

Pleasanton Weekly

Council
campaigns
underway

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What a
weekend!

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Farewell to Jim Hansen (again)

The Pleasanton school district's interim superintendent, Jim Hansen, stepped back into retirement yesterday, clearing out his office for new superintendent Rick Rubino who starts today. Rubino has been superintendent of the Gridley school system in Butte County for the last four years.



JEB BING

Jim Hansen, who served as interim superintendent for the 2015-16 school year.

Hansen, the retired principal at Amador Valley High School and before that at Harvest Park Middle School, was asked to take a one-year leave from his retirement to fill the temporary role last summer after then-superintendent Parvin Ahmadi took the same job in Castro Valley.

For Hansen, it's been fun and exciting, telling me he accepted the challenge to "right the ship" after the district's several turbulent years.

"We now have an excellent staff and faculty in place," he said. "I'm confident that I'm leaving Rick Rubino with a chance to have some smooth sailing as he takes over."

Nor is Hansen sticking around to make sure. He and his wife Judy, a retired teacher who taught fourth grade at Fairlands Elementary School, will leave tomorrow for a weekend near the Russian River. A week later, they will meet up with their children Kelly, Kevin and Brian and their families at three mountaintop condos they've rented before driving to Goose Bay, Oregon for a nephew's wedding. Then off to Washington state to visit with Judy's sister before heading to Canada to close out July.

That's how the Hansens handled retirement the first time around, although they spaced their trips out over the year. They were on the road so frequently that their travels became known as the Trip of the Month Club to neighborhood friends.

Serving as superintendent, even on a temporary basis, was a heady experience for Hansen.

There had been turnover in both the superintendent's management team (called the cabinet) and at the principal and vice principal levels in the schools. Hansen brought in Dianne Howell, who also had retired, to take over the empty post as head of human resources, and together they found the talent they wanted for the open positions at the district office and the schools.

As a result, the district will start the new school year on Aug. 15 with every key position filled and, with Rubino's hiring, a strong management team in place.

Hansen is leaving with what he calls his most difficult problem solved, at least for the next three years. Because about 40 in the district

had been hired last year with temporary grants called "one-time" funds, it was Hansen's job to tell them their jobs would be eliminated. Working with Howell and the school board, they found enough money from state and other sources this spring to keep most of those affected on the payroll for another three years.

"Finding the money to save those jobs is the best news I had before retiring again," he said.

Although Hansen leaves tomorrow for an extended vacation, he'll be back. He is on the board of directors of the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation and hopes to continue his membership in the Rotary Club of Pleasanton.

He also hopes the school board will vote to place a \$468 million bond on the November ballot to provide funds needed by the district. If it does, he'll do what he can to urge public approval. ■

Correction

In a recent column about Workday's new corporate campus to be built on Stoneridge Mall Road ("Workday earns praise, green light for new 6-story headquarters off I-580," May 20, 2016), I stated that Workday will provide 3,214 parking spaces. The amount of parking spots dedicated to the new Workday development center is actually 1,360.

Also, a Workday representative said the new campus will be 36% more energy efficient, not 48% as stated. Further, the column reported that a City Council member stated that Workday agreed to buy all furnishings through Pleasanton vendors. This is inaccurate. Workday agreed to a sales and use tax Certificate of Authority (COA), which requires the development's contractors, subcontractors and vendors to identify the city of Pleasanton as a point of sale destination so that the city receives sales tax on materials purchased regardless of where they were bought.

About the Cover

Kid's Park at the Alameda County Fair is home to family-friendly rides, games and activities. The final weekend of the fair runs from today through Monday at the Pleasanton fairgrounds. Photo by Sarah Loduha. Cover design by Kristin Brown.

Vol. XVII, Number 23

Recently Sold in Pleasanton

1523 Honey Suckle Ct

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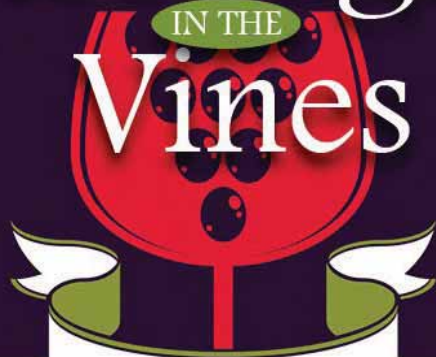


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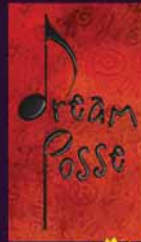
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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

How do you feel about the use of profanity?



Sonali Nathan
High school student

I don't like it when people curse around me. I feel like it makes me see them as being disrespectful toward the people who can hear them, and I don't like seeing people in a negative way.



Jesus Fernandez
Cashier, barista

I don't encourage it. But at the same time, I don't really have a problem with it either, or find it offensive, because it's just how people communicate these days.



Jessica Stubbs
High school student

I think it's fine when used in a humorous way for emphasis, between friends. But there is a time and a place for everything, so when it comes to work or school or any formal events or settings, I think people should keep their bad language to themselves.



Diego Fernandez
Cook, barista

I don't like it at all. It gives me a bad image of the person and makes me feel disrespectful toward them. Plus, it makes me wonder why they are not able to express themselves better, without using curses.



Inna Golubchick
High school student

I don't like it. I mean, I understand that people sometimes get angry and feel like swearing, but I hate hearing it because it sounds so crass. I especially hate it when people swear in front of children.

—Compiled by Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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Newsfront

DIGEST

First Wednesday

July's First Wednesday Street Party downtown will celebrate "Red, White and Blue" next week with live music, food trucks, vendor booths, kids' activities and a beer and wine garden.

Musical acts include Stereo Bounce playing today's hits and some oldies in the Entertainment Garden, and Garage Band Academy and Come As You Are playing on the ends of Main Street.

The kids' zone, sponsored by the Alameda County Fair, features face-painting, a video-game truck and other activities on St. Mary Street.

Taking place two days after Independence Day, next week's First Wednesday event will run downtown from 6-9 p.m.

Senior Center work

The Pleasanton Senior Center on Sunol Boulevard will be closed five days starting Monday for regular maintenance and repairs.

The Paratransit program will remain open for service, but tickets will have to be purchased in advance. They will not be available in the center.

The Sage Cafe also will be closed for the week, but dinners will continue to be served at the Ridge View Cafe at 5200 Case Ave. To make a reservation, call 484-5131.

Senior Center services will resume July 11.

Bus service changes

The Wheels bus system will operate on a Sunday schedule on Monday for the Fourth of July.

There will be no Tri-Valley Rapid service that day, and the Wheels Customer Service Center will be closed. Wheels will detour certain routes to accommodate fireworks shows in Pleasanton and Livermore on Monday night.

For more details about the holiday weekend schedule, visit www.wheelsbus.com.

Young musicians

The Livermore-Amador Symphony Association has announced that applications for its 44th Competition for Young Musicians will be accepted from Sept. 9-18.

The competition is open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside or attend school in Pleasanton, Livermore, Sunol, Dublin and San Ramon. Students are eligible through grade 12. If not enrolled in high school, the maximum age is 17. All instruments will be considered.

The purpose of the competition is to select two young musicians who will perform as soloists with the symphony Feb. 18, 2017. They also will be awarded \$500.

Applications must include a recording for preliminary screening and be accompanied by an \$8 application fee. For more details, go to www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org or call 447-1947. ■

Masons told to stop the partying, but they're moving anyhow

Orthodox Jewish Chabad of the Tri-Valley bidding to buy Hopyard Road building

BY JEB BING
Pleasanton Masons were ordered by the city's Planning Commission last week to curb outside activities at their lodge on Hopyard Road after a group of neighboring Valley Trails homeowners complained about excessive noise and parties.

Starting this month, the Masons will have to replace sliding glass doors leading to a backyard patio where the parties have been taking place with a solid door that can only be used to exit the lodge, but not to re-enter.

The commission also imposed new

restrictions on the Masons' unconditional use permit issued in 1977 that will limit outdoor activities to four times a year, stop late-night activities and even require the lodge to remove all but three outdoor sheds and obtain city permits if they ever buy new ones.

The move seemed to satisfy those complaining, including 19 speakers who at times angrily criticized the commission and staff planners as if they had been the cause of their neighborhood's disruptions all along.

"It's obvious that the staff did not keep its promise to do something

about this problem," said Darlene Miller, whose home is near the Masonic Lodge.

"Although you may like going to parties, you probably never expected your neighbor on the other side of your backyard fence to morph into a commercial party business and financially profit by renting their backyard for large public parties of up to 600 people, including serving alcohol," Miller wrote in a letter to the Pleasanton Weekly.

Despite the Planning Commission's action to rein in the partying, it

will have little effect on the Masons. They're selling the building to the Chabad of the Tri-Valley, an orthodox Jewish organization that apparently has been one of the groups renting the building from the Masons and holding a few of the parties.

The Chabad, a fast-growing organization considered a dynamic force in Jewish life, is headed by Rabbi Raleigh Resnick of Pleasanton and has expanded since Resnick and his wife Fruma started the Tri-Valley branch.

See **MASONS** on Page 7



MICHELLE SUSKI

Red, white and blue are the colors of choice for most attendees at the annual Fourth of July picnic and concert at Lions Wayside Park. This year's event runs from noon to 1:30 p.m. Monday.

Celebrating Independence Day

Annual community picnic at downtown park honors American heritage

BY SARAH LODUHA

When the Fourth of July arrives Monday, many in Pleasanton will look forward to barbecues, a day by the pool and the Alameda County Fair's annual fireworks spectacular.

July 4 is also the day of Pleasanton's popular family picnic downtown.

Called "Celebrating Freedom and its Evolution since the Revolution," the picnic and concert will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Lions Wayside Park on First Street. About 100 volunteers are involved in producing the celebration.

The community event is a great way to "make sure that we recognize the Fourth for more than fireworks and barbecues," said W. Ron Sutton, who founded the celebration in 1998. "We celebrate our shared heritage and still have time for other activities in the evening."

The event will feature a free concert, a tribute to military veterans and their families and special recognition for this year's recipi-

ents of the Ed Kinney Community Patriot Award and remarks by Mayor Jerry Thorne.

Attendees can take part in all the festivities while relaxing in the park under shaded canopies and trees.

Lady Liberty, played by Pat Bosma, will lead a sing-along of the national anthem.

The Pleasanton Community Concert band, led by Bob Williams, will play patriotic music as well as pieces by American composers from different eras, with Ann Collins providing commentary during the performance.

To honor current and former military members, the band will play anthems of each military branch.

American Legion Post 238 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298 will provide the colorguard and Boy Scout Troop 908 will assist in setting up the event.

For guests with an appetite, the Pleasanton Lions Club will provide a hot dog lunch. For a little extra incentive to arrive on time, the Lions

will also provide free hand-held American flags to the first several hundred arriving at the park.

To help beat the heat, children will be given wooden tokens to trade for ice cream cones at Meadowlark Dairy. Adults will be provided colorful paper fans to stay cool.

Master of ceremonies will be Ken McDonald, assisted by Les Duman. They will lead the program honoring Bob Butler and Margene Gerton Rivara as this year's recipients of the Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards.

Butler was singled out for his years of service to the city of Pleasanton, including as mayor, city councilman and planning commissioner. Rivara was recognized for her efforts to improve the city's arts and provide homes for seniors.

The awards are in honor of Ed Kinney, a former Pleasanton mayor and longtime emcee for the city's all-volunteer Fourth of July celebration, who died of cancer in 2005. ■

Board OKs \$580 million housing bond vote

November ballot measure would fund affordable housing in Alameda County

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors Tuesday voted to place a \$580 million affordable housing bond on the Nov. 8 election ballot to provide funds for investment in homes for first-time home buyers and low-income renters.

A two-thirds majority vote by those casting ballots in the fall will be required to approve the countywide measure, which would result in an assessment of \$12 per every \$100,000 of valuation for Alameda County property owners.

"The Affordable Housing Bond will provide \$580 million in investment in affordable homes for low-income renters, down payment assistance for first time home buyers and an innovation fund to seek new solutions," said Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan, sponsor of the measure.

She said the language and priorities of the bond measure have been developed through a multi-step stakeholder process. It will create and protect affordable housing options for people who need it most, including seniors and the disabled, veterans, low-income families and the homeless, added Chan, whose district includes Alameda, San Leandro and parts of Oakland.

See **BOND** on Page 6

3 candidates vying for 2 council seats in November election

Thorne also seeking re-election as mayor

By JEB BING

Two incumbents and the chairman of the city's Planning Commission have launched campaigns to win two open seats on the Pleasanton City Council during the Nov. 8 election.

Council members Karla Brown and Jerry Pentin, whose first four-year terms expire this year, will seek re-election. Planning commissioner Herb Ritter announced his plans to seek election to the council at a campaign launch last week.

Mayor Jerry Thorne also has announced that he will seek a third two-year term as mayor in the No-

vember election. As of today, he will be unopposed.

Candidates can file formal papers with City Clerk Karen Diaz starting July 18 with the filing deadline Aug. 12.

In alphabetic order, here are summaries of the council candidates qualifications:

Councilwoman Karla Brown

Brown, who was the top vote getter in 2012, said she has a passion for serving the residents of Pleasanton. In addition to her council duties, she is a local Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway



Left: Pleasanton City Councilwoman Karla Brown is seeking a second term in office this November. (Contributed photo). **Right:** Planning commissioner Herb Ritter last week launched his campaign for election to the City Council. (Photo by Chuck Deckert)



HomeServices on First Street.

Council member jobs in Pleasanton involve more than the two times a month City Council meetings. Brown was chosen to serve as vice chair of LAVTA/Wheels bus board. In addition, she is a member of the Pleasanton Audit Committee, Civic Center/Library Task Force, Fair Liaison committee, Livermore Liaison committee, Waste & Recycling committee, the East Bay Regional Park District Liaison committee, Zone 7 Water Liaison committee and the Regional Water Policy Roundtable committee.

Brown said in launching her campaign for re-election that she will "continue to offer slow and metered growth policies along with hillside protection, develop plans for a new and larger city library and Civic Center, reduce long-term pension debt, support a thriving downtown with additional parking and partner with small businesses and residents to form a winning team keeping Pleasanton great."

For more information on Karla Brown's re-election bid, sign on to her website at www.vote4Karla.com or contact her by email at Karla@Vote4Karla.com.

Councilman Jerry Pentin

In a campaign kickoff breakfast at the Alameda County Fairgrounds Pavilion, Pentin, who was first elected to the council four years ago, talked about the challenges and tough decisions he faced during his first term and the opportunities he sees in the coming years.

"I believe I have served the city the best I can," Pentin said. "I've done my homework, studied the issues, met with both sides of many items before the council and then voted for what is best for all residents in Pleasanton. And I'll keep it up for the next four years."

A 25-year resident of Pleasanton, Pentin and his wife Josine have a daughter Joi, who is a graduate of Amador Valley High School and

UC Berkeley and now works in Silicon Valley.

Pentin served in the Marines from 1975 to 1980. He owns and operates Spring Street Studios, a media production company in Pleasanton.

Pentin told his supporters, "When I came to you four years ago, I told you I would be supporting our public schools, working to find a way to solve some of the traffic issues we have in the city, making public safety a priority and supporting open space, smart growth and affordable housing. I'm proud of the efforts I've made on these issues."

On specific issues, Pentin said he has worked with the Pleasanton Unified School District to help it maintain the city's high quality of schools, insisted that the city's in-lieu housing fund stay separate from other funds in order to someday pay for another private/nonprofit development and that he has maintained strong support for the city's police and firefighters.

He believes the council has done "an awesome job" of protecting open space in Pleasanton.

"For all the naysayers, our city is a leader in dedicating open space," he said. "Take a look around: 43 parks, Callippe Preserve with its 340 acres of preserved open space, Ber-

nal Community Park with another 350 acres of dedicated parkland and sports fields."

For more information about Pentin, sign on to his webpage at www.pentin.com.

Planning Commission Chairman Herb Ritter

Ritter announced his candidacy for the City Council at the end of Pentin's campaign launch at the fairgrounds and later at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton North, where he also is a past president.

At a campaign rally last week, he told supporters that if elected to the council, he will work with the school district to improve education, drive economic vitality and promote "smart engagement" on the environment.

"Building on my experience, civic leadership, and a 'roll up my sleeves' attitude over the past decade, I look forward to serving our increasingly diverse Pleasanton population as a trusted voice, but more importantly as an active listener both on the City Council and around town," Ritter said.

He said moving to Pleasanton from Washington state 26 years ago was "critical" to his success in life, and that he feels strongly about giving back to the community.

"My passion and care run deep for this amazing community," he said. "It's never been my intention to get into politics, yet by serving on the council, I can increase my engagement with decision-making in the city and make more significant, enduring contributions to public service."

He continued, "I want to do all I can to preserve our small town feel while driving positive change in Pleasanton, making it an even better place to work, live, raise a family, and retire. I'm all for smart planning for a better city for today and tomorrow."

For more information, sign on to Ritter's campaign website at www.herbritter.com. ■

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BOND

Continued from Page 5

The board heard the following statistics before voting unanimously to support the bond measure:

- Rents in Alameda County have risen 34% since 2011.
- Median home prices have nearly

doubled since 2010.

- A two-bedroom apartment rents for an average of \$2,200.
- On an annual basis, there are over 8,000 homeless people in Alameda County.
- Seniors, veterans and disabled individuals are hardest hit. So, too, are working families and youths exiting foster care.

- Many families are spending half of their income on housing. Many funding options from state and federal government are no longer available.
- Estimates show the U.S. is 60,000 homes behind the need for low-income families in deep poverty. ■

—Jeb Bing

MASONS

Continued from Page 5

After nine years of using rooms in various facilities around the area, the Chabad center last year moved into a 4,000-square-foot building on Quarry Lane. The Masonic Lodge will offer the additional space it needs for its main activities.

In a 3-1/2-hour meeting, the Planning Commission seemed intent on resolving years of complaints. Neighborhood relations with the Masons deteriorated in 2008 and 2009 when the Masons began renting out their building to non-Masonic groups for large gatherings and parties.

Why city staff and the commission failed to address those complaints is unclear. No one on the commission today, or even within the city Planning Department, was around in those years.

The Valley Trails community concerns are not over. The Chabad's request for a new conditional use permit to use the Masonic Lodge building is expected to seek relief from the restrictions just imposed, especially over using the building's backyard for festive and religious outdoor activities.

"The Planning Commission really ratcheted back the uses that are now allowed in that building," said Adam Weinstein, city planning manager. "I'm sure the commission will be much more careful in structuring a new use permit because of so many complaints."

When that happens, it's likely the commission will hear from the Valley Trails neighbors again. ■



JEB BING

Left: Veteran and memorial campaign leader Doug Miller speaks on the importance of recognizing the more than 500 veterans buried at Pioneer Cemetery at ceremony Monday. **Right:** Pleasanton city, civic and veteran leaders join for the ceremonial groundbreaking.

City, veteran leaders join in memorial groundbreaking

Dedication planned at Pioneer Cemetery for Nov. 12 to coincide with Veterans Day

City and civic leaders joined veterans' organizations Monday to break ground on a new memorial to honor military veterans at the top of the hill in Pioneer Cemetery.

The veterans' community is contributing to the cost of the memorial, which will be marked by flags representing all the military organizations of the country.

Buddy Loggins, commander of Pleasanton's American Legion Post 237, was joined

by Mayor Jerry Thorne, at the rostrum to talk about the memorial Monday afternoon.

Pioneer Cemetery is the resting place of more than 500 veterans dating back to the Civil War. The addition of a Veterans Memorial will create a year-round location where the public can pay its respects and homage to the heroes who served.

Veterans are still seeking donations toward their goal of just over \$300,000. To

date, they have raised more than \$244,000 from a variety of donors, but continue to seek support.

Those interested in contributing can visit www.pleasantonveteransmemorial.com for more information.

The official grand-opening of the Veterans Memorial will be held Nov. 12 to coincide with Veterans Day weekend. ■

—Jeb Bing



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Pleasanton Weekly • July 1, 2016 • Page 7

Tulancingo students arrive in Pleasanton

PTSCA facilitates annual youth exchange program

By JEREMY WALSH

Pleasanton is hosting five student delegates from its Mexican sister city, Tulancingo, through next weekend.

The youngsters participating in the Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association youth exchange program are Jose Escorcia, Rodrigo Valdespino, Marian Macedo, Maria Teresa Rosas and Andrea Martinez.

The exchange program is a family affair for almost all of them.

Escorcia's grandfather, former Tulancingo mayor Eric Saucedo, signed the first charter for the sister cities in 1983, along with former Pleasanton mayor Bob Butler. And Escorcia's mother, Zelena Rodriguez, later became one of the first students to take part in the exchange program between the two cities.

Valdespino's father was part of the first Tulancingo delegation to

visit Pleasanton. Macedo's brother was an exchange student here in 2011, and Rosas' brother participated three years ago.

The teens, who are staying with local host families, arrived in Pleasanton on June 19 and are staying until July 10.

Their trip itinerary includes tours of Pleasanton City Hall and the library's Tulancingo Room, sightseeing in San Francisco, attending an Oakland Athletics baseball game, visiting the Alameda County Fair and Santa Cruz, taking part in local Fourth of July celebrations and a farewell picnic at the end.

The sister city association is set to send three student ambassadors to Tulancingo later this summer: Amador Valley High student Kata Zengel, Amador Valley graduate Sara Keene and Castro Valley High grad Maia Barthman. ■



COURTESY OF PTSCA

Student delegates from Tulancingo, Mexico join some of their counterparts from sister city Pleasanton for a tour of Pleasanton City Hall with Mayor Jerry Thorne, Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association youth exchange director Margo Tarver and association president Jorge Victoria.

DSRSD halts mandatory water-use restrictions

By RISTI TEWOLDE

The Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) board of directors voted unanimously last week to lift mandatory limits on water use for consumers, opting instead to implement a 10% voluntary conservation goal going forward.

The vote ended the local drought emergency that had been in effect for the district since February 2014, with the board now declaring a Stage 1 water shortage.

"While our customers are no longer required to limit their water use, we ask everyone to

continue using water wisely," DSRSD board president D.L. "Pat" Howard said in a statement after the June 21 vote.



"Please fix leaks quickly, irrigate smartly, and rethink that thirsty front lawn. The water you save will boost the reserves we need for

the future, because we never know when the next drought will occur," Howard added.

DSRSD provides water service to San Ramon's Dougherty Valley and Dublin, as well as wastewater service to Dublin, Pleasanton and parts of San Ramon and recycled

water for those communities. From 2013-15, DSRSD decreased its annual water use by 33.9%, from 11,196 acre-feet to 7,399 acre-feet (an acre foot is equal to 325,851 gallons), according to district officials. DSRSD had a mandatory reduction target of 25% in 2014 and 12% in 2015,

See **DSRSD** on Page 9

Foothill High School Senior Parents Class of 2016

To every individual, business, and organization that generously donated time, talent, goods, services, facilities, and monetary support so that the Foothill High School Class of 2016 could enjoy Baccalaureate, After Ball Breakfast, and a safe and sober Grad Night, thank you!

For the businesses and organizations listed below, please thank them on behalf of the Foothill Class of 2016.

After Ball Breakfast Donors	Meadowlark Dairy
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Jim's Country Style Restaurant	

Rebecca Horsley

January 17, 1971 – June 23, 2016

Rebecca Ann (Cence) Horsley, 45, went home to be with the Lord on June 23, 2016. A beloved Daughter, Wife, Mother, Sister, and Aunt, Becky was born in Santa Clara, County, CA on January 17, 1971. She graduated from Pleasanton High School in 1989, and earned a degree in Communications from Sacramento State University. For several years after college, she was employed in the Insurance Industry before relocating to Raleigh, NC. While in Raleigh, she went on to earn her Teaching Certificate at Meredith College and later entered East Carolina University's Masters Degree Program. She found her true calling as a kindergarten teacher in the Wake County School System. She was a member of Hope Lutheran Church, and was very active in the 'God Squad.' Her family was her life and love, just as she was their love. Becky's joy, humor, thoughtfulness, and love of life will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 PM Wednesday, June 29, 2016, at Hope Lutheran Church. Pastor Lew Upchurch will officiate.

Becky is survived by her husband, of 12 years, Charles Jeffrey Horsley; sons, Nicholas Paul Horsley and Charles Benjamin Horsley; father, James Duane Cence; brother, Richard David Cence and wife, Laura; sister, Sara Ann Fisk and husband Spencer; nieces, Madeline Fisk, and Claire Fisk.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to "Hope Lutheran Church for the Benefit of the Rebecca A. Horsley Scholarship Fund", 3525 Rogers Road, Wake Forest, NC 27587.

The Horsley family is under the care of Bright Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 405 S. Main Street, Wake Forest, NC 27587. www.brightfunerals.com



PAID OBITUARY

DSRSD

Continued from Page 8

and DSRSD customers could track their usage via the district's AquaHawk Customer Portal.

Larger sites such as parks, sports grounds and school grounds in central and western Dublin also converted irrigation to recycled water. In 2015, recycled water accounted for 26% of all water used by DSRSD customers and almost 94% of that was delivered through dedicated purple pipes in the ground, according to the district.

Since local water agencies are no longer required to reduce water use by a state-imposed percentage, each agency must instead analyze its local supplies and take on the level of conservation needed to make certain that there will be enough water for three years.

Under these guidelines, the Zone 7 Water Agency — DSRSD's wholesale water provider — established that it can meet the water requirements without mandatory water-use reduction and

adopted a 10% voluntary conservation goal earlier in June.

DSRSD's water rates will remain the same this year, the district stated. In November 2015, DSRSD lowered water consumption charges from Stage 2 to Stage 1; the Stage 1 rate is made to achieve up to 10% conservation. Water shortage rates work in parallel with required water conservation goals.

Mandatory state rules that prevent water waste must still be followed. DSRSD customers are not allowed to water within 48 hours of measurable rainfall, use potable water to wash pavement, allow runoff from irrigated areas or use a hose without a shutoff nozzle to wash a vehicle.

Restaurants will serve water upon request only, and hotels must give guests the option of not having their towels and linens laundered everyday.

DSRSD plans to keep open the water fill stations throughout the summer where residents can pick up recycled water to use on home landscaping. For more information, visit www.dsrds.com. ■

County OKs jail improvement program

\$117 million project in Dublin slated for completion in 2019

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously at a lengthy meeting last month to spend \$117 million to make capital improvements and improvements in mental health services at the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

The improvements were opposed by a large group of activists who alleged that the project will rob resources from community programs that keep people afloat during the economic crisis and said incarceration creates and exacerbates mental and physical health problems.

They said Alameda County should prioritize funding community-based solutions and diversion programs instead of pouring millions of dollars into what they described as "mass incarceration."

Alameda County Administrator Susan Muranishi said the improvements aren't really an expansion project because the jail, which was designed in 1980, will wind up with 18 fewer beds than it currently has.

Muranishi said the project "will improve safety both for staff and for those who are incarcerated."

The state will contribute \$54 million of the project's cost to improve services for Santa Rita inmates who have mental health issues.

Supervisor Wilma Chan said she has some reservations about the jail project but voted for it because 1,100 inmates are referred to the mental health wing every month and they need to have the best services possible.

However, Chan said she sympa-

thizes with critics of the jail project, saying that, "So many social service programs have been cut in recent years that it caused a lot of incarceration that wasn't necessary."

Supervisor Keith Carson said, "There are an increasing number of people at the jail who need emotional, psychological and behavioral care and we have to respond to them and provide that care."

Carson said the improvement project "is not the perfect model, but it's a step to a model that's more humane."

Carson said he wants to end the "revolving door" in which many inmates commit new crimes and return to jail shortly after they're released.

He said he hopes, "The revolving door moves slower and slower and ends in the community" with inmates getting jobs and support services.

The jail project is expected to be completed in 2019. ■

—Jeff Shuttleworth, Bay City News Service

'(It) will improve safety both for staff and those who are incarcerated.'

Susan Muranishi,
County administrator



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COURTESY OF BAKER'S OFFICE
Save Mount Diablo's Ted Clement, Assemblywoman Catharine Baker and Deborah White, development director.

Assemblywoman names Save Mount Diablo as district's Nonprofit of the Year

Environmental preservation group recognized at special ceremony in Sacramento

By RISTI TEWOLDE

Local environmental preservation organization Save Mount Diablo was honored at the State Capitol last week as the 2016 Nonprofit of the Year for the 16th State Assembly District.

Based in Walnut Creek, Save Mount Diablo strives to preserve Mount Diablo's peaks, foothills and watersheds through land in-

vestment, protection and education efforts.

"Through its commitment to conserving the natural beauty of Mount Diablo and the greater Diablo Range, Save Mount Diablo has been vital to the protection of wildlife habitats and the preservation of our environment," Assemblywoman Catharine Baker (R-San Ramon) said after she recognized the nonprofit during a

special ceremony in Sacramento.

"Save Mount Diablo's dedication to preserve our local environment has benefited our community's park-goers and generations to come," added Baker, whose district includes Pleasanton.

Since being founded in 1971, the nonprofit has helped the preserved lands on Mount Diablo and its surrounding foothills grow

from a little over 6,788 acres to more than 110,000 acres across more than 40 parks.

"Save Mount Diablo has a time-sensitive land conservation mission for the beautiful Mount Diablo area, so we are very grateful for Assemblywoman Baker's leadership in stepping up to support and recognize our efforts with this award," said Ted Clement, executive director of Save Mount Diablo.

Through its collaboration with community partners and local government, as well as its efforts to unite and educate the public by organizing events throughout the year, Save Mount Diablo has experienced success in achieving its mission, Baker noted. ■

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Pleasanton cyclist dies in morning collision

A bicyclist who died after being struck by a vehicle last week at the intersection of Bernal and Valley avenues and Stanley Boulevard was identified as 72-year-old Gail Turner, according to the Alameda County coroner's bureau.

Turner, a Pleasanton resident, was traveling south on Valley Avenue when a vehicle traveling east on Stanley Boulevard struck her around 7 a.m. June 23, Pleasanton police said. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver stayed at the scene and cooperated with investigators, police said. The crash remains under investigation.

The intersection was closed for several hours as police investigated the incident.

In other news

Firefighters battled several vegetation fires in and around the Tri-Valley over the past week and a half amid hot weather and at times windy conditions.

The largest incident occurred last Satur-

day when a blaze off Interstate 580 outside of Livermore in unincorporated Alameda County burned 211 acres.

Dubbed the Grant Fire, the incident involved a cluster of three fires that was first reported just after 4 p.m. off I-580 near West Grant Line Road, about 10 miles east of Livermore.

The fire had grown to 100 acres by about 5 p.m., and at 6 p.m. a total of 150 acres had burned, driven by the wind, Cal Fire battalion chief Ryan Michaels said. By 9 p.m. Saturday, it held at 211 acres, with containment soon to follow.

No structure damage or injuries were reported. The fire threatened some windmills in the area.

Smoke from the fire prompted California Highway Patrol officials to temporarily close westbound I-580, but the westbound lanes re-opened several hours later.

Then the next day, Alameda County firefighters knocked down a big-rig fire that threatened to start a wildfire near where the Grant Fire had burned.

The big-rig fire was first reported at 4:32

p.m. Sunday on eastbound I-580 near West Grant Line Road, Alameda County Fire Department battalion chief Stephanie Radecke said.

Fire crews finished extinguishing the big-rig fire around 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Radecke said. There was high risk of wildfire that afternoon because it was hot, the winds were strong and the big-rig was hauling electronics, all-terrain vehicles, golf carts and a generator, she added.

The truck was on its way from the Sonoma Raceway to the Daytona International Speedway.

The I-580 incidents occurred a few days before firefighters in Pleasanton knocked down a small grass fire that drifted smoke across the Alameda County Fair, prompting the shut down of some rides, and closed a major road in the city last week.

The fire along Bernal Avenue between Valley and Pleasanton avenues was reported at 2:53 p.m. June 22, according to Livermore-Pleasanton deputy fire chief Joe Testa.

Firefighters had it under control in about 20 minutes, and it only burned about an

acre of grass. But firefighters had to shut down Bernal Avenue for about 30 minutes that afternoon.

Heavy smoke from the fire drifted into the Alameda County Fair nearby, prompting fair operators to temporarily shut down some rides, though it wasn't at the request of firefighters, Testa said.

It was started by landscapers working in the area. No structures were threatened and no one was injured.

Livermore-Pleasanton firefighters put out a separate 2-alarm fire in Livermore earlier on June 22.

That fire was reported at about 12:45 p.m. near the Portola Avenue on-ramp to I-580.

High winds caused it to spread and firefighters called a two-alarm response, Alameda County Fire Department spokeswoman Aisha Knowles said. It was under control by 1:30 p.m.

The fire burned 2 acres. No one was injured and no structures were nearby, Testa said. Its cause is under investigation. ■

—Bay City News Service
Pleasanton Weekly staff contributed

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

June 26

Domestic battery

- 10:45 a.m. on Vineyard Avenue
- 12:57 p.m. on Brookline Loop
- 11:01 p.m. on Vineyard Avenue

Theft

- 10:12 a.m., 5600 block of Owens Drive; bicycle theft
- 9:27 p.m., 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; shoplifting

Rape

- 10:17 p.m. on Churchill Drive

Drug violation

- 5:07 a.m. in the 5500 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard

Vandalism

- 2:48 a.m. in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

June 25

Theft from structure

- 6:44 a.m. in the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

Fraud

- 12:33 p.m. in the 5500 block of Springdale Avenue
- 1:20 p.m. in the 8200 block of Regency Drive

DUI

- 1:45 a.m. at Main and Spring streets

June 24

Shoplifting

- 8:40 p.m. in the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

Domestic battery

- 2:03 a.m. on Rivera Court
- 11:43 p.m. on Montalvo Court

Fraud

- 9:47 a.m. in the 3900 block of Old Santa Rita Road
- 12:09 p.m. in the 1200 block of Vintner Way

Vandalism

- 7:24 a.m. in the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway
- 9:51 p.m. in the 4400 block of Stoneridge Drive

June 23

Theft

- 6:57 a.m., 7900 block of Stoneridge Drive; theft from structure
- 11:01 a.m., 1100 block of W. Lagoon Road; theft from auto
- 2:16 p.m., 5700 block of Johnson Drive; theft from structure
- 11:44 p.m., 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; shoplifting
- 11:54 p.m., 800 block of Piemonte Drive; theft from auto

Fraud

- 9:04 a.m. in the 3400 block of Cumberland Gap Court

- 3:34 p.m. in the 100 block of Spring Street

Alcohol violation

- 11:17 p.m. in the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway

Drug violation

- 9:32 p.m. in the 7100 block of Koll Center Parkway

Vandalism

- 9:44 p.m. in the 5800 block of Laurel Creek Drive

Graffiti

- 9:24 a.m. in the 5600 block of W. Las Positas Boulevard
- 6:45 p.m. at Sunol Boulevard and Riddell Street

June 22

Auto theft

- 8:34 p.m. in the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 10:18 p.m. in the 5700 block of Stoneridge Drive

Drug violation

- 2:07 a.m. in the 3700 block of Hopyard Road
- 2:31 p.m. at Hopyard Road and W Las Positas Boulevard

- 5:56 p.m. in the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road

Fraud

- 5:48 p.m., 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

Graffiti

- 10:25 a.m. on Santa Rita Road and Mohr Avenue
- 7:25 p.m. in the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

Burglary

- 9:30 a.m. in the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Alcohol violation

- 12:35 a.m. in the 4000 block of Vineyard Avenue

June 21

Theft

- 8:05 a.m., 00 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from structure

David Lewis

June 19, 1946 – June 14, 2016

David Lewis, born in San Francisco, CA, June 19, 1946 passed away peacefully in his home June 14, 2016.

Dave has been a resident of Pleasanton for the last 30 years where he raised his family. He served in the Navy for 6 years, later working 5 years for Chrysler Corporation, 31 years for 7-11 Corporation and the last 8 years for Northern California Compactors.

Dave loved traveling, working in his wood shop and spending time with his family and friends.

Dave is survived by his wife, Marilyn Lewis; sons, Nicholas Lewis, Jason Lewis and Steven Lewis; daughter-in-law, Jamie Lewis; grandchildren, Alannah Lewis, Anthony Lewis, Ethan Anderson and Tyler Anderson. He is also survived by his brother, James Lewis; sister, Jilda Lewis; stepmother, Bernice Lewis, and all his friends. Dave is greatly missed by all.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568



Joseph Nason Berry, Jr.

December 9, 1962 – June 3, 2016

Joseph Nason Berry, Jr. was born in Oakland, CA on December 9, 1962. He grew up in Pleasanton, CA and was a graduate of Foothill High School in 1981. He attended Marion Military Institute in Marion, AL. Upon graduation he was commissioned an officer in the US Army Reserves. He died after a brief illness in Beijing, China on June 3, 2016. He was teaching English in Hohhot, Mongolia, China at the time of his death. He loved the people and especially the children that he taught. He is survived by his mother, Sharon Berry Olague, step father, Felix Olague, sister, Melissa Berry Tucker, and brother-in-law Todd Tucker, nephews Brendan and Daniel Tucker and niece Morgan Tucker and step brothers Michael and Gene Olague.

He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Nason Berry, Sr. in 1985.

A celebration of Joe's life is scheduled for 12 pm on July 9, 2016, at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St., Pleasanton, CA 94566

PAID OBITUARY

Fair ready for eventful Fourth of July weekend

Concerts, rides, food and fireworks lead fair's final days

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SARAH LODUHA

Those looking to spend their Fourth of July weekend surrounded by happy vibes, good music, tasty food and a host of special attractions might find their place at the Alameda County Fair, which ends its three-week run in Pleasanton on Monday.

The closing weekend will feature attractions such as the last shows of the Big O Tires Concert Series, carnival rides, classic fair food, the Demolition Derby, the Red, White and Brewfest, Youth Livestock Auction and — one of Pleasanton's favorite summertime events — the Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular.

The final days of the fair are typically the busiest, according to Angel Moore, marketing and communications manager for the Alameda County Fair.

"The energy is so much fun because there are so many people," Moore said. "It's a really vibrant weekend for us. We get about 50,000 people coming through each day."

Moore said she knows of families who have come to the fair each Fourth of July for almost 60 years, and she sees how much of a tradition it is for many people. The fireworks are, in her opinion, what really brings everyone together during the holiday weekend.

"It culminates the end of everything that we do here, and it's such a great way for people to celebrate," she added. "We are proud to be able to offer such a great show to our community."

The Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular, which can be seen throughout most of Pleasanton, is scheduled to start at 9:30 p.m. Monday and will be set to music performed by the Oakland Symphony.

Fair officials recommend viewing the show from the grandstands, but Moore, who has worked at the fair for over a decade, knows location might not matter so much when viewing the colorfully lit Pleasanton sky for Independence Day.

"We know that even if families can't make it to the fair, they're watching the fireworks from wherever they are," she said.

To help alleviate fireworks-related traffic concerns in the area, officials will implement street and freeway exit closures and ban parking in nearby neighborhoods. Traffic control will be in effect after the show, directing drivers to freeways using specific routes.

Although the Fireworks Spectacular is one of the most anticipated events, there are plenty of other things to look forward to these final four days at the fair.

Music lovers are in store for more marquee performances from this year's Big O Tires Concert Series lineup.

Starting the weekend off at the amphitheater this evening is Exposé, an American freestyle vocal group.

Tomorrow, the stage welcomes The Guess Who, a rock band who became an international sensation in the 1960s and '70s with hits like "American Woman." Guests can enjoy classic country music from Crystal Gale on Sunday, and the Red, White and Blues Festival on Monday.

Headliners take the stage each night at 8 p.m. Finding seats to view concerts sometimes requires patience, as the lines get fairly long throughout the day, but there is usually plenty of seating on the lawn in front of the Jumbotron for close-up concert viewing.



Guests can find rides, food and games within the Carnival Midway at the Alameda County Fair.



At Brad's World of Reptiles, fair-goers can have close encounters with rare and unusual reptiles, amphibians and other exotic animals.



Mariachi Nueva Leyendo perform on the Adventure Park stage, where guests can watch a number of shows throughout the day and evening at the fair.

While waiting all day for the concerts to begin, you can channel your inner daredevil and hop on some rides at the Carnival Midway, or see where the action takes place at the Demolition Derby in the sports arena at 7 p.m. today and Saturday.

Children can join the fun this weekend in Kid's Park, where they can go on rides and play games without some of the chaos found in the more-crowded Midway.

Pokey Little Puppy and Curious George will be hosting Storyville at Kid's Park, keeping little ones entertained with games and story-time (12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. daily), and magician Frank Thurston presents family-friendly magic shows that run every hour and a half throughout the day.

Not only can kids have fun, but they can also learn while doing so, according to Moore, who said the fair strives to

educate guests while providing an enjoyable experience.

"We try to create programs that promote fun and engagement for kids; so much that they don't even realize they're learning," she said. "It's important being able to educate people of all ages on all different kinds of agriculture and sustainable living, too."

The fair can also be a great place to expand your taste palate by indulging in classic, deep-fried favorites or sampling tasty new additions like the Elvis burger and churro sandwich. People 21 and older can wash their food down tomorrow afternoon by stopping at the Red, White and Brewfest.

While letting the food settle, fair-goers can head over to the Adventure Park to experience an old-time country feel by visiting the Great American Petting Zoo and Brad's World of Reptiles or cheering on the Alaskan piglets as they race to

the finish line.

This Sunday, those looking to support local 4-H clubs can participate in the Youth Livestock Auction, which provides more than \$500,000 in funds to youth throughout the region.

While in that corner of the fair, make sure to see the livestock exhibits and learn what it takes to raise a cow, sheep, pig or goat for auction. It's a detailed, year-long process that involves training, competitions and numerous weigh-ins.

Delve deep into Chinese heritage and watch the Chinese Acrobats of Hebei as they perform feats of balance, agility and motor coordination on the Adventure Park Stage. Shows occur all weekend and run throughout the afternoon and early evening.

Shopping enthusiasts can take a gander at the numerous

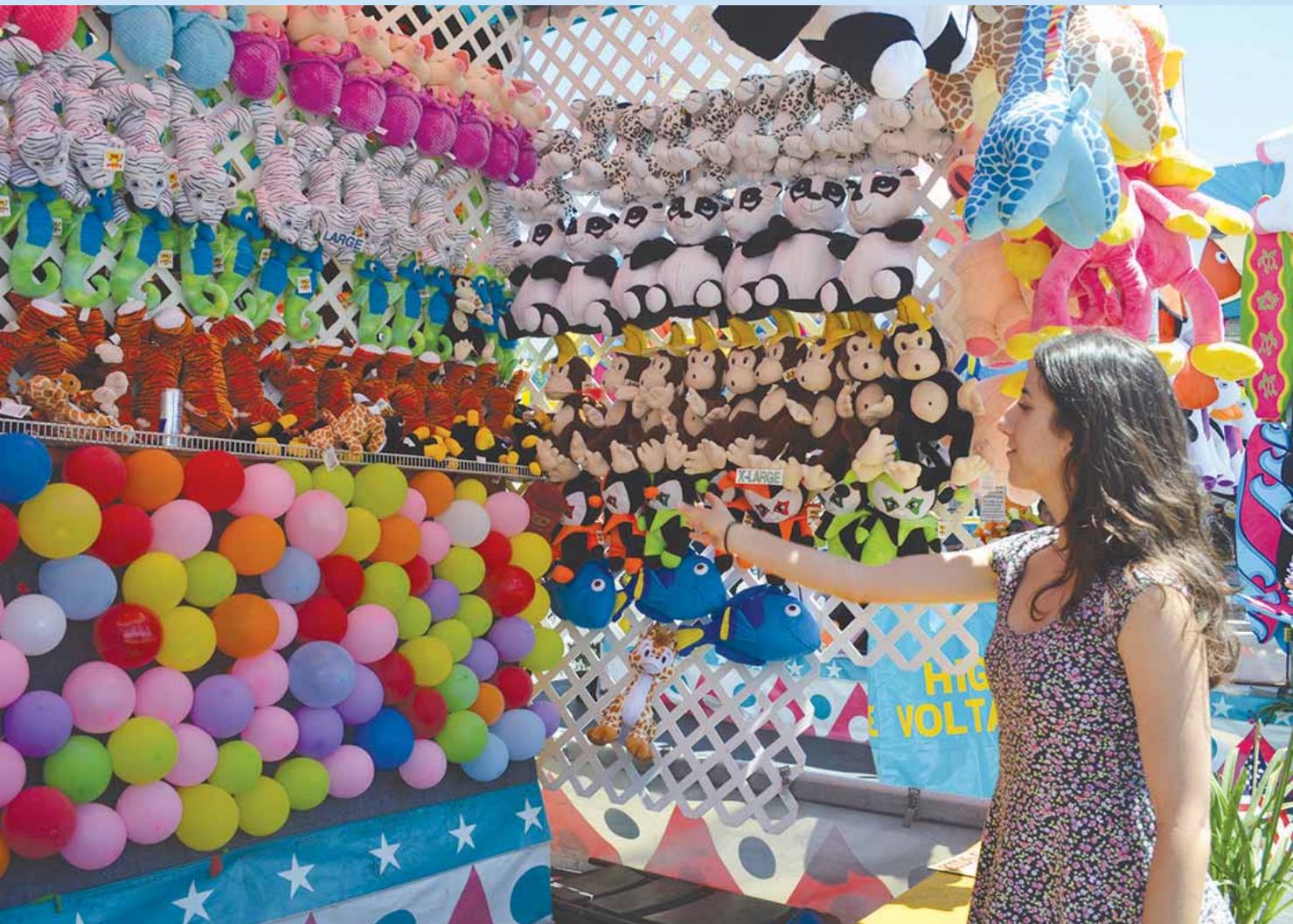
vendors scattered throughout the fair, ranging from home goods, clothes, food and other items. While exploring, don't forget to also check out the array of exhibits including fine arts, handcrafts, culinary arts, wine and hobbies.

A day at the fair might not be complete without watching a few horse races at the oldest mile-long racetrack in the United States. Races begin today at 2:15 p.m. and 1:15 p.m. the rest of the weekend, and they are free with fair admission.

There may be no better way to wind down after a long day than to visit the Relax Zone's wine garden, where live music plays until 10:30 p.m.

The final four days of the fair run from today through Monday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day. For a full event schedule and other information, visit annual.alameda-countyfair.com. ■

Fair-goers like Atasha Bozorgzad, a Pleasanton native now studying at San Francisco State University, can test out their skills at one of the many game booths in the Carnival Midway.



Bringing skills of disabled into focus

Company gives hands-on experience for jobs in filmmaking

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Producing a film takes many talents and skills, noted Hester Wagner, director of Futures Films in Livermore. That is why her company finds it a good fit to train and employ people with developmental disabilities to do many of the jobs — minor and major — that are needed in the industry.

“Our vocational training program teaches everything from development to post production — writing, acting, directing, camera, lighting, sound, wardrobe, props, editing,” Wagner said. “It encompasses a wide range of skills — visual artists, those good with their hands — it can fit all types.”

Futures Films officially launched in March when it opened its office on Las Positas Court.

“We can do filming here for clients or we can come to you,” Wagner said. “Our production company can get hired by anybody at any time to do anything.”

Futures Films was hired to do a series of three one-minute commercials for the Livermore Valley Film Fest in May.

“The content was developed by one of our employees,” Wagner said. “It was given the theme ‘Science Meets Art.’”

To this end, the production team created a sequence bringing a Frankenstein character to life, filmed at Livermore Lab.

“Sometimes a client wants us to develop a concept. Sometimes it’s just the editing, sometimes just the shooting. We are available for any part of the process,” Wagner said. “Next week, we are doing a pedestrian safety video for the school district in San Leandro.”

The company also will be filming a video this summer for a synchronized swimming organization for people with developmental disabilities. And the nonprofit REACH (Resources Education Activities Community and Housing for Special Adults of the Tri-Valley) hired Futures Films to produce a training film to prepare for a big disaster.

See **FUTURES FILMS** on Page 15



MIKE SEDLAK

Above: Adam Pinney announces “take three” during the making of a commercial for the Livermore Valley Film Festival 2016.

Below: Camper Zach Goldberg interviews camp director Joey Travolta in 2013 for the film his team was making. This summer Goldberg is being paid to work on the road with Travolta.



FUTURES FILMS

Continued from Page 14

"We are doing a wedding this Saturday, a video and stills," Wagner said. "It's our second one."

Another client is the Livermore Chamber of Commerce.

"Our next big thing is to get our guys working outside of Futures Films," Wagner said. "We have some who have worked for other companies with short-term projects."

Futures Films is a subsidiary of Futures Explored, a company that helps adults with moderate special needs get training in life and work skills throughout the Bay Area. It is funded through Regional Center of the East Bay.

"Students come here if they are Regional Center clients," Wagner said. "We get paid and budget accordingly."

Futures Explored includes Joey Travolta's two-week summer film camps, whose attendees are mainly young people diagnosed with high functioning autism or Asperger syndrome. The camp began last week for 60 students between the ages of 12 and 22 at St. Mary's College campus in Moraga.

"They'll be divided into four class-

es," Wagner explained. "Each class makes a short film — they are woven together with a theme."

Travolta, who has had a singing, acting and directing career in movies and television and is the older brother of actor John Travolta, also has a degree in special education. He runs film camps all over the country to get young people with special needs involved in filmmaking.

Travolta's Inclusion Films offers the 20-week Futures Explored vocational programs to provide an entry-level working knowledge of film production. Many of these graduates go on to work at Futures Films, where they are on crews with experienced professionals.

Wagner believes more companies and organizations will hire Futures Films for their video needs as they recognize the high quality of its work.

"We are still young and growing and making our reputation. Our next step is to get connected with other companies," Wagner said. "I know that will happen, I'm confident it will happen. The amount of work we are getting now is really exciting."

For more information and to see videos, visit futuresfilms.org. ■



MIKE SEDLAK

Working on a commercial for the Livermore Valley Film Festival 2016 are (l-r) John Tokarek, instructor Frank Paul Perez, Dominic Held, Adam Pinney and instructor Keith Schikore.



LVO

Patrons enjoy picnics and wine while opera singers regale them with beloved arias at the annual fundraiser for Livermore Valley Opera.

Opera stars to perform in vineyards

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Picnicking at tables set in a vineyard while opera stars serenade? Does life get any better?

This summer, Livermore Valley Opera is holding two events of its Opera in the Vineyard, to benefit its 25th anniversary season. The late Sunday afternoon of classic opera among the vines will take place 5-8 p.m. July 17 at Retzlaff Vineyards in Livermore and 4-7 p.m. Aug. 14 at Nella Terra Cellars in Sunol.

"The annual Opera in the Vineyard is a very popular community event," said Raquel Holt, one of the opera's founders in 1992 who is co-chairing the event with Pamela Philbert. "Our supporters and many new guests come each time to enjoy the high quality of the talented opera singers, the wonderful program, and the lovely vineyard setting. It has always been a sold-out event."

The professional singers perform arias from classic operas, so it is also an opportunity for those curious about opera to get a taste of what is

offered at the Bankhead Theater.

Guests bring their own picnic dinners to the event, and the vineyards will have wines for sale.

"From their picnic baskets, our guests take out a spread of delectable culinary delights to share, and to hear the clinking of wine glasses as they happily make a toast to each other is a delight to see," Holt said.

Nella Terra Cellars in Sunol is one of the region's newest wineries. Owners Paulette and Gerry Beemiller, who are founders of the Silicon Valley Charity Ball that raises millions for Bay Area nonprofit groups, are also big supporters of Livermore Valley Opera.

"This beautiful winery is generally not open to the public, so the August Opera in the Vineyard will offer guests a special experience," Holt said. "Come early and stroll the gardens before the performance begins at 4:45 p.m."

Tickets are \$40 each in advance, \$50 each at the door. They can be purchased at www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

The program will also offer "Arias a la Carte," a chance for guests to purchase songs from a menu to be performed at their table.

Singers this year are Livermore Valley Opera favorites: On July 17, tenor David Gustafson ("La Traviata"), soprano Emma McNairy ("Cinderella" and "Lucia di Lammermoor"), bass Kirk Eichelberger ("Lucia di Lammermoor" and "The Italian Girl in Algiers") and, making her Livermore Valley Opera debut, mezzo-soprano Louisa Waycott.

On Aug. 14, performers are Gustafson, mezzo-soprano Nikola Printz ("Lucia di Lammermoor," "Carmen" and "Rigoletto"), baritone Bradley Kynard ("Madama Butterfly") and debuting Lisa Davila.

Accompanying the singers is pianist Chun Mei Wilson.

"It is always wonderful to see our supporters enjoy themselves in an informal and casual setting as they listen to beautiful arias being performed by LVO's talented principal singers," Holt said. ■

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LETTERS

Get informed, get involved

Dear Editor,

The Pleasanton Unified School District is proposing a \$300 million bond to go on the November ballot.

The justification of projects for this proposed bond is not what our community deserves. The projects are not major capital assets. Many of the costs are items that are obligations to be funded from the general fund and \$20 million in old debt.

Millions of dollars in general fund obligation can be loosely identified as capital expenses. This is not a request for needed major capital projects but a way to free up general fund money to be made available for other uses.

Pleasanton schools are seriously overcrowded, yet not one new

school is in this "capital" bond. This is a 30-year bond tying up 30 years of community resources. PUSD demographer report says we need "at least two" new schools in 10 years; this bond does nothing to prepare for growth. In truth, those schools are already needed today. Does PUSD intend to come back for additional bonds in a few years?

The low 55% voter approval is for capital bonds, intended to finance major capital assets. Voters have confidence in capital bonds, but this is not a "brick-and-mortar" capital bond.

Parents and taxpayers must ask for a bond proposal that better serves our students and community. This proposed bond is not what a capital bond is intended to be or what our community deserves for this significant community resource.

—Julie Testa

EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY



JEB BING

Celebrating July 4 and every day in Pleasanton is this flag in front of The Kensington Apartments on Valley Avenue just south of Bernal Avenue. It's one of the largest American flags in Pleasanton and is lighted 24 hours a day.

Let's celebrate

More than 4.9 million Californians are expected to be on the road starting today as many of us head out of town for a summer holiday weekend. Not since 2002 have we had such a surge, making this a great weekend to stay in Pleasanton and enjoy picnics, fireworks, the County Fair and a relaxing stay-at-home holiday.

Families can enjoy some old-fashioned Independence Day fun at the annual community picnic in Lions Wayside Park. The free event takes place from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the corner of Neal and First streets. Some come for the music, featuring the Pleasanton Community Concert Band, directed by Bob Williams. Others come for the tribute to the men and women in military service, past and present and for the hand-held American flags distributed at the event.

The Alameda County Fair continues today through Monday with a Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular that promises to live up to its name with non-stop, razzle-dazzle fireworks set to music performed by the Oakland East Bay Symphony. There will be a "Salute to Hometown Heroes" video before the fireworks, which will start at approximately 9:30 p.m.

The city of Livermore and downtown Livermore stores will celebrate the Fourth of July with a

fireworks display launched off the top of the parking structure on Railroad Avenue. It's a walk-in event and viewing is free.

And why go any farther?

According to the latest AAA travel survey, highway traffic will see a 1.3% increase from 2015 as economic growth, increased disposable income and lower gas prices spur many to celebrate the holiday by traveling. Cynthia Harris, AAA's Northern California spokesperson, says we are well on our way for 2016 to be a record-breaking year for summertime travel.

Nationally, AAA forecasts more than 43 million people will travel 50 miles or more during the Fourth of July holiday weekend, representing a 1.3% increase compared to last year. Nationally, this represents the highest July 4 travel volume on record with 5 million more travelers compared to Memorial Day of this year.

As part of AAA's ongoing commitment to keeping the roads safe on holidays, the AAA "Topsy Tow" program will offer a free tow for drinking drivers from 6 p.m. on July 4 to 6 a.m. on July 5 for members and non-members alike. Call (800) 222-4357 (AAA-HELP) for a free tow of up to 10 miles.

For those of us staying home, let's celebrate by flying the flag all during this holiday weekend. Have a Happy Fourth. ■



Visit Town Square at PleasantonWeekly.com to comment on the editorial.

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THE CITY OF PLEASANTON THE MASON FLATS AT TOWNSHIP SQUARE

AFFORDABLE RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES NOW AVAILABLE

THE MASON FLATS AT TOWNSHIP SQUARE, PLEASANTON

The Mason Flats at Township Square and the City of Pleasanton announce the availability of thirty two (32) Below Market Rent apartments located within a new 210 unit development located at 1605 Lexington Lane, Pleasanton, CA 94566. The BMR units will be made available for lease from August through March 2017. The Below Market Rent (BMR) apartments will include; (18) 1-bedroom, (13) 2-bedroom, (1) 3-bedrooms. One 1-bedroom unit, one 2-bedroom unit, and one 3-bedroom unit. All BMR apartments will be reserved for very low income persons/households earning up to 50% and 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI) limit established by the City adjusted for household. (www.themasonapartments.com)

MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO APPLY:

Pre-application forms, eligibility guidelines and other information will be available online beginning **Monday, June 27, 2016** on City's website (Housing Division webpage): <http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/resident/housing/rentals>

Printed copies of the application will be available at the following locations:

Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue

Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

City of Pleasanton, 200 Old Bernal Avenue; Housing Division Office

Applications will be accepted no later than **Monday, July 18, 2016 at 5:00 pm**, no exceptions or consideration will be given to applications received after the deadline date.

Informational Sessions will be held at the following locations/times:

Session 1: Wednesday, July 6th from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Location: Operations Service Center, Remillard Room, 3333 Busch Road, Pleasanton

Session 2: Thursday, July 7th from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Location: City of Pleasanton Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

Seating capacity is limited for each session.

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

Phone call from Santa Anita helps jockey win \$50,000 race

Ricky Gonzalez rides Bronze Star for 1st place in Oak Tree Handicap

By DENNIS MILLER

Jockey Ricky Gonzalez got simple instructions last Saturday afternoon from trainer Jerry Hollendorfer before the \$50,000 Oak Tree Handicap in the Oak Tree at Pleasanton meet during the Alameda County Fair.

Gonzalez had the mount on Hollendorfer's horse Bronze Star for the Oak Tree, and with the trainer down at Santa Anita to saddle a horse for the Grade I Hollywood Gold Cup, instruction over the phone was the only way to go.

"Jerry told me to let the horse run," Gonzalez said. "I didn't know if he would be alone on the lead as I thought there were others that would go."

He was, alone that is, in first place. While the lead was always one to two lengths, in reality it was much more comfortable.

When they turned for home, runs by eventual second-place finisher Crittenden and third-place runner He's A Pepper were easily rebuffed.

"He was so comfortable out there," Gonzalez said of Bronze Star. "He ran a great race all the way. When we got (to the top of the lane), I knew they weren't going to catch me."

Bronze Star crossed the line first and paid \$8.60, \$4.80 and \$3.80.

Hollendorfer was able to catch the race on TV from Southern California. He actually had two horses entered in the race, but scratched likely favorite Southern Freedom after the horse had some blood in his trachea following his last work.

"I talked with the owners and we decided to not run him," Hollendorfer said. But with the way



VASSER PHOTOGRAPHY

Jockey Ricky Gonzalez rides Bronze Star to win last Saturday's \$50,000 Oak Tree Handicap at the Pleasanton fairgrounds.

Bronze Star ran, it may not have mattered.

"Oh I don't know about that,"

Hollendorfer added, with a slight chuckle. "Southern Freedom is a pretty nice horse." ■

RADD athletes earn Special Olympics medals

The Pleasanton RADD team sent three athletes to the Special Olympics Northern California Summer Games last weekend at UC Davis. Pleasanton's Adam Pinney earned gold in the softball throw and 100M walk and a participation ribbon in the 50M walk. Jennifer Thomas, of Pleasanton, brought home silver in the 200M and 400M runs, and Dublin's Greg Neves grabbed silver in the 200M run and finished fourth in the 100M run. Shown (from left): BART police officer Scott Hamilton, Neves, Pinney, Thomas and Newark police officer Nick Mavrakis.



KAY KING



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cobras celebrate division championship

The Cobras recently won the Phantom Girls Softball League U10 Teal Division championship game. The Cobras, sponsored by Maverick Networks, Inc., celebrating with their first-place trophies are players (from left) Abby Harmon, Sydney Muther, Amanda Penate, Abbie Kent, Erin Tsui, Sierra Titensor, Nisa Kincaid, Ava Schulz, Alexia Garcia, Skylar Azevedo, Caitlyn Sinclair, Ellen Glaser and Keira Gossett. Coaches (from left) Steve Harmon, Johnny Gossett, Joe Titensor and Scott Glaser.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Brothers wrestle at nationals

Andrew and Gabe Alviar achieved All-American status after finishing in the top six in their divisions in the USA Wrestling Folkstyle national competition in Las Vegas in the spring. Andrew, who took sixth in the 138-pound junior/senior division, graduated from Amador Valley High last month and is headed to Fresno City College in the fall. Younger brother Gabe, who will be an Amador Valley junior next year, finished fourth in the 132-pound cadet division.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dolphins down Barracudas

The boys 13-14 individual medley gets underway during Saturday's showdown between the Pleasanton Valley Dolphins and Castlewood Barracudas. The Dolphins won the meet, 1,034 to 745.

Concerts

NAREN KRISHNA AT GALINA'S MUSIC STUDIO Galina's Music Studio is proud to present the musical talents of Naren Krishna, local pianist and student, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 17 at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore. Join us for a relaxing afternoon filled with the beautiful compositions of Rachmaninoff, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, Bach, Tchaikovsky and Joplin. Free and open to the public. Call 960-1194 or go to galinasm@galinasmusic-studio.com.

Talks & Lectures

AMADOR VALLEY TOASTMASTERS Learn how to give speeches, gain feedback, lead teams, and guide others to achieve their goals in a supportive atmosphere at 7 a.m. every Thursday at Black Bear Diner, 5100 Hopyard Road. Breakfast is available to order from menu. Go to www.facebook.com/AmadorValleyToastmasters/.

RIO DE JANEIRO: WONDERFUL CITY CIDADE MARAVILHOSA Andrea Rocha de Souza Moreira, Trade

Promotion and Investments Officer at the General Consulate of Brazil in San Francisco, will speak about the history of Rio de Janeiro and the preparations for the 2016 Summer Olympic Games at 2 p.m. on Thursday, July 7 at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. Presented free of charge by the Consulate General of Brazil.

VIRTUALLY SPEAKING TOASTMASTERS Virtually Speaking Toastmasters club meets from noon-1 p.m. every Thursday at Electrical Reliability Services, 6900 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 415. Everyone is welcome to come see what a positive change Toastmasters can make in their confidence. Call 580-8660.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY The Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society presents Diane George, discussing using Google for genealogy, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, July 11 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court. At the San Ramon Valley Genealogical Society, Diane is the leader of the Azores Research SIG and assists with the Legacy and FamilySearch SIGS. Diane is interested in the use of technology for genealogy and in encouraging people to use that technology. Free. Contact Marilyn Glass and Diane Wiedel, Program Chairs, at program@L-AGS.org.

INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT JULY RELIGION CHAT Interfaith Interconnect will present "How is Meditation Practiced in Your Faith?" featuring Raghu Tirupatur, speaking about the Hindu tradition, and Claire La Scola, who will tell us about Christian meditation, at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 13 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court. Concluding the meditation series, Dr. Manish Sagar of Stanford University will talk about current research findings on how meditation affects the brain at 7 p.m. on Sunday, July 17 at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Contact Interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com.

Music

SHAMANIC DRUM CIRCLE Drumming will help you to gain access to your inner guidance and learn to work with your helping spirits. Presented by Ashleigh Pevey, a Shamanic healer, sessions are usually 3-4:15 p.m. the second Sunday of the month at Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. Bring a drum or rattle; a few will be available. Call 829-2733 or go to www.unityoftrivalley.org.

Fundraisers

STAND UP AGAINST CANCER COMEDY FUNDRAISER Stand Up Against Cancer will provide you with an evening of laughs while benefiting the Pleasanton Relay for Life/American Cancer



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Improv teen angst

Teen improv troupe Creatures of Impulse is presenting its sixth season of "Tri-Valley High: The Series." The summer classic will take place at 7:30 p.m. over four Wednesday evenings, from July 6-27, as the troupe performs the episodic, live, improvised teen soap opera, full of mesmerizing teen angst. Audience members help create the characters, location and plot for this interactive and un-scripted adventure, appropriate for ages 11 and older. Tickets are \$10; students, \$5. Go to www.firehousearts.org, call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

Society. The show will be at 8 p.m. on Saturday, July 9 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Featuring Jeff Applebaum, Sandra Risser and Patrick McDermott, plus some special guest comics. The evening will be hosted by Pleasanton funnyman John DeKoven, Chief Executive Comic of Bunjo's Comedy Productions. Tickets are \$25. Call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org.

GEORGIE PORGIE MINIATURE GOLF FUNDRAISER Local charitable organization, Bay East Foundation, will host their annual Georgie Porgie miniature golf fundraiser from 19 a.m.-2 p.m. on Friday, July 15 at Golden Tee Golfland, 2533 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley. This family friendly event includes unlimited miniature golf on two 18-hole courses, unlimited arcade play, a BBQ lunch, face painting, balloon artists and numerous raffle prizes for children and adults. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$35 at the door, for children \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Proceeds go to Bay East Foundation's "Members Helping Members" fund. This program assists the 5000+ members of Alameda County based Bay East Association of Realtors who experience a catastrophic event in their life. Go to www.shopbayeast.com.

Lessons & Classes

PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER DAILY PC TUTORING Get one-on-one PC tutoring between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday-Friday at the Pleasanton Senior Center. If you have your own laptop, you can bring it. PCs are available in Windows 7/8/10. Get help on using the internet, email, photo editing and attachments. Cost is \$2-\$2.50. Call 931-5365.

Health & Wellness

PLEASANTON SOLE MATES Join this weekly walking group at 8:45 a.m. on Wednesday mornings departing from the Pleasanton Senior Center. Participants must be able to walk 2.5-3 miles and keep a moderate pace with the group. Stop by the Center to pick a monthly walk schedule or call 925-931-5365 for more information.

PLEASANTON PEDALERS If you love cycling, this group is for you. Join at 9 a.m. every Thursday. Rides will be at an easy pace from 15 to 25 miles, with no rider left behind. A signed waiver is required for all riders. Go to meetup.com/PleasantonPedalers.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind will be meeting from 1-3 p.m., second Saturday of each month at Valley Memorial Hospital, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Any visually impaired or blind person is urged to attend. Call Carl at 449-9362.

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. Contact 487-5706 or eastbayet@comcast.net. Go to www.eastbayet.com.

Sports

ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION The City of Pleasanton Community Services

Department offers over 20 slow pitch softball leagues, and there is something for everyone. Leagues open to all skill levels. Games are played at the Ken Mercer Sports Park Adult Softball Complex and begin Aug. 2. Early bird registration now-June 22. Open Registration June 23-July 8. Contact the Sports Office at 931-3437 or at nvelazquez@cityof-pleasantonca.gov. Go to www.pleasantonsports.org.

Seniors

PEDDLER SHOPPE AT THE SENIOR CENTER The Peddler Shoppe in the lobby of the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., offers the handmade wares of talented local senior artisans. It's a great place to buy gifts. The Shoppe is staffed by volunteers and is open to the public 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Go to www.pleasantonpeddlershoppe.com.

SENIOR MENS SOCIAL CLUB Sons In Retirement (SIR) is a social club for senior men. In addition to friendships, members can participate in interest groups like golf, bridge, travel, photography, etc. We meet for lunch first Thursday of the month at San Ramon Golf Club. Open to retirees in the Tri-Valley. Contact Rich Osborne at 785-3549 or trivalleysir@gmail.com. Go to branch34.sirinc2.org.

EYE GLASS ADJUSTMENTS AND CLEANING Stop by the Pleasanton Senior Center from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month to have your eye glasses and sunglasses cleaned and adjusted by a representative from Sears Optical. For more information call 931-5365.

PHOTO CLUB The photo club is open to any senior who enjoys the hobby of photography at any level. It is suggested that you have some form of a digital cam-

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era. The group shares photos and makes suggestions how the photos might be improved. Meetings include occasional speakers and field trips, and are from 2-4 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Cost is \$2 for residents, \$2.50 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

Teens

YOUTH COMMISSION The Pleasanton Youth Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at the Pleasanton Operations Services Center, 3333 Busch Road.

Religion & Spirituality

PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN WORSHIP Lynnewood United Methodist Church at 4444 Black Ave. offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Our summer worship schedule has a morning traditional service at 9:30 a.m. and an evening contemporary service at 5:30 p.m. Childcare provided at the 9:30 a.m. service. Contact Rev. Heather Hammer at 846-0221 or office@lynnewood.org. Go to www.lynnewood.org.

SUNDAY SERVICES AT UNITY OF TRI-VALLEY Join the Sunday service with Reverend Micah Murdock, minister, at 10 a.m. every week at Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. All are welcome. Ongoing classes, groups, and activities. Call 829-2733 or go to www.unityoftrivalley.org/.

Community Groups

ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON NORTH Pleasanton North Rotary invites anyone interested in making a difference. The membership includes 65 professionals, business owners, executives, managers and community leaders. The club meets from 12:15-1:30 p.m. Fridays at Handles Gastropub, 855 Main St. Call 556-2333 or visit www.pnr-rotary.org.

LIVERMORE LIONESSE CLUB The Livermore Lioness Club welcomes new members at its regular monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. A \$2 to \$5 donation is requested. Participating in the many activities of the group is a great way to meet local people. Lioness is a service club which helps many worthy causes in our community. Call 443-4543.

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY TOASTMASTERS: GUESTS WELCOME Learn more about public speaking in a fun-filled and supporting environment at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Highland Oaks Recreation Center, 4530 Sandalwood Drive. Enjoy improving your leadership skills, building confidence and meeting new friends. Go to pleasantontostmasters.com.

PLEASANTON NEWCOMERS CLUB Pleasanton Newcomers is open to all families in the Tri-Valley. We offer a variety of activities and clubs: something for everyone, including monthly get-togethers, games and book clubs, shared interest groups, community service, outdoor activities such as hiking, walking and golf, monthly luncheons at local restaurants, a welcome coffee for new members, and much more. The Welcome Coffee is held at 10 a.m. the first Wednesday of the month. Contact us for activities, dates and locations at 215-8405 or pnwcomers@gmail.com.

TRI-VALLEY EVENING ROTARY CLUB Looking for an international service organization where you can make an impact locally and throughout the world while having fun? Visit the only evening Rotary club in the Tri-Valley from 6:15-8 p.m. every Thursday at Castlewood Country Club and make a difference. Contact info@trivalleyrotary.org.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION The Jose Maria Amador Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, NSDAR, meets at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month Sept.-May. It is a social gathering and time to explore the history of our American roots. For more information contact the chapter's regent Diane Groome at JMADAR.Registrar@gmail.com.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP Caring for a loved one is challenging physically and emotionally. Join this support group to explore resources and generate problem solving ideas from 1-3 p.m., on the second Monday of every month at 5353 Sunol Blvd. Get the support you deserve at the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. Call 931-5389.

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>.

PLEASANTON-TULANCINGO SISTER CITY All are welcome to join for "Taco Tuesday" at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at Fiesta Taco, 1989 Santa Rita Road Unit J. We are an active organization promoting cultural exchange, goodwill and friendship. We have a youth and adult exchange program. Call 989-6882 or go to www.ptsca.org.

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.

PET OF THE WEEK



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ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION BRANCH 285 The Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 285, a social/philanthropic organization, invites those who love all things Italian to join for a potluck and guest speaker evening at 6 p.m. the third Friday of the month at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Call Judy at 462-2487.

Volunteers

DRIVERS FOR MEALS ON WHEELS Pleasanton Meals on Wheels is looking for drivers to deliver meals to seniors. Weekly and bi-weekly schedules available. If you can donate two hours every week it would be greatly appreciated. Call Poonam at 931-5385.



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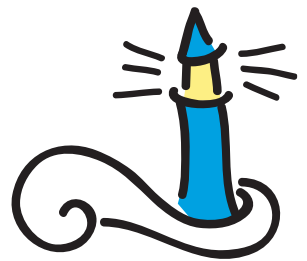
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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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995 Fictitious Name Statement

A BETTER BOOKKEEPING SOLUTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 518281
The following person(s) doing business as: A BETTER BOOKKEEPING SOLUTION, 4424 PAYNE ROAD, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Monica Fey, 4424 Payne Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588; Nicole Weight, 2658 Starling Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a General partnership. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 11/14/2006. Signature of Registrant: Monica Fey. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 05/16/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, June 10, 17, 24, July 1; 2016)

ALDERUS MORTGAGE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 518805
The following person(s) doing business as: ALDERUS MORTGAGE, 4900 HOPYARD ROAD SUITE 100, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alderus Funding and Investments Inc., 500 N. Rainbow Blvd. Suite 110, Las Vegas, NV 89107. Registered in Nevada. 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: Coby Baker, CEO/President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 05/31/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, June 10, 17, 24, July 1; 2016)

SOCHER INSURANCE AGENCY, INC. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 518695
The following person(s) doing business as: SOCHER INSURANCE AGENCY, INC., 7901 STONERIDGE DRIVE, SUITE 445, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jack A. Socher Insurance Agency, Inc., 1065 E. Hillside Blvd., Suite 425, Foster City, CA 94044. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 12/03/2015. Signature of Registrant: Edward Lyons, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 05/26/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, June 10, 17, 24, July 1; 2016)

BENNETT SIGN, INC.; B.S.C., INC.; BENNETT SIGN COMPANY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 519075519076519077
The following person(s) doing business as: BENNETT SIGN, INC.; B.S.C., INC.; BENNETT SIGN COMPANY, 1032 SERPENTINE LANE #107, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bennett Sign Centre, Inc., 1032 Serpentine Lane #107, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: James DiCicco, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 06/06/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, June 10, 17, 24, July 1; 2016)

SPINAL HEALTH CENTER; SPULLER CHIROPRACTIC AND WELLNESS CENTER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 518675-76
The following person(s) doing business as: SPINAL HEALTH CENTER; SPULLER CHIROPRACTIC AND WELLNESS CENTER, 2340 SANTA RITA ROAD #3, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ryan Spuller, DC, 5522 Aspen St, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 04/01/2011. Signature of Registrant: Ryan Spuller, DC. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 05/25/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, June 17, 24, July 1, 8; 2016)

MATH SOLUTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 519585
The following person(s) doing business as: MATH SOLUTION, 4338 VALLEY AVENUE #G, PLEASANTON, CA 94566; P.O. BOX 74, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Galina V. Volkova, 4338 Valley Avenue #G, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Galina V. Volkova. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 06/20/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, June 24, July 1, 8, 15; 2016)

Luxury housing market leveling off

156 high-end homes changed hands in May; Pleasanton posted 3rd-most sales

By JEB BING

Luxury home sales in the East Bay took a breather in May, edging lower from year-ago levels although still surpassing the previous month's total.

The figures are based on Multiple Listing Service data of all homes sold for more than \$1.5 million in May in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

A new survey by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage reports that a total of 156 luxury homes changed hands in May, down 10% from the 174 high-end sales in May 2015. However, sales last month were also up nearly 10% from the 142 transactions in April, although some of the gains were due to a normal seasonal increase.

Meanwhile, the median sale price of a luxury home last month was down fractionally from a year ago, dipping 1.8% to \$1,780,000. May's median sale price was also down slightly from April, when it stood at \$1,797,500.

Other key market indicators were positive last month with homes selling faster and sellers receiving a higher percentage of their asking price compared to the previous month and year-ago levels.

"The East Bay's luxury market is starting to

come back into a bit more balance between supply and demand as a few more listings come on the market," said Mike James, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "Although sales were down from a year ago, overall the luxury market continues to be healthy with ongoing demand for good, well-priced properties."

Some key findings from this month's Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage luxury report:

- The most expensive sale in the East Bay last month was a five-bedroom, five-bath approximately 7,000-square-foot home in Alamo that sold for \$3.9 million.
- Oakland and Fremont boasted the most luxury sales with 19, followed by Pleasanton and Berkeley with 18, Alamo with 16, and Danville and Lafayette with 11.
- Homes sold in an average of 22 days on the market, down from 24 days a year ago and 25.4 days the previous month.
- Sellers received an average of 107% of their asking price, up from 105% a year ago and 106% the previous month.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage has nine East Bay offices serving Pleasanton, Berkeley, Castro Valley, Danville, Fremont, Oakland, Piedmont, Orinda and Walnut Creek. ■

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Dublin

5 BEDROOMS

9538 Albert Drive **\$1,539,000**
Sat/Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS

162 Coleen St. **\$575,000**
Sat/Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS

7609 Fair Oaks Drive **\$839,800**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Mike Carey 963-0569

3737 Saratoga Way **\$555,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Louise Davis 200-2457

3609 Florian St. **\$925,000**
Sun 1-4 Melissa Pederson 359-9606

4704 Herrin Way **\$848,000**
Sat 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

4 BEDROOMS

789 Kottinger Drive **\$980,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Mike Carey 963-0569

5 BEDROOMS

2490 Detert St. **\$1,198,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Brian Cullen 872-1722

3708 Raboli St. **\$2,499,000**
Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260-2220/413-6544

6 BEDROOMS

1888 Laguna Creek Lane **\$2,048,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 Mike Carey 963-0569

Find more open home listings at pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate

SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during May 11-June 10

Pleasanton (May 11-23)

Total sales reported: 28
Lowest sale reported: \$385,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,450,000
Average sales reported: \$1,686,375

Dublin (May 11-23)

Total sales reported: 35
Lowest sale reported: \$505,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,281,000
Average sales reported: \$874,688

Livermore (May 11-23)

Total sales reported: 50
Lowest sale reported: \$394,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,375,000
Average sales reported: \$759,741

San Ramon (May 26-June 10)

Total sales reported: 49
Lowest sale reported: \$365,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,095,000
Average sales reported: \$895,983

Source: California REsource



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AVAILABLE



14 Fairway Lane, Pleasanton

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LISTED AT \$1,799,000



269 Kottinger Lane, Pleasanton

Oh so charming Downtown Pleasanton Cape Cod bungalow on a quiet lane near shops, restaurants, and farmers market. This 4 bedroom and 2 bath home was built in 1954 and was lovingly rebuilt by the current owner with permitted add on. The home is now 1,703 sq. ft. sitting on just under a 6,000 sq. ft. lot. Very charming inside and out with a gorgeous garden in the back.

LISTED AT \$1,099,000

SALE PENDING - MULTIPLE OFFERS



2202 Via Espada, Pleasanton

Lovely single story home in one of Pleasanton's favorite neighborhoods, walking distance to shops, restaurants, and stores. This 3 bedroom and 2 bath home sits on just under 7,000 sq. ft. There are gorgeous hardwood floors throughout with an updated kitchen and bathrooms. There is a charming backyard with a nice area for summer dining and a small garden. Enjoy top rated schools in the Del Prado neighborhood and quick access to freeway.

JUST LISTED AT \$939,000

SALE PENDING - MULTIPLE OFFERS



17 Greens Lane, Pleasanton

Enjoy stunning panoramic views and golf course living in a mid-century modern home! This spacious 3,434 sq. ft. home has 5 bedrooms and 3.5 baths and is located in the beautiful Castlewood Country Club. Lovingly updated top to bottom with new flooring, new fixtures, new paint inside and out, landscaping and more, just a short walk to and from the Country Club and the Pleasanton Ridge.

LISTED AT \$1,575,000

COMING SOON



767 Saint John Circle, Pleasanton

Great opportunity to live in an outstanding downtown Pleasanton location, minutes to restaurants, shops, the Fair, and the ACE train. Enjoy newer construction with soaring ceilings, great natural light and an ideal floor plan. The desirable Saint John Circle neighborhood is both quiet and private. This 3 bedroom and 2 bath home is 1,900 sq. ft. with excellent curb appeal and a charming backyard.

CALL JULIA FOR MORE INFO

Elections to have little impact on California housing market

But Realtors, homeowners want candidates to address affordability issue

Presidential elections have historically had little or no negative impact on the California housing market, according to findings by the California Association of Realtors.

"Transitory political events such as presidential elections don't drive the housing market," said CAR president Pat "Ziggy" Zicarelli. "Market fundamentals such as housing inventory, affordability, interest rates, job growth and consumer confidence are the real factors that influence the housing market."

In an analysis of home sales dating back to 1990, the average growth in home sales during an election year is usually either slightly higher or lower each month than in non-presidential election years. Notably, sales growth is rarely negative during an election year, and there is no evidence of a systematic negative impact on home sales or prices stemming from election season.

CAR found that growth in home sales at the end of an election year actually outperforms non-election years by 7.1 percentage points.

On a monthly basis since 1990, California home sales contracted by roughly 2% during the last four months of the year. However, during the past five election cycles, sales in the final months of the year picked up, rising by 5.3% on average compared with -1.8% during non-election years. With the exception of December 2004, every single month of the final quarter saw robust growth in home sales during election years.

The pattern for California home prices is similar.

CAR also found little evidence of a negative effect on home prices during an election year. In fact, home price growth in California during the past five election cycles was slightly better than the long-run average of 5.6%.

The effects were most pronounced during the final months of the year when demand was high and, therefore, upward pressure on prices was high. Prices were boosted by roughly 5.6 percentage points following the elections.

In a separate poll by The Futures Company, a think-tank firm commissioned by CAR, nearly three-fourths (70%) of survey respondents who plan to buy a home agreed that they would like the current presidential candidates to address how to make housing more affordable in their campaigns.

And, across all incomes, generations and races/ethnicities, consumers were strongly in agreement that housing affordability should be a top priority on the presidential campaign trail as candidates make their pitches for ballots in the lead-up to the November contest.

However, housing affordability and solutions to reduce the cost of living have received noticeably little attention this campaign season.

Other than releasing plans to increase the five-decades-low home ownership rate, the presumptive nominees, Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump, have not issued comprehensive housing policies, including action items to address the significant housing affordability crisis. ■

—*Job Bing*

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during May 11-June 10

Pleasanton

- 1901 Buckeye Court** Xie-Li Trust to Thomas Trust for \$2,950,000
- 1150 Country Lane** Fox Trust to Buckley Trust for \$3,252,000
- 829 Division Street #A** Camacho Trust to J. Carter for \$393,500
- 2786 Glen Isle Court** K. & P. Clancy to K. & M. Linsky for \$1,160,000
- 6300 Laura Lane** S. Demarta to T. & D. Insel for \$1,988,000
- 4336 Muirwood Drive** J. & C. Orellana to S. & N. Tildesley for \$970,000
- 1333 Rhone Place** J. & J. Wong to G. Sun for \$2,220,000
- 3785 Smallwood Court** C. & R. Kirby to C. & D. Miller for \$2,582,000
- 531 St. John Street** D. & M. Wilborn to M. Lam for \$810,500
- 3987 Stanley Boulevard** Westfall Trust to S. Chilla for \$950,000
- 863 Sunny Brook Way** Wagner Trust to K. Min for \$2,000,000
- 4146 West Las Positas Boulevard** Anderson Trust to S. Desai for \$960,500
- 1290 Barolo Court** Banahan Trust to Bechwati Trust for \$3,450,000
- 1748 Beachwood Way** Dewees Trust to H. Wu for \$1,112,000
- 3067 Bersano Court** S. & K. Mahurin to Maier Trust for \$2,975,000
- 2280 Camino Brazos** A. & J. Riotoc to S. & L. Winchell for \$1,200,000
- 7855 Canyon Meadow Circle #H** K. Abajian to M. Lai for \$490,000
- 1265 Creek Trail Drive** Harbourne Trust to X. Wang for \$1,490,000
- 2091 Eilene Drive** Armstrong Trust to M. Doan for \$720,000
- 4059 Francisco Street** Arreguin Trust to J. & C. Guevarra for \$875,000
- 7667 Maywood Drive** E. & J. Gonzalez to R. & J. Sunkara for \$1,200,000
- 1715 Nursery Way** P. Ramachandran to S. Lee for \$1,410,000
- 6458 Paseo Santa Maria** Vaughan Trust to M. Talchuru for \$1,060,000
- 2418 Pomino Way** J. & V. Rosenberg to K. & R. Sattiraju for \$1,880,000
- 5250 Riverdale Court** S. & K. Sitzmann to K. Ng for \$790,000
- 2288 Segundo Court #A** Vanarsdale Trust to L. McCrary for \$385,000
- 7380 Stonedale Drive** A. Mehmood to M. Cheng for \$780,000
- 248 Tomas Way** K. & L. Morgan to Swoboda Trust for \$790,000

- 7292 Cronin Circle #14** National Residential to P. Venkatesh for \$588,000
- 5501 De Marcus Boulevard #217** J. Derickson to Okong Limited for \$640,500
- 3360 Maguire Way #407** Condo Trust to X. Chu for \$560,000
- 4760 Mahogany Street** F. & R. Cort to S. Chien for \$1,011,000
- 3209 Oak Bluff Lane** G. Jeong to L. Zhang for \$1,260,000
- 3101 Palermo Way** J. & A. Daswani to D. & J. Chuang for \$899,000
- 4809 Perugia Street** A. Chen to J. Beltramo for \$668,000
- 6761 South Mariposa Lane** J. Aburquez to S. Pagolu for \$750,000
- 7764 Tuscany Drive** T. Kubic to W. & J. Ohaire for \$505,000
- 3275 Vittoria Loop** N. Cheung to N. Rudrapada for \$879,000
- 2969 West Castle Pines Terrace** ARNS Inc. to Y. Wu for \$1,130,000
- 2760 Alliston Loop** Lennar Homes to R. Narayanababu for \$950,000
- 5517 Bellevue Circle** A. Lee to A. Sharma for \$1,000,000
- 4248 Clarinbridge Circle** J. Liang to H. Wu for \$570,000
- 3783 Dunmore Lane #185** S. & L. Mendiola to E. & J. Ramsay for \$700,000
- 8798 Edenberry Street** N. Ramos to L. Chum for \$720,000
- 11957 Glaskin Place** Pulte Home to A. & J. Kamei for \$1,036,000
- 5506 Linden Street** L. Rose to S. & P. Rydell for \$1,070,000
- 7450 Oxford Circle** F. & S. Khandan to Haber Trust for \$650,000
- 4779 Perugia Street** P. & M. Brilovich to M. & M. Cortes for \$700,000
- 2787 Randell Loop** Lennar Homes to T. Cheung for \$949,000
- 2791 Randell Loop** Lennar Homes to V. & W. Villajoquin for \$1,044,500
- 4925 Redwood Avenue** J. Carino to Y. Weng for \$1,055,000
- 9833 Reimers Way** N. & S. Cowan to G. Thulasiraman for \$1,249,000
- 3600 Rimini Lane** C. & A. Burak to A. Singhal for \$1,050,000
- 11518 Rolling Hills Drive** D. & B. Ashton to R. Kaufman for \$895,000
- 4756 South Spago Drive** S. Kamalakkannan to Pampati Trust for \$1,250,000
- 4827 Swinford Court** R. Santhiapillai to S. Sathyamoorthy for \$720,000
- 7824 Tuscany Drive** D. Jolly to R. & L. Mansharamani for \$525,000
- 3713 Whitworth Drive** E. Bykoffa to M. & M. Legaspi for \$778,000

Dublin

- 3132 Aran Way** Lennar Homes to V. Rajagopalan for \$760,000
- 3668 Branding Iron Place** Rancho Silvera Ventures to B. & J. Yoon for \$771,500
- 2465 Cantalise Drive** P. & V. Johnson to D. Villarreal for \$1,225,000
- 11967 Carsten Court** Pulte Home to H. Xiang for \$1,067,000
- 3278 Cranbrook Place** Wertz Trust to Udayasankar-Saishwari Trust for \$1,281,000

Livermore

- 142 Amber Way** R. Czynewski to C. Barnes for \$765,000
- 457 Andrews Street** M. & L. Saintdenis to Habitat For Humanity for \$420,000
- 1361 Aster Lane** Reed Trust to R. & K. Messenger for \$640,000
- 5276 Bianca Way** Merritt Trust to D. & E. Julson for \$515,000

Source: California REsource

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Existing-home sales up 1.8%, highest pace in 9 years

Transactions in the West jump 5.4% in May

By JEB BING

Existing-home sales across the U.S. sprang ahead in May to their highest pace in almost a decade, while the uptick in demand this spring amid lagging supply levels pushed the median sales price to an all-time high.

According to the National Association of Realtors, all major regions except for the Midwest saw strong sales increases during the month.

Total existing-home sales — which are completed transactions that include single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops — grew 1.8% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.53 million in May from a downwardly revised 5.43 million in April.

With May's gain, sales are now up 4.5% from May 2015 (5.29 million) and are at their highest annual pace since February 2007 (5.79 million).

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said existing sales continue to hum along, rising in May for the third consecutive month.

"This spring's sustained period of ultra-low mortgage rates has certainly been a worthy incentive to buy a home, but the primary driver in the increase in sales is more homeowners realizing the equity they've accumulated in recent years and finally deciding to trade up or downsize," Yun said.

"With first-time buyers still struggling to enter the market, repeat buyers using the proceeds from the sale of their previous home as their down payment are making up the bulk of home purchases right now," he added.

Yun said, "Barring further deceleration in job growth that could ultimately temper demand from these repeat buyers, sales have

the potential to mostly maintain their current pace through the summer."

Surpassing the peak median sales price set last June (\$236,300), the median existing-home price for all housing types in the U.S. May was \$239,700, up 4.7% from May 2015 (\$228,900). May's price increase marks the 51st consecutive month of year-over-year gains.

Total housing inventory at the end of May rose 1.4% to 2.15 million existing homes available for sale, but it is still 5.7% lower than a year ago (2.28 million). Unsold inventory is at a 4.7-month supply at the current sales pace, which is unchanged from April.

"Existing inventory remains subdued throughout much of the country and continues to lag even last year's deficient amount," Yun said. "While new home construction has thankfully crept higher so far this year, there's still a glaring need for even more, to help alleviate the supply pressures that are severely limiting choices and pushing prices out of reach for plenty of prospective first-time buyers."

The share of first-time buyers was 30% in May, down from 32% both in April and a year ago. First-time buyers in all of 2015 also represented an average of 30%.

According to Freddie Mac, the average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage inched backward from 3.61% in April to 3.60% in May, which is the lowest since May 2013 (3.54%). The average commitment rate for all of 2015 was 3.85%.

Properties typically stayed on the market for 32 days in May (39 days in April), which is below a year ago (40 days) and the shortest time since NAR began tracking in May 2011. Short sales were on the market the longest

at a median of 103 days in May, while foreclosures sold in 51 days and non-distressed homes took 30 days. Forty-nine percent of homes sold in May were on the market for less than a month.

May inventory data from Realtor.com showed that the top five metropolitan statistical areas where listings stayed on the market the shortest amount of time were San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward and Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue in Washington state, both at a median of 25 days.

In the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara region, they were on the market for 26 days, and they were on the market for 30 days in the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, Colo. and Vallejo-Fairfield, Calif. areas.

Last month, NAR released a new survey looking at the home-buying opportunities of student debt borrowers who are current in their repayment. The findings affirmed the notion that repaying student debt is a contributing factor to the low home ownership rate among young adults and the underperforming share of first-time buyers.

Nearly three-quarters of non-homeowners in the survey believed that their student debt is delaying them from buying a home, with most of them citing not being able to save for a down payment as the primary reason.

"At a time of historically low interest rates, responsible student loan borrowers should have the opportunity to refinance their loans from their current rates, which can oftentimes run over double-digit percentage points," said NAR president Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Florida.

"In addition to policy proposals that stream-

line income-based repayment programs and allow student loan borrowers the ability to refinance into lower rates, NAR supports those that promote student loan simplification, clarity and education," he added.

All-cash sales were 22% of transactions in May, down from both 24% in April and a year ago. Individual investors, who account for many cash sales, purchased 13% of homes in May, unchanged from April and down from 14% a year ago. Sixty-three percent of investors paid cash in May.

Distressed sales, including foreclosures and short sales, declined to 6% of sales in May, down from 7% in April and 10% a year ago. Five percent of May sales were foreclosures and 1% were short sales. Foreclosures sold for an average discount of 12% below market value in May (17% in April), while short sales were discounted 11% (10% in April).

Single-family home sales increased 1.9% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.90 million in May from 4.81 million in April, and are now 4.7% higher than the 4.68 million pace a year ago. The median existing single-family home price was \$241,000 in May, up 4.6% from May 2015.

Existing condominium and co-op sales rose 1.6% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 630,000 units in May from 620,000 in April, and are now 3.3% above May 2015 (610,000 units). The median existing condo price was \$229,600 in May, which is 6.0% above a year ago.

Existing-home sales in the West jumped 5.4% to an annual rate of 1.18 million in May, but are still 1.7% lower than a year ago. The median price in the West was \$346,900, which is 7.7% above May 2015. ■

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