

Pleasanton Weekly

Camp Connection

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

VOL. XVII, NUMBER 4 • FEBRUARY 19, 2016

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College and careers

SACRIFICING FOR SUCCESS

The reason low-income families strive to stay in Pleasanton

PAGE 12



- 5 | **NEWS** Will nearby superintendent searches impact PUSD?
- 11 | **TRI VALLEY LIFE** Author tells of overcoming abuse
- 16 | **SPORTS** Pleasanton girls win futsal soccer crown

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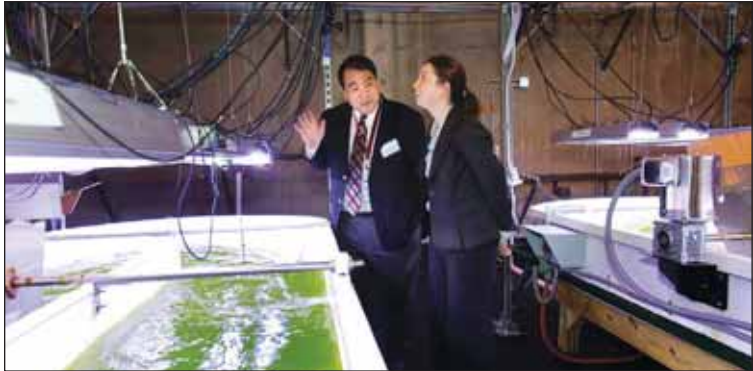
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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Sandia's algae raceway tests fuel for future



DINO VOURNAS/SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Ben Wu, Sandia's biomass science and conversion technology manager, describes algae raceway testing facility at Livermore laboratory to Allison Goss Eng, program manager for feedstock supply and advanced algal systems at Department of Energy's renewable and bioenergy office.

It's not a freeway, but the new algae raceway testing facility at Sandia National Laboratories could someday lead to the fuel that powers your car on I-580.

Civic and community leaders turned out earlier this month for the opening of Sandia's three 1,000-liter algae ponds and presentations by scientists and Marianne Walck, vice president of Sandia's California laboratory. Outfitted with custom lighting and 24-hour advanced hyper-spectral monitoring, the testing tanks could help bring the promise of algal biofuels closer to reality.

As one of the fastest-growing organisms on the planet, algae are an ideal source of biomass, but researchers have not yet found a cost-competitive way to use algae for fuels. But that could change through the work underway at Sandia. The facility helps bridge the gap from the lab to the real world by providing an environmentally controlled raceway where scientists like Ben Wu, Sandia's biomass science and conversion technology manager, can monitor, test and fine-tune discoveries.

The success of moving technologies from a research lab to the large warehouse-size facility at Sandia offers researchers a chance to scale-up from flask to a 150,000-liter outdoor raceway pond. The new algae testing facility consists of three 1,000-liter raceway ponds with advanced monitoring, giving laboratory scientists new advantages. These include customized lighting and temperature controls, advanced hyperspectral monitoring 24 hours a day, fully contained for testing genetic strains and crop protection strategies and the ability to simulate the conditions of locations across the country.

As part of a project funded by

Sandia's Laboratory Directed Research and Development program, the algae raceway is giving researchers Todd Lane and Anne Ruffing the ability to more quickly identify strains that promise improved performance and to test genetically modified algae strains. Lane is also part of a project partnership with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory funded by the Department of Energy's Bioenergy Technologies Office that is investigating a probiotic approach to algae crop protection. Another project seeks to convert algae proteins into useful chemical compounds such as butanol.

The facility will expand opportunities for Sandia researchers to develop algae as a robust source of biofuels and increase collaborations and partnerships with the private sector, particularly in California where efforts to transform transportation energy are prevalent.

"The bioeconomy is gaining momentum," Wu said. "Biofuels from algae may be further off, but algae has sugar and proteins that can make fuel or higher valued products, such as butanol or nylon, products that currently come from fossil fuels."

The Sandia team is also applying these technologies and collecting more data at the Arizona Center for Algae Technology and Innovation. The facility is the first national algae testbed and is a key component of the Algae Testbed Public-Private Partnership led by Arizona State University. Similar in scope to the Livermore-based Sandia algae raceway testing facility, it features algal ponds and closed photobioreactor algae cultivation systems of various sizes and serves as a hub for research, testing and commercialization of algae-based products. ■

About the Cover

Pleasanton high school graduates Angelica and Kevin, now college students, are the products of a small but resilient community of low-income families who spend most of their income on rent to keep their children in Pleasanton's high-achieving public schools. Left photo contributed. Right photo by Meredith Bauer. Cover design by Kristin Brown.

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

How did you spend Presidents' Day?



Bob Brophy
Business owner

I spent the day with family — my two daughters, my son and my grandson — and I met an old friend for dinner in downtown Pleasanton. We were able to eat outdoors because the weather was so mild. A day can't get any better than that.



John Routh
Sourcing director

Well, I live in Vietnam but am here right now visiting an old friend. We spent much of the day talking and reminiscing about old times and just enjoying our time together. We go back a really long way.



Jeff Lewis
CEO

I drove out to Half Moon Bay with the family. It was an absolutely gorgeous, brilliantly sunny day. So we had a picnic on the beach and spent time tossing a Frisbee back and forth with the waves crashing at our feet. And of course we joked around and laughed a lot. As usual!



Nicole Zeunen
Tech specialist

I spent a lot of time cooking some new recipes I've been meaning to try out. I also did a bit of relaxing. And then I met a friend downtown for dinner. It was a really nice day.



Justin Mullaney
Manager

The weather was so fantastic that I spent most of the day outdoors, playing basketball with friends. I couldn't believe it was February and I was comfortable wearing just a T-shirt and shorts. In the evening, I met a friend for dinner and we had a great time.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ©2016 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

DIGEST

Fatal crash on Stanley

A driver died after their car caught fire in a traffic collision on Stanley Boulevard just outside Pleasanton on Wednesday afternoon, according to the California Highway Patrol (CHP).

The driver of a silver Honda sedan was driving eastbound at 1:25 p.m. on Stanley Boulevard east of Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area when the driver made a U-turn at a break in the road, CHP spokesman Derek Reed said.

The area where the driver turned didn't have a lane for a U-turn, and the Honda crashed into a silver Volkswagen Jetta while making the turn, Reed said.

The Honda burst into flames upon impact, and the driver died on scene, Reed said. The driver of the Volkswagen was not injured.

The identity of the deceased driver was not released as of press time Wednesday. See www.PleasantonWeekly.com for updates.

Financial planning for military veterans

The Pleasanton Library is set to host a free, small-group workshop next month for post-9/11 military veterans to help them with better financial planning, city officials announced this week.

The one-hour event, set for March 7 at 7 p.m., will be led by Elizabeth Fulgaro, a certified financial coach from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Northern California Office.

Additional follow-up appointments will be available to provide participants the opportunity to discuss specific financial information confidentially, organizers said.

Space is limited, and early registration is encouraged but not required.

Contact the library's Adult Reference Desk at 931-3400, ext. 4 with questions or to reserve a place in the workshop. For more information, visit www.cityofpleasantonca.gov.

Keep your bike safe

Bike East Bay, the city of Dublin and the Alameda County Transportation Commission are teaming up to offer a bicycle theft prevention workshop next weekend in Dublin.

The free event will help local residents "learn how to protect your bike from theft, covering topics such as locking techniques, secure parking options, and bike registration, and get tips on how to recover a stolen bike," organizers said.

The workshop is scheduled to run from 1-2 p.m. Feb. 27 in the Dublin Library Program Room, 200 Civic Plaza.

For more details, call 510-845-7433, ext. 2, email robert@bikeeastbay.org or visit www.bikeeastbay.org/education. ■

Could nearby districts' superintendent searches affect Pleasanton's hunt for new leader?

Dublin, San Ramon Valley also working to replace their school superintendents

By MEREDITH BAUER

With two other Tri-Valley school districts searching for a superintendent this spring, questions have been raised about whether those departures will affect Pleasanton Unified School District's search for a new leader.

San Ramon Valley Unified superintendent Mary Shelton announced her retirement last week after four years leading the district, and Dublin Unified superintendent Steven Hanke announced his retirement last month after 10 years at the helm. Both will step down at the end of this school year.

Pleasanton is deep into its search

for a new schools leader after former superintendent Parvin Ahmadi resigned in May to take a job as Castro Valley's superintendent. Former Amador Valley High principal Jim Hansen came out of retirement to serve as interim superintendent since last summer, and his contract runs until June.

Pleasanton Unified is paying search firm McPherson & Jacobson \$24,000 to recruit and vet candidates for the role, and a superintendent is expected to be chosen by mid-April, search firm consultant Don Helms said.

Since Pleasanton Unified is well into its search — applications close March 7 — Helms said there

shouldn't be an issue with competing with neighboring districts for high-quality candidates, even though San Ramon Valley Unified and Dublin Unified are similar in size and achievement as Pleasanton.

"They're running considerably behind where we are," he said.

Tom Jacobson, owner of the search firm, said it's not unusual to have superintendent searches happening simultaneously at neighboring districts, and he isn't concerned about competition.

In a way, he said, the districts aren't even competing with one another because each district has different traits to consider when

selecting candidates.

"The different issues in the district will attract different candidates," he said. "Even though they look similarly demographically, each district is unique. Each district has its own challenges and opportunities."

Down Highway 84 past Fremont, Newark Unified is also working to find a new superintendent after its leader announced his retirement in December.

"Each district has its unique qualities and we will all be looking for the best fit for our respective districts," Pleasanton school board president Jamie Hintzke said. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Seascapes, landscapes fill Firehouse

The Harrington Gallery and Firehouse Arts Center are presenting works by Santa Clara artist Ryan Reynolds through March 26 with a series of small watercolors, including seascapes, in the hallway galleries and large-format landscapes in the Grand Atrium Lobby. The public is invited to explore and enjoy the exhibits during Firehouse Arts Center open hours, from 12-5 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, at 4444 Railroad Ave.

Livermore Lab part of new effort to boost manufacturing processes

LLNL will lead \$3 million program, partnering with other laboratories

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will be part of a new \$3 million program in developing improved turbine blades for aircraft engines, reducing heat loss in electronics, waste reduction in paper manufacturing and improving fiberglass production.

These projects are among the first to be selected for funding and partnerships with national labs under the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) High Performance Computing for Manufacturing program.

The Livermore Lab will lead the program with Lawrence Berkeley and Oak Ridge national laboratories as strong partners, officials

said.

Selected companies will partner with national labs, which will provide expertise in and access to high-performance computing systems aimed at high-impact challenges.

Each of the 10-phase project will be funded at approximately \$300,000.

David Danielson, DOE's assistant secretary for the agency's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, announced the projects Wednesday.

The Advanced Manufacturing Office, that is part of Danielson's responsibilities, created the new program to advance clean energy

technologies, increase the efficiency of manufacturing processes, accelerate innovation, shorten the time it takes to bring new technologies to market and improve the quality of products.

The program also supports the DOE's broader Clean Energy Manufacturing Initiative to increase U.S. competitiveness through manufacturing clean-energy technologies, boosting energy productivity and leveraging low-cost domestic energy resources and feedstocks, Danielson explained.

The Livermore Lab launched four "seedling" projects and put in

Downtown ready for Brew Crawl

Tickets on sale for annual St. Patrick's event

By JEB BING

The fifth annual St. Patrick's Brew Crawl will return to downtown Pleasanton on March 19, two days late but still in time for the full weekend of St. Patrick's entertainment across the region.

Downtown merchants and local breweries will come together for a memorable night of beer tasting.

Participants will sample a variety of craft beer and tasty bites at more than 25 locations on and around Main Street. To add to the festive spirit of this event, guests are encouraged to wear green and other fun St. Patrick's Day accessories.

Pre-sale tickets started going on sale this week for \$35 at PleasantonDowntown.net as well as at Redcoats Pub, 336 St. Mary St., and Studio Seven Arts, 400 Main St. for cash or check only.

At noon March 11, ticket prices will be raised to \$40.

Tickets can be redeemed on March 19 from 4:30-7 p.m. at the starting location, Veterans Memorial Building at 301 Main St. If the event is not sold out, tickets will be available for \$45 cash only starting at 4:30 p.m.

Participating breweries include Alaskan Brewery, Ale Industries, Altamont Beer Works, Cool Beerworks, DasBrew, Dust Bowl Brewing Co., E.J. Phair Brewing Company, Eight Bridges Brewing, Epidemic Ales, Hermitage Brewing Company, Lagunitas Brewing Company, Mendocino Brewing Company, Main Street Brewery, Sourced BBQ and Spirits, Speakeasy Ales & Lagers, The Deschutes Brewery and

Pleasanton siblings raise nearly 4,000 toys for kids in custody hearings

Family rallied Walnut Grove Elementary to collect toys for Alameda County dependency courts

By MEREDITH BAUER

Walking into the Alameda County courtroom, lugging a bag of donated toys, 8-year-old Colin Lambert thought about the kids who come to this room scared and alone.

Colin and his sister, Taryn, were the driving force behind a recent toy drive that raised more than 3,900 toys for children who visit Alameda County courthouses for custody hearings.

"They said they felt sad and lonely and they didn't have much to hang onto," Colin said lawyers at the courthouse explained while dropping off the toys. "It makes me feel good that we're helping them."

Colin, a Walnut Grove Elementary student, and Taryn, a Harvest Park Middle School student, rallied students at Walnut Grove to raise bags of toys for children, which they delivered Feb. 10. This is the third year the duo has run a toy drive through their at-home donation project, Bears that Care, their mom Kerry Lambert said.

Children who come to the county courthouse in Oakland or San Leandro are often frightened, uprooted and sometimes alone. Hearings sometimes decide whether a child will stay under the care of their parents or will go into the

protection of the state as a result of abuse, neglect or if their parents are unable to care for them.

When a child comes into a courtroom, the judge will smile and talk with the child, offering them a book and a toy from a display in the courtroom for them to keep.

"I see kids who come in, and they're often so scared and really so alone. They may have lost everything. They may have lost everything they know," Kerry said. "By the judge giving them a toy, it makes the process seem less scary."

The Lambert siblings were cleaning out their closets to donate toys to the courtroom at their mom's insistence when they decided to make the chore a school-wide project, said Kerry, who is often working at the Alameda County courthouse as a Child Protective Services court officer.

"If we were able to do this much just cleaning out our closets, what would it look like if we got all of Walnut Grove to clean out their closets?" she recalled her kids saying.

"We saw that we weren't playing with them and we didn't need them, so we thought that some of the kids would really like them," Taryn said.

The first year, they raised about 700 toys, and they raised about 400



COURTESY OF KERRY LAMBERT

Pleasanton children carry bags of donated toys into the Alameda County courthouse in San Leandro last week. The toy drive, spearheaded by a Pleasanton family, raised nearly 4,000 toys for children who go through the court system.

the second year. This year, a gaggle of Walnut Grove students delivered 3,972 toys to the three Alameda

County dependency courtrooms.

"We want to do the toy drive next year, and we're hoping to

make it a nonprofit so we can do things for the other kids," Colin said. ■



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**Pleasanton
Weekly**

Committee weighs Baker's bill to fund support for domestic violence victims

Law would allow Californians to make donations to programs via state tax returns

By JEREMY WALSH

Proposed legislation from Pleasanton's Assemblywoman, Catharine Baker (R-San Ramon), to create a new funding stream for domestic violence victim support programs remains before the State Senate after passing the Assembly unanimously late last month.

Assembly Bill 1399 would establish a "California Domestic Violence Fund" that would be funded through donations made by California residents on their tax returns to support nonprofit organizations that provide services to domestic violence victims and their children — programs Baker said have been woefully underfunded in recent years.

"Throughout California there is an increasing need for domestic violence programs, yet decreasing resources are preventing these programs from meeting the needs of thousands of children and families," Baker said in a statement after her Assembly colleagues approved the bill Jan. 27.

"By giving Californians the opportunity to contribute to programs helping domestic violence victims, AB 1399 efficiently increases the available resources and ensures more families receive the support

and services they need," she added.

The bill has been referred to the State Senate Governance and Finance Committee for consideration.

AB 1399 allows people to voluntarily contribute money — minimum of \$1 — in excess of their tax liability by writing in the donation amount next to the California Domestic Violence Fund. A box would be added to the tax forms, once another voluntary contribution designation is removed or space made available.

Funds raised would then be made available through grants to registered 501(c)(3) nonprofits that are considered active grant recipients under the Comprehensive Statewide Domestic Violence Program within the state's Office of Emergency Services (OES).

Funds could not be used toward administrative costs for grant recipients or the OES.

Domestic violence victim support programs desperately need the new resources after facing funding shortfalls in recent years, Baker said.

"On just a single day in 2014, 1,216 requests for services from domestic violence victims went unmet, leaving thousands of individuals, children and families without a safe place

See **BAKER** on Page 7

New leaders named on East Bay Regional Park District board

District operates 65 parks, including Pleasanton Ridge, Shadow Cliffs

By JEB BING

The East Bay Regional Park District's Board of Directors has inducted new leaders for 2016. Leadership positions rotate annually.

The district is a system of public parks and trails in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Established in 1934, the system comprises 119,000 acres in 65 parks including the Pleasanton Ridge and Shadow Cliffs lake and recreation areas in Pleasanton. In all, it operates more than 1,250 miles of trails for hiking, biking, horseback riding and nature learning.

This year's officers for the district are Doug Siden of Alameda, board president; Beverly Lane of Danville, vice president; Dennis Waespi of Castro Valley, treasurer

and Diane Burgis of Oakley, secretary.

Whitney Dotson of Richmond, Ayn Wieskamp of Livermore and John Sutter of Oakland round out the seven-member board.

Siden was first elected to the board in November 1992. Prior to his retirement in 1999, he was executive director of a successful program to provide environmental education and recreational experiences to youth, children, families and adults for over 20 years.

Lane, a former mayor of Danville, was elected to the park district board in 1994. She has led efforts to establish the Iron Horse Regional Trail, the Calaveras Ridge Trail and Sycamore Valley Open Space Park. She is also a prominent local historian.

Waespi, elected to the board in 2014, was an employee of the park district for 36 years before retiring. He has also served on the boards of the Castro Valley Sanitary District and Hayward Area Recreation and Park District.

Burgis, a former Oakley city councilwoman, is executive director of Friends of Marsh Creek. She was elected to the district board in 2014.

The board meets the first and third Tuesdays of every month. Members are publicly elected to four-year terms, and represent different geographic areas of the East Bay.

For information about the district and its board of directors, contact Carolyn Jones, public information supervisor at (510) 544-2217 or cjones@ebparks.org. ■

Boy hit while cycling near Dublin High

A 12-year-old boy riding a bicycle was injured when he was hit by a car Wednesday morning outside of Dublin High School, police and fire officials said.

The first report of the collision came in at 7:51 a.m. at the high school at 8151 Village Parkway.

The boy and his bicycle were trapped underneath the vehicle, Alameda County Fire Department spokeswoman Aisha Knowles said.

Firefighters used a hydraulic air-bag system and the Jaws of Life to lift the car and rescue the boy, fire officials said.

The boy was taken by helicopter to Children's Hospital in Oakland to be treated for injuries not considered life-threatening, officials said Wednesday morning. His name has not been released. See www.PleasantonWeekly.com for updates on this story.

—Bay City News Service

Moderate commercial market expansion expected for rest of 2016

Property values, price gains seen surpassing 2007 peaks

Despite various global and domestic hurdles hindering economic growth, steady job gains and stable leasing demand should help keep commercial real estate activity expanding in 2016.

In a report by the National Association of Realtors, commercial real estate activity is forecast to gradually grow this year with demand for space holding steady across all commercial sectors.

While commercial property values and price gains are expected to flatten after surpassing 2007 peaks in some major markets, investors will still benefit from the strong income flows generated from new and existing leases.

The report, "Expectations & Market Realities in Real Estate — Navigating through the Crosscurrents," was prepared by the NAR in association with Situs Real Estate Research Corporation and Deloitte.

The fifth annual joint report draws on the three organizations' respective research and expert analysis and offers an objective outlook on commercial real estate through forecasts and commentary on the current economy, capital markets and commercial

real estate property markets.

A research-based assessment of the office, industrial, apartment, retail and hotel property sectors is also provided.

"Historically low interest rates, especially in treasuries, combined with commercial real estate's stable prices and value make this asset an attractive investment," said Ken Riggs, president of Situs RERC. "This year, the commercial real estate market should moderate, which could stabilize prices."

Vacancies are expected to continue to decline slightly this year for all property types, except in the apartment sector, where they are forecast to increase modestly by the end of the year as more new project completions come onto the market.

Continued job growth, demand exceeding supply and limited new construction (outside of multifamily) should lead to rising rents and steady investor returns, which overall will shift away from capital appreciation as price growth levels off in many markets.

Continuing on the same slow

trajectory seen for many years, the U.S. economy is facing headwinds from a rising dollar, financial market volatility and geopolitical concerns. Still, it is forecast to grow at a rate of 2-3% this year, which is stronger than most global economies and enough to generate around two million net new jobs over the next year.

Deflationary pressures related to low gasoline and energy prices are expected to diminish by mid-year, in part because of robust growth in apartment rents.

"Supported by solid hiring in most parts of the country, the demand for ownership and rental housing will continue to increase in 2016 despite another year of meager economic expansion," said Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist.

"While supply shortages will weigh on housing affordability and push home prices and rents higher, the housing sector will keep the U.S. economy afloat and lead the residential investment component of GDP growth by up to 10% this year," Yun said. ■

—Jeb Bing

BAKER

Continued from Page 6

to stay or access to vital counseling and resources," according to Baker.

For those unmet needs, 49% of

programs reported that victims returned to their abuser, 37% reported that victims turned to homelessness and 16% reported families ended up living in their car, the first-term assemblywoman said.

"With the unanimous bipartisan

support of AB 1399 in the Assembly, domestic violence programs are one step closer to receiving much-needed additional funding and resources without incurring an unsustainable financial obligation for the state's own finances," she added. ■

County Clerk-Recorder expands hours at Dublin office

'Significant step' in offering greater convenience to customers, says office-holder Manning

The Alameda County Clerk-Recorder Office's new satellite location in Dublin has expanded its hours to 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

The new office at 7600 Dublin Blvd. began operations in early December, but has been open only on Mondays and Tuesdays.

"Starting this week, we will offer the same weekday office hours in Dublin that we have offered for many years at our main office in downtown Oakland," said Steve Manning, the county's auditor-controller/clerk-recorder. "We believe this is a significant step in our efforts to offer greater

convenience to our customers."

The Dublin office will offer services such as providing certified copies of vital records (birth, death and marriage certificates), certified copies of official public records (recorded real estate documents) and document recording.

In the future, the Dublin office will expand services to include the issuance of marriage licenses, notary bonds, fictitious business names and other records, officials said. Currently, these services are offered only at the clerk-recorder's main office at 1106 Madison St., Oakland. ■

—Jeb Bing

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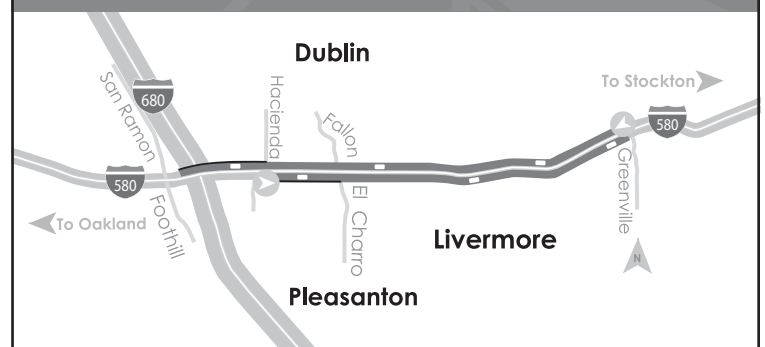
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A smart, reliable choice

Symphony features young competition winners

Amador Valley cellist, Dublin violinist take first-place in annual contest

By PATRICIA BOYLE

"Color and Romance," Livermore-Amador Symphony's second concert of its 53rd season, will take place tomorrow at the Bankhead Theater with Lara Webber conducting. The program includes music of Christopher Theofanidis, Camille Saint-Saëns and Johannes Brahms and will feature the winners of the symphony's 2015-16 Competition for Young Musicians: cellist Jiho Choi, a junior at Amador Valley High School, and violinist Dong Hui (Tony) Kim, a Dublin High junior.

The program begins with Theofanidis' "Rainbow Body."

"Rainbow Body" is an extraordinarily beautiful, spiritually uplifting piece," Webber said. "He bases the work on a particularly evocative chant by Hildegard Von Bingen."

Next, Choi, 16, will perform the first movement of Shostakovich's

Cello Concerto No. 1, considered one of the most difficult cello concertos. Choi, the daughter of Seung Lee and Hyung Choi, made her Carnegie Hall debut at age 14 as winner of the American Protege International Concerto Competition.

"When I have difficulty with interpreting a passage, I try to imagine the composer in the process of writing it, transcribing his raw emotions into melodies that can convey them to other,"

Choi said. "I'm always amazed how even across centuries those feelings are preserved and projected."

In 2013 and 2014 she attended the San Francisco Conservatory Pre-College Division with scholar-

ships from Music@Menlo. During the 2014-15 school year, she earned first-place prizes at the state and regional rounds of the 2014 Music Teachers National Association Junior Strings Competition; won the Chinese Music Teachers' Association of

Northern California's International Music Competition; and performed in the Junior Bach Festival. She currently studies under Jonathan Koh at the California Music Preparatory Academy.

Next on the concert program is Saint-Saëns' "Danse Bacchanale" from his opera "Samson and Delilah." It opens with a haunting oboe solo, then picks up pace. The exotic oboe returns, then a flowing melo-

dy builds to an emotional climax.

Following intermission, Kim, 16, will perform the first movement of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, one of the most technically difficult.

"The reason I enjoy playing the piano and the violin is that doing so helps me convey the various emotions I feel," Kim said. "Whether I am happy, sad, or nostalgic, there is always a piece of music through which I can manifest such feelings."

Kim, the son of Sang and Sunny Kim, is concertmaster of his school orchestra and a first violinist in the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. He took first place in various categories in the 2013 U.S. Open Music Competitions and first place at the 2013 Korea Times Youth Music Competition, the Contemporary Division of the 2014 East Bay Piano Competition, and the 2014 U.S. International Music Competition.

He currently studies violin with

Davis Law at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He is secretary of the Bay Area Association of Visiting Musicians, sharing music with hospice patients at veterans' hospitals.

"Music, as an influential force throughout my life, has always been with me," Kim said. "This is why I seem to find my place as a performer — I can share my musical experience with others through my playing in front of them."

The concert concludes with Brahms' "Variations on a Theme of Joseph Haydn."

"Each variation is a small masterpiece in and of itself," said Conductor Webber, "but all are carefully connected, progressing as a series of character studies on the chorale theme presented at the beginning. A fantastic piece!"

For more information on the performance, call 373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org. ■

Editor's note: Patricia Boyle has won awards for her short stories and has been writing about the Livermore-Amador Symphony for three years.

Making phased retirement work for you

72% of pre-retirees over 50 want to keep working, but with more flexibility

By NATHANIEL SILLIN

Phased retirement is gaining steam. But before you sign on, it's important to understand how "phasing out" may affect your long-term finances.

Washington, D.C. is leading the way. The federal government authorized the move for its own employees several years ago and began accepting applications in late 2014 from workers aged 55 and up with a desire to switch to half-time employment in exchange for receiving half their salary and annuity.

For employees with a long-term view, phased retirement can offer significant benefits, but it requires due diligence and planning. Among the advantages, phased retirement means that there doesn't need to be a hard stop on a successful career.

In fact, a 2014 study by Merrill Lynch in partnership with Age Wave said that 72% of pre-retirees over the age of 50 report that their ideal retirement will include working "often in new, more flexible and

fulfilling ways."

The study also noted that 47% of current retirees were already working or planning to work during their retirement years.

If your company is talking about phased retirement or may do so in the future, there are some key questions to consider.

What exactly do you want to phase into? For some workers, retirement really will mean a classic vision of travel and leisure leading into old age. But for others, the picture may be different. Some retirees will want to work and some retirees will have to work.

Such decisions will summon a host of personal finance and tax issues based on your personal situation. Read heavily and consult qualified experts before you make a decision.

What options will my employer offer over time?

While the federal government is in the lead with phased retirement, most private employers are moving

at a slower pace. This gives you time to plan.

For example, in a 2013 benefits study, the Society for Human Resource Management noted that only 6% of employers had a formal phased retirement program that provided a reduced schedule and/or responsibilities prior to full retirement. Watch how your employer's plan evolves and ask questions.

Phased or not, do you have a retirement plan in place? The decision to make a full or transitional exit from one's employer should come after years of saving and investing both at home and at work.

Years before deciding how you want to leave your career, talk to qualified retirement experts about your personal financial circumstances and what you want to do in the next phase of your life. If it's a new career, volunteer work or full retirement, develop a plan first. ■

Editor's note: Nathaniel Sillin directs Visa's financial education programs. Follow him on Twitter, @PracticalMoney.

LAB

Continued from Page 5

place a formal governance model in March 2015.

"Access to supercomputers in the Department of Energy's labs will provide a resource to American firms inventing and building clean energy technologies right here at home that no international competitor can match," Danielson said.

"The initiative pairs leading clean-energy technology companies with the world-class computing tools and expertise at our national labs to drive down the cost of materials and streamline manufacturing processes," he added. "The ultimate goal of their collaboration is to in-

crease our global competitiveness in the race to develop clean energy technology and jobs."

Companies partnering with the national labs in phase one of the project are Global Foundries of New York, Lightweight Innovations for Tomorrow Consortium in Michigan, ZoomEssence Inc. of Kentucky, United Technologies Research Center of Connecticut, Procter & Gamble of Ohio, General Electric (GE) of New York, PPG Industries Inc. of North Carolina and the Ohio Supercomputer Center/Edison Welding Institute.

Danielson also announced that in the coming weeks, DOE will solicit the next round of proposals for qualified industry partners to compete for new funding this year. ■

—Jeb Bing

BREW CRAWL

Continued from Page 5

Working Man Brewing Company.

Patrons of downtown events also can purchase VIP passes for \$125. VIP pass holders receive admission to all four 2016 downtown events, starting with the St. Patrick's Brew Crawl on March 19. The other events are the Summer Wine Stroll on July 16, Halloween Brew Crawl, Oct. 29, and the Holiday Spirit Stroll on Nov. 19. Purchased separately, those four events would cost

a total of \$160.

Also, VIPs get their own check-in table the day of the event and a chance to win a free dinner downtown during or after each event. Those dinners are given in the form of a \$50 downtown Pleasanton gift card.

For the Brew Crawl event, the PDA will be selling a limited number of designated driver tickets for \$10 on the night of the Brew Crawl.

The St. Patrick's weekend event is sponsored by Goodguys Rod & Custom Association, Red, White & Brew Fest at the Alameda County Fair and the Tri-Valley Beer Trail. ■

TAKE US ALONG



47 and counting:

Marianne and Bob Eisberg took a cruise with the Pleasanton Weekly on the ship "Silver Cloud" through the magnificent fjords of western Norway with stops in Copenhagen, Denmark and Stockholm, Sweden, celebrating their 47th wedding anniversary.

To submit your "Take Us Along" entry, email your photograph to rhodes@pleasantonweekly.com. Be sure to identify who is in the photo (names listed from left to right), the location, the date and any relevant details about where you took your Weekly.

Quintet features jazz pianist

Jazz pianist, composer, bandleader and recording artist Larry Vuckovich and the popular Vince Guaraldi Tribute Quintet are coming to the Firehouse Arts Center at 2 p.m. this Sunday. For show info, visit www.firehousearts.org.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Jail time in play for lawyer convicted of 2012 fatal crash in Dublin

An attorney who killed a bicyclist in a hit-and-run collision in Dublin in 2012 could face up to a year in county jail after a judge last week placed him back on felony probation, saying the attorney failed to live up to the terms of his probation and an agreement with the court by testing positive for cocaine.

Alameda County Superior Court Judge Michael Gaffey said he tried to give 36-year-old Spencer Freeman Smith "an opportunity" last Oct. 12 by reducing his felony hit-and-run conviction to a misdemeanor for striking and killing 57-year-old Bo Hu on Dougherty and Fall Creek roads in Dublin on May 15, 2012.



Spencer Freeman Smith

In addition, Gaffey agreed in October to reduce the sentence for Smith, who also had pleaded no contest to misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter, from five years of felony probation to three years of misdemeanor probation.

Gaffey said last week, "This was a plea bargain between the court and Mr. Smith and he has not abided by it."

The judge on Feb. 11 ordered Smith, who lived in San Ramon at the time and

practiced law in San Francisco, to serve a year in the county jail as a result of the change back to felony probation.

Smith was arrested two days after the fatal collision when Dublin police identified him as the owner of a recently purchased black 2012 Mercedes-Benz CLS550 connected with the collision.

Dublin police said Smith's car sustained extensive windshield and front-end damage and was missing parts that were recovered at the scene of the collision.

The judge could have sentenced Smith to up to three years and four months in state prison, but at a hearing last Sept. 25 he chose not to send him to prison and instead placed him on the felony probation. He then reduced the sentence to misdemeanor probation at the Oct. 12 hearing.

However, according to court records, Smith tested positive for cocaine on Oct. 29 after he returned from a trip to Dubai with his pregnant wife. He was arrested on Jan. 27 and was placed in Santa Rita Jail in Dublin after he failed to appear for a previous hearing for his probation violation.

Smith's attorney, Rebecca Feigelson, said Feb. 11 that Smith only had "trace amounts" of cocaine in his system and argued that his sentence shouldn't be changed.

Feigelson said Smith has no prior criminal record and "it could be a complete accident" that Smith collided with Hu after a night of drinking and left the scene of the collision.

But prosecutor Matt Gaidos argued that

Smith should be placed on felony probation, saying that Gaffey "gave Mr. Smith every benefit of the doubt that he was deserving of the court's leniency and that hasn't been earned."

Gaidos also said that when Smith returns to court on Feb. 25, Gaffey should consider sending Smith to state prison because he believes Smith deceived the judge about his wife's health at the Oct. 12 hearing.

Gaidos said Smith asked not to serve any time in jail in October because his wife was in delicate health because of her pregnancy and she needed bed rest.

But Gaidos said Smith and his wife then traveled to Dubai for a vacation one week later and failed to notify his probation officer, even though he wasn't supposed to travel outside of California.

The question of whether Smith deceived the court will be addressed at a hearing next Thursday.

In other police news:

- Pleasanton police and school district officials issued a public notice last week demanding high school students quit playing a popular game on and off campus, citing risk of injury or alarm.

The popular game, Assassin, has been making the rounds at Amador Valley and Foothill high schools among second-semester seniors. In the game, students have a "target" individual and have to stalk that player until they can hit them with a Nerf dart.

The game is a longtime tradition among

Pleasanton Unified seniors. School officials said students will face "disciplinary action" if they play the game on campus.

"Unfortunately, and due to the time in which we live, our students and your children are engaging in behavior that has possible dire consequences," police and school district officials said in a joint statement. "Thus far we have been fortunate to have avoided a serious injury or situation, but there is significant concern that day is coming."

Students sometimes jump from moving cars, jump out of trees and chase "targets," which could lead to an accidental injury.

Officials also stated students sometimes paint their Nerf guns to be more realistic and do "drive-by" Nerf shootings in public places to surprise their "target."

"When viewed through a non-participant's eyes, the behaviors look and have all the elements of an actual threatening or violent event unfolding. They often prompt multiple calls to the police who respond to what they believe is a violent incident in progress," the agencies stated.

Police said this wastes the time of emergency personnel. School officials said the game is banned on campus.

Officials urged juniors and sophomores to refuse to play the game when they become seniors, regardless of tradition. ■

—Meredith Bauer

—Bay City News Service contributed to this report.

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Feb. 14

Commercial burglary

- 10:27 a.m. in the 2200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Theft

- 5:01 a.m., 4500 block of Chabot Drive; theft from auto
- 12:34 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 1:26 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 2:39 p.m. in the 5800 block of Valley Avenue
- 5:03 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Vandalism

- 9:01 a.m. in the 8300 block of Regency Drive

Feb. 13

Alcohol violation

- 1:39 a.m. in the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

Drug violation

- 1:23 a.m. in the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Fraud

- 6:30 p.m. in the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Residential burglary

- 8:25 p.m. in the 7300 block of Stonedale Drive

Feb. 12

Burglary

- 11:12 p.m. in the 4500 block of Willow Road

Drug violation

- 5:06 a.m. in the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

Theft

- 8:00 a.m., 5600 block of Owens Drive; theft from structure
- 1:04 p.m. in the 5600 block of Black Avenue

Feb. 11

Graffiti

- 7:34 a.m., intersection of Main Street and Vervais Avenue
- 4:04 p.m. in the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

Robbery

- 4:11 p.m. in the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard

Theft

- 10:55 a.m., 4200 block of Churchill Drive, theft from auto
- 5:19 p.m. in the 11500 block of Dublin Canyon Road
- 9:03 p.m. in the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

- 7:38 a.m. in the 200 block of Main Street

Feb. 10

Drug violation

- 1:05 p.m. in the 7200 block of Johnson Drive

Missing person report

- 12:32 p.m. on Bernal Avenue

Theft

- 8:36 a.m. in the 900 block of Hopkins Way
- 9:21 a.m., 4300 block of Mirador Drive, theft from auto
- 10:49 a.m., 4700 block of Willow Road, theft from auto
- 1:09 p.m. in the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 3:20 p.m., 4000 block of Pimlico Drive; theft from structure

PPD swears in Merced native as new officer

BY MEREDITH BAUER

The Pleasanton Police Department recently inducted a new officer into its ranks, with Ricky Barcelo getting sworn in at a department ceremony Feb. 3.

Raised in Merced, Barcelo graduated from Golden Valley High School and is working on a degree in criminal justice from Merced College.

He previously worked as a Merced County Sheriff's deputy from 2013 to earlier this year

before getting hired at Pleasanton's police department.

He fills a department vacancy created when an officer retired in 2015. After a 16-week field training process, he will be assigned as a solo patrol officer, according to Pleasanton police officials. ■



Ricky Barcelo

- 3:33 p.m., 2100 block of Arroyo Court; bike theft

- 7:20 p.m. in the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

- 10 a.m. in the 6300 block of Alvord Way

Feb. 9

Fraud

- 7:26 p.m. in the 4200 block of Pleasanton Avenue

Graffiti

- 8:30 a.m. in the 3200 block of Stanley Boulevard



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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Pleasanton Weekly

For \$1, feds sell 3.5-acre site for city-owned senior housing development

The City Council on Tuesday signed an agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) releasing the federal government's interest in the 50-unit Kottinger Place senior housing property at 240 Kottinger Drive, enabling the first phase of a new 185-unit, affordable-priced housing development for seniors to proceed on the 3.5-acre site.

With the site now owned by the city of Pleasanton, work will get underway next month on the long-awaited project after 11 years of planning. To be called Kottinger Gardens, new cottage apartments and units in a new three-story building will be built in phases with the garden apartments coming first.

Seniors now living in Kottinger Place, some in their 90s, will have their belongings packed up free of charge and relocated to a similar facility, possibly in Livermore or Dublin, while those apartments are constructed. Then they'll be moved back into the new units, compliments of Foster City-based MidPen Housing Corp., the devel-

oper. They'll also have priority to move into the three-story apartment building if they choose after it gets built in a following project phase.

Work on Pleasanton Gardens, across Kottinger Drive, will be the final phase of MidPen's housing development, which again will require demolition of the existing 1960s-era buildings. At that time, the street will be narrowed at that location, speed bumps added and special pedestrian walkways installed between the two new properties.

This new development best meets the objectives to increase subsidized senior housing in Pleasanton while retaining the existing site character, achieving financial efficiency and sustainability and developing a site plan that is complementary to the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Final approval of HUD's control of Pleasanton Place and the property it occupies came with a disposition agreement the federal agency signed. Under terms of the agreement, the city paid HUD \$1 for the site, thereby transferring ownership to the city so that a sin-



COURTESY OF CITY OF PLEASANTON

Three-story apartment building planned for Vineyard Avenue will feature contemporary kitchens, bathrooms and more living space for seniors now housed in Kottinger Place. With other new buildings, spaces available for subsidized low-income seniors will more than triple.

gle development with centralized management could be established. The \$60 million development will be funded primarily through federal tax dollars with a contribution of \$13.7 million from Pleasanton's lower-income housing fund.

Rather than search for new land for the development, the Kottinger Place Redevelopment Task Force that labored through scores of meetings since 2004 determined

that it would make sense to tear down the old buildings — which lack modern amenities such as air conditioning — and keep everything on the current site. Located near First Street, the site is also close to parks, grocery stores, pharmacies and public transit.

MidPen will operate the housing development with a 30-year lease that is renewable. The city of Pleasanton will own the land. ■

LETTERS

Online dating story

Dear Editor,

I got a kick out of your article, "The Roller Coaster of Online Dating" (Feb. 12, 2016). I met my husband in San Diego back in 1984 through one of the original dating services called "Great Expectations Video Dating Service." That was before anyone had a computer, let alone the Internet.

We had to drive to the company's office and look through three-ringed binders with paper photographs and handwritten profiles in plastic sleeves. Then we would look at a very amateur video of the person being interviewed by one of the employees.

If we liked a person, Great Expectations would send them a post card. Then, that person would go to the company's office, look at your photos, profile and VHS tape, and if they agreed to meet you, phone numbers would finally be exchanged. The process could take over a month.

In our case, persistence paid off, and we will be celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary this April!

—Nancy (Langstaff) Krakauer

Demand better from our government

Dear Editor,

It was disappointing to see that Mayor Jerry Thorne, in his announcement of his candidacy for re-election during a sold-out breakfast of Pleasanton business and developer movers and shakers —

an astonishing 10 months before Election Day — that one his priorities will be the construction of a new Costco and hotels on Johnson Drive.

This despite there has yet to be a single City Council public hearing on the project and the broad public opposition evident from the last city-sponsored neighborhood meeting where over 150 residents and small-business owners expressed their views.

The city staff has been relentlessly pushing the approval of this project, and apparently Thorne has already made up his mind before he hears from a single constituent. Those of us active in Pleasanton politics have long bemoaned our "bought and paid for" council representatives, but the Costco proposal has clearly brought to light what C. Wright Mills described: the merger of corporation and state into a "Power Elite," making decisions without regard for and beyond the influence of the public.

Our only hope of regaining our power as democratic citizens is if enough of us stand up and demand something better from our government.

—Matt Sullivan

Pleasanton City Council, 2004-2012

Feb. 5 issue

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the Pleasanton Weekly.

I enjoyed and agreed with the editorial and many good articles. The story by Meredith Bauer, "Unseen struggles," brought tears to my eyes. Well done.

—Pat Griffin

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Committee
Monday, February 22, 2016

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

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/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, visit us at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

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The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840.

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Community support of the Pleasanton Weekly is welcomed and encouraged through memberships at levels of \$5, \$8 or \$10 per month through automatic credit card charges. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to www.PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

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'Less than Human' — the author or his tormentors?

Poignant memoir tells
of overcoming childhood abuse

By Dolores Fox Ciardelli

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pleasanton author Allen Long opens up about his experiences with abuse in his new memoir, "Less than Human."

Pleasanton author Allen Long, 59, decided a few years ago that his natural writing form is the memoir. And, boy, does he have a lot of subject matter.

His newly published book, "Less than Human," recounts being reared in Arlington, Va., by a father and mother who were educated and successful to the outside world, while at home his father regularly beat Allen and his younger brother, cheered on by their mother.

"The first half of my life, my brother and I were physically abused as children, then I had a 15-year marriage — some of it was good, but my first wife became very verbally abusive and cheated on me several times," Long said in an interview last week. "I felt like my parents and my first wife treated me as less than human."

But who was really less than human, the author or his tormentors? Animals are portrayed positively in the book, too, so the title is a triple play on words, Long noted.

The title is one of many thought-provoking things about the memoir, which was published by Black Rose Writing. The book does not move linearly, but progresses more by theme and association through his first anguished marriage, childhood beatings, teen romances, ordeals in the business world and a chapter that begins, "My first night in a psych ward ..."

"I'm hoping it gives double pleasure for the reader," Long said, "like a jigsaw puzzle that gets better and better as the pieces fall into place."

It all comes together in the last chapter

with the love story that has been a happy marriage for 20 years. And after decades in the corporate world, Long now works as a certified nursing assistant in a hospital, finally in a "helping" profession, which he said he should have been doing all along.

Many of the chapters have appeared in

**'I think people who were
abused as children would
like the book because I end
up with a happy adult life,'**

Allen Long,

Pleasanton author, abuse survivor

print before, in literary magazines.

"I realized after I published a number of my memoirs that if I write X number more of these, I will have documented all the important moments of my life," Long said. "I started writing about the most dramatic moments of my life, the highs and the lows."

Long earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Virginia Tech, a master's in fiction writing from Hollins University, and an MFA in fiction writing from the University of Arizona. He continued to write throughout his life.

"I was writing short stories that were being published a lot, around the year 2000," he

said. "Then I thought, 'I want to write something really different.'"

"I'd always been so outraged by how sleazy the business world is that I wrote a piece called 'Soul Breach,' which is a chapter in the book," he continued. "A friend of mine said, 'This is one of the best things you've ever written. I think memoir might be your natural form.'"

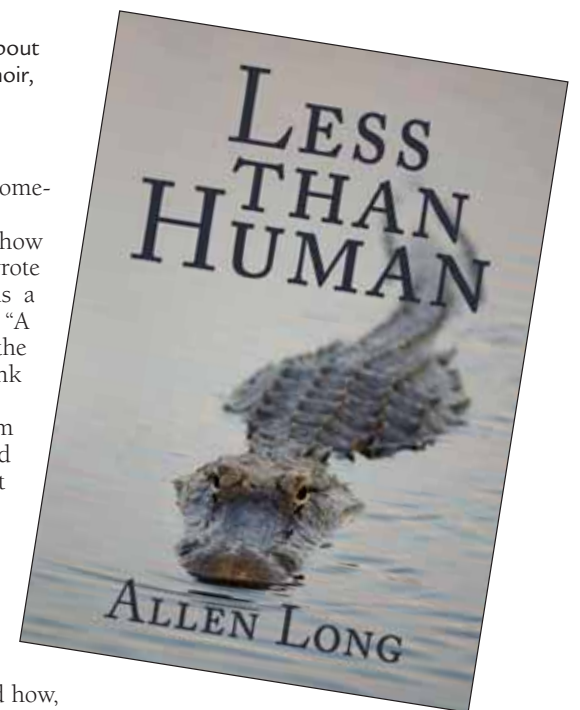
Long explains in "Soul Breach": "From 2001 to 2008, my income plummeted from \$200,000+ to \$20,000. I went from serving as founder and president of a small but successful San Francisco Bay Area marketing and competitive strategy consulting firm to teaching swim lessons and coaching for a swim team. This is the story of how my second wife Elizabeth and I lost most of our money in the recession and how, surprisingly, I found my soul."

"I like to expose corruption and unethical behavior," Long said, citing his article published by Emory University, "The Branding Crisis at Walmart," which can be read online. More recent personal stories online are "Freakout," published by Verdad; and "Sleepover," by Ray's Road Review.

Long suffers from anxious depression, a condition he was born with, and in 2008 he ended up in a psychiatric ward, detailed in the chapter "Freefloating."

"I had basically hit rock bottom," he recalled. "Then I started getting the meds I needed, then did an outpatient program and totally put my life on track. Plus I absolutely adore my wife, who has been by my side. I've been totally normal since 2008."

In the book, he also describes his addiction to swimming, which brought him pleasure for hours each day through his child-



hood and beyond. He coached Pleasanton's Seahawks competitive swim team for 4 1/2 seasons, beginning in 2008.

But the childhood cruelty by his parents haunts every part of the memoir.

"I will never know why they abused us from the time we were small children, until each of us turned 12," Long said. "My psychologist said that when they were dating they recognized they each had the same kind of rage, and it was safe to let out this rage in sight of the other person."

Long has contacted two groups that focus on prevention of child abuse hoping to benefit them with proceeds from any books they sell. He thinks "Less than Human" will give hope to victims.

"I think people who were abused as children would like the book because I end up with a happy adult life," he said. ■



Foothill High alumnus Kevin poses for a photo in his mom's apartment during Christmas break earlier this winter. His mom, Erica, raised him in Pleasanton to make sure he'd have the opportunity to go to college. A student at Chico State, Kevin aims to become a pediatric nurse.

COLLEGE and careers\$

The reason low-income families strive to stay in Pleasanton

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MEREDITH BAUER

Angelica celebrates after her graduation from Amador Valley High two years ago. Now a sophomore at San Francisco State, she said she's working hard to one day provide for her parents, who are undocumented.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SACRIFICING FOR SUCCESS



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

When Kevin thinks about his future, he thinks about how nice it will be when he's able to afford a place for his mom and siblings to live on their own.

Kevin relishes the time he can spend at home, but often he's hours away at Chico State, more than halfway through his sophomore year studying nursing.

"I'm just really excited to start my career just so I can help my family out," the 20-year-old said.

Kevin is part of a small but resilient community. Low-income residents who live in Pleasanton often do so to keep their kids in the high-achieving Pleasanton Unified School District. Kevin and others in this article asked that their last names not be used to protect their parents who are undocumented immigrants.

To make ends meet, many rent out rooms in their small apartments, work multiple part-time jobs and accept donated food and clothing when possible.

The sacrifice isn't just for the pleasure of living in a safe, bustling suburb. It's for the moment when their children walk across that high school graduation stage.

Thinking back on that day, Kevin's mom

Erica remembered the elation that filled her heart as tears streamed down her cheeks.

"It's like my graduation, too," she said. "I'm screaming like crazy. I cried and my kids clapped. My friend said, 'I've never seen anyone so happy.'"

For Angelica, an Amador Valley High alumna who attends San Francisco State, college was always part of the plan. Her parents didn't have much, but they gave her a certain set of expectations — and the schooling to get there.

"I never doubted, 'Oh, maybe I'm not going to college,'" she said. "The conversation when I was a child was, 'You're going to college.'"

The oldest son

Kevin sees potential in his younger siblings, and he won't accept any less than a college education for them.

"It's the only way out, really," he said. "My mom wouldn't be really happy with anything else."

The family gathered in their Pleasanton apartment for Christmas, and after days of his siblings asking when he'd be home, Kevin walked through the door. As important as his studies are, he said these are the moments he cherishes.

He told them about college life, preparing them for the days when they'll be scouring university pamphlets. His long-term plan is pediatric nursing. He said it would be a joy to help a bright young kid get well to live out their full potential.

At first, growing up in the Pleasanton school system as a low-income student was



Left: Miguel Ornelas' daughter, who attends a Pleasanton elementary school, completes her homework using a Chromebook loaned to her family by the school district since her family couldn't afford a computer.

Below: Pleasanton Unified School District parent Erica holds her "Chico State Mom" placard. She said her son Kevin's graduation from high school felt "like my graduation, too." He is in his second year studying nursing at Chico State.

tough. He couldn't afford the gadgets that were prerequisites for "coolness," and he brought his mom home food from the cafeteria on days when the monthly budget didn't stretch far enough.

"We grew up super close. We went through some struggles, but you just kind of get over it," he said. "She's crazy hardworking. She's like the hardest working person I've ever met."

But life improved, and Kevin said he found friends who didn't care about the type of shoes he wore or what was in his mom's bank account. They cared more about what was in his head and heart.

He joined the wrestling team at Foothill High and earned a small pile of medals. His teachers pushed him when he needed a nudge and supported him when he stumbled. He learned how to expect success from himself. Now at Chico State, he knows he can meet the mandatory 3.5 GPA for his scholarships.

"I'm very capable of that, even higher," he said.

He knows his siblings are capable, too. His brother, Angel, is in middle school but wants to be a businessman, a Realtor or an entrepreneur. Their sister Maria wants to be a doctor, Erica said. Their 5-year-old brother wants to be a mariachi singer or a baseball player.

Angel said he's considering joining his school's robotics club next year, and a wide smile crosses his face when he talks about the science labs he's working on in class.

"I think I set a good example for them," Kevin said.

Just like her

Angelica, 19, grew up on a quiet Pleasanton street in a home next to a park. She thought everyone lived in places where they could run to a swing set and fly as high as possible, where gravity was the only limit.

She didn't feel the weight of her parents' economic status until she began to ease into adolescence. She saw her dad work grueling hours and her mom brought in meager pay as a babysitter for other Hispanic working families.

"He goes out early, comes home later at night. He really only had Sunday off, so that was our family day," she said of her dad, who works in maintenance and landscaping. "Honestly, they always say, 'I don't want you to end up like me,' struggling, working all the time, not making enough money, having to work days that should be spent with family."

As a sophomore at San Francisco State, Angelica is on the path to being a child psychologist and wants to be a bilingual school counselor to help kids in her same situation.

She wants to "feel like I've done something and make my parents proud."

Over the years, she helped her mom care for children at their home, volunteered with their Catholic church's vacation Bible school and volunteered within the Hispanic community, trying to give what little she had to others who had less.

She began her schooling in the Valley View Elementary dual immersion program, and she has only happy memories of her youngest years there. Even when classes were tough, she appreciated the teachers who pushed her to be her best.

"I had a pretty good childhood," she said. "I love these schools. I'm really thankful that I came to these schools."

Schoolwork wasn't much of an issue, but social life was tough. In a world of Ugg boots and Abercrombie & Fitch T-shirts, she wore hand-me-downs and Goodwill's finest.

"I didn't know about brand names in middle school," she said.

Eventually, she stopped caring. She just shrugs when her friends go on vacation to Hawaii, knowing she'll be spending summer breaks working at a Pleasanton restaurant to afford textbooks and the little luxuries she buys herself, usually Urban Decay makeup.

"It feels good to be able to work for it," she said.

Her sister is also pursuing higher education, and their 16-year-old brother attends Amador Valley. Angelica's family is set on making sure he goes to college, too.

Long-term, she wants to be a school counselor to help children whose families share her story — Spanish-speaking, alone, nervous. She said she knows how much they can achieve, if only they're shown a little grace.

Becoming 'somebody'

There's a theme among some low-income Pleasanton Unified parents. They want their children to be "somebody" — to be the end of their family's cycle of poverty.

Kevin and Angelica said their families taught them kindness, empathy and strength against overwhelming odds, so their parents are already "somebody" to them. But some low-income parents said their dreams were stunted by a childhood of limited education, so they're fighting for their children's dreams instead.



"I'd be happy to see her become something, like a dentist," said Miguel Ornelas, the father of elementary-age daughter and son in Pleasanton. "If they can go the way they're going right now with the help they have here in Pleasanton, they're going to be somebody. They can be lawyers. They can be dentists. They can work in a bank."

These children, once they grow out of being children, see their first priority as taking care of their families. They see themselves as the future breadwinners and role models for their siblings and neighbors. If they falter, they'll have to bear the cost of their siblings following that same path.

Gabina Sanchez, a low-income Pleasanton Unified parent, said her 11-year-old son William wants to be a businessman or a paleontologist.

"He'll tell me, 'One day, I'll have my own office. You're not going to have to work anymore,'" she said.

William just started middle school, but he said he knows middle school grades decide high school achievement, and high school grades determine college acceptances. So he pays attention in class and studies hard

when he isn't helping his mom take care of his 4-year-old brother.

"My mom wants me to be successful in school, so I'm paying attention in school. And she wants me to go to a good college and get a good job," he said. "I really love her, and you should always love your mom."

Erica said she wants her kids to be successful, but she also wants them to cultivate their moral capital.

"When you're someone in this life, you need to help others," she said. "Right now, I don't have nothing, but I help others, and that's the best part. Even if I'm not rich, I can help others."

Kevin said it took him a while to realize the most valuable parts of his life couldn't be bought or earned.

"A couple of my friends who were really well-off, they never spend time with their families. They're really distant. You realize what matters is how much time you spend with your family and how much they love you," he said. "I just want to make my career happen and prove to her that everything she's done is worth it." ■



HAPPY CAMPERS

Children learn independence, enjoy time on their own

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Summer camps offer more than meets the eye. Although roasting a perfect marshmallow is a good skill to have, the most important thing learned at camp is independence.

Going to camp means new experiences, getting away from the family and fending for oneself. In today's world, when parents keep a very close eye on their children, this independence takes on special importance.

Camps are about exploring, and this may be rare in young lives where activities are scripted and tightly scheduled. At camp, boys and girls learn that they can choose activities, make friends and do things on their own.

In "Homesick and Happy: How Time Away from Parents Can Help a Child Grow," psychologist Michael Thompson cites a study in which people were asked their happiest childhood memories. More than 80% shared a memory when their parents were not involved.

Thompson interpreted this to mean that children like to accomplish something on their own, without worrying about what their parents would think. Such moments also give them a feeling of accomplishment.

At first, some parents may find the thought of sending their little ones off to camp overwhelming, Thompson writes.

"But parents' first instinct — to shelter their

offspring above all else — is actually depriving kids of the major developmental milestones that occur through letting them go — and watching them come back transformed," he explains.

The world is a scary place for parents, although few would deny the importance of becoming independent. Summer camp is the perfect time and place for this as children grow without being under the watchful eyes of parents.

Children socialize differently at camp than at school. Learning differences aren't noted as at school, so everyone fits in. The energetic ones who might get in trouble in the classroom may discover they are leaders.

Parents report that children come back from

camp changed, with new emotional and social skills, such as being team members, and knowing how to assess risks and cope with hardships. They seem more open to new experiences, like sports they were encouraged to play at camp. And they do things like make their beds and take their plates to the sink without being asked.

Summer camps are even more important today because they get children away from technology. A lot of growing can be done when they leave behind distractions such as video games and smartphones as well as the pressures of their everyday lives.

Instead of using social media, kids learn

See **CAMPERS** on Page 15



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5 MUST-SEE MOVIES

By JEREMY WALSH

Attending summer camps can help children and teens experience the great outdoors, grow a creative passion, meet new people and create lifelong memories.

At least that's what I've heard.

I never went to camp as a kid, so I don't really have first-hand experience — though I did spend most summers as a youngster playing sports, swimming or just running around at day care.

But I have seen my fair share of camp movies, and the exercise of creating a top-five list of must-sees in the genre walked that fine line between fun and exhausting.

While I enjoyed looking back on and researching camp movies I've seen, I struggled a bit with setting my ground rules (i.e., what should be considered a "camp movie").

The traditional context seemed pretty straightforward: a significant part of the movie involves kids traveling away from home to some sort of camp, usually during summertime.

How about expanding that to include day-long child care? 2003's "Daddy Day Care" was entertaining and among Eddie Murphy's more underrated comedies — maybe his best live-action work this century outside of "Dreamgirls."

And the smart aleck in me thought for a minute, "Hey, boot camp should count." Some stellar films have memorable boot camp sequences: "Full Metal Jacket," "Stripes," "Forrest Gump" and heck, even "Mulan."

Wait, should I consider any movie involving camping?

"The Blair Witch Project" forever influenced horror cinematography. This year's Academy Award Best Picture frontrunner, "The Revenant," featured wilderness living almost exclusively. Then again, so does darn near every great Western. "Harry Potter 4 and 7 have camping," my wife reminded me.

So, to save myself from continuing down that rabbit hole, I decided to focus on just the classic camp movie definition.

Here are my five must-see camp movies:

"THE PARENT TRAP"

The 1961 Walt Disney production stars Hayley Mills as both identical twin sisters who don't meet for the first time until — you guessed it

— they happened to go to the same summer camp.

They figure out that when their mother and father got divorced, each parent took one twin. So, the girls switch lives to meet their other parent — and work to bring them back together.

Sure, the 1998 remake starring Lindsay Lohan is funny, but I'm sticking with the original. Can't beat Mills in her child-star heyday, and Maureen O'Hara and Brian Keith are perfect as the parents.

"FRIDAY THE 13TH"

Again, go with the original — and probably best to ignore the sequels while you're at it.

The 1980 horror classic set the standard for a new generation of slasher films. It follows a group of teens trying to reopen a creepy, defunct summer camp haunted by the memory of Jason Voorhees, who reportedly drowned there as a boy years earlier.

As the counselors work to rehab the camp, the killings begin. And they don't stop 'til the end — OK, maybe they don't really ever stop, since the movie spawned 11 more installments in the series.

The original is the best, and it's a can't-miss if you enjoy a good horror flick.

"ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES"

The 1993 sequel to director Barry Sonnenfeld's "The Addams Family" (one of my all-time childhood favorites) is uneven at times but saved largely by its camp sequences.

The children of the cooky Addams clan, Wednesday and Pugsley, are cast off to Camp Chippewa, where they're outcasts among the other, "more normal" kids.

achieve with parents involved in their lives everyday. This may be the first time a child makes friends who their parents don't know.

At camp, not only do children experience independence from their parents and from their gadgets, they also learn age-old camping skills that are useful throughout their lives — such as roasting that perfect marshmallow. ■



But they soon band with fellow fish out of water, and at the end of camp, they put on the most memorable (and fiery) "first Thanksgiving" play in movie history.

Christine Baranski and Peter MacNicol steal the show as the overzealous camp leaders.

"HEAVYWEIGHTS"

Camp Hope is the setting for this 1995 coming-of-age comedy that follows young Gerry forced to attend a weight-loss camp.

There's not a lot of deep plot work here, but it's a great watch if you want something light, clever and heartwarming.

"Heavyweights" has some memorable moments/themes: the Blob, Lars, creative candy hiding places and an epic tournament where Camp Hope boys face off against more athletic peers.

But most of all, the movie has then-little-known Ben Stiller as the crazy camp founder, a relentless (and at times evil) fitness fiend who treats the boys unfairly but ultimately sees a hilarious downfall. Nice precursor to his "Dodgeball" character.

"MOONRISE KINGDOM"

Writer/director Wes Anderson is an acquired taste (that's the polite way to say it, right?), but he and co-writer Roman Coppola got this one right.

The 2012 film centers on a 12-year-old boy who runs away from Camp Ivanhoe to meet his pen

pal love, a girl who lives on the island where the camp is located. The movie follows the young couple and the adults in their lives trying to find them.

The funny, versatile adult ensemble cast includes Bruce Willis, Bill Murray and Frances McDormand, to name a few. Not a traditional comedy, but an engaging ride.

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

"Ernest Goes to Camp" (1987) is the best of the comedic film series featuring the late Jim Varney as the bumbling Ernest P. Worrell.

"But I'm a Cheerleader" (1999) takes a biting, satirical look at the notion of conversion therapy, following a high school cheerleader, portrayed by Natasha Lyonne, whose family sends her to a conversion camp in an attempt to "cure" her of being lesbian. (Doesn't work.)

And there's "It Takes Two," the best of the Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen features. In this 1995 movie, the real-life twins play identical strangers — one a rich daughter and the other an orphan — who conspire to help the former's father and the latter's social worker fall in love.

"What about 'Meatballs?'" you might ask. The 1979 comedy starring Bill Murray just didn't do it for me. The characters weren't relatable, the subplots were boring and the laughs weren't there consistently enough.

Admittedly, I haven't seen every camp movie, and there are a couple well-regarded ones to top that list: the raunchy cult comedy "Wet Hot American Summer" (2001) and "Camp," a 2003 indie film set at a performing arts camp.

I'll have to add those to our Netflix queue. ■
Editor's note: Associate editor Jeremy Walsh earned a minor in cinema studies while completing his bachelor's degree in journalism at American University in Washington, D.C.



CAMPERS

Continued from Page 14

to communicate directly, talking to their new friends face to face. Emojis don't exist unless they are sketched by hand or toed in the dirt.

Even day camps can teach children to be independent, something that may be hard to

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Senior Night win gives Foothill girls momentum heading into soccer playoffs

Send in spring sports results for upcoming reports

The Foothill girls varsity soccer team finished out the regular season with a 1-0 win over Amador Valley last week, giving the Falcons a season sweep of the crosstown Dons and sending the team into the North Coast Section playoffs with some momentum.

The week did start slowly, as the Falcons fell 2-1 to San Ramon Valley on Feb. 9, giving up a late goal.

The Falcons played a gritty match from start to finish and actually took a 1-0 lead when Sarah Mirr sliced through the Wolves' midfield and found Tami Kwong, who made a strong move into the scoring area and laced a shot past the Wolves' keeper. The Wolves answered six minutes later, leaving the game knotted 1-1 at halftime.

The second half had San Ramon Valley controlling play for the most part, putting pressure on the Falcons back-line throughout the half.

The back-line, which has played well for the past several weeks, held up until the 75th minute, when a Wolves attacker had an open run at the net before crossing the ball to a waiting teammate making it 2-1. The Falcons played well enough to deserve a draw, but they came up short in the end.

Two days later, it was rivalry time to end the regular season. It was a nice evening for Senior Night, giving the Falcons a chance to recognize their six seniors who would be playing their last regular season game.

The Falcons were tested through-

out the match by Amador Valley, as the Dons were the aggressor and more physical throughout the match. There were not a lot of scoring chances in the first half, but the Falcons finally struck in the 40th minute when Ariana Nino served up a corner to Kwong, who deflected the ball into the net just before the end of the half.

The second half was much of the same as both squads battled primarily in the midfield, but neither team could find the back of the net. Foothill finished with a 1-0 victory.

Basketball

To open last week, the Foothill boys basketball team played host to always-tough De La Salle on Feb. 9. The Spartans came in on

top of the league, but the Falcons played them tough in the first half.

The Spartans finally took over in the second half, scoring 19 in the third and closing out with 23 in the fourth quarter for the 65-46 final score.

Seth Cobb had 16 points for the Falcons, the only Foothill player to get to double figures. Sam Novitske and Garrett Wrenn finished with seven each.

The second game of the week saw Foothill travel to Granada to face a Matador team that beat Falcons on their home court earlier in the year.

This time it was another battle, but Foothill found a way to win, pulling out a 57-55 thriller.

Wrenn was the force under the

basket, scoring 19, while Cobb turned in his usual efficient game, adding 13 points. Sophomore Michael Smith added seven points, including two in the crucial fourth quarter.

It's spring sports time

Spring sports have started, so here is the first call out to all coaches. Get hold of me so we can set up reporting your results, as well as putting together our spring preview.

The best way to contact me is at acesmag@aol.com. Remember each week on Saturday — or by Sunday at the latest — send a roundup of your results for the week.

Also, if you have any parents taking pictures, send the photos along with a detailed caption and photography credits. ■

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.



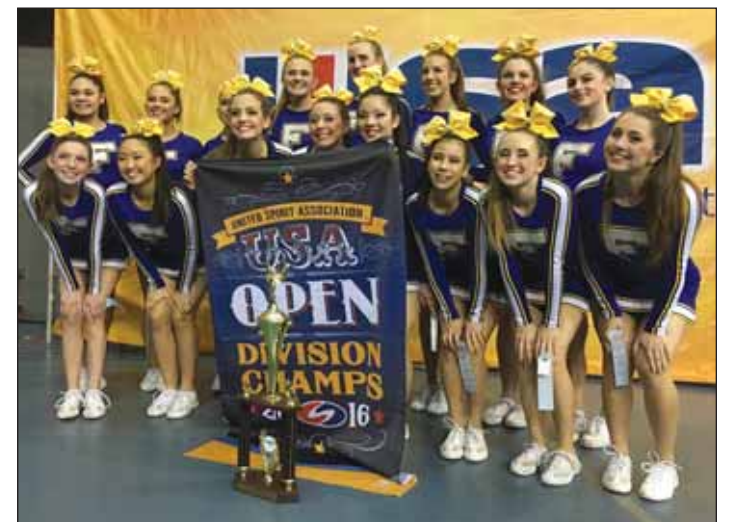
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pleasanton girls win futsal soccer title

The Pleasanton Rage Orange 2 team won the San Ramon Futsal league under-11 girls championship earlier this month, taking down Mustang Soccer Chics in the title match 3-1.

"The girls showed great resolve throughout the entire season with a 7-0-1 overall record. Our team played attractive, attacking futsal that led to numerous opportunities on goal," team parent Michelle Lemus said.

Futsal is a brand of soccer played on a smaller field, typically indoors, with teams using five players each. The top scorers for Rage Orange 2 during the 2015-16 season were Sharanika Rajsekar, Paige Morgan, Zareena Mann, Kaitlyn Lemus and Brooke Walker. Other team members were Alexis Morando, Nishita Pinninty and Alyssa Villarde.



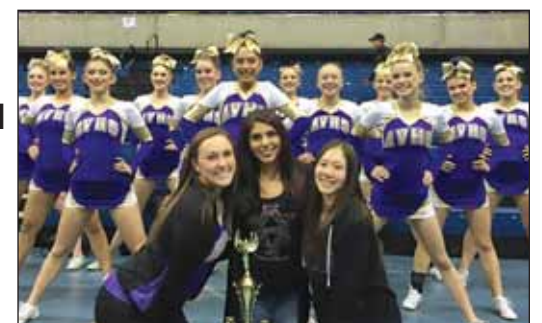
COURTESY OF DANETTE ONDI

Foothill cheerleaders win division crowns

The Foothill varsity cheer team celebrates winning the division championship at the California Open at UC Davis on Feb. 7. The junior varsity squad also won a division title at the event. The Foothill cheerleaders are next set to compete at the USA Nationals at the Anaheim Convention Center in Southern California March 18-20.

Amador cheerleaders finish second at UC Davis

The Amador Valley competition cheer team took second place in the small intermediate cheer division at the California



COURTESY OF AMY FULMER

Open at UC Davis on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7. The ladies are set to head to the USA Nationals in Anaheim next month.

Book Clubs

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

Civic Meetings

SCHOOL BOARD The Pleasanton Unified School District Board meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday monthly during the school year in the district office board room, 4665 Bernal Ave.

Classes

'THE PARENT PROJECT' DUBLIN

This nationally-acclaimed course teaches parents how to safely intervene and change their teens' problematic behaviors. Sessions include a support group where parents can share experiences and resources, collaborate, and reduce isolation. 10 week course costs \$100, or \$150 per couple. Contact Jeanie Slater at jslater@axishealth.org.

PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY USER

GROUP The PT Users Group meets at 10 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center. The usual format is 2-3 presentations by various presenters. Topics include internet use, email, photos, security, help with Windows 7/8/10, smart-phones, tablets. Cost is \$2-\$2.50. Call 931-5365.

Clubs

GIRLS NIGHT OUT NETWORKING

GNON is a great opportunity for all women to gather in a fun and informal environment for the purpose of networking, friendship, and more from 5-7 p.m. on Monday, March 7 at Museum on Main, 603 Main St. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. RSVP by Feb. 26. Call 487-4748 or go to www.gnon.org/rsvp.html.

PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB

The Pleasanton Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. No dinner will be served. For more information please visit <http://pleasantonlionsclub.org>.

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.

Concerts

FRIDAY FRIENDS FREE CONCERT

Enjoy this event sponsored by our special needs adult community and led by a worship team made up of musicians and vocalists from the

community, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 4 at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway. All ages and special needs abilities welcome. If you are a special needs adult or family, there will be a pizza dinner starting at 6 p.m. for \$10. Call 828-1363.

VINCE GUARALDI TRIBUTE QUINTET

Critically-acclaimed jazz pianist, composer, and recording artist Larry Vuckovich brings his Vince Guaraldi Tribute at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 21 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Guaraldi is probably best known for his music for the Peanuts cartoons, which continues to be recorded by many of the great jazz pianists. With Josh Workman on guitar, John Santos on Latin percussion, Jeff Chambers on bass and Leon Joyce on drums. Tickets are \$15-\$25. Call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org.

Fundraisers

AMADOR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

DOCUMENT AND HARD DRIVE SHREDDING All Pleasanton residents are welcome to bring by their personal and business confidential documents along with hard drives to be professionally shredded on-site from 9 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Feb. 27 at Amador Valley High School, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Suggested donation \$7-\$10 per banker box, \$10 for hard drives. All proceeds go to the Amador Valley High School Athletic Boosters sport of your choice. Donations Jars will be on a table for each organization. Athletes from each sport will be on hand to help lift boxes from your vehicle. Contact Leslie Petty at 963-4039.

DEMISE OF 'DOWNTON ABBEY'

Are you saddened by the demise of "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.

Lectures/ 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.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES

The City of Pleasanton's Community Education Series continues with "Real Friends vs. The Other

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Inner city vs. aliens at Firehouse

The Thrill Rides Movie Night Series continues with "Attack the Block" at 7:30 p.m. this Wednesday at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. "Attack the Block," released in 2013, is a sci-fi thriller with a funny bone, as a crazy mix of tough street kids in South London defend their block from an alien invasion. The film is rated R, and IDs will be checked. Tickets are \$10 at the door, which includes popcorn. Soda and other snacks are for sale inside.

Kind," a student workshop geared towards middle schoolers at 4 p.m., and "Connecting for Family Time in a Digital Age," a parent workshop at 7 p.m., both held on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at the Pleasanton Library. Register for the student workshop at pleasantonfun.com course number 61603, and the parent workshop course number 61604. Contact 931-5359 or info@ptownlife.org for more information.

DR. ALLISON MACFARLANE, PAST

NRC HEAD Dr. Allison Macfarlane led the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) from 2012-2014 and studied Japan's Fukushima nuclear complex, badly damaged by the 2011 tsunami. She led new safety measures for reactors and will discuss how we can avoid such accidents in the future, and options for permanent waste storage, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 25 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Tickets are \$30, \$15 for students. Call 373-6800 or go to livermoreperformingarts.org.

GRIEF WORKSHOP The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Join and let us accompany you on your healing journey at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 25 and Thursday, March 10 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. No registration required. All are welcome. Call Nancy at 846-9543 for more information.

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S FINE MOTOR AND SENSORY INTEGRATION SKILLS

Does your child have a hard time fastening buttons and zippers? Do they hold their pencil in an awkward way? Gain an understanding of age appropriate fine motor skills and typical challenges, learn how to engage your child in play activities to practice fine motor skills and sensory issues, and get information on helpful resources and ask general questions from 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23 at Hart Middle School, 4433 Willow Road. Introduction by Marla Silversmith, Director of Special Education, presentation by Christine Frazier and Diane Warzecha, PUSD Occupational Therapists. Register at www.tinyurl.com/FebsNC. For questions or to request an

interpreter, contact snc@pleasantonpta.org. Interpreter requests needed by Feb. 16.

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.

On Stage

CREATURES OF IMPULSE FACE-OFF

2016 Creatures of Impulse, the Bay Area's award-winning teen improv troupe, will take the stage in three nights of scenes, games and improv high-jinks at 7:30 p.m., Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 18-20 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Interactive fun and with a chance to win prizes. Tickets \$5 for students, \$10 for adults. Call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org.

Seniors

FREE MEMORY SCREENING FOR

SENIORS Caring Solutions is sponsoring free memory assessment on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. Call 556-4511 for a 30-minute appointment. Preregister by the Monday prior to reserve an appointment.

PET OF THE WEEK

VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY/G. SUBRAMONIAN

Gorgeous Maximus

This 4-year-old feline loves to go exploring up cat towers and through fun tunnels, enjoys games, and is an all-around delightful and lively adult cat. His streak of independence may make him seem reserved when meeting new people, but given time, he is happiest in company. Maximus is living large at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St. Bring him home for \$14 during Adults Only, a cat adoption affair running through Feb. 27. Visit valleyhumane.org or call 426-8656.

Informational materials are available at the Senior Center.

Support Groups

EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR

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

MOTHERS WITH A PURPOSE

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

TRI VALLEY SUPPORT GROUP FOR

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



fogster.com THE TRI-VALLEY'S FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE

Fogster.com offers **FREE** • postings online and the opportunity for your ad to appear in print to more than 80,000 readers. You can log on to fogster.com 24/7, and your online ad starts immediately. Some ads require payment.



TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS GO TO **FOGSTER.COM**

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fogster.com

E-MAIL
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PHONE
925.600.0840

Fogster.com is a unique Web site offering postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Pleasanton Weekly.

Now you can log on to fogster.com, day or night and get your ad started immediately online.

So, the next time you have an item to sell, barter, give away or buy, get the perfect combination: print ads in your local newspapers, reaching more than 35,000 readers, and unlimited free web postings reaching hundreds of thousands additional people!

INDEX

- BULLETIN BOARD 100-155
- FOR SALE 200-270
- KIDS STUFF 330-355
- MIND & BODY 400-499
- JOBS 500-585
- BUSINESS SERVICES 600-690
- HOME SERVICES 700-799
- FOR RENT/ FOR SALE REAL ESTATE 801-899
- PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES 995-997

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

DID YOU KNOW

That Most Loyal Voters read newspapers and nearly 77% also contribute to political organizations. If you are a Political Candidate or Advocate looking to connect with voters and potential contributors, CNPA can help. For free brochure call Cecelia @ 916.288.6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com (CalSCAN)

PREGNANT?

THINKING OF ADOPTION? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families Nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 866-413-6293. Void in Illinois/New Mexico/Indiana (AAN CAN)

PREGNANT?

CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 1-877-879-4709 (CalSCAN)

130 Classes & Instruction

AIRLINE CAREERS

begin here -Get started by training as FAA certified Aviation Technician. Financial aid for qualified students. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 800-725-1563 (AAN CAN)

Accent Reduction Instruction

Accent reduction classes to improve your communication skills. Individual and/or group and corporate instruction taught by speech therapist. WWW.Speakonpar.com

For Sale

202 Vehicles Wanted

A-1 DONATE YOUR CAR

FOR BREAST CANCER! Help United Breast Foundation education, prevention, & support programs. FAST FREE PICKUP - 24 HR RESPONSE - TAX DEDUCTION 855-403-0215 (AAN CAN)

CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!!

We Buy Like New or Damaged. Running or Not. Get Paid! Free Towing! We're Local! Call For Quote: 1-888-420-3808 (AAN CAN)

Donate Your Car, Truck, Boat

to Heritage for the Blind. FREE 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. Call 800-731-5042 (Cal-SCAN)

Old Porsches

356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1973 Only. Any condition, top \$ paid. 707 965-9546 (Cal-SCAN)

Older Car, Boat, RV?

Got an older car, boat or RV? Do the humane thing. Donate it to the Humane Society. Call 1- 800-743-1482 (Cal-SCAN)

Classified Deadlines:

4PM TUESDAY

Legal Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

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,

203 Bicycles

Bikes Wanted

Old 10 speed road bikes wanted any condition. Dale 925 989 1751

210 Garage/Estate Sales

Pleasanton, 309 Neal St., Feb. 20, 9-3
Huge estate sale located in a 100 year old historic home in Downtown Pleasanton. Items for sale include: vintage gold, sterling, costume jewelry; coins; vintage art; vintage purses, hats, books, cameras, photo equipment, and typewriters; garden statuary and pottery; lots of tools; dolls; 30s,40s,50s dishes, glassware, serving pieces, vases; vintage trunks, military uniform; furniture, dozens of cat themed items; loads of items from QVC, and much more!

Pleasanton, 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Feb. 27, 8 - 1

Rotary Club of Pleasanton - proceeds to its wheelchair distribution project.

240 Furnishings/ Household items

DID YOU KNOW

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

245 Miscellaneous

AT&T U-Verse Internet

starting at \$15/month or TV & Internet starting at \$49/month for 12 months with 1-year agreement. Call 1-800-453-0516 to learn more. (Cal-SCAN)

Dish Network

Get MORE for LESS! Starting \$19.99/month (for 12 months.) PLUS Bundle & SAVE (Fast Internet for \$15 more/month.) CALL Now 1-800-357-0810 (Cal-SCAN)

HOME BREAK-INS

take less than 60 SECONDS. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets NOW for as little as 70¢ a day! Call 855-404-7601 (Cal-SCAN)

Switch to DIRECTV

and get a FREE Whole-Home Genie HD/ DVR upgrade. Starting at \$19.99/mo. FREE 3 months of HBO, SHOWTIME & STARZ. New Customers Only. Don't settle for cable. Call Now 1-800-385-9017. (Cal-SCAN)

260 Sports & Exercise Equipment

DID YOU KNOW

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

Kid's Stuff

330 Child Care Offered

EVERY BUSINESS

has a story to tell! Get your message out with California's PRMedia Release - the only Press Release Service operated by the press to get press! For more info contact Cecelia @ 916-288-6011 or http://prmediarelease.com/california (Cal-SCAN)

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 Suwerte 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.

Mind & Body

425 Health Services

CPAP/BIPAP supplies

at little or no cost from Allied Medical Supply Network! Fresh supplies delivered right to your door. Insurance may cover all costs. 800-421-4309. (Cal-SCAN)

ELIMINATE CELLULITE

and Inches in weeks! All natural. Odor free. Works for men or women. Free month supply on select packages. Order now! 844-244-7149 (M-F 9am-8pm central) (AAN CAN)

Got Knee Pain? Shoulder Pain?

Shoulder Pain? Get a pain-relieving brace -little or NO cost to you. Medicare Patients Call Health Hotline Now! 800-796-5091 (Cal-SCAN)

Life Alert. 24/7.

One press of a button sends help FAST! Medical, Fire, Burglar. Even if you can't reach a phone! FREE BROCHURE. CALL 800-714-1609. (Cal-SCAN)

Safe Step Walk-In Tub!

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

Tired of dieting?

Lose up to 1 pound a day NATURALLY! Ask for Chris and get \$100 off! Call for a consultation, 720.619.2950. www.ocksinny.com (Cal-SCAN)

Jobs

560 Employment Information

Drivers - \$2K Sign-On Bonus!

\$\$ RECENT PAY INCREASE \$\$ Make Over \$60,000 your first year! Newer KW T660 and T680's. CDL-A Req - (877) 258-8782 Drive4melton.com (Cal-SCAN)

PAID IN ADVANCE!

Make \$1000 A Week Mailing Brochures From Home! No Experience Required. Helping home workers since 2001! Genuine Opportunity. Start Immediately! www.TheIncomeHub.com (AAN CAN)

Business Services

601 Accounting/ Bookkeeping

Need Help With Quickbooks?

No job too big or too small. Call Linda at (925) 918-2233.

602 Automotive Repair

Auto Club of America (ACA)

Does your auto club offer no hassle service and rewards? Call Auto Club of America (ACA) & Get \$200 in ACA Rewards! (New members only) Roadside Assistance and Monthly Rewards. Call 1-800-242-0697 (CalSCAN)

Case, 3679 Central Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568; Matthew D. Dorn, 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. Dorn, 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:

604 Adult Care Offered

A PLACE FOR MOM.

The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE/no obligation. CALL 1-800-550-4822. (Cal-SCAN)

624 Financial

Big Trouble with IRS?

Are you in BIG trouble with the IRS? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, & resolve tax debt FAST. Call 844-753-1317 (AAN CAN)

IRS Off Your Back?

Get the IRS off your back! They do not give up until you pay. Tax Solutions Now will get you the best deal. Call 800-691-1655 (AAN CAN)

Owe Over \$10K to IRS?

Do you owe over \$10,000 to the IRS or State in back taxes? Our firm works to reduce the tax bill or zero it out completely FAST. Call now 855-993-5796 (Cal-SCAN)

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

BENEFITS. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! WIN or Pay Nothing! Contact Bill Gordon & Associates at 1-800-966-1904 to start your application today! (Cal-SCAN)

Structured Settlement?

Sell your structured settlement or annuity payments for CASH NOW. You don't have to wait for your future payments any longer! Call 1-800-673-5926 (Cal-SCAN)

636 Insurance

Health and Dental Insurance

Lowest Prices. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 888-989-4807. (CalSCAN)

640 Legal Services

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Information is power and content is King? Do you need timely access to public notices and remain relevant in today's hostile business climate? Gain the edge with California Newspaper Publishers Association new innovative website capublicnotice.com and check out the FREE One-Month Trial Smart Search Feature. For more information call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or www.capublicnotice.com (Cal-SCAN)

Xarelto Users

have you had complications due to internal bleeding (after January 2012)? If so, you MAY be due financial compensation. If you don't have an attorney, CALL Injuryfone today! 1-800-425-4701. (Cal-SCAN)

Home Services

751 General Contracting

A NOTICE TO READERS:

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

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

761 Masonry/Brick

easybrick123.com

Residential masonry expert. John Pensanti at (408) 209-6668.

781 Pest Control



Attic Clean-Up & Rodent Removal

Are you in the Bay Area? Do you have squeaky little terriers living in your attic or crawlspace? What you are looking for is right here! Call Attic Star now to learn about our rodent removal services and cleaning options. You can also get us to take out your old, defunct insulation and install newer, better products. Call (866) 391-3308 now and get your work done in no time!

Real Estate

809 Shared Housing/ Rooms

ALL AREAS ROOMMATES.COM. Lonely? Bored? Broke? Find the perfect roommate to complement your personality and lifestyle at Roommates.com! (AAN CAN)

845 Out of Area



4 homes on 30 acres

Vacation where you live in Nevada City!! Looks like Disneyland with rock walls, manicured gardens, private lake, HUGE outdoor entertaining area and even its own mining museum!! 15 car garages for all your toys!! Priced to sell only \$2M!! Seller financing. Call Edie 530-913-0150 cell

855 Real Estate Services

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Fogster.com is a unique website offering **FREE** postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Pleasanton Weekly.

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.

Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE
AND REAL ESTATE
LISTINGS

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Danville

3 BEDROOMS

52 Casablanca St. **\$938,950**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

6 BEDROOMS

201 South Ridge Court **\$3,199,888**
Sun 1-5 Andrew Greenwell (415) 937-1635

Dublin

2 BEDROOMS

5425 Demarcus Blvd. #203 **\$529,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260-2220/413-6544

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS

217 Cobblestone Common **\$675,000**

Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

5 BEDROOMS

2101 Gabriella Lane **\$1,500,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS

7346 Elmwood Circle **\$850,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Karen Muccio 548-8641

4 BEDROOMS

551 Malbec Court **\$1,100,000**
Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

4413 Arbutus Court **\$938,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Julia Murtagh 997-2411

Find more open home listings at
pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate



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Premium 5.86 acres of county property suitable for a grand SFR. Spectacular views with rolling hills... amazing locations to build! Country feel with all city amenities just minutes away. County approved septic with 2 wells on property. Imagine your dream home here!

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Tri-Valley Real Estate Directory



Darlene Crane,
Branch Manager/Mortgage Advisor
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dcrane@rpm-mtg.com
www.darlenecrane.com
NMLS 30878 License 00907071
30 W. Neal Street #105, Pleasanton



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jennifer.hosterman@BHHSDrysdale.com
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SPRING IS COMING!!

It is a great time to think about selling your home. Please call CINDY — she can help get your home ready for sale and make it an easy process!!

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Congratulations
to Heather and Jeff
on purchasing
their new home!!

COMING SOON IN PLEASANTON

Awesome 5 bed, 3 bath home located on the West side. Walk to Foothill High School. Approx. 3200 sq. ft. home on approx. 12,000 sq. ft. lot with pool.

COMING SOON

Gorgeous Views abound from this Approx. 4600 sq. ft home on approx 2 acres, some updates, in the Westside Pleasanton Hills, 5 minutes to Starbucks.

Call Cindy for more information!

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3404 Ashton Ct.



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3357 Medallion Ct.

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- 1031 EXCHANGES • LAND AND DEVELOPMENT •

COMING SOON PROPERTIES!

Pleasanton Heights Home in desirable court location.

Approx. 3100 sq ft with 4 bedrooms + master retreat, 3 full baths on oversized approx. 17,300 sq ft lot. Walk to neighborhood elementary school, area parks and more. Approx. \$1,398,000

Walk to Downtown Pleasanton from this approx. 1900 sq ft

4 bedroom, 3 full bath home in court location on approx. 7300 sq ft lot. Needs updating. Walk to neighborhood elementary school, parks and more. Approx. \$925,000

Westside Stoneridge area location convenient to shopping with

easy commute access, and close to area parks and schools. Approx. 1350 sq ft single-story with 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths. Approx. 7325 sq ft lot. Approx. \$795,000

Round Hill Country Club Home in Alamo features recently

remodeled kitchen with newer appliances. Spacious single-story, approx. 2700 sq ft featuring 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths on giant 1/2 acre lot with Pool and 3 car Garage. Approx. \$1,425,000

Southside Livermore - EXCLUSIVE LISTING! Vintage Home built in

1900, with 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. Currently Tenant-Occupied at \$2000/month, in Great Location convenient to Downtown. \$618,000

Southside Livermore - 2 Homes on 1 Lot near Downtown and more. Approx. \$799,000

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4413 Arbutus Court, Pleasanton

Great family home located in a wonderful neighborhood within steps of Foothill High School. This 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home has 2249 sq. ft. of living space. The home has recently been upgraded with stunning hardwood floors, new carpet, fresh paint, and ready for new buyers to enjoy this Spring. This home has a quaint backyard with a deck for outdoor entertainment. This home is also a member of Oak Hills Cabana Club, a favorite in Pleasanton. **LISTED FOR \$938,000**



434 Rose Ave, Pleasanton

Charming, new construction home, 2 bedrooms & 2 baths located in very desirable downtown Pleasanton. This home was completely remodeled in 2013, everything including the walls, windows, roof are brand new. The lot is 7,800 sq. ft., with city approved plans for 2 additional homes. Each home will be a 2 bedroom and 2.5 bath home, 1332 sq. ft. with a 1 car garage.

REPRESENTED BUYERS — OFFERED AT \$849,000



140 Sunhaven Road, Danville

Stunning Magee Ranch Home sitting on a private .34 acre lot with amazing views. 4 large bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 3483 sq. ft. of living space with gorgeous upgrades. **SOLD FOR \$1,558,000**



5011 Forest Hill Drive, Pleasanton

Enjoy 3,400 sq. ft. of living space on .25 acre. 5 bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms, including a full bed and bath downstairs. Conveniently located near award winning schools.

MULTIPLE OFFERS SOLD FOR \$1,650,000



3721 Rocky Mountain Court, Pleasanton

Gorgeous single story 1,647 sq. ft. home on a large corner lot. Large open floor plan with beautiful kitchen, great room, dining and living rooms.

MULTIPLE OFFERS SOLD FOR \$815,000

COMING SOON

PHEASANT RIDGE BEAUTY

Beautiful home in the Pheasant Ridge neighborhood. The popular “Wildwood Heights” model consists of 5 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, with 4791 sq. ft. of living space. This home is situated on a premier end of court location, with a beautiful back yard, and an additional 440 sq. ft. building which could be used as an office, guest house, theatre or teen lounge room.

UPGRADED SINGLE STORY HOME

Great single story home in central Pleasanton, upgraded with many wonderful features. This home is 3 bedroom and 2 baths, with 1549 sqft of living space. There is a nice size pool and side yard for summer fun.

CALL JULIA FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SELLER REVIEW

“Julia sold our home in November 2015 in the Valley Trails area of Pleasanton. I had heard wonderful successful stories from others who had used Julia so when we decided to sell our home, we chose Julia as well. We had initially wanted to sell a month sooner however Julia explained to us the pros and cons of listing sooner. We trusted her expertise and knowledge of the market and by waiting a month had multiple offers the first weekend/ open house. Julia provided suggestions on how we could stage our home with our personal furniture and even provided a few things to enhance what we already had. In addition she is very timely in her response to answering our million and one questions and negotiating with the buyers. If you are you looking for an agent who sticks with you from the beginning to end, she’s your agent! We appreciate you Julia!!!”

— Denise Williams, November 2015

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MASTER

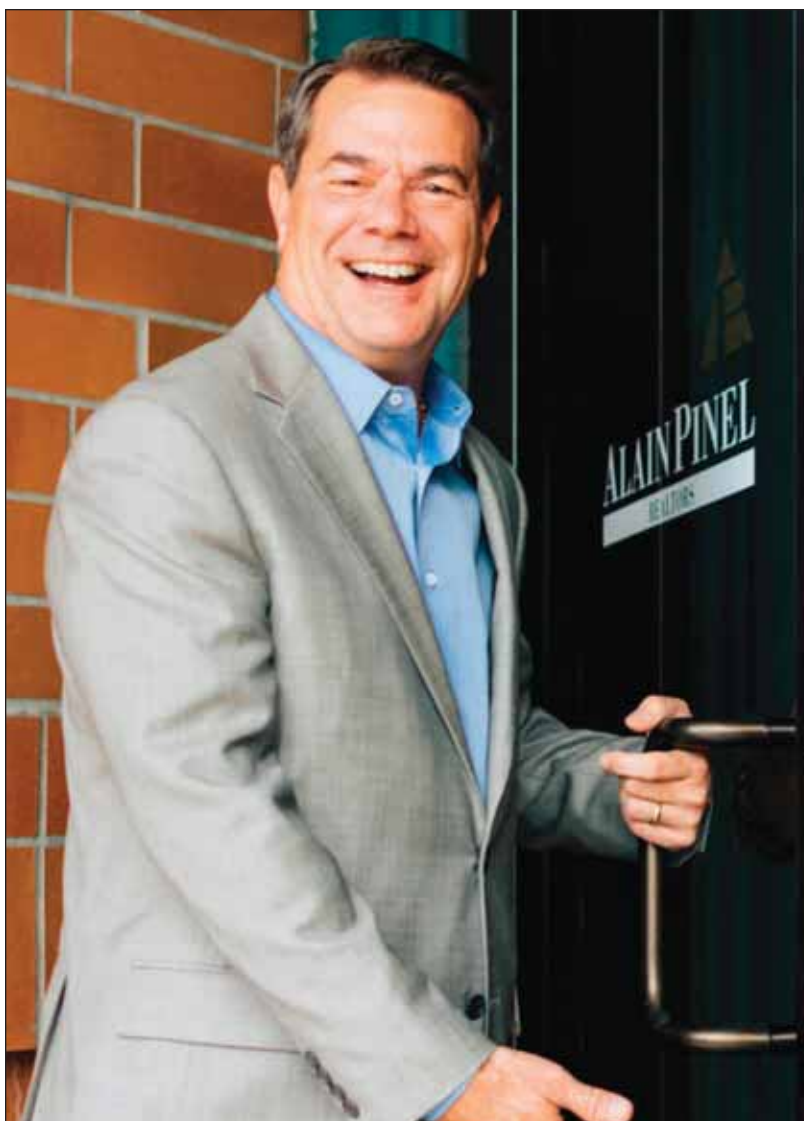
14-23 Transaction Sides
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ACRE PARCEL AVAILABLE
\$697,500

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1163 SQFT
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\$748,888

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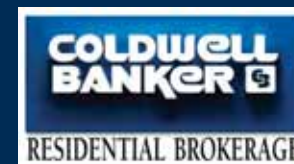
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Spacious Home features New SS
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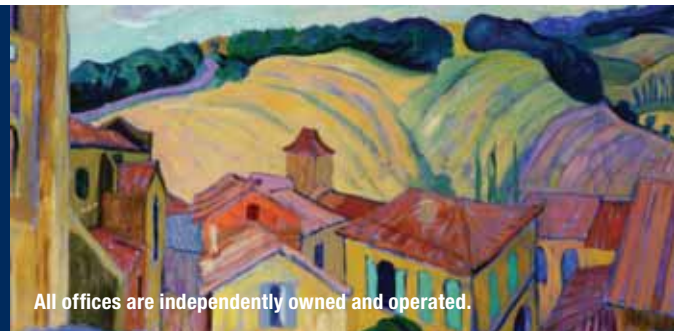
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MUST SEE - PLEASANTON

5906 Bryce Canyon Court, Pleasanton
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Phyllis Weiner | Peter McDowell
925.872.1416 | 925.209.0343 | weinermcdowell.com



MUST SEE - PLEASANTON

4594 Lin Gate Street, Pleasanton
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,461 Sq. Ft. | \$875,000
Phyllis Weiner | Peter McDowell
925.872.1416 | 925.209.0343 | weinermcdowell.com



DUBLIN SORRENTO HOME

3303 Vittoria Loop, Dublin
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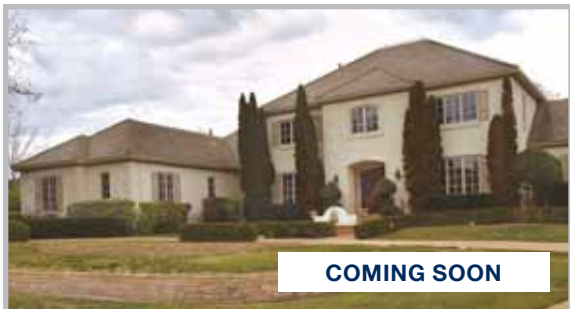
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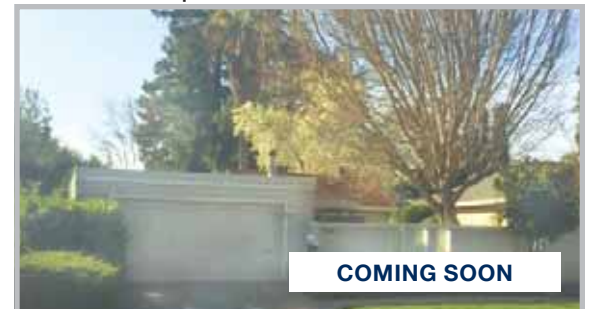
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1003 Pineto Place, Ruby Hill, Pleasanton
5 Bed | 3.5 Bath | 4,598 Sq. Ft. | \$2,250,000
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COMING SOON FOXBROUGH ESTATES

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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.



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COMING SOON FAIRLANDS

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COMING SOON PORTOLA GLEN

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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

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Offered at \$1,319,000

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255 BIRCH CREEK DR., PLEASANTON
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