

The roller coaster of online dating

Local residents reflect on the good (and bad) of love being just a click away

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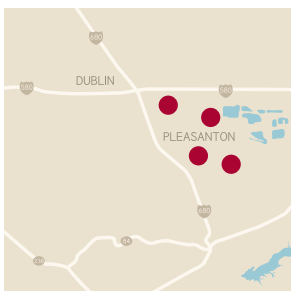


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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Thorne launches bid for re-election as mayor



CHUCK DECKERT

Mayor Jerry Thorne opens his re-election bid at a campaign breakfast at the Alameda County Fairgrounds Pavilion.

With quick changes over recent weeks in the lineup of frontrunners in the presidential race, Mayor Jerry Thorne is taking no chance. His campaign team held a sold-out breakfast rally at the Alameda County Fairgrounds Pavilion last Thursday where Thorne announced he will seek re-election to a third term as mayor on Nov. 8. He doesn't have to face voters in a caucus or early party primaries for the local election, but he's taking no chances on gaining support at the start.

The California primary will be held on June 7, but that doesn't affect the mayor's race. The filing period, when candidates including Thorne can submit papers required for seeking a local office, runs from July 18 to Aug. 12. After that, Thorne will know if he has competition in his re-election bid. If he's successful at the polls, he'll be eligible for just one more two-year term in municipal elections in 2018.

So, from today forward, with 271 days left to convince voters that he deserves another term, Thorne kicked off his campaign before a record-high launch event of supporters. They applauded as he reviewed his achievements since being elected mayor in 2012 after serving seven years as a city councilman, and before that on the Parks and Recreation Commission and numerous other regional boards, commissions and committees. They applauded again as he set his agenda for the next two years if re-elected.

Highlighting his service to the community since retiring as senior executive from Hewlett-Packard and Agilent Technologies, Thorne said he has put his 40 years of business experience to work as mayor to bring fiscal sustainability and pension reform to Pleasanton. He's at his City Hall office almost every day and represents

the city at community events several times each week, telling supporters that "I have no other job priorities that will get in the way of being your full-time mayor."

"Not only will I be serving Pleasanton all day, every day, I will be completely focused on the needs of this community and never on the partisan politics necessary to achieve higher political office," Thorne said.

He cited as a major achievement the ongoing financial success of Pleasanton, with city revenues up \$10 million compared to 2008 when the recent recession curtailed city spending and caused freezes. Since then and with property and sales tax revenue soaring, pension liabilities have been reduced by 13% on his watch, a new employee retirement formula has employees paying more toward their pension and for health care and funds are again available for major projects, including the \$16 million Bernal Community Park improvements to be completed later this year.

Faced with earlier council decisions that ignored state housing law and generated a costly lawsuit, Thorne and the council negotiated a settlement that led to much of the apartment construction now underway but spared the city a long-term takeover of development standards by the state.

"I believe that we can honestly now say that we are a city of planned progress," he said. "We no longer have city leadership that believed planned progress is defined as no progress."

Looking to the future, Thorne plans to push in his third term:

- Completion of an improved Pioneer Cemetery with a Veterans Memorial at its center;
- A new, 185-unit Kottinger Gardens complex for seniors;
- Rezoning of property on Johnson Drive to accommodate a hotel or large commercial development, including a Costco store; and,
- A final plan for building a new civic center and library.

Most important on his next-term agenda, Thorne said, will be a close working relationship with the Pleasanton Unified School District to help it maintain and grow its education leadership in the Bay Area.

"The No. 1 reason people want to locate here in Pleasanton is because of our excellent school system," Thorne said to the cheers of his re-election campaign supporters. "As a city, we already share facilities, maintain sports fields, furnish crossing guards and police resource officers. However, I think we have to accept the challenge of finding new and better ways to help support our school district." ■

About the Cover

Love is in the air as Valentine's Day approaches this weekend, and several local residents are sharing their experiences with the roller coaster that is online dating. Cover design by Kristin Brown.

Vol. XVII, Number 3



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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What do you enjoy about your job?



Nancy Allen
Glass artist

Well, now that I've retired from the corporate world and started my own business, I really enjoy the freedom and the flexibility of being my own boss and setting my own hours. I also love that my work requires me to go to the beach in order to search for the sea glass I incorporate into my projects.



Surender Kandakatla
Security architect

I'm responsible for determining people's access to my company's information. I feel very good about protecting my company and keeping its sensitive information safe and secure.



Noria Nazamy
Hairstylist

I really enjoy being busy and active, and connecting and communicating with people. I can't even imagine not working. I don't think I will ever retire. And it also just makes me feel so good to make my customers look beautiful.



Scott Holm Data analyst

I really enjoy working with other people and having the respect of the people at my company, at every level both above me and below me. My colleagues and I accomplish a lot as a group, and it is just such a pleasure to work with them all. I feel like I work for a great company, and I find it very gratifying to go to work there every day.



Karla Brown
Pleasanton City Councilwoman, Realtor

I love that I have the opportunity to meet so many great people and that the work I do helps to shape the present and the future of the town we live in and to keep it a place where people want to live, work, play and raise their families.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Youth in Government

With the City of Pleasanton's Youth in Government Day coming up, the city is urging high school students to apply by today's deadline.

Applications for the Youth in Government Day, which will include talks from Pleasanton leaders, are available at Ptownlife.org and can be returned to various school administration offices.

The March 8 event will start with a breakfast at the Firehouse Arts Center, where students will hear from City Manager Nelson Fialho and interim schools superintendent Jim Hansen.

Students will then shadow a city leader for part of the work day, with potential opportunities with employees at the police, fire, community services, human resources, library services, civic arts, city planning, information technology and business services departments.

Face-Off 2016

Pleasanton's award-winning teen improv troupe, Creatures of Impulse, is presenting three performances, each with a different guest "opponent" troupe from throughout the Bay Area, at 7:30 p.m. next Thursday, Friday and Feb. 20, at the Firehouse Arts Center.

The actors will take the stage each night for seven to nine rounds of scenes, games and improv high-jinks with an interactive format.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10, general. Go to www.firehousearts.org, call 931-4848 or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton.

Swalwell appointment

U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin), whose district includes Pleasanton, was appointed last week as vice chair of the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, which sets the Democratic policy agenda and nominates Democratic members for committee assignments.

Swalwell, a second-term congressman, has served on the committee since November 2014.

"I'm honored by the trust that Leader (Nancy) Pelosi has placed in me with this elevation to vice chair," Swalwell said in a statement. "It won't be hard to demonstrate that House Democrats' message — especially on issues such as student loan debt, college affordability and millennial entrepreneurship — should resonate with all Americans."

Pelosi praised the local congressman's committee work to date, adding, "In his new role as vice chair, Eric's voice and vision will help shape how we communicate our agenda with the American people." ■

School board votes to shift coming year's schedule; classes to start Aug. 15

Board members also hire polling firm to gauge public interest in new bond issue

By MEREDITH BAUER

After more than two years of contentious community debate, the Pleasanton school board voted Tuesday night to shift the schedule for the coming school year, with classes to begin Aug. 15 — a week earlier than the district's traditional start date.

The school board has been considering changing the instructional calendar since 2013, and Tuesday night's vote ends a series of debates and revisions surrounding the start and end of school and whether to have the first semester wrap up before winter break instead of after.

"I think we did a much better job

this time," board member Valerie Arkin said about the public opinion process prior to the calendar change. "We have been talking about this for quite some time. We need to be prepared to move on at this point."

The biggest changes for the 2016-17 school year will be that the new calendar shifts the start and end of school up by one week and puts first semester high school finals before winter break.

The vote was 4-0, with board member Chris Grant absent Tuesday due to a work travel scheduling conflict.

The approved calendar calls for the fall semester to start Aug. 15 and end at winter break on Dec. 22.

Semester exams for high school students will be held from Dec. 20-22. Classes for the second semester will start Jan. 10 in 2017 and end June 2. For high school students, final exams will be held on June 1-2.

The traditional district calendar would have started school-year classes on Aug. 22 and ended the first semester after winter break, on Jan. 20.

The decision was ultimately made after input from a calendar committee made up of teachers, students, parents and other stakeholders and 3,645 people who took a district-wide survey about the issue.

Some community members, including members of the calendar

committee, urged board members to accept the new calendar.

"We work hard to make our students competitive, and our calendar should support those efforts," PUSD teacher and parent Ellen Gray said, mentioning high school seniors had been at a disadvantage because colleges require midyear transcripts before the district's first semester ended.

Several board members said they liked the new option because pushing finals before winter break allowed high school students to have a stress-free break, rather than having to use that time to study for

See PUSD on Page 7



JEB BING

Spring comes to Pleasanton

While our friends in many midwestern and eastern states are still battling the snow and chills of winter, it's an early spring in Pleasanton.

Spring favorites from daisies to sunny yellow tulips and this flowering cherry in the 1000 block of Crellin Road make for colorful yards and street-scapes throughout the city as California celebrates Lincoln's birthday.

Perhaps a few more showers will follow to help make the transition to spring and Easter flowers a great start to 2016.

Protestors urge Safeway to adopt 'cage-free' egg policy

Mercy for Animals group claims support from other grocers

A group of 30 protestors from a national organization called Mercy for Animals (MFA) lined Stoneridge Mall Road in front of Safeway headquarters Monday calling on the grocery chain to follow others in adopting a "cage-free" merchandising policy.

Jeni Haines, the group's national campaign coordinator, urged the company to improve animal welfare by eliminating cages in its egg supply chain with a 100% cage-free egg policy for all its stores and affiliate grocers.

She said the group is making the same demands on Boise-based Albertsons, Safeway's corporate owner.

Protestors wielded signs bearing disturbing images of injured chickens



JEB BING

Jeni Haines (second from left), national campaign coordinator for Mercy for Animals, joins protestors in front of Safeway headquarters on Stoneridge Mall Road urging the grocery chain to adopt a "cage-free" merchandising policy.

See SAFEWAY on Page 7

Referendum petitions have 6,086 signatures

If verified, petitions could force measure on June ballot

By JEB BING

Proponents of placing a measure on the June ballot to overturn the City Council's approval of a 43-home development in Lund Ranch submitted petitions with 6,086 signatures last Friday, well over the 4,124 — or 10% of the city's registered voters — needed to force a referendum.

City clerk Karen Diaz accepted the box loads of petitions from referendum backer Allen Roberts and others leading the referendum effort in her office in City Hall.

After her initial count of the signatures, she forwarded the petitions to the Alameda County registrar of voters, whose office is now in the process of examining and verifying the signatures against Pleasanton voter registration records and also looking for duplicates.

The registrar's office must complete its review within 60 days.

It's that office's final number that will determine if at least 10% of the city's registered voters signed the petitions to call for a referendum.

If they did, Diaz will send that verification to the City Council, which could repeal the ordinance it approved Jan. 5 authorizing Greenbriar Homes to move forward on its proposed Lund Ranch development.

Or, more likely, the council within 88 days must call for a special election to ask voters to decide how to proceed. That elec-

See REFERENDUM on Page 7

Pleasanton Chamber to recognize leaders in business, community

53rd annual Community Service Awards to be presented next month at Firehouse

By JEB BING

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce this week announced the names of business and community leaders who will be recognized at its 53rd annual Community Service Awards celebration March 23.

The awards, going to those who the chamber cites as “deserving individuals, groups and businesses who have demonstrated excellence and community leadership in business, volunteer activities and achievement,” will be presented in a ceremony at the Firehouse Arts Center.

“The program began in 1963 to recognize good people doing great things in the community,” said Susie Weiss, the chamber’s manager of communications and special events. “Since then hundreds of recipients have been honored.”

Those chosen for the awards and their categories are:

Fratellone Family Chiropractic

Business Philanthropy: For businesses that have provided philanthropic service beyond the scope of

normal business activity.

Wealth Management Associates

Excellence in Business: For businesses that have made a positive impact in the Pleasanton community through their achievement within the scope of normal business activity.

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation

Excellence in Service: For organizations that have contributed to Pleasanton.

Eleanor Flatley

Distinguished Individual Service: For individuals who have contributed to Pleasanton through exceptional service to the community or philanthropic efforts.

Frank Capilla

Lifetime Achievement: For individuals who have contributed to Pleasanton through exceptional service to the community or philanthropic efforts over the whole of a career.



MEREDITH BAUER

Happy New Year

Students learned about Chinese New Year traditions in Jayme Pekarske’s kindergarten class at Vintage Hills Elementary.

Children decorated paper plates as “scales” that they put onto a paper dragon Tuesday morning. According to legend, the dragon brings good luck for the next year.

Pekarske stapled her students’ scales to the dragon head and then handed out Hongbao — typically red envelopes containing money sent to friends and family at the holiday — in the form of red bags with fortune cookies and clementines.

Pleasanton Corporate Commons/Hines

Green Business: For businesses that promote sustainable environmental

business practices throughout their organization for the benefit of employees, customers or the community.

The awards ceremony, which will

start at 6 p.m., is open to the public at a cost of \$35 per person. Tickets are on sale now on the chamber’s website, www.pleasanton.org. ■



By Rob Rosas

IF YOU suffer from lower back pain and sciatica, you are among four out of five Americans who will suffer with this crippling spinal condition.

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the lower back region, often teamed with pain through the buttocks and down the legs are all classic symptoms of Sciatica or “pinched nerves”.

In severe cases, it often leads to muscle wasting and or numbness with a constant tingling down to the tip of the toes. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.

New Treatment Discovery

Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. Success rates as high as 90% now have some leading back surgeons recommending their patients to try this treatment first before considering back surgery.

In Pleasanton, you can try Non-Surgical Re-constructive Spinal Care at the Intero Chiropractic – the office of the man who has dedicated helping hundreds of people with low back pain and sciatica.

Jerry and his team of fully trained spinal care specialists have helped hundreds of patients find relief from their agonizing back pain and sciatica.

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Got a Painful Nerve?

Is your Sciatic nerve causing you crippling leg and lower back pain?

According to Jerry, “We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in Pleasanton, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your lower back pain and sciatica. From this, a unique program for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain is designed; this ensures superior long-term results for most people.”

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Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain.

Patient Hector H. says, “My back pain was unbearable but the worst thing was the searing burning pain I felt in my buttock and leg.

I couldn’t work or do anything useful and the drugs my GP prescribed hardly did anything.

My wife insisted I respond to one of these ads, I thought it would be a total waste of time, but I’m so glad she kept on at me.

Thank goodness I called your number, I’m so much better in just a couple of weeks.”

Your invitation for a comprehensive consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of your lower back pain and sciatica...

Rossmoor News has teamed up with the spine therapy specialists at Intero Chiropractic to help readers find relief from their persistent back and sciatic pain.

All you have to do to receive a thorough diagnostic examination with their advanced technology and a comprehensive easy to understand report on your state of health is call (925)255-5805.

- **Mention this article CODE: BOS20SCMS7b and Jerry will happily reduce his usual consultation fee \$100 to just \$20.**
- **That’s a saving of \$80 - So hurry, due to obvious reasons – this is a time limited offer**
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My advice, don’t suffer a moment longer...

Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with Peter and his team now by calling (925)255-5805, they are waiting to take your call today.

They actually treat the cause of your health problem, not just your symptoms.

That’s why hundreds of grateful patients tell them “You gave me back my life!”

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problems and sciatica. The vast majority of them have enjoyed a superior, lasting relief. In fact, many who’ve suffered and have tried other remedies have told them they gave them back their lives!

Why Prolong Your Agony?

Call them now and get a full and thorough examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just \$20, the normal cost of such an exam is \$100!

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Call them now at (925)255-5805 and cut out or tear off this valuable article to take to your appointment. You’ll be entitled to a comprehensive examination to diagnose the cause of your problem – and you’ll be on your way to lasting relief! Don’t delay your important diagnosis and treatment another moment!

Please note, if you call during the week, they are very busy, so if they don’t pick up straight away leave a message. You can even call at the weekend and leave a message to secure your spot.



Dr. Jerry Hsieh, DC says, “I’ve never seen a treatment as effective as Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care for patients with sciatica or lower back pain.”

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MEREDITH BAUER

Puppy love

With Valentine's Day right around the corner, Pleasanton students got a visit from an East Bay SPCA ambassador dog this week. Students returned the warm fuzzies by writing Valentine's Day cards to the animals awaiting adoption at the organization's shelters.

Meeko, a 3-year-old pit bull-boxer mix, visited a classroom Tuesday morning to give students "kisses" and get lots of back rubs from Vintage Hills Elementary third-graders in Nancy Day's class.

Humane education manager Justin Kurup (left), who is also Meeko's owner, told the class about why some animals are brought to their shelter and why pet adoption is important.

The visit was part of East Bay SPCA's annual Drive to Thrive fundraising campaign. Classrooms that raised more than \$100 got a visit from East Bay SPCA animals. So far, the shelter has raised at least \$4,500 this year through the drive.



MEREDITH BAUER

The Pleasanton chapter of the Young Men's Service League spent a recent weekend cleaning up Four Mile Beach in Santa Cruz.

Local service club beautifies Santa Cruz beach

Mother and son philanthropy group looking for members this month

A Pleasanton service club for young men and their mothers spent a recent weekend clearing a Santa Cruz beach free of litter.

Members of the Pleasanton chapter of the Young Men's Service League, a nonprofit that emphasizes philanthropic work and strong mother/son relationships, spent a blustery day cleaning trash to beautify Four Mile Beach alongside the nonprofit Save Our Shores, said chapter parent Julia Murtagh.

The local chapter started in April

2014 and its annual membership drive runs through the end of February. About 30 boys are currently a part of the club, and members regularly volunteer at the Special Olympics, Build-A-Bike, Pleasanton's Open Heart Kitchen and other charities.

Murtagh, who started the chapter, said she had heard of organizations that let daughters and fathers volunteer together, and she wanted an equivalent organization that she could participate in with her sons. ■

—Meredith Bauer

SAFeway

Continued from Page 5

trapped in cages and the message "Safeway Tortures Animals." The eye-catching protests in Pleasanton continued at Safeway stores Tuesday in San Jose and Wednesday in Sacramento.

"Stuffed into cages so small the birds can't walk, spread their wings or engage in other natural behaviors, hens on egg factory farms are subjected to unspeakable cruelty and neglect," Haines said.

"Each bird has less floor space than the size of a sheet of notebook paper," she added. "Many birds become trapped and painfully mangled in the cage wire or under feed trays. Dead hens are often left to rot alongside birds still laying eggs for human consumption."

The protest group claims that Safeway's competitors, including Target and Costco, as well as McDonald's and Starbucks, have already made public commitments to eliminating cages. In fact, MFA contends, nearly 100 other major

restaurants, retailers, food manufacturers and food service companies have pledged to go cage-free.

Since the launch of MFA's campaign just a week ago, MFA president Nathan Runkle said more than 30,000 consumers have signed Change.org petitions urging Safeway to go cage-free.

Drivers honked in support of Haines and her group standing on Stoneridge Mall Road on Monday, but no representatives from Safeway met with the group during its two-hour demonstration. ■

—Jeb Bing

PUSD

Continued from Page 5

pending exams.

However, implementing a decision six months before the start of the next school year drew some concern from residents in attendance Tuesday night.

Several board members said they shared concerns with community members who had already planned out their summer schedules, and that some students and teachers might have a tough time getting back to the city in time for classes and training days.

The board didn't decide Tuesday exactly how that would be handled, but Arkin and board member Mark Miller hoped there would be some "flexibility" to make sure students don't face extreme consequences such as losing their place in a specific school.

In 2014, some parents and community members were angered after board members changed the instructional calendar to a "modified lite calendar" for 2015-16, so the board rescinded the calendar

early last year and pushed discussions to this year.

Tuesday's vote closes the matter for the next year, and board members asked staff to talk with the teacher and classified unions to try and agree that this calendar should be the model for at least three school years.

In other business:

• The school board took a step forward in its process to bring a bond measure before voters by hiring a polling firm to do a community survey to see whether passing such a measure in the city would be possible.

Board members approved a \$24,000 contract with EMC Research, a polling firm that has an office in Oakland, to conduct a 15-minute survey among registered Pleasanton voters.

The district is looking at putting a bond measure for construction projects before voters, possibly as early as November. While the district hasn't stated how much money it would ask for in the bond, the district has identified \$500 million in project needs.

The pollsters will meet with a

community committee made up of parents, board members, teachers and other stakeholders to create the polling questions, and the results will be brought before the board at a later meeting.

• The board approved regular personnel transfers, but one was brought to the board's attention as causing some tension at a middle school.

After Foothill High band director Josh Butterfield was promoted to interim vice principal at Foothill, Pleasanton Middle School's band director Linda Lim moved to Foothill to be that school's full-time band director this week.

Pleasanton Middle's band is now in limbo while the district figures out how to fill that role. ■

REFERENDUM

Continued from Page 5

tion would likely be held during the June 7 primary at an estimated cost to city taxpayers of \$250,000.

If voters approve the proposed

referendum, plans by Greenbriar Homes to build the houses on Lund Ranch, a 194-acre site it owns, would be scuttled. The developer would have to wait one year before resubmitting the same or another plan for building homes on its Lund Ranch property. ■

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

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October 22, 1937 – February 4, 2016

Resident of Livermore

Our mother, Marilyn, died on Thursday morning in Tracy, California. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

Marilyn was a Registered Nurse for over 35 years and loved working in surgery, the recovery room and same day surgery. In the 1990's she began a second career working for Costco.

She was married for 20 years to her sweetheart, Richard (Dick) Heinzl, who predeceased her in 1979. Marilyn has three children, Elaine Eiden and her husband Rick of Tracy, Susan Cahill and her husband Tom of Santa Clarita, Ca. and Tim Heinzl and his wife Barbara also of Santa Clarita, Ca.

Marilyn also has four grandchildren, Thomas and Caitlin Cahill and Ashley and Jennifer Heinzl.

She is also survived by her sister Joan McCusker of Benicia, and her niece Carrie (Keith) Smith, her great-niece Peyton, and her nephew Michael Gravelle and was predeceased by her brother Jim McCusker and her parents James and Mary McCusker.

She will always be missed by those who love her.

In lieu of flowers her family would appreciate donations to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the American Heart Association or a favorite charity.

Family and Friends are invited to a vigil, February 12th at 7:00pm at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, Ca. 94588 and a Funeral Mass on Saturday, February 13th at 12:00 at St. Elizabeth Seton, burial to follow @ Chapel of the Chimes, 32992 Mission Blvd, Hayward, Ca. 94544.

There will be a gathering of family and friends to celebrate Marilyn's life at a friend's home at 741 Bonita Ave. Pleasanton, at 3:30pm.

PAID OBITUARY



Merle Telford

October 7, 1929 – February 2, 2016

Merle Haas Telford passed away from Alzheimer's disease on Feb. 2, 2016, in Concord, California. Merle was born on October 7, 1929, to Pearl and Merna Telford in Pierre, South Dakota. He was one of eight siblings including Marie, Phyllis, Iris, Arlene, Kenneth, Gene and Thomas. Merle worked in heavy construction and in real estate for many years in Pleasanton. He was a community activist and served in the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and became a lifetime member of the Lions Club. Merle is survived by his wife, Melda, two children, Linda (Jerry) Walton of Discovery Bay, Jim (Sally) Telford of Rapid City, South Dakota, one stepson, Lane (Debbie) of Santa Clarita, eight grandchildren, Amy Telford, Adam Telford, Aaron Telford, Justin (Danielle) Walton of Livermore, Scott (Tessa) Walton of Elk Grove, Steven (Debbie) Leavitt, Daniel Leavitt, and Rebecca Leavitt of Santa Clarita, eight great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews and extended family. Merle loved his family, relatives, and friends dearly. He will be remembered as a loving father and grandfather and a friend to everyone he met. A private family celebration will be held at a later time.



PAID OBITUARY

Visit

Lasting Memories

An online directory of obituaries and remembrances. Search obituaries, submit a memorial, share a photo.

Go to: PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries

Pleasanton police arrest 4 after auto burglaries, chase

Pleasanton police arrested four males from San Jose early Monday after they were allegedly spotted breaking into a truck parked in the 200 block of Junipero Street.

Police were alerted to the burglary at 2:15 a.m. by a resident and found that at least two vehicles had been burglarized.

Then a resident on Medallion Court reported a suspicious vehicle in their neighborhood that matched the description of the vehicle involved in previous burglaries, police said.

As officers arrived, the burglars reportedly fled in a silver sedan, with police giving chase and pursuing the suspects as they fled south on Regency Drive and then northbound on Lylewood Drive, where their vehicle struck a curb.

The driver and two passengers were taken into custody at that location, but the fourth suspect fled on foot through a nearby park and remained at large despite an extensive search of the area, police said.

However, at 6:55 a.m. Monday, another resident called police to report a suspicious person walking in their neighborhood. Officers again responded, spotted the suspect and eventually took him into custody after a foot chase.

The property stolen from the earlier burglaries was located in the suspects' vehicle, where police also found property believed to have been stolen from other burglaries that hadn't yet been reported.



Carlos Marcelo



Freddy Reyes

Arrested were 23-year-old Carlos Marcelo, 20-year-old Freddy Reyes and two juveniles, all charged with suspicion of burglary, evading a police officer, conspiracy and possession of burglary tools. All four are from San Jose.

Pleasanton police said anyone who witnessed the auto burglaries or who has information about possible associated break-ins should call them at 931-5100.

In other police news:

• Police this week released a sketch of a man accused of robbing a Pleasanton Arby's late last month.

The culprit is described as a Hispanic man between 24 and 26 years old, with short hair and a thin build.

Police said he drove up to the drive-thru window of Arby's around 9:30 p.m. Jan. 30, pointed a black semi-automatic-type pistol at the cashier and demanded money. No one was injured during the robbery.

Once the man got an undisclosed amount of money, he drove off and was last seen driving north on Chabot Drive, according to police, who said the robber was driving a dark green, older model minivan with a license plate number beginning with 6HY.

• Pleasanton police are searching for a male who stole \$2,925 of merchandise from a Macy's in the Stoneridge Shopping Center last week.

The store's loss prevention officers reportedly saw him take 15 pairs of jeans, hide them in his bag, and then walk out of the store without paying on Feb. 1 at about 8:30 p.m. Each pair of jeans was reportedly worth about \$200, according to Pleasanton police.



COURTESY OF PPD

Police sketch of man suspected of robbing Arby's on Jan. 30.

No arrests had occurred in the case as of Tuesday, and security footage was not clear enough to provide identifying information for the male, police said.

• A Pleasanton renter returned home Monday to find the apartment burglarized.

The resident was in the process of moving out of a unit in the Del Prado Apartment complex on Hopyard Road when they returned to find the back glass-sliding door had been shattered, according to police.

The crime occurred between 4 p.m. Feb. 4 and 8:30 a.m. Monday, police stated. Since all the items had already been moved out of the apartment, nothing was reported stolen. However, police collected a pair of latex gloves from the patio that are believed to belong to the culprit.

No arrests had occurred in the case as of Tuesday.

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

—Meredith Bauer and Jeb Bing
—Bay City News Service contributed to this report.

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Feb. 7

Drug violation

■ 3:10 a.m. in the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road

Auto theft

■ 1:13 p.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive

■ 4:54 p.m. in the 6800 block of Santa Rita Road

Vandalism

■ 10:26 a.m. in the 900 block of Rose Avenue

Feb. 6

Alcohol violation

■ 7:55 p.m. in the 6400 block of Randall Court

Drug violation

■ 2:04 p.m., intersection of Paseo Del Cajon and Corte Sonora

■ 2:28 p.m. in the 3500 block of Gresham Court

DUI

■ 4:56 a.m. on Stoneridge Mall Road

Fraud

■ 10:16 a.m. in the 4400 block of Valley Avenue

Auto theft

■ 1:41 p.m. in the 3200 block of Marilyn Court

Feb. 5

Drug violation

■ 10:53 p.m. on Santa Rita Road

Embezzlement

■ 3:59 p.m. in the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Fraud

■ 9:16 a.m. in the 4100 block of Jensen Street

Graffiti

■ 10:34 a.m., intersection of Abbie and Whiting streets

Residential burglary

■ 2:47 p.m. in the 8300 block of Regency Drive

Theft

■ 3:30 p.m. in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

Feb. 4

Drug violation

■ 1:19 a.m. in the 4400 block of Muirwood Drive

Graffiti

■ 10:42 a.m. in the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road

■ 12 p.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

Residential burglary

■ 6:27 p.m. in the 7700 block of Fairoaks Drive

■ 7:28 p.m. in the 3600 block of South Platt Court

■ 8:24 p.m. in the 2600 block of Curry Street

■ 9:23 p.m. in the 1100 block of Deer Creek Court

Theft

■ 4:38 a.m., 1600 block of Germano Way, auto theft

■ 7:35 a.m. in the 3300 block of Busch Road

■ 8:13 a.m. in the 3400 block of Torlano Court

■ 2:29 p.m., 3400 block of Torlano Court, auto theft

■ 8:20 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall

Feb. 3

Residential burglary

■ 10:13 a.m. in the 5100 block of Golden Road

■ 7:35 p.m. in the 5700 block of Owens Drive

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

I-580 express/toll lanes to offer congestion relief — for a price



COURTESY OF ACTC

Californians — especially those in the East Bay — will soon be joining midwestern and eastern states when it comes to high-price toll road fees. A \$55 million project to create express lanes expected to ease congestion along I-580 through Pleasanton and Livermore that will be opened after this Presidents' Day weekend should relieve traffic on one of the country's highest-congested freeways, but at a cost.

The new lanes, which will be free to vehicles with two or more occupants and during overnight hours, will cost solo drivers who want to use the lanes up to \$9 for the full length in the eastbound direction and up to \$13 in the westbound direction.

That's still less than the \$15 you're charged for using bridges and tunnels in New York City, or the \$4.65 toll for every 157 miles you drive on the Indiana toll road. Even the Golden Gate Bridge toll is now \$7.25 (\$6.25 with a FasTrak transponder).

All drivers using these lanes, whether as carpools or exempted clean-air vehicles, will also have to purchase new FasTrak Flex toll reading devices, which are small battery-powered devices with adjustable settings based on whether a vehicle has one, two or three-plus occupants. The current transponders will continue to work on other toll locations, such as bridges and I-680 southbound, but not on the new I-580 lanes.

Arthur Dao, executive director of the Alameda County Transportation Commission, says the new freeway lanes represent "a decade of worth of planning, engineering, development and construction to improve mobility in this congested corridor." The new toll lanes consist of a 14-mile westbound lane that begins at Greenville Road in Livermore and ends at San Ramon Road near the I-680 connector.

There are two eastbound lanes, which span 11 miles between Ha-

cienda Boulevard in Pleasanton and Greenville Road in Livermore.

In both directions, there are areas where access into and out of the express lanes are limited, represented by double white lines. The maximum rates apply to those using the full distance of the lanes. The lanes are otherwise divided into zones that drivers pay for based on where they entered and exited.

The minimum cost is 30 cents per zone, with adjustments to that cost being made by an algorithmic pricing system that pulls data about current traffic levels from sensors. Based on the current price displayed on signage when a driver enters the express lane, the driver is charged through an electronic detection system, "the next generation of technology," according to Tess Lengyel, deputy director of

planning and policy for the transportation commission. "There are no toll booths. This is how the tolls are generated."

Rest assured, though, that the money stays where it is paid. Lengyel insists that toll revenues paid by motorists using the new I-580 lanes will stay here to pay for ongoing operational and maintenance costs. Any excess funds will be used to support transit projects along the corridor.

What about out-of-town motorists here for a visit? Or those not yet savvy about the new transponders or tolls? Lengyel said the commission recognizes that this is a new system and that drivers will have to adjust to this over time. It's through an education process such as this editorial that she hopes will help the public and drivers understand how it works. ■

LETTERS

Sunrise Senior Living

Dear Editor,

My wife and I were reading your article printed Jan. 8 ("Around Pleasanton: At last, world-renowned Sunrise Senior Living comes to Pleasanton") and wanted to point out a couple of inaccuracies.

Sunrise Sr. Living had nothing to do with the property in 1981. It wasn't until many years later did Sunrise purchase the location. Robert E. Frank was the owner and got the property in 1980. He petitioned for rezoning. The goal: Stoneridge Retirement Hotel facility.

The "informal task force" you mentioned was a "mediation" forced by the neighbors through petition and sheer outrage the city would allow a four-story (not three, as you state in your article) commercial building in a residential neighborhood.

You are partially correct that Brian Dolan sponsored the mediation. This was because his hand was forced by the Planning Commission, who supported the residents.

Brian initially did not support the residents. Sorry Brian. However, due to his professionalism, he became an essential component of the solution.

With all due respect, you completely missed on this article. Documenting truth respects all those involved. Lack of research and

publishing completely wrong information exposes the author and disrespects those who fought for compromise.

The story would have been much more powerful had you titled it, "Residents and city work together to finally bring Sunrise to Pleasanton." But since you're just winging it, you had no way of knowing how good the article could be.

—Ron Williamson

Petition results are an affirmation

Dear Editor,

Over 70 volunteers worked passionately for 30 days to collect the majority of signatures necessary to qualify a referendum on the Lund Ranch II project for the ballot. This effort was not to shift traffic from one neighborhood to another, but instead, a broader objective to ensure that Pleasanton's hillsides and ridges remain a community asset under the protection of Measure PP.

This affirmation from Pleasanton residents should demonstrate to our elected officials that hillside and ridge protection must be foremost when considering development proposals. If the referendum ultimately qualifies for the ballot, I hope our voters will overwhelming demand that Measure PP be fully respected.

—Allen Roberts



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

City Council

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Update on the I-580 High Occupancy Vehicle/ Express Lane Project

Housing Commission

Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

- Appointment of New Officers (Chairperson and Vice Chairperson) for 2016
- Review and Approval of an Affordable Housing Agreement with Ponderosa Homes II for the Rose Avenue Estates development located at 1851 Rose Avenue (PUD-99)
- Update regarding the Housing and Human Services Grant (HHSG) Review Process

Economic Vitality Committee

Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 7:30 a.m.
157 Main Street, Conference Room #3

- Presentation and Discussion regarding City Fiscal Overview

COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES RECRUITMENT

The City Council is accepting applications for the following:

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee

1 Member

Economic Vitality Committee

1 Member from each of the following categories:

- Commercial Real Estate Development
- Environmental Industry
- Medical Technology
- Non-Profit Community Based Organization

Planning Commission

1 Member

Youth Commission

- 3 Middle School Members
- 2 High School Members
- 1 At Large Member
- 2 Alternate Members

Altamont Education Advisory Board

The City of Pleasanton is recruiting for a member to participate on the Altamont Education Advisory Board. The representative chosen by the City Council must be a Science, Environmental Education or Vocational Education teacher from the Pleasanton Public Schools.

APPLICATION DEADLINE FRIDAY, March 4, 2016

Interviews will be held on March 31st and April 1st
Apply at <http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/clerk/boards/application.asp>

For additional information contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027
123 Main Street, Pleasanton

To explore more about Pleasanton,
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SURVIVAL strategies

How low-income Pleasanton Unified parents make ends meet

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
MEREDITH BAUER

There's a cost that comes with living in a town with more yoga studios than food pantries.

Pleasanton is mostly home to affluent, well-off or comfortably middle-class families, but a small contingent of the population are parents who live below the poverty line and struggle to stay in town so they can send their children to the high-achieving Pleasanton public school district.

Those that do so spend the majority of their income on rent in order to keep their kids in the district and in a city that is among the safer municipalities of the Bay Area — Pleasanton has only had two homicides since 2012.

But that peace of mind comes at a price when traditional services such as food pantries, rent-controlled housing and low-income medical care are in short supply due to a perceived lack of demand and a real lack of funding.

"They're kind of hidden in the wealth that's around here. When you think of Pleasanton and this area, you wouldn't think that a clinic like ours would be bursting at the seams," said Dr. Divya Raj, a chief medical officer at Axis Community Health in downtown Pleasanton, which provides low-cost medical services. "But we do have a lot of patients."

"Right now, I basically spend all I have in my retirement to be able to keep them in an apartment with two bedrooms so they can have their own bedroom," said Miguel Ornelas, a Pleasanton Unified School District parent who scrapes together his family's meager income to afford their apartment. "If you have family, you want to do what's best for them."

Pleasanton Unified parent liaison Rosa Torre said the district has been slowly losing some of their low-income families as parents are priced out of their homes. Ultimately, she said, their children are the ones who suffer.

"They go to Modesto; they go to Tracy. The lucky ones, they go to Livermore where they can afford rent," she said. "There's not the same support that we have here."

The Tri-Valley has other resources, such as hot meals, food pantries and legal services, but they are



Editor's Note
This is the second in a three-part series about low-income residents in Pleasanton who sacrifice to keep their children in the Pleasanton Unified School District.

kids can attend high-achieving public schools, that means they're often left paying market rate.

Many families rent out spare bedrooms to strangers, and these parents — some of whom can't find full-time jobs because they are under-

educated or undocumented — cobble together several part-time jobs in housekeeping, food service, landscaping or construction to make ends meet.

"The need for affordable units is obviously great throughout the Tri-Valley and the Bay Area in general. I think the demand and the need is greater than any city in the Bay Area is able to provide. I get calls and walk-ins every day looking for affordable housing resources," city housing specialist Fran Reisner said.

Per state requirements, Pleasanton has to maintain the zoning for properties from now until 2022 to allow for the construction of at least 2,067 total below-market rate units citywide. There are no state requirements that mandate how many below-market units are to be built each year, city associate planner Jennifer Hagen said.

The city currently has about 1,020 of those units, plus about 420 that are being built. Reisner said the city requires any new developments to include affordable housing units or face a fee, which is used by the city for affordable housing projects.

Out of the city's roughly 26 apartment complexes, five offer below-market rate housing that isn't specifically for elderly, disabled or special-needs individuals.

Among those five complexes, 305 apartments are rented at below market rate.

An additional 565 units are spread out across the city for below-market rate apartments for seniors, and a few organizations such as REACH offer 22 units for special-needs and disabled adults. In addition, 10 developments offer 131 homes that can be bought for lower than market rate with first-time buyer programs with a mortgage based upon monthly income.

About 10 apartment complexes accept Section 8 vouchers, which are federal rental subsidies, but the demand for those vouchers is



Gabina Sanchez sits in her living room while her youngest son hugs her. Sanchez sublets one room to strangers in the small Pleasanton apartment she rents and cobbles together part-time work to keep her children in the city so they can attend high-achieving public schools.



Dr. Divya Raj, chief medical officer at Axis Community Health in Pleasanton, said her patients often have limited access to healthy food and the stress of day-to-day survival often exacerbates existing conditions.



Sanchez, a single mother and Pleasanton resident, sleeps in her living room so her boys can have their own room in their apartment. She rents out the second bedroom to bring in enough money to afford the apartment, but she said she's struggling to stay since her rent is set to increase at the end of the month.

so high that they are often quickly depleted, and the available apartments fill up fast.

Kelly said she had a case where one woman waited seven years to get a Section 8 voucher to use in Livermore. She said 45,000 people applied for a recent countywide Section 8 lottery for 5,000 vouchers.

A regular, market rate one-bedroom apartment rents for roughly \$1,770 to \$2,050 a month in Pleasanton, while a below-market rate one-bedroom unit may rent for \$1,100 to \$1,440. Rental prices for low-income units are ultimately based upon the applicant's average monthly income.

Civic Square Apartments on Bernal Avenue doesn't keep a wait list, opting for a "first come, first served" approach when a below-market-rate unit is available.

Other complexes do keep wait lists which are filled with hundreds of families. Kensington Apartments in southwest Pleasanton has a wait-list of about 100 people for each type of apartment (one-, two- and three-bedroom) and Park Hacienda on Owens Drive has between 200 and 300 people on its wait list, office managers at the apartment complexes said.

At Anton Hacienda, a new apartment complex on West Las Positas Boulevard which opened in July, more than 400 people put their names in a lottery for 35 below-market rate units, according to property manager Michelle Bensusen.

"I've applied, but I've been on the list for a couple of years," said Ornelas, who pays \$2,300 a month for a two-bedroom apartment while he waits for a spot in The Promenade apartment complex to open up. "By law, they're supposed to have a certain amount of apartments, but it's just not enough."

Access to health

In her small clinic exam room, Raj hears the sort of stories that will keep a person up at night.

Her patients at Axis Community Health on Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton have lost family members to violence, some have escaped countries enveloped in war and a few were once CEOs but lost everything and live out of their cars.

Some are mothers and fathers like Gabina Sanchez, a Pleasanton Unified mother who sees an Axis doctor because she can't afford anything else. Almost all of the income

that comes from her part-time jobs goes toward rent and groceries.

"The stories you hear on a regular basis from a lot of our patients is that of struggle. They're just trying to keep their head up on a daily basis and keep food on the table and a place to stay through the night," Raj said. "We have a high demand of patients, and we don't have enough space, which results in not everyone being able to be seen as quickly. ... A lot of them have not seen a doctor in years."

Liz Perez-Howe, chief of clinic services at Axis, said situations at home often affect patients' health. The clinic offers caseworkers who help guide patients through the maze of applications for housing, food stamps and other services.

"That's just the reality of who we serve. In order to get them on a path of complete wholeness, we can't ignore these factors. They can't regulate their diabetes if they have no food at home," she said.

Sacrificing for school

When it comes to school — the very reason some Pleasanton Unified parents work long hours and save every penny — being poor can set some students back.

Students who don't have a natural talent for certain subjects can't afford after-school tutoring, and some families don't have computers at home for online research.

Erica, an undocumented resident who asked her last name not be used, said her children usually

do well in school, but it's tough when one is struggling. She knows homework help is crucial, but she also has to work many nights. And besides, she didn't get a full education as a child in Mexico, so calculus and French conjugations are too much to ask of her.

Statistically, low-income students don't score as well or graduate as often as students from economically stable households. In 2014, the district's overall graduation rate was 95.7%, while the graduation rate for socio-economically disadvantaged students was 77%, according to district data.

When it comes to getting ready for college, only 31.8% of the district's socio-economically disadvantaged students had completed the courses necessary to get into Cal State or UC schools, according to 2014 district data, while the overall district statistic was 65.6%.

Pleasanton Unified keeps a staff of caseworkers, who are called parent liaisons, who work with individual families to make sure they're getting the resources they need.

Torre said the district runs several programs — some aimed at behavior intervention, some focused on homework support — to help low-income parents fill the gap in students' education that would otherwise be filled by private tutoring or counseling.

Parents like Sanchez say the kindness and empathy shown by individual teachers are what keep them going on the hard days. When her 11-year-old son struggled with math, a few of his current and former teachers took time to help him.

"He doesn't want to go to any other school," Sanchez said.

Torre said while many of the children she works with have known no other home but Pleasanton, a few were born in Mexico and moved here as young children.

She said she remembers a 10-year-old telling her how grateful he was to be in the city. "He said, 'I can study. I can live in peace. I can feel safe.'"

"He was a good student. He was excited," she said, remembering the spark in that boy's eyes. "When you see that light, you don't know what is going to happen, but that possibility is amazing."

"There are some people who say it (poverty) doesn't exist here, but it does," she said. "It's here. It's next door, and they need us." ■



Tri-Valley Haven food pantry volunteer Janet Schott pulls goods off a shelf to hand to a resident. The nonprofit's staff said the pantry in Livermore sometimes sees 30 people come in for food a day.



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The roller coaster of online dating

Local residents reflect on the good (and bad) of love being just a click away

By ISABELLA OHLMEYER

Love is in the air as Valentine's Day approaches this weekend.

While many people search for that special someone in old-fashioned ways, such as meeting at school, through friends or while out around town, online dating has become a more popular, modern approach.

And Tri-Valley residents have found themselves on both ends of the online-dating spectrum.

Take 25-year-old Amador Valley grad Brent Freitas.

He had browsed and participated in conversations on the OkCupid dating website and went on dates on-and-off for a few years but found nothing that blossomed into love.

Then, his heart began to beat after receiving a message from Jaclynn Jones on May 25, 2013, one week after he moved back to Pleasanton after college.

"Jjones08 visits my OkCupid profile, so I visit hers and I am floored by what I see — we are an 80% friend, 80% romantic match, and her profile is witty, straightforward and razor-sharp," Freitas recalled. "This isn't the kind of girl you just want to hook up with; this is the kind of girl you message in spite of the fact that she lives an hour and 15 minutes away in Modesto."

Jones, also now 25, remembered how she was intrigued by Freitas from the moment she came across his OkCupid profile page among the site's suggested "profiles that might interest you."

"I noticed a thumbnail picture of Brent and his profile made me laugh and he seemed like someone I would like to hang out with," she said.

Freitas and Jones said they were initially concerned about the distance between them geographically, but they soon discovered that distance made their hearts grow fonder of each other.

"When Brent messaged me on OkCupid, I found it funny, inter-

esting and well-written, so I decided he deserved a thoughtful response even though I still thought it wouldn't go anywhere because of the distance," she said. "I don't think I've gone a day without talk-

ing to him since then."

A Tuesday evening dinner at Black Bear Diner in Tracy, three days after messaging each other on OkCupid, marked the couple's first date.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jaclynn Jones and Brent Freitas, who met through the online dating website OkCupid almost three years ago, enjoyed a day on their tandem bike at Venice Beach. Freitas is a Pleasanton native, and the couple now live together in Sacramento.

"I meet Jaclynn for the first time at the diner and she is an absolute vision," he said. "We talked about school, work, family and life before heading over to a little dive bar called Jack's. We drank a beer and walked around a neighborhood late at night, eventually holding hands as we go."

They then hugged each other goodnight and went their separate ways, hoping to meet again soon.

After dating the next eight months, Jones and Freitas took a leap in their relationship and moved in together.

"I had never thought I would live together with someone so soon, but I was moving to the Bay Area and he was living with his parents so it just made sense at the time. We also co-parent a dog so I would say we are pretty domestic," she said.

They both think teamwork is one of the keys to their successful relationship.

"We're both the type of people who always want to be better, and we use our relationship as another avenue in which we can grow and learn as people," Jones said.

"We compromise whenever possible and treat each other as equal team members," Freitas added.

The couple moved into their second apartment in Sacramento last November and they are currently saving money to buy a house this year. They say they're grateful to the dating site for giving them a starting point to their future together.

"I'm just surprised I found love at all," Freitas said. "OkCupid sup-

plied a space, atmosphere and algorithmic suggestion to message each other — we would never have found our love without it."

"OkCupid gave us the opportunity to meet and allowed us to put ourselves out there right at the start, but I think the bulk of our success is due to us," Jones added.

From one generation to another, Pleasanton resident Dennis Miller, now 55, met his wife Coni online nearly 16 years ago through the lesser-known Love@aol.com.

Before eHarmony, Match.com and other now-recognizable websites came along, Love@aol.com was a go-to dating site of the late 1990s to early 2000s — and it still exists today.

"At the time, we were right at the beginning of the online dating world," remembered Dennis, who is a horse racing publicist for the Alameda County Fair and a contributing sportswriter for the Pleasanton Weekly.

Like Dennis, Coni was a single parent at the time looking for a more serious relationship while online dating.

"I was a single mom with three kids and wanted to meet someone that could appreciate what I faced on a daily basis. I wanted to find someone that I could parent children with," she said.

Dennis recalled signing into his Love@aol.com account in November 2000 and finding a message from the woman who would later become his wife.

"At the time I was a single dad of four kids and really just wanted



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dennis and Coni Miller, who are celebrating their 14th anniversary this year after first meeting online in 2000, smiled for a picture at the beach in Pacific Grove.

to talk to someone about raising kids. A serious relationship was honestly one of the furthest things from my mind when we started talking," he said.

Coni, who was in her early 40s at the time, said she decided to contact Dennis after an evening of involving her friends in her online dating experience.

"I sat around with four of my friends and we were having some wine one night. They were upset that I was sad, so we all went to Love@aol.com and we each got to pick one guy for me to go on a date with," Coni said. "I actually picked Dennis, but before we met, I did go out on a date with a couple of my friend's picks."

When they met virtually, it just so happened that Coni and Dennis were living a mile apart from each other in Danville.

They moved in together four months after they met, and they will celebrate their 14th wedding anniversary in May.

"Although it might of seemed fast, we knew it was right," Coni

said. "We respect each other and we complement what each other likes to do. We both put our kids first and will do whatever we can to make sure the kids have what they need."

Dennis added, "When Coni and I met then got together, it was not just us getting used to being together, but it was about coming together as a family with my four kids and her three. We preached from day one that we are all one family and they have all bought into it. We are truly blessed."

Despite the successful love story, Dennis admitted he initially lied to his family and friends about how he and Coni met, due to the stigma associated with online dating.

"I originally told everyone we met through common friends," he said. "It was probably five to seven years before I admitted that we met through online dating and it was no big deal because we had been together for so long. Be safe and be cautious, but online dating is the best way to go."

Coni also thinks online dating is a good option for people looking to find love in this day and age, saying, it "is the best way to connect with people. Meeting in a bar is just not the way, that is if you are looking for something meaningful."

While there are local online dating success stories, there are certainly less-favorable tales as well.

Livermore resident Allison Meneley said she had one memorable bad experience with a man in the military she met on Match.com and chatted with online for a while.

The 26-year-old then decided to meet up with the guy in person

for a date, and the unexpected occurred.

"The date was going well until a girl called him on his phone and he walked away to take it. When he came back, he mentioned that it was some girl from his base that needed a ride somewhere, so I didn't think much of it," Meneley said.

She said when she found him on social media, she began to speculate who this mystery woman really was.

"When I went on his Facebook page, I found that same girl pictured with him everywhere in couple-like positions with people commenting, 'Can't wait to see you two for Christmas,' Meneley said. "I asked him if we could be friends on Facebook, and he said 'I unfortunately don't have a Facebook because I'm worried my enemies will find me.'"

Meneley said she took a break from online dating after that bad experience "because I couldn't put 100% energy into it or dating at all."

Although she still remembers her failed online dating experience, she also took away a life lesson from it. "I figured after those bad moments happened, that the same thing could also happen in the real world, not just the virtual world," she said.

Meneley is not in a relationship now, but she still goes on dates and is back to online dating.

"I am not in a relationship currently, but I have been going on dates," she said. "I have also opened myself up to online dating again, but I choose to stay away from sites where I had trouble in the past."

She said she is open-minded and patient, believing that love will come to her when the time is right.

"Sure, I don't want to be alone on Valentine's Day, but I am fine with hanging out with guy friends that day and treat it like any other day," Meneley added. "I'm optimistic that love will knock on my door when it's ready." ■



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Livermore resident Allison Meneley opened up about a disastrous online-dating experience she had.

The 26-year-old then decided to meet up with the guy in person



COURTESY OF HOPE HOSPICE

The Castlettes golf group from Castlewood Country Club presents a \$4,085 donation to Hope Hospice.

Castlettes golf group donates \$4,000+ to Hope Hospice

Contribution honors memory of late Castlewood Country Club pro

By JEREMY WALSH

Members of the Castlettes, a nine-hole ladies golf group at Pleasanton's Castlewood Country Club, presented a \$4,085 check to Hope Hospice last week to help the nonprofit continue its work providing end-of-life care for Tri-Valley residents.

The donation, raised during the Castlettes' annual holiday fundraiser, honors the memory of former Castlewood golf professional Piper Wagner, who died in August 2014 at age 45 following a battle with lung cancer. Wagner received care from Hope Hospice before her death.

"We are grateful to the Castlettes for their ongoing support of Hope Hospice," Hope Hospice CEO Bob Boehm said in the statement. "Thanks to their generosity, families in the Tri-Valley and surrounding area can receive high quality, personalized end-of-life care so they can enjoy what matters most to them."

As a nonprofit, Hope Hospice relies on community contributions to consistently deliver care to local residents and families regardless of insurance, income status or nation of origin or religion, organization officials said. ■



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Foothill girls earn spot in NCS soccer playoffs

Don wrestlers take 4th at Mission San Jose tourney

Entering a week where they needed to get some much needed points in the standings, the Foothill girls varsity soccer team did just that last week.

In their first game on Feb. 2, the Falcons faced East Bay Athletic League-leading Carondelet and notched a hard fought 1-1 final.

The Falcons took a 1-0 lead in the first half when Sarah Mirr knocked one in from long-range. The advantage stood into the second half until Carondelet girls — also the second-ranked team in the state — tied it up on a long shot of their own.

Two days later, the Falcons pulled out a thrilling 1-0 win over Granada to lock up a berth in the upcoming North Coast Section playoffs.

The two teams battled into the second half with no score before Mirr came through again, scoring late in the contest to give Foothill the badly needed win and a spot in the playoffs.

Wrestling

The Amador Valley varsity team rolled into the always-tough Mission San Jose tournament last Saturday and came away with an impressive fourth-place team finish, just a half-

point behind third-place Liberty.

Jacob Lum took first place at 162 pounds and Tyler Kline was third at 122 pounds for the top two finishes for the Dons. James O'Brien was fourth at 222 and Robert Boxberger was sixth at 197 to round out the top performances.

Foothill finally picked up a dual meet win, edging San Ramon Valley 39-33 last week. Carter Pierce scored a big win at 195 pounds, beating his opponent 9-3.

Basketball

The Foothill girls basketball team went unbeaten last week, taking down California and Monte Vista.

The Falcons jumped out to a 22-3 lead after one quarter against Cal and never looked back. Hitting 62% of its shots for the game, Foothill finished with a 59-35 win.

Caroline McMorrow had 18 points and nine rebounds to lead the way, with Sophia Brown adding 17 points and seven rebounds.

Later in the week, Foothill went on the road to Monte Vista and came away with a hard-fought, 54-49 win over the Mustangs. McMorrow was fighting illness during the game and could only play limited minutes, but the rest of the team stepped up big



MARTHA BROWN

Foothill's Madison Baxter takes a jumper from the top of the key during the Falcons' defeat of Monte Vista last week.

to secure the win.

Brown led the way with 17 points, six rebounds and four steals. Madison Baxter added 14 points and five rebounds, with Vanessa Esomonu rounding out the top performance for Foothill with seven points and five rebounds.

The Foothill boys basketball team pulled out arguably its best win of the season last Friday when it knocked off Monte Vista 58-53 in double overtime. The Falcons rallied from eight points down in the fourth quarter to force overtime. The two teams battled through the first four-minute overtime period still tied, sending the crowded Foothill gym into a frenzy.

In what turned out to be the final four minutes of the game, Foothill outscored Monte Vista 10-5. It was a combination of tough defense and great free-throw shooting down the stretch that led the Falcons to the win.

Foothill was also very balanced on offense, with the top five scorers all within six points. Seth Cobb led the way with 14 points, but Garrett Wrenn (12), Rod Allen (10), Sam Novitske (10) and Michael Smith (8) all had big buckets. Sean Keinhofer did an excellent job running the Foothill offense and added a pair of a big buckets at key points in the game.

Earlier in the week, the Falcons traveled to Cal High and fought for the 52-47 win. Wrenn had 15, Cobb had 14 and Novitske added 12 to lead the way for Foothill. ■

Dennis Miller is a contributing sports writer for the Pleasanton Weekly. To contact Miller or submit local high school sports scores and game highlights for his weekly Pleasanton Preps column, email him at acesmag@aol.com.

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Clubs

AAUW PRESENT ASHLEY WARLICK WITH 'THE ARRANGEMENT' Hear Ashley Warlick discuss her new book "The Arrangement," a novel about famous food writer and founder of the Napa Valley Wine Library, M. F. K. Fisher, at 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 19 at The Wine Steward, 641 Main St. Sponsored by the American Association of University Women Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch and Towne Center Books. Cost is \$10, includes wine and appetizers. Get your tickets early as space is limited. Call 846-8826 or go to www.townecenterbooks.com.

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS Velda Newman, voted one of the 30 most

influential Quilt Artists, will speak on "A Painter's approach to Quilting" at the Amador Valley Quilters meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Sat., Feb. 13 at Hearst Elementary School, 5301 Case Ave.

LIVERMORE VALLEY COIN CLUB Livermore Valley Coin Club is for anyone in the Tri-Valley interested in coin collection. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Meet and greet at 7 p.m., business meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS Joel Friedlander will present "How to Create Book Covers that Work" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20 at Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road. Cost is \$12 for members, \$17 for non-members. Contact 828-7687 or

publicity@trivalleywriters.org. Go to www.trivalleywriters.org.

Events

STUFF A BUS FOR PUSD FAMILIES Blue Oaks Church invites you to share the love this Valentine's Day by stuffing a bus with clothing and laundry supplies for underserved families. Those wishing to contribute items can bring new socks or underwear and gently used clothing including coats from 8 a.m.-noon on Sunday, Feb. 14 to Foothill High School.

Fundraisers

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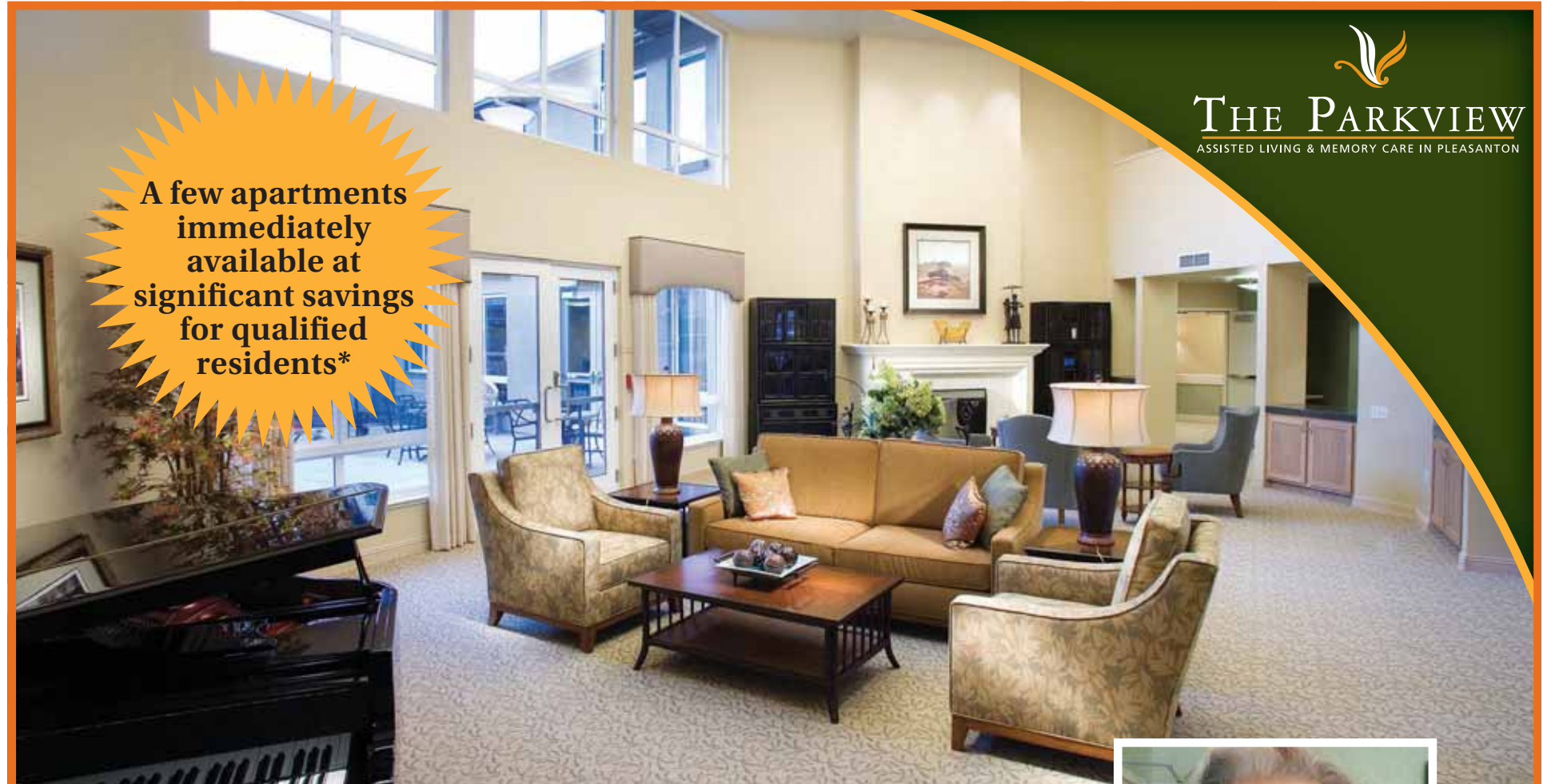
"Downton Abbey?" Daughters of the British Empire invite you to celebrate this great show at their fundraising event from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20 at Castlewood Country Club, 707 Country Club Circle. Vintage/period dress suggested. Feel free to dress the part. Tickets are \$35, including lunch. Proceeds benefit Axis Community Health, Contra Costa Hope Hospice, and The British Home for Senior Citizens. Contact Edith Caponigro at 998-3500 or president4dbe@yahoo.com.

Workshops

BETTER DIGITAL CAMERA PICTURES Learn to use natural light, creative backgrounds and interesting

locations for your photos with instructor Gerry Mooney, a professional photographer who taught at Ohlone College for 25 years, from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. Registration required. Call 803-7252.

IMPROVING HEALTH THROUGH BUDDHISM PHILOSOPHY How and why can Buddhism philosophy improve mind, body and overall health? Join local award-winning author and Master Healer Margaret Zhao for a free presentation from 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Pleasanton Library. RSVP at www.meetup.com/Buddha-Light-Group/members/2325719/, and receive a free booklet.



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No: 513097
The following person(s) doing business as: Little Caesars, 3283 Bernal Avenue #103, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Panesar Kapila Inc, 1396 W. Lagoon Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Davinder Pal Singh, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 01/04/16. (Pleasanton Weekly, Jan. 22, 29 Feb. 5, 12, 2016)

TEA BREEZE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No: 513621
The following person(s) doing business as: TEA BREEZE, 4215 ROSEWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 20, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Miao Fen Cen, 16131 Ashland Ave, San Lorenzo, CA 94578; Jing En Pan, 3756 Anza Way, San Leandro, CA 94578. This business is conducted by a Joint venture. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Jing En Pan, Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 01/19/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2016)

VITALITY BOWLS BERNAL PLAZA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No: 514034
The following person(s) doing business as: VITALITY BOWLS BERNAL PLAZA, 6654 KOLL CENTER PARKWAY, SUITE 335, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): M&J Suverte Enterprises, Inc, 4621 Valley Vista Drive, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Mylene M. Munjal, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 01/29/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 4, 2016)

INVITA CONSULTING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No: 514335
The following person(s) doing business as: INVITA CONSULTING, 3679 CENTRAL PARKWAY, DUBLIN, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mark A. Case, 3679 Central Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568; Matthew D. Dom, 3240 Maguire Way #300, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a General partnership. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Matthew D. Dom, Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of

Alameda on 02/08/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 4, 2016)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File No. 489153
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S): CASE CONSULTING, 3679 CENTRAL PARKWAY, DUBLIN, CA 94568 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 03/13/2014 UNDER FILE NO. 489153 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): Mark A. Case, 3679 Central Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568; Barbara J. Case, 3679 Central Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY a Married couple. Signature of Registrant: Mark A. Case. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on 02/08/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 4, 2016)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: Urban Water Management Plan
Zone 7 Water Agency is a water wholesaler serving over 220,000 people in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin in Alameda County, and the Dougherty Valley area of San Ramon in Contra Costa County. It sells treated water to four retailers: the City of Pleasanton, City of Livermore, Dublin San Ramon Services District and California Water Service Company.

As an urban water provider, Zone 7 prepares an Urban Water Management Plan aimed at analyzing and planning for a reliable water supply over a 20-year planning horizon considering normal, dry and multiple dry years.

As required under Section 10642 et seq. of the California Water Code, this is to notify the public that at its meeting to begin at 7 p.m. on March 16, 2016, the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors plans to conduct a public hearing on, and consider adoption of, the Agency's Draft 2015 Urban Water Management Plan. The hearing will be held at Zone 7 Administrative Offices, 100 North Canyons Parkway, Livermore.

A copy of the Draft 2015 Urban Water Management Plan is available for public review at the Zone 7 Water Agency office at 100 North Canyons Parkway in Livermore, on the website, www.zone7water.com, and at the following local libraries:

Alameda County Public Library in Dublin, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin

Livermore Public Library, 1188 South Livermore Ave., Livermore

Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton

Public comment will be welcome at the hearing and you are encouraged to comment before then, if possible, by contacting Amparo Flores at aflores@zone7water.com. If you have any questions regarding this notice, contact Boni Brewer, Communication Specialist, at (925) 454-5015.

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Livermore		Pleasanton	
2 Bedrooms		3 Bedrooms	
6630 Forget Me Not	\$460,000	5906 Bryce Canyon Court	\$850,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Weiner McDowell Group	872-1416/209-0343	Sat/Sun 1-4 Weiner McDowell Group	872-1416/209-0343
3 Bedrooms		540 Division St.	\$579,950
337 Mulqueeny St.	\$550,000	Sun 1-4 Bob & Deb Cilk	487-8734
Sat/Sun 1-4 Kelly King	455-5464	255 Birch Creek Drive	\$759,000
152 Heligan Lane #7	\$600,000	Sat/Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema	260-2220/413-6544
Sat/Sun 1-4 Brad & Ann Walker	899-4084	7608 Chestnut Way	Call for price
4 Bedrooms		Sat 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger	463-0436
3923 Pestana Way	\$649,000	4594 Lin Gate St.	\$875,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Joyce Jones	998-3398	Sat/Sun 1-4 Weiner McDowell Group	872-1416/209-0343
		5 Bedrooms	
		838 Sunny Brook Way	\$2,079,000
		Sat/Sun 1-4 Blaise Loffand	846-6500

540 DIVISION ST., PLEASANTON

NEW ON THE MARKET!!!
Built in 1900, this cozy, 3-bedroom, 1-bath Queen Anne-style cottage retains the charm of yesterday. Walking distance to Main Street. Features include the quaint front porch, basement & so much potential! Open House, Sunday, February 14th from 1-4.

Offered for \$579,950

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International Diamond Team



Laurie Pfohl
International President's Circle



John & Daisy Ng
International Sterling Society Team



Romar DeClaro
International President's Circle



Elaine Arnt
International President's Circle



Shannon Arvig
International President's Circle



Karen T
International President's Circle



Kay Stromgren
International President's Circle



Lucy Lizarraga
International Diamond Society



Sharon He
International Diamond Society



Mary Evans
International Diamond Society



Maria Sun
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Tom Ivarson
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Mike Riley
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Lynn Gygas
Branch Manager

COLDWELL BANKER PLEASANTON
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Congratulations Bay East Association of REALTORS 2015 Achievement Club Awards

PINNACLE

40+ Transaction Sides
or \$20,000,001+

- Blaise Lofland
- Daniel Gamache, Jr.
- Julia Murtagh
- Kris Moxley
- Leslie Faught
- Miranda Mattos
- Tim McGuire

GRAND MASTER

24-39 Transaction Sides
or \$8,800,000 - \$20,000,000

- Daniel Alpher
- Emily Barraclough
- Jo Ann Luisi
- Karen Crowson
- Kat Gaskins
- Kelly King
- Kim Ott
- Kim Richards
- Linda Futral
- Marta Riedy
- Maureen Nokes
- Robin Young

MASTER

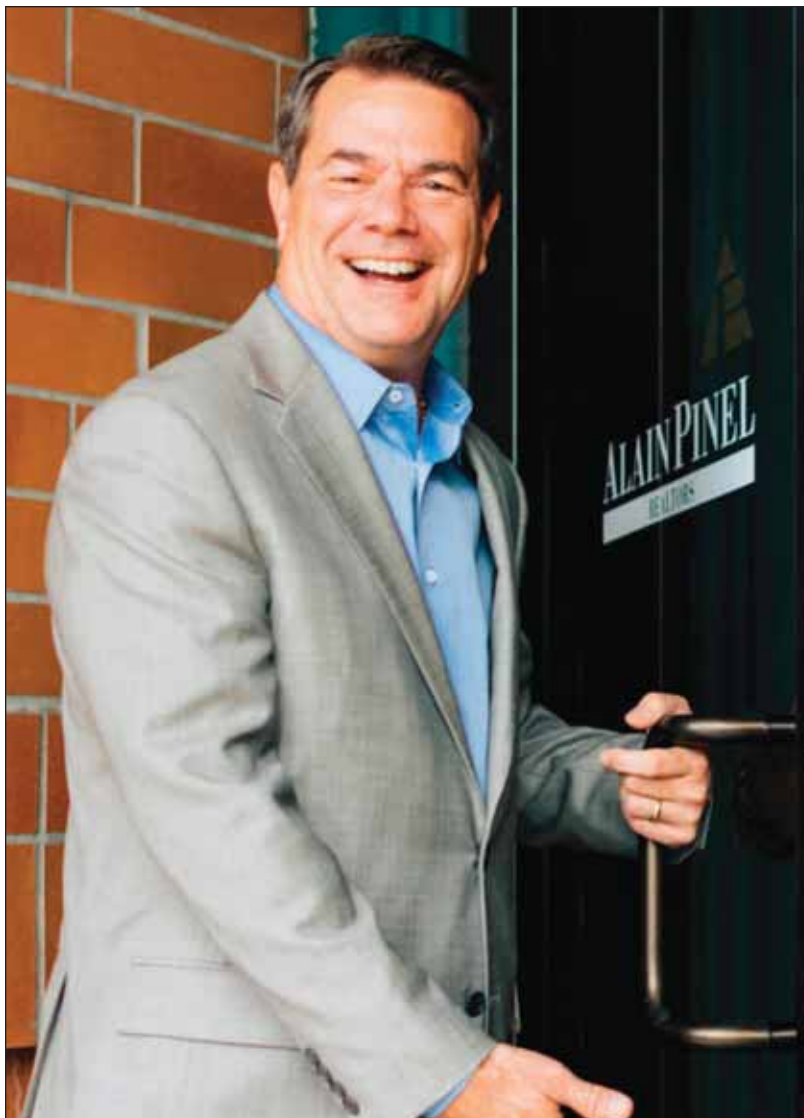
14-23 Transaction Sides
or \$4,800,000 - \$8,800,000

- Bruce Fouche
- Gina Huggins
- Izabell Lipetski
- Janice Habluetzel
- Janna Chestnut
- Leigh Anne Hoffman
- Linda Taurig
- Sally Martin
- Sally Blaze
- Susan Kuramoto
- Susie Steele
- Mark Kotch

PRESIDENT

6-13 Transaction Sides
or \$2,400,000 - \$4,800,000

- Christine Stark
- Debi Bodan
- Diane Smugeresky
- Esther McClay
- Gail Henderson
- John Ledahl
- Lily McClanahan
- Mark James
- Stasia Poiesz



PLEASANTON CAREER NIGHT

Want to get your real estate career started in the right direction and take your business to the next level? Come join us to learn about a career with Alain Pinel Realtors and get insight from APR's new and tenured agents.

Wednesday, February 24th, 2016

900 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA

6:30pm - 7:30pm

Register at www.aprcareernight.eventbrite.com

or call 925.251.1111 to RSVP.



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3923 Pestana Way, Livermore

Wine Country Living at its Best!

This charming 4 bedroom, 2 bath (updated master bath) home is located in the desired Jensen neighborhood in Livermore.

Many beautiful features including updated kitchen with granite counters, large pantry, tile flooring and backsplash.

Close to Downtown Livermore, shopping, restaurants and so much more.

Offered at: \$649,000.00



Joyce Jones

REALTOR®
BRE# 01348970

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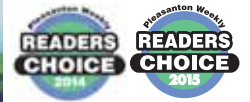
7 BD, 6 BA, 6,671 SF on 16.2 acres w/14.9 acres of mature vineyards
Offered at \$3,750,000



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1003 PINETO PLACE, RUBY HILL

4,598 SF on .53 acres. 5 BD (or 4 BD + bonus), 3.5 BA. Main level master suite, office. Solar Energy
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Two New Listings! Open Saturday & Sunday, 1-4



5906 Bryce Canyon Court, Pleasanton | \$850,000

Highly Upgraded 1,744 sq. ft. home with a large rear yard, located on a cul-de-sac, in the heart of Pleasanton. Features 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, crown molding, plantation shutters, hardwood and tile floors, granite countertops and stainless appliances.



4594 Lin Gate Street, Pleasanton | \$875,000

Sharp single story, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with open floor plan and lots of natural light located on a large 8,479 sq. ft. private lot, in the sought after Gates community of Pleasanton. Call us for more information!

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838 SUNNY BROOK WAY, PLEASANTON

Desirable Largest Upgraded Hillstar Model on Quiet Secluded Street in Bridle Creek, built by Greenbriar Homes, Premium .30 Acre Lot with Private Rear Grounds that Includes Recently Upgraded Landscaping, Pool/Spa & Rock Waterfall. View of Pleasanton Ridge, Front Porch Sitting



Area, Five Bedrooms (Downstairs Suite), Formal Private Office (Possible 6th), Bonus Room (Home Theater Option), Approximately 4,455 Square Feet Spacious, Spacious Family (Great) Room, Large Gourmet Kitchen with Granite & SS Appliances, Crown Molding, Upgraded Wood Flooring, Three Car Garage, Award Winning Schools, Walk to Downtown, Convenient Commute Access to South Bay/ Silicon Valley/East Bay. For a Private Showing call the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group and for more information visit 838sunnybrookway.com

OFFERED AT \$2,079,000

DOWNTOWN

4326 2ND STREET DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON



Restored and Upgraded English Country Farmhouse Style Home on Desirable 2nd Street, originally built in 1890. Highly Sought After Downtown Location... just a short walk to Main Street! Front Porch with Sitting Area, Three Bedrooms, Plus Den/TV Room (Guest Suite - 4th Option), Office-Off Master, Two Remodeled Full Bathrooms, Powder Room, Large Kitchen, Formal Dining Room. Approximately 2,005 Square Feet, Large 6,750 Square Foot Lot, Detached 720 Square Foot Two Car Garage (Workshop Option), Upgraded Plumbing and Electrical, Double Hung Dual Pane Windows, Refinished Wood Flooring, Crown Molding, 7" Baseboards, Ten Foot Ceilings, Private Rear Yard with Upgraded Landscaping and Driveway. For more information or to schedule a private showing, please contact Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group. Visit 4326second.com.

OFFERED AT \$1,395,000

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321 ADAMS WAY, DOWNTOWN AREA OF PLEASANTON



Beautiful custom Craftsman style home near the heart of Pleasanton. Original home built in 1946, yet classically restored over the past 30 years to perfection. 3102 square foot home, 14,457 perfectly landscaped lot. Four good sized bedrooms, three full bathrooms and one half bathroom. Most of the bathrooms have been upgraded as of late 2015. Large living room, dining room, Chef's upgraded kitchen with granite counters, desk area. Viking, Miele, Jennair and Kitchen Aid appliances and cabinets galore. Separate breakfast area. Master suite looks out to a lovely paved patio and the backyard. Loft above is currently used as an office. Large and organized closet, to die for! Upgraded bathroom with walk in tile shower, dual sinks, soaking tub and large windows looking out to the private backyard. Second en-suite bedroom at the front of the home offers privacy for guests. Detached 2 car garage has workbench and storage area above. Private yard offers outdoor eating area, grass play yard, stone patio, fruit trees and a fun potting shed with playhouse above. Many rooms of the home look out onto this lovely yard. Property is close to schools, shopping and the downtown area.

Offered at \$1,349,000



Janice Habluetzel

Realtor and Relocation Specialist
Alain Pinel Realtors

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PENDING SALE W/5 OFFERS!

6109 Everglades Ct

Sharp 4 BR, 2.5 BTH home with new carpet & paint, updated kitchen, & large private 10k lot!
\$860,000



PENDING PRIOR TO MLS

3891 Hot Springs Ct

Remodeled home with 2 master suites!
6 BR + office, 4 BTH, cul-de-sac location
\$1,049,000



PENDING SALE W/3 OFFERS!

2425 French Oak Place

Gorgeous South Livermore one story with 5 BR, 3 BTHS, and .29 Acre cul-de-sac lot backs to open space.
\$1,250,000



SOLD

Pleasanton Valley

The one you want! Gorgeous Birdland home with 5 BR, 3 BTH, hardwood floors, pool, and more!
\$1,304,000



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Pleasanton Market Update - A Mixed Bag

The Pleasanton real estate market has a feeling of uneasiness right now. General uncertainty regarding the economy, the political environment and interest rates are making buyers and seller, alike, more cautious. The market behaved as we would have expected in some ways in January but in other ways ran counter to norms. Inventory increased in February, after bottoming out in January – a pretty normal December to January bounce. Even with the increase though, inventory was still very low and lower priced homes, which were in greatest demand, were in shortest supply.

Sales, which we would normally expect to see come up a little in January, actually fell. In fact, fewer sales went pending than in any month since December 2013. With rising inventory and declining sales, we would anticipate softer prices but the opposite was true. The median sales price was at its highest point since June and homes, on average, sold for 100% of their list price. Again, the low end was the driver and was the only segment where homes sold for more than the average list price.

Go to 680Homes.com to read the rest of this article.



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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4 bedroom, 2 baths beautiful remolded single story, walking distance to schools and downtown Pleasanton! Please call for more information!



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Low inventory and an abundance of qualified buyers are keeping our market strong! If you are anticipating a change this year, please call me for a no obligation market analysis on your home!

The Armario Venema Homes Team

DeAnna Armario

925.260.2220

DeAnna@ArmarioHomes.com
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Liz Venema

925.413.6544

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REALTOR® LIC # 01922957

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RARELY AVAILABLE



1150 HEARST DRIVE, PLEASANTON
4BR, 3.5 BA, 3190+/-sf. of almost all main level living. Huge lot backs to open space with beautiful views of Mt. Diablo. Extra-large upstairs loft. **OFFERED AT \$1,499,000**

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



255 BIRCH CREEK DR., PLEASANTON
Well-maintained by original owners! Built in 2007, 3BR, 2.5 BA + office, 1848+/-sf. Former model townhome within walking distance to downtown. No rental restrictions for investors! **OFFERED AT \$749,000**

COMING SOON!



1138 MATARO COURT, PLEASANTON
Highly desirable in Vintage Hills III! 5BR, 3 BA among 2830+/-sf. Updated kitchen and master bathroom. Huge 10, 674+/- sq. ft. premium lot backs to permanent open space. 3 car garage. **OFFERED AT \$1,319,000**

COMING SOON!



5425 DEMARCUS BLVD., #203, DUBLIN
Sharp 2BR, 2BA condo with parking. 1058+/-sq. ft. Terrific location with proximity to BART, shopping, entertainment, and parks. **OFFERED AT \$529,000**

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1ST TIME OPEN SAT 1-3



7608 Chesnut Way, Pleasanton
Wonderful 3 bdrm, 2 bath home. Granite kitchen with stainless steel appliances. Corner lot with side access and sparkling pool! **PRICED AT \$849,000**



COMING SOON FOXBROUGH ESTATES
Beautiful custom built home on a large 18,000 sq ft lot! Granite slab kitchen and bathrooms. 4 bdrms plus a den.



COMING SOON VINTAGE HILLS
Stunning 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath expanded 2200 sq ft home! Gourmet granite slab kitchen and bathrooms!



COMING SOON VAL VISTA
Simply stunning one level home with gourmet granite kitchen, remodeled baths and a sparkling pool!



COMING SOON VINTAGE HEIGHTS
5 bdrms, 3.5 baths and 4000 sq ft. on quiet court. 1/2 acre parcel, pool, spa and cabana.



COMING SOON FAIRLANDS

Wonderful 4 bdrm, 3 bath home on a quiet court. This beautiful home backs to the greenbelt and walking paths.



COMING SOON VALLEY TRAILS

Beautifully remodeled 3 bdrm, 2 bath home. Walk to the Sports Park and even downtown!



COMING SOON PORTOLA GLEN

One level duet in Livermore! 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths and a 2 car garage! Wonderful end unit.



COMING SOON CITY OAKS

Adorable 2 bdrm, 2 bath condo in downtown Walnut Creek! Granite kitchen and bathrooms! Walk to everything!



COMING SOON DUPLEX IN SAN LEANDRO

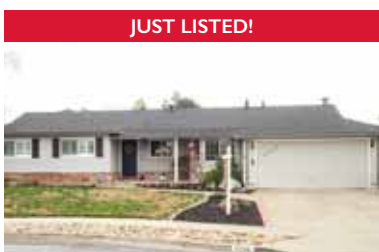
Twice the income! Two units both 2 bdrms, 2 baths and beautifully updated. Monthly rents are \$2700



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Jill Denton
REALTOR®, International
925.998.7747 jill@jilldenton.com

5336 MANOR CT, FREMONT
Beautiful single story home in highly desirable Glenmoore area. This home has it all. 3 bedrooms, 2 full newly remodeled bathrooms, 1466 sq. ft. Court location for family activities. Great neighborhood!!! **\$840,000**



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COME ON IN



PLEASANTON \$2,079,000

838 Sunny Brook Way | 5Bd 5Ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
Sat & Sun 1:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$1,395,000

4326 2nd St | 3Bd 2.5Ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
By Appt



LIVERMORE \$1,050,000

1480 Rebecca Dr | 4bd 3ba
Lynn Borley | 925.251.1111
By Appt



LIVERMORE \$648,000

406 Humboldt Way | 3Bd 2Ba
Linda Futral | 925.251.1111
By Appt



LIVERMORE \$575,000

4277 East Ave | 3Bd 2Ba
Christine Stark | 925.251.1111
By Appt



LIVERMORE \$550,000

337 Mulqueeney St | 3Bd 2Ba
Kelly King | 925 251 1111
Sat & Sun 1:00-4:00



MOUNTAIN HOUSE \$519,000

26 Pacifico St | 5Bd 3Ba
Bruce Fouche | 925 251 1111
By Appt



LIVERMORE \$469,900

812 Bellflower St | 2Bd 1.5Ba
Janna Chestnut | 925.251.1111
By Appt



WALNUT CREEK \$398,000

1576 Sunnyvale Ave #41 | 2Bd 1Ba
Linda Futral | 925.251.1111
Sat & Sun 1:00-4:00

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