He specifically targeted large donors who had the ability to make donations in excess of \$100,000. But Rice assured donors that their donations would be held by TVCF and disbursed only once the donors gave advice or directions.

"Rice did not honor those assurances," Sacks stated. "The board was aware, or should have been aware, that funds were received by TVCF under such arrangements," but did not take any action to ensure that happened. Rice, in fact, with the board's approval, provided donors with a solicitation

marketing brochure that affirmed that donors would have a say in how their contributions were used.

Instead, those funds were comingled with uncommitted donations that were not sufficient to meet the outgoing expenses and payments TVCF had promised, "continuing to misspend agency funds in a manner contrary to the representations it had made to donors," according to Sacks.

Sacks also criticized TVCF's auditors, Robert Lee & Associates, which, Sacks said, early in its report in May 2011 "failed to mention the ample information of financial irregularities that RLA uncovered."

"Most egregiously...it stated that TVCF had donor permission to use agency funds as working capital when donors had not given such permission," he said.

By the time of TVCF's bankruptcy filing, the agency had misspent and diverted millions of dollars in funds that had been earmarked for distribution to other charities or were subject to restrictions on their use, Sacks stated in his Bankruptcy Court report. In fact, when a donor of agency funds would question why a pass-through contribution had not been delivered, Rice would find funds to make those payments.

"Spending by Rice continued apace through 2011 and into 2012," Sacks added, with Rice obtaining funds from TVCF investment accounts on his own authority without counter-signature from anyone on the board of directors. He accessed those funds whenever he felt that cash was needed for immediate needs without consultation with donors or directors.

Although TVCF is bankrupt, Sacks wants a jury to decide if Rice, Hyde and the board of directors have personal liability for TVCF's liabilities still outstanding, including insurance policies that would cover those liabilities. ■

—Jeb Bing

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LE CLAIR FAMILY

Joyce Le Clair Scheidig, Pleasanton's first elected councilwoman, died Aug. 9.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. today for Joyce Le Clair Scheidig, Pleasanton's first elected councilwoman, who died Aug. 9 at her home in Walnut Creek. She was 75 years old.

The service will be at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 1650 Ygnacio Road in Walnut Creek.

Mrs. Scheidig, who was Joyce Le Clair when she served on the council from 1974 to 1978, was twice elected by fellow council members as vice mayor.

While on the council, she had to address complicated issues such

as the adequacy of the city's sewer capacity in the face of a cease and desist order from the Regional Water Control Board. She was actively involved in the creation of the Livermore Amador Valley Water Management Agency, where she was Pleasanton's first representative.

Decisions made by Mrs. Scheidig and her fellow Council members during that period paved the way for the modern Pleasanton we know today, including Stoneridge Shopping Center and Hacienda Business Park.

Mrs. Scheidig was born in Beaumont, Texas in 1939 to Ann and Gerald Moore. She graduated from Beaumont High School and briefly attended Lamar College in Beaumont.

In 1959 she sent pictures to Eileen Ford of the Ford modeling agency in New York City. She was the first model hired by Ms. Ford without a personal interview. Richard Avedon was one of the high

fashion photographers for whom she posed.

She moved to Pleasanton in 1961 and raised a family here. Her involvement in local government began when she became a spokeswoman for the Pleasanton Valley neighborhood. She was active with the Democratic Party in Alameda County.

In 1978 she married Kenneth Scheidig. While remodeling their home in Walnut Creek she enjoyed her new career as grand and great-grandmother along with traveling, especially to New York City and France.

In addition to her husband of 36 years, she is survived by her son Paul Le Claire, grandchildren and a great grandchild.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Research, 22512 Gateway Center Dr., PO Box 1950, Clarksburg, MD 20871-1950. ■

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Renowned porcelain artist Eugenia Zobel said her favorite things to paint are "grapes and flowers and all of nature's forms."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Eugenia Zobel's work will be featured in the new Museum On Main exhibit, "The Art of Porcelain Painting."

All fired up

Museum featuring local artist with 'The Art of Porcelain Painting'

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

When Eugenia Zobel's paintings first went on exhibit at Wente Winery with the Livermore Art Association, she sized up the display with a keen eye.

"I saw so many oils and so many watercolors and thought I would like to do something different," she recalled.

She began to create her paintings on porcelain, an art form that reached the peak of its popularity in the Victorian era. During the last 25 years, Zobel, now 81, has become

renowned for her porcelain painting. Her grapes, berries, plums and other fruits and flowers enhance the homes of many collectors.

"My favorite things to paint are grapes and flowers and all of nature's forms," she said.

Her work will be part of "The Art of Porcelain Painting," which is opening Wednesday at the Museum On Main. The exhibit will explore the history of the art form and include examples of antique works along with current pieces by Zobel.

Porcelain painting presents spe-

cial challenges, Zobel said, because the artist not only paints the images but fires the porcelain again and again in a kiln until she receives the desired result. Once the painted porcelain is fired, the color cannot be removed.

"Each time you paint a piece you can use 20 different colors, but each time you have to fire it to make it darker and darker and darker," she said. "A 12-inch plate, if I like it, I can do it in eight fires. But I usually do a little bit more."

"I fire my kiln at night and open it in the morning," she added. "If I open it too fast there is a possibility that some pieces can crack."

Zobel said although she paints mostly things found in nature, she cannot paint outdoors because her surroundings when painting must be perfectly clean.

"I paint with mineral oil," she said. "I prefer an open medium that I can go back the next day and change. It's very interesting."

Choosing the medium is an art in itself because this is what holds the pigment together and in place on the porcelain until it is fused by the firing in the kiln. "Open" mediums are those that will never dry in the air, and they can be water-based as well as oil-based.

Zobel orders plain white porcelain from companies in Los Angeles, Michigan, Dallas, Maryland and Virginia.

"The pieces are from \$1.99 to \$200. Sometimes a company sells Limoges — it's unbelievable the difference in quality," she said. "Most porcelains these days are from Japan, China and Czechoslovakia."

Although Zobel has made teacups for herself, she said she does not sell them because she would have to charge too much.

"They are double the work," she explained. "You have to paint the saucer, you have to paint the cup, and you have to paint the gold rim."

Inexpensive mugs can be beautiful, she noted, but the designs are decals, they are not hand painted.

"Lots of people don't understand, even the good dishes at Macy's are a decal, even the gold at the edge is a decal," she said. "My dishes are the exact same material but I put the color in the glaze, then in the kiln the heat makes the glaze open a little bit."

The process will be explained at the Museum On Main exhibit.

Zobel is originally from Brazil. When in her 30s, she went to visit a friend in New York, then stayed after meeting her husband.

In 1980 his company offered him a transfer to California. Eugenia was attracted to the state because of its fresh fruit, similar to what she'd known in Sao Paulo.

"We both love it here," she said.

They settled in Livermore and she eventually started art classes at Las Positas College. She continued to study porcelain painting at seminars and workshops with well-known national and international porcelain artists.

For the last few years her specialty has been portraits, which she paints in 8-by-10 or 5-by-7.

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Pleasanton police seize 32-year-old after attack on Vineyard Avenue

Pleasanton police arrested a 32-year-old transient who was allegedly armed with a knife and threatened to stab two teens Tuesday afternoon.

Police Sergeant Sgt. Larry Cox reported that officers responded to a call for help after a man attempted to stab two 16-year-olds with a knife in the area of the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue around 3:15 p.m.

Cox said the teens shielded themselves with their skateboards and were able to flee unharmed.

Police located the man nearby, who matched the description provided by the victims. He was identified as Nathan Kavanaugh of Pleasanton. A knife was found in Kavanaugh's car near the scene, Cox said.

Kavanaugh was arrested and booked into

Santa Rita Jail in Dublin on suspicion of two counts of assault with a deadly weapon.

Jamey Padojino, Bay City News, contributed to this report

In other police reports:

- Jewelry Exchange Expo, located at 2241 Stoneridge Mall Road, was burglarized on August 13, and the unknown suspect allegedly stole a \$9,000 ring from the store.

According to police reports, the suspect entered the store, grabbed the ring and ran outside into a black Honda Civic — which was later seen on the security cameras.

In addition, the suspect left fingerprints on the jewelry case, said police.

The suspect is described as a black male between 26-30 years old, brown hair, brown eyes, and 6'1"-6'3" tall. He was wearing a black shirt and blue jeans.

No arrests have been made.

- A Pleasanton woman reported to police on August 13 that she was allegedly a victim of a phone scam after she sent \$1,350 via Western Union to Canada after she received a phone call that her grandson was in jail.

According to police reports, the woman

received a phone call on August 11 from someone impersonating her grandson and asked for \$675 to get out of jail. The woman told police the caller sounded exactly like her grandson and knew certain things about him so she sent the money.

The next day, she received another call from someone claiming to be her grandson's attorney and asked for another \$675 to get his case expunged, said police. The woman went forward in sending the money.

It wasn't until she called her grandson did she realize it was a phone scam.

No suspects have been arrested.

- According to police, \$2,000 worth of jewelry was allegedly stolen from a house located on the 3200 block of Vineyard Avenue on August 14.

The suspect allegedly entered the residence by prying open the rear sliding glass door, police reports stated.

The jewelry reported stolen included five rings and a jewelry box.

Police were able to find a Snickers candy wrapper outside the rear sliding glass door and will be using it as evidence, according to police reports.

No suspects have been arrested.

- A Livermore woman was arrested on suspected drug-related charges, identity theft and possession of stolen property on August 13.

Police received calls about two people, who seemed intoxicated, causing a disturbance on the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue.

Prior to arriving at the apartment, the officer knew the apartment owner, 24-year-old Leanna Leal Geiger, was on active probation with a four-way search clause.

When the officer arrived, the two people were already back inside the apartment.

According to police reports, the officer conducted a probation search and allegedly found paperwork regarding identity theft, suspected stolen property, drugs and drug paraphernalia.

Geiger was arrested for suspected identity theft, possession of stolen property, possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia, and suspected probation violation.

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

— Amanda Aguilar

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Amir Jamali, M.D.,
Orthopedic Surgeon

**San Ramon Regional
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POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Aug. 10

Theft

■ 11:05 a.m. in the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive

Battery

■ 2:09 p.m. in the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

DUI

■ 3:23 p.m. at the intersection of W. Las Positas Boulevard and Hopyard Road

■ 9:12 p.m. Street information not disclosed.

Aug. 11

Embezzlement

■ 8:35 a.m. in the 10600 block of Professional Circle

Theft

■ 10:16 a.m. in the 4400 block of Railroad Avenue; theft from auto

■ 7:35 p.m. in the 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 8:16 p.m. in the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting

■ 9:20 p.m. in the 5600 block of Owens Drive; auto theft

Fraud

■ 12:31 p.m. in the 2800 block of Victoria Ridge Court

Aug. 12

Theft

■ 10:43 a.m. in the 3600 block of Andrews Drive

■ 3:28 p.m. at the intersection of Valley Trails Drive and Virgin Islands Court; theft from auto

Domestic battery

■ 1:54 p.m. in the 5300 block of Hopyard Road

Fraud

■ 3:39 p.m. in the 5900 block of Laurel Creek Drive

Drug violation

■ 4:43 p.m. at the intersection of Utah Street and Bernal Avenue

Aug. 13

Burglary

■ 8:23 a.m. in the 7700 block of Highland Oaks Drive

■ 12:02 p.m. in the 2200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; commercial burglary



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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

City's housing plan through 2023 goes to Council

City Council candidate George Bowen had reason to look pleased when he addressed the council Tuesday night. A homeowner in the Parkside/Mercer Sports Park community, he is campaigning to block more high density apartment complexes in Pleasanton and now heads an organization called Pleasanton Voters for Smart Growth to make that happen. Bowen cited last week's decision by the Planning Commission to change the zoning on an apartment project being advanced by C.M. Capital as a step in the right direction. Although planners didn't reverse the West Las Positas zoning back to commercial, as Bowen wanted, it agreed to cut the allowable density to 12.5 units per acre from 30 and to chop the height of anything built there to two stories at the most. Bowen and others who spoke at the council meeting said they would be back on Sept. 2 when the local lawmakers consider the Planning Commission's actions.

At their meeting, Planning Commissioners approved the Housing Element, a part of the city's General Plan required by all California cities to show that they are meeting the statewide housing goal of "attaining decent housing and a suitable living environment for every California family." Periodic updates of the Housing Element, including certification by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) are required to ensure that city policies continue to reflect changing community needs, challenges and opportunities in compliance with state law.

In order to catch up to the 2007-2014 Housing Element requirements after losing a costly court battle over a 1996 housing cap, which was ruled illegal, the City Council rezoned 70 acres for high density residential development. In the end, those rezonings allowed for the construction of 375 housing units beyond the requirements of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), a surplus that Bowen and his organization want removed from the approved zoning numbers.

The Housing Element now under consideration for the 2015-2023 cycle must be submitted to the state HCD by year's end. With that deadline looming and the C.M Property plan downsized, it's unlikely and unnecessary for the council to make any changes at its Sept. 2 before voting final approval. ■



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

LETTERS

Wars still going on

Dear Editor,

I'm pleased to learn from your editorial of Aug. 1 ("Pleasanton council to monitor legislators' decision-making") that the Pleasanton City Council will monitor legislative decision-making. This is something I advocated many times from 2006 to 2012 when I spoke during the public comment period at council meetings.

My request was for the council to do something to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. That "something" included the idea of lobbying our state and federal legis-

latures. After all, council members went to Washington every year to ask for help for Pleasanton. Why not end the wars? That would help Pleasanton more than anything, I thought. But a majority on the council supported the wars, so they wouldn't do it.

Now that the council is actively involved in lobbying state legislators, and they still go to Washington, perhaps there's a chance they might kick it up a moral notch. The wars are still going on. Americans soldiers are still dying. Our country is still killing innocent people. And the cost to Pleasanton is huge.

—Fred Norman

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WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Planning Commission

Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- P14-0833, Crosspoint Church
- Conditional Use Permit to operate a church in a portion of an existing building located at 5627 Gibraltar Drive, in Hacienda Business Park.
- P14-1128, Shuang Chinese School
- Conditional Use Permit to operate a Chinese language and culture school on Sunday afternoons for up to 90 students at Pleasanton Middle School located at 5001 Case Avenue.
- P14-1139, McKay's Taphouse and Beer Garden
- Conditional Use Permit to operate a bar with extended hours until 11:00 p.m. on Thursdays and 12:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays at 252 Main Street.
- PUD-102/P14-0014, MD Roesbery, Inc.
- Valero service station site located at 3192 Santa Rita Road: (1) Rezoning from the C-N (Neighborhood Commercial) District to the PUD-C (Planning Unit Development - Commercial) District; (2) PUD Development Plan to convert approx 1,752 sq. ft. of the existing a 2,634 sq. ft. auto service building to a convenience store and the remaining floor area of the building to a drive-through carwash; construct an approx 715 sq. ft. addition to the proposed convenience store; construct a new trash enclosure and carwash equipment room; and related site improvements; and (3) Conditional Use Permit to operate a convenience store with the sale of alcoholic beverages and a drive-through carwash in conjunction with an existing service station. Also consider the Negative Declaration prepared for the project.
- PUD-106, John Gutknecht for Habitec Architecture
- PUD Development Plan for the construction of an automobile dealership consisting of an approx 31,792 sq. ft. building with a 2,175 sq. ft. service canopy and 1,250 sq. ft. carwash, and related site improvements on the Auto Mall site at Staples Ranch.
- PUD-25, Mike Meyer/Tim Quinn, Greenbriar Homes, Lund Ranch II
- Review and provide comments on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (July 2014) for the Lund Ranch II Planned Unit Development, a proposed 50-lot residential development located at 1500 Lund Ranch Road (end of Lund Ranch Road).

Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee

Monday, August 25, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.
Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd

- Please visit our website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov to view information regarding this meeting.

Troubled schools

As school starts, parents seek answers on principal turnover, other concerns

by Gina Channell-Allen



Editor's note: The complete story and links to documents can be found at PleasantonWeekly.com.

School in Pleasanton starts Monday, and parents are busy buying back-to-school supplies and backpacks. But the district itself is still dealing with a bit of baggage from the previous school year that has yet to be packed away and forgotten.

The turnover of principals in the past few years and a series of nasty allegations by and against teachers and administrators has parents concerned about the effects on students and programs, and has left many questioning what could be causing the change in leadership positions.

The number of principals leaving the district - coupled with the former Walnut Grove principal's claim against the school district, large financial settlements paid to two employees, complaints made by teachers against another principal and the backlash from parents, and a general sense of distrust inside and outside the walls of the schools - is making Pleasanton schools less desirable than they used to be, according to Pleasanton parent Chris Jacob.

Jacob told the school board at its Feb. 22 meeting, "As a parent and a taxpayer I say the integrity of the Pleasanton Unified School District is damaged far beyond repair and it's time some of you step down."

"When you see lots of staff switching positions or leaving the district, it makes me think they aren't happy,"



said another Pleasanton parent who asked to remain anonymous. "The district is putting up a facade of 'We're a happy place, everyone's happy,' when that's not the case. They don't want to be transparent and there's a lack of communication."

Like this parent, many in the middle of the turmoil, and even those watching from the sidelines, won't talk on the record.

"We either have kids going to schools in the district or we work in the district," said one. "We're scared of the repercussions our children or job may face."

The Pleasanton Unified School District has experienced major changes in site administrative staffing in the past three years - 44 to be exact, according to information supplied to the Weekly by Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi.

"Without knowing the type of turnover that other like school districts have, we cannot say if ours is high or not," Board president Jamie Hintze said. "We know the reasons why our administrators have come and gone and it does not seem unreasonable."

Since October, when Jon Vranesh, a well-liked elementary school principal, was abruptly put on administrative leave, most school board meetings have been standing-room-only, packed with teachers, parents and community members. Public comments addressed to the board have been filled with emotion and allegations.

Then in April, the teachers union vice-president, Janice Clark, disclosed at a school board meeting that there had been multiple employee grievances filed against Ter-

ry Conde, principal of Hart Middle School. Clark also cited results of a union-conducted survey, documentation of complaints and grievances and letters from staff about Conde that were presented privately to Ahmadi and the school board last school year.

The nature of these complaints, which Clark said included unfair labor practices, are not known.

Between June 1, 2013 and June 1, 2014, out of Pleasanton's 16 schools, six principals and three vice principals left their positions for one reason or another. Three principals resigned (Stephanie Ceminsky, Donlon; John Dwyer, Foothill High School; Ben Fobert, Mohr) and two retired (Jim Hansen, Amador Valley High School; and John Whitney, Pleasanton Middle School). One principal was removed from his

WEEKLY FILE PHOTO
Above: Jon Vranesh was principal at Walnut Grove Elementary School until he was abruptly placed on administrative leave in October 2013. At left: Since November, when Jon Vranesh was placed on leave, school board meetings have been packed with community members, teachers and parents.

post but is still a district employee (Jon Vranesh, Walnut Grove). Three vice principals have left; two retired (Rick Sira, AVHS; and Lori Vella, AVHS) and one resigned (Richard Gorton, Foothill).

By comparison, during the same timeframe, San Ramon Valley Unified School District, which has 38 schools, has had three principals leave their schools, with two being promoted to district positions. Five assistant principals have left their positions, two to vacant principal positions in the district.

Livermore Unified School District, which is a comparable size to Pleasanton with 17 schools, has had three principals and two vice principals leave their posts in the same timeframe. One vice principal was promoted to principal, so he is still in the district.



COURTESY OF PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi (second from left) joins a few school board members, teachers and other district employees recently to celebrate five elementary schools - Hearst, Donlon, Walnut Grove, Vintage Hills and Mohr - being named California Distinguished Schools.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

After Hart Middle School teachers took a vote of confidence in the leadership of their principal, Terry Conde, students wore T-shirts to show their support of Conde.

Since June 1, two other Pleasanton principals have moved on. Mindy Bolar, the Lydiksen Elementary School principal, was promoted to the Pleasanton schools director of curriculum for the 2014-15 school year. Terri Quesinberry left her post as Alisal Elementary principal in late July when she accepted a principalship at a Livermore elementary school.

Ahmadi told the Weekly there was nothing unusual about the reasons most of these employees left their positions. According to Ahmadi, in the past two years five site administrators have left the school district because of either a change of residency or a better opportunity at another school district (principals Giglio, Ceminsky, Dwyer, and Fobert, and vice principal Gorton), and five retired (Colleen Henry, principal of Lydiksen Elementary School, Hansen, Whitney, Sira and Vella). She also noted there are people who have left the district over the past two years and have been rehired (Aileen Parsons, principal, PMS; and Amy Simone, principal, Donlon).

"We try to promote from within as much as we can when possible," she added. "I look at this as a strength of the school district that we are able to retain wonderful people but we're also able to bring in and attract quality people here. We're very lucky to have that."

Ahmadi acknowledges that some parents feel that a lack of leadership consistency is affecting the district negatively. However, she believes the district's accomplishments in the last four years paint a different reality.

Just recently, Hearst, Donlon, Walnut Grove, Vintage Hills and Mohr Elementary schools were named Distinguished Schools, two high schools ranked in the state's Top 100, and students consistently receive awards for academics or sports. PUSD has a graduation rate of 96% and a 99% passage rate of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). And in the area of finance, Moody's Investor Service has given the district an A++ credit rating and a strong credit rating of Aa2.

"We take pride in the fact that

our parent community and staff, including our principals, teachers and classified members work collaboratively together to ensure our students have positive experiences at school and reach their fullest potential," Ahmadi told Weekly.

"Our district has been at the forefront of some very innovative educational initiatives because we are focused on what is best for students," she said.

The spark?

Jon Vranesh was placed on administrative leave from his position as principal at Walnut Grove Elementary School Oct. 25, 2013, for allegedly creating a hostile work environment by using vulgar and intimidating language. When Superintendent Ahmadi notified the school community via email Nov. 5 that there was an interim principal at Walnut Grove, with no mention of what happened to Vranesh, parents and other community members were up in arms. (See Pleasanton Weekly stories on Nov. 14 and Dec. 19, 2013.)

This was the beginning of school board meetings with large crowds, audience members holding signs, students wearing T-shirts in support of principals, and public comment filled with tears, anger, accusations and a lot of pain.

"Losing a popular principal is hard and if not handled well can be very harmful for a school," said Alameda County Office of Education Superintendent Sheila Jordan. "However, our schools are workplaces and people make decisions that, although are sometimes painful, are often necessary for any number of reasons."

Citing privacy and personnel reasons, Ahmadi and the school board were not open about why Vranesh was not at Walnut Grove after Oct. 25. Community members, particularly parents, quickly became frustrated by the lack of information.

"The lack of communication has not helped the parents," said Walnut Grove parent Jeremy McCarthy at the Nov. 26 school board meeting. He said he learned of Vranesh being placed on administrative leave when his kids started asking where the principal was.

"All you guys have done has created mistrust in this community," said Bruce Henry at the same meeting.

Vranesh is not the only principal whose performance has become the subject of controversy.

Teachers and their union have been urging the board and Ahmadi to remove Hart principal Terry Conde for over a year, according to comments made by union vice president Janice Clark to the Weekly after the May 13 school board meeting.

Walnut Grove and Hart teachers who lodged complaints against their principals both used the phrase "hostile work environment" in their written allegations.

A complaint against Conde was filed by a school employee, whose name and position is redacted from the documents, but presumed to be a teacher.

This is one of several complaints filed against Conde, according to comments made by Clark in April. Clark did not produce documentation of the other complaints, nor were any provided by the district in response to a Public Records request made by the Weekly, which only included a timeframe between March 1 and June 30, 2014. Clark declined repeated requests for comments.

Clark reported during the April 22 board meeting that, "An APT survey, documentation of complaints and grievances and letters from staff were presented to Superintendent Ahmadi and the school board in September of 2013 and in January of 2014. The documents presented defined issues of trust, favoritism and unfair labor practices set forth by the principal that have had a negative impact on a great number of teachers."

Based on this documentation and survey, a vote of confidence was taken by the teachers at Hart on April 16. Forty-six of the 53 teachers answered yes or no to the question "Do you have confidence in the principal's leadership," with 26 voting yes, 20 voting no and 7 abstaining. Clark reported the vote results saying, "The results represent a strongly divided staff, where over one half of the certificated staff refused to support the principal in this vote."

Clark told the board that the vote and documentation show an "undeniable problem that cannot be ignored for another school year."

"It is unfortunate," Clark continued, "that so many of our dedicated teachers at Hart are still suffering."

According to documents obtained by the Pleasanton Weekly under the California Public Records Act, Hart parents have lodged at least one complaint against a teacher for slander and defamation of students. The complaint is in reference to an email sent in the latter part of the school year to, according to one writer, more than 90 parents, students and district personnel. The email named students who would not be allowed to participate in an activity because of their behavior, which was described in the email.

Escalating tension

In her April 22 comments, Clark said tensions at the school escalated when a group of parents were made aware of the no confidence vote taken April 16 and a parent-gener-

ated letter was circulated that "denounced teachers and supported the principal."

"Even more alarming, some students were asked to petition for the principal during the school day," Clark said. "A few students wore T-shirts in school to support the principal, which could potentially create a safety concern between students on our campus."

Community members, parents, and students at these two schools have shown their support of the principals in visible ways, including Hart students signing a poster that said "Hart Students Support Conde" and wearing T-shirts to school that said "Students support Mrs. Conde" inside a heart.

According to Clark's comments to the board, there had been further deterioration of the site environment at Hart, where she is a teacher, because "not only teachers have been pitted against teachers, but now parents against teachers, students against teachers and possibly students against students."

When asked about the perceived tension between the parents and teachers, Ahmadi said, "I would not characterize the relationship between our teachers and parents as contentious in our district. There are strong opinions at times in certain situations. I would venture to say that you would encounter that in any district or entity, especially where there is a change."

Documents obtained by the Weekly show that dozens of emails were sent to Ahmadi and school board members shortly after the vote of no confidence in Conde's leadership; the emails appear to be from parents, although names were redacted. The writers stated that Conde is a "kind and compassionate advocate for children," "a wonderful role model for our community" and a "consummate professional that demonstrates exceptional leadership" and models "positive parent and teacher collaboration to solve problems."

They expressed anger and disappointment, making claims that Conde was being targeted for removal because a small group of Hart teachers were feeling pressured by Conde to improve their performance. One email states, "I hope the district administration and the trustees are able to see through any baseless attacks made by teachers toward Ms. Conde. The new tactic of the incompetent teachers in our district is to go on the warpath. Through the help of their union, they band together to disrupt their schools and attack our leadership."

Another Conde supporter emailed, "We fail to see how acting in the best interest of children by asking those who teach them to do the right thing creates a hostile work environment. In truth, administration consistently intervenes to stop certain teachers from creating hostile learning environments for our children."

The similarity between "hostile work environments" allegedly created by Conde and Vranesh was not lost on parents and community members.

Victoria Glenn, parent of Amador and Walnut Grove students, said

TROUBLED

Continued from Page 13

during public comment at the April 22 board meeting, "Recent events at Hart sound all too familiar and I have to question whether there is a common theme with the dismissal of the Walnut Grove principal."

Also referencing the similarity, an email writer stated, "you stress they are not analogous and are very different situations. They may be. But from the outside looking in, parents see vague board agendas, cryptic reports of 'safety issues at Hart' in the Weekly and an out-of-control union wielding all their weight and power to defend the rights of a few bad / entitled teachers."

Neither APT president Peggy Carpenter nor Clark has responded to multiple requests for comment.

The costs

The population least involved and probably the most impacted by the infighting, distrust, tension and changes in leadership is the students.

"Our parents, teachers, and administrators work very closely together to support students in our schools," Ahmadi said. "Parents and teachers share one thing in common; they are passionate about students being successful, although at times they may have a different approach to things."

Audrey Purnell has a fourth-grader at Donlon and said he has had a new principal every year of the five years her son has been there.



WEEKLY FILE PHOTO

Jon Vranesh being abruptly placed on administrative leave from Walnut Grove Elementary School with little communication from the district was the beginning of school board meetings with large crowds, audience members holding signs, and public comment filled with tears, anger, accusations and a lot of pain.

"He actually thinks that's protocol, that every year you get a new teacher and a new principal," Purnell said. "I think part of the reason for the high turnover is that being an administra-

tor in Pleasanton is a tough job."

Jacobs reminded the board during a previous meeting that, "One of the main functions of the school district is to support their administrators. You have clearly displayed failure in what you are paid to do." He furthered that the board has "buckled and allowed the bullying tactics of the teachers union..." to sway their decision to remove Vranesh.

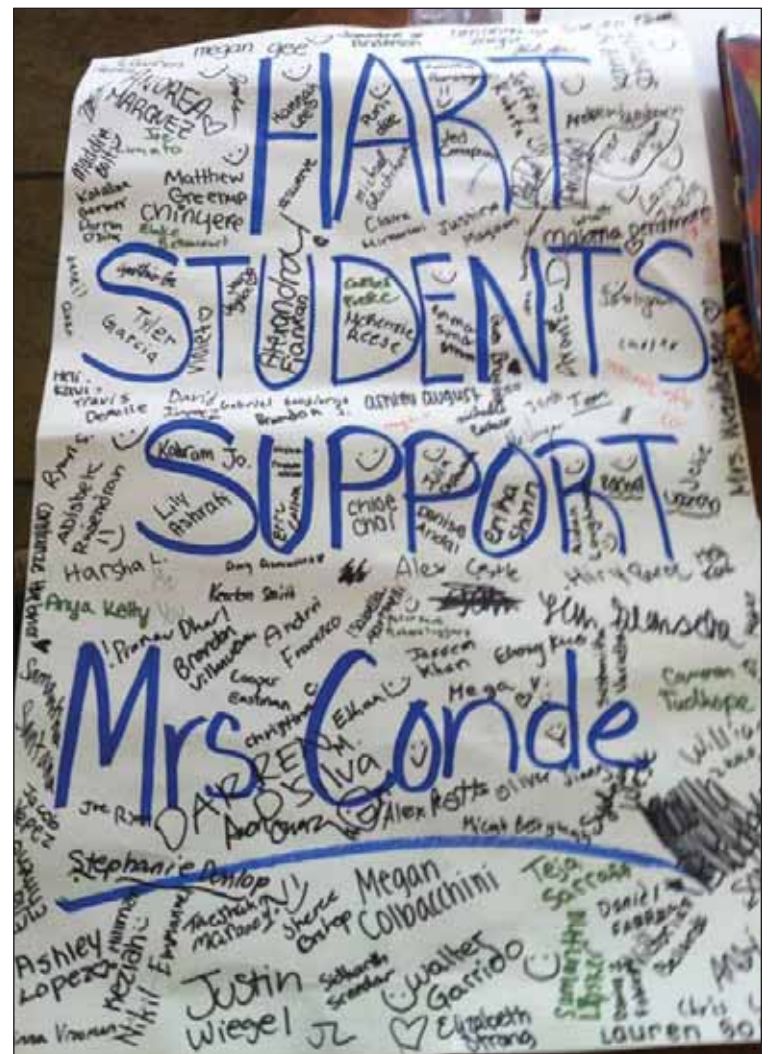
In response to Clark's comments about Conde at the April 22 meeting, Erika Schmitz, a Hart parent, said to the "teachers at Hart who filed complaints and the teachers union that is backing them... shame on you, you are not here for the kids. You are here for the power and the politics and don't think our community doesn't recognize that simple and inescapable fact."

"We know about the hit list," Schmitz continued. "Your plan to target principals who seek to hold teachers to a higher and honorable professional standard. You look at an administrator like Terry Conde, who is trying to build something better for our kids and your first thought is how that affects you and your control."

"The teachers who filed the original grievances, with the union's backing, looked at those standards and instead of examining themselves, instead of rising to a challenge - an opportunity to make something better for yourself and your career - you decided it was better, cheaper and easier to fire the principal."

Brian Schwartz, whose wife Kirsten is the president of the Hart Middle School PTSA, said at the April 22 meeting that most community members are strong supporters of the schools, staff and teachers, "but many of us do not support the tactics that are being used by a group of disgruntled teachers at Hart to attack Ms. Conde."

"The issue here isn't Ms. Conde," Schwartz said. "The issue here is



SUBMITTED PHOTO

In addition to wearing T-shirts that said "Students Support Mrs. Conde," Hart Middle School students signed a poster to show their support for their principal.

what happens when we have poor performing teachers."

When asked by the Weekly about the perception that the teacher union is bringing allegations against principals to protect underperforming teachers, Ahmadi said, "Government code affords teachers the right to be represented by a union with regard to these rights; however, our administrators have the right and the responsibility to guide, support, supervise, and discipline employees as appropriate."

None of the five board members nor Clark responded to requests to comment on this issue.

Schwartz also said he hoped community members were watching the Vergara v. the State of California lawsuit, "which does a very good job of illustrating what happens when students are forced to endure poor teachers."

A Superior Court judge in Los Angeles ruled June 10 that state laws virtually guaranteeing teacher jobs for life are unconstitutional. The Association of Pleasanton Teachers did not respond to requests for comment on the decision.

"While everyone's focus is being taken away (by) what's being done here, we're losing what's best for the students in all this," said Patti Eichhorn, a parent of students at Hart Middle School and Foothill High, at the May 13 school board meeting.

"The superintendent and cabinet are more concerned about the self preservation of their professional careers rather than doing what's right for our children," Jacob said.

The participation of one board member in particular, Jeff Bowser, in votes that involve the teachers

union has come into question by some citizens, particularly the votes concerning Vranesh. Bowser, who was president of the board during the time votes were taken on Vranesh, is married to a teacher and union official in the district, Patty Bowser. When the Weekly asked Bowser about this concern, he said, "I can tell you that I have had no conflict of interest, or need for recusal, based on my wife's employment with the district or membership in the teachers union."

"As confirmed with the district's legal counsel, 'conflict of interest' is limited to a board member's financial interest in a contract or a decision made." Bowser continued. "Outside of those, there is no general conflict of interest based on a board member's spouse's employment in the District or membership in the teacher's union."

"If you are intending to ask whether my wife's role in the teachers union has influenced me with regard to any matter involving Mr. Vranesh's employment status," Bowser said, "the answer is no. I intend to continue to fulfill my duties as board member in this and other matters."

In addition to the cost of time, energy and trust, the financial effect of the turmoil is also significant. Between October and March, more than \$315,000 was paid to the district's law firm, and the open purchase order maximum for the fiscal year ending in June was increased from \$335,000 to \$455,000. Another \$14,429 was paid to the investigator, Shon Davidsen, to look into complaints against Vranesh.

Vranesh was named an itinerant principal in February and informed

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the board later that month that his only duty had been data entry on Excel spreadsheets. He also said he was performing this task at his current rate of pay of approximately \$125,000 a year.

"It seems pretty clear that my doing data entry is a highly questionable use of our scarce district funds and a misuse of my educational and administrative skills," Vranesh told the board.

A potential cost comes in the form of a formal claim Vranesh filed April 16 "for money damages and injunctive and other relief against your local public or other entity, for amounts totaling significantly in excess of \$10,000..." The claim states that "PUSD and its agents and employees defamed Jon Vranesh" by "making or publishing false statement(s)," and by "making statements to third persons that disparaged Jon Vranesh's skills and services, especially to the public." It also claims Vranesh's right to privacy was violated.

Claims are generally required before a lawsuit for money damages can be brought against a public entity. In addition to naming the district, Ahmadi and assistant superintendent Luz Cazares, the claim also names the then-president of APT, Peggy Carpenter, as allegedly conspiring to "intentionally interfere" with the employment contract and the economic relationship between Vranesh and the district.

In conjunction with the complaints against Vranesh, in July, financial settlements of \$245,000 each were made to two unnamed district employees who claimed they were subjected to sexual harassment by Jon Vranesh at Walnut Grove.

Community of Character

The Pleasanton school district describes itself as a "Community of Character," and the school district has character education as one of its goals. The website states, "In the Pleasanton Unified School District we will develop curriculum, create an atmosphere, and model behavior that instills personal, social, and civic responsibility." Character education is "the study of the core ethical values that our society shares and holds important, including, but not limited to, respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, caring, honesty, justice and fairness, and citizenship and civic involvement."

Several speakers have referenced this initiative during public comments to the board.

Schwartz said on April 22, "It's a shame the principles of respect don't apply equally when the union is trying to put a spin on what's going on because a few staff members are feeling some pressure to improve their job performance."

And parent Victoria Glenn referenced the goal of teaching character when she said, "For the past three years under the current superintendent, our district has deteriorated due to poor leadership and bad decision making. Attending school board meetings over the past three years, it has become clear that the organizational structure is inverted. The administration and the teachers union are the ones making the decisions for our district."

"It is apparent that the administration has made a habit of making

important, high-impact decisions without consulting the board."

She continued that the board isn't aware of what is happening in the district and that board members have been "surprised to learn important information from speakers during public comment." Some of the issues that came up during public comment that Glenn said the board was unaware of include Vranesh having requested a public hearing, as he is entitled, on the allegations against him and what his duties were as itinerant principal. Glenn said she was particularly disturbed when Paige Wright, who is now a candidate for the school board, told the board that "someone in an administrative capacity" had banned her from substitute teaching at Walnut Grove because her husband, Bruce Henry, had spoken in support of Vranesh.

"What kind of examples are we setting for our children?" she asked the board and administrators. "Are we giving lip service to character traits?" ■

Staff reporter Amanda Aguilar contributed to this report.



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Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY • POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Book Clubs

GREAT BOOKS OF PLEASANTON The Great Books of Pleasanton book club meets at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Monday monthly at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. Call Sadie at 846-1658.

Clubs

PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB The Pleasanton Lions Club meets for dinner at 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at The Regalia House, 4133 Regalia Court. The dinner fee is \$10. For more information please visit <http://pleasantonlionsclub.org>.

TRI-VALLEY EVENING ROTARY Tri-Valley Evening Rotary has been supporting the community veterans, children and seniors for the past 12 years. We are the only Rotary club in the valley that meets in the evening. If you want to give back with a fun loving group please visit one of our meetings, from 6-8 p.m. every Thursday at Castlewood Country Club. Cost is \$5 plus dinner. Go to trivalleyrotary.org.

Concerts

I LIKE IT, I LOVE IT: A TIM MCGRAW TRIBUTE FEATURING TOM DRINNON Tom Drinnon is a noted country singer in his own right, and has performed with some of the biggest names in country music. His hit show is not only a tribute to McGraw, whom Drinnon has sung with, but it is also full of stories and facts about McGraw, and experiences Drinnon has had opening for him. The show runs at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 30 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Tickets are \$17-\$27. Call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org.

Events

ARTIST REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR 12TH ANNUAL ARTWALK LIVERMORE Artist registration for the 12th Annual ArtWalk in Livermore closes

at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 31. This event brings thousands to a day of art, music, wine and shopping in Livermore's eclectic downtown. Contact 447-2787 or info@bothwellartscenter.org. Go to <http://artwalklivermore.com>.

FREEZE FRAME PHOTO COMPETITION Between Aug. 15-Sept. 15, the Tri-Valley Conservancy invites photographers to participate in the annual Freeze Frame photo competition! Submissions will be accepted Aug. 15-Sept. 15, and contest rules and registration instructions will be coming soon. Cost is \$25 for a photo, \$10 for additional photos. Contact 449-8706 or freezeeframe@trivalleyconservancy.org. Go to trivalleyconservancy.org.

NIGHT OF THE LIVERMORE DEAD ZOMBIE PUB CRAWL The plague starts at the Downtown Art Studios, where citizens get turned into zombies and turned loose in Livermore's Downtown, from 6-10:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 4. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Contact Linday Ryan at 447-2787 or lryan@livermore-performingarts.org.

PIE AND BEVERAGE IN DUBLIN The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California invite you to join for pie (a la mode optional) and beverages at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 30 at Coco's Bakery Restaurant in Dublin. RSVP to Ruby at 462-9636 or hskoog@comcast.net by Wednesday, Aug. 27.

Fundraisers

LVPAC LOBSTER CLAMBAKE The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center will host the Second Annual Lobster Clambake on Saturday, Sept. 13 at Wente Vineyards in Livermore. LVPAC's largest fundraising event of the year, the festive evening supports both the Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center, which provide opportunities to experience and explore the visual and performing arts in the Tri-Valley. The authentic New England-style lobster clambake is

accompanied by Wente Vineyards award-winning wines and includes live music and both silent and live auctions. Tickets are \$150. Auction item donations and event sponsorships for the clambake are welcomed. Call 583-2305 or go to www.bankheadtheater.org.

MUSIC IN THE ORCHARD Nottingham Cellars, Altamont Beerworks and Ken's Woodfired Pizza come together to support the Pedrozzi Foundation and Team Delaney. See Crawdad Republic in concert from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 28 at Purple Orchid Resort and Spa in Livermore. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Tickets available at www.purpleorchid.com or Nottingham Cellars tasting room.

SWING FOR CANCER THERAPIES 2ND ANNUAL GOLF EVENT You're invited to a full day of fairway fun at the Hill Course at Castlewood Country Club to help raise funds for the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation on Monday, Sept. 15. Registration at 10:30 a.m., box lunch at 11:30 a.m., tournament starts at noon, awards, appetizers and cocktails at 5 p.m. To register and for more information go to <http://sjuwhtf.golfreg.com>.

Lectures/ Workshops

'MOW NO MO?!' OR 'HOW TO REMOVE YOUR LAWN' WORKSHOP Save money, save time, save water! Lose your lawn, get a garden, and get paid for it, too! In this hands-on workshop you'll learn how to remove your lawn, select native plants, and design a water-conserving, pesticide-free garden that attracts wildlife, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6. Address upon RSVP. Cost is \$30. Call (510) 236-9558 or go to BringingBackTheNatives.net.

CA NATIVE GARDENING WORKSHOP Thinking about putting in a native garden? Want to meet other native plant enthusiasts? Join for a morn-

PET OF THE WEEK



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ing of ideas and information from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23 in the backyard garden at 5321 Mallard Drive. Sponsored by bringingbackthenatives.net.

GRIEF WORKSHOP The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief. There are stepping stones that are part of each grief journey and these will be explored in this eight-week series of workshops, running at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 11-Oct. 30 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Registration required. Open to all. Contact Mary Hagerty at 846-5377.

On Stage

O'NEILL FESTIVAL SNEAK PEEK PREVIEW Get the inside scoop from the directors, actors and designers who will bring these classics to life: "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" by Tennessee Williams (Sept. 5-20, Village Theatre, Danville), and "The Iceman Cometh" by Eugene O'Neill (Sept. 19-28, Old Barn at Tao House, Danville). Join the sneak peak of the O'Neill Festival at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 28 at the Pleasanton Library. Go to www.eugeneoneill.org.

SUNSET SOIREE Join for music, dance and fellowship under the setting sun, from 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23 in front of the Bankhead Theater! Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy a performance by the Livermore School of Dance Jazz, with music entertainment by the Garage Band Academy and Dj and sound by Matticus. To make this event extra special, please wear orange, red or yellow clothes. Bring your own picnic dinner or order a pre-packaged dinner from Uncle Yu's at the Vine for \$7 by going to www.livermore-dance.com. No dinners will be sold at the event. Bring your own beverages. Free admission!

Spiritual

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY NEW MEMBER COFFEE Come find out

more about this year's study of the "Return to Jerusalem: God's Mercy and Faithfulness to His People" at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 28 at Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Drive. Additional classes run from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Sept. 11-May 14 on Thursdays. Children's Program available. Call 399-5074 or go to <http://www.communitybiblestudy.org/>.

OPENING THE INTUITIVE GATE: THE KEYS TO DEVELOPING YOUR INTUITION Uplifting, musical, and inspiring, Dr. Will Tuttle unites both Eastern and Western traditions in this practical workshop from noon-2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 31 at Unity of Tri-Valley. He will also be speaking at the 10 a.m. service. Suggested love offering: \$25. All are welcome. Call 829-2733 or go to <http://www.unityoftrivalley.org/>.

Support Groups

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

MOTHERS WITH A PURPOSE Mothers With a Purpose meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Foothill High School Library. Mothers with a Purpose was formed by local moms to offer support to families affected by addiction. Visit www.motherswithapurpose.org.

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

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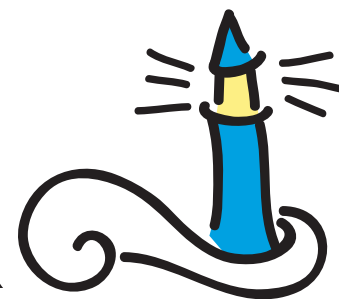
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Bulletin Board

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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)

210 Garage/Estate Sales

DIRECTV
starting at \$24.95/mo. Free 3-Months of HBO, starz, SHOWTIME & CINEMAX. FREE RECEIVER Upgrade! 2014 NFL Sunday Ticket Included with Select Packages. Some exclusions apply - Call for details 1-800-385-9017. (Cal-SCAN)

220 Computers/Electronics

DID YOU KNOW
144 million U.S. Adults read a Newspaper print copy each week? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

237 Barter

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)

245 Miscellaneous

\$50 Walmart Gift Card
and 3 Free issues of your favorite magazines! Call 855-757-3486 (AAN CAN)

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)

No phone number in the ad? Go to **fogster.com** for contact information

Kill Bed Bugs!
Buy Harris Bed Bug Killer Complete Treatment Program/ Kit. (Harris Mattress Covers Add Extra Protection). Available: Hardware Stores, Buy Online: homedepot.com (AAN CAN)

270 Tickets

Donate Your Car, Truck, Boat
to Heritage for the Blind. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. 800-731-5042. (Cal-SCAN)

Mind & Body

417 Groups

DID YOU KNOW
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)

420 Healing/Bodywork

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)

Jobs

500 Help Wanted

Drivers: Local-Home Nightly!
Fremont Flatbed Openings. Great Pay, Benefits! CDL-A, 1yr Exp. Req. Estenson Logistics. Apply www.goelc.com 1-866-336-9642

550 Business Opportunities

Own Your Own
Medical Alert Company. Be the 1st and only Distributor in your area! Unlimited \$ return. Small investment required. Call toll free 1-844-225-1200. (Cal-SCAN)

560 Employment Information

\$1,000 Weekly!
Mailing brochures from home. Helping home workers since 2001. Genuine Opportunity. No Experience required. Start Immediately www.mailingmembers.com (AAN CAN)

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Change the lives of others and create a sustainable future. 1, 6, 9, 18 month programs available. Apply now! www.OneWorldCenter.org 269.591.0518 info@OneWorldCenter.org (AAN CAN)

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Drivers: Truck Drivers
Obtain Class A CDL in 2 1/2 weeks. Company Sponsored Training. Also Hiring Recent Truck School Graduates, Experienced Drivers. Must be 21 or Older. Call: (866) 275-2349. (Cal-SCAN)

Business Services

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 14 Years
925-216-7976 License #042392

609 Catering/Event Planning

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

620 Domestic Help Offered

Reduce Your Past Tax Bill
by as much as 75 Percent. Stop Levies, Liens and Wage Garnishments. Call The Tax DR Now to see if you Qualify. 1-800-498-1067. (Cal-SCAN)

624 Financial

Do You Owe Back Taxes
Do you owe over \$10,000 to the IRS or State in back taxes? Get tax relief now! Call BlueTax, the nation's full service tax solution firm. 800-393-6403. (Cal-SCAN)

Identity Protected?

Is Your Identity Protected? It is our promise to provide the most comprehensive identity theft prevention and response products available! Call Today for 30-Day FREE TRIAL 1-800-908-5194. (Cal-SCAN)

Trouble with IRS?

Are you in BIG trouble with the IRS? Stop wage and bank levies, liens and audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, and resolve tax debt FAST. Seen on CNN. A BBB. Call 1-800-761-5395. (Cal-SCAN)

640 Legal Services



The AV Law Firm PC
Experienced Injury Lawyers. Call us today for Legal Representation. We always offer a free consultation. (925) 217-4300

Home Services

751 General Contracting

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

Real Estate

809 Shared Housing/Rooms

All Areas: Roommates.com
Lonely? Bored? Broke? Find the perfect roommate to complement your personality and lifestyle at Roommates.com!



Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

THE WINE STEWARD
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 494400
The following person(s) doing business as: THE WINE STEWARD, 641 MAIN STREET, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Denova, LLC, 641 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Stuart Hill, Managing Member, Denova, LLC. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 07/29/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29; 2014)

PRIMROSE BAKERY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 494981
The following person(s) doing business as: PRIMROSE BAKERY, 350 MAIN STREET #D, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jesse Eiland, 3696 Lily Street, Oakland, CA 94619. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Jesse Eiland. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 08/13/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12; 2014)

PRECISE PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 494926
The following person(s) doing business as: PRECISE PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC., 8814 OLIVER PLACE, DUBLIN, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Precise Physical Therapy, Inc., 8814 Oliver Place, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 08/24/2009. Signature of Registrant: Tony Lo, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 08/12/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12; 2014)



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Consumer reporting agencies follow your moves

Specialty reports identify risks of doing business with you

JASON ALDERMAN

By now, you've probably heard about the Big Three credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion), which monitor your financial history and issue credit reports and credit scores to potential lenders.



Jason Alderman

But did you know that there are dozens of other specialty consumer reporting agencies that track your history for activities that may not appear on your regular credit reports -- things like bounced checks, late utility payments, insurance claims and prescription orders?

Most people never hear about these companies until they're suddenly turned down for an apartment, checking account, insurance policy or even a job or promotion. But you need to know that potential landlords, banks, insurance companies and employers are very likely ordering specialty reports to help them assess the risk of doing

business with you.

That's fine if you've got a squeaky-clean track record. But what if their files contain mistakes; or worse, what if someone has hijacked your identity and is poisoning your record with their own bad behavior?

Fortunately, you do have recourse. Under federal law, you can request a copy of your report once a year from each agency, generally for free. You're also entitled to a free copy whenever an "adverse action" is taken against you because of something in the report. (For example, if you're turned down for a checking account.)

Unfortunately, there's no central clearinghouse for these specialty agencies so you need to contact each individually. However, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has taken some of the legwork out by compiling a list of the most commonly used agencies, along with instructions and contact information for ordering your reports. (Search "Specialty Consumer Agencies" at www.cfpb.gov.) Another great resource is the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse's fact sheet on specialty reports at www.privacyrights.org/

Specialty consumer reporting agencies collect information about you from various sources and share it with creditors and other businesses, including:

- Public records of criminal and civil cases
- Credit history
- Bankruptcy filings
- Companies with which you have an existing or prior relationship
- Medical information
- Driving records

Typical inquiries might include: Check-writing history -- for banks, credit unions and businesses that accept payments by check. They'll look for things like bounced or returned checks and fraud.

Medical conditions and prescription drug history -- if you're applying for an individual life, long-term care or disability insurance policy. (Note: Health insurers can't deny coverage or charge higher premiums because of pre-existing conditions.)

Residential -- landlords checking your tenant history, credit, criminal background, etc.

Auto or homeowner/renter's insurance -- insurers will screen your records for things like traffic viola-

tions, claims and property losses. Payday lending -- creditors investigating people who don't use traditional financial services (banking, credit cards, etc.) might evaluate payday loans, check-cashing services, prepaid cards, etc.

Utilities -- If you're trying to open a new utility, phone, cable or Internet account.

Employment background -- By law, employers must obtain your permission to run a background check. Unfortunately, they're generally not required to identify which company they're using unless they decide not to hire you -- it doesn't hurt to ask ahead of time, though.

Note that when you dispute information in your reports, agencies are legally obligated to investigate and correct any inaccurate or outdated information. Also, they must give you an update on the status of your request to view your report. However, there is no time limit on when your request must be processed.

Bottom line: You might not realize there's false or potentially damaging information being reported about you, so get in the habit of ordering specialty consumer reports along with your credit reports.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney/ ■

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during July 22-30

Pleasanton

- 1167 Blanc Court** D. & L. Howe to H. Wei for \$856,000
- 1375 Briones Court** R. Fulton to R. Padmanabhaiah for \$1,360,000
- 244 Carnation Court** F. & L. Demello to Fries Trust for \$690,000
- 3924 Churchill Drive** Vanini Trust to Silvergate Investemnt Group for \$535,000
- 4033 Cid Way** Boomborg Trust to M. & S. Nepal for \$645,000
- 5487 Corte Paloma** Singh-Mohapatra Trust to Y. Yin for \$875,000
- 2706 Corte Vera Cruz** Reynolds Trust to R. Lindsey for \$875,000
- 8188 Ensenada Drive #4** C. Cicciascasique to H. Hernandez for \$315,000
- 4169 Georgis Place** J. Schumann to A. Gopalakrishnan for \$560,000
- 3472 Guthrie Street** J. & C. Hunter to P. Nagaraj for \$825,000
- 7559 Highland Oaks Drive** Eshelman Trust to A. & S. Specht for \$877,000
- 2709 Milani Avenue** C. & P. Shackelford to A. & S. Trivedi for \$730,000
- 8170 Mountain View Drive #G** Bunya Trust to M. Kabbarah for \$388,000
- 1642 Orvieto Court** J. & Y. Scaramuzzo to Y. Jiang for \$2,375,000
- 3125 Paseo Robles** G. & C. Cruz to D. & K. Graham for \$925,000
- 4134 Peregrine Way** Mord Trust to S. & M. Bell for \$640,000
- 2130 Pomezia Court** Rich Trust to M. Dong for \$1,315,000
- 2415 Pomino Way** Santana Trust to H. Wang for \$2,545,000



DOUG BUENZ & THE 680 GROUP

Alain Pinel Realtors

680Homes.com

925.463.2000

Doug@680Homes.com

BRE #00843458



COMING SOON

West Side
Incredible 5 BR, 5 BTH gated estate on gorgeous creekside 6+ acre lot
\$4,500,000



PENDING SALE

Walnut Hills
Gorgeous 4 BR, 2 1/2 BTH home with granite kitchen, 3 car garage, and more!
\$1,075,000



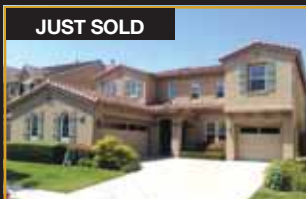
JUST SOLD

West Side
3 BR, 2 BTH, remodeled granite kitchen, private cul-de-sac lot near park!
\$850,000



JUST SOLD

Bridle Creek
4 BR, 4 Bonus Room, 3 BTHS Designer upgrades throughout!
\$1,588,000



JUST SOLD

Carlton Oaks
5 BR, 4 BTHS, new paint & carpeting, granite & stainless kitchen, private yard.
\$1,268,000



JUST SOLD

8008 Rockford Place
5 BR + office & game room Remodeled throughout with private 1.1 Acre lot
\$1,930,000

Q & A: Can a Seller Counter Our Offer Above the Asking Price?

Q: We wrote an offer on a property last week. It was a very strong offer in our opinion, and we came in below the asking price since it seemed to be priced a bit high. The seller sent us back a counter offer above the asking price, even though ours was the only offer. Needless to say, we were taken aback by this, and feel somewhat insulted. Is this legal?



A: That is a great question. Without knowing the details on the property, it would appear the seller has an overly optimistic opinion of their home. As you know, the market has been very strong for the last several months. However, it has cooled a bit, and sellers are often the last to get the memo when market conditions change. And your reaction is a logical one. As I see it, there are 2 questions here. Is it legal, and is it smart?

For the first question, it is legal for the seller to counter your offer with any terms that are acceptable to them, even if it is above the asking price. So no they are not breaking any laws by countering your offer above the asking price.

Is it smart? Now you're on to something. Again without knowing the details, it does not appear to be a wise decision on the part of the seller or listing agent. We all wish things were different from time to time. I wish my Cisco stock was still selling for \$80 per share. I wish I was 30 again.. etc etc. But when it comes to selling a property, it is always best to deal in the here and now. The seller likely wanted to get multiple offers on their home, and probably thought they priced it at a level that would generate multiple offers. But alas they did not materialize. Clearly they misjudged the market. One thing you can count on in any market is that the laws of Supply and Demand will trump all. So rather than accepting that the market is not where they the seller want it to be, they counter you above their asking price hoping to get what they want for the property.. **Go to www.680homes.com to read the rest of this article.**

Considering selling or buying a home?

Call me today and put my market knowledge, experience, and negotiation skills to work for you.

Go to 680Homes.com for more information on these and other homes, along with market trends, tips & advice, and advanced home search



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COMING SOON



West Side Custom Hacienda

One of a kind 4 bedroom, nestled in Pleasanton's west side hills. Spanish tile roof, tile floors, privacy gates, circular drive, fully landscaped yards. Newly updated kitchen, baths, interior paint, plantation shutters. Spacious formal living room and separate dining room. Family room made for entertaining, featuring slump stone floor to ceiling fireplace. **Call for more details**

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925.200.2457
www.LouiseDavis.com

Tom Fox
BROKER ASSOCIATE
Lic. # 00630556
925.872.1275
www.TomFox.com



JUST SOLD!



Just Sold! 5196 Hummingbird Road
Still have 2 buyers looking for a home in the Pleasanton Valley-Birdland Area.

If you own a Heritage Home and you were thinking about selling, please give me a call!



Mike Chandler
REALTOR® LIC #01039712
925.426.3858
mikechandler2004@yahoo.com

1ST TIME OPEN SAT 1-3PM



9157 Tangerine Street, San Ramon

Downsizing isn't easy until you see this home in Sunny Glen senior community. Rare one level home with 2 bdrms, 2 baths and a 1 car garage.
Priced at \$470,000



Dave & Sue Flashberger
REALTORS®, GRI, CRS, SRES

925.463.0436 | www.SoldinaFlash.com

COMING SOON IN PARKSIDE



Rare one level fixer upper in Parkside. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with a 3 car garage. This is a great opportunity to get in to this popular area.

Priced in the mid \$800,000's

Open Sunday 1-4



1236 Chianti Ct, Pleasanton

- Amazing Large Private Yard
- Beautiful Remodeled Kitchen
- Gleaming Hardwood Floors
- Crown Molding & Milgard Windows
- Side Yard Access
- 4 Bd, 2.5 Ba, 2015 sq ft
- Decks, Patios, Views

Offered at \$1,039,000

Coming Soon in Pleasanton Valley, 4 bedroom, 2 bath
Offered at \$779,000. Call for more information.

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OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



4889 Charlotte Way, Livermore

Darling Duet... updated and spacious! 1,410 SF with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Updated Kitchen and Bath. Private backyard and 2 car garage.

Offered at \$560,000

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Susan Schall, REALTOR®

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www.FabulousProperties.net CA Lic#s 01735040, 01713497, 01395362

5668 Jacqueline Way Livermore

If you are looking for a park-like backyard and garden, Here it is! 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 1858 sq ft, Side access for boat/RV.

\$650,000



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

THE WILLIAMS real estate group

Cindy and Gene Williams

REALTORS® BRE LIC # 01370076 and 00607511

925.918.2045

www.WilliamsReGroup.com



OPEN SAT AND SUN 1-4PM



403 Neal Street, Pleasanton

Stunning Victorian Home just steps from Downtown! Built in 1990 with 5 BR, 3.5 BA., and approx. 3400 sq. ft. 200K+ in recent upgrades including beautifully remodeled kitchen and baths, main level Master Suite, wood floors, new carpet, low maintenance backyard, and more.

Offered at \$1,899,000



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RENTED



4086 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton

Downtown Pleasanton
2BD + Office, 1.5BA,
1720 Sq. Ft. Spacious Yard
\$3200

RENTED



1533 Calle Santa Anna, Pleasanton

Park Villa Community
3BD, 2BA 1300 Sq. Ft.
\$2700



6280 Payne Ct, Pleasanton

Val Vista Neighborhood
3BD, 2BA 1372 Sq. Ft.
\$2850

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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4PM



8031 Bethel Lane, Pleasanton

RARE Gorgeous single level custom with breath taking panoramic views! Approx 4000 sq ft., 4 bedroom, 3 baths. 3/4 acres with magnificent backyard- perfect for entertaining

Offered at \$1,790,000



1081 Heinz Ranch Ct, Pleasanton

Gorgeous home in the Vineyards! Backs to open space! 5 bed, 4 bath plus a bonus room. Entertainers backyard with pool, spa, cascading waterfall.

Offered at \$1,849,000



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OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Castro Valley

2 BEDROOMS
19284 Almond Road \$509,900
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

4 BEDROOMS
4037 Sugar Maple Drive \$1,495,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 837-4100
60 Calistoga Court \$979,000
 Sun 1:30-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 314-1111

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS
1072 Roxanne St. \$669,950
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Karen Crowson 784-6208
4889 Charlotte Way \$560,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273

4 BEDROOMS
2061 Pleasant View Lane \$1,629,000
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 14-1111
754 Via Del Sol \$695,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Tri-Valley 397-4200
1327 P St. \$659,950
 Sat/Sun 1-4 BHG Tri-Valley Realty 463-9500
1657 Placer Circle \$819,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Anni Hagfeldt 519-3534
22 Elvira St. \$645,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Denise Ivaldi 251-2532
5668 Jacqueline Way \$650,000
 Sun 1-4 Cindy and Gene Williams 918-2045

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS
5161 Springdale Ave. \$699,950
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

4 BEDROOMS
303 Neal St. \$1,995,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 251-1111
1236 Chianti Court \$1,039,000
 Sun 1-4 Melissa Pederson 397-4326

5 BEDROOMS
403 Neal St. \$1,899,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario and Liz Venema 260-2220
1081 Heinz Ranch Court \$1,849,000
 Sun 2-4 Gail Boal 577-5787
7211 Rosecliff Court \$1,585,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Cindy Gee 963-1984
863 Sunset Creek Lane \$1,598,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

San Ramon

2 BEDROOMS
9157 Tangerine St. \$470,000
 Sat 1-3 Dave and Sue Flashberger 463-0436

3 BEDROOMS
196 Teracina Drive Call for price
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 462-7653

5 BEDROOMS
5002 Westside Drive \$1,365,000
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 837-4100
400 Henry Lane \$1,365,000
 Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 837-4100

6 BEDROOMS
527 Wycombe Court \$2,968,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

Find more open home listings at pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate

7211 ROSECLIFF CT. PLEASANTON



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4
 SINGLE-STORY, 5 bed 4 bath approx. 4000 sq ft. on approx 14400 sq ft. lot with sparkling pool/ spa and outdoor Kitchen! Featuring Cherry HARDWOOD floors, Huge GRANITE Gourmet Kitchen, updated Master bath
Call Cindy for a private showing. offered at \$1585,000



PENDING
 4916 Piper Glen Terrace Dublin Ranch/ Dublin Updated move-in! Granite Kitchen, Putting green/outdoor kitchen \$973,000



SOLD
 2916 Takens Ct. Laguna Oaks/ Pleasanton, Resort style Living! Gorgeous 4 bed 3.5 bath bons, Office. Multiple Offers! \$1525,000



Cindy Gee Realtor, Notary, GRI, CDPE, Top Producer, Pinnacle Award, Grand Masters
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 925.218.1210 • cindy.gee@BHGHome.com
 BRE# 1307919



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- Laundry Room Inside
- 3 Pools and 2 Tennis Courts

CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

"We sold a home and purchased a home in Pleasanton with Julia's help. We've move around the country a lot and have worked with many agents in the past. Julia is amongst the top agents we've worked with, and we would actively prefer her in future home buying decisions in this area. What's important to mention beyond what the other reviews already say about her is she's great at figuring out the details of the late stages of a deal, and provides creative options in unconventional situations. We cannot recommend Julia enough."

— Clara J. & Greg H. Pleasanton

JUST SOLD

SOLD IN AUGUST 2014
2758 Sugar Hill Terrace, Dublin Ranch
 4 bed, 4.5 bath in 4655 sq ft luxury home. Backs up to the Dublin Ranch Gold Course.
SOLD IN 3 DAYS FOR \$1,534,000

SOLD IN JUNE 2014
7122 W. Woodbury Ct, Pleasanton
 5 bed, 4.5 bath in 4792 sq ft. of upgraded luxurious living space on .31 acres. Spectacular garden.
SOLD FOR \$1,800,000

SOLD IN JUNE 2014
4875 Dolores Drive, Pleasanton
 4 bed, 3 bath, 2985 sq ft. of living space
SOLD FOR \$1,325,000 WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS OVER ASKING PRICE



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For a Real Estate Agent with an in-depth knowledge of both the area and market, call Blaise Lofland!

DOWNTOWN

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



303 NEAL STREET, PLEASANTON

One of Downtown Pleasanton's Crown Jewels...Location, Location, Location! Become a Part of Pleasanton's Rich History and Own This Historically Designated Charming Queen Anne Victorian Home on Property Once Owned By the King of Spain. This Unsurpassed Hilltop Location Overlooking Downtown Pleasanton is Located at the Historic Corner of Neal and 3rd Street. Enjoy the Space, Quiet and Privacy Provided By This Large & Unique Over One Half-Acre Beautiful Downtown Estate, Conveniently Located Just 3 blocks From Main Street.

OFFERED AT \$1,995,000

DISCOVERY BAY



621 BEAVER COURT, DISCOVERY BAY

A world of small town living where the pace is little slower, but the adventure is right out of your back door. Take a deep breath, smile, and feel your body decompress as you arrive in this family community where you can live where you play. Enjoy water sports and country club living minutes from the Bay Area. Let us share the Bay Area's best kept secret and this quality-built custom estate home, and we are sure you will make both your own. Call Blaise Lofland or the Prince Team for a private showing of this approximately 10,000 sq.ft. custom home with 250 feet of waterfront, built on .55 acres over three lots, and only 3 minutes to fast water! Go to www.visit-621beavercourt.com for more information!

OFFERED AT \$4,995,000

STONERIDGE AREA

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



5161 SPRINGDALE AVENUE, PLEASANTON

Check Out This Upgraded Single Level Detached Three Bedroom, Three Bathroom home in the Desirable Stoneridge Area. Open Floor Plan, Remodeled Bathrooms and Kitchen, Private Rear Yard with In-Ground Pebble Tech Pool, Deck and Views. Beautifully Landscaped. Walking distance to Stoneridge Mall & Bart Station. Go to: 5161springdaleavenue.com and call Blaise for a Private Showing at 925.846.6500

OFFERED AT \$699,950

BRIDLE CREEK

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



863 SUNSET CREEK LANE, PLEASANTON

Desirable Upgraded Single Level on Private Lot with expansive views and In-Ground Pool/Spa. Great location! Gourmet Kitchen with Granite and Stainless Steel Appliances. Crown Molding, Great Room. Includes: Five Bedrooms (Generous Master Suite), Four Bathrooms, and approximately 3246 Square Feet. Walk to Main Street, Neighborhood Park & Oak Hills Shopping Center. Don't Miss it! Go To: 863sunsetcreeklane.com. Call Blaise for a Private showing at 925.846.6500.

OFFERED AT \$1,598,000

BRIDLE CREEK

PENDING SALE



770 SUMMIT CREEK LANE

Desirable Single Level on Private Expansive Approximately 12 Acre Lot with In-Ground Pool/Spa & Outdoor BBQ/Entertainment Area. Great location! Gourmet Kitchen with Granite and Stainless Steel Appliances. (Great Room Concept) Includes: Five Bedrooms (Generous Master Suite), Four Bathrooms, and approximately 3246 Square Feet. Three Car Garage and Adjacent Asphalt Play Area. Walk to Main Street, Neighborhood Park & Oak Hills Shopping Center. Don't Miss it! Visit-770summitcreeklane.com. Call Blaise for a Private showing at 925.846.6500.

OFFERED AT \$1,595,000

BRIDLE CREEK

RECENTLY CLOSED



570 SYCAMORE CREEK LANE, PLEASANTON

Stunning Bridle Creek Property! Impeccably Maintained Entertainers Dream Home. Four Bedrooms, Three Bathrooms, Large Bonus Room and Spacious Office. Beautiful Professional Landscaping, Palm Trees, and In-Ground Pool and Spa. Perfect for Backyard BBQ's and Entertaining!

ASKING PRICE \$1,589,000 SALE PRICE: \$1,625,000

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NEW LISTING
OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4PM

196 Teracina Drive, San Ramon

Executive 3bd/2ba, 1,885+/- sq. ft. home with stunning views of Mt. Diablo, newly renovated Granite kitchen with stainless steel appliances, open floor plan, newly renovated bathrooms with custom tile and new fixtures, low maintenance artificial turf backyard, low HOA dues, easy access to 680 and short walk to Parks and shopping.



CALL FOR DETAILS



COMING SOON!

Pleasanton Valley Home

Gallery model in Pleasanton Valley, 4bd/3ba, 2,110+/- sq. ft., plus office, completely remodeled throughout and absolutely turnkey, ideally located next to Parks, Schools and minutes from Downtown.

CALL FOR DETAILS

900 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566

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JUST SOLD

BLESSING RANCH
PLEASANTON

183+/- Acres. Located in the Pleasanton Ridge at the edge of the Preserve neighborhood. Incredible opportunity to build a dream home or potential small sub division. Utilities run near edge of property & power currently available. Close to 580/680 interchange.

SOLD FOR \$3,600,000



PENDING

1537 COURTNEY AVE.
PLEASANTON

Located in the Mohr Estates- 5BD, 4.5BA + Office & Bonus Room 5,800Sq.Ft. Nestled on a 1/2 acre lot with a private well for irrigation. Main level offers and elegant entry, office, Bedroom with full bath, formal living & dining room complimented by the custom sunroom. Private yard with large grass area, solar heated pool/spa and a pool house complete full bath & outdoor kitchen. Close to award winning schools.

OFFERED AT \$2,235,000



JUST SOLD

3866 PICARD AVE.
PLEASANTON

4BD 3BA 2,855sf. optional 554+/- bonus room above garage in Walnut Glen Estates. Built in 1996 - open floor plan with large kitchen overlooking family room. Formal living and dining room, indoor laundry. Large master suite w/ walk-in closet. Corner lot w/ back yard offering pool, spa large grass area, covered patio, side yard access and 3-car garage.

OFFERED AT \$1,400,000
SOLD FOR \$1,465,000



PENDING

1460 IRONGATE CT.
PLEASANTON

Single Story Elegance~this 3,180 SQFT home offers 4BDR, 3.5 BA on a 14,005sf lot. Private court entrance brings you into the open floor plan. Gourmet kitchen with granite counters overlooks the family room & breakfast nook. Generous cabinet space offered. Enjoy the large rear yard with covered patio, outdoor BBQ & room for pool. Close to Award Winning Schools.

OFFERED AT \$1,450,000



PENDING

2639 CORTE VIDA
PLEASANTON

Located in Country Fair Estates. 6BD, 3.5BA 3,378sf. on an 11,265sf. lot. Expanded Trinity model and offering 2 bedrooms & full bath on main level. Master suite offers an expanded suite with office/retreat. Large lot offering mature landscaping and a private setting. Located at the end of a court and walking distance to shops and parks.

OFFERED AT \$1,270,000



JUST SOLD

4398 KRAUSE ST.
PLEASANTON

Located in Mohr Park. 2BD, 2BA 930sf. on a 5,129sf. lot. This detached home offers single level living with an updated kitchen opening to the living room w/ vaulted ceilings. Located on a corner lot offering a large side yard and back yard with a private setting. Close to shopping, Mohr Elementary and parks.

OFFERED AT \$570,000
SOLD FOR \$595,000



5540 Calico Lane Pleasanton
Rose Avenue Estates

SPECTACULAR HOME IN SOUGHT AFTER ROSE AVENUES ESTATES. TWO STORY, 5 BED-ROOMS + HOME OFFICE WITH 10-LITE FRENCH DOORS + COMPUTER LOFT WITH CUSTOM BUILT-IN DESK. 4.5 BATHS, APPROX. 3751 SQ.FT., OVERSIZED 3 CAR GARAGE ON .25 ACRE LOT WITH CALSTONE PAVER PATIO & MORE. BEAUTIFUL INTERIOR LOADED WITH UPGRADES! CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN.

Offered at \$1,498,500

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*BY THE SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS TIMES BASED ON TOTAL SALES VOLUME

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To advertise in the Tri-Valley Real Estate Directory call (925) 600-0840. Ask about online and email advertising.



1657 Placer Circle, Livermore

Open Saturday and Sunday 1-4pm



This charming 2312 sq.ft, four bedroom/ two and half bathroom property has been very well maintained by current owners with updated kitchen and bathrooms. Nice privacy in backyard, easy access to freeways and conveniently located near downtown Livermore.

Offered at \$819,000.

Represented buyers in these recent sales:

Garden Creek Place, Danville - \$550,000

E. Angela, Pleasanton - \$878,000

Vally of The Moon, Livermore - \$1,145,000 (currently pending)



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PRESENTING THE PROPERTIES OF OUR *Pleasanton & Livermore Valley* OFFICE...

MARTA RIEDY BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$2,190,000
Pristine custom built Ruby Hill home, gorgeous Brazilian cherry wood floors, theater room, office/library downstairs, game room, new carpets, sweeping views, private peaceful backyard with pool and spa.
1408 VIA DI SALERNO

BLAISE LOFLAND BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$1,995,000
Pleasanton's rich history in this historic charming "Queen Anne" Victorian home situated on a 55+/- acre hilltop estate lot overlooking downtown Pleasanton! Pvt. park-like grounds & sparkling pool.
303 NEAL STREET

LINDA FUTRAL BY APPT



SAN RAMON \$995,000
Beautiful home totally ready for you to move in and enjoy! Come See it before it sells! Walking distance to the best schools and aquatic center. Close to shops, restaurants, and commute access.
316 ADELAIDE HILLS CT

JO ANN LUISI BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$987,000
Beautiful Executive Style home in peaceful country setting. Quick access to bike trails, wineries, and parks. Minutes from downtown.
2173 HALL CIRCLE

EMILY BARRACLOUGH BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$949,000
Gorgeous 4bd/2.5ba in desirable West Pleasanton, close to schools, parks, shopping & BART, upgrades include hardwood floors, updated master & guest baths.
4896 DRYWOOD ST

EMILY BARRACLOUGH BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$939,000
Gorgeous updated home in the desirable Stoneridge neighborhood. Stunning kitchen, granite counters, cherry cabinets, ss appliances. Breathtaking views of Pleasanton Ridge, entertainers dream backyard w/pool
5001 MUIRWOOD DR

ANNI HAGFELDT OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4



LIVERMORE \$819,000
Charming 2,312+/-sf, 4bd/2.5ba, very well maintained home. Updated kitchen & bathrooms, nice private backyard, easy freeway access, conveniently located near downtown.
1657 PLACER CIRCLE

TIFFANY ROSE BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$799,000
Charming single story ranch in desirable Jensen Tract neighborhood! Prime corner lot location, 3bd/2ba, spacious and open, huge living/dining area, breakfast nook private rear yard, walk to downtown & schls
4090 NEVIS ST

EMILY BARRACLOUGH BY APPT



DUBLIN \$749,000
Beautifully upgraded home features granite and stainless kitchen, opens to family room/dining area, 1bd/ba downstairs, close to community pool, rec center, schools, shopping and more!
3335 ARALDI LN

MAUREEN NOKES BY APPT



PLEASANTON \$745,950
COMING SOON This is the 'Location is Everything' home. 3/2 Pleasanton Valley home close to town, schools, parks. It's Nana's house, needs some updating, but clean and bright. Great yards, great value!
5231 CRESTLINE WAY

KAT GASKINS BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$679,900
Charming 4bd/2ba, court location, Huge lot and RV area high ceilings, lovely rear yard, pool, garden beds, 12x16 storage shed, green house and more!
6135 ALTAMAR CT

JO ANN LUISI BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$674,000
Beautifully upgraded, flexible floor plan on quiet street in great neighborhood. 4bd up & Bonus Room/Office down. Light & bright kitchen. Spacious backyard, spa, lots of storage, easy access to 84 & more
570 BROOKFIELD DR

KAREN CROWSON OPEN SAT&SUN 1-4



LIVERMORE \$669,950
3/2.5 with updated kitchen and baths. 1959 sq. ft. home with hardwood floors; media room. Large lot with drought tolerant landscaping, planter boxes, patio, and side yard for large RV.
1072 ROXANNE ST.

JO ANN LUISI BY APPT



DUBLIN \$642,950
Modified to a 3 bedroom home, can easily be converted back to a 4 bedroom. Bright and sunny kitchen. No rear neighbors. Side yard access.
7388 BROOKDALE CT

JO ANN LUISI BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$634,950
Bright and Sunny 4 bedroom home. Well-maintained Pool & Garden. Possible Side Yard Access. New paint and interior freshly painted. Low maintenance front yard.
256 HAGEMANN DR

TIM MCGUIRE BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$629,000
Santa Monica model, built in 2012, 3bd/2ba, 1,806+/-sqft, Granite/Cherry kitchen, Hardwood floors, Plantation shutters, walk in master closet with organizers, 2-car garage, Low HOA Dues
556 HELIGAN LANE #4

LINDA FUTRAL BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$585,000
Pottery Barn Perfect! You'll love the charm and character of this home so many special features. Walk downtown, enjoy the best schools, & south living
961 ACACIA WAY

KAREN CROWSON BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$549,950
Walking distance to Portola Park, shopping & restaurants. 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths. 1704 sq. ft on a 9231 sq. ft. lot. New interior paint, updated bathrooms & kitchen. Tankless water heater.
1657 PORTOLA AVE

LINDA FUTRAL BY APPT



LIVERMORE \$485,000
Where classic charm and modern upgrades blend in complete harmony. You'll love the look and feel w/granite kitchen, maple cabinets, hardwood, updated bathrooms, dual pane windows, cen air/heat, big yard.
630 N LIVERMORE AVE

MAUREEN NOKES OPEN SUN 1-4



SAN RAMON \$422,950
Spacious 2/2 end unit condo in 'forest-like' setting. New paint, flooring, some new kitchen appliances. Garage. Vaulted ceiling L/R with F/P. Lots of grassy open space and a sparkling pool & spa.
3621 CROW CANYON RD.

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