

Pleasanton Weekly

'How to Raise an Adult'

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PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

AT HOME ONSTAGE

Pacific Coast Rep celebrating sixth season at Firehouse — and increased 'professional' status
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FINALLY - Straight talk About Sciatica

Are you suffering from back pain or sciatica? Then it's likely your biggest problem is pain. But there's another major problem: bad information.

To end sciatica misery, you must have the right information. Pay close attention because I'm going to destroy sciatica myths and give you the facts.

MYTH: Sciatica will just "go away" with some rest.

FACT: If you are dealing with back pain, buttock pain or leg pain, then you must seek help from a sciatica specialist immediately. Left untreated, sciatica can lead to permanent nerve damage - and lifelong pain.

MYTH: Pain is the only problem associated with sciatica.

FACT: In severe cases, sciatica can be associated with inability to control your bowels or bladder - leading to embarrassing situations.

MYTH: You must take pain medications to deal with sciatica.

FACT: Drugs like muscle relaxants, pain killers, narcotics, antidepressants, and anti-seizure medications have serious potential side-effects and do not cure the root cause of sciatica.

MYTH: "I must have done something wrong to get sciatica."

FACT: Physical work or simply sitting at a desk for long periods can lead to sciatica. Accidents and trauma can also be the culprits. Pregnancy can cause sciatica. Sciatica can affect anyone - including super-fit celebrities like

Tiger Woods, Sylvester Stallone, and British Olympic medalist Ian Wynne.

MYTH: Stop exercising and get several weeks of bed rest to overcome sciatica.

FACT: Staying active can help to relieve sciatic pain and prevent the pain getting worse. Staying inactive in bed could be the worst advice - based on a recent study in the Netherlands.

MYTH: Sciatica requires surgery.

FACT: NO! There's been a huge breakthrough in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain. It's a procedure called Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. The excellent results from this treatment have been published in major medical journals. Success rates are up to 90%.

MYTH: "There's nothing anyone can really do. I'm just stuck with this for the rest of my life."

FACT: With the correct treatment from a healthcare professional who specializes in sciatica, you can find relief from the core cause - and the symptoms.

MYTH: Getting sciatica properly diagnosed is expensive.

FACT: Not true. Intero Chiropractic in Pleasanton is currently offering an initial consultation for **Just \$20.**

Dr. Jerry Hsieh and his team of fully-trained spinal care specialists have helped numerous patients find relief from agonizing back pain and sciatica.

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Patient Narae S. from San Leandro says, "I had pinched nerves and pain in my back and neck. It hurt so much that I couldn't reach up or reach down without sharp pain and walking was hard on my back as well. I attempted to take pain relievers but they did not help. I tell people that Dr. Jerry is a magician. Right after the first treatment my pain was drastically reduced and each time I came with a sore back, the treatments have been really helpful."

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The first step is to secure a thorough examination with one of the specialists



at Intero Chiropractic.

For a free report on "Four Tips to Relieve Your Sciatica Pain", go to www.donewithsciatica.com You can download your report or get it sent by mail - no cost, no obligation.

Call (925)255-5805 to schedule your appointment. Mention this article (CODE: TC20SCSM12h) and Intero will happily reduce their usual consultation fee of \$100 to just \$20!

Only 100 reader consultations are available at this exclusively discounted rate.

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Remember mosquitoes? They're back with the rain

It's still January, but with all the rain, mosquitoes are on the way. And Ryan Clausnitzer, district manager of the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District, is making the rounds at public meetings and in schools warning of the dangers of mosquito-borne diseases in the coming months.



Ryan Clausnitzer

At a recent Pleasanton City Council meeting, Clausnitzer talked about the risks of the West Nile virus and Zika virus caused by mosquito bites and how his agency is working to stop mosquito breeding here.

His 16 full-time staff and six hired on a seasonal basis are already out with a full fleet of vehicles collecting samples from stagnant water locations for larvae of what he calls "one of the most voracious predators of humans on earth" — the *Aedes Aegypti* and *Aedes Albopictus* mosquitoes. They can spread everything from dengue, yellow fever, encephalitis, malaria, dog heartworms and the two most feared viruses, West Nile and Zika.

Clausnitzer said surveillance provides the district with valuable information on what mosquito species are present, when they occur, where they occur, how many there are, and if they are carrying diseases that affect humans. Equally important is the use of surveillance in evaluating the effectiveness of control actions in reducing mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases.

District technicians inspect known mosquito breeding sites on a regular basis. Clausnitzer showed photos of larval surveillance being conducted in Pleasanton by the use of a "dipper," a one-pint cup attached to the end of a stick.

Water is dipped or sampled for the presence of mosquitoes. Samples are examined in the field or laboratory for the abundance, species and life-stage of the mosquitoes found and then this information is compared to historical records and used as a basis for treatment decisions.

Adult mosquito surveillance is done for two primary reasons. First, it allows the technician to

locate new, undiscovered sources of larval breeding, or calls attention to the fact that a known larval breeding source needs to receive closer inspection and treatment.

Second, the collection of live adult mosquitoes is useful for virus testing. Adult populations are sampled using traps for mosquito-borne diseases. The public helps by reporting dead birds that may be tested for West Nile virus infection.

These samples, which can be found in as little as a bottle cap of water in both indoor and outdoor locations, are taken to the district's laboratories in Hayward where technicians inspect the larvae and chart a response.

The dreaded Zika virus was discovered in Florida and, at this point, is the only known area where the virus has been spread domestically. Still, there are many communities in California where the mosquitoes capable of transmitting Zika have been found. Clausnitzer said while the disease has not been spread locally here, hundreds of California residents acquired the virus in 2016 while traveling abroad so he urged people to always protect themselves from mosquito bites wherever they may be.

His advice for Pleasanton residents:

- Inspect your yard regularly and remove any clutter or containers that may hold water.
- If you store water, make sure all containers are tightly covered to keep mosquitoes out.
- Scrub outdoor containers that have held water with hot, soapy water to kill any potential mosquito eggs.
- Wear mosquito repellent when spending time outdoors, and especially if you will be traveling to an area with the Zika virus.

Clausnitzer said that statewide in 2016 a total of 1,283 dead birds, 3,249 mosquito samples, 296 sentinel chickens and 276 humans tested positive for the West Nile virus. Nine human fatalities were reported.

The totals for California's West Nile virus activity are updated weekly and can be found at www.westnile.ca.gov. ■

Editor's note: Jeb Bing's "Around Pleasanton" columns will now run on the second and fourth Fridays of every month.

About the Cover

Joy Sherratt stars as Reno Sweeney in Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre's production of the Cole Porter classic "Anything Goes," directed by David Judson, which opens tomorrow at the Firehouse Arts Center. Photo by Berenice Ku Sullivan. Cover design by Doug Young.

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Now that the drought appears over, has your water usage changed at all?

Sid Gamoji

High school student

Not really. I think it's just a good policy and practice to not waste water, whether we are in a drought or not, because water is a very precious natural resource and should always be conserved.



Jenni Hernandez

High school student

My use of water has not changed at all since we have gotten out of the drought. I still think it is necessary to be really cautious about not wasting water because we have no way of knowing how soon we might be back in a drought again. We should never take anything for granted, so I intend to stay very wise with my water usage.



Nick Ayad

Jeweler apprentice

Yes, a bit. I've been doing more gardening and am much less reluctant about planting things that are not necessarily drought-resistant. The end of the drought has given me a lot more planting possibilities in that regard.



George Ayad

Master jeweler

Not really. I'm in the habit of conserving water whenever and wherever I can. I see no reason to change my habits just because the drought is over for now. Being wasteful just goes against my nature.



Manaal Yunus

High school student

Yes! Now that the drought is over (at least for now), I haven't been quite as careful about keeping my showers very short. I also have been less careful, while washing my face and brushing my teeth, about turning the water faucet off. I've been leaving it on and letting the water run, instead of being really vigilant about turning it off.




—Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Contest winner

Amador Valley High senior Ian Castro won Pleasanton American Legion Post 237's annual youth oratorical contest Saturday at Veterans Memorial Building downtown.

Castro received a \$200 check for his win and now moves on to compete in the district-level competition for a chance to advance all the way to the national contest. Oakland Military Institute students Michael Dang and Bartek Armstrong finished second and third, respectively.

The contest, open to teenagers in ninth through 12th grades, aims to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. It involved an oration (speech without notes) on any aspect of the U.S. Constitution, followed by a discourse on one of a possible four assigned topics.

Unemployment

Alameda County had an unemployment rate of 3.8% last month, among the lowest in the Bay Area.

However, the counties of San Mateo and Marin reported rates of 2.7% and 2.9%. San Francisco reported unemployment of 3%, while Santa Clara County reported unemployment of 3.3%. Sonoma County's unemployment rate was 3.7%.

The highest unemployment rate in any Bay Area county was 5.1% in Solano County.

In other totals, Contra Costa County reported unemployment of 4% while Napa County's unemployment rate was 4.4%.

—Bay City News Service

Affordable units

Applications for one of 38 "below market rent" apartments in the new high-rise buildings near the BART station in Hacienda are being accepted by the city of Pleasanton and Essex Development until Feb. 6.

The pre-application process will determine the screening order and establish a wait-list for the affordable units located in the Galloway development at 5789 Gibraltar Drive.

The units will be available for lease from February through September and will include studios and one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments. Three of the units will be ADA accessible and available for lease by persons with physical disabilities.

All of the affordable units will be reserved for very-low-income tenants only whose household income is not more than 50% of the area median income (AMI) limit.

Applications will be accepted no later than 5 p.m. Feb. 6. Visit gallowaypleasanton.com. ■

Task force starts work on planning downtown changes

'We want a downtown that is active with an engaging pedestrian environment,' consultant says

BY JEB BING
Work to update a 17-year-old plan for downtown Pleasanton began Tuesday night in a meeting room jammed with an enthused public and an invigorated 10-member task force ready to get started.

The task force, led by Mayor Jerry Thorne and Gerry Beaudin, the city's community development director, will look at guidelines already in place for downtown businesses and activities, with a deadline of 18 months to complete its work.

That could include recommendations on height restrictions for downtown buildings, parking lots, downtown housing and land-uses.

The work is expected to include the future uses of acreage now housing the Pleasanton Civic Center, City Hall and public library, which could be moved to a new site in Bernal Community Park.

A possible extension of the downtown area to include the Pleasanton school district headquarters at Bernal Avenue and First Street also will be considered.

In her opening comments, consultant Sophie Martin talked the task force through a series of slides showing recently redeveloped downtowns, including Walnut Creek, San Luis Obispo, Mountain View and Morgan Hill. She included Pleasanton, showing its new downtown

signs directing shoppers to side streets where an increased number of retailers and restaurants are located.

"We want a downtown that is active with an engaging pedestrian environment," she said. "We want a downtown where its uses operate from morning to night."

Beaudin and Martin distributed a 33-page meeting packet that included information on what makes a great downtown. Points made in the packet included keeping downtowns compact in size and compatible in scale.

Downtowns should have a mix of uses to show vitality during the day and evening, managed parking, a distinctive design and good navigability, they said.

Parking problems in downtown Pleasanton will be among the key focuses of the task force. Martin said downtowns should have ample parking, but not too much that would show many empty spaces that might discourage shoppers and diners.

Also important, Martin said, is to have businesses, restaurants, coffee shops and even some entertainment throughout the day, especially late in the day so that downtown's never "an after-work ghost town."

Although downtown bike racks and cycling to downtown have been highlighted, one speaker at Tuesday's meeting said going back to the old

See **DOWNTOWN** on Page 6



A team of 44 students in Foothill High School's entrepreneur program, DECA, combined to take home 147 awards at a recent business and career development competition in San Ramon.

Foothill DECA has best year to date at business/career competition

Students take home 147 awards from San Ramon conference

A team of 44 students in Foothill High School's entrepreneur program, DECA, recently earned dozens of awards at a local business and career development competition.

The high-schoolers collectively brought home 147 awards from the DECA Northern California Career Development Conference, held Jan. 13-15 in San Ramon. It was the program's best performance to date.

Students earned nine first-place awards, 10 second-place awards

and seven third-place awards in the annual event that tested their practical and theoretical skills in management, hospitality, marketing and other business subjects. The 850 participants from schools throughout the region had to give on-the-spot presentations, take exams and present prepared written projects at the conference.

"NorCal was a great learning experience for me," Foothill student Amira Nayyar said in a statement. "I learned a variety of skills in

marketing and business in general through training and competition, and am looking forward to the state competition later this year."

Six Foothill award winners placed in the top three in both their events — Benjamin Chen, Courtney Hartjoy, Saachi Keswani, Raymond Peng, Praveen Ravisankar and David Xu.

Foothill DECA is now preparing for the State Career Development Conference in March. ■

—Julia Reis

Weekly names new editor

Associate editor Jeremy Walsh to succeed founding editor Jeb Bing

BY PLEASANTON WEEKLY STAFF

Jeremy Walsh will begin his new role as editor of the Pleasanton Weekly next Wednesday.

Hired in November 2013 as the online editor for the Danville Express, Walsh was promoted to associate editor of the Pleasanton Weekly and newly rebranded



Jeremy Walsh

DanvilleSanRamon.com in March 2014, managing editorial content for the weekly print edition, editing DanvilleSanRamon.com and its daily Express emails, and covering news in Pleasanton and the San Ramon Valley.

Walsh takes over for the Weekly's founding editor, Jeb Bing, who is retiring from the day-to-day operation but will continue to participate on the editorial board and write his "Around Pleasanton" column twice monthly as editor emeritus.

"We are delighted to have someone like Jeremy, with his local knowledge, enthusiasm and commitment to quality journalism, ready to move into this very important role," said Gina Channell, president of Embarcadero Media's East Bay Division and publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly and

See **NEW EDITOR** on Page 6

Zone 7 to host water rates workshop Monday evening

Meeting scheduled in light of customer concern over bills

By JULIA REIS

At the city of Pleasanton's request, Zone 7 Water Agency officials will host a workshop at 5 p.m. Monday to provide information and answer customers' questions about water rates and the agency's overall function.

Billed an informational meeting on water rates, it will be held at the organization's office at 100 North Canyons Parkway in Livermore.

Osborn Solitei, Zone 7's assistant general manager of finance, will start the workshop with a 30- to 45-minute presentation that will highlight the agency's mission, water supply and funding sources, capital infrastructure needs and method for setting water rates.

He will then open the meeting up

to questions from residents. Representatives from Zone 7's retailers — the cities of Pleasanton and Livermore, Dublin San Ramon Services District and the California Water Service Company — are expected to be on hand for the question-and-answer session.

"We're trying to give an education on the history and background of Zone 7," Solitei said. "(The meeting) was a request from the city of Pleasanton because they got a lot of questions from their residents, so we jointly said, 'Let's hold a workshop.'"

Pleasanton residents have been increasingly complaining to city and Zone 7 officials about their water bills over the last few months. Several speakers at City Council and

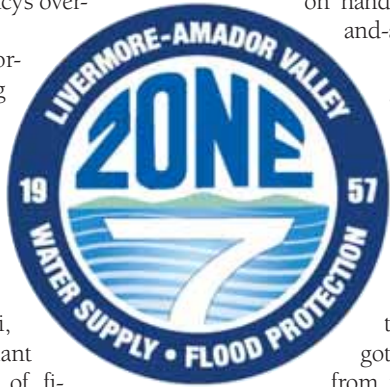
Zone 7 board meetings in December said their bills had increased by 30% or more despite cutting water usage by at least that much since the drought began.

In response, the city of Pleasanton suspended its portion of the automatic consumer price index (CPI) increase on water and sewer rates for 2017.

But Zone 7 customers' water bills have been on the rise since 2016 after the board approved increased wholesale water rates for its retailers for a three-year period in October 2015. The board also approved a temporary drought surcharge in an effort to recoup revenue lost due to water conservation.

Some residents voiced concerns about the rate increase at that time, but the response then was "not like the way it is now," Solitei said.

"No idea," he added, when asked why he thought concern has grown. "That's what we're going to find out Monday." ■



Pandora CPA to open Las Positas College speaker series

Poor, person of color, he succeeded with leap into entrepreneurship

By JEB BING

An Oakland-based certified public accountant will kick off Las Positas College's fifth annual Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series Tuesday, Feb. 7, talking about how he overcame obstacles while growing up in a low-income community.

Entrepreneur Eddy Gramajo, who works at Pandora, an entertainment company, was raised by a single parent who made less than \$10,000 a year. Determined to build a better life for himself and his family, he became the first person in his family to attend and

graduate from college.

He will talk about his venture starting at 6 p.m. in the college's Multi-Disciplinary Building Lecture Hall, Room 2420.

Presented by the college's business studies program, the series is free and open to the public. Parking on the campus costs \$2.

In his presentation, "It's Not About Where You Start, It's Whether You Want to Start at All," Gramajo will talk about being a person of color in business and taking the leap into entrepreneurship.

In 2014, he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in accounting

and business administration from the University of Redlands and landed a job at Deloitte, the largest public accounting firm in the world.

He now works at Pandora on its revenue accounting team and is also co-founder and chief financial officer of Lite App, a personal finance app dedicated to educating millennials about personal finance.

Gramajo has combined his passion for personal finance and serving low-income communities by teaching personal finance classes to this group and also donating his services to help families file their taxes. ■

PUSD accepting bond oversight committee applications

Community members interested in serving on the Pleasanton Unified School District's Measure 11 citizens bond oversight committee can apply now through Feb. 28.

The PUSD is establishing the committee in accordance with the ballot language of the initiative, which says its purpose is to "ensure bond proceeds are expended only for the school projects listed in the bond project list."

Voters resoundingly passed the \$270 million school facilities bond in the November election with a 69.1% approval vote. The initiative needed a 55% majority Yes vote to pass.

Measure 11 imposes a new tax of \$49 per \$100,000 of assessed value on Pleasanton property owners, money that will go toward safety, energy and water improvements, as well as modernized and new school infrastructure. Among the items included on the bond project list are a new elementary school, updated science labs and improved fire alarm systems.

The Measure 11 oversight committee will be comprised of at least seven members, but no more than 10, and will include representatives from these populations:

- One member who is active in a business organization representing the Pleasanton business community.
- One member who is active in a senior citizens' organization.
- One member who is the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in PUSD.
- One member who is active in a bona fide taxpayers' organization.
- One member who is the parent or guardian of a PUSD student and who is active in a parent-teacher organization, such as the PTA or school site council.
- At least two, and no more than five, members selected from the public at-large.

Each member is appointed to a two-year term and cannot serve for more than three consecutive terms.

To apply, submit a letter of qualification and an application to PUSD by Feb. 28. Applications can be obtained from the district website at www.pleasantonusd.net or by stopping by PUSD's business office at 4665 Bernal Ave. Applications can also be picked up from any school site administrative office.

The committee policies and procedures can also be found on the district website. ■

—Julia Reis

NEW EDITOR

Continued from Page 5

DanvilleSanRamon.com.

Walsh began his professional journalism career in late 2010 as a staff reporter for the Lake County Record-Bee in Lakeport, where he worked for nearly three years covering a range of issues including county and city government, courts, police, local business and news features.

He earned a bachelor's degree in communication: journalism from

American University (Washington, D.C.) with minors in mathematics and literature: cinema studies in 2010. He spent a semester in college covering Capitol Hill as an intern reporter for The Durango Herald, based in Durango, Colo.

A Bay Area native, Walsh is a graduate of Benicia High School. He and his wife, Elise, live in Walnut Creek.

Walsh can be reached at jwalsh@pleasantonweekly.com, editor@pleasantonweekly.com or 925-600-0840, ext. 111. ■

DOWNTOWN

Continued from Page 5

days might not work anymore.

"Parents don't feel safe about having their kids on bikes anymore," he said.

The task force will review current guidelines and regulations affecting the downtown area, including design guidelines already in place, recently updated hospitality guidelines that allow bars and restaurants to stay open later on weekends, and historic resources in place to keep the downtown's historic demeanor.

Tuesday's meeting led off with an explanation of the state's Brown Act by city attorney Daniel Sodergren.

He said that as an officially appointed committee by the City Council, members must follow the same rules as other municipal committees, commissions and even the council itself. That means no meetings of a majority of members where task force work is discussed and no group discussions by email.

"Don't hit the 'reply to everyone' key on an email dealing with this task force," he said.

Asked about tweets, he said the jury's still out on how to handle those under the Brown Act guidelines.

He also said that anyone in the public has the right to attend task force meetings, take photos and even to record or shoot videos of the

meetings. Although those attending task force meetings are asked to sign in, they don't have to and can remain anonymous. All documents distributed to task force members must also be made available to the public.

The task force will meet on the fourth Tuesday every month starting March 28. In the meantime, Beaudin and Martin urged members to visit other downtowns, take notes and photos, and then send that information to the city's senior planner Shweta Bonn, who will assemble them for a report at the next meeting.

For more information on the work of the task force and the downtown specific plan, sign on to the project's website at www.ptowndowntown.org. ■



JEB BING

Pleasanton's new Downtown Specific Plan task force holds first meeting Tuesday in city's Operations Service Center, starting a process that could bring changes to the historic commercial and residential district.

TAKE US ALONG



Resting at the beach: After a day of hiking in a Costa Rican rainforest, Andrea, Tessa and Norberto Ruiz returned — with their Pleasanton Weekly in hand to a beautiful, warm beach in Guanacaste, Costa Rica.

To submit your “Take Us Along” entry, email your photo to srhodes@pleasantonweekly.com. Be sure to identify people (names listed from left to right), location, date and any relevant details about where you took your Weekly.

Council updates committee, commission appointments

Vote ratifies mayor’s recommendations

By JEB BING

The Pleasanton City Council has ratified the appointment and re-appointment of members to various city commissions and committees.

The action followed the recommendation of Mayor Jerry Thorne after qualifications were checked and interviews were conducted.

Bicycle Pedestrian and Trails Committee:

- Tom Hall, moved from alternate to regular member
- Kirti Jain, reappointed
- Donald Johnston, reappointed
- Steven McGinnis, reappointed
- David Fisch, appointed as an alternate member.

Civic Arts Commission:

- Judy Wheeler, appointed member
- Johnathan Orenberg, moved from alternate to regular member

- Varsha Nene, appointed an alternate member.

Economic Vitality Committee:

- Kristin Kuse, reappointed, represents a professional services firm
- Shareef Mandavi, appointed a member, representing medical technology.

Energy and Environment Committee:

- Eric Cartwright, appointed member
- Rachel Mundaden, appointed youth member.

Housing Commission:

- Matthew Gaidos, moved from alternate to regular member.

Library Commission:

- Joan Nibert, reappointed member
- Jacob Pawlak, appointed as youth member.

Youth Commission:

- Tess Shotland, appointed as middle school member. ■

Rotary Club awards \$22,200 to 11 nonprofits, programs

Club’s foundation also gives \$30,000 in scholarships, \$15,000 for wheelchairs

Representatives of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton Foundation presented checks last week totaling \$22,200 to 11 different local organizations through its “October Grant” fund.

The October Grant awards went to:

- Hope Hospice, \$2,000
- “Every 15 Minutes” program at Amador Valley High School, \$2,400
- Tri-Valley Haven, \$2,000
- The Arc of Alameda County, \$500
- Axis Community Health, \$500
- Museum on Main, \$700
- Open Heart Kitchen, \$3,100
- Pleasanton school district’s mariachi program, \$2,000

- Rotaplast, \$5,000
- Sunflower Hill, \$2,000
- Valley Humane Society, \$2,000.

Brian Dunkel, foundation president, and Todd Utikal, its secretary, who presented the awards last week, also announced that the organization was awarding \$30,000 in scholarships to Pleasanton high school students and \$15,000 to the Rotary Club of Pleasanton’s Wheelchair Committee.

Members of the committee will use the funds to buy and distribute 250 wheelchairs to those in need in Peru later this year. ■

—Jeb Bing

School board OKs new agreement with teachers union

APT contract includes one-time compensation

By JULIA REIS

The Pleasanton school board has signed off on a three-year collective bargaining agreement between the school district and the Association of Pleasanton Teachers.

The contract with the teachers’ union is effective retroactively from July 1 through June 30, 2019. The previous agreement between the district and union expired at the end of June.

As part of the new deal, each member will receive one-time

payment equal to 0.85% of their annual salary.

Other highlights include a new salary schedule for school psychologists that features five additional work days, new stipends for nurses and other staff, and a one-class-per-specialist ratio for music and physical education teachers.

At the Jan. 17 school board meeting, APT president Janice Clark encouraged trustees to approve the collective bargaining agreement, which she called

“critical for improving services for our students.”

“But due to funding shortages, (the agreement) lacks a raise on salary scale for our teachers,” Clark added. “As demands and workloads increase, funding falls short.”

The 2017-18 school year calendar was also approved as a part of the agreement. Like this year, students will start school in mid-August, with first semester high school final exams scheduled before winter break. ■



TROOP 941

That’s a lot of trees

Pleasanton Boy Scouts Troop 941 collected more than 1,000 trees — weighing in at over 15 tons — as part of its annual Christmas tree recycling service project and fundraiser Jan. 7. On the Saturday that started wet and windy, 32 Scouts and many parent volunteers picked up the trees from homes that signed up and took them to the Pleasanton Garbage Service transfer station to be turned into mulch. The fundraiser generated more than \$9,400 for the troop, which will use the funds to pay for camping equipment and scouting activities.

PLEASANTON
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

“Applications Requested for Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee”

The Pleasanton Unified School District seeks community members for the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee, Measure 11 for school and classroom safety renovation, construction and modernization.

Interested parties please submit a letter of qualification and application. **The deadline is February 28, 2017.**

Applications are available at the Pleasanton Unified School District Business Office, 4665 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94566 or by calling (925)426-4307, or email: pvanlooy@pleasantonusd.net, mochoa@pleasantonusd.net, or www.pleasantonusd.net, and are available at all school site administrative offices.



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www.facebook.com/pleasantonweekly

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

PPD: Teen playing game with toy gun mistaken for burglar

Pleasanton law enforcement and school officials are urging parents to talk to their children about the "Assassin" game after two teenagers playing the game were recently mistaken for burglars.

The incident occurred shortly after 3 p.m. Jan. 19 in the 6900 block of Via Quito, where a resident called 9-1-1 to report a male with what she described as an orange tool trying to open up a neighbor's garage and side gate, according to Pleasanton police School Resource Officer Marty Billdt.

"(The neighbor) said it looked like a tool to enter a house, and it wasn't a weapon, but she was not sure," Billdt said.

The neighbor also observed a BMW driving slowly around the neighborhood.

The resident then told the emergency dispatcher that the male outside her neighbor's house had just been hiding behind a trash can but was no longer visible. She believed he had gone behind the gate and into the backyard, Billdt said.

"Now it sounds like we have a

residential burglary in progress," he said.

Pleasanton police sent multiple officers to the neighborhood to set up a perimeter and search for suspects. As they reached the area, the neighbor on the 9-1-1 call reported the male on foot was now walking on the sidewalk with the tool-like object, looking around.

As he was walking, the BMW that had been driving around the neighborhood stopped to pick him up, according to Billdt.

Officers recognized the BMW from the neighbor's description in the 9-1-1 call and ordered the teen driver out at gunpoint before his companion got in the car, Billdt said.

The two boys, both Pleasanton high school seniors, were handcuffed and detained on the sidewalk.

"Officers found out they were playing this game, and they were trying to ambush one of their 'targets,'" Billdt said. "The 'orange tool' was a Nerf gun with foam darts."

In the game, which officials say is being played by Foothill and Amador Valley students, teams of seniors are assigned "targets" whom they have to "assassinate" using toy Nerf type guns that fire foam darts.

Each participant pays an entry fee and after several rounds of play over months, the last person standing is declared the winner and gets a pot of cash, according

to Pleasanton Sgt. Julie Fragomeli. There are additional rules governing the type of weapon used, times and locations where participants can be "assassinated," and other facets of the game.

The teens in this case were playing as participants characteristically do, by driving and lurking around to sneak up on someone — behavior that got them mistaken for residential burglars.

The boys were ultimately released after officers corroborated their story and confirmed no crime had occurred. Billdt said the police department notified the boys' parents and would take no further action.

But the incident raised concerns among school staff and police.

"Participants do not think about how their behavior is being viewed or interpreted by community members who see people with potentially dangerous weapons, often chasing others on foot or in vehicles, and surprising their 'targets' in stores or at their homes," Fragomeli said in a statement.

"Unfortunately, our students are engaging in behavior that has possible dire consequences," she added. "Thus far we have been fortunate to have avoided a serious injury or situation, but there is significant concern that day is coming."

She added that such false alarm calls also take significant time and resources of emergency personnel,

and that students will face disciplinary action if they are found to be playing the game on campus.

"The Pleasanton Police Department and the Pleasanton Unified School District urge students to consider the potential ramifications of their behavior and to avoid playing this game," Fragomeli said. "To the parents of participants and high school aged children: please have a serious and candid conversation with your children about the very real dangers of this behavior."

In other police news

• The Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office is reviewing the case and considering whether to file charges against Yarenit Lilitiana Malihan, the Pleasanton resident arrested on suspicion of felony DUI and gross vehicular manslaughter after a crash on Interstate 680 in San Ramon in September that killed a toddler.

The DA's office received the California Highway Patrol's final investigation Monday, spokeswoman Bobbi Mauler confirmed Tuesday. She said it would be "at least a week or two" before a filing decision would be made.

CHP public information officer Derek Reed said earlier this month that its investigation was waiting on a report from the coroner before it could be finalized.

According to the CHP's initial crash

report, Malihan's Toyota Sequoia slammed into the back of a black Toyota Camry parked on the shoulder of northbound I-680 near Bollinger Canyon Road, killing 3-year-old Elijah Dunn on Sept. 9. The 3-year-old's mother also suffered major injuries in the crash, and his brother and sister sustained minor injuries.

Malihan was treated for minor injuries and then arrested by CHP officers and booked into jail following a drug recognition test. She was released on bail the next day.

The CHP said at the time that Malihan had a valid driver's license and no prior DUI convictions — though it later came to light that she had another DUI case pending.

Malihan, who is married to an Alameda County Sheriff's deputy, recently resolved the separate misdemeanor DUI case, which stemmed from a June incident in Pleasanton in which she reportedly drove while intoxicated with her daughter in the car.

She was sentenced in Alameda County Superior Court to three years probation, with 106 days credit for time served in jail, after pleading no contest to misdemeanor DUI and child cruelty. She was also required to pay roughly \$2,200 in fines and ordered to take online parenting classes, according to court records. ■

—Julia Reis

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Jan. 21

Vandalism

■ 9:18 p.m. on the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

DUI

■ 1:38 a.m. at Johnson Drive and Stoneridge Drive

Commercial burglary

■ 4:40 a.m. on the 4700 block of Hopyard Road

Thefts

■ 11:39 a.m., 3100 block of Santa Rita Road; bicycle theft

■ 2:06 p.m., 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 3:07 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 5:43 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Warrant arrest

■ 10:10 a.m. on the 900 block of Sycamore Road

Jan. 20

Embezzlement

■ 11:53 a.m. on the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Burglary

■ 12:19 p.m. on the 2400 block of Via de los Milagros

■ 10:10 p.m. on the 5900 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Theft from auto

■ 9:04 p.m. on the 6600 block of Owens Drive

Child abuse

■ 3:32 p.m. on Genovesio Drive

Vandalism

■ 4:18 p.m. on the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive

■ 4:34 p.m. on the 200 block of Rose Avenue

■ 11:34 p.m. on the 7000 block of Commerce Circle

Jan. 19

Theft

■ 9:52 a.m., 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

■ 10:33 a.m., 4400 block of Hacienda Drive; theft from auto

■ 11:06 a.m., 600 block of Palomino Drive; auto theft

■ 5:38 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 9:42 p.m., 7700 block of Canyon Meadows Circle; theft from auto

Residential burglary

■ 9:29 a.m. on the 4500 block of Second Street

Graffiti

■ 2:51 p.m. on the 900 block of Main Street

Alcohol violation

■ 1:14 a.m. on the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue

Jan. 18

Theft

■ 7:29 a.m., 1300 block of Brookline Loop; theft from auto

■ 11:48 a.m., 2700 block of Stoneridge Drive; auto theft

Alcohol violation

■ 4:35 p.m. on the 5200 block of Hopyard Road

■ 6:05 p.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

Jan. 17

Vehicle tampering

■ 9:29 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

DUI

■ 8:29 p.m. at Hopyard Road and Gibraltar Drive

Residential burglary

■ 7:35 p.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Shoplifting

■ 1:27 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

■ 5:51 p.m. on the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 9:50 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Thefts

■ 1:28 p.m. on the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 2:37 p.m., 6000 block of Johnson Drive; theft from auto

Join our team!

Seeking passionate, experienced journalist

Pleasanton Weekly

The Pleasanton Weekly is seeking an enthusiastic and talented staff reporter with previous journalism experience working in print and digital news environments. The reporter will cover and edit stories ranging from meetings to breaking news to features for our award-winning print and digital publications.

Beyond excellent reporting and writing skills, a bachelor's degree in journalism or a related field, previous experience in a newsroom setting, demonstrated news judgment and the ability to prioritize tasks and handle stress of daily deadlines and multiple priorities are required. The ability to deliver clean, vibrant copy while working to very tight deadlines is crucial. Photography skills, social media and copy editing experience are a plus. The candidate must also be able to work the required hours, which include some night assignments and occasional weekend hours.

This is a full-time position based at our Pleasanton office with benefits including medical/dental, a 401(k) plan, vacation and holiday pay. This is the East Bay Division of Embarcadero Media Group and includes the Pleasanton Weekly, PleasantonWeekly.com and DanvilleSanRamon.com.

Send resume and clips that show a variety of work to Gina Channell, publisher, gchannell@embarcaderomediagroup.com, by 8 a.m. Jan. 27. No calls please. EOE.

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Pressing for answers, media comes under attack

The news media is under attack, on a national and local level. The Trump administration declared war on the press less than 48 hours after the inauguration, with the new press secretary, Sean Spicer, all but calling journalists and news organizations liars when they reported about attendance at the inauguration.

Saturday, President Donald Trump speaking at the CIA said, "I have a running war with the media." He has demeaned and belittled journalists. He has ordered some government agencies to stop posting about certain topics and information on social media. Since the beginning of his campaign, he has tried to de-legitimize the press as a whole.

The lack of respect for the Fourth Estate is appalling. First Amendment advocates are nervous. The American Civil Liberties Union put out a statement vowing any threats to freedom of the press by the Trump White House would be met with a "vigorous defense" of the First Amendment.

The Pleasanton Weekly was also attacked last week, but in a more subtle manner.

At a City of Pleasanton Economic Vitality Committee meeting Jan. 19, Pleasanton school board trustee Jamie Hintzke encouraged a group of business people and community leaders to stop advertising in the Pleasanton Weekly.

Hintzke, who was just narrowly re-elected to the board in November, said our Jan. 13 editorial — which asked the board for answers about the sudden and unexplained termination of the district's superintendent of six months — was inflammatory, injurious to the community and written solely to incite trouble.

Within minutes of the meeting's adjournment, attendees were calling us to report that Hintzke "tried to kill the Weekly," as one person put it.

In an email response to our request for a comment, Hintzke said she "made a statement out of frustration about the Pleasanton Weekly and recent articles about the Board and District."

"These statements are in no way a reflection of the Pleasanton School Board's position and I truly apologize," she continued.

Hintzke wanted to assure us she did not suggest an advertising boycott, which would, in essence, be an attempt to staunch the lifeblood of the newspaper that is asking questions, seeking truth and trying to hold elected officials accountable.

She said at the end of the committee meeting she told Realtors in the group that if she were a Realtor she "would reconsider placing ad space in the Weekly."

Maybe it's just us, but we don't see the difference in intent.

Most news organizations — including this one — are businesses. In that way, we are very much like small businesses on Main Street in downtown.

But unlike most other small businesses, a newspaper is a public trust with a responsibility to ask tough questions, protect public interest and create public awareness. People feel the local newspaper belongs to them and that it is a right to have the coverage. But, at the end of the day, we still have bills to pay. Without our advertisers we would not exist.

It is no secret that the business model of newspapers has changed, and news organizations are and have been struggling financially for at least the past decade.

There is no substitute for local news, and there are costs associated with paying trained, professional journalists. When you add those costs to expenses such as printing and mailing, rent and salaries for support staff, the cost to run a community newspaper is substantial.

Indeed, loss of advertising dollars from "reconsidered ad space" would weaken or stop our coverage of important issues, like a ballot measure dividing a city, a local election, increased water rates or the abrupt and unexplained firing of a recently hired schools superintendent.

It would make life much easier for a handful of people if the Weekly would cease to exist.

Remember, though, that a strong and healthy press — locally and nationally — is imperative to the strength and health of a community and a country. Journalism comes at a price, but we believe citizens would pay a much higher price without it. ■

LETTERS

Correct Owens Drive mistake

Dear Editor,

We all love the beautiful town of Pleasanton for its respected characteristics of combining rich history and tradition with orderly and rational development. But the reduction of the Owens Drive lanes from three to one right next to the BART station is a notorious example opposite to all the common sense and values that I can think of.

As a mother of a teenager, I find it my duty to petition the expansion of lanes to three again because otherwise it will be hypocritical and I would never be able to look at my teenage daughter or teach her about value again. It is under our own eyes that the three lanes were reduced to one; the mistake being so obvious yet unnoticed. Are we going to correct our wrongdoings as soon as possible, or are we going to wait?

Come on residents, Pleasanton City Council members, your daughters and sons are watching you for your every move. You are their role models. We are all watching.

—Sophie Li

Thank you for Holiday Fund donation

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and advisers for Sunflower Hill, I want to extend our sincere thanks to The Pleasanton Weekly and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation for the wonderful 2016 Holiday Fund.

We were honored to be included with the other great organizations making such a significant difference in Pleasanton.

The funds will not only support our new residential communities, Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch in Pleasanton as well as Sunflower Hill Livermore, but also Sunflower Hill Gardens at Hagemann Ranch, allowing us to continue providing horticulture opportunities and vocational training for local high school special needs/transition classes.

We are very grateful. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

—Susan Houghton
President, Board of Directors
Sunflower Hill

YOUR TURN

The Pleasanton Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or issues of local interest.

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words and guest opinion pieces up to 500 words with a short bio to editor@PleasantonWeekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

For more information, call us at (925) 600-0840.



WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES

Human Services Commission

Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Discuss Evaluation Process and Meeting Format for the FY 2017-18 Housing and Human Services Grant Program Review
- City Council 2017-2018 Two-Year Work Plan Prioritization Process

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

Pleasanton commits to raising successful adults



Julie Lythcott-Haims, author of "How to Raise an Adult," will be the keynote speaker at a special event of the city's Community Education Series.

ONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Workshop to feature parenting author as keynote speaker

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Julie Lythcott-Haims was dean of freshmen at Stanford University in the late '90s when she noticed a curious trend.

"Some of our undergraduates would show up with their parents at sessions designed for students, and the parents would ask questions: 'How do we do this?' 'What about that?'" she recalled.

She remembers poking fun at them.

But during the next few years, the number of parents involved in the day-to-day management of life for their college students increased, and she became alarmed at the trend. She wrote an op-ed for the Chicago Tribune in 2005 titled: "When did caring become control? Blame Boomers."

The piece speaks to the irony that baby boomers were interested in their own self-actualization but when they went on to parenting, they denied their children the right to self-actualize.

"My concern mounted as more and more freshmen became unable to do tasks that college students should be able to do," Lythcott-Haims said. "They were sending papers home to be edited by their parents — which is both unethical and problematic."

A woman whose daughter was going to be studying abroad in her junior year wanted to know when the orientation session was for parents.

"The kids were not mortified — that's how I knew we had a problem," Lythcott-Haims said. "Somehow we were breeding the hunger for

independence out of our children.

"These kids are grateful. They look up to their parents, they count them as heroes. It is 'attachment parenting,'" she continued. "They have a very loving childhood but basically haven't hungered to separate, and it is natural to separate."

Lythcott-Haims began to research the phenomenon, and in 2012 enrolled at California College of the Arts and wrote her book, "How to Raise an Adult: Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare your Kid for Success." She will be keynote speaker at a workshop in Pleasanton on Feb. 4, at a special event of the city's free Community Education Series.

Lythcott-Haims cited five factors in the 1980s that conspired to change childhood:

1. "Stranger danger" was born in 1983 when a movie was made for TV about the kidnapping and murder of 6-year-old Adam Walsh. Statistics lumped together kidnapping by strangers and parents and incidents of runaways, alarming parents who began to fear their children might be snatched away at any time.
2. The playdate became popular in 1984, and organized after-school activities were on the rise. Parents began managing their children's play and hovering over it, wanting it to be enriching.
3. The self-esteem movement caught on in California, with rewards being given for just showing up to be on a team. Parents no longer just attended their children's recitals but also rehearsals. Children didn't go anywhere alone.
4. In the early to mid-'80s, car seat and bike helmet laws were enacted as parents became enamored of their ability to control the environment and bought into the notion that the whole house could be baby-proofed.
5. The 1983 report of President Ronald Reagan's commission of education published "A Nation at Risk," asserting that American teens weren't faring well and needed more testing and teaching to the test.

These five factors do mean some wins, Lythcott-Haims acknowledged.

"We do protect them from hurt feelings or a bruised knee," she said. "But it is a short-term win with a long-term cost. They feel incompetent."

"When we intervene, we are depriving kids of healthy development, of self-efficacy," Lythcott-Haims explained. "The foundational element of the human

psyche says, 'I know I exist because I know my actions have consequences: I do therefore I am. When I act, there is an outcome.' If you don't know you exist, if you are fragile as an existential being, you have higher rates of anxiety and depression."

After her book came out 18 months ago, Lythcott-Haims began to share her message with parents in affluent communities throughout the Bay Area and all over the country. The Feb. 4 workshop in Pleasanton will be a different type of presentation, with her talk followed by breakout sessions.

"The Pleasanton community said, 'We don't just want to have you talk to us — we want to interrogate ourselves,'" Lythcott-Haims said. "They know it is a trend that needs reversing, that we are harming our kids."

"I'm excited," she added. "I've only been to a handful of places that have really taken it on as a community commitment."

Lythcott-Haims does not consider herself a parenting expert but says her work is about helping humans thrive. She also wants to debunk the myth that students must be admitted to elite colleges to have a successful life, and her online "Ted Talk" on the subject has reached more than 2 million people.

"It's a terribly constricted mindset," she said. "Where you go is not who you will be."

She said she is known for her blunt style and tries to engage the audience because parents are hurting and stressed.

"To be in my audience is to have an experience," Lythcott-Haims said. "Sometimes I really hit it, and they laugh and gasp and cry. If they are laughing, I know they are listening." ■

Preparing kids for success

What: Workshop on "How to Raise an Adult"

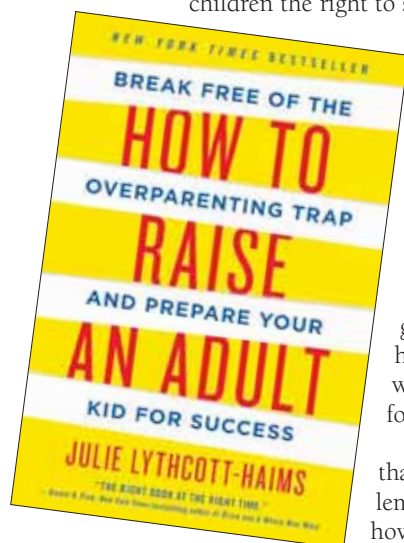
Who: Keynote speaker Julie Lythcott-Haims

When: Check-in 8:30-9 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 4, ends at noon.

Where: Hart Middle School, 4433 Willow Road

To attend: Free; go to Pleasantonfun.com and register for Course 64356.

Other: "How to Raise an Adult" will be for sale at the event or ahead of time at Towne Center Books.



Temirzhan Yerzhanov and Klara Frei will perform at the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council fundraising concert next weekend.



COURTESY PCAC

World-class pianists to perform with youth orchestra

Concert is fundraiser for arts in Pleasanton schools

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

What happens when a 10-year-old violinist is paired up with virtuoso pianists?

Find out at this year's third annual classical benefit concert for Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council — "Four Hands and a Baton."

World-renowned pianists Temirzhan Yerzhanov and his wife Klara Frei will perform Schubert, Schumann and Mendelssohn in the opening half of the concert. The two met at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory and have performed

throughout Europe and the United States.

Yerzhanov has appeared in the classical fundraiser for PCAC with Pleasanton pianist Tamriko Siphshvili for the past two years.

The second half of the concert will open with Mozart's La Clemenza di Tito Overture, performed by Orchestra Gradus ad Parnassum, children 10-18 years old who regularly practice and perform with professional musicians. Yerzhanov will conduct the piece, then music director Imant Aira will take the baton

as Yerzhanov, Frei and the orchestra perform the Pleasanton premiere of Leopold Kozeluch's Concerto in B flat major, one of only three concertos in the world written for piano four hands.

Yerzhanov is artistic director for Gradus ad Parnassum; Aira is music director. Students audition each February or March for the orchestra, which practices in Dublin and performs on big concert stages. Students come from Fremont to Walnut Creek as well as the Tri-Valley.

"Four Hands and a Baton" will take place at 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Purchase tickets at www.firehousearts.org, call 931-4848 or go to the Firehouse box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

The concert benefits arts in the Pleasanton schools. For more information, visit pleasantonarts.org. ■

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AT HOME ONSTAGE

Pacific Coast Rep celebrating sixth season at Firehouse — and increased 'professional' status

STORY BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI
PHOTOS BY BERENICE KU SULLIVAN

Amy Franklin Leonards as Marian the librarian sings "Goodnight my Someone" with Felicia Chang as Amaryllis in "The Music Man," produced by Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre in May 2014.

Joy Sherratt stars as Roxie in Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre's first season production of "Chicago."

The 221-seat theater at the Firehouse Arts Center may be small, but it is mighty. And its resident professional theater company — Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre — knows how to take advantage of the space.

"What I love about it is we can create such an intimate experience for the audience and the performers," said artistic associate Joy Sherratt, a co-founder of PCRT. "We can encompass the whole stage.

"You have to be creative, but I believe it gives us the opportunity to take some of these shows and reinvent them — and give the audience a new experience," she continued.

"Audiences always leave surprised and excited."

PCRT co-founder David Judson agreed.

"Many directors have chosen to extend the set and experience in to the audience areas," he noted. "For example, in one of our first shows, the musical 'Cabaret,' we had cabaret tables with candles and champagne on stage right and left that patrons had the opportunity to buy."

The troupe is in the sixth season of sharing its talents and enthusiasm with Pleasanton.

"We are a collective of artists that genuinely enjoy it — these ensemble casts come alive," Judson said.

He was ecstatic to report recently that officials from Actors' Equity Association, the union for professional

actors and stage managers, had flown from Hollywood a few months before to watch rehearsals.

"More importantly, they came up here to acknowledge and award us with a plaque recognizing us as the newest professional theater company," Judson said. "We are now one of just eight recognized professional companies north of San Luis Obispo."

The prestigious award means that those in the Actors' Equity Association Membership Candidacy program can earn points in PCRT productions toward qualifying, which takes 52 weeks of performing in professional theater.

"This award/recognition was the culmination of a lot of hard work, successful productions with AEA actors, and negotiations with this union," Judson said. "This really raises the stakes at the Firehouse for professional theater moving forward. There will now be more AEA actors than ever in these shows."

Pleasanton was just building the Firehouse Arts Center, to open in September 2010, when Judson, Sherratt, Pat Parr and Scott Maraj began to toss around the idea of forming a resident professional theater group. They were all active in Bay Area theater, and had started Golden State Theatre Productions in Castro Valley, where Judson teaches high school drama. But they wanted to bring professional theater to their hometown of Pleasanton.

"Scott has business savvy, Joy and I are actors and teachers, Pat was the

music guy," Judson said. "We called up Pleasanton's civic arts manager, Andy Jorgensen, and said, 'We have something for you.'"

After a PowerPoint presentation and a sample performance, they made their pitch to the Pleasanton City Council and agreed to entertain at the grand-opening.

"It was fast forward from there," Judson said.

Due to its new professional designation, PCRT now receives world premiere script offers, as well as tryout submissions from actors and actresses across the country.

"That all being said, we will always try and feature up-and-coming actors and actresses from the city and the region," Judson said.

Amador Valley High School grad Josselyn O'Neil, who studied theater and music at Chapman University and is in the Equity candidacy program, starred as Eliza Doolittle in "My Fair Lady" in November.

"There are a lot of talented people that are wanting to make theater special in Pleasanton," Judson said. "We started with a nucleus of professional artists, people who were genuinely dedicated to professional theater — and not their egos."

Pleasanton recreation supervisor Rob Vogt, who is in charge of the Firehouse Arts Center and the Amador Theater, said the city had hoped for a resident theater company when planning began





“Singin’ in the Rain” in November 2014 used special lighting effects for a rainy day appearance.

for the Firehouse. Staff members approached TheatreWorks on the peninsula, whose board was intrigued but didn’t see how it could work, given the small size of the theater. Pleasanton also considered touring companies before PCRT made its proposal.

Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre has worked out beautifully, Vogt said, and the city is lucky to have the partnership.

“It’s easier when you develop a relationship with a company, you know how they work and what to expect,” he said. “It makes it a little easier on us.”

“They’re becoming more and more popular with each season, and now that they have

this new status with Actors’ Equity Association, that’s really a great stamp of approval,” he added.

Audiences have been positive in surveys at shows, and even the world premiere of “Enchanted April” last season sold around 65% of its tickets for nine performances.

“For a brand-new musical, that’s pretty good,” Vogt noted.

He pointed out that the size of the Firehouse Theater means a unique experience for the audience as they are close to the action. He said PCRT rises to the challenge, even for productions usually performed on larger stages.

“It never ceases to amaze me how they can squeeze it into our space,” Vogt said, “and our tech guys have been able to work with their tech crew. It’s been good.”

He laughed recalling the staging of “Singin’ in the Rain” in 2014.

“Initially they came to us saying, ‘We want to use real water.’ In these drought conditions, I could not authorize that,” Vogt said.

The technicians ended up using sound and light to produce the effect of rain.

“That’s the challenge but that’s the beauty of theater — when you think about all that goes into it — set design, lighting design, costumes, all these pieces and parts you have to mesh to pull off a production,” Vogt said.

“They hang the set, refocus the light, the actors experience the set, then you give them costumes, give them props, layering on different production

elements until finally you have a finished product — and it’s pretty amazing.”

Artistic associate Sherratt, who grew up in Alameda, has been a member of Equity as long as Judson, about 18 years. After college, she signed a six-month contract to perform on cruise ships to save money before moving to New York.

“We had five shows, of varying lengths and themes,” she recalled. “It was fun onboard. Sometimes it was so rocky we had to modify what we did — it was always an adventure, every time we did the show.”

She was working in New York on Sept. 11, 2001, and said the World Trade Center attack impacted the theater industry for almost two years. She moved to Los Angeles, but when she reconnected with a former boyfriend, she returned to the Bay Area. She was

soon cast as Laurie in “Oklahoma” in Judson’s and Parr’s new Golden State Theatre Productions in Castro Valley.

“Now we live in Pleasanton, and David always had this thing to bring community theater to this community,” she said.

Sherratt was excited about new opportunities to perform, direct and choreograph in her hometown. She is starring as Reno Sweeney in the Cole Porter classic “Anything Goes,” which opens tomorrow, directed by Judson.

Casting director Amy Franklin Leonards says what is unique about PCRT is that it is 100% a team effort.

“I think that really makes a huge difference,” she said. “Everyone feels valued and important and appreciated. It’s huge. Emails are going out saying, ‘This is the best cast ever.’ It’s been true for every single production; they are so careful in how they cast.”

Judson agrees this is the goal.

“In our productions, we are all the star, we are all equal. This creates a team feeling. That’s why our actors are successful,” he said.

Leonards has starred in PCRT productions as well as elsewhere across the country.

“My first show with them as an actress was ‘A Chorus Line,’ in 2011. I played Maggie. And I was Marian the librarian in ‘The Music Man,’” she said. “When they were looking for a new casting director, I thought I would give that part of the industry a try.”

Leonards is from New Orleans, where she began her career. She worked in Los Angeles for a few years but moved to the Bay Area when she married.

Although her first love is performing, she said that casting director meshes

‘When we started, our goal was to become a professional theater — mission accomplished.’

David Judson,
PCRT co-founder



From top: David Judson as Professor Harold Hill in Pacific Coast Rep’s May 2014 production of “The Music Man.” PCRT performs “A Chorus Line” in late January 2013, the company’s third season. Dan Kapler stars as Teyve in “Fiddler on the Roof” in spring 2015.

See **PCRT** on Page 14

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COVER STORY



David Judson as Billy Flynn and a bevy of beauties perform "All I Care about is Love" in Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre's first season production of "Chicago" in late summer 2011.

PCRT

Continued from Page 13

better with her role as a mom to Emma, 7, and Noah, 5.

"Time is very important to me — a show affects the whole family so I try to find a balance," she said.

PCRT was also attractive because of its professional timeline of rehearsing for three weeks, then performing the show for three weekends.

"As a professional, you're going to get it done," Leonards said. "Everybody was easy to work with."

As casting director, Leonards organizes auditions and callbacks, which can be challenging as PCRT now receives applications from actors across the country as well as throughout the Bay Area. The casting decisions are made by the director and choreographer, she explained, but she is responsible for getting the word out on auditions.

"I post announcements on Theatre Bay Area (which serves more than 300 theater companies and 2,900 members), and Equity has a hot line," Leonards said.

"We all know somebody who can play the part, but at the same time I'm so protective to making sure everything is done ethically and correct, with casting and auditions," she added. "It takes weeks to finalize; it's a big juggling act. We have wonderful options because there are so many talented people out there."

Leonards is excited about the new Equity status because actors now can begin their careers in PCRT productions.

"That might be a little more comfortable than having to make a link to New York," she said. "We are able to provide professional opportunities to build your resume and experience."

The Bay Area is rich with theater, Leonards said, and "tons of regional commercials are shot in the area." She has been in several, including a couple with her children.

"I've decided to have a marriage and children, and I have not had to sacrifice that. I still work professionally and the Bay Area has provided that for me," she said.

'In our productions, we are all the star, we are all equal.'

David Judson,
Director, 'Anything Goes'

Judson also said raising his family in Pleasanton was a driving force in founding PCRT.

"It really helped that I was already performing all over the Bay Area," he said. "But I love my wife and kids — I like to stay local."

His wife Kristie, a dentist, performed with him in Pleasanton Playhouse (now Tri-Valley Rep) shows, plus plays the piano.

Judson said PCRT gets submissions from writers every few weeks, and he, Sherratt and Leonards read the scripts and discuss them.

"We have four or five we are considering right now," Judson said.

When one is promising, he will host a reading at his house with actors and music directors to get feedback.

Last season, after PCRT performed the premiere of "Enchanted April," it was picked up by the Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization, one of four major companies that control the rights to musicals and plays. This means "April" is likely headed to New York and other regional companies.

PCRT's 2016-17 season now

underway includes a new world premiere slated for summer 2017, as well as last November's "My Fair Lady," "Anything Goes," which opens tomorrow, and "Evita" in the spring.

Judson said he is pleased that PCRT is able to keep ticket prices in check at \$30-\$40, thanks to support by the city, although Vogt said ticket prices will go up \$1 this season.

"People in Pleasanton don't want to be near San Francisco pricing," Judson said. "We are a nonprofit. The idea is to break even."

Judson said as PCRT continues its sixth season, the question is, where does it go from here?

"When we started, our goal was to become a professional theater — mission accomplished. Now how do we raise our brand to the next level?" he asked.

He noted that the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego is a feeder house for Broadway shows.

"If we decide to take it to that level, another five years down the road, we want it robust enough to be able to," he said.

To learn more about Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre and its upcoming shows, visit pcrtproductions.org. ■

Coming soon!

What: "Anything Goes," music and lyrics by Cole Porter

Who: Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre

When: Jan. 28 to Feb. 12

Where: Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave.

Tickets: \$19-\$40; for info go to firehousearts.org, call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Banner week for Foothill girls soccer

Dons wrestle to win over Granada, 5th place in Overfelt Classic

It was a banner week for the Foothill girls soccer team, as the Falcons swept the town of Danville, taking out both San Ramon Valley and Monte Vista last week.

The week started off with the Falcons playing host to San Ramon Valley and coming away with a hard-fought 2-1 win.

Foothill came out strong against SRV, playing some of its best soccer this season in the first half. With improved ball possession and movement along with a strong work rate from the team, Foothill took a 2-0 lead into the second half.

The Falcons got an own-goal from the Wolves for one of their goals, with the second one coming from Tami Kwong off a pass from Sarah Broacha.

Foothill's team effort held SRV to only one shot on goal in the first half. As expected, SRV adjusted and increased their intensity level, putting pressure on the Falcons back line throughout the second half.

The Falcons were up to the task until the last 10 minutes when SRV scored to close the gap. Foothill then held off the Wolves to secure the 2-1 win in a tough, physical match with limited opportunities for both teams.

Foothill followed up that solid win with a come-from-behind, 3-2 victory at Monte Vista.

The victory pushed the Falcons to a tie for second place in the very difficult East Bay Athletic League.

The Mustangs came into the

match on an eight-game unbeaten streak and showed their quality in the first half, taking a 1-0 lead off a set piece midway through the half.

Foothill went toe-to-toe with the Mustangs but were not able to generate enough scoring chances in the first half. The second half began to swing toward the Falcons, even though the Mustangs extended their lead with a swift counter-attack and score with 20 minutes to play.

Foothill continued to fight and put pressure on the Mustangs, with Broacha finally scoring off a cross with 15 minutes left to play. Soon after this score, Makenna Densmore made a run from the right side and laced a shot past the keeper to knot the match 2-2 with 10 minutes to play.

With the momentum now squarely with the Falcons, Ariana Nino finished off the comeback with a shot from distance off a set piece with five minutes remaining.

The last five minutes turned out to be frantic, with two yellow cards issued against the Falcons and several foul calls, giving the Mustangs quality scoring chances. The Falcons stayed strong and gritted out the final minutes to bring home the win and complete the successful week.

Wrestling

The Amador Valley wrestling team won against a very tough Granada team at Amador last week, beating the Mats 30-23.

There were several close matches,

but Amador came out on top. Notable wins included Donovan Lucente (108), Tyler Self (122), Tyler Bonitz (128), Gabe Alviar (134) Tyler Kline (147).

Then on Saturday, the team headed down to San Jose for the prestigious 53rd annual Overfelt Classic Tournament.

The Dons came away with a fifth-place overall finish out of 47 teams. Overall team champion was state-ranked Gilroy High School. Place winners included: Brody Kiehn (eighth, 128), Alviar (sixth, 134), Kline (fifth, 140), Cameron Ghoddoucy (first, 154), Jacob Lum (first, 162) and Jake Perlman (fifth, 184).

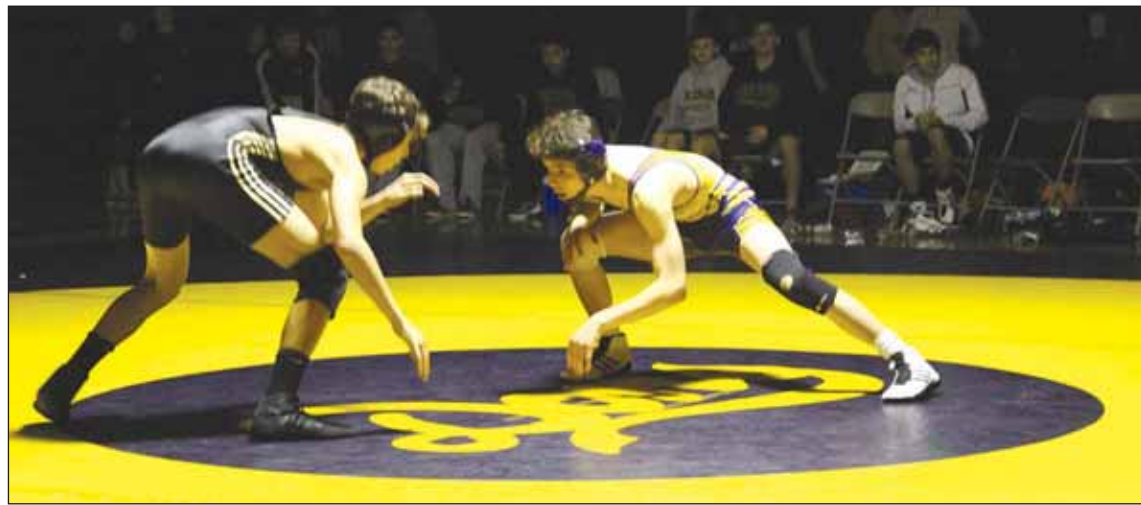
Basketball

The Foothill boys basketball team went through a tough week that started Jan. 17 with a 63-55 loss to Amador Valley. Demetrius Williams led Amador with 17 points, with Mitch Benson adding 16 and K.C. Tompkins had 13.

Will Lewis had 17 points to lead Foothill, with J.T. McDermott adding 11 and Rod Allen 10.

Later in the week, Foothill fell to Dougherty Valley, 36-35. Allen had 10 points to lead the Falcons and Trey Porter finished with six. ■

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



TIMOTHY PERLMAN

Tyler Bonitz of Amador Valley (right) had the only pin of the night when the Dons edged Granada, 30-23.

2 Seahawks attend camp at Olympic Training Center

Heckman, Jhong picked for USA Swimming National Select Camp

Two teen swimmers on the Pleasanton Seahawks team traveled to Colorado last week to take part in a selective camp at the Olympic Training Center.

Livermore's Miranda Heckman and Pleasanton's Chris Jhong were chosen among 68 young swimmers — 34 female and 34 male — nationwide for the USA Swimming National Select Camp.

During the camp Jan. 19-22, 15-year-old Heckman and 16-year-old Jhong experienced the day-to-day routine of a Team USA swimmer while utilizing the state-of-the-art training facilities.

The campers learned from professionals about topics such as race strategy, nutrition, post-race recovery and psychological training skills. They also got to hear from Olympian Elizabeth Beisel and national team member Seth Stubblefield about their time on the U.S. swim team.

"One of the longest-standing club development programs, the National Select Camp is part of the pathway to the USA Swimming national team," said Pat Hogan, USA Swimming's club development managing director.

"A strategic element of this camp is teaching and reinforcing the national team culture which has always been a key part of the USA's success in international competition," Hogan added. "We want



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pleasanton Seahawks Chris Jhong and Miranda Heckman took part in the USA Swimming National Select Camp.

these athletes to cultivate a deep-rooted allegiance to Team USA."

Heckman, Jhong and the other participants were chosen from the SWIMS database of top times during the 2016 qualifying period, where the two fastest athletes in each event, ranging from ages 14 to 16, were selected. Seahawks coach Caitlin DeNise was also invited to attend the camp. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

Local cheer teams star in SoCal

Foothill, Amador Valley bring home hardware

The cheer teams from Foothill and Amador Valley high schools each earned top finishes in Southern California competitions this month.

The Foothill competition cheer team took part in two United Spirit Association (USA) events in Orange County two weekends ago.

The Falcons started at Tustin High School on Jan. 14 in Tustin, where the varsity, junior varsity and group stunt team 1 won their divisions and group stunt team 2 took second place. The next day, they traveled to Brea Olinda High School in Brea, where results were the same — first place for varsity, JV and stunt team 1 and second place for stunt team 2.

Foothill's cheer team is next set to compete tomorrow at the Cheerplos State Championship at Citizen's Bank Arena in Ontario.

The Amador Valley competition cheer team notched two wins at the USA Regional event at Elsinore High School in Wildomar (Riverside County) last weekend.

As the only Northern California squad, the Dons varsity stunt team took first place in its division. The varsity cheer team also placed first, among eight teams in the intermediate cheer showcase division.

Amador Valley next competes on Super Bowl Sunday at UC Davis. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

Theatre

PACIFIC COAST REPERTORY THEATRE PRESENTS 'ANYTHING GOES' Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre will present the high-energy, high-seas musical romp "Anything Goes" at 8 p.m. Fridays, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 28-Feb. 12 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Hit Cole Porter songs include "It's De-Lovely," "Friendship," "I Get A Kick Out Of You," "All Through The Night," "Anything Goes," "You're The Top" and many more. Tickets are \$19-\$40. Call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org.

Concerts

NOAH ARONSON IN CONCERT: MUSIC FOR MIND, BODY & SOUL Jewish singer/songwriter Noah Aronson will perform on Saturday, Jan. 28 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court. Noah has achieved widespread acclaim for his energy, his catchy melodies, and his sensitive interpretation of Jewish prayer. Doors open at 7 p.m., Havdalah and concert at 7:30 p.m. General seating \$18, \$20 at the door. Reserved seating \$40, Event Supporter \$72. Contact 931-1055 or bethemek@bethemek.org. Go to <http://noaharonson.bpt.me/>.

WINTER VOICES: VOICES IN HARMONY AND SOME FRIENDS OF MINE "Voices in Harmony" will sing hits from the American Songbook and share their mastery of barbershop harmony at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4 at St. Augustine Church, 3999 Bernal Ave. The award-winning male cappella chorus has won championships and competitions. "Some Friends of Mine" will join the fun. Donation suggested \$15 for adults, \$10 for students. Go to www.catholicsofpleasanton.org.

Talks & Lectures

CHAMPION OF CHANGE Graciela-Tiscareno-Sato, recognized by the White House as a "Champion of Change, Woman Veteran Leader," was a child of immigrants who funded her education by entering the US Air Force ROTC Prog. She will speak at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28, at Lynnewood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. Sponsored by L-P-D Branch AAUW. Go to www.aauw-lpd.org.

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/.

KEEPING YOUR 'I' ON THE IEP Learn the top critical things you can do to improve your child's special education program with "Keeping Your 'I' On the IEP" from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 2 at the Harvest Park Middle School multipurpose room, 4900 Valley Ave. To register for this free event, go to <http://tinyurl.com/2017FebSNC>. If you have any questions about this event or how to register, email snc@pleasantonpta.org.

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.

WRITE ESSAY TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIP TO ENTER APRIL 22 WRITERS' CONFERENCE FOR FREE Write a short 100-150 word essay about how you would benefit from

attending a writing conference. Submit your writing by Feb. 1 and you may get a chance to attend a writing conference for free on April 22 in Pleasanton. There will be one adult and one student scholarship. Students must have a student ID and be aged 14-22. Email submissions to conference@trivalleywriters.org. Scholarship winners will be notified before Feb. 12. <http://www.trivalleywriters.org/conferences/conference2017>

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.

LAUGHTER IS MEDICINE Did you know laughter has proven to reduce stress, relieve pain, energize the body and even possibly heal diseases? Local standup comedian and author, Margaret Zhao, will teach how to discover your own sense of humor and benefit from laughter. Regina Stoops will also give a short standup segment. This is an event by Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation Education series at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4 at Alain Pinel Realtors, 900 Main St., Suite 101. Go to www.healingtherapiesfoundation.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.

HEARTS IN HARMONY CHORUS Hearts in Harmony Chorus, a new chorus for all seniors, including seniors with dementia and their family caregiver, is open to new members. Registration will be held from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, Jan. 17-20 at the Pleasanton Senior Center, and 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21 at Heritage Estates, 900 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Rehearsals will be held from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Feb. 11-June 10. Choir fee will be \$40.

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

MVP Link

Meet East Bay SPCA's MVP (Most Valuable Puss): Link. This 3-year-old Maine Coon is a pretty unflappable cat who knows the score, too. He doesn't mind entertaining himself, but a human companion at the other end of the couch and a nice scratch behind the ears always makes his day. If you want to add Link to your team, visit the Dublin Adoption Center at 4651 Gleason Drive or online at www.eastbayspca.org.

Religion & Spirituality

PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN WORSHIP Lynnewood United Methodist Church at 4444 Black Ave. offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Sunday morning services are at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Childcare provided at both services, and Sunday school is at 10:30 a.m.. Children's choir is at 11:40 a.m.-12:10 p.m.. At 5:30 p.m. on Sundays the church offers an informal service called "Come As You Are" with music, prayer, and discussion. Contact Rev. Heather Hammer at 846-0221 or office@lynnewood.org. Go to www.lynnewood.org.

SUNDAY SERVICES AT UNITY OF TRI-VALLEY Unity of Tri-Valley is a welcoming spiritual community for people of all faiths and backgrounds. We are a positive path for spiritual living. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. Children's program available. Ongoing groups and activities. Join Reverend Micah Murdock, minister, at 10 a.m. every week for Sunday services at Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. Call 829-2733 or go to www.trivalleyunity.org.

EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUALITY Invite 2.0 is to help explore the big questions and to find a deeper sense of your spiritual side. Is there something bigger out there? Is something missing? Join from 7:30-9 p.m. Wednesdays, now through Feb. 22 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Visit invite2.org.

Community Groups

GIRLS NIGHT OUT NETWORKING GNON will hold their next networking event at Pans on Fire, 3059 Hopyard Road Suites J &

K, with cooking demonstrations, a best apron contest, great networking and more from 5-7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 6. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. RSVP and prepayment required. Call 487-4748 or go to www.gnon.org/monthly-mixer.html.

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.

CLUTTERLESS (CL) SELF HELP SUPPORT GROUP ClutterLess (CL) Self Help Support Group, for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions, meets at 7 p.m. every Monday at The Parkview, 100 Valley Ave. Cluttering is a psychological issue, not an organizing issue. We are for the Clutterer who is ready to change. Go to www.ClutterLessEastBay.org.

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.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY WWI was a global conflict of unprecedented scale never before seen in Human History. David Goerss will explain the research landscape of WWI records, as well as provide advice on utilizing a phased approach to your research to effectively locate and track your ancestor, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 13 at Congregation Beth Emek. Goerss is a professional genealogist specializing in military records research. Contact Kay Speaks, Program Chair, at program@L-AGS.org.



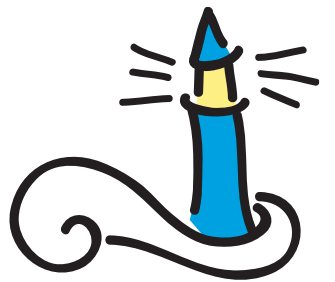
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Music inspires abstracts

The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center is offering a special exhibit, "WaterMusic-Jazz," of San Francisco artist Peggy Gyulai's latest series. It features large-frame abstract works in oils, each chronicling an encounter with music. Gyulai has done painting collaborations with a variety of music performance groups and venues. The exhibit runs through Feb. 15. For more information, go to www.firehousearts.org or call 931-4848.

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

PREGNANT? Considering adoption? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 1-877-879-4709 (Cal-SCAN)

PREGNANT? Considering adoption? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 877-362-2401

For Sale

202 Vehicles Wanted

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

GET CASH FOR CARS/TRUCKS!!!

All Makes/Models 2000-2016! Top \$\$\$ Paid! Any Condition! Used or wrecked. Running or Not. Free Towing! Call For Offer: 1-888-417-9150. (Cal-SCAN)

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

245 Miscellaneous

DISH TV - BEST DEAL EVER! Only \$39.99/mo. Plus \$14.99/mo. Internet (where avail.) FREE Streaming. FREE Install (up to 6 rooms.) FREE HD-DVR. Call 1-800-357-0810 (Cal-SCAN)

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

Protect your home with fully customizable security and 24/7 monitoring right from your smartphone. Receive up to \$1500 in equipment, free (restrictions apply). Call 1-800-918-4119 (Cal-SCAN)

Sawmills from only \$4397.00 Make and Save Money with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com

1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N (Cal-SCAN)

Switch to DIRECTV. Lock in 2-Year Price Guarantee (\$50/month) w/AT&T Wireless. Over 145 Channels PLUS Popular Movie Networks for Three Months, No Cost! Call 1-800-385-9017 (Cal-SCAN)

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345 Tutoring/ Lessons

Mathematics Tutoring & Test Preparation For immediate improvement, please contact us at (925) 425-7099 or www.mtpca.net.

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

Mind & Body

425 Health Services

ELIMINATE CELLULITE and Inches in weeks! All natural. Odor free. Works for men or women. Free month supply on select packages. Order now! 844-703-9774. (Cal-SCAN)

Got Knee Pain? Back Pain? Shoulder Pain? Get a pain-relieving brace - little or NO cost to you. Medicare Patients Call Health Hotline Now! 1-800-796-5091 (Cal-SCAN)

MAKE THE CALL to start getting clean today. Free 24/7 Helpline for alcohol & drug addiction treatment. Get help! It is time to take your life back! Call Now: 855-732-4139 (AAN CAN)

OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 844-359-3976. (Cal-SCAN)

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

495 Yoga

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

Jobs

500 Help Wanted

Sales Representative California Trade Association located in Sacramento is seeking someone with strong knowledge for Advertising, print, digital and social media solutions, great with detail, an amazing attitude, and a passion for selling content and integrated partnerships. 3-5 years experience a plus. We offer a competitive base salary, commission and bonus plan, along with great benefit package. Email Resume and Salary History to jobs@cnpa.com. EOE (Cal-SCAN)

560 Employment Information

DRIVERS: TRUCK DRIVERS Obtain Class A CDL in 3 weeks Company Sponsored Training Also Hiring Experienced and Recent Graduates Must be 21 or Older Call: (866) 275-2349 (Cal-SCAN)

LOCAL DRIVERS WANTED! Be your own boss. Flexible hours. Unlimited earning potential. Must be 21 with valid U.S. driver's license, insurance & reliable vehicle. 866-329-2672 (AAN CAN)

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Business Services

601 Accounting/ Bookkeeping

NEED HELP WITH QUICKBOOKS? Over 25 years experience in all aspects of bookkeeping. No job too big or too small. Call Linda at 925-918-2233.

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602 Automotive Repair

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604 Adult Care Offered

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

624 Financial

Do You Owe Over \$10K to the IRS or State in back taxes? Our firm works to reduce the tax bill or zero it out completely FAST. Call now 855-993-5796 (Cal-SCAN)

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

628 Graphics/ Webdesign

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636 Insurance

Health & Dental Insurance Lowest Prices. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 888-989-4807. (Cal-SCAN)

640 Legal Services

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Home Services

751 General Contracting

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

Real Estate

809 Shared Housing/ Rooms

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

850 Acreage/Lots/ Storage

Boat Storage Wanted Boat Storage wanted in Dublin, San Ramon, Sunol, or Pleasanton, in extra warehouse space, garage space, or space at a house. The boat on trailer is 32 feet long and 10 feet wide. I live in Pleasanton. Steve (925) 963-2518.

855 Real Estate Services

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

Legal Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME File No. 496705

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): NATURAL SPINAL CARE, 7450 SAN RAMON ROAD, DUBLIN, CA 94568 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 10/01/2014 UNDER FILE NO. 496705 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): Jeffrey Layne, 22 Tweed Lane, Danville, CA 94526. Signature of Registrant: Jeffrey Layne. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on Dec. 19, 2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10; 2017)

NATURAL SPINAL CARE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 525617

The following person(s) doing business as: NATURAL SPINAL CARE, 7450 SAN RAMON ROAD, DUBLIN, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Yang DC Chiropractic PC, 7450 San Ramon Road, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Jim Yang, CEO, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 12/19/2016. (Pleasanton Weekly, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10; 2017)

SUNSHINE PHOTO BOOTH FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 526792

The following person(s) doing business as: SUNSHINE PHOTO BOOTH, 161 SIERRAWOOD AVE., HAYWARD, CA 94544, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael Chand, 161 Sierrawood Ave., Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Michael Chand, Principal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 01/24/2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17; 2017)

LARKIN PRO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 526455

The following person(s) doing business as: LARKIN PRO, 268 RACHAEL PLACE, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amy Larkin, 268 Rachael Place, 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: Amy Larkin. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on 01/13/2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17; 2017)

DREAM BAY HOMES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 526786

The following person(s) doing business as: DREAM BAY HOMES, 3203 CURTIS CIRCLE, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mano Chidambaram, 3203 Curtis Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein 01/01/2017. Signature of Registrant: Mano Chidambaram. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of

Alameda on 01/24/2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17; 2017)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (Aviso al Demandado): DAVID ADSETT You are being sued. Lo estan demandando. PETITIONER'S NAME IS: (El nombre del demandante es): SHARON SABONIS Case Number: HF16832126 (Numero del Caso)

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120 or FL-123) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter or phone call will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. If you want legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. You can get information about finding lawyers at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local county bar association.

Tiene 30 DIAS CORRIDOS despues de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citacion y Peticion, para presentar una Respuesta (formulario FL-120 o FL-123) ante la corte y efectuar la entrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefonica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo. Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar ordenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. La corte tambien le puede ordenar que pague manutencion, y honorarios y costos legales. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario un formulario de exencion de cuotas. Si desea obtener asesoramiento legal, pongase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener informacion para encontrar a un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en el sitio Web de los Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpca.org) o poniendose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado.

NOTICE: The restraining orders on page 2 are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. These orders are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them.

AVISO: Las ordenes de restricción que figuran en la pagina 2 valen para ambos conyuges o pareja de hecho hasta que se despidia la peticion, se emita un fallo o la corte de otras ordenes. Cualquier autoridad de la ley que haya recibido o visto una copia de estas ordenes puede hacerlas acatar en cualquier lugar de California.

SEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party. **EXENCION DE CUOTAS:** Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario un formulario de exencion de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a peticion de usted o de la otra parte.

1. The name and address of the court are: (El nombre y direccion de la corte son): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, 24405 AMADOR STREET, HAYWARD, CA 94544

2. The name, address, and telephone number of petitioner's attorney, or petitioner without an attorney, are: (El nombre, direccion y numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante si no tiene abogado, son): JOHN T CHAMBERLIN 699 PETERS AVENUE, SUITE C PLEASANTON, CA 94566 (925)485-9666

Date (Fecha): SEPT. 22, 2016 Clerk, by (secretario, por) JAMIE HARRIS, Deputy (Asistente) (seal)

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: AVISO A LA PERSONA QUE RECIBIO LA ENTREGA: Esta entrega se realiza You are served as an individual. (Pleasanton Weekly, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10; 2017)

California Realtors to HUD, White House: Prioritize reinstatement of mortgage insurance cut

‘Homebuyers in California ... will be negatively impacted more than any other state’

The California Association of Realtors (CAR) responded within hours of an announcement by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) will indefinitely suspend a recently announced cut in its annual mortgage insurance premium.

The FHA is a government agency that insures home loans and collects fees from borrowers to reimburse lenders in the case of default. FHA is part of HUD and insures

home loans for borrowers who qualify.

Because most loans backed by FHA require less than the standard 20% down payment, the FHA charges an initial insurance fee then 0.85% of the loan amount in premiums each year.

The Obama administration had planned to drop that rate to 0.60%. In 2014, the rate was 1.35%, after several increases to shore up FHA finances after the housing crash.

This cut was supposed to take effect Jan.

27. As one of his first official acts, President Donald Trump suspended the cut.

“We hope HUD and the Trump administration will make it a priority to quickly review the reduction in the FHA mortgage insurance premium,” CAR president Geoff McIntosh said in a statement. “Homebuyers in California, who would have saved an average of \$860 a year, will be negatively impacted more than any other state by the decision to not reduce the FHA premium.”

“FHA’s single-family home portfolio is financially sound as it has ever been, and we hope that once the new administration has thoroughly reviewed the merits of the premium reduction the suspension will immediately be lifted,” McIntosh added.

CAR and the National Association of Realtors have both long advocated for lower FHA mortgage insurance premiums and will continue to make the case to reinstate the cut. ■

—Pleasanton Weekly staff

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Brentwood

4 BEDROOMS
1016 Emma Rose Blvd. \$675,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Dee Teigland 285-2459

Castro Valley

4 BEDROOMS
18515 Watters Drive \$1,108,888
 Sat/Sun 1-4 JoAnn Luisi 321-6104

Danville

6 BEDROOMS
2510 Mt. Diablo Scenic Blvd. \$2,350,000
 Sun 1-4 Andrew Greenwell 963-0993

5 BEDROOMS
107 Sunhaven Road \$1,495,000
 Sat/Sun 2-5 Stacey Gilbert & Doug Buenz 487-4883
5655 Bruce Drive Call for price
 Sun 1-3 Kristy Peixoto & Co. 251-2536

Dublin

3 BEDROOMS
7569 Brigadoon Way \$650,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Gina Piper 200-0202

4 BEDROOMS
4626 Woodrose Circle \$1,175,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS
3588 Germaine Way \$615,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Linda Futral 980-3561

4 BEDROOMS
2090 Hall Circle \$1,099,500
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

815 Dana Circle \$810,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

5 BEDROOMS
1935 Santa Croce Court \$1,186,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 847-2200

5695 Carnegie Loop \$1,249,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Kelly King (510) 714-7231

1513 Aria Court \$1,175,000
 Sun 1-4 Cindy & Gene Williams 918-2045

Pleasanton

2 BEDROOMS
3635 Bingham Court \$1,280,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Kris Moxley 519-9080

3 BEDROOMS
3945 Alma Court \$804,888
 Sun 1-4 Tom Montano 989-4106

6822 Siesta Court Call for price
 Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

4 BEDROOMS
1304 Brookline Loop \$1,279,000
 Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260-2220/413-6544

5 BEDROOMS
3477 Torlano Place Call for price
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980-0273/519-8226

3314 Arbor Drive \$1,299,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 DeAnna Armario & Liz Venema 260-2220/413-6544

San Ramon

3 BEDROOMS
2694 Corey Place \$849,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Tim McGuire 462-7653

Find more open home listings at pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate

SALES AT A GLANCE

This week's data represents homes sold during Jan. Dec. 12-Jan. 10

Pleasanton (Dec. 12-19)
Total sales reported: 18
Lowest sale reported: \$375,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,300,000
Average sales reported: \$1,186,861

Dublin (Dec. 12-19)
Total sales reported: 17
Lowest sale reported: \$535,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,290,000
Average sales reported: \$839,765

Livermore (Dec. 12-19)
Total sales reported: 35
Lowest sale reported: \$355,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,330,000
Average sales reported: \$699,686
San Ramon (Jan. 3-10)
Total sales reported: 15
Lowest sale reported: \$350,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,190,000
Average sales reported: \$826,800

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Dec. 12-19

Pleasanton

7372 Ashwood Court D. Baker to Blandford-Johnson Trust for \$800,000
5483 Black Avenue #2 T. Teig to Y. Shi for \$675,000
3443 Bordeaux Place Kelly Trust to E. Carlock for \$1,150,000
2389 East Ruby Hill Drive D. Tsairdes to Irwin Trust for \$1,825,000
4108 Georgis Place M. Josen to S. Khannukar for \$582,000
39 Golf Road Peterson Trust to Sea Palm for \$1,010,000
4219 Graham Street Miller Trust to Q. Li for \$780,000
1663 Holly Circle Heslov Trust to M. Escalante for \$829,000
1737 Lynn Court Roselyn Estates to D. & K. Luck for \$1,792,500
4432 Newman Place J. Dekoven to R. Santiago for \$799,000
3602 Ovella Way #5 D. & D. Henry to Mckeehan Trust for \$1,900,000
2402 Pomino Way M. & L. Levitch to B. & M. Chen for \$2,180,000
1591 Poppybank Court Feimer Trust to H. You for \$830,000
821 Sylvaner Drive D. & J. Yi to M. Lang for \$840,000
7541 Trotter Way Murray Trust to H. Dai for \$986,000
1625 Via Di Salerno Ruso Trust to K. & B. Collins for \$3,300,000
3627 Vineyard Avenue M. & C. Eodice to J. & J. Baird for \$710,000
3917 Vineyard Avenue City of Pleasanton to R. & L. Rodriguez for \$375,000

Dublin

6892 Baird Street Pulte Home to N. Lanka for \$1,063,000
11612 Betlen Drive Lewis Trust to T. & J. Hoshi for \$955,000
11793 Castle Court Hidalgo Trust to C. Liu for \$772,000
2201 Central Parkway Brookfield Trio to A. & S. Keerti for \$851,500
3385 Dublin Boulevard #428 L. Emigh to J.

Muthukumarasamy for \$565,000
11863 Flanagan Court N. Noel to R. Lu for \$535,000
7891 Jade Circle B. Kimzey to N. Tumazi for \$860,000
3360 Maguire Way #440 L. & S. Herrera to M. Chekol for \$593,000
5602 Newfields Lane R. & J. Dandliker to J. Welch for \$1,290,000
7524 Oxford Circle #21 A. Nava to C. Moore for \$601,000
7443 Oxford Circle A. Cabrales to S. Amaral for \$600,000
4673 Pheasant Court S. Gillani to K. Le for \$1,073,000
7448 Quartz Circle B. Fontelera to N. Nguyen for \$864,000
5396 Signal Hill Drive Reynoso Trust to J. Li for \$1,275,000
7769 Starward Drive P. Schaffer to H. Yang for \$880,000
3919 Twain Harte Road LS-SF Jordan Ranch to P. Rastogi-Clark for \$688,000
3923 Twain Harte Road LS-SF Jordan Ranch to E. Chang for \$810,500

Livermore

1055 Andalucia Street G. McGuire to C. & J. Alleman for \$640,000
4199 Bellmawr Drive H. Amirizadeh to A. Tarzian for \$947,000
1961 Blackwood Common Weiner Trust to R. Austin for \$720,000
1685 Call of the Wild Court N. & N. Finn to R. Chan for \$1,201,500
3967 Dartmouth Way Atkinson Trust to M. & C. Swisher for \$755,000
1936 De Vaca Way Rescue Home Now to D. & B. Olney for \$550,000
706 El Caminito M. Dennis to A. Dawson for \$639,000
960 Essex Street E. & J. Gilmore to A. Summers for \$615,000
295 Fennel Way Shea Homes to N. Saifulrahman for \$705,000
185 Heligan Lane #11 M. Gazzuolo to A. Bailey for \$539,000
515 Huntington Way Ritchie Trust to K. Backman for \$530,000

Source: California REsource

Gorgeous New Listing

OPEN SUN 1-4



3945 Alma Court Pleasanton

- 3 Bdrms
- 2 car garage
- 2 Baths
- Built in 1971
- 1372 sqft
- 6200 sqft lot.

Offered at \$804,888



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 (925) 989-4106
www.TomMontano.com
 LIC# 00661426



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 Vice President/Managing Broker
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 dfaught@apr.com
 BRE#00971395



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925.359.9600 | venturesir.com | CA Lic.#01964566



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2510 Mt. Diablo Scenic Blvd,
Danville
6 Bed | 5.5 Bath
5903 Sq. Ft. | \$2,350,000
Andrew Greenwell
925.963.0993 | andrewgreenwell.com



COMING SOON

4099 Oak Manor Court,
Hayward
5 Bed | 5.5 Bath
9010 Sq. Ft. | \$2,088,000
Daniel Buffington
925.337.7617 | buffingtongroup.com



OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4

3477 Torlano Place, Ruby Hill
5 Bed | 4.5 Bath
5719 Sq. Ft. | Call for Pricing
Donna Garrison | Susan Schall
925.980.0273, 925.519.8226
fabulousproperties.net



OPEN SAT & SUN 2-5

107 Sunhaven Road
Danville
5 Bed | 3 Bath
3454 Sq. Ft. | \$1,495,000
Stacy Gilbert | Doug Buenz
925.487.4883 | 680homes.com

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Sr. Mortgage Advisor | denisecolvin.com | NMLS 287399
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JJUST LISTED

Hilltop Location!

Gorgeous updated 5 BR, 3 BTH luxury home on private 1/3 Acre lot with views
Offered at \$1,495,000



PENDING

Charming Upgraded Single Story

Updated 3 BR, 2 BTH home in premium location with granite, hardwood, & more!
Offered at \$980,000



1 ACRE LOT

Carmel Living in Pleasanton!

Incredible private gated estate on 1 Acre with vineyard, detached work shop, & more!
\$2,500,000



JUST SOLD

9647 Crosby Drive

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

Q & A: Should We Pick a Listing Agent Based on their Recommended Price?

Q: We are interviewing agents to list our home. We have interviewed 4 agents, and all have indicated a price right around \$1.2 Million. However, one of them is suggesting we can get \$1.45 Million for our home. Should we list with her? Kathy

A: Kathy, that is a great question! There are many criteria from which to evaluate agents when deciding who to list your home with. Experience, market knowledge, track record, production, marketing expertise, process management, etc. These are all important considerations. However, in my opinion their recommendation on price should NOT be your main consideration.

As a consumer, you should ask this agent how they arrived at this conclusion. In general, the comparable sales information is readily available, even to the consumer on various web sites. This is the data that BUYERS will use to determine a fair offer price. Unless she has some data that is not public, or some iron clad logic that is defensible, she may not understand the market, or simply be telling you what you want to hear to win the listing. And let's face it... everyone loves to hear that their home is worth even more than they think. Be skeptical if an agent suggests a price well over what the data indicates. Trust your judgement and ask questions.

Listing your home for a price well above the indicated market value can do more harm than good, as it can dampen demand for your home and discourage buyers from making an offer. It can lead to extended days on market and your home becoming "stale",...

Go to www.680homes.com to read the rest of this article.



Doug Buenz
THE 680 GROUP
Doug Buenz & The 680 Group Real Estate
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BRE #00843458

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

ColdwellBankerHomes.com



AGENTS OF THE WEEK



John and Daisy Ng
925.989.0808/925.872.6888
CalBRE#00917356/Cal BRE#01311067

Consistently ranked amongst the TOP 100 agents for the SF Bay Area, John & Daisy have over 45 years combined experience in Real Estate Sales.

Their professionalism and Teamwork have demonstrated that they not only share a passion for Real Estate, but clearly place "clients above self" in their day-to-day practice. They are extremely knowledgeable, respectful and quick to respond to their client's needs. As a strong member of Coldwell Banker's Relocation Team, John and Daisy continue to deliver exceptional service.

As a team, and both individually, John & Daisy have received several awards throughout their career, including Grand Master and Master's and President's Club Awards as well. Coldwell Banker is proud to be affiliated with John & Daisy Ng.



DUBLIN \$1,175,000
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4
4626 Woodrose Circle
DESIRABLE SUMMER GLEN HOME!
4 BD/3.5 BA 3117 SF,8575 SF lot. Soaring Ceilings, Lg Mstr w/Retreat, First Floor En Suite
Daisy Ng
CalBRE #01311067 925.847.2307



FREMONT \$828,888
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4
Mission San Jose Townhouse
3 BD/1 BA 1,242 SF. Over \$110K spent on remodeling throughout.
Elaine Arnt
CalBRE #01046497 925.847.2244



LIVERMORE \$1,186,000
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4
1935 Santa Croce Court
Gorgeous Vinsanto Home in Livermore
5 BD/3.5 BA Gorgeous Vinsanto Home, all the Bells and Whistles, Upgraded throughout, Large Lot.
Mary Anne Rozsa
CalBRE #00783003 925.963.0887



LIVERMORE \$1,099,500
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4
2090 Hall Circle
2 Story in Dunsuir
4 BD/3 BA Corner lot-Home in Dunsuir features slt wtr pool,spa, solar,outdoor kit,firepit & More!
Romar De Claro & Matt Toffey
CalBRE #01341138 / 01955909 925.784.3068 / 408.482.6089



LIVERMORE \$810,000
Open Sat/Sun 1 - 4
815 Dana Circle
Windmill Springs Beauty!
4 BD/2.5 BA Charming Home, Brazilian Cherry Flooring, Upgraded kit., Sunset Magazine Backyard + More!
Mary Anne Rozsa
CalBRE #00783003 925.963.0887



LIVERMORE \$675,000
560 Dovecote Ln. #2
Coming Soon ... Desirable Montage!
2 BD/2 BA Townhome Style Bit in 2008! Upgrd Cab,Grnt in KIT,SS Appl, Travertine in KIT/BA,2 Car Grg
Cathy Dean
CalBRE #01035881 925.200.4130

PLEASANTON

925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste 122

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3635 BINGHAM CT.
PLEASANTON
The Village at Ironwood for the 55 year and older resident. This single story home offers a court location and one of the largest lots in the development at 7,500sqft. Along with a driveway that could accommodate 6 cars for off street parking. The home offers: Tile floors in the main living areas and carpeted bedrooms. A guest bedroom and full bath. A very spacious master suite with walk in closet & a rear yard access. The kitchen has pendent lighting, generous cabinet space, step in pantry, breakfast bar/seating, spacious dining area, generous windows with views of the spacious patio/pergola & rear yard. An office (or 3rd bedroom) with custom built in white cabinetry. 2 BR (optional 3rd BR or media/den) 2.5 BA with 1,910sqft
Offered at \$1,280,000



4092 GRAHAM ST.
PLEASANTON
2 master bedrooms with 2 addition bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms with 2,010 sqft of living space on a 7,500 lot. One master suite is upstairs the other on the main level. Located in the heart of Pleasanton and walking distance to downtown and schools. A tile entry leads you into the living room with a brick surrounded fireplace, opening to the kitchen and living room. Original hardwood floors and new carpet. The rear yard has a brick patio area with a lawn and mature trees.
Offered at \$995,000



LIVERMORE
A two story home with 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths built in 1997. This home offers 1,655 sqft of living space with a formal dining room, family room with fireplace and opening to the kitchen area. The rear yard offers a covered patio and a grass area with shade trees. The homes convenient location offers easy commute access and nestled on a lightly traveled circle also located near parks and an elementary school.
Priced in the \$700,000 RANGE



LIVERMORE
This home offers 5 bedroom and 3 full baths with 2,140 sqft of living space on a 6,000 lot. A bedroom and full bath on the main level along with an indoor laundry room. A spacious and open floor plan with a formal dining room, eat in kitchen area. The master bedroom has a fireplace, seating area and a walk in closet. Minutes from wineries, micro breweries and shopping.



PLEASANTON
REPRESENTING BUYERS
New construction with one of the best locations in the development. The buyers are thrilled to call this home their own. 3,512 sqft of living space with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Built in 2015 and offering a Club house with a gym, pool and playground area. Easy commute access and no yard maintenance were a plus for the buyers. Call Kris to help you find your dream home.
Sold at \$1,550,000



PLEASANTON
REPRESENTING BUYERS
Nestled within a court and offering a private rear yard with views of the surrounding ridge. A pool, cover patio area with solid roof with beam construction along with an outdoor kitchen is perfect for entertaining. Updated kitchen, sliding glass doors separating the kitchen from the family room along with generous windows allowing the outdoor feel in.
Sold at \$1,150,000

Buyer's needs:

~An empty nester couple desire a single story home in the South Livermore area with 3 to 4 bedrooms, a large yard over 8,000 sqft and either a pool or not. Please give me a call if you have been thinking about selling your home.

~A young family is looking for a Livermore or Pleasanton home with 4+ bedrooms and 1,900 + sqft , a pool or a yard large enough to build in a pool.

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Golden Eagle, Pleasanton

Casual Elegance defines this warm and inviting home in the prestigious gated community of Golden Eagle, on the West side of Pleasanton. Featuring 4,150 square feet with 5 or 6 bedrooms, including a downstairs full Guest Suite and 4 1/2 baths. Great open floor plan, upgraded throughout and lovingly maintained. Beautiful park-like 1/2 acre lot located on a private court with views of the Pleasanton Ridge. Call us for pricing and more details.



Pending



2161 Arroyo Court, #2 Pleasanton

Extremely low inventory means this is the time to get your home ready to sell!!! Let's talk now and develop a plan to get your home on the market right away, so you too can take advantage of this opportunity!



Impeccable Service!

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE: ★★★★★
PROCESS EXPERTISE: ★★★★★
RESPONSIVENESS: ★★★★★
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Nick & Roxanne | Pleasanton
Peter and Phyllis made our dream of buying a home in Pleasanton come true! The team is very knowledgeable and they put their experience and skills to work to get us our dream home in a competitive multiple offer scenario. We will definitely use them again!

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OPEN SUNDAY 1-4PM



1304 Brookline Loop, Pleasanton

Like Brand New at Popular Township Square! Just over 1 year old with contemporary floorplan loaded with beautiful upgrades including an elevator and main level bedroom and full bathroom.

Resort style clubhouse. 4BR, 3.5BA, 2844+/- Sq. Ft.

Offered at \$1,279,000

OPEN SATURDAY/SUNDAY 1-4PM



3314 Arbor Drive, Pleasanton

Beautifully Updated in Vintage Hills II! Superbly located on corner lot across from Park and walking distance to community pool. Updated throughout with main level bedroom and full bath and private backyard. 5BR, 3BA, 2815+/- Sq. Ft.

Offered at \$1,299,000

POCKET LISTING



1151 Mataro Court, Pleasanton
Offered at \$1,299,000

INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY



508 Kalthoff Common, Livermore
Offered at \$1,799,000

RUBY HILL BEAUTY



427 Cabonia Court, Ruby Hill
Offered at \$1,394,888

BEAUTIFUL UPDATES



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



DeAnna Armario
Team Leader/Realtor



Liz Venema
Team Leader/Realtor



Kim Hunt
Team Manager/Realtor



Chris Berry
Buyer's Specialist



Lisa Desmond
Buyer's Specialist



Amanda Venema-Davlin
Team Assistant

DeAnna 925.260.2220
DeAnna@ArmarioHomes.com
CA BRE#01363180
ArmarioVenemaHomes.com

Luxury Living & Real Estate Specialist in the East Bay

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DANVILLE BLACKHAWK ALAMO WALNUT CREEK**

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Liz@VenemaHomes.com
CA BRE#01922957
ArmarioVenemaHomes.com



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Happy New Year ~ The Flashberger Group ~ 2017 is Going to be Another Great Year for Real Estate!



JUST LISTED OPEN SUN 1-3

6822 Siesta Court, Pleasanton

Simply lovely one level home with 3 bdrms, 2 baths and a beautifully remodeled kitchen! **Priced in the mid \$800,000's**



JUST SOLD!

2945 Amoroso Court, Pleasanton

Beautiful Vintage Heights Custom home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and over 3000 sq ft. Beautiful granite kitchen and cozy family room. **\$1,461,800**



DIY DREAM HOME!

217 Wild Flower Court, Pleasanton

4 BD/2.5 BA, over 1900 sq ft. Bring your paint brush and hammer for instant sweat equity. Shown by appt. **Priced in the low \$800,000's**



COMING SOON IN VINTAGE HILLS!

Wonderful Vintage Hills Home

Beautiful one level home with 4 bdrms, 2 baths and almost 1700 sq ft. Gorgeous yard with sparkling pool. **Priced in the mid \$900,000's**



Dave & Sue
Flashberger
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ANOTHER SALE PENDING

Beautiful Birdland Home

5 bedrooms + a bonus room. Beautiful backyard paradise with sparkling pool, arbor and outdoor kitchen. 10,000 sq ft lot. **High \$1,200,000's**



COMING SOON!

Coming Soon in Foxbrough Estates

Fabulous custom home with 5 BD/4.5 BA and over 4200 sq ft on an expansive parcel with beautiful views and a sparkling pool. 3 car garage.



COMING SOON!

6379 Dana Court, Pleasanton

Wonderful one level home on a quiet court. 3 BD/2 BA. Dual pane windows, new exterior paint, updated granite kitchen, remodeled baths! **Low \$800,000's**



COMING SOON IN DUBLIN!

Super clean one level home with 4 bdrms, 2 baths. Spacious family room and kitchen. Wonderful court location. **Priced in the low \$700,000's**

1513 ARIA CT., LIVERMORE

Desirable Prima Neighborhood, South Livermore! 3837 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 4 full baths, 15k sq. ft. lot in great court location! **OFFERED AT \$1,175,000**



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



Cindy and Gene Williams

REALTORS® BRE LIC # 01370076 and 00607511
925.918.2045 www.WilliamsReGroup.com



SOLD!



1832 RAILROAD AVENUE, LIVERMORE

Lovely 2 bed/2 bath condo with 2 car oversized tandem garage. Like new built in 2014.

SOLD!



4804 MAUREEN CIRCLE, LIVERMORE

Great Price - Ready to move in. Built 1994. Nearly 1800 sq/ft space on 1 level.



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COMING SOON — BEAUTIFUL REMODELED HOME!



639 AVINGTON CT., BRENTWOOD

Beautiful remodeled home in Brentwood! 2530 sq ft. 2 story, 4/3-one bed/full bath downstairs. Large lot with pool! Call for pricing.



Gail Boal

REALTOR® LIC # 01276455
925.577.5787
www.gailboal.com

Call me for a no obligation market analysis on your home!

Wishing you good times, good cheer, and a memorable new year.

We want to thank you for your business, loyalty, and support in 2016. We hope to see you again in 2017!

Happy New Year from the KW family to yours!

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Team Leader

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//
Alain Pinel Realtors®

FIND YOUR PLACE



PLEASANTON \$1,280,000

3635 Bingham Ct | 2bd/2.5ba
Kris Moxley | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



LIVERMORE \$1,265,000

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



LIVERMORE \$1,249,000

5695 Carnegie Loop | 5bd/3ba
Kelly King | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



CASTRO VALLEY \$1,108,888

18515 Watters Dr. | 4bd/3ba
JoAnn Luisi | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$995,000

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



ALAMEDA \$953,000

1067 Foster Street | 3bd/2.5ba
Izabella Lipetski | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$949,000

4455 Entrada Dr | 3bd/3.5ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



SAN RAMON \$849,000

2694 Corey Place | 3bd/2ba
Tim McGuire | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



BRENTWOOD \$675,000

1016 Emma Rose Blvd. | 4bd/4.5ba
Dee Teigland | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



DUBLIN \$659,000

4236 Fitzwilliam Street | 3bd/2.5ba
Sally Blaze | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$615,000

3588 Germaine Way | 3bd/1ba
Linda Futral | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



CASTRO VALLEY \$510,000

17987 Beardsley St | 3bd/1.5ba
Leslie Faught | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT

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