

Pleasanton Weekly



Holiday Fund

Page 6

VOL. XV, NUMBER 47 • DECEMBER 19, 2014

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Man of the Year

Ken Mano
keeps on
serving

PAGE 14



- 5 | **NEWS** City to continue East Side development planning
- 5 | **NEWS** Termed-out Buchanan to seek State Senate seat
- 10 | **PEACE AND JOY** Santa photos make holiday memories



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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING



JEB BING

Rabbi Raleigh Resnick of the Chabad of the Tri Valley shows a new 2012 Livermore Valley Cabernet Sauvignon kosher wine named "Alef" introduced earlier this year.

Celebrating Hanukkah at Christmas-time

Hanukkah, an eight-day Jewish festival of lights dating back 21 centuries, is being observed through next Wednesday, which is also a special day for Christians dating back more than 2,000 years ago.

Not to be overshadowed by all the Christmas lights, trees and outdoor decorations, Pleasanton's boisterous Rabbi Raleigh Resnick will lead a parade of 10 menorah-adorned vehicles down local streets starting at 6 p.m. Sunday, to the front of 915 Main St., where a large menorah will be displayed.

Resnick wants everyone to come to join in the special Jewish celebration, enjoy the music, and sample traditional holiday doughnuts and potato latkes that will be provided by his Chabad of the Tri Valley organization. It will be the second very-public celebration Resnick holds during Hanukkah, a festive occasion for Jews who celebrate the seizure 21 centuries ago of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem by a small band of faithful Jews who drove the mighty Greeks from their land.

Last Tuesday, at the start of Hanukkah, Resnick led a celebration in the Center Court at Stoneridge Shopping Center, lighting the seven-lamp menorah that is the symbol of Judaism based on the lamp Moses set up in the wilderness.

Resnick and his wife, Fruma, moved here in 2005, opening the Chabad for religious services in their home at 784 Palomino Drive. Usually attired in the traditional Orthodox garb most often seen on the streets of Manhattan where he's from, the rabbi can be a show-stopper here where most men don't

even wear suits and ties anymore.

The Resnicks came here with a purpose. Research shows that at least 10,000 Jews live in the Tri-Valley but have largely abandoned their faith. Resnick says a large number of this group has never set foot in a synagogue and many younger Jews have never experienced the Bar Mitzvah and Bat Mitzvah celebrations.

As part of the worldwide Chabad-Lubavitch organization, Resnick and his wife are working to change that.

The Chabad recently expanded into a building in Valley Business Park, and the Chabad holds services on holy days at local hotels, Stoneridge Mall, even Castlewood Country Club.

And they have fun, too. At Castlewood, Resnick recently introduced a new 2012 Livermore Valley Cabernet Sauvignon kosher wine named "Alef." Resnick oversaw the process and certified the wine in time for this year's Jewish New Year. He called it "the fusion of heaven and earth."

Next Sunday's drive-around by members of the Chabad in their menorah-adorned vehicles is yet another effort by Resnick to make the Jewish faith more visible in Pleasanton. "Hanukkah's message — the power of light over darkness and of goodness and kindness over immorality and decadence — is not an exclusively Jewish ideal," he said. "It is relevant to participants of all faiths and nationalities."

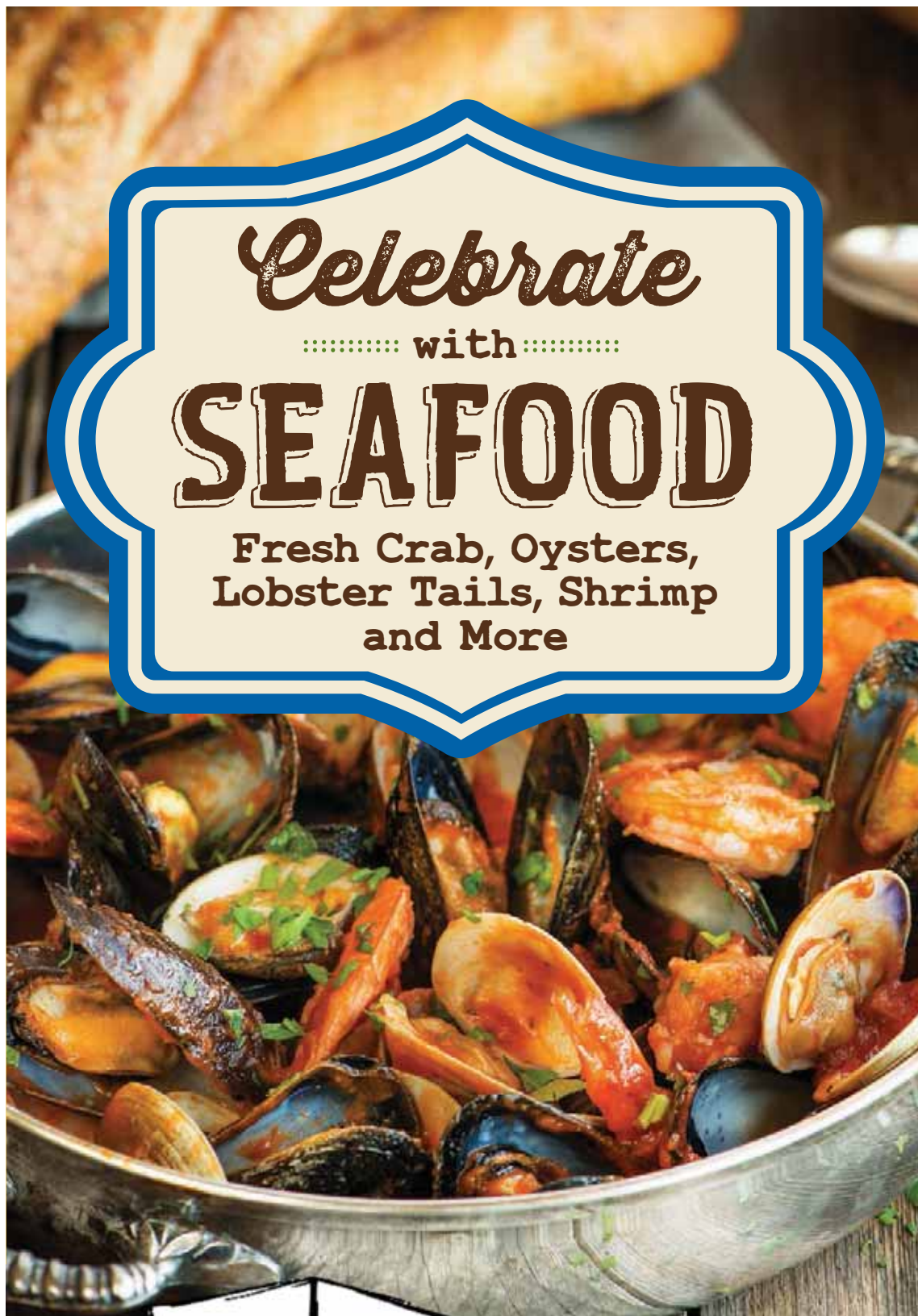
"The Menorah Parade is another fabulous way of sharing this important tenet with the greater community," he added. "We want children to grow up in America being proud to express their Jewish heritage and tradition." ■

About the Cover

Ken Mano is this year's Pleasanton Weekly "Man of the Year," our 13th man/woman/couple of the year since we began bestowing the award in 2001.

Mano, as our cover story points out, is a man who just keeps on giving to our town where he and wife Carolyn have lived since 1971 and raised their six children. Photo by Mike Sedlak (mike@digitalsight.com). Cover design by Lili Cao.

Vol. XV, Number 47



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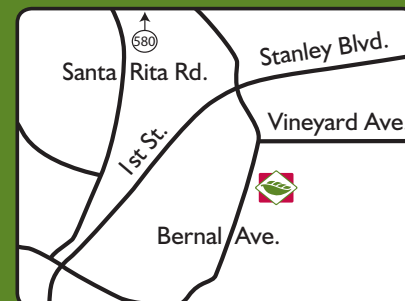
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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Who are you most looking forward to giving a gift to this holiday season?



Tylar Abernathy
Customer service rep

My mom, because she encourages me to be who I am. She accepts that I'm transgender because she wants me to feel good about myself and comfortable in my own skin. I appreciate that so much and can show that by giving her a nice gift for Christmas.



Julie Sugimura
Wine steward

I am most excited to give a gift to a young Marine who I used to work with. He is now stationed in Japan and is like another child to me. I am so happy I'll be able to give him his gift in person because we did not expect him to get his leave for the holidays.



Gina Channell-Allen
Newspaper publisher

My mom and dad. We had a family photo taken at my son's wedding last fall, and I'm having it put on canvas and framed. It really sums up how truly blessed we all are to have one another.



Joe Barbaretti
Diesel mechanic

My beautiful wife, Patricia, because she has given me the greatest gift of all — our two wonderful sons, Frankie and Vincent.



Michele Camardo and niece Ashleigh
Administrative assistant

My niece, Ashleigh. We already have matching eyeglasses, and I've been telling her all year that I'm going to get matching sunglasses for us, too. I can't wait to see her face when she sees I've made good on my promise!

—Compiled by Nancy, Jenny and Katie Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Holiday Posada

The Pleasanton Tulancingo Sister City Association will present a Christmas celebration "posada" at 7 p.m. this Sunday at the Veterans Memorial Building with music, carols and refreshments.

The event represents the Christmas celebration traditionally practiced in Pleasanton's sister city of Tulancingo, Mexico.

Organizers will start decorating the Veterans Hall at 4:30 p.m. Sunday. People who want to help with decorations, set-up, refreshments or clean-up should contact Jorge at 989-6882.

For all other posada information, contact Sylvia or Jorge Victoria at 462-6723 or jvictoria45@comcast.net.

Ragin' Cajun

The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation has scheduled next year's installment of its annual Ragin' Cajun fundraiser, with early bird tickets on sale now.

The "Ragin' Cajun Goes to Rio!" dinner and dance fundraiser is set for March 6 from 6-11 p.m. Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, 410 Vineyard Ave. The event includes music, dancing, dinner, live auctions and more.

Proceeds benefit the nonprofit foundation's efforts to provide area cancer patients with financial assistance for complementary healing services during the course of their chemo or radiation therapy.

Ragin' Cajun tickets are on sale now for \$105 per person if purchased before Dec. 24. Thereafter, tickets will cost \$125, according to event organizers. For more information, visit www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org or call (866) 862-7270.

AA bond rating

The Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) has received affirmation of the "AA" rating on its \$35.36 million worth of water bonds from rating agency Fitch Ratings.

"I'm pleased that we've maintained this very high credit rating for the past four years," said DSRSD financial services manager John Archer. "We worked hard to get here, and it's rewarding that our sound planning is paying off."

According to DSRSD officials, Fitch Ratings said the district's rating outlook was stable in part because of its healthy financial performance since 2010, its rate structure, a manageable five-year capital plan to be funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, access to water storage reserves and "the district's stable, affluent customers provide a high degree of rate revenue stability."

DSRSD provides wastewater treatment for of Pleasanton and water service in Dublin and Dougherty Valley. ■

Council votes to move forward on East Side development planning

Task force plan cut to 1,400 homes with no high-density apartments

By JEB BING

Following through on their campaign pledges, newly-elected and re-elected members of the Pleasanton City Council voted Tuesday to approve a preliminary plan for development of roughly 400 acres of largely vacant land on the city's east side.

Although no specific projects have been proposed, the council's action in a 3-1 vote clears the way for the East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force to continue its planning work for future use of the land that would allow up to 1,400 housing units along with retail and commercial uses.

The new plan significantly re-

duces the earlier plan to allow up to 2,700 high-density apartment units to meet more housing needs imposed by the state's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). Since then, RHNA and state housing authorities have determined that the city has more than fulfilled their requirements for additional affordable and workforce housing for at least the rest of the decade, and possibly well beyond.

As a result, the East Side task force scaled back housing plans for the area, but has continued the planning work it started more than two years ago.

Whether to continue this work

or stop the East Side planning process completely was a major issue among mayoral and council candidates in the Nov. 4 election. Mayor Jerry Thorne and Councilwoman Kathy Narum urged that the planning work continue, as did newly-elected Councilman Arne Olson.

At Tuesday night's meeting, Councilwoman Karla Brown, a longtime opponent of East Side development, cast the lone vote against continuing the planning work.

Olson, who lives in the Ironwood residential community that borders on the east side property, recused himself from voting, but spoke in favor of completing the planning

process as an "individual citizen" during the council's public hearing.

"I now live next door to the plan area, so I can't vote on this issue tonight," Olson said. "However, I want to say that this task force has done a great job over the last two-plus years and, in my view, should be allowed to move forward."

Brown said there are just too many uncertainties associated with the East Side tract for her to support further work to plan or rezone for future uses.

She said that besides not needing any additional housing as once

See **EAST SIDE** on Page 8



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chick-fil-A (shown here in one of its other locations) plans to open a Pleasanton restaurant after receiving City Council approval this month.

Chick-fil-A coming to Pleasanton

National chicken restaurant gets City Council's OK

Chick-fil-A, a national chain known for its lineup of grilled chicken entrees, will open a Pleasanton restaurant in mid-2015 with both inside eating and drive-thru service.

The 5,399-square-foot restaurant will feature a two-lane drive-thru on Johnson Court, an access road into Pleasanton Square, near where BevMo!, Smart and Final, Denny's and In-N-Out are located.

The Pleasanton City Council approved the project by unanimous vote earlier this month after city staff reported that the new Chick-fil-A would not add significantly to vehicle traffic in

the area and that the Pleasanton Square shopping center has sufficient parking.

City staff said Chick-fil-A would require 46 parking spaces. The restaurant is proposing 16 spaces on the restaurant site to the south of the new building with the remaining parking space to be provided in the shopping center.

A consultant's study showed that there would be sufficient parking spaces at the center with 219 spaces available in the immediate area.

Deborah Kerr, a Chick-fil-A representative, told the council that the restaurant will have 139 seats for customers inside the

restaurant and 56 seats in an outdoor dining area. The restaurant would be open from 6 a.m. to midnight six days a week and, like all Chick-fil-A operations, would be closed on Sundays.

In addition to its building-mounted and free-standing signs, the restaurant also will have a 38.5-foot-tall pole holding an American flag, Kerr said.

Bending to Pleasanton planning staff's requests, the Chick-fil-A here would feature Craftsman-style architecture without the sometimes garish colors the restaurant and its promotion signs feature in other locations. ■

Buchanan announces State Senate bid

Termed-out assemblywoman hopes to take seat held by Congressman-elect

By JEREMY WALSH

Former Tri-Valley assemblywoman Joan Buchanan announced last week that she will seek a soon-to-be-vacated seat in the California State Senate, vowing to run a "strictly positive campaign" in the yet-unscheduled special election.

"My 'Positive-ly for Us' campaign will focus on my record of accomplishments and my goals for the State Senate, and will address voters' concerns by making real progress on issues that matter to us all," Buchanan (D-Alamo) said in a statement.

"No attacks or 'comparisons' — which are merely attacks in disguise — will be made by me or my campaign," she added.

Buchanan eyes the 7th Senate District seat due to be vacated by Democrat Mark DeSaulnier, whom voters elected in November to represent the 11th Congressional District. Gov. Jerry Brown will call a special election once DeSaulnier resigns to join Congress.

The 7th Senate District includes Pleasanton and Livermore at the south end, Brentwood, Antioch,



Joan Buchanan

See **BUCHANAN** on Page 7

Holiday Fund

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So far in the 2014 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund campaign, 222 donors have contributed \$40,960 to the fund. This list includes donations received on or before Dec. 12, 2014.

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- Agape Villages Foster Family Agency
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- REACH
- Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation
- Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley

High school seniors win Community of Character honors

\$1,000 scholarships created in memory of Juanita Haugen

By AMANDA AGUILAR

Two Pleasanton high school seniors have been chosen as recipients of the 2015 Juanita Haugen Memorial Scholarship by the Community of Character Coalition.

The scholarship honors coalition founder Juanita Haugen, who died in 2007. Haugen was president of the Pleasanton school board as well as the California School Boards Association.

Applicants were required to explain how their actions have reflected any or all of the six characteristics adopted by the Pleasanton school district, city government and Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce: compassion, honesty, respect, responsibility, integrity and self-discipline.

The Foothill High School scholarship recipient is Kelley Dixon, and Saira Grewal is the scholarship recipient from Amador Valley High School.

Dixon, the daughter of two teachers, hopes to become a teacher as well. Many of her volunteer activities aimed to help others, particularly foster youth.

"I am proud to be chosen in (Haugen's) memory because she was a leader with a lot of integrity who made Pleasanton Unified a wonderful place to attend school," Dixon said. "She inspires me to keep doing my best every day and to make a difference for others."

Four years ago, Dixon created the Back-to-School Backpack Drive that raised funds to purchase and equip backpacks for foster youth, and she was able to donate 20 backpacks. This fall she increased her donation and delivered 41 backpacks to Foster A Dream.

"I feel that I truly made a difference in someone's life because I see that all my hard work gave them the necessary tools to become a successful learner," Dixon said.

Dixon has also created the Teens 4 Teens club at Foothill.

"I was finding that many students on our campus wanted to help our community but don't know where to go," she explained.

Through Teens 4 Teens, her fellow students can assist foster teenagers by collecting school supplies, toys and board games for foster families. The students also have the opportunity to help at Foster A Dream's annual Winter Wonderland event. In



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Foothill High senior Kelley Dixon.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Amador Valley's Saira Grewal.

addition, club members participate in the nationwide Teens for Jeans Drive by collecting used jeans for homeless teenagers across the U.S.

This past summer, Dixon was a volunteer at the summer school program held at Hearst Elementary, where she received first-hand experience in what it would be like to teach third-grade language arts and math.

She credits her own third-grade teacher, Mary Hart Reding, for inspiring her career choice.

Dixon is also the captain of Foothill's cross-country team and was named Most Valuable Player last year.

Grewal, who has lived in Pleasanton since she was 5 years old, is involved in community service to find as many ways as possible to make a difference.

"There are so many students in this district who dedicate themselves to civic engagement, and so I feel extremely honored to have been selected as the recipient," Grewal said. "I hope to become a good representative of all these students, and continue to demonstrate the character traits Juanita Haugen valued."

As a high school junior, she founded a local chapter of the national Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) Project.

"As a SEED leader, I facilitate discussions about systemic inequities of race, class gender, orientation and ability, and their impact on school and society," wrote Grewal.

In the seventh grade, Grewal traveled to India to spend time in an orphanage for blind children.

"The simple joy the children expressed at life, despite the immense challenges they face, made me realize how very fortunate I am," she said.

At Amador, Grewal has joined the Girl Up and UNICEF clubs, which "work to improve the well-being and education of children in developing countries."

She is the vice president of the Political Ideals Club and sings for the school's chamber choir and mixed-voice ensemble. In addition, Grewal performs with two folk dance groups at cultural events to raise money for disabled children in Indian orphanages; and as a jazz, tap and ballet dancer, she has performed in the district-wide high school musical.

In the community, Grewal serves as the liaison between the Pleasanton Youth Commission and city council. She helped organize the Youth In Government Day where 60 teenagers had the opportunity to shadow city and school district officials.

Grewal has also participated for three years in the statewide mock government and court system through the YMCA. She also has been a volunteer for the Gingerbread Pre-School, Parkview Senior Center and the library's summer reading program, and has helped with the Special Olympics.

Dixon and Grewal both received \$1,000 that will go towards their college education.

The recipient from Village High School will be announced in June at the graduation ceremony. ■

BUCHANAN

Continued from Page 5

Pittsburg and Concord to the north, Orinda, Lafayette and Walnut Creek to the west, and the San Ramon Valley.

Two other candidates have thrown their hats into the upcoming race thus far: State Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla (D-Concord) and Republican attorney Mark Meuser.

The State Senate district includes some of Bonilla's 14th Assembly District. Meuser ran unsuccessfully for the State Senate in 2012, losing out to DeSaulnier.

Buchanan, who was first elected to the State Assembly in 2008,

was termed out of office this year. She previously served on the San Ramon Valley school board for 18 years and was board president four times during her tenure.

In announcing her State Senate bid, Buchanan blasted negative campaign tactics that she argues are harmful to democracy.

"This was amplified last November when we were overwhelmed with endless negative TV, radio ads and mailers that did little more than anger voters of all political persuasions," she said. "I've heard from our community time and time again that they are tired of these tactics and are reluctant to participate in such a destructive process."

Buchanan added, "I am not asking my opponents to take any kind of pledge, or to follow my lead, and I cannot control or direct independent expenditure committees. I am simply making a promise to voters so they know what they can expect from me and my campaign. My hope is that this type of campaign will foster a positive and constructive dialogue about what's best for our future as a region."

Her endorsement list to date includes former Pleasanton City Councilwoman Cheryl Cook-Kalio and current Pleasanton school board members Valerie Arkin, Chris Grant, Jamie Hintzke and Joan Laursen. ■

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EAST SIDE

Continued from Page 5

demanding by the state and a court ruling, Pleasanton would face major problems with development on the East Side. Traffic generated from new homes there would clog already crowded streets, a new school would have to be built and infrastructure such as water and sewer lines would be further strained, Brown added.

"I don't feel this would benefit our community in any way," she said. "I'm against the project."

Besides Olson, only five others out of the small number who attended the three-hour council meeting spoke on the East Side issue at the public hearing.

Sandra Yamaoda said the development would be twice the size of land space of Ruby Hill, "a size beyond comprehension."

"The developers have not addressed the need we would have for larger middle and high schools in a school district already struggling with its finances," Yamaoda said. "Why build anything there? We don't need it."

Several other speakers disagreed, including Pat Costanzo, who represents one of the larger industrial landowners of the East Side properties and would like to see the land rezoned for residential, retail and commercial use.

"The plan being proposed is comprehensive and good," he said. "It would provide more than \$10 million in infrastructure improvements, new parks and a new school. More than 60% of students who would go to that school live outside of the East Side boundary."

Also commenting on the plan was Bob Silva, who like Costanzo is a member of the East Pleasanton task force. In an email to the council, Silva said:

"Future planning has always been a bell weather of the city of Pleasanton. Over the last 30-plus years, the city has continued to update the General Plan to address changing economic and demographic needs and has approved 10 Specific Plans. All of these have undergone a very public process. The results of these efforts are the community we live in today.

"We are a vibrant community

with diverse residential neighborhoods, a dynamic and successful business community, an excellent school system and a city with numerous public facilities and parks to serve its citizens. We should never fear the future. Nay-saying is easy. Planning for the future requires a collective will to succeed."

He pointed out that some of the specific elements of the East Side Plan that will benefit the community as a whole are completion of El Charro Road to Stanley Boulevard, reduced traffic congestion on Santa Rita Road and Valley Avenue, infrastructures improvements to Busch Road and Boulder Street, and an elementary school site to be provided to the Pleasanton school district at no cost.

"Please support the staff recommendations and let us continue to move the planning process forward," Silva said.

Brian Dolan, director of community development, told the council that all aspects of planning the East Side uses and infrastructure requirements stemming from development would be paid by project developers. No city funds would be

used in any development there.

At Thorne's insistence, a clause was added to the task force plan to eliminate any high-density housing on the site. Although Narum voted to accept that proposal, she cautioned that there could come a time in the distant future when Pleasanton would be required to add more affordable and workforce housing. A restriction keeping East Pleasanton out of that option would mean those apartments would have to be built elsewhere in the city.

Thorne added that he has pledged to take any land-use plan for the East Side for voter approval before any building permits could be issued.

With the council's approval, Dolan and City Manager Nelson Filalho will now have consultants undertake the state-required environmental review of the area based on the task force's recommendations. Once completed, the task force will hold neighborhood meetings on the recommended final land-use plan in March and April, and then hold a final environmental review report (EIR) meeting in May to make any suggested changes. ■

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Holiday safety tips from Pleasanton police

By AMANDA AGUILAR

The Pleasanton Police Department is offering residents safety tips for this holiday season.

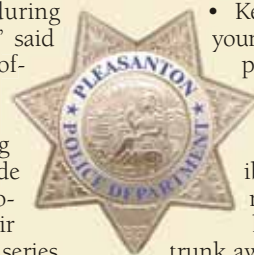
"While it's important to be safe year-round, it's especially important during the holiday season," said Pleasanton police officer Archie Chu.

The tips can be viewed by watching a YouTube video made by the Pleasanton police, as a part of their "On the Beat" video series.

One of the safety tips is to sign up for a "vacation security check" prior to leaving on vacation during the holidays. While away, a Pleasanton police department employee will check your home free-of-charge. To sign up, call 931-5100.

Other safety tips from police include:

- When shopping, be aware of your surroundings and the people around you.
- Try not to carry too many items at once and make sure you have at least one free hand.
- Keep a close watch on your purse and wallet. Carry purse on side and keep wallet in front pocket.
- After you park, don't leave items visible in your car. If you need to leave them, lock them in your trunk away from prying eyes.
- When leaving home, make sure to lock doors and windows; and turn on alarm system if you have one.
- Time your lights and motion sensor lights for the exterior
- If you're going to be away from your home during the holidays, stop your mail or have someone pick it up for you. ■



Pleasanton North Rotary Club to hold high school speech contest

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton North will hold its annual Richard D. King Youth Speech Contest on Jan. 2 at its 12:15 p.m. meeting at Handles Gastropub in the Pleasanton Hotel on Main Street.

Club representative Larry Smalheiser said the contest is "a great way for local high school students to hone their speaking skills in a friendly and competitive environment."

Successful students in the past have come from drama, debate, English and speech programs.

"If you know a Pleasanton high

school student who would be serious about participating, have them register," Smalheiser said.

This year's theme is "Light Up Rotary."

Club members will choose the top finishers, giving the winner \$100; second place, \$50, and third place, \$25.

For more details about the contest, including registration, contact speech contest chair Kevin Greenlee at kygreenlee@gmail.com or 381-7315. ■

—Jeb Bing

Safeway declares quarterly dividend as Albertsons take-over nears completion

Cash dividend of 23 cents per share to be paid Jan. 2

The board of directors of Pleasanton-headquartered Safeway, Inc. has declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.23 per share, payable on Jan. 2 to stockholders of record at the close of business on Dec. 26.

Safeway, a Fortune 100 company and one of the largest food and drug retailers in North America based on sales, is on the verge of completing its \$9.4 billion merger with rival Cerberus Capital Management LP's Albertsons, possibly during the current quarter.

A recent report in The Wall Street Journal said the deal between the supermarket giants, yet to be approved by the Federal Trade Commission, comes as traditional grocery stores come under tougher competition from retailers such as Walmart and online marketplaces such as Amazon.com.

Safeway operates 1,326 stores in the United States and had annual sales of \$35.1 billion in 2013.

According to Supermarket News,

Safeway's net income fell as a result of a series of one-time charges while sales increased for the third quarter and 36 weeks ended Sept. 6.

Net income dropped 85.6% to \$9.5 million for the 12-week quarter and 96.2% to \$7.4 million for the year to date, while sales increased 2.6% to \$8.3 billion for the quarter and 1.7% to \$24.7 billion for the 36-week period.

The company said the earnings decline resulted from a loss on continuing operations of \$21.2 million, plus three one-time items that totaled \$99.4 million: \$84.4 million from early "extinguishment" of debt; \$11.2 million from merger-related expenses; and \$3.8 million from a loss on foreign exchange rates from Canada.

Safeway officials said they are "hopeful" the merger will be completed by the end of the calendar year, though no specific target date has been announced, Supermarket News reported. ■

—Jeb Bing

Callippe management wins top environmental award

CourseCo recognized for superior stewardship of Pleasanton golf course

CourseCo, the Bay Area-based golf management and development company which oversees Callippe Preserve Golf Course in Pleasanton, has been awarded an Environmental Leader in Golf Award (ELGA) for superior environmental stewardship at two Bay Area golf courses, including Callippe.

CourseCo was among 15 ELGA chapter award winners, and also took the national award for Metropolitan Golf Links in Oakland. The award was announced in Golf Digest magazine and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

It recognizes overall course management and environmental excellence in several areas, in-

cluding water and resource conservation, water quality management, integrated pest-management, wildlife/habitat management and education/outreach.

Callippe was developed as part of a cooperative effort to create an 18-hole golf course, hiking and equestrian trails, endangered species habitat, wetland establishment and dedicated grazing land.

The golf course has also been a certified Audubon Sanctuary golf course since it opened in 2005. The course site is a protected habitat for the federally endangered Callippe Silver-spot Butterfly and the California Tiger Salamander, and the federally threatened California Red Legged Frog. ■

—Jeb Bing

TAKE US ALONG



All aboard: Susan and Bob Scott celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary with a Princess Cruise from San Francisco to Alaska. They are shown with their Pleasanton Weekly after their trip on the White Pass and Yukon Railroad in Skagway, Alaska.

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Peace and Joy



Far right: Ryan Schmalz, age 5, visits Santa at the North Pole! North Pole, Colo., that is. His parents are Jeanine and Stephanie Schmalz, who lived in Pleasanton for more than 35 years. Ryan attends Leawood Elementary in Littleton, Col.



Visiting with Santa



Family tradition continues at Christmastime

Santa Claus is everywhere these days, but at some point most parents take their children for “the visit” — a chance for a one-on-one with jolly old St. Nick.

Apparently the toy making is under control by Thanksgiving because that’s when Santa begins to appear in malls and stores.

Mom and Dad delight in their children’s joy but also in the great photo op. Plus, it’s fun to see the changes in the kids from year to year as the Christmas photos collect in a scrapbook, in frames or on the computer.

Thank you to everyone who sent their Santa photos in to the Pleasanton Weekly.

But most importantly, the visit with Santa is a chance for kids to tell Santa in person what they are hoping for when he stops by their house on Christmas. And it’s an opportunity to thank him in advance for his generosity in the past. Or to give him an update on their lives.

After all, it’s not every day that children come face to face with such a magical character. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



Top l-r: Santa visits with Eola Clark, 102, who is “still a kid at heart,” at the Pleasanton Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on Neal Street. Peyton and Caydence Likeness, ages 2 and 7, are telling Santa that they have been good this year. Their parents, Matt and Tawny Likeness of Pleasanton, took them to Stoneridge mall to see Santa this year. Caydence attends Vintage Hills, and she turns 8 in January. Above: Santa at Stoneridge Shopping Center has his arms full of Foley kids: Brian and Connor, 21 months, with brother Tyler, 3 1/2, who attends Gingerbread Preschool. Their parents are Julie and Tim Foley.



Pleasanton residents Meghan and Christopher Lawrence captured the moment when they spotted Santa Claus arriving at Bass Pro Shop on Thanksgiving Day. The Lawrences sent along a message: “We wish you beauty, joy and blessings that this season brings.”



Above l-r: Oliver Wilson, 18 months, is not a happy camper as he and his sister Lily, 6, visit with Santa at Stoneridge mall. They are the son and daughter of Chris and Lyndsie and grandchildren of Lala and Pop. Payton (left) and Cooper Schuh visit Santa at Stoneridge mall. They live in Val Vista with their parents, Keely and Eric. Payton, a sixth-grader, goes to Hart Middle School, and Cooper is in the first grade at Donlon Elementary. Left: Karlie and Kaylee Rocha, 5 and 7, along with their 2-year-old cousin Lexie Lozano, visit Santa at the Stoneridge Shopping Center. Karlie and Kaylee attend Donlon Elementary and their parents are Ken and Keri Rocha. Lexie is in preschool, and her parents are Jay and Katie Lozano. Proud and lucky grandparents, Ron and Patty Frankson, are also Pleasanton residents.

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Simple basics can be simply magical

This holiday season, make sure to keep essentials on hand

The holidays are that special time of year when ingredients are more than just ingredients — they're what you make of them. The secret to amazing appetizers, memorable meals and fantastic celebrations can be as simple as a few key basics.

"The six-week holiday season always comes down to the essentials," said Jeff Anderson, executive chef of the Safeway Culinary Kitchens. "My advice is to stock your pantry with basics like flour, sugar and butter — both regular and unsalted. That and a few simple recipes will have you prepared for any meal and ready in a pinch if you need to make an extra batch of cookies."

From a spicy spin on popovers to a savory version of a favorite holiday side dish, chef Anderson recommends easy, delicious recipes using simple ingredients that won't break your budget.

Simple basics go farther than you think, he notes; keep these items on hand all season and you'll be ready for delicious meals, holiday events and guests.

Following are what he considers the essentials to have on hand for the holidays:

Rolls

Buy extras and keep some in the freezer. Refresh them in minutes in the oven for mealtime, as well as for sandwiches, bread-crumbs and homemade croutons.

Cheese

Stock up on both hard and soft

cheese for entertaining and last-minute guests. It holds up well in the refrigerator and can be used in any meal, even dessert.

Crackers

Everyone loves crackers, but they're not just for appetizers. They are a versatile ingredient for last-minute casserole topping, crunchy breading or baked into meatballs.

Butter

The essential holiday essential. From cookies to mashed potatoes, butter is key for rich flavor in almost everything. Using unsalted butter allows you to control exactly how much salt goes into your dishes.

Flour

In addition to all-purpose flour, consider alternatives — you can get great results. Try whole wheat flour for bread, pastry flour for desserts and cornstarch for thickening sauces and gravy.

Ice cream

Delicious as a topping for freshly baked pies, dropped into coffee after a big holiday meal, layered with cake or cookies as a frozen dessert or enjoyed alone, ice cream is a holiday favorite for everyone from kids to adults.

Pie

Always have a pie in your freezer for last-minute guests. Keep frozen pie crust handy too. It's great for making quick pot pies with holiday leftovers. ■

—Family Features



Pepper Jack popovers

- Servings: 12
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
 - 1.5 cups (6 ounces) Pepper Jack cheese, shredded
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - Pinch cayenne pepper
 - 1 cup milk
 - 2 eggs
 - 3 tablespoons butter, melted

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine flour, 1 cup of cheese, salt and

cayenne in medium bowl. Stir in milk and eggs until mixture is well blended.

Using pastry brush or paper towel, evenly coat 12-muffin tin with melted butter.

Pour 1/4 cup of batter into each muffin cup while pan is still hot. Sprinkle remaining cheese evenly over batter-filled cups.

Bake until popovers are puffed and deep golden brown, about 25 minutes in dark metal pan or about 30 minutes in shiny metal. Remove pan from oven and let stand one minute. Run table knife around edges and lift popovers out of pan. Serve hot.

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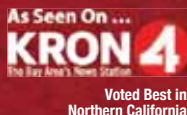


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JEB BING

Ken Mano, a trailblazer with Special Olympics, the Boy Scouts, and a host of Tri-Valley activities ranging from blood drives to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, speaks to a standing ovation at a banquet last September after receiving the prestigious Mayor's Award from Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne.

Man of the Year

Ken Mano keeps on giving

BY JEB BING

Meet Ken Mano, Pleasanton Weekly's "Man of the Year" for 2014.

He's a man who just keeps on giving — to our town where he's lived since 1971, to the Special Olympics and Boy Scouts where he's been a trailblazer, to his work as a business analyst for Kaiser Permanente in Pleasanton, and to his church, where he's the JustServe director of public relations for the Pleasanton Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

And his work continues today in leadership and key volunteer positions with a host of Tri-Valley activities ranging from managing his church's blood drives for the Red Cross in partnership with the Catholic Community of Pleasanton, working with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and Discovery Store fundraisers and serving at the annual Tri-Valley Community Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Raymond's Catholic Church.

We see Mano at the East Bay Stand Down for homeless veterans, the Dublin Pride Cleanup Day, Pleasanton Military Families pack-outs to send to Pleasanton soldiers in Afghanistan, Open Heart Kitchen, Bundles of Joy run by the Lynnewood United Methodist Church, Make a

Difference Day and the Community of Character Collaborative.

In fact, when the organizers of Pleasanton's Make a Difference Day needed a website to promote their upcoming Jan. 17 festival, they turned to Mano, who in short order created www.MakeaDifferenceForPleasanton.org. He included a list of the growing number of organizations who will be at the festival. Mano also added a click-on feature so those interested can easily learn more about the festival, where they can donate their time and even a link to organizations that will be there.

Mano doesn't do all this by himself. His wife, Carolyn, is almost always at his side working in the kitchen or other places behind the scenes whether serving veterans at the East Bay Stand Down, recruiting volunteers for the Special Olympics or a thousand other "anonymous" care projects with groups and individuals in our community.

"They just keep quietly serving others," said the Manos' friend Alan Johansen. "Calcutta had Mother Teresa, Pleasanton has Ken and Carolyn Mano."

Both devout Mormons, the Manos were married 50 years ago in the Salt Lake City Temple,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ken and Carolyn Mano, celebrating 50 years of marriage.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ken and Carolyn Mano, seated and holding two of their nine grandchildren, celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at Lake Tahoe with their six children and extended family in August.

and now have six children, all raised in Pleasanton and all graduates of Amador Valley High School. Three live in Utah, two in Hawaii and a son lives in San Jose. They have nine grandchildren.

Ken Mano was born in California of Japanese parents. They were living in Los Angeles at the time Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, so the family moved into a converted chicken coop at a friend's place in Layton, Utah, avoiding the "relocation centers" set up for everyone of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast.

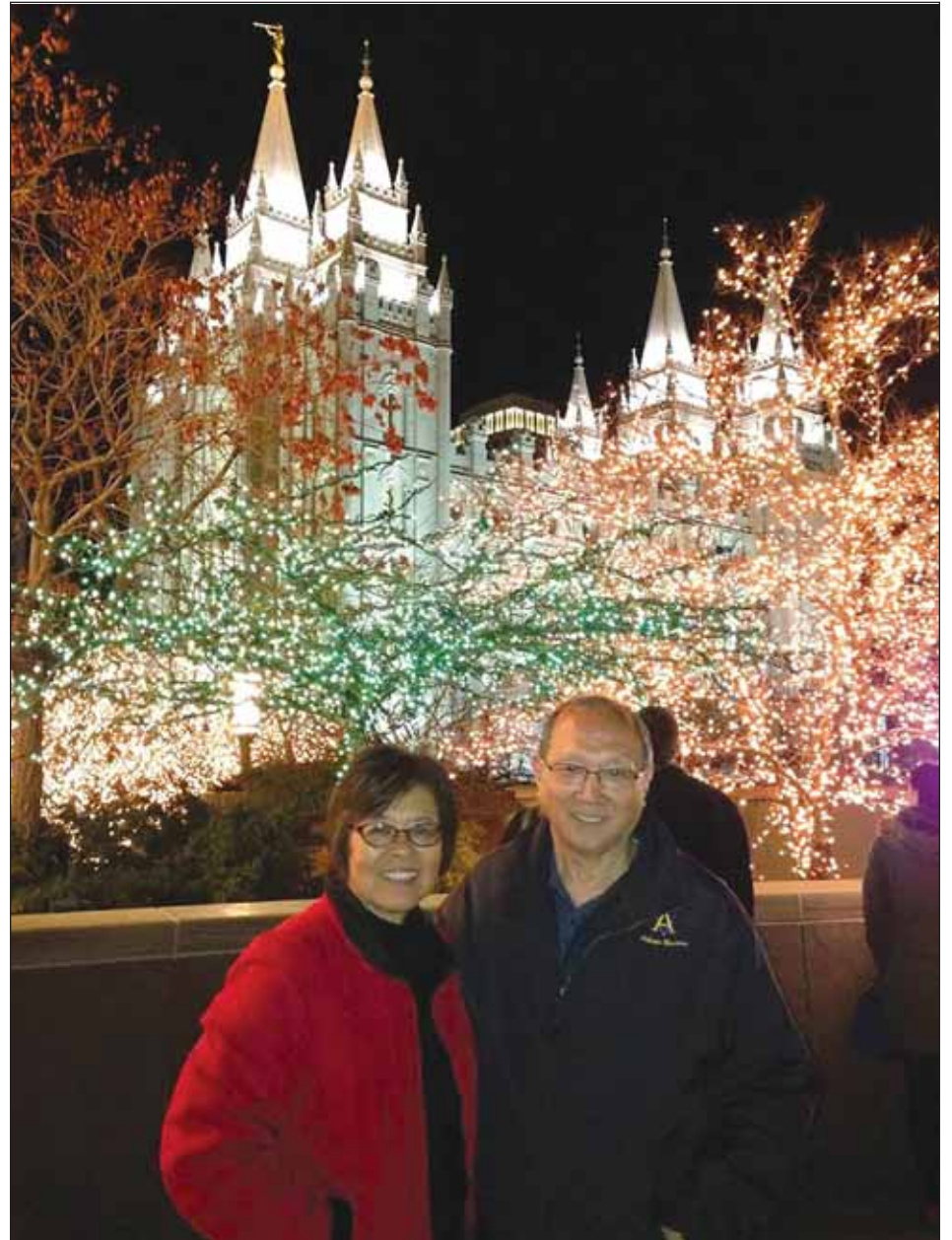
He was 3 years old at the time, and recalls that the family later moved to West Bountiful, Utah when he was in the sixth grade, where everyone was Mormon. He joined in, and when he was 20, served two and a half years as a Mormon missionary in Japan, where he had the chance to "reconnect" with his ancestry. Later, he earned a master's degree in business administration at Brigham Young University, married and moved to

Northern California.

Carolyn worked in the children's book section in the Pleasanton Library while their six children — Natalie, Gary, Janelle, Brian, Melissa and Trent — attended Amador. The couple became active in the Amador Boosters, with Carolyn working the snack bar at Boosters events and Ken serving as the organization's treasurer for eight years.

"We were very successful at fundraising," Ken recalls. "I started the eScrip fundraising program from which we have earned over \$1 million over the years."

Looking for ways for the Boosters to extend their community reach beyond the Amador campus, parents with special needs children suggested the Special Olympics. Mano talked the school district into providing school facilities without charge for a one-time event. That was 12 years ago, and the two programs starting again this spring have the Manos planning again, reaching out to hundreds of participants from as far as Half



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carolyn and Ken Mano pose in front of the Salt Lake Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Utah, where they were married Aug. 14, 1964.

Moon Bay and the Napa Valley.

When the Manos started hosting the Special Olympics events at Amador, Ken organized the volunteers for the events and became active in other community activities, such as Mormon Helping Hands projects for the city and serving as chairman of a Red Cross blood drive. He was honored to receive several awards from the city of Pleasanton, the Boosters and from Special Olympics.

Recently, Special Olympics brought 83 teams, 850 athletes and the largest number of volunteers ever to a weekend of basketball at Amador and the gyms at Harvest Park and Pleasanton Middle School as well. These players, some as young as 8 and a few even in their 60s, shared Mano's enthusiasm and pride over the success of the games.

Crowds jammed the gyms and cheered as players would make baskets, then race back down the court gleaming with pride to the loud applause over their accomplishment. Mano always gleams, too, as those with special needs gain experience in competitive athletics at their purist and most inspiring level.

Mano said the goal is to give all persons with developmental disabilities a chance to become useful and productive, at the same time gaining the respect of their communities.

Parents and guardians tell Mano that their child or home-cared adult had been reclusive and without many friends. Coming to the Special Olympics and being in contact with others of similar ages and disabilities spurred them to become more proactive back at home, where they often now find similar

programs on a smaller but still beneficial scale.

Over the years, Mano has served in a number of programs at his church and in the community, but one of his favorites has been working with the Boy Scouts. He was scoutmaster twice, Scout Committee chairman three times, served on the Scout Explorer committee and received the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) District Award of Merit.

He said the LDS Church was the BSA's first official chartered organization to sponsor Scouting, and it remains today the largest single institutional partner in the number of boys and number of units served.

"On May 21, 1913, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America," Mano said. "Since the beginnings of that dynamic partnership, millions of youth and adults have registered in church-sponsored scouting units and leaders of the two organizations have worked together to instill character, citizenship and fitness in young men."

Mano led the Pleasanton Stake in celebrating that 100-year association with Boy Scouts at a special videocast program last year of a multimedia celebration, "A Century of Honor," that was broadcast live from the church's 21,000-seat Conference Center in Salt Lake City.

"I think it's really important for us to be involved in service, as we believe that it's through service to our fellow man that we are in the service to our God," Mano said. "I feel that being of service to others is the best way to live our faith and show our love for our fellow man." ■

Graphic Designer

Embarcadero Media, producers of the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac, Mountain View Voice, Pleasanton Weekly, PaloAltoOnline.com and several other community websites, is looking for a graphic designer to join its award-winning design team.

Design opportunities include online and print ad design and editorial page layout. Applicant must be fluent in InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator. Flash knowledge is a plus. Newspaper or previous publication experience is preferred, but we will consider qualified — including entry level — candidates. Most importantly, designer must be a team player and demonstrate speed, accuracy and thrive under deadline pressure. The position will be approximately 32 - 40 hours per week.

To apply, please send a resume along with samples of your work as a PDF (or URL) to Lili Cao, Design & Production Manager, at lcao@pawebly.com



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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Duo arrested on fraud-related charges

A Brentwood man and Lafayette woman were arrested Dec. 11 at the Hyatt House Pleasanton on suspicion of identity theft.

Pleasanton police allege that when 23-year-olds Taylor Berdett and Amanda Scogland were checking in at the hotel on Chabot Drive, the first credit card they used was declined. The man and woman allegedly used a different credit card, which was approved.

The next day, the hotel received a call from a man saying his credit card was stolen and there was a charge from the hotel on his statement, according to police.

Hotel employees reportedly traced the card back to Berdett and Scogland, who were still in the room, and called Pleasanton police.

Officers went to the room and announced they were police, at which point Berdett said he was coming to the door, said police reports. Upon entering the room, officers allegedly saw Scogland trying to escape through a window.

According to police, the officers also found credit cards,

opened and unopened mail for different people, a laptop and a credit card reader in the room. Berdett and Scogland were arrested on suspicion of identity theft.

In other police reports:

- An 18-year-old Hollister Co. employee was arrested Dec. 10 for allegedly stealing more than \$1,000 in merchandise from the Stoneridge Shopping Center store since Nov. 24, 2013.

According to police, the store was alerted to suspicious activity through the company's internal mechanism, as well as co-workers having noticed Ariana Melody Meza, of Dublin, wearing lots of Hollister clothes to work that were not accounted for on her employee purchase record.

When Meza was contacted by management, she admitted to stealing \$1,800 of merchandise and returning \$700 of merchandise to receive the cash back, according to police. Meza was arrested on suspicion of embezzlement.

- A 16-year-old boy returned home safely Dec. 11, a day after Pleasanton police reported he ran away from his mother.

Police released a message the afternoon of Dec. 11 requesting the public's assistance in locat-

ing Collin Vaughan, who had last been seen in the area of the Kaiser medical offices located on Stoneridge Drive.

Pleasanton police released a follow-up message the morning of Dec. 12, announcing that Vaughan had returned home and was safe.

- An apartment on Stoneridge Mall Road was reportedly burglarized on Dec. 14, resulting in more than \$30,000 worth of items stolen.

Police said the residents left the apartment on Dec. 13 around 4 p.m., returned Dec. 14 around 12:30 a.m. and noticed their front door was unlocked.

When the residents went inside their room, they noticed someone had rummaged through their room because many items were missing, police said.

Some of the items include rings, necklaces, bracelets, earrings, purses and \$30,000 of currency from India.

Police reports said the culprit or culprits entered through a window screen. Officers found two prints that were entered as case evidence.

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

—Amanda Aguilar

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POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made this information available.

Dec. 6

Missing person report

- 12:48 a.m. at the intersection of Santa Rita Road and Pimlico Drive

Vandalism

- 2:11 p.m. in the 1500 block of Rose Avenue

Theft

- 9:32 p.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard

Burglary

- 10:39 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Dec. 7

Drug violation

- 2:08 a.m. in the 900 block of Rose Avenue

Vandalism

- 11:18 a.m. in the 6100 block of Paseo Santa Cruz

Theft from auto

- 1:06 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive

Dec. 8

Theft

- 11:06 a.m. in the 5900 block of Kolb Ranch Drive

- 3:04 p.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road; auto theft

Domestic battery

- 8:36 p.m. in the 800 block of Hopkins Way

Alcohol violation

- 10:28 p.m. in the 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Dec. 9

Theft

- 10:41 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

- 10:43 a.m. in the 7200 block of Johnson Drive; theft from structure

- 11:53 a.m. in the 2500 block of Larricket Court

Drug violation

- 12:47 p.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue

Domestic battery

- 1:05 p.m. in the 600 block of Junipero Street

Residential burglary

- 6:01 p.m. in the 2600 block of Minton Court

Dec. 10

Vandalism

- 12:08 a.m. in the 500 block of Touriga Court

Theft

- 7:49 a.m. in the 4100 block of Moller Drive

- 11:53 a.m. in the 7700 block of Driftwood Way; theft from auto

- 1:17 p.m. in the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue

Missing person report

- 3:57 p.m. in the 7600 block of Stoneridge Drive



Eddie Papa's American Hangout

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

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY



NEW LEAF MARKETS

Austin Fitzgerald (left) and Jeffrey Broadway-Baxter stock bins at New Leaf Community Markets in Pleasanton as part of the state's WorkAbility I program to help special needs students master job tasks as they transition from school to work and independent living

Businesses helping special needs youths gain independence

New Leaf Community Markets in Pleasanton has signed on to a statewide program that promotes independent living and supports special needs students in the transition from school to work/career and daily living as adults.

Called WorkAbility I (or WAI), the comprehensive, life-skills education program is funded by an annual grant from the state of California. Here, the program operates under the auspices of the Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon Valley school districts.

WorkAbility services are available to high school students who are enrolled in a special education program and are making the transition from school to work, independent living and post-secondary education or training. The program's mission is to promote the involvement of key stakeholders including students, families, educators, employers and other agencies in planning and implementing an array of services that culminate in successful student transition to employment, lifelong learning and quality of life.

At New Leaf, two WorkAbility students from the Pleasanton district report to work once a week at the store in the Vintage Hills Shopping Center. Following the WAI curriculum for students ages 16-22, they typically start by working one to two hours. They are closely supervised by an employment training specialist and a school district employee, who assist the students as they master the necessary job tasks.

Some students in WAI programs work at more than one job site each week depending on their age, ability and class schedule. Students who continue to be enrolled in the local school district or until they reach the age of 22 can work four days per week. Students receive minimum wage paid by the grant.

"It is my pleasure to witness the strides that students make as they develop skills and progress in the program," said Jacquelyne Barker, WorkAbility program coordinator for the Pleasanton district. "We are fortunate to work with wonderful businesses such as New Leaf Community Markets who provide an environment that allows students to grow and transition to life outside of high school," she added.

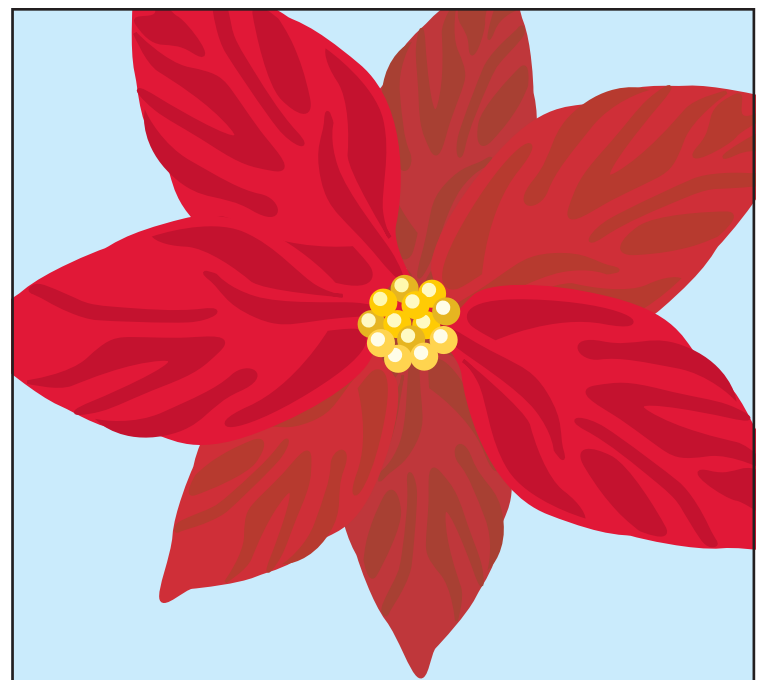
Cyndi Adoff, assistant store manager of Pleasanton's New Leaf market, agreed. "We are happy to have the two students helping in the store," Adoff said. "They are learning to do simple but useful tasks that our employees normally do, like re-stocking the cold drinks shelves and keeping shelves in the produce department clean."

Paige Giglio, the students' employment training specialist, added, "The New Leaf staff are very welcoming and have gone out of their way to see that the students are having a productive experience. It's a real win win."

The independent living experience includes learning how to get from one place to another safely, what having a job means, being a team player, interacting with others and making the effort to complete tasks well, Giglio said. "They feel a sense of accomplishment with a job well done," she added.

New Leaf Community Markets and 12 other organizations in the area are supporting the WorkAbility program this school year. They include JoAnn Fabrics, Walgreen's, Cost Plus World Market, Target, TJ Maxx, Callippe Preserve Golf Course, Pleasanton Golf Center, Pleasanton Senior Center, ClubSport of Pleasanton, Handles Gastro Pub, Valley Humane Society and Pleasanton Alviso Adobe.

Businesses interested in being a work site for the WorkAbility program can learn more by calling Barker at 462-5500, ext. 4112, or by sending an email to Jbarker@pleasantonusd.net. ■



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Pleasanton Weekly



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PET OF THE WEEK



TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE

Meet Twiggy

Sweet Twiggy is looking to find her "Home for the Holidays." TVAR is sponsoring all of her costs and adoption fee, so for the right home she goes home for free. Twiggy is at East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Dr. in Dublin, open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Concerts

A JAZZY CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG Come tap your toes and sing holiday favorites with choirs and a lively jazz band from 7-8:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Refreshments and good cheers will follow in the Pope John Paul II Activity Center. Free-will offerings welcome. Call 484-5020 or go to www.catholicsofpleasanton.org/.

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL Lighthouse Baptist Church Choir and Drama Team will be presenting the Christmas musical "The Promised One" at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19 and at 6 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 21 at Lighthouse Baptist Church, 118 Neal St. This inspiring drama depicts the angelic announcement of the birth of Christ. Coffee and dessert afterward. Free. Go to lbcceastbay.com.

Events

PIZZA PARTY IN PLEASANTON The Widowed Men and Women of Northern California invite you to a Pizza Party at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 28 at Gay Nineties Pizza. Cost is \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members. RSVP to Ruby at 462-9636 or hskoog@comcast.net by Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Holiday

CENTERPOINTE CHRISTMAS SERVICES Centerpointe Church will celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with two services focused on the hope of the season on Christmas Eve in its worship center at 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 24, with carols, lighting of candles, and the Centerpointe worship band. For more information, call 846-4436 or go to www.centerpointechurch.org.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Join the annual Christmas Eve service from 7-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 24 at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore. It will feature candlelight and singing, followed by cookies and fellowship. Appropriate for all ages. Call 447-8747 or go to www.uucil.org.

CHRISTMAS SEASON SERVICES Join Lynnewood United Methodist Church for Sunday morning worship at 9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m., with Christmas Orchestra on Dec. 21. Childcare is provided at both services. Call 846-0221 or go to www.lynnewood.org.

FIFTH NIGHT INITIATIVE: A YOUNG FAMILY HANUKKAH CELEBRATION Beth Emek and Beth Emek Preschool will host a Hanukkah celebration for young families from 4:30-7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 20 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400

Nevada Court. Instead of receiving a gift, the focus is on giving. Families will make a fleece blanket to be donated to Tri-Valley Haven. The celebration will include menorah lighting, Hanukkah songs with Rabbi Milder, and latke dinner. Cost is \$20 per family. Call 931-1055 or go to www.bethemek.org.

HANUKKAH SHABBAT DINNER AND MENORAH LIGHTING Celebrate the 4th night of Hanukkah and Shabbat from 6-9 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court. Join for Shabbat dinner, followed by lighting menorahs and Hanukkah songs. Stay for a Family Shabbat Service. Go to <http://www.punchbowl.com/parties/5cc2b6cbfde5067289f9>. Call 931-1055.

LYNNEWOOD UNITED CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES Join a Christmas Eve Family Service at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 24 at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. Candlelight Services with Choir will be at 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Childcare provided at 5 p.m. service. Call 846-0221 or go to www.lynnewood.org.

On Stage

'MY SON PINOCCHIO JR.' This new musical, which retells the familiar Disney story from Geppetto's per-

spective, features the beloved classics songs "When You Wish Upon a Star" and "I've Got No Strings" as well as a host of new songs. The show runs at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and at 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 12-21 at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Tickets are \$6-\$18. Call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org.

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET Valley Dance Theatre presents its annual full-length production of Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker," accompanied by Valley Dance Theatre Pit Orchestra, at 7 p.m. on Dec. 13, 19-21; and at 2 p.m. on Dec. 13-14, 20-21 at Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Tickets are \$25-\$38, \$19 for students 17 and under. Call 243-0925 or go to <http://www.valleydancetheatre.com>.

Spiritual

ECKANKAR, ECK WORSHIP SERVICE ECKANKAR, "The Spiritual Exercises of ECK: Keys to Secret Worlds" will be the theme of the ECK Worship Service at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 21 at the Four Points Sheridan, 5115 Hopyard Road. Go to eck-ca.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.

CLUTTERLESS SELF HELP GROUP Overwhelmed? Clutter stressing you out? ClutterLess is a nonprofit, peer-based, self-help group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Meetings are 7-8:30 p.m. every Monday at St. Mary and St. John Coptic Orthodox Church, Room 7, 4300 Mirador Drive. Call 922-1467 or 525-3992. Go to www.ClutterLess.org.

EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR SUPPORT GROUP If you have recently been diagnosed with ET or would like to learn more about this common movement disorder in a safe and supportive environment, please join us from 10 a.m.-noon on the third Saturday of each month, in the Blackhawk A and B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon. For more information, view their blog at www.eastbayet.com or call 487-5706 or email eastbayet@comcast.net.

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.

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday Services

December 21 Orchestra
9:00 & 10:30 am

Christmas Eve December 24

Family Service: 5:00 pm
Candlelight Services
with Choir 7:30, 9:00 pm



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Shop all you want, but you won't find the perfect Christmas gift in any store



The best Christmas gift didn't come from a store. It came from God.

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24

- 3 p.m. Nativity service and Eucharist for young children
- 5 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Christmas Pageant
- 8:30 p.m. Instrumental Prelude
- 9 p.m. Festive Choral Eucharist

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25

- 11 a.m. Festive Choral Eucharist

St. Clare's Episcopal Church

3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton
www.stclarespleasanton.org • 925.462.4802

Christmas Eve Service 2014

4:30pm Community Worship: Nativity story and singing of carols

7:30pm & 10:00pm Candlelight Communion Worship: A traditional Christmas worship, with candle lighting, Eucharist and Carols

9:00am Christmas Day Matins: Traditional Christmas Morning prayer with Eucharist and Carols



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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 498824-25
The following person(s) doing business as: PATTI'S QUINTESSENTIAL QUILTING; PATTI Q QUILTING, 1054 HARVEST CIRCLE, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Patricia A. Joki, 1054 Harvest Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 12/03/2014. Signature of Registrant: Patricia A. Joki. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 12/03/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 12, 19, 26; 2014, Jan. 2; 2015)

KH LINE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 499082
The following person(s) doing business as: KH LINE, 4257 PASSEGGI COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kyungmee Choi, 4257 Passeggi Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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: Kyungmee Choi. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 12/11/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 19, 26; 2014, Jan. 2, 9; 2015)

P & K'S
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 498729
The following person(s) doing business as: P & K'S, 5581 SONOMA DRIVE APT. C, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Patrick D. O'Leary, 5581 Sonoma Drive Apt. C, Pleasanton, CA 94566; Karina R. O'Leary, 5581 Sonoma Drive Apt. C, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Patrick D. O'Leary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 12/02/2014. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 19, 26; 2014, Jan. 2, 9; 2015)

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Sun 1-3 Dave and Sue Flashberger 463-0436

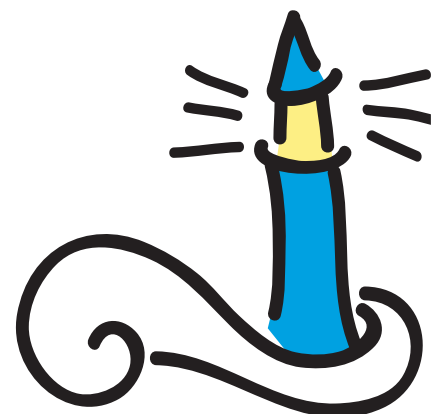
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**MULTIPLE OFFERS
SOLD FOR \$1,065,000**



JUST SOLD

1125 Autumn Court, Pleasanton

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2781 Cooper Circle, Livermore

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- ✓ Buyer looking for a home in Moller Ranch or Windsor preferred up to 1 million

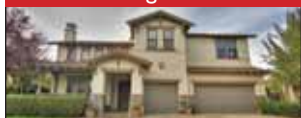


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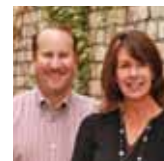
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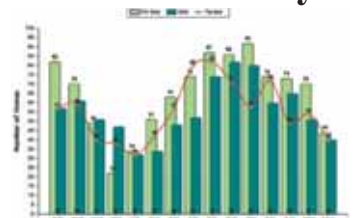
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Market Update: Lack Of Inventory Slows Sales Activity

Both sales and inventory of single family detached homes in Pleasanton fell sharply in November. Inventory has declined steadily since July. Pending sales have been up and down but the trend has been downward. Interestingly, the median sales price was the second highest it has been all year.



November's median sales price was \$959,000 and was bested this year only by June's \$990,000. November's price was \$75,112 higher (8.5%) than October's \$883,888 and \$110,500 or 13% higher than November 2013's \$848,500.

In spite of a rise in pending sales last month, closed sales still fell in November. 40 sales closed in November, eight less than in October, a 17% decline. November also had 10 fewer sales than a year earlier, representing a 13% drop. Closed sales have fallen steadily since June, with only a small uptick in September.

Pending sales dropped 26% in November, from 54 during October to 40 in November. That was the same number of sales that went to contract a year ago. Inventory took a big hit in November, as the market lost a net of 26 properties to end with 44, a 37% decline from 70 at the end of October. November also had five less active listings than November 2013.

Because both inventory and pending sales fell sharply in November, there was not much change in the inventory level relative to sales. November ended with a 1.1 month supply, down from 1.3 months at the end of October and 1.2 months a year ago.

Properties were listed for an average of 26 days in November, not much change from 25 days in October or 27 days a year ago.

Analysis by Price Range

The inventory of homes priced under \$1 million was cut by more than half in November ...Go to www.680homes.com to read the rest of this article.

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4916 Piper Glen Terrace
4861 Perugia

SOLD IN SUNOL!
7785 Laguna Heights Lane

SOLD IN ALAMO!
15 Stone Creek Place

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6216 Guyson Court
7211 Rosecliff Court

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Sold - Represented Seller



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Sold - Represented Buyer



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5bd 2ba | Leslie Faught
By Appt



LIVERMORE \$668,950

563 SELBY LN #3
3bd 3(1)ba | Kelly King
By Appt



LIVERMORE \$575,000

1696 HONEYSUCKLE RD
3bd 2ba | Kelly King
By Appt



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3bd 2ba | Robin Young
By Appt



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6010 ALISAL ST.
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