

# Pleasanton Weekly

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## MAN OF THE YEAR

ARMY CAPT. DOUG MILLER,  
A PLEASANTON LEADER

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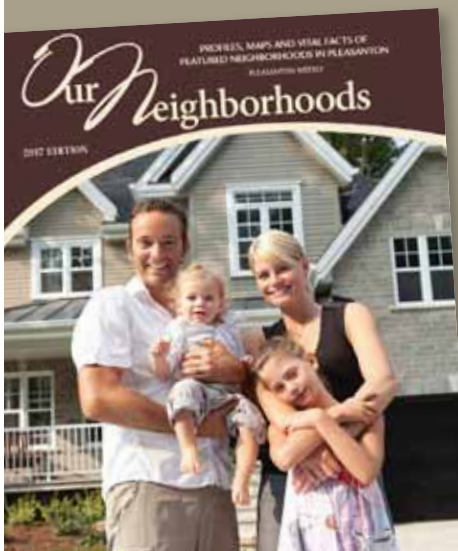
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## 2017 annual Our Neighborhoods magazine is just around the corner

**Our Neighborhoods** showcases selected Pleasanton neighborhoods and captures the particular qualities that make it unique.

Each Neighborhood profile includes local features — such as parks and shopping centers — and a fact box including the median home sale price, how many homes were sold and the nearby schools.

Our Neighborhoods is a great resource for current residents or those looking to relocate to Pleasanton.

# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Sandra J. Wing: A cancer patient's best friend

The language of cancer is grim: chemotherapy, radiation, lumpectomy, mastectomy, bone marrow transplant.

Sandra J. Wing knows. She's been there. She's a dual cancer survivor who found therapy helped her on her cancer recovery journey and created the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation to aid others along their way. Her foundation has introduced a different vocabulary for cancer patients: acupuncture, acupressure, meditation, guided imagery and therapeutic massage.



Sandra J. Wing

In remarks to the Valley Real Estate Network last Friday, Sandra, who has lived and worked in Pleasanton for more than 25 years, said most insurance groups do not pay for therapeutic treatments so she started the nonprofit to help remove some of the financial burden so that cancer patients can experience healing therapy comfort throughout their treatments.

Since then, 942 patients undergoing cancer treatments have taken advantage of the foundation's services, which are funded through benefits she sponsors and contributions from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

Sandra is a U.S. Army veteran, has bachelor's and master's degrees in business management and taught undergraduate and graduate business students at the University of Phoenix. In addition to her role as CEO/president for the foundation, which is located at 440 Boulder Court in Pleasanton, she is a graduate of Leadership Pleasanton, a program of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce where she serves on its foundation board and also is an advisory board member to Hope Hospice.

But it's the cancer healing therapies program that commands most of her attention. From cancer diagnosis, through surgery and during the chemo treatment, she found great benefit, calmness and pain relief by accessing complementary healing therapies, including visualization and deep breathing meditation that enhanced and improved her wellness and well being.

She accessed these therapy services

at UC San Francisco's Osher Center and, when successfully recovered, was determined to make these healing services available locally, including to residents at the Veterans Administration hospital in Livermore and at senior centers in the Tri-Valley area.

Sandra told the Realtors that although there are many hundreds of healing therapies and wonderful treatment options, the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation focuses on the five therapies that she found worked the best during her cancer treatments.

"These have been proven to be therapeutically beneficial in many scientific studies," she said. "These healing therapies can provide relief for neuropathy, anxiety, stress, aches, fatigue, nausea and pain."

One of her patients praised Sandra's work in a recent letter. The woman, who asked that only her first name Dolores be used, wrote:

"What a marvelous gift your foundation gave to me upon having pancreatic cancer! I kept pinching myself to make sure it really was true, that someone would care enough about cancer patients to provide such great healing therapies."

"Getting cancer is a terrible affliction that causes one to ask, 'Why me?' And then to feel quite distressed about it as if scarred for life. I felt that I was different from others, as if some higher power had cut me out of society and my wonderful pre-cancer life. Then someone at the hospital told me about the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation, which gives therapies to cancer victims. Suddenly I was lifted from being someone who was 'selected' to heal. Thinking about it brings tears to my eyes. Even my prince of a husband, who was with me every minute through this disease, was not in my position."

"I commend the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation for truly helping me and other cancer patients in their fight to get back to normal."

"Thank you so much for your generosity and kindness in helping me come to this point in my life."

For more information about the foundation, sign on to its website at [www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org](http://www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org). ■

### About the Cover

Doug Miller, our 2016 Man of the Year, stands in front of new Veterans Memorial he championed in Pioneer Cemetery. A retired Army captain and helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War, his continued compassion for those who serve keeps him active in veteran and community affairs. Photo by Fenton Kramer. Cover design by Kristin Brown.

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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

## Do you do anything special with or for your pets during the holiday season?



### Martha Jensen

*Retired*

Of course. I give my dog, my cats and my inside birds special treats. And for my chickens who live in a coop in the backyard, I make hot oatmeal in the morning. I also give special holiday treats to the turtles and koi that live in my pond.



### Natalie and Chris Murphy

*Stay-at-home mom. Service manager*

We are adopting our first dog this Saturday, through Tri-Valley Animal Rescue. The kids are so excited. They are planning to welcome him into our home and family with all sorts of gifts to help him grow and play and learn.



### Sara Campbell

*Extraordinarily busy mom*

Oh yes. My daughter Bailee makes ornaments for our critters every year, and then hangs them on the tree, sort of low where the pets can see them. She also buys them sweaters, for those chilly days in December and January.



### Dave Franzella

*Produce broker*

All of our pets have a stocking over the fireplace that everyone fills with goodies and toys. Not sure if they really understand what is going on with the gifts, but it makes us feel so good to include them in the festivities — and they certainly enjoy what we give them.



### Maureen Taylor

*Retired nurse*

Sadly, my hamster Peaches Louise died recently. When she was alive though, I always gave her special foods during the holidays, including lots of organic fruits and vegetables. She ate better than I did. I also made her a hamster playpen one year, as a Christmas present.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

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## DIGEST

### Plan ahead

With the holiday season in full swing, Pleasanton Boy Scout Troop 941 has started early registration for its annual Christmas tree pickup service project and fundraiser, set to take place in the new year on Jan. 7.

Funds raised by the project are used by the members of the troop to pay for camping equipment and scouting activities such as summer camp and weekend outings.

Organizers recommend early registration, and pick-up is allowed only for addresses in Pleasanton.

To register to have a tree picked up and recycled, visit the online registration page at <http://tree-pickup.troop941.org>. For more information, check out "Pleasanton Christmas Tree Pickup, BSA Troop 941" on Facebook.

### Poisonous mushrooms

The Bay Area's recent bouts of rain brought welcome relief to the drought-plagued region, but it also encourages the growth of a looming menace: poisonous mushrooms.

The East Bay Regional Park District is warning residents to be extra vigilant when roaming the outdoors this fall, especially with dogs, as the poisonous mushroom season is upon us.

The region is home to two of the world's most deadly mushrooms, the aptly named Death Cap and Western Destroying Angel, according to park officials.

The toxic mushrooms could be found in any district park with oak trees, including those in and around Pleasanton.

The district is reminding visitors that it's illegal to pick mushrooms or any plants found in the parks.

### Electoral College vote

California's 55 Democratic members of the Electoral College will gather in Sacramento on Monday to cast their votes for president and vice president.

California has the nation's largest Electoral College delegation, and electors are selected by Senator Dianne Feinstein and Senator-elect Kamala Harris and the top Democratic congressional finishers in the June primary.

Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine won the California presidential vote on Nov. 8 over Donald Trump and Mike Pence with 62.3% of the vote to 31.9%, the largest margin of victory since 1936.

California awards its Electoral College votes on a winner-take-all basis.

Each state's electoral votes will be counted in a joint session of Congress on Jan. 6. ■

# Pleasanton school board trustees sworn in to new terms

## Administrators also give bond program update at final meeting of 2016

By JULIA REIS

In front of a packed audience of friends, relatives and other well-wishers, re-elected Pleasanton school board trustees Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke and newly elected member Steve Maher were sworn in to new four-year terms Tuesday night.

Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley administered the oath of office to Arkin and Hintzke, while Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne did so for Maher during an organizational

meeting that preceded the regularly scheduled board meeting.

The trio were the top vote-getters in a four-person race for three seats up for election Nov. 8. Maher, the retired principal of Hart Middle School, effectively took Chris Grant's seat, as Grant decided he would not seek re-election this fall after nearly a decade on the board.

Arkin and Hintzke won their third consecutive terms, with Hintzke edging out challenger Kathleen

Ruegsegger by 144 votes for the final seat.

Speaking for the first time as trustee, Maher said he welcomed sitting on a board that's "passionate for children."

"I promise to always make decisions that are best for students," Maher said.

Hintzke, who served as board president this year, said she was excited for another four years.

"I'm very grateful being re-elected

to my ninth year," Hintzke said. "To do this job, you have to really be able to feel — you have to be compassionate, empathetic."

Arkin thanked her family, campaign volunteers and others during a brief speech after trustees were sworn in.

"I really feel it is an honor and privilege to be re-elected to a third term," she said.

After the swearing-in ceremony, trustee Joan Laursen was appointed the new board president for the next year. Mark Miller will remain

See **SCHOOL BOARD** on Page 7



JULIA REIS

Steve Maher, retired Hart Middle School principal, was sworn in as a Pleasanton school board trustee Tuesday night. Maher was joined (from left) by Kathleen Hart-Hinek, daughter of Thomas Hart, the middle school's namesake; Shay Galletti, Maher's daughter and principal of Fairlands Elementary; Lindsay Franco, Maher's daughter and teacher at Foothill High; Mary Hart-Reding, Hart's daughter; Maher's wife, Tina; and his daughter Kelly, who teaches at Hearst Elementary.

# Wreaths Across America returning to Pleasanton

## Ceremony honoring fallen veterans set for tomorrow

An annual event that recognizes fallen veterans throughout the country is returning to Pleasanton tomorrow.

One day each December is dedicated to Wreaths Across America, a program that consists of wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and over 1,100 additional locations in the United States and abroad. It was started in 1992 by Morrill Worcester, who founded a nonprofit by the same name with a mission to remember and honor veterans.

This year's event will take place tomorrow, with a local ceremony set for noon at Pioneer Cemetery with the goal of placing a live, fir

wreath at the headstone of every veteran buried there.

It's being organized by Cameron Huber, an Amador Valley High School senior who worked with local community and veterans groups to bring the event to Pleasanton for the first time last year. She has also founded an affiliated nonprofit called Wreaths Across Pleasanton.

"I noticed that our community does not honor our veterans as much as we could," Huber said about why she started Wreaths Across Pleasanton.

"Pleasanton honors our veterans city-wide in the Veterans Day parade and on Memorial Day," Huber added. "Also, the holiday season is a very hard time to be without your loved

ones, so this is a way to give respect to our veterans as well as comforting those who have lost a loved one."

To prepare for the wreath-laying ceremony, about 200 volunteers made 600 wreaths at the Amador Recreation Center last Sunday with greenery donated from tree lots and bows purchased with contributed funds.

At 9 a.m. tomorrow, Huber and other organizers will begin setting up for the wreath-laying event. The ceremony will take place at noon, and a chaplain will bless the wreaths before they are placed, Huber said.

"We try to take our time in placing the wreaths, so that each grave gets

See **WREATHS** on Page 7

# \$4.4M city budget surplus

## City manager: Year-end report reflects healthy economy for Pleasanton

By JEB BING

The Pleasanton City Council adopted a resolution this month to accept its 2015-16 fiscal year operating budget that shows a \$4.4 million surplus.

Tina Olson, city finance director, said General Fund revenues received during the fiscal year were greater than expected by close to \$2 million.

Additionally, expenditures were \$2.3 million less than anticipated during the fiscal year. Together, these resulted in a \$4.4 million surplus.

"We're pleased to report that the year-end budget report reflects a healthy economy and the sound financial planning practices that make Pleasanton such a successful community," City Manager Nelson Fialho said.

Of the \$4.4 million surplus, city staff recommended the following allocations:

- Repair and Replacement Fund reserves: \$500,000.
- Capital Improvement Project (CIP) reserves: \$1.5 million.
- General Fund reserves: \$868,475.
- Reduce outstanding pension liability: \$1.5 million.

"Our General Fund revenues increased by more than \$7 million over the prior year, and we also set aside a 20% reserve," Fialho said. "With a target rainy day fund of 25%, I'd say we are well on track to meeting our goals." ■



# 2016 Holiday Fund



Each year, the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund raises money to support programs and services that care for local families and children in our community. The Holiday Fund partners with the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which handles all finances, so every dollar of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to the 10 local nonprofits with no administrative expenses.

## 2016 Holiday Fund Donors

So far in the 2016 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund campaign, 210 donors have contributed \$45,451 to the fund. This list includes donations received and reported on or before Dec. 9.

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## Livermore Lab campaign raises \$3.8M for charitable organizations

Donations include \$1M in matching funds from Lawrence Livermore National Security

By JEB BING

Employees at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS) have donated a record \$3.8 million to charitable organizations.

Laboratory employees pledged \$2.8 million through payroll deduction via the annual employee giving program, called HOME for the Helping Others More Effectively campaign. The pledges are for the most money raised in the 42 years of the campaign.

All of the funds donated go directly to agencies that are selected by employees.

At the same time, LLNS, which manages the Livermore Lab for the U.S. Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration, will add \$1 million in prorated matching funds to augment employee donations, increasing the contribution value to a record \$3.8 million.

More than 1,600 employees, or 25%, participated this year to benefit more than 1,200 community/nonprofit agencies in the Tri-Valley,

greater Bay Area, San Joaquin County and beyond.

"The generosity of laboratory employees through HOME campaign contributions has once again exceeded my expectations," said Bill Goldstein, LLNS president and director of the laboratory.

"I am thrilled that we hit a record \$3.8 million in charitable donations, donations that will undoubtedly make a positive impact in our local and surrounding communities," he added.

Since 2009, the lab's HOME campaign, which runs from the last Thursday in October through the first Friday in December, has raised more than \$3 million annually, including the annual LLNS \$1 million match, with a total amount raised of more than \$33 million overall in the last decade.

The HOME campaign is one of the Tri-Valley's most generous annual charity drives and is a major community support activity for the laboratory. ■

## SCHOOL BOARD

Continued from Page 5

vice president.

Alongside acknowledgments of Fairlands Elementary School and Measure 11 bond chairs and committee members, the board recognized Grant for his service.

Superintendent Rick Rubino and trustees each spoke and thanked Grant for his work, and he received commendations from several politicians.

Grant, in turn, thanked his family, board members, teachers and administrators for their support.

"It's been an unbelievable privilege to serve on this board," he said. "Thanks is not necessary at any length. I've thought about this as a true honor every single day I served on the board."

Later in the evening, talk about the election turned to Measure 11, the \$270 million school facilities bond initiative passed by

Pleasanton voters last month with 69.1% — well above the 55% threshold required to pass.

The bond proceeds can only be spent on school projects dealing with safety and security; 21st century learning environments; energy and water efficiencies; and renovations and replacements of existing facilities, as specified in the ballot language.

Administrators presented the board with immediate next steps associated with the bond program, which include opening an application window for a citizens' bond oversight committee, setting policies and procedures for that committee, and creating a director of facilities and construction position.

The board voted to reinstate the director of facilities and construction position later in the meeting. Trustees are slated to certify election results as well as review the citizens bond oversight committee applications and set of policies at the next regular board meeting, scheduled for Jan. 17. ■

## WREATHS

Continued from Page 5

the respect it deserves," she said.

Huber and Athenian School freshman Julia Borchers, who will take over running Wreaths Across Pleasanton when Huber goes to college next year, are rallying volunteers to place wreaths on each of the 561 graves at the cemetery.

Sponsoring organizations include the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298, the American Legion Post 237, the Pleasanton Lion's Club and the local chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

For more information, visit [www.wreathscrosspleasanton.org](http://www.wreathscrosspleasanton.org) or email [wreathscrosspleasanton@gmail.com](mailto:wreathscrosspleasanton@gmail.com). ■

—Julia Reis

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### The following agencies will benefit from the 2016 Holiday Fund:

Agape Villages Foster Family Agency	Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley
Axis Community Health	Sunflower Hill
Hope Hospice	Tri-Valley YMCA
REACH	ValleyCare Charitable Foundation
Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation	Valley Humane Society

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MICHAEL J. PADILLA

Military Support Committee members from Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore pack up 725 books collected for local veterans. They are (from left) Sarah Flores, Mark Cordes, Brian Abelgas and Rachel Sowell.

## Sandia donates 725 books to Livermore's VA Hospital

Program spearheaded by lab's Military Support Committee

Some 725 books donated by the employees of Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore have been given to patients at the Veterans Administration's hospital in Livermore, as well as to VA hospitals in Menlo Park, Palo Alto and Yuba City.

The book drive was initiated by Sandia security officer Mark Cordes, who got the idea after visiting his father-in-law at the Livermore VA hospital. He pitched the idea to members of the Sandia/California Military Support Committee (MSC) and they agreed to spearhead the book drive.

"The books will help lift the spirits of the veterans who are in the

hospital, especially during the holidays," Cordes said. "We are fortunate to have supportive and caring members of the workforce who donated new and gently used books."

Twenty boxes of books have been delivered to the hospitals by Cordes and MSC members Brian Abelgas, Sarah Flores and Rachel Sowell.

"The MSC would like to sincerely thank the members of the workforce for their generous donations," Sowell said. "Your continued support of our country's military and their families enables the Military Support Committee at Sandia to facilitate and organize events for our military." ■

—Jeb Bing

## TAKE US ALONG



**A golden jubilee in Canada:** Kathy and Bud Engel celebrated their 50th anniversary by touring through the Canadian Rockies. Here they are pictured with the Pleasanton Weekly in front of the Prince of Wales Hotel in Alberta.

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

## Thompson retiring from Child Care Links

Viewed as driving force of nonprofit for last 35 years

BY JEB BING

Carol Thompson, executive director of Child Care Links and for over 35 years the driving force of the private, nonprofit agency, will retire at year's end.

Known as "the voice for child care" in the Tri-Valley, she has been active on many committees, including serving on the board of directors of the California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPPA).

Also, in conjunction with Alameda County, she was instrumental in the development and implementation of the Cal WORKS Stage 1 Program within Child Care Links that helped change the face of the organization. That effort enabled Child Care Links

to expand its service area significantly beyond the Tri-Valley by serving the Oakland community as well.

During her tenure, the number of children and families served by Child Care Links increased to 1,500 today and is recognized as an organization responsible for its advocacy of quality, safe and affordable child care.

Prior to joining Child Care Links, Thompson was employed with the Alameda County Probation Department and Alameda County Social Services.

Her work with Child Care Links included establishing client eligibility for subsidized child care services and the federal food program for child care providers. She went on to

serve as the Child Care Links Fremont office manager and program director in 1998.

Child Care Links is a private, nonprofit agency advocating for quality child care.

Funded by a number of government and private sources, it provides a wide range of free and low-cost programs. Free child care referrals are available to all residents of the Tri-Valley area regardless of economic status utilizing a large database of state licensed child care providers.

A transition team is currently working with the nonprofit's board of directors in searching for the organization's new leader. ■

## Recycled water plant improvements

\$18.2M project aims to expand Pleasanton facility's production capacity by 70%

BY JULIA REIS

Work is scheduled to begin next month on an \$18.2 million project being undertaken by Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) and partnering agencies to meet the growing demand for recycled water in the Tri-Valley.

DSRSD's Board of Directors awarded C. Overaa & Co. a \$13.4 million contract for improvements to its recycled water treatment plant and authorized construction change orders up to \$900,000 at its meeting last week. It also awarded a \$1.1 million contract to The Covello Group, Inc. and one totaling \$702,300 to Carollo Engineers, Inc. for construction management and engineering services for the same project.

A Richmond-based general contractor, C. Overaa & Co. was the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for work that's expected to be completed by fall 2018. The project will add a new band screen, a ballasted flocculating clarifier, ultraviolet disinfection modules and additional pumps to the water recycling plant, located on

Johnson Drive in Pleasanton.

"Our investments in water recycling infrastructure continue to pay back huge dividends by reducing imports of drinking water from the State Water Project and exports of treated wastewater to the San Francisco Bay," DSRSD board president Pat Howard said in a statement. "Recycled water is a sustainable water supply for irrigation."

The water-recycling plant was built over a decade ago as a joint venture between DSRSD and East Bay Municipal Utility District. It now also provides recycled water for irrigation in the city of Pleasanton as a result of agreements to share and expand the plant.

Demand for irrigation water has grown in recent years and will exceed the plant's current available recycled water treatment capacity within two years, according to a DSRSD staff memo to the board. Officials said in June that DSRSD customers used 7,399 acre-feet of water in 2015, with recycled water accounting for 26% of use.

The improvements will increase the plant's maximum production capacity by 70%, from 9.7 million gallons a day to 16.2. DSRSD officials anticipate that by 2020, peak demand for irrigation water will reach 16.1 million gallons per day.

The \$18.2 million cost, which accounts for design work already completed, will be split between the agencies distributing the recycled water. DSRSD is expected to pay 46%, EBMUD 27% and the city of Pleasanton 27%, according to DSRSD staff.

To minimize impacts on customers, construction that reduces the plant's production capacity will be done when demand for irrigation water is low. The agency has indicated it will notify large irrigation customers of unavoidable interruptions so they can adjust irrigation schedules.

DSRSD provides water service to Dublin and the Dougherty Valley area of San Ramon, wastewater service to Dublin, south San Ramon and Pleasanton (by contract), and recycled water for those communities. ■



DOROTHY MAESTAS

## Traveling artists' exhibit

The public is invited to view "Recent Travels," a show of paintings and photographs by members of the Tri-Valley Traveling Artists, at the Livermore Civic Center Library Gallery, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., through Dec. 30. Participating artists are Dorothy Maestas (artwork shown), Simone Archer, Beverly Barkkarie, Stephen Barkkarie, Bonnie Bartlett, Kathleen Elm, June Ferreri, Helene Hallett, Mary Jane Hassman, Carole Hilton, Carolyn Ramsey, Helene Roylance, Charlotte Severin and Justin Trent. The group began with watercolorists who accompanied Pleasanton artist Severin to Mendocino then began to visit other locations and also to include photographers. This show will also feature a hanging case of jewelry created by Beverly Barkkaire. For more information, call 373-5500.

# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Police: Driver arrested after damaging Sports Park fields

Pleasanton police arrested a Castro Valley man early Tuesday morning after they allege he damaged turf at Pleasanton Sports Park by driving around on the wet sports fields in a pickup truck.

Imran Meskienyar, 21, was booked into the Santa Rita Jail on suspicion of felony vandalism, and the city of Pleasanton plans to seek restitution for the cost to repair the damaged grass, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Brandon Stocking.

Police responded to the Sports Park at 5800 Parkside Drive around 1 a.m. Tuesday after a resident called to report a pickup driving through the park, Stocking said.

Arriving officers spotted a dark truck driving in circles on the sports fields, and after apparently noticing the police, the driver turned off the pickup's headlights and briefly tried to flee the area, according to Stocking.

Officers quickly caught up to the truck, at which point the driver — later identified as Meskienyar

— decided to yield, the sergeant said.

"Large portions of the turf in the Pleasanton Sports Park were found to have been damaged by Meskienyar driving his pickup recklessly on the wet grass," Stocking said. The full cost of the damage hasn't been determined.

As for a motive, the 21-year-old told officers he thought it would be fun, according to the police report.

Stocking credited the resident who called police to report the suspicious activity at the Sports Park — which, like other Pleasanton city parks, are closed to the public after dusk unless it is lit for a sanctioned event.

### In other news

- The Pleasanton Police Department is looking to team up with business owners and residents to cut down on thefts that dampen holiday spirits.

"We value every extra set of eyes and ears on the street," Crime Prevention Officer Monique Limon said in a statement. "If an incident or activity within Pleasanton leads you to consider calling the police, call us."

Officers have compiled a list of safety tips for keeping homes and businesses secure this holiday season:

### Home security

- Lock all doors and windows.

- Have a neighbor or friend watch your house if you're gone for the holidays, and either stop your newspaper or mail or have someone pick it up daily.

- Don't put gifts in plain view of windows or doors.

- Make sure there is proper lighting around the house. Lights on timers inside and motion sensors outside work well.

- Maintain your yard to keep a good line of sight from the street and from windows and doors.

- Ensure your address is clearly visible from the street or painted clearly on the curb.

### Business security

- Have a notification system in place so it's known when a customer enters, and make contact with them when they do.

- Keep track of customers in your store.

- Keep windows clear of displays or signs. Displays should be full and well-organized so you and your employees can see at a glance if something is missing.

- Cash register should be kept near the front of the shop so employees can monitor customers entering and leaving. Make sure customers can't access the cash register. ■

—Jeremy Walsh and Julia Reis

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Dec. 9

#### Burglary

- 6:20 p.m., 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; commercial

- 7:20 p.m., 6400 block of Calle Esperanza; residential

#### Theft

- 6:12 a.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

- 11:51 a.m., 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

- 1:01 p.m., 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway; theft from auto

- 1:15 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

- 3:36 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 5:08 p.m., 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; theft from auto

#### Vandalism

- 9:14 a.m. on the 600 block of Junipero Street

#### DUI

- 9:52 a.m. at Valley Avenue and Koll Center Parkway

### Dec. 8

#### Domestic battery

- 11:28 p.m. on Owens Court

#### Theft

- 9:42 a.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

- 11:34 a.m. on the 4600 block of Second Street

- 4:46 p.m. on the 2100 block of Alexander Way

#### Assault/battery

- 4:32 p.m. on the 8500 block of Clubhouse Drive

### Dec. 7

#### Fraud

- 9:41 a.m. on the 100 block of Main Street

- 11:51 a.m. on the 200 block of Spring Street

#### Burglary

- 1:48 p.m. on the 600 block of Blossom Court

#### Theft

- 4:46 p.m., 600 block of Bonita Avenue; auto theft

- 11:27 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

#### Warrant arrest

- 7:30 a.m. on the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

### Dec. 6

#### Thefts

- 12:43 a.m., 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; theft from auto

- 9:35 a.m. on the 4000 block of Fallwood Court

- 9:53 a.m. on the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 12 p.m. on the 4900 block of Johnson Drive

- 12:26 p.m., 4300 block of Rosewood Drive; auto theft

- 4:44 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

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### Last piece of San Francisco-owned property may soon be ours

The City Council is expected to move forward Tuesday with an apparent opportunity to buy a vacant 3.18-acre property across from the public library for \$4.2 million that the city of San Francisco has owned since the 1930s, a parcel Pleasanton could have had for \$500,000 if it had been included in the sale of the 510-acre Bernal property in August 2000.

Its omission was noted at the 11th hour of a looming midnight deadline Greenbriar Homes and its associate developers faced in their \$126 million deal with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) for the Bernal site. Rather than jeopardize the transaction for the Bernal property, the city signed the contract without including the Old Bernal Avenue property.

At the time, City Manager Deborah Acosta McKeehan and City Attorney Michael Roush instead made a telephone "handshake" agreement with San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown to do the \$500,000 deal later. But Brown left office a few months later and the SFPUC balked, saying it, not the city, owned the land that it determined to have a market value of \$3,485,000.

In 2003, the city lost its lawsuit against the SFPUC, with the court siding with San Francisco's argument that Brown had no authority to offer the side deal to Greenbriar's purchase in the first place and that a sale at such a discounted rate would violate San Francisco Administrative Code. Such a sale, it determined, might be deemed a gift of public funds or inappropriate use of ratepayer assets unless the utility commission was able to identify an appropriate public purpose to support such a sale.

Given the development that's taken place on Bernal since 2000, it's probably good that Pleasanton leaders did not thwart the Greenbriar deal.

San Francisco's ownership of the acreage goes back to 1930 when it acquired Spring Valley Water Works. At the time, the properties were used for groundwater extraction and water was pumped for sale outside the Pleasanton area. When the SFPUC stopped pumping from the wells there in 1949, the land was declared surplus.



CITY OF PLEASANTON

Schematic shows vacant 3.18-acre site across from Pleasanton public library still owned by San Francisco Public Utilities Commission that is being offered for sale to Pleasanton for \$4.2 million.

Development of the property was discussed for many years, with suggested land-uses ranging from industrial, commercial, office and residential uses to public and quasi-public uses such as parks, golf courses, church sites and a cemetery. In the early 1900s, San Francisco's then-Mayor Art Agnos won a bid before the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to rezone the land for 2,600 homes, along with commercial and retail developments.

That brought Pleasanton back to the bargaining table, where it persuaded San Francisco to scale back its proposal to 1,900 homes. In exchange, Pleasanton agreed to annex the land and provide full water and sewer services.

Then Greenbriar Homes and a partner seized the opportunity to help the city and the developers. The coalition bought the 510-acre Bernal property for \$126 million, working a deal with Pleasanton leaders to receive building permits for homes, apartments and retail stores on part of the land while giving the rest — 318 acres of pristine land — to the city of Pleasanton for public use as Bernal Community Park. ■

#### Correction

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation, a recipient of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, plans to use its contribution from the annual campaign to help fund state-of-the-art health care technology, facilities, various clinical programs and services at Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare. Previous stories referenced a specific program, which was incorrect. We regret the error.

THE CITY OF  
**PLEASANTON**

### WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

**City Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 7 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **Public Hearing:** Adopt a resolution making the finding that certain development impact fees subject to AB1600 and SB1693 are unexpended after five years and the funds are committed to particular projects
- Consider the purchase of 3.18 acres located at 401 and 403 Old Bernal Avenue in Pleasanton, CA for \$4.2 million from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement for sale of real estate
- Approve plans and specifications, review bids, and award construction contract to Murphy Industrial Coatings in the amount of \$1,122,150 and approve the task authorization with Swinerton Management & Consulting in the amount of \$148,995 for construction management and specialty inspection services for the Bridge Painting, Bernal Bridge over Arroyo De La Laguna project, CIP No. 13525-Fed ID 5101(028)
- Approve appointments to City Council Subcommittees and selection of Vice Mayor

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#### PUBLISHER

Gina Channell, Ext. 119

#### EDITORIAL

##### Editor

Jeb Bing, Ext. 118

##### Tri Valley Life Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli

##### Associate Editor

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 111

##### Staff Reporter

Julia Reis, Ext. 121

##### Contributors

Cathy Jetter, Dennis Miller (sports),  
Mike Sedlak, Jenny Lyness,  
Nancy Lewis

#### ART & PRODUCTION

##### Marketing and Creative Director

Shannon Corey

##### Design and Production Manager

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##### Designers

Linda Atilano, Diane Haas,  
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##### Account Executive

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Tatjana Pitts, Ext. 141

##### Front Office Coordinator

Sierra Rhodes, Ext. 124

#### HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

##### Editorial email:

[editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)  
[calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com)

##### Display Sales email:

[sales@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:sales@PleasantonWeekly.com)

##### Classifieds Sales email:

[ads@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:ads@PleasantonWeekly.com)

##### Circulation email:

[circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com)

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# Sports



## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

### FHS girls soccer opens home season with win

The Foothill High girls soccer team opened its home campaign by blasting Washington (Fremont) by a 9-1 final last week.

It didn't take long for the Falcons to get on the board, as Sarah Mirr put home a pass from Ariana Nino in the first minute of the game for the 1-0 lead. Foothill found the net three more times in the first half and then scored five more goals in the second half for the final score.

Nino had a hat trick, along with an assist. Tami Kwong, Catherine Chao, Sarah Broacha and Allison Defazio all scored. Assists were provided by Taylor Noval, Sophie Caponigro, Kathryn Lee, Makena Densmore and two from Kira Broacha.

Foothill totaled 14 shots, with nine on frame for the match. Washington's tally came from a penalty kick late in the match and was its only shot of the night.

#### Water polo

Amador Valley varsity placed two boys on the All-East Bay Athletic League teams. Jack Miller was named to the first team, and Drew Kobayashi was selected as honorable mention.

Individual honors for the Amador team were as follows: MVP, Miller; Best Defensive Player, Kobayashi; Most Improved Player, David Brooks; and Coaches Award, Owen Markley.

#### Alumni soccer

Former players on the boys varsity soccer teams from Amador Valley and Foothill will meet on the field once again this year during the Amador vs. Foothill game presented

by the Ballistic United Soccer Club.

The game takes place on Friday, Dec. 30 at Foothill. Kickoff is set for 3 p.m. Signups are limited to the first 30 players for each team, and the event traditionally fills up quickly, so sign up soon. The cost of \$20 per player covers a T-shirt for the game.

Following the game, there will be a reception at McKay's Taphouse and Beer Garden — owned by former Foothill standout Josh McKay — on Main Street in Pleasanton.

For more information, contact Foothill coach Jason Wescott (jwescott@pleasantonusd.net) or Amador Valley coach Scott Berglin (amadorsoccer@gmail.com).

#### Winter results

I was cruising through the store the other day when I ran into the parent of a player on one of the high school soccer teams. They were wondering how to get the results of their son's team in the Weekly.

Simple, I replied, just volunteer to be the person responsible to turn in the results to me each week. It's an easy job and in less than 30 minutes a week, you can make sure your child's team gets their results in print.

At the end of each week (by noon on Sunday), simply email the team's results to me at acesmag@aol.com.

If you have a parent taking pictures, send some along with the identification of the players, as well as who took the pictures. These kids are out there working hard every day, so let's give them credit for their efforts. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

### Amador grad earns 2nd rugby national title

Pleasanton native Emily Roskopf scored three tries to help the Quinnipiac University (Connecticut) women's rugby team defeat Central Washington 46-24 last month to win its second straight national title. "Winning the championship this year means a lot in regards to our response to the adversity we faced and proving that we are the best college rugby team in the U.S.," said Roskopf, a sophomore for the Bobcats and 2015 graduate of Amador Valley.

# Calendar

## Theatre

**GETTING TO KNOW 'THE SOUND OF MUSIC'** Families will enjoy this uniquely adapted version of "The Sound of Music" for young performers, showing at 7:30 p.m. Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 9-18 at the Amador Theater. Tickets are \$7-\$18. Call 931-4848 or go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**VALLEY DANCE THEATRE PRESENTS 'THE NUTCRACKER'** Valley Dance Theatre will present its 35th annual production of Tchaikovsky's holiday classic ballet, "The Nutcracker," at 7 p.m. Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 10-18 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. The Valley Dance Theatre Pit Orchestra will accompany these performances. Pre-performance musical festivities will be led by the Cantabella Children's Chorus at select performances. Tickets are \$39, \$21 for students 18 and younger. Call 373-6800 or go to [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**BIG FAT YEAR-END KISS-OFF COMEDY SHOW** The 24th annual Big Fat Year-End Kiss-Off Comedy Show will feature an evening of pure yuks at the expense of the year 2016 at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 28 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Stand-up, improvisation and loosely written sketches guaranteed to mock, scoff and taunt with taste, starring political satirists Will Durst, Debi Durst, Michael Bossier, Johnny Steele, Mari Magaloni and Arthur Gaus. The show is rated PG-13. Call 931-4848 or go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## Talks & Lectures

**TRI-VALLEY WRITERS** Ransom Stephens, Ph.D., physicist, science writer, and novelist will present "Get Inside Your Reader's Brain: The Neuroscience of How to Make Readers Laugh and Cry" at the Tri-Valley Writers meeting at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 17 at Four Points By Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road. Cost for members is \$12, \$17 for non-members. Check-in at 1:30 p.m. Go to [www.trivalleywriters.org](http://www.trivalleywriters.org).

## Lessons & Classes

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

## PET OF THE WEEK



ALLIE'S PALS

### Rupert

Rupert really wants a forever home for the holidays. He's mellow, calm and great with other cats. He's a low-energy kind of guy, but happily rolls over for a belly rub. And boy can he purr. Rupert is available for adoption through Allie's Pals Cat Rescue. Contact Terri at [terrilduncan@yahoo.com](mailto:terrilduncan@yahoo.com) or 487-7279.

## Health & Wellness

**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](mailto:eastbayet@comcast.net). Go to [www.eastbayet.com](http://www.eastbayet.com).

**NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI) TRI-VALLEY NAMI** Tri-Valley Parent Resource and Support Group meets for parents with children to age 17 diagnosed or suspected of having bipolar or other mood disorders. It meets from 7-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Pathways To Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 114. The group is drop-in, no registration required and is free. For more information contact Marsha McInnis at 980-5331 or [marsha@nami-trivalley.org](mailto:marsha@nami-trivalley.org).

**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](http://meetup.com/PleasantonPedalers).

## Seniors

**MEN OF BREAKFAST** Join the Men of Breakfast or MOB at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of the month for a cup of coffee and friendly discussion at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Bring a newspaper and whatever topics pique your interest. Call 931-5369.

## Religion & Spirituality

**'GOD WITH US' NATIVITY PLAY** GraceWay Church will celebrate the Advent season with a special telling of the Christmas story at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18 at Alisal School, 1454 Santa Rita Road. The "God with Us" Nativity play features the GraceWay kids and

youth acting out the story of the birth of Jesus with the adult choir music interspersed. The Christmas Eve service designed for the entire family starts at 4 p.m. on Dec. 24 at Alisal School. Call 846-4436 or go to [www.gracewaylife.org](http://www.gracewaylife.org).

**MOM2MOM MEETINGS** Moms and Grandmothers of all ages are welcome to join the Mom2mom group based on the Titus 2 women where the older moms are mentoring the younger moms. Parenting tips, guest speakers, crafts and practical life applications. Meetings are 9:30-11:30 a.m. the first and third Wednesdays of the month at Harvest Valley Church, 3200 Hopyard Road. Contact Valerie Fleming at 484-2482 ext. 121 or [valerie@harvestvalley.org](mailto:valerie@harvestvalley.org).

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** Come to the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve at Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. Unity Carolers will also be singing, and refreshments will be available afterward. With Reverend Micah Murdock, minister. All are welcome. No service Christmas Day.

**WORLD PEACE DAY** December 31 is known as World Healing Day, or World Peace Day. Come participate in meditating for world healing and peace at 4 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 31 at Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. This year's theme is Many Hands Make Light Work. Following the mediation, a breakfast potluck will be served. If you are able to join for the potluck, please contact Pam Boyer at (510) 386-1113. All are welcome.

## Community Groups

**PTSCA POSADA CELEBRATION** The Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Association invites the community to a traditional Mexican Christmas celebration at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18 at the Veteran's Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Through music, carols and everyone's participation, the Posada reenacts the journey of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter in Bethlehem. After the program traditional snacks and refreshments will be served. Call Jorge at 989-6882 or [www.ptsc.org](http://www.ptsc.org).

# MAN OF THE YEAR

## ARMY CAPT. DOUG MILLER, A PLEASANTON LEADER

BY JEB BING

Most soldiers, when they return home from active duty, hang their uniforms in the closet and go back to school or civilian jobs. Some stay in the reserves; others join veterans organizations; still others make use of their military experience as volunteers in their communities and in company leadership positions.

Doug Miller, our 2016 Man of the Year, an Army captain and helicopter pilot in Vietnam, has done all of that and keeps on serving.

"All of these activities and experiences are the miracles of life and the benefit of having been born in this great country," Miller said. "I am very grateful."

Miller is perhaps best known locally for his leadership efforts this year in planning and completing the Veterans Memorial that was dedicated Nov. 12 in Pioneer Cemetery.

He also is president of the local chapter of the Association of the United States Army, an organization that is focused on making life better for active duty military members and their families at Camp Parks in Dublin and the East Bay. For several years, he headed up the Army's Wounded Warrior program, also known as AW2, making sure that the 60 most severely wounded soldiers in his region received good care as they underwent rehabilitation.

He is also a lifetime member of the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley, the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association, Pleasanton Post 237 of the American Legion and Pleasanton Post 6298 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, where he has served as president. In addition, Miller is a former Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commissioner, was a director of East Bay Stand Down, a program that supports needy local veterans, and also

helped establish a local Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation team in Pleasanton that provides mentorship and support to severely wounded soldiers.

In 1965, Miller received a bachelor's degree in economics and a U.S. Army commission from Norwich University, the military college of Vermont and a private university located in Northfield, Vt. It is the oldest private military college in the U.S. Later, he earned a Master of Science degree in systems management from the University of Southern California.

He served two tours in Vietnam as an Army helicopter pilot during his 10 years on active duty. When he stepped down from active duty in April 1977, he joined the Army Reserves where he served for another 10 years while also embarking on a civilian career that spanned the next 27 years. During that time, he held senior positions in sales and marketing, working

primarily at Hitachi in Boston and the Bay Area and Sun Microsystems in Menlo Park before retiring in 2004.

Transferred here from Boston by Hitachi in 1998, Miller and his wife Janice moved to the Del Prado neighborhood, where they still live. Their three children — Ashley, Jared and Reagan — attended Donlon Elementary, Pleasanton Middle and Foothill High schools. Like their dad, they all have military and public service in their blood.

Ashley, the oldest, served for two years with Teach for America as a ninth-grade high school teacher at an inner city high school in Miami. Since 2006, she has worked for Symantec in the San Jose area.

Jared, like his dad, is an Army captain and helicopter pilot who completed two one-year tours in Afghanistan. He currently is an Army ROTC instructor at the

University of North Carolina.

Their younger daughter Reagan works for the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C. She spent one year in Iraq during the surge and more recently two years in Egypt.

Even though he had retired, Miller's compassion for everything military stayed on, leading to a call from the Army in 2008 asking if he would become a contractor for its Wounded Warrior program. He did that for the next three years.

"I took that job and found it to be the the most amazing experience I'd ever had," Miller said. "It's hard to imagine unless you have spent a lot of time with people in the condition these military men and women were. Even though faced with severe burns, lost limbs, brain injuries and more and they knew they were going to have a tough time for the rest of their lives, they were just amazing



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Army Capt. and helicopter pilot Doug Miller (left) with passenger CIA agent Felix Rodriguez during reconnaissance mission between Saigon and Cambodian border in late 1971. In 1967, Rodriguez led Bolivian Army to location where they captured Che Guevara. The last photo of Che alive was with Rodriguez.



Miller addresses crowd of 400 at dedication ceremony of Veterans Memorial at Pioneer Cemetery on Nov. 12.



Miller with wife Jan along the coast of California near Cambria.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Committee planning Veterans Memorial meets at Garre Vineyards in Livermore. From left are Rich Ghera, Greg Clune, Doug Miller, Mark Sweeney, Buddy Loggins and Paul Siedschlag.

people as they came through their traumas.”

“All they really wanted is for somebody to give them some help, lead them in the right direction, help them determine where they can go or what they could do given their new circumstances,” he added. “It was the most uplifting, exhilarating experience of my life to work with these wounded warriors.”

Miller’s leadership skills paid off for Pleasanton, too, when he led the effort to build a Veterans Memorial in Pioneer Cemetery. That started five years ago when Miller and businessman Frank Capilla formed a group that persuaded the City Council to assume ownership of the historic cemetery when its owner and caretaker, the Pleasanton chapter of the International Order of Odd Fellows, could no

longer handle the responsibility.

For the next few years, veterans and Rotary Club volunteers worked to clean up the cemetery grounds. Councilwoman Kathy Narum, when she first campaigned for election, heard from many constituents their pleas to improve the cemetery and to make it a city treasure.

In 2013, with Narum’s and City Manager Nelson Fialho’s urging, along with the support of Miller and his ad hoc cemetery improvement group, the City Council appointed a task force to come up with a plan. Local art contributors Nancy and Gary Harrington offered to match \$40,000 toward a design and construction of a veterans’ memorial at the cemetery. The American Legion and VFW and other Pleasanton veterans joined in to raise funds, and the

memorial got underway.

“That action by the council in November 2015 launched the fundraising, and this November, just a year later, we dedicated the memorial,” said Miller, who was both the leader of the effort and the dedication ceremony speaker.

In the end, the memorial cost \$470,000, with the city agreeing to assume demolition costs for the old flag circle atop the cemetery and to install new roads and an irrigation system. Miller and his veterans organizations, along with the Harringtons, raised \$320,000.

Miller will continue working with the veteran organizations and others to keep improving the cemetery. For now, though, his focus is the local Association of the United States Army that he heads to make life better for local military and their families. ■



DOUG MILLER

Miller family on ski trip in Vail, Colo. in March 2015. From left, Doug Miller, Keith Savageau, Jan Miller, Ashley (Miller) Savageau, Reagan (Miller) Maher, Simon Maher (holding Westley) and Army Capt. Jared Miller.



FENTON KRAMER



FENTON KRAMER

Miller talks to Howard Neely, former member of Pleasanton Parks and Recreation Commission and longtime advocate of cemetery improvements, at Nov. 12 dedication. Neely now lives in Arroyo Grande.



DOUG MILLER

Miller on Pleasanton Ridge trail with daughter Reagan (Miller) Maher.



# Traditions

## Family tradition carried on for three generations

Santa does all the work — and parents are exhausted

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The John and Tish Deus family practiced the same tradition each Christmas, which was handed down from his family: Santa would deliver the Christmas tree fully decorated, put up all the decorations and deliver all the presents, after the children went to bed Christmas Eve.

"It made for a long night for the parents, but it was a great treat for the children when they awoke Christmas morning and saw their house transformed into a holiday paradise," recalled Pleasanton resident John Deus.

"My parents did this for my brother and me (starting in 1942)," he added. "I did this for my three children (starting in 1967). My daughter and her husband have done this since 2005, and still do for our three grandchildren at Christmas."

The grandchildren — Margaret (Greta), 11; Caroline, 9; and Pierre, 8, Laborde-Lagrave

— live in Sacramento but often visit John and Tish in their Birdland neighborhood in Pleasanton.

"One of their favorite outings when they are in Pleasanton is to attend performances at the Firehouse Arts Center," Deus said. "They've seen 'Beauty and the Beast,' 'The Little Mermaid,' and 'My Fair Lady' with their grandparents."

For three generations, the last thing the Deus children have done before they go to bed Christmas Eve is to put out cookies and cold chocolate milk for Santa at the fireplace and carrots for his reindeer.

After Christmas 1991, when John and Tish Deus lived in Annapolis, Md., John wrote about how they had surprised their daughters with special gifts when they were home from college for the holidays. He was happy to share it with Pleasanton Weekly readers.



## Santa's Christmas gotcha

By JOHN DEUS

Christmas Eve tradition in our home had Santa delivering all the presents and festive decorations long after the children had fallen asleep. This tradition tested the resourcefulness of Mom and Dad who were Santa's principal elves. It was tough to hide the presents from the children in the days prior to Christmas morning. Small presents could easily be hidden, but large packages presented a more difficult challenge.

One Christmas, we decided to give our daughters, Missy and Catherine, each a 21-inch TV set. They were both in college now, and both wanted a TV for their dorm rooms.

They were also at an age where their curiosity usually got the better of them. They, along with their older brother Tom, would surely engage in a pre-Christmas present hunt when they came home from college for Christmas break. The challenge for Mom and Dad was how to hide the TVs in their small townhouse until Christmas morning.

Since hiding the large TV boxes was nearly impossible, why not just wrap them and put them out in full view — except tag one box, "To Grandma from Santa," and tag the other box, "To Grandpa from Santa"?

The large wrapped boxes would be so obviously in view that they might be totally dismissed from Tom's, Missy's and Catherine's curiosity. A gamble, for sure, but we were dealing here with three college students!

Christmas morning came, and we all awoke to a home decorated with candles, wreaths, lights, stockings by the fireplace, and piles of presents under the Christmas tree. Tom, Missy and Catherine took turns playing Santa's helpers by passing out the presents to everyone.

At last, only two large presents remained beside the Christmas tree. Santa's helpers had decided to save until last the two big presents for Grandma and Grandpa Cangiano.

Missy and Catherine both went over to the tree and began wrestling the large boxes across the room. Then Catherine stopped at one point to look at the tag to see if her box was for Grandma or for Grandpa. She screamed in complete surprise, "Missy, this present is for you!"

Missy looked at her with a very puzzled expression and then looked at the tag on her box. She cried, "Catherine, this box is for you!"

They looked at each other in disbelief, and then both looked at Mom and Dad with quirky smiles on their faces. They had been tricked big time! The gift tags had been switched Christmas morning.

Their biggest Christmas surprise had been right there under their noses, and they had not given the packages a second thought. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Deus family has a tradition, dating back to the 1980s, of decorating its Christmas tree with bears, shown here being enjoyed by visiting grandchildren (from left) Caroline, 9; Pierre, 8; and Margaret (Greta), 11, Laborde-Lagrave, who live in Sacramento and are dual citizens of the U.S. and France.



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# Traditions

## Ho, ho, ho — ha, ha, ha



Holiday traditions give rise to humor

Did you hear the one about the big guy in a red suit who climbed down the chimney to bring gifts to the kids on Christmas?

Think of all the holiday traditions and realize that each one has had a joke or riddle based on it. Santa, snowmen, Christmas trees, turkeys, gingerbread, decorations, wreaths, elves, reindeer, Christmas carols, stockings, fruitcake, mistletoe — each inspires humor at this time of year.

**What are people who are afraid of Santa Claus called?**

Claustrophobic.

**What did the gingerbread put on his bed?**

A cookie sheet.

**What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?**

Frostbite.

**What do you call an old snowman?**

Water.

**Who is never hungry at Christmas time?**

The turkey — he is always stuffed.

**Why did they let the turkey join the band?**

Because he had the drumsticks.

The battle of the sexes continues through the holiday season with this observation: If there had been three wise women instead of

men, they would have asked for directions and arrived on time, assisted at the birth, and given more practical presents.

Comedians and famous people share their holiday jokes, quips and words of wisdom.

“I once bought my kids a set of batteries for Christmas with a note on it saying, toys not included.”

—Bernard Manning

“You know you’re getting old, when Santa starts looking younger.”

—Robert Paul

“The worst gift is a fruitcake. There is only one fruitcake in the entire world, and people keep sending it to each other.”

—Johnny Carson

“I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was 6. Mother took me to see him in a department store, and he asked for my autograph.”

—Shirley Temple

And the sweetest and truest observation that captures the spirit of the season:

“Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall.”

—Larry Wilde ■

Compiled by Dolores Fox Ciardelli



## Wish lists help us to help others

Spreading holiday spirit is tradition in many families

The Pleasanton Weekly is sharing wish lists from nonprofit groups who can use your help this holiday season and throughout the year. Many families make it a tradition to decide together which group to help and what item to donate.

See the Dec. 2 edition for wish lists from Open Heart Kitchen, Valley Humane Society, Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley and Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area, and Dec. 9 for Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation.

### Tri-Valley YMCA

The Tri-Valley YMCA is the nation’s leading nonprofit committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

The Y knows that lasting personal and social change come about when everyone works together. That’s why, at the Y, strengthening community is the cause. Every day, it works side-by-side with its neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has

the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. Wish list:

- Lego Mindstorms EV3 Robotics Kits
- Gift cards to purchase supplies: Target, Safeway, Lakeshore Learning and Home Depot
- Chromebooks
- Magnatiles
- Vacuum cleaner
- DeWalt 20V cordless drill set
- iPad Minis for Y-Kids sites
- 10-foot-by-10-foot green screen backdrop kit
- Various sets of Legos

Items can be dropped off at the administrative office, 5000 Pleasanton Ave., Suite 220, Pleasanton, during the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. For more information on the Y, call 263-4444 or email tvinfo@ymcaeastbay.org.

### Sunflower Hill

Sunflower Hill provides educational/vocational programs for special needs

See **WISH LIST** on Page 16



# Party Package TO GO

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- Chicken Penne Pomodori
- Rigatoni Alfredo

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PER PERSON  
**\$200** PACKAGE  
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Choice of 3 Entrees:

- Spaghetti & Meatballs
- Chicken Penne Alfredo
- Rigatoni Bolognese
- Spinach & Chicken Rigatoni

**\$9**  
PER PERSON  
**\$225** PACKAGE  
Serves 25

Choice of 3 Entrees:

- Italian Sausage Penne
- Cheese Ravioli
- Oven Baked Lasagna
- Chicken Penne Pesto

**\$10**  
PER PERSON  
**\$250** PACKAGE  
Serves 25

Choice of 3 Entrees:

- Spaghetti & Clams
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- Asiago & Garlic Ravioli
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# Traditions

## Preserving holiday traditions

Giving back is a rewarding practice

GETTY IMAGES  
Keep the magic of the season alive by writing letters to Santa.



Holiday traditions come in many forms — from decorating the tree and shopping for loved ones to movie nights and your favorite festive foods. However, there is no holiday tradition quite as enjoyable and rewarding as giving back.

Here are several ways that you can create and preserve this important holiday tradition with your family.

### Take part in acts of kindness — big or small

Encourage your family to participate in the season of giving by taking on charitable activities. Projects could include volunteering at a food pantry or soup kitchen, coordinating a caroling group for a nursing home, or collecting care packages for deployed soldiers.

The Pleasanton Weekly is running wish lists from local nonprofit groups

to help those who want to contribute to a good cause. And the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund collects financial contributions to benefit 10 local nonprofits through mid-January.

There are also plenty of ways to show children how easy it is to give back in small ways — whether it's paying for a stranger's coffee, creating a feel-good holiday playlist for a friend, or leaving a treat for the mail carrier in the mailbox.

By preserving these kinds of holiday traditions, you'll help make others' days brighter and instill the importance of giving in a younger generation.

### Spread the spirit of believing

Belief in Santa builds family traditions such as writing letters, setting out cookies and milk, and hanging stockings by the tree.

### Write a letter to Santa

Children of all ages can write a letter to Santa, and parents might want to encourage the practice even for older offspring who might include a recap of their year. Save these annual letters and present them to your children when they become adults.

Combining the traditions of Santa letters and giving back to others, Macy's offers an annual Believe campaign in which children can drop off their letters to Santa at the big red letterboxes in the stores or send online through [macys.com/believe](http://macys.com/believe). For every letter collected through Dec. 24, the retailer will donate \$1 to Make-A-Wish, up to \$1 million, to help grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. ■

—Family Features

## WISH LIST

Continued from Page 15

individuals from several groups and programs in the Tri-Valley area, including the Granada, Foothill, Dublin and Amador Valley High School Adult Transition Programs, and the Danville Adult Day

Program. Its wish list will help its program and give its special needs gardeners the tools they need to be successful.

A key element of Sunflower Hill's vision is to build an edible garden to provide healthy food, work opportunities, an outdoor learning venue and revenue generating potential for the future Sunflower Hill

community. It has built its first, beautiful 1-acre Sunflower Hill Gardens on the Hagemann Ranch at 455 Olivina Ave. in Livermore and is making this vision a reality.

Wish list:

- Two Leonard garden scoots with flat-free tires
- Two Leonard utility wagons, with 30-inch-by-46-inch-by-7.5-inch tray

- 1,000-pound capacity wagon with smooth-rolling tires
- 20 pairs Hi-Viz terry knit gloves, unlined or lined
- Scrusher deluxe boot cleaner
- 10 Leonard deluxe stainless steel soil knives
- Five Leonard traditional bypass pruners, 1-inch cutting capacity
- One Orchard ladder, built of

- lightweight tempered aluminum
  - Four Fiskars easy-pour watering cans, 2.6-gallon
  - 5 extra-large Gorilla Tubtrug tubs
  - 5 large Gorilla Tubtrug tubs
- Drop off donations at 1040 Florence Ave., Livermore, or make arrangements by emailing [gardens@sunflowerhill.org](mailto:gardens@sunflowerhill.org). ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

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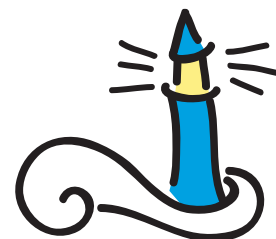
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## Bulletin Board

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### 235 Wanted to Buy

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### 245 Miscellaneous

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## Home Services

### 751 General Contracting

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

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### 890 Real Estate Wanted

#### Wanted: House in Sunny Glen

I'm looking to buy a small house (900-1100 sq ft) in the Sunny Glen retirement section of San Ramon. If you are considering selling, please contact me through this ad. I'm not a house flipper. I want to live in Sunny Glen but would also consider a similar retirement location in Dublin or Pleasanton.

## Legal Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

#### L & T LANDSCAPING

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 524763

The following person(s) doing business as: L & T LANDSCAPING, 7378 TAMARACK DRIVE, DUBLIN, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Toan T. Le, 7378 Tamarack Drive, Dublin, CA 94568. 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: Toan T. Le. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 11/18/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2016)

#### KLS FOUNDATION

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 524979

The following person(s) doing business as: KLS FOUNDATION, 7662 COTTONWOOD LANE, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Knowledge Life Service Foundation, 7662 Cottonwood Lane, Pleasanton, CA 94588. 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: Ambrish P. Patel, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 11/28/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2016)

#### PAIX COMPANY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 524702

The following person(s) doing business as: PAIX COMPANY, 330 KILKARE ROAD, SUNOL, CA 94586, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Elisabeth Marie Kizanis, 330 Kilkare Road, Sunol, CA 94586; Sophia Louise Bartolomucci, 4922 Golden Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by a General partnership. Registrant has not yet begun

to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Sophia Louise Bartolomucci, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 11/16/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2016)

#### ConNEXT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 524716

The following person(s) doing business as: ConNEXT, 5000 HOPYARD ROAD, SUITE 210, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): HighTech Connect, LLC, 5000 Hopyard Road, Suite 210, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Registered in Delaware. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 11/04/2016. Signature of Registrant: Rene Siegel, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 11/17/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2016)

#### JEFFREY'S

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 525074

The following person(s) doing business as: JEFFREY'S, 3955 VINEYARD AVE. #100, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lydia Williams, 3955 Vineyard Ave. #100, 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: Lydia Williams. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 11/30/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016)

#### BUSINESS CULTURE ADVANTAGE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 524756

The following person(s) doing business as: BUSINESS CULTURE ADVANTAGE, 6878 CORTE SONADA, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Steven J. Kirch, 6878 Corte Sonada, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 09/2016. Signature of Registrant: Steven J. Kirch. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 11/17/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016)

#### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE

OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME File No. 520623

The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S): ENHANCING YOUR HOME, 3112 WEYMOUTH COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 07/19/2016 UNDER FILE NO. 520623 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): Vicki Salinas, 3112 Weymouth Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY an Individual. Signature of Registrant: Vicki Salinas. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on Nov. 28, 2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016)

#### ENHANCED STAGING

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 524967

The following person(s) doing business as: ENHANCED STAGING, 3112

WEYMOUTH COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Vicki Salinas, 3112 Weymouth Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Vicki Salinas. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 11/28/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016)

#### LIVERMORE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION

SYSTEMS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 525449

The following person(s) doing business as: LIVERMORE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, 1405 JANIS COURT, LIVERMORE, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Oscar Urquieta Jr., 1405 Janis Court, Livermore, CA 94551. 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: Oscar Urquieta Jr. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 12/13/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 16, 23, 30, 2016; Jan. 6, 2017)

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## Key takeaways from Bay Area real estate forecast through 2019

Report: Economy will continue to grow for next three years

John Burns, CEO of John Burns Real Estate Consulting, a provider of independent research and consulting services related to the U.S. housing industry, recently presented a forecast of what his company sees is ahead in Bay Area real estate through 2019.

This is the third year the firm has presented forecasts for Bay Area housing market.

Some of the highlights of the presentation were:

- President-elect Donald Trump will put pressure on mortgage rates, though it is not certain how fast rates will increase. Nevertheless, an increase in mortgage rates will significantly reduce the potential pool of buyers who can afford to buy a home in the Bay Area.

- Despite being in the seventh year of economic expansion, the economy will continue growing through 2019 before slowing in 2020.

- The Bay Area real estate market is one of the few in the U.S. classified as overheated.

- Demographic changes will continue fueling demand as more millennials approach the age when they start their own households.

- Bay Area millennials will benefit from the transfer of intergenerational wealth from their parents and grandparents who help them with their down payments.

- More "suburban homes" — those that offer

urbanlike living in a suburban market — will be built.

- Across the entire Bay Area, home prices appreciation averaged 7% so far this year when compared with the same period in 2015.

- Individual Bay Area communities fall into four categories when measured by year-to-date appreciation: normal, double-digit, heating up and declining. Markets that fall into each category include:

**Normal (up to 10% appreciation):** The majority of markets fall into this category, including San Jose, Santa Rosa, and San Francisco. The median home price in these markets averages \$940,000.

**Double-digit (10-20% growth):** These markets include Oakland, Hayward, and Petaluma. The median home price in these markets averages slightly above \$500,000.

**Heated (20-40% appreciation):** While no city-level appreciation exceeded 20%, some ZIP codes have seen these levels of appreciation, including those in Oakland, Berkeley, Cotati, Glen Ellen, Larkspur, St. Helena and East Palo Alto.

**Slowing (6% depreciation to flat):** Cities in which median price is lower than last year include Palo Alto, Tiburon, Menlo Park and Lafayette. The median home price in these markets averages \$1.7 million.

- Differences in home price appreciation were driven by affordability and access to public transit and jobs. The highest appreciation was seen in markets that are still relatively affordable. The slowest appreciation and depreciation was seen in relatively more expensive markets and those that lack easy accessibility to jobs.

- Cooling buyer sentiment is evident in almost all markets. Fewer homes are selling above asking price in 2016 across the Bay Area, particularly in San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, and in higher price ranges. Premiums paid this year are also smaller in all counties.

- Overall Bay Area inventory has increased by 5% year to date when compared with last year, with San Francisco and San Mateo counties seeing the largest gains. The buildup in

inventory levels is mostly seen among homes priced between \$2 million and \$3 million.

- Bay Area job growth will continue to outpace the number of homes built in 2017. The majority of new construction is concentrated in San Francisco, while no new supply is occurring outside of the city. The new supply is mostly in higher price segments, so even though the ratio of new employment to new permits may be falling, it does not reflect the true availability for the average worker.

- From 2017 to 2019, overall home prices will grow by 3% in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, 11% in Napa County, 9% in Sonoma County, 8% in Santa Clara County, and 4% in Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties.

— PR Newswire

### OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

#### Brentwood

##### 5 BEDROOMS

**1948 Parsley Drive** **\$695,000**  
Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

#### Castro Valley

##### 2 BEDROOMS

**21786 Dolores St.** **Call for price**  
Sun 1-4 Manny Gonzalez (510) 304-0732

#### Livermore

##### 3 BEDROOMS

**131 Nadine St.** **\$690,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Sara Lovett 518-8177

#### Pleasanton

##### 3 BEDROOMS

**4455 Entrada Drive** **\$949,000**  
Sun 1:30-4:30 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

**3480 Vine St.** **\$939,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 462-7653

##### 4 BEDROOMS

**2478 Foothill Road** **\$1,749,000**  
Fri 10-1/Sat/Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260-2220/413-6544

##### 5 BEDROOMS

**3505 Villero Court** **Call for price**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

**1817 Spumante Place** **\$2,625,000**  
Sun 1-4 Tracey Buescher 352-7307

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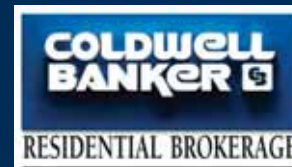
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**BRENTWOOD** \$695,000  
Open Sun 1 - 4 1948 Parsley Dr.  
**Beautiful Brentwood Home!**  
5 BD/4 BA 3300+ Square Foot with a 3 Car Garage and Side RV Parking with much more!  
Lynne Palmer  
CalBRE #01172616 925.586.1641



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Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4 3505 Villero Court  
**Stunning Ruby Hill Home**  
5 BD/3.5 BA Features Almost 3800 SF, 24,000+ SF lot. Exceptional Custom Home w/Outstanding Upgrades!  
Daisy Ng  
CalBRE #01311067 925.872.6888



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4972 Mohr Avenue  
**COMING SOON After the Holidays!**  
4 BD/2.5 BA Indoor/Outdoor Living Spaces, Landscaped to Perfection, Gazebo, Outdoor Kit/Putting Green  
Shannon Arvig  
CalBRE #01350212 925.989.2008



**TRACY** \$620,000  
735 N Pergola Ct  
**Reduced Price! A Must See!**  
4 BD/3 BA Loc on Cul-De-Sac features upgraded kit cabs, grnt cnter, SS appliances, BD dwnstrs & More!  
Barbara Clemons  
CalBRE #01794889 408.933.8180

**CASTRO VALLEY**  
23218 Canyon Terrace Drive \$675,000  
**Remodeled Townhome in Five Canyons!**  
4 BD/2.5 BA Immaculate Hm w/all bells & whistles! HOA amenities! Centrally loc to awd winning schools.  
Lucy Lizarraga CalBRE#01393413 925.847.2203

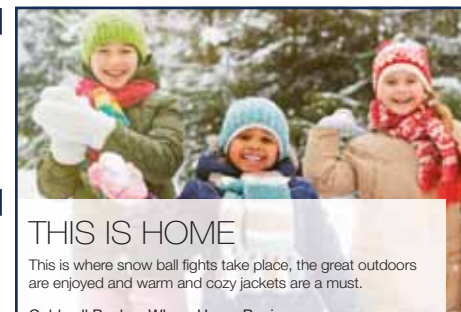
**DUBLIN**  
7596 Ashford Way \$745,000  
**Pending with 6 Offers!**  
4 BD/2 BA Single Story Features Remdled Kit, Updtd BA's, Wood Flrs, Recessed Lighting, Spac/Priv Bkyd  
Suzanne Bieser CalBRE#01355940 925.699.3884

**SAN LORENZO**  
955 957 Delano Street \$599,000  
**Seldom Available~San Lorenzo Duplex**  
3 BD/2 BA Cntrl Loc. Live in 1 Unit & Rent the 2nd.  
1BD/1BA Frnt/BK 2BD/1BA w/Updtd Kit, Grg, & Bkyd  
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Visit these homes & more at:  
ColdwellBankerHomes.com

**TRACY**  
5501 DeMarcus Blvd 439 \$625,000  
**Pending in 7 days!!!**  
2 BD/2 BA Condo Features High Ceilings, Hardwood Floors, Neutral Paint, Granite Counters, & More!  
Romar De Claro CalBRE#01341138 925.784.3068

**TRACY**  
19364 W Grant Line Rd \$850,000  
**JUST LISTED - In Tracy**  
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Nancy Terpening CalBRE#00380392 925.570.4003



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**OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4**  
3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 1,763 +/- square feet  
Offered at \$939,000

2394 ROYAL OAKS DRIVE, ALAMO



**COMING SOON**  
5 bd/3 ba in Roundhill Country Club, 3,286 +/- sq.ft.  
Call for details

4139 GARATTI COURT, PLEASANTON



**COMING SOON**  
4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2,018 +/- square feet  
Call for details

4847 GOLDEN ROAD, PLEASANTON



**COMING SOON**  
4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1,675 +/- square feet  
Call for details

1931 VALDOSTA COURT, PLEASANTON



**PENDING WITH 3 OFFERS**  
4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1,690 +/- square feet  
Offered at \$989,000

4591 GATETREE CIRCLE, PLEASANTON



**PENDING - REPRESENTING BUYER**  
4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, 2088 +/- square feet  
Offered \$999,950

*“Tim helped us find a house in Pleasanton. It was a new process to us as we are from the U.K. and this was our first house purchase using the U.S. system. Tim (and team) were always there for every step and guided us through the area and houses so we found the one we really loved. He is patient and knows houses, so the process was as smooth as could be.”*

— Chris and Sarah Boorman, 335 Del Sol Avenue, Pleasanton



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**Del Prado**

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\$1,050,000



JUST SOLD

**7443 Palm Court**

Charming remodeled 4 BR, 2.5 BTH home with designer upgrades & premium location  
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JUST SOLD

**9647 Crosby Drive**

Incredible custom home in canyon setting with pool, views, privacy, and upgrades throughout!  
\$2,360,000



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& THE 680 GROUP  
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# Pleasanton Market Update

While not exactly sleepy, the Pleasanton real estate market was definitely not hyper-active in November. Constrained inventory and lessened demand continued to keep a lid on sales and prices. Prime properties, priced appropriately and in good locations continue to attract attention but even in multiple offer situations, buyers are less likely to bid aggressively. November's average sale was for 97% of the list price. Pending sales were off 28% from October but were 29% higher than a year ago, a clear indication that demand is healthy.

Only 44 homes were actively listed at the end of November, down 35 units from October's 79 and five from November 2015's 49. Those 44 homes represented only a one month supply, compared to 1.3 months at the end of October and 1.4 months a year ago. Pending sales fell from 61 in October to 44 in November, 28% drop. That was still more sales than went to contract a year ago (34). Closed sales, riding the increase in pending sales the previous three months increased by ten units to 65 in October.

November's median sales price increased slightly, from \$1,015,000 in October to \$1,049,000 in November. November's price was 13% higher than a year earlier. The price per square foot fell 3%, from \$486 in October to \$470 in November. One year ago, homes sold for 100% of the list price, compared to 97% for both October and November of this year. Homes were on the market longer than as they were a year ago as well. November's average sales took 31 days, compared to 33 in October and 19 days in November 2015.



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

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REALTOR®  
(510) 364-9544  
shrenik.parekh@bhgtrivalley.com  
CalBRE# 02018390



**Seth Lopez**  
REALTOR®  
Ruby Hill Office  
(925) 596-1101  
seth.lopez@bhgtrivalley.com  
CalBRE# 02017994



**Yalda Mojaddidy**  
REALTOR®  
(510) 209-2595  
yalda.mojaddidy@bhgtrivalley.com  
CalBRE# 02010412



**Michelle Seabrook**  
REALTOR®  
Ruby Hill Office  
(925) 989-9615  
michelle.seabrook@bhgtrivalley.com  
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*Wishing you a peaceful and joyous holiday!*

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427 Cabonia Court, Ruby Hill  
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**BEAUTIFUL UPDATES**



9 Gold Poppy Court, Danville  
Offered at \$1,299,000

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1457 Whispering Oaks Way, Pleasanton  
Now Offered at \$1,499,000

**PENDING**



572 Neal Street, Pleasanton  
Offered at \$749,000

**SOLD**



1477 Brookline Loop, Pleasanton  
\$1,550,000

**SOLD**



10 Carver Lane, Sunol  
\$3,500,000



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**FREMONT \$6,999,999**

600 Monticello Terrace | 6bd/8.5+ba  
Kelly King | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**PLEASANTON \$5,999,000**

4140 Foothill Road | 5bd/6.5ba  
Emily Barraclough | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**PLEASANTON \$1,899,000**

2157 Cameron Circle | 4bd/3.5ba  
Julia Murtagh | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**LIVERMORE \$1,265,000**

509 Alden Lane | 4bd/3.5ba  
Linda Futral | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**PLEASANTON \$1,195,950**

1050 Harvest Circle | 4bd/2.5ba  
Julie Hansen | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**ALAMEDA \$1,188,000**

1519 Mozart Street | 3bd/3.5ba  
Izabella Lipetski | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**LIVERMORE \$1,185,000**

5673 Moreland Way | 6bd/4ba  
Linda Futral | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**PLEASANTON \$995,000**

4092 Graham Street | 4bd/3ba  
Kris Moxley | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**PLEASANTON \$949,000**

4455 Entrada Drive | 3bd/2ba  
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111  
OPEN SUNDAY 1:30-4:30



**WALNUT CREEK \$888,000**

2165 Youngs Court | 3bd/2ba  
Jo Ann Luisi | 925.251.1111  
BY APPOINTMENT



**LIVERMORE \$690,000**

131 Nadine Street | 3bd/2ba  
Sara Lovett | 925.251.1111  
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



**LIVERMORE \$679,950**

1060 Andalucia Street | 4bd/2ba  
Maureen Nokes | 925.251.1111  
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