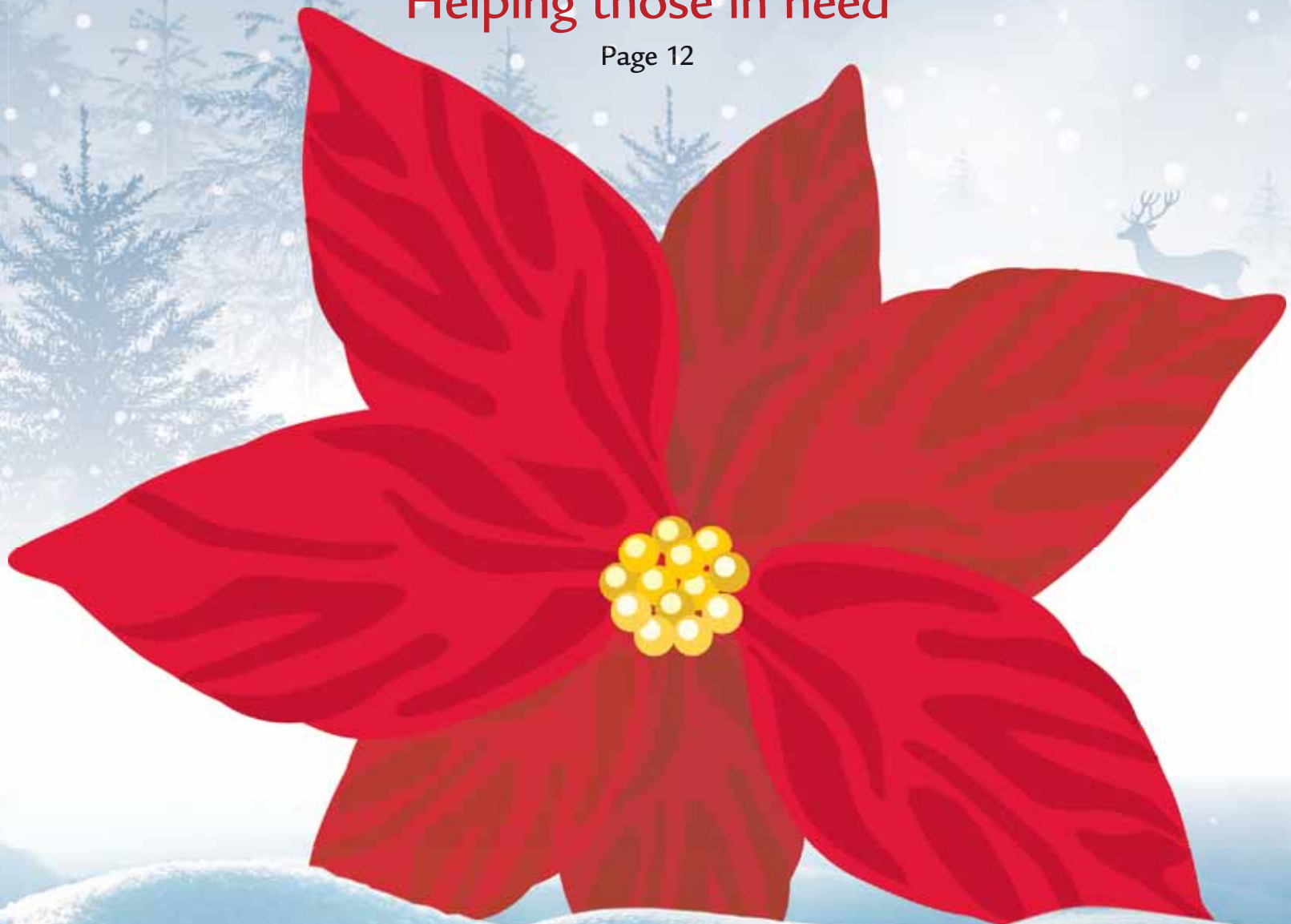


## *Holiday Fund 2017*

Helping those in need

Page 12



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- 10 | **OPINION** Shop local on Small Business Saturday
- 19 | **TRI-VALLEY HEROES** Lifetime Achievement

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## DIGEST

### Steinle case to jury

Jurors heard closing arguments Monday and Tuesday in the trial of a homeless Mexican man charged with murder for the shooting death of Pleasanton native Kate Steinle on San Francisco's Pier 14 more than two years ago, a case that has spurred a national debate on local immigration regulations.

The jury began deliberations Tuesday afternoon, as the Weekly was going to press early for its Thanksgiving week edition. For updates on a verdict, visit [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com).

Jurors can consider convicting Jose Ines Garcia Zarate, 45, of first-degree or second-degree murder or involuntary manslaughter.

The prosecution argued Garcia Zarate planned to shoot someone that day, playing "his own secret version of Russian roulette," according to Bay City News Service. Defense attorneys contend the gun fired accidentally, causing the ricochet that killed Steinle despite him having no intent to hurt anyone.

### Santa photos

Is your family visiting Santa Claus this year? If so, we're looking for readers to submit your Santa photo to be included in our holiday issue. Send it with the subject line "Santa photo" to [dciardelli@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:dciardelli@pleasantonweekly.com).

Photos should be JPG format and at least 500KB to be large enough to use in the newspaper. Include names of children in the photo, names of parents, where you ran into Santa, where you live, where the children attend school and anything else you think might be interesting in the caption.

We are also interested in photos of pets with Santa.

Photos are due by noon Dec. 11 for publication in the Dec. 22 print edition and online.

### Free park access

The East Bay Regional Park District is again trying to turn today from black to green by offering free park entrance district-wide the day after Thanksgiving for its "Green Friday."

The effort aims to encourage residents to connect with nature and spend quality time with their family at an East Bay park. Fees will be waived for park entrance, parking, dogs, horses, boat launching and fishing.

Recommended hikes in the area include Camp Ohlone Trail (Sunol) and Westside Loop Trail (Livermore). ■

### Editor's note

Two sections have been relocated from their normal placements this week. "Around Pleasanton" can be found on Page 11, and Streetwise is on Page 20.

## Pleasanton Costco debate at center of another referendum effort

Citizens group collecting signatures to overturn council's Johnson Drive EDZ approvals

By JEREMY WALSH

Pleasanton could be headed for a second citywide vote regarding city officials' effort to rezone land near the I-580/I-680 interchange to accommodate new development including a Costco store, two new hotels and other retail spots.

A group of opponents of the city's Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone consideration process started collecting signatures last week for a referendum petition to overturn the City

Council's recent approvals related to the JDEDZ proposal, which aims to create Pleasanton's newest commercial center.

The Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth, a group spearheaded by former City Councilman Matt Sullivan, criticizes the city's road infrastructure financing agreement with Costco, city officials' transparency during the public review process and the validity of the JDEDZ's environmental analysis.

"The people of Pleasanton have

been kept in the dark about the true nature of this project since it was first proposed in 2014," Sullivan said in a statement last Friday afternoon.

"The failure of the city to transparently disclose the truth is not just reprehensible, it is an attack on the democratic process," he added. "If you care more about democracy than having a Costco, please seek out and sign the referendum petition and allow the public to make an educated decision at the ballot box on this

project."

The citizens group has until mid-December to collect signatures, 30 days after the city clerk certified the council's approval Nov. 7 of environmental impact report (EIR) certification and a General Plan amendment resolution. City clerk Karen Diaz said she attested those documents Nov. 13.

Signature gatherers would need names of 10% of registered

See **SIGNATURES** on Page 8



Rendering for proposed Starbucks on Owens Drive, a project that would remodel the existing drive-thru restaurant sitting vacant on the property.

## Commission OKs plans for Pleasanton's newest Starbucks

Plus: Stoneridge Mall agreement extension, new Valley Trails street names

By JEREMY WALSH

Pleasanton is on track to see an 11th Starbucks come to town after the Planning Commission this month signed off on a proposal to convert the former Arby's fast-food restaurant on Owens Drive into a drive-thru coffeehouse.

The remodeling plans from Cal-Bay Development LLC do not include any changes to the size or footprint of the single-story building at the southwest corner of Owens and Chabot drives, a short block from the Owens-Hopyard Road intersection just off Interstate 580.

The facade and interior layout, though, would be reworked in

line with Starbucks designs. The exterior colors will feature an iron ore (dark gray) body with dark bronze trim and natural-colored stain on wood siding.

The drive-thru queuing area would be reconfigured to accommodate 13 cars, a move that would take away eight original parking spots — leaving the site with 25 parking stalls overall, still above the 20 spots required of the site under municipal code, city officials said.

The plans also include landscaping changes and maintaining both driveways.

The commission voted 5-0 to

approve the conditional use permit and design review applications for the project during its regular meeting Nov. 8. Commissioner Greg O'Connor was absent, so alternate member Justin Brown stepped in to a full voting seat.

The 3,040-square-foot building at 5900 Owens Drive, owned by DAI Commercial Property Family LP, has sat vacant since Arby's closed during the summer.

It is now slated to become the ninth standalone Starbucks in the city limits, including the drive-thru kiosk in Rose Pavilion. Both

See **STARBUCKS** on Page 6

## PUSD sued for Foothill fall

Complaint alleges 'dangerous condition' outside multipurpose room

By JULIA BROWN

A personal injury lawsuit has been filed against Pleasanton Unified School District claiming the condition outside Foothill High School's multipurpose room caused a man to fall and injure himself earlier this year.

Walnut Creek attorney Jonathan Brand filed the civil suit on behalf of client Hans Freericks in Alameda County Superior Court on Nov. 7, according to court documents. The civil complaint indicates he is seeking damages that exceed \$25,000 but does not specify an amount.

Brand has not returned requests for comment. PUSD spokesman Patrick Gannon said Monday that the district would not comment on pending litigation.

The case stems from an incident that occurred March 10 when Freericks was leaving a basketball team banquet in Foothill High's multipurpose room, according to the complaint.

"Plaintiff opened the door, stepped through and held the door open for people behind him," the complaint reads. "As plaintiff turned around and went to take a step, his leg bumped a large concrete curb which caused him to fall over it. There was a five foot drop and plaintiff landed on his left side suffering personal injuries."

See **LAWSUIT** on Page 6

# Environmental group sues Caltrans over Niles Canyon project

Opposes road widening, tree removal, soil excavation for wildlife impacts

A local environmental group is suing Caltrans over a bridge replacement project in Niles Canyon, east of Fremont, alleging that construction work would damage the habitat for threatened steelhead trout, Alameda whipsnakes and red-legged frogs.

In its lawsuit in Alameda County Superior Court, the Alameda Creek Alliance says that in addition to replacing the bridge, Caltrans wants to widen and re-engineer a half mile of Niles Canyon Road, cut nearly 300 trees, excavate along thousands of feet of the canyon, and build large retaining walls.

"Replacing and upgrading the old bridge would be fine," Alameda

Creek Alliance director Jeff Miller said in a statement.

But Miller said, "Cutting 300 trees along Alameda Creek and a state scenic highway so that Caltrans can convert half a mile of Niles Canyon Road into a freeway is not acceptable."

Miller said, "Caltrans has consistently ignored community requests to slow traffic down in the canyon and the project would speed traffic up in this dangerous stretch."

He said the project would replace the 89-year-old Alameda Creek Bridge and add modern safety railings and road shoulders for bicyclist and motorist safety.

But he said Caltrans also proposes engineering the approaches

to the bridge to increase motorist speeds from 35 to 45 mph.

The lawsuit challenges Caltrans' approval and environmental approval for the bridge replacement project.

Miller said, "This project would make Niles Canyon Road more dangerous for drivers and cyclists, and lead to further road widening and tree cutting by Caltrans."

He said, "Caltrans bears full responsibility for delays in road safety projects in the canyon. This is an agency that can't seem to follow the law in terms of disclosing the impacts of its projects to the public and conducting an adequate environmental review." ■

—Bay City News Service



MICHELLE MICHELOTTI GABLE

## Healthy hearts

Young Pleasanton Rage soccer player Ali Claitman received a heart screening at the Four Points Sheraton earlier this fall as part of Gable Heart Beats Foundation's effort to partner with local youth sports clubs to offer free and discounted heart screenings, including an EKG and an echocardiogram, in Pleasanton and San Ramon to kids ages 5 and older.



LPPF

## Local firefighters support burn safety

The East Bay Burn Relay stopped in Pleasanton earlier this month while visiting nine East Bay fire stations to recognize donations made by local firefighters to the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation, which works to reduce the number of burn injuries through prevention education and to enhance the quality of life of those affected by burn injuries in California. The Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation contributed \$3,650 to the cause.

## STARBUCKS

Continued from Page 5

Safeway stores also have a Starbucks inside.

### In other business

The commission unanimously recommended the City Council approve a five-year extension to the development agreement between the city and Simon Property Group that governs potential expansion of the Stoneridge Shopping Center.

The 25-year-old agreement — amended in 1998 and extended in 2013 — outlines certain entitlements and restrictions for how Simon could expand the mall by up to 362,790 square feet. It covers

topics such as sewer capacity, permitted uses, traffic improvements, parking and building height.

"This extension will enable Stoneridge Properties (Simon) to continue to explore commercial expansion of the Stoneridge Shopping Center, broadening the city's tax base and allowing the continued vitality of the mall," city associate planner Jennifer Hagen told the commission.

The latest agreement extension would last through December 2022, if approved by the council.

No specific mall expansion plans have been submitted, according to city officials.

The commission signed off on names of three new public streets that will open upon completion of Ponderosa Homes' 36-house development in

the Valley Trails neighborhood on the old Evangelical Free Church of Pleasanton site — a project endorsed by the council in May.

Arches Way will be the main entry road into the development, off existing Valley Trails Drive, leading to new cul-de-sacs Chesapeake Bay Court and Salt River Bay Court.

The commission sent the new names proposed for Lund Ranch II development streets back to the drawing board because of one street segment essentially having two names.

As recommended, Spring Creek Lane would turn into Spring Creek Court in the neighborhood, but commissioners thought that too confusing. They instead urged city staff to work with the developer to settle on one name for the street segment. ■

## Foothill senior earns Eagle Scout rank

Berry's project added garden wash station at Dublin Heritage Center

Pleasanton teen Ryan Berry was recently recognized with an Eagle Court of Honor ceremony for achieving the highest rank in the Boy Scouts program.

Berry, 17, is a member of Boy Scout Troop 905, which is sponsored by St. Raymond's Church of Dublin. He started as a Tiger Cub in first grade, earning his Arrow of Light and Twentier awards by fourth grade.

As a Boy Scout, he completed 33 badges and two palms, holding leadership positions including senior patrol leader, librarian and bugler among others. He has also served in leadership roles as a member of the Order of the Arrow, scouting's National Honor Society, which he was elected to in 2014.

Berry has previously been recognized with the James E. West Fellowship Award, Arrowman of the Year award and Vigil Honor, which is the Order of the Arrow's highest honor.

For his Eagle project, Berry built a garden wash station for the Dublin Heritage Center that they will use for gardening classes given to visiting schools.



COURTESY OF BERRY FAMILY

Pleasanton teen Ryan Berry recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

A senior at Foothill High School, Berry is the son of Thomas and Jane Berry of Pleasanton.

Berry's Eagle Scout achievement was celebrated at a ceremony Sept. 29 at the Veterans Memorial Building in Pleasanton. ■

—Julia Brown

## LAWSUIT

Continued from Page 5

"The property was a dangerous condition at the time of plaintiff's fall," the complaint continues. "The dangerous condition caused plaintiff's fall ... Defendant (PUSD) had notice of the dangerous condition for a long enough time to have protected against it."

As a result of the unspecified injuries, Freericks suffered wage loss, loss of earning capacity and medical expenses, the suit alleges.

Freericks filed a claim against PUSD in the spring, which was rejected by the school board in May.

Both parties have been instructed to appear at a case management conference in Oakland on March 22. ■

# San Ramon: City Center remains on track for October opening

Bishop Ranch set to announce new tenants soon

BY ERIKA ALVERO

City Center at Bishop Ranch is on schedule for completion in October 2018, according to developers, who also say that they are preparing to soon release the names of some new tenants who will set up shop at the site.

The new City Center, located off Bollinger Canyon Road just east of Interstate 680, is anticipated to create a true downtown space for San Ramon. Designed by international architectural firm Renzo Piano Building Workshop, the 300,000-square-foot retail and entertainment hub is being constructed by Sunset Development, which owns and operates the adjacent Bishop Ranch business park.

Jeff Dodd, senior vice president of retail for Sunset Development, said the project is “coming along nicely,” and they expect to complete the center on time, though a wet winter like last year’s could possibly lead to delays.

Dodd said that the project will soon have a 34-foot-tall, corrugated, stainless steel architectural siding on all four sides facing the public streets.



SUNSET DEVELOPMENT

Construction is underway in San Ramon for the new City Center Bishop Ranch, which is on schedule for its opening date next October, according to developers.

“That will visibly start to show up towards the end of the month,” he said. “That will be a dramatic next phase that passersby will certainly take note of, because it’s kind of a glimmering, gleaming, metal side that will reflect light and so forth.”

Currently, THE LOT, a luxury movie theater and restaurant hub, is the only tenant to have been publicly announced.

“There’s a concrete side to the project, and a structural steel side,” Dodd said. “The structural steel

side is the one with the movie theater on the second level. That started going vertical a little later but topped out quicker, because the concrete just takes more time to pour and go up. The concrete side contains the parking within it.”

Dodd said they are preparing to release the names of 10 or so new tenants, hopefully before the holidays. About 60 stores and restaurants will be housed at City Center Bishop Ranch, surrounding a one-acre piazza, according to

# Release of new BART cars delayed

Company can fix problem, but needs time to complete work

There’s good news and bad news on BART’s new 775-car fleet: The manufacturer has a fix for problems that surfaced during a test run, but it’s highly unlikely any of the trains will be in service by the most recent deadline.

New BART train cars flunked a safety inspection by the California Public Utilities Commission, a state regulatory agency, earlier this month, delaying approval of the cars by the commission.

Paul Oversier, the system’s assistant general manager, told the BART board last week during a board meeting that Bombardier, the manufacturer, has solutions to the issues that came up, according to BART spokesman Jim Allison. “BART is going through the

CPUC’s punch list and will be responding to their questions shortly. Then CPUC inspectors need to ride the train with us again,” Allison said in an email.

He was referring to the fact that after the repairs are made, members of the utilities commission will once again take a test drive. The problems initially surfaced during a test run of a 10-car pilot train with a Utilities Commission team aboard.

“So we are aiming to put the 10 new cars into service later this month or possibly early December. Shouldn’t be later than Dec. 15,” Allison said.

BART had earlier set Thanksgiving as its goal for getting some of the trains into service. ■

—Bay City News Service

their website.

The City Center broke ground earlier this year in May, with an expected 18 months of construction.

To accommodate City Center and the additional traffic expected

from the new complex, Sunset Development has begun work to widen Bollinger Canyon Road. The road-widening is expected to conclude in fall 2018 along with City Center’s opening. ■

## CONGRATULATIONS

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## SIGNATURES

Continued from Page 5

Pleasanton voters — 4,374 valid signatures — for a successful referendum petition. If completed and the petition deemed valid, the council would either need to rescind its approvals or send the issue to a citywide vote.

“I know that our city staff and our City Council has vetted this JDEDZ and we’ve voted to move it forward as it’s best for Pleasanton,” Vice Mayor Jerry Pentin said after first learning of the referendum last Friday afternoon.

“I fully support the JDEDZ and look forward to Costco establishing its business here in Pleasanton and will be in opposition to this new signature gathering effort,” Pentin added.

If successful and placed on the ballot, the referendum initiative would likely necessitate a special election, given referendum deadlines, since the next Pleasanton municipal election isn’t until next November. A special election could cost more than \$250,000, according to city officials.

Pleasanton voters are already familiar with the JDEDZ and Costco debates.

Another resident group — the Citizens for Planned Growth, led by Black Tie Transportation owner Bill Wheeler — was successful in getting its referendum effort on the ballot last year.

But Measure MM, which sought to limit retail stores in the JDEDZ to no more than 50,000 square feet, was defeated at the polls in November 2016, 63% to 37%. City leaders and many residents point to the strong defeat of Measure MM as a sign the Pleasanton community at large supports bringing Costco to town and the JDEDZ concept overall.

“Naturally I’m disappointed because this has already been in front of the voters and we listen to our voters. 63% weighed in and said they want Costco,” Pentin said. “I think it’s important to understand that this might not fly with the voters at all, that there

will be questions about why this is being pursued again.”

The current referendum organizers, Citizens for Responsible Growth, are unaffiliated with Wheeler’s Citizens for Planned Growth, Sullivan noted.

This latest signature-gathering effort comes in the wake of the council voting 4-0 earlier this month to approve the final EIR, a General Plan amendment to allow new commercial uses at the 40-acre JDEDZ site and a resolution declaring their intent to adopt a JDEDZ transportation fee down the line.

The JDEDZ seeks to breathe new life into largely underutilized 40 acres of property southeast of the freeway interchange that includes a nearly 20-acre chunk left vacant by a since-demolished Clorox research center. City officials aim to spur new commercial and retail uses at the overall site.

Safeguards are also included for those operating in the JDEDZ area now, such as Black Tie Transportation, FedEx, AT&T and Valley Bible Church. Existing land-uses would be permitted to continue as is, protected by grandfathering provisions.

The council heard no opposition to the JDEDZ plan — including from Sullivan or the citizens group — during that JDEDZ meeting Nov. 7. Mayor Jerry Thorne did not participate, continuing to recuse himself after previously owning Costco stock in a retirement fund earlier in the JDEDZ process.

The four remaining council members’ JDEDZ approval is not fully complete yet.

They are set to consider final adoption Dec. 5 of an ordinance to approve a planned unit development rezoning of the site, a plan that includes strict design guidelines that could help expedite city review of future projects in the area.

Still, Sullivan and his group think the council’s actions on the JDEDZ to date warrant immediate intervention.

“We need to bring to the light



SUNOL CREEK

## End Alzheimer’s

Sunol Creek Memory Care residents, friends, families and officials from Pleasanton participated in the Alzheimer’s Walk 2017 to raise awareness and support in the fight against Alzheimer’s disease, saying, “Together as a community, we all can make a difference. #ENDALZ.”

of day the details of the secret negotiations for unprecedented subsidies for Costco and project developer Nearon, the flawed economics presented to justify the subsidies, the true environmental and traffic impacts from the project, and to expose a city approval process that has been misleading from day one, takes away the rights of the voters guaranteed by the State of California constitution and deviates from our long history of transparent public participation in city decision making,” he said.

Sullivan, who served two terms on the council from 2004 to 2012, is particularly critical of the term sheet agreed to by the city and Costco outlining how to pay for more than \$21 million in road improvements needed to accommodate the JDEDZ.

Endorsed by the council in concept but pending final approval Dec. 5, the financing agreement includes a 60-40 sales tax sharing deal with Costco to cover a

portion of the costs.

That part of the agreement sees Costco front the city \$6,785,000 in cash for the infrastructure work — just over a third of the overall design and construction pricetag — and the city repaying the money with 40% of the sales tax revenue generated by the Costco until the debt is repaid, with the balance subject to 1.5% annual interest.

Any other developer who builds on the JDEDZ in the future would need to pay their proportional share of the infrastructure costs back to the city, and city officials plan to use those funds to pay down their debt to Costco.

The other portions of the financing deal, to pay for roadwork design and construction, call for \$6.4 million to be paid by city traffic impact fee reserves and \$6,785,000 in a separate cash payment from Costco as part of its developer fee package.

Sullivan condemns this proposal as a “sweetheart deal” that amounts

to millions in public subsidies to a multi-billion-dollar company, all to mitigate the impacts of Costco coming to Pleasanton that Costco should pay fully for.

He also accuses the city of “improperly, and potentially illegally, diverting” traffic fee reserves from city coffers to benefit the Costco project, and he argues the city’s economic analysis of the JDEDZ project is “intentionally misleading and flawed.”

Sullivan further criticizes the traffic mitigation plan as inadequate and contends the certified EIR is “significantly flawed, incomplete and understates the environmental impacts of the project.”

Pentin, pointing out that Sullivan did not speak at the council’s three JDEDZ meetings since August, stood by his vote and the council’s endorsements of the project to date while calling Sullivan’s assertions “old ground.”

“We’ve been over it during the previous election held for the JDEDZ and through our open hearings on this subject, but it’s also his right as a citizen to access our free system and advocate as he sees fit,” the vice mayor said. “What I don’t look forward to is the paid signature gatherers coming from out of town, being abusive as they were during the past signature gathering for this item, especially during our holiday season.”

Sullivan disagrees.

“Our goal is to make sure the public fully understands the true nature of this project and its impacts to their wallets and to their quality of life. If the electorate was fully informed of these facts last November, the outcome of Measure MM may have been much different,” Sullivan said. ■

# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Pleasanton police investigating robbery attempt at mall

The Pleasanton Police Department is investigating after a group of people tried to rob a jewelry store in the Stoneridge Shopping Center last week.

The incident unfolded around 8:20 p.m. Nov. 13 when the "small group," wearing hoods and masks, walked into The Diamond Ring Company on the second floor of the mall, according to Sgt. Aaron Fountain.

The would-be robbers sprayed pepper spray and tried to smash some glass display cases but were unsuccessful, Fountain said. They ran from the store without stealing anything and ultimately drove away from the mall in two dark-colored vehicles, the sergeant added.

The police investigation is ongoing.

"There was no take and nobody sustained any significant injuries. We are actively investigating it and there's no one in custody at this time," Fountain said.

### In other business

• Pleasanton police are looking for help identifying an older man who allegedly went into a women's restroom at a local office building and looked over the top of a bathroom stall where a woman was using the facilities.

The man was described as white, 60 to 70 years old and 5 feet tall. Police said last week the man was wearing a black-and-white sweatsuit and was photographed leaving the area in a blue, two-door Mercedes Benz without license plates.

The location and date of the incident were not specified. Photos related to the investigation are available on the Pleasanton Police Department's Facebook page.

Anyone with information on the case can contact Det. Jonathan Chin at 931-5100. Reference case No. 17-45318.

• Most Alameda County courthouses will be closed from Dec. 22 through Jan. 1, 2018 as a cost-reducing measure, court officials said.

The only exceptions to the temporary closures are the East County Hall of Justice in Dublin, the Wiley W. Manuel courthouse in Oakland and the Juvenile Justice Center in Oakland, according to court officials.

The courthouses that are closed during this temporary period won't offer any services to the public. A limited number of courtrooms will be available at the East County Hall of Justice and Wiley Manuel courthouse for hearings on time-sensitive matters, court officials said.

Limited staff will be on hand at Wiley Manuel courthouse, the Juvenile Justice Center and the East County Hall of Justice from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 22 and from Dec. 26 through Dec. 29 to accept filings for certain cases, court officials said.

More details will be available at <http://bit.ly/2hQrqaw> as the closures draw near. All courts were also closed Thursday and Friday this week for the Thanksgiving holiday.

For several years during the recession, California's trial courts endured budget cuts, and even though the state's economy has improved, only a small percentage of funding has returned to the courts.

In addition to the temporary closures, the court has eliminated vacant positions, instituted a 12-month hiring freeze and reduced the use of outside contractors and consultants. ■

—Jeremy Walsh and Bay City News Service

## Marjorie Slayman

November 23, 1923 – November 14, 2017

Marjorie L. Slayman, 93, of Pleasanton, CA passed away in her sleep late in the evening on Tues, Nov 14, 2017. Margie was an amazing combination of grace and fire. She could gain a friend in an instant with her engagement, generosity, and sincere interest in others. At the same time, she was a fierce competitor in life and at the card table. Born in Erie, PA, Margie Lawson was a free spirit who fell in love with an airman named



Frank. They moved to CA in 1946 and soon settled in Pomona, CA before retiring to Grover Beach. They remained married for 64 years until Frank's passing in 2008. Margie and Frank had two children, Robert (deceased) and Becky. Margie is survived by Becky and her husband Rick, as well as her grandchildren, Tracy, Graig, and Ryan and their spouses Dermot, Krissy, and Mary. She has 3 great-grandchildren, Zoe, Conner, and Gavin. We take comfort that "Birdie" and "Slink" are together again. In lieu of flowers or memorial, please consider donating your time or money to your local hospice organization.

PAID OBITUARY

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Nov. 17

#### Burglary

■ 6:38 a.m. at West Las Positas Boulevard and Thistledown Court

#### DUI

■ 7:48 a.m. at Ironwood Court and Ironwood Drive

■ 7:06 p.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Drug violation

■ 8:54 a.m. at Harvest Road and Del Valle Parkway

#### Vandalism

■ 12:52 p.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

#### Assault/battery

■ 1:56 p.m. at Foothill Road and Muirwood Drive

#### Theft

■ 11:46 a.m., 6000 block of Sunol Boulevard; theft from auto

■ 2:23 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Alcohol violation

■ 4:49 p.m. on the 4300 Block of Valley Avenue

### Nov. 16

#### DUI

■ 8:54 a.m. at Kottinger Drive and Amaral Circle

#### Fraud

■ 9:49 a.m. on the 4400 block of Comanche Way

#### Drug violation

■ 7:22 p.m. on the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

#### Theft

■ 10:45 a.m., 4700 block of Willow Road; theft from auto

■ 7:06 p.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road

#### Shoplifting

■ 12:39 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### Nov. 15

#### Theft

■ 11:40 a.m., 4400 block of Willow Road; theft of bicycle

■ 4:10 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

■ 6:48 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

■ 7:28 p.m., 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; theft from auto

■ 7:37 p.m., 3100 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from auto

■ 9:56 p.m. on the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard

#### Fraud

■ 8:32 a.m. on the 2700 block of Milani Avenue

■ 3:02 p.m. on the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane

■ 4:22 p.m. on the 4900 block of Dolores Drive

■ 4:49 p.m. on the 4300 block of Black Avenue

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### 'Shop small': Keep jobs, dollars and decisions local

Quality of life in a community is tied to the local economy, which is tied to the health of the small businesses in that community. In the age of e-commerce, acquisitions and mergers making large retailers into giant monopolies, small businesses are struggling to survive. These establishments, like the ones that line the streets of downtown Pleasanton, add diversity to our otherwise homogeneous, chain store, online-impersonal world. They support the community and other small businesses, and keep the decisions and dollars local.

The effects of small businesses failing are widespread and undesirable. When a business fails, owners and employees lose their income, landlords lose tenants, buildings sit empty and the community loses sales tax dollars.

That is just the start since there is a ripple effect. When people are unemployed, they spend less, which creates a vicious circle of less money spent in small businesses, making them less viable and more apt to fail, putting more people out of work. Through all this the local governments lose sales tax revenue they use to run the municipalities.

"Small Business Saturday," held the Saturday after Thanksgiving, encourages holiday shopping at small, local, brick-and-mortar businesses.

The first Small Business Saturday was held only seven years ago and it has grown exponentially since. American Express, which sponsors the event annually, reports that last year 112 million shoppers "showed their

love for their favorite spots, and spent a reported \$15.4 billion at small businesses" across the country.

According to a proclamation presented during the Nov. 7 City Council meeting, Pleasanton has more than 3,500 small businesses, defined as those with up to 150 employees, and make up about half of the licensed businesses in Pleasanton. They employ more than 32,000 people collectively.

The proclamation reads, "... the owners and operators of small businesses foster economic growth through the creation of jobs and the production of goods and services for our community and around the globe; and ... the City of Pleasanton supports these businesses as a critical component of restoring and rebuilding a healthy economy, as the perseverance, hard work and resourcefulness of small business owners form the foundation of our prosperity and success."

Support our small, brick-and-mortar establishments and "shop small" on Small Business Saturday tomorrow. When you buy and dine local, you keep the decisions, tax dollars and jobs here and help our community continue to thrive. ■



Visit [Town Square at PleasantonWeekly.com](http://TownSquare.atPleasantonWeekly.com) to comment on the editorial.

## LETTERS

### The Bard matters

Dear Editor,

In response to the Nov. 10 Letter "Pleasanton school curriculum," unless we share with the next generation what humanity created in the arts and music of the past then our future is limited.

Examine most any culture from around the world and knowledge of the arts from the past plays the most significant role in shaping that society's values and character of today. Computer technology is certain to be superseded by some new technology. An appreciation of art and music builds a foundation for the future of all other human advancements.

Knowledge of past artists such as Shakespeare are required when applying for theater or acting careers. If I'm not mistaken these pay quite well.

Something is not rotten in the state of Washington as Bill Gates, Mr. Microsoft, donates plenty to the arts. He was taught to appreciate Shakespeare in school and it didn't limit his career choice.

—Kurt McAninch

### Good neighbors

Dear Editor,

On Sept. 22, Mr. Jeb Bing wrote an "Around Pleasanton" column regarding the buying of the Masons' lodge and property, in the Valley Trails development, by a Jewish organization, Chabad.

The Valley Trails neighbors in close proximity to the property welcome all religious groups, including

Chabad. Additionally, these groups have an obligation to be good neighbors and not create a noise nuisance.

Concerned about Chabad's request to the city to use the outside area for noisy activities — including 15 outdoor parties, an all-day outdoor meeting area, a playground and a new parking lot — over 20 residents living immediately around the building signed a petition asking the city to regulate Chabad's activities.

These residents previously endured years of noisy outside activities conducted by the Masons. Last year, the City Council voted 5-0 to prohibit all outdoor activity. The residents who live near this site do not want a noise nuisance resumed or a parking lot creating fumes/noise placed next to their homes and children.

Residents reasonably expect to have the quiet and safe enjoyment of their home. The Masons were allowed the rare exception of building a lodge in a residential area — usually lodges are built in commercial areas — provided the Masons kept "any noise" inside the building. For over a year while in escrow, Chabad was aware of the council's decision prohibiting any outside activity when they bought the property last month.

We hope that Chabad will respect the neighbors' needs and council's decision to keep all activity inside the building.

Michael and Darlene Miller, Shyamal and Usha Gurazada, and Karthikeyan and Puja Radhakrisnan

THE CITY OF  
**PLEASANTON**

**WEEKLY MEETING NOTICES**

**Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee**  
Monday, November 27, 2017 at 6:45 p.m.  
Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.  
• Review the Downtown Specific Plan

**Downtown Specific Plan Update Task Force**  
Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.  
• For more information please visit [ptowndowntown.org](http://ptowndowntown.org)

**Committee on Energy and the Environment**  
Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.  
Operations Services Center, 3333 Busch Rd.  
• Selection of 2018 Chair and Vice-Chair  
• Discussion regarding the following:  
a. Member participation on the Green Team  
b. Grant opportunities for funding staff for the Climate Action Plan Implementation  
c. Committee meeting frequency  
• Climate Action Plan Update  
a. Green Team  
b. Bay Area Multifamily Building Enhancements (BAMBE) and Kill-A-Watt

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

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

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

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

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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## It's Black Friday. Carols anyone?

Today is Black Friday — or it's supposed to be — the traditional day after Thanksgiving when shoppers look for the best buys. But this year, "pre" and "early" Black Friday sales started long ago.

The hype has been building since early October when Costco started selling 9-foot-tall, fully-decorated and lighted artificial Christmas trees. Pleasanton's Walmart wasn't far behind with its gaily decorated and enclosed yard-goods patio stocked for Christmas, with pre-Black Friday deals starting Nov. 9.

At Stoneridge Shopping Center, breakfast with Santa at California Pizza Kitchen on Dec. 2 sold out long ago. In fact, Santa has been waiting to greet good little boys and girls in the mall's Grand Court since Nov. 4.

Kohl's in the Metro 580 Center beat the Black Friday nighttime shopping rush by staying open until 11 p.m. every night this week. Yesterday, employees and shoppers barely had time to enjoy a turkey dinner before heading back to the store when it reopened at 5 p.m. Kohl's has stayed open ever since, closing tonight at midnight.

The San Francisco Premium Outlets in Livermore opened at 3 p.m. Thanksgiving Day, and will stay open until 10 p.m. tonight. Sears opened 6 p.m. yesterday for only the second year in a row that it's been open on Thanksgiving Day.

There's reason for all this, of course. Black Friday has become one of the biggest shopping days of the year, a day when not only shoppers look for the best buys during the holidays, but also when retailers hope to make their most profits after months of red margins in a weak year for brick-and-mortar stores.

Certainly, and especially in this economy, anything that brings people into those stores is welcome. They need the old-fashioned foot traffic as shopping goes increasingly online. After all, digital doors are open 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

The National Retail Federation forecasts that holiday sales will increase between 3.6%-4% this year, to nearly \$679 billion.

That could be good news for downtown Pleasanton, which is also on board with its version of Black Friday. The big celebration comes tomorrow when Pleasanton celebrates



MIKE SEDLAK

Consumers come in droves to the Stoneridge Shopping Center during the holiday season. Expect no less today as the mall welcomes Black Friday crowds.

"Small Business Saturday." It's part of a national effort to drive shoppers to local merchants.

Thirty downtown businesses will be participating with special discounts on shopping, dining and services. Balloons, stickers, shopping bags, pet bandanas, pens and more will be given to customers throughout the day as a thank you for supporting local businesses. Free photos with Santa will be offered at the Museum on Main located at 603 Main St. from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Both locally and nationally, Black Friday has taken on the characteristics of traditional holidays. Like those, it now occurs on a pre-designated day each year. People anticipate it and mark the date. Across the breadth of the nation they are absent from work to observe it. And when the day arrives, they congregate like ... well, like congregations.

Newspaper columnist Bob Greene observed a few years back that Black Friday has become a holiday of its own. Moreover, it has shrugged off the confines of its name and has now established squatters' rights on Thursday, even starting in October at some stores. It is the only "holiday" that exists solely to sell merchandise. It celebrates nothing; it commemorates only itself. It is an annual festival of the cash register.

We have yet to see earnest groups of Black Friday aficionados going door-to-door singing Black Friday carols. But just give them time. ■

*Editor's note: Jeb Bing is editor emeritus for the Pleasanton Weekly. His "Around Pleasanton" columns run on the second and fourth Fridays of every month.*

## About the Cover

Today marks the start of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund campaign, a time when we ask our readers to turn their thoughts to supporting local nonprofit agencies and services that care for those in need year-round. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XVIII, Number 44

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# 2017 Holiday Fund campaign now underway

12 nonprofits to benefit from this year's contributions

By JEB BING

The Pleasanton Weekly's 2017 Holiday Fund launches today with 12 nonprofits slated to benefit from this year's campaign.

Even with a booming economy, the nonprofits we are supporting this year are faced with a combination of rising costs and increases in the numbers of people they serve that far outpace the revenue they have to meet these obligations.

This year, the contributions will be split between two tiers among our 12 recipients.

In Tier 1, recipients will share equally in 50% of total 2017 Holiday Fund receipts:

- Axis Community Health
- Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation
- Valley Humane Society
- ValleyCare Charitable Foundation

Tier 2 recipients will share equally in 50% of total 2017 Holiday Fund receipts:

- Agape Villages Foster Family Agency
- Hope Hospice
- Open Heart Kitchen
- REACH for Special Adults of the Tri-Valley
- Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies
- Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley
- Sunflower Hill
- Tri-Valley YMCA

Again this year, the Weekly is partnering with Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which will handle all finances related to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. This

will allow donors to take advantage of a tax deduction for the dollars they contribute through the foundation's 501(c)(3) non-profit status to the fullest extent of the law.

Also, the Pleasanton Weekly and Silicon Valley Community Foundation will handle all costs of the campaign. That means that every dollar will go directly to the 12 nonprofits with no administrative expenses.

"The 2017 Holiday Fund is especially targeted at meeting the unfunded and underfunded needs of Tri-Valley agencies," said Gina Channell, president and publisher of the Weekly.

"One of these is Sunflower Hill," she said. "Given the increased numbers of individuals with special needs who need our help, the Holiday Fund can help agencies such as Sunflower Hill provide the long-term residential programs to keep pace with the growing demand."

Holiday Fund contributions will be used to help Sunflower Hill develop a 1.64-acre residential community with 31 apartment units for individuals with developmental disabilities on Irby Ranch in Pleasanton. The project concept was endorsed earlier this year by the City Council as part of an 87-home development on Stanley Boulevard near Valley/Bernal avenues at the edge of downtown.

"Nationwide, there are more than 5 million individuals with special needs like



Axis Community Health pediatrician Dr. Soniya Mehra examines an infant.

autism, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy, including 17,000 people alone in Alameda and Contra Costa counties," said Janeen Rubino Brumm, a Sunflower Hill board member. "Due to lack of housing options and affordability, more than 80% of adults end up living with their parents their entire lives."

"Sunflower Hill seeks to change that paradigm by creating an enriched, safe and secure residential community that affords life-long living options," she added.

Another beneficiary of the 2017 Holiday Fund is Axis Community Health, a community health center that serves more than 14,000 Tri-Valley residents from five sites in Pleasanton and Livermore. Services include primary medical care for all ages, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, and a supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children (WIC).

"Holiday Fund support is a vital part of Axis' budget," Axis CEO Sue Compton said. "We rely on this contribution to maximize our resources and increase the number of available medical visits for our community's most vulnerable residents."

Support from this year's Holiday Fund will cover medical costs for children needing care, which is substantial and increasing, with more than 20% of Axis patients now children under the age of 18.

The need for affordable, quality medical and mental health services has been growing rapidly in the Tri-Valley over the past decade. In response, Axis opened a new clinic in 2016 at 5925 W. Las Positas Blvd. in Pleasanton that doubles its service capacity.

Other beneficiaries of this year's Holiday Fund are:

### Agape Villages

Agape Villages Foster Family Agency serves children and families throughout the Tri-Valley. Since its inception in 1958, it has provided foster care services to about 6,000 children.

"We provide a nurturing environment

for youths until they can be reunited with their biological families," said Jennifer Oxe, the organization's community engagement director. "And when reunification is not possible, we work to find caring and loving parents who are dedicated to a lifetime commitment."

### Hope Hospice

Hope Hospice is a Dublin-based organization that serves patients and families in the Tri-Valley and surrounding communities in the East Bay.

Donations from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund provide funds needed for the organization to work with hundreds of families as they chart their path while dealing with a loved one's final journey.

"We are grateful for your generosity," said Patty Hefner, Hospice's director of communications. "Your donations have helped thousands of community residents receive quality end-of-life care, grief support and community education."

### Open Heart Kitchen

Open Heart Kitchen has provided free, nutritious meals to the hungry in the Tri-Valley area since 1995, a service made possible through steadfast contributions annually from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund and others.

It is the largest hot meal program in the Tri-Valley area, serving more than 300,000 meals a year at 10 meal sites and 22 schools in the Tri-Valley.

"Our programs make a valuable difference to our neighbors in need," said Heather Greaux, Open Heart Kitchen's executive director. "The Holiday Fund helps us continue to provide nutritious meals to the hungry in the Tri-Valley area."

### PPIE

The Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation is an organization that has a collaborative relationship with the Pleasanton Unified School District and contributes to the needs of Pleasanton students and educators.

The organization hosts community fundraising events during the year, and also



Volunteers bag school lunches to be distributed by Open Heart Kitchen.

## 2017-2018 Holiday Fund Donors

As of November 14, 50 donors have contributed \$14,875 to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

|                                |       |  |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|--|-------|
| 7 Anonymous.....               | \$750 | Vincent and Sarah Ciccarello.....                                    | **    |
| Victor Wheatman.....           | 250   | Norm and Joyce Pacheco.....  | **    |
| Katherine Narum.....           | 200   | A Desrosiers.....  | 100   |
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| James Price.....               | 5,000 | Mike, Matt & Diana, from the Pentin Family.....                      | 250   |
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| Curtis Lum.....                | 75    | Janet Reichlin, from Mike, Lori + Michael Reichlin.....              | 200   |
| Christina Mantha.....          | **    | Bill & Alice Marsh, from Audrey & Bill Sears.....                    | **    |
| M Chestnut.....                | **    | Brenda Lathlean Faggiano, from William J. Lathlean.....              | 50    |
| John and Roxanne Plotts.....   | **    | Lee B. Young, from Marsha Young.....                                 | 150   |
| Richard + Gloria Fredette..... | **    | Carl W. Pretzel, from Marilyn Pretzel.....                           | **    |
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| Bob and Kathy Russman.....     | **    | Betty Patrick, from Chuck & Joan Brown.....                          | **    |
| John & Barbara Severini.....   | **    | Jerry Lemm, from Marilyn Lemm.....                                   | 100   |
| Bernie + Peggy Monahan.....    | 500   | Richard DelTredici, from Judith DelTredici.....                      | 100   |
| Ed and Bernadette Dantzig..... | 250   | Gene Strom and Keith Strom, from Carol Kolb-Strom.....               | 500   |
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| Blaise and Amy Lofland.....    | 250   | Our Family, from Wayne and Anne Emery.....                           | **    |
| Jeff and Jeri Oh.....          | **    | Our Grands SMMCB - Love you.....                                     | **    |
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For more information and to donate online, visit: [www.pleasantonweekly.com/holiday\\_fund](http://www.pleasantonweekly.com/holiday_fund)

# Help those in need with the 2017 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund



Laurie Louthan and Ellie Moranenjoy at a 'friendly visitor' luncheon sponsored by Senior Support.

beneficiaries of our foundation have been provided with more than \$27,000 dollars in services towards their health and well-being," said Sandra Wing, the organization's leader.

"The funds provided have gone directly to over 500 healing therapies that have helped 100 residents of the Tri-Valley," she added. "On behalf of our board of directors, I can't thank (the Pleasanton Weekly) enough for your year-after-year generous support."

## Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley

Since 1981, this program has delivered free, comprehensive services to more than 5,600 seniors aged 60 and older in the Tri-Valley annually. Its staff, volunteers and community partners work to foster independence among the seniors they serve, promoting well-being, preserving dignity and improving quality of life.

"More than ever before, the demand for senior services is growing," said Robert Taylor, executive director. "The Holiday Fund will not only help connect seniors to essential health resources, but funding also helps provide in-home counseling to seniors."

## Valley Humane Society

Another beneficiary of this year's Holiday Fund is the Valley Humane Society, which for more than 30 years has been working in the Tri-Valley and beyond to save and improve the lives of dogs and cats, as people whose lives are enriched through animal interaction. Based in Pleasanton, Valley Humane Society operates a variety of programs designed to connect people and pets.

Melissa Adkins, the organization's marketing communications manager, said programs and services are made possible through the generous support of private donors. "These include those participating in the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund," she added.

## ValleyCare Charitable Foundation

The foundation raises funds to support a wide variety of initiatives that enhance patient care and help at Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare. Holiday Fund contributions help the medical center in meeting the growing needs of the Tri-Valley communities.

"Our fundraising focus is local, with monies supporting state-of-the-art health-care technology, facilities, and various clinical programs and services, combining the expertise of local physicians with the innovative strength of Stanford Health Care," said Shaké Sulikyan, the foundation's executive director.

Since the affiliation with Stanford in May 2015, the Foundation has provided more than \$1.1 million in donations to the hospital, including supporting 24 departments and programs.

## Tri-Valley YMCA

The Y, which has its Pleasanton facility at 5000 Pleasanton Ave., has offered programs in the Tri-Valley since 1965. These

raises funds through donations and grants from regional companies and organizations.

"We are making great strides both in raising funds for needed supplemental school staff, including librarians, tech specialists and counselors, and in building stronger collaboration between schools and our great business partners," said Steve McCoy-Thompson, executive director.

## REACH

Also slated to receive funds in this year's Holiday Fund campaign is REACH, an acronym for Resources Education Activities Community and Housing for special adults of the Tri-Valley.

"There is a severe housing shortage in our community for developmentally disabled adults and the need is growing exponentially," said Kay King, chair of Tri-Valley REACH. "By the end of 2023, it is predicted there will be a need for 529 units in Pleasanton and Livermore alone."

She said the Holiday Fund will help REACH fulfill its creative strategies to acquire one or more properties within the next six months as well as to continue to support programs for adults with developmental disabilities.

## Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies

The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation supports cancer patients and the cancer community by providing therapies of acupuncture, acupressure, therapeutic massage and two mindfulness therapies of guided/visual imagery and breath meditation. It also helps with personalized navigation, assistance, resources, community outreach and education.

"Since 2012, through contributions to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund,



YMCA of the East Bay youth group attends a conference in Sacramento.

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## The following agencies will benefit from the 2017 Holiday Fund:

Agape Villages Foster Family Agency

Axis Community Health Hope Hospice

Open Heart Kitchen

Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation

REACH

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation

Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley

Sunflower Hill

Tri-Valley YMCA

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation

Valley Humane Society

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include before- and after-school childcare, preschool, summer day camp, a statewide Youth & Government program with over 3,000 high school delegates, Adventure Guides for fathers and their children, service learning projects and a variety of mental and behavioral health care services.

"The funds from the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund will be used to expand the mental health and case management services that are run out of our Family Wellness Center at the YMCA of the East Bay's Pleasanton facility," said Kenny Altenburg, branch operations director. ■

## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER



### All-star run on Foothill chain gang ends after 33 years

Also: Falcons' water polo awards, both football teams lose in playoffs

Step into Vic's All-Star Kitchen on Main Street in Pleasanton and it's easy to see how much local sports hold a spot in the heart of Vic Malatesta.

A longtime Pleasanton resident and local sports supporter, Malatesta has hundreds of pictures of local teams and players adorning the walls of the restaurant. His menu items all carry names of local coaches or other sports figures from the local high schools.

Visit the restaurant and chances are Malatesta will come out and spend some time at your table, talking sports and making sure your day is going great.

But unknown to many, Malatesta's been giving to the local sports community far beyond the walls of his eatery. For the last 33 years, he has been part of the chain gang at Foothill home football games.

That's right, every Foothill home game for the last 33 years has seen Vic as part of the group tasked with manning the first down poles and chains along the visitors' sideline.

In a day and age where schools must beg people to come out of the stands and work, Malatesta was a solid fixture on the sidelines for over three decades.

But that all came to an end on Nov. 3 when Malatesta worked his final game, and fittingly it was an Amador Valley-Foothill game that ended the run.

"I've been moving slower and slower," the 72-year-old Malatesta said of his decision to step down. "I always wanted to get to 33 years. That's my lucky number. I wore 33 when I played, and my grandkids wear No. 3."

As one can imagine, Malatesta saw his fair share of interesting moments working the sidelines.

"You really get a chance to see the character of a coach and players first hand," Malatesta said. "It's been a lot of fun to get to know all the referees."

In 33 years, there was a lot to see in the talent-laden East Bay Athletic League.

"I enjoyed seeing all the kids come through," Malatesta said. "Team-wise, seeing all those Monte Vista teams and De La Salle was special. De La Salle was the most

disciplined team I saw. They never panicked and always stayed cool. The coaching there is something. Bob Ladouceur (the former coach and architect of the De La Salle program) was just a neat guy. Rick Sira (the former Amador coach) was such a nice, good person."

Then there was the home team. "It was awesome to see all those Foothill teams," Malatesta said with a smile. "Those Foothill teams have always played in (coach Matt Sweeney's) image. They never quit and always fight to the end."

Whether he makes it to any games in the future — you can bet on it — it has been a tremendous time in his life.

"I have really enjoyed it," Malatesta said looking back at the run. "It got me out of the house and allowed me to watch a lot of football."

#### Water polo awards

The Foothill High School water polo teams held their annual awards banquet on Nov. 14. Awards went to:

**JV girls:** MVP, Kyra Thordsen; Defensive Player, Megan Chung; Most Improved, Oonagh Connolly.

**Varsity girls:** Co-MVP, Emily McElroy and Madison Weiglein; Most Improved, Kaylee Dillon; Falcon Award, Samantha Santana; All-League First Team, McElroy; All-League Second Team, Weiglein.

**JV boys:** MVP, Eugene Kruger; Defensive Player, Navid Tehranian; Most Improved, Ryan Xu; Falcon Award, Giovanni Minnite.

**Varsity boys:** Co-MVP, Matthew Dotson and Nathan Williams; Defensive Player, Harrison Carter; Most Improved, Drake Southern; Falcon Award, Brendan Cassidy; All-League First Team, Dotson; All-League Second Team, Carter; All-League Honorable Mention, Williams.

#### Football

The football seasons came to an end for both Pleasanton schools last weekend.

Both teams had advanced to the North Coast Section second round, but were eliminated. Amador fell to Freedom 38-20, and Foothill was knocked out by a 41-28 final against San Leandro. ■

## Second at nationals

Pleasanton mixed-doubles team shines in Alabama

A group of local tennis players represented Pleasanton well earlier this month as they were crowned runner-up at the USTA League 18 and Over 8.0 Mixed Doubles National Championships in Mobile, Ala.

Representing the USTA Northern California Section, the Pleasanton-based team opened the tournament by advancing out of their round-robin flight Nov. 3 and 4.

They swept the team from Honolulu in the semifinals on Nov. 5 to earn a spot in the championship round later that day, where their run ended with a 2-1 loss in the title match to Baton Rouge, La.

The Pleasanton team is captained by Raymond Hool and features Ming Ta, Christopher Summerlin, Michael Narisco, Cherub Halperin, Maxime Charlebois, Jeff



Pleasanton's 18 and over 8.0 mixed-doubles team took second at nationals.

Williams, Kristina Ahuja, Ellen Yang, Eric Nguyen, Vi-Van Nguyen-Low, Fion Cho, Susan Cheng, Alexander Tain, Christi Tain, Alex

—Jeremy Walsh

## Crawford earns Gold Glove

Third straight for Foothill product

San Francisco Giants shortstop and Foothill High School alum Brandon Crawford received his third consecutive Gold Glove award earlier this month in recognition of his skill on defense last season.

Crawford, a 2005 graduate of Foothill, beat out Corey Seager of the Los Angeles Dodgers and Freddy Galvis of the Philadelphia Phillies to earn the title of top defensive shortstop in the National

League in 2017. The Gold Glove awards were voted on by Major League Baseball coaches and managers.

"Just to be able to win a Gold Glove any year is an accomplishment that I'll take with me for a long time," Crawford wrote in a text message when asked about the honor.

By winning his third consecutive Gold Glove, the 30-year-old Crawford joins good company.

He is the first Giants player to win at least three Gold Gloves in a row since first baseman J.T. Snow earned four straight (1997-2000). Only four other Giants have won at least three Gold Gloves since the award's inception, according to MLB.com — Snow, center fielder Willie Mays, left fielder Barry Bonds (who won five) and his father, right fielder Bobby Bonds who won three. ■

—Julia Brown



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

### 'Muchachos' win U12 title

FC Bayern Munich (aka "The Muchachos") defeated FC Schalke 04 in a hard-won victory for the Ballistic Unified Soccer Club U12 Championship. The 4-3 victory in the season finale gave the team a 9-1 record on the year, during which the boys scored 42 goals and gave up only 10 overall. Team members were (front, left to right) Jac Jorgenson, Ryan Harold, Evan Shackelford and Drew Krekorian, (middle, left to right) Joshua Rodriguez, Jason Grell, William Cochrane, Alex Wang, Gavin LeMessurier, Anthony Chen and Eli Morris, and (back, left to right) coaches Mike Morris and Craig LeMessurier. Not pictured: Jake DeMichiel.



## A classic rock Christmas

December People to play two benefit shows next month



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

December People, which consists (from left to right) of musicians Jack Foster, Robert Berry, David Victor, David Lauser and David Medd, is playing two shows at the Firehouse Arts Center next month.

BY JULIA BROWN

What do you get when you have “Santa Claus is Coming to Town” in the style of ZZ Top? Or a version of “White Christmas” that’s strongly reminiscent of “White Wedding”?

You get December People, a band comprised of former and current members of well-known classic rock acts like Boston and Sammy Hagar who play with their respective groups throughout the year and come together every holiday season for a series of shows under the billing “A Classic Rock Christmas.”

This year the band will be making a stop at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton for two performances Dec. 15 and 16, with food drives both nights benefiting Open Heart Kitchen. December People last played there in 2015.

“We’re happy to be back at the Firehouse — we just love it there,” said Robert Berry, who founded December People and is the bass player with the Greg Kihn Band during the year.

A South Bay native and Campbell resident, Berry’s Classic Rock Christmas concept came together in 2010.

“A record company asked me to do a Christmas album and I didn’t want to do a Christmas album because everybody sings Christmas songs ... (but) I came up with this concept of morphing together the biggest classic rock songs of all time with the most popular holiday songs,” Berry said in a recent interview.

“What I didn’t know is if it would work or not,” Berry continued. “I started with ‘Stairway to Heaven’ and put ‘The Night Before Christmas’ together with it and the record company loved it so I went ahead and did a full album with that in mind. I didn’t know how successful it would be but the record company entered it in the holiday music category for independent record labels and it won album of the year in 2010. So I thought, ‘Well I think I have a good idea here.’”

And so December People was born. The band includes Berry playing bass; singer and guitarist David Victor, formerly of the multi-platinum band Boston and stepping in for current Boston band member Gary Pihl;

(The Tubes), and drummer David Lauser (Sammy Hagar).

A quick glance of the band’s website provides a good introduction to their style. There’s a clip of “Angels We Have Heard on High” sung against the familiar instrumental of Journey’s “Don’t Stop Believin’” and “Joy to the World” a la The Who.

“It fits like a glove, that’s the cool thing,” Berry said.

And the band enjoys seeing audience members “getting the joke.”

“The discovery involved in it makes it a lot of fun,” Berry said. “Plus we’re doing the real holiday songs you’ve known since you were five years old so you can sing along.”

While December People enjoy playing the Classic Rock Christmas shows, what they particularly like is that the performances serve as a way of giving back. Each show benefits a local organization that serves those in need in that community.

“The reason the band started playing was because we wanted to make a difference in the cities we play in,” Berry said. “It’s not like we needed to play more — we’re touring all year in our respective bands. They just wanted to give back at the end of the year what they could.”

Attendees of this year’s performances at the Firehouse are asked to each bring five canned goods for Open Heart Kitchen. Their most needed items include canned fruits and vegetables, canned tuna and chicken and soup, among others.

“What we hope is that we’re the entertainment and people have fun, but during the year they’ll think back that the reason December People is playing is because they want to bring awareness,” Berry said. “People don’t just need food in November and December — they need it all year long.” ■



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## A holiday 'Sleigh Ride'

Recollections from high school orchestra

BY ERIKA ALVERO

School orchestra can be all-consuming throughout the year, but during the holidays, it takes on a whole new dimension, with extra rehearsals and performances galore.

As a hard-core "orch dork" in high school, it was my favorite time of year musically. We revisited traditional carols, and groovier conductors would spice up the set list with Mannheim Steamroller or the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. No matter how cheesy it was, I enjoyed wearing Santa hats and reindeer antlers at our concerts — a welcome splash of color on our usual drab garb.

But for me, the seminal event of the season was always "Sleigh Ride." I never tired of it, unlike some of the other "fan favorites" we always seemed to play (there's really only so many times you can perform the themes from "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "Star Wars" before the novelty wears off).

The magic of "Sleigh Ride" didn't

diminish, though, year after year. Maybe this was partly because Leroy Anderson, the composer, had given violinists like myself a pretty good melody, and I wasn't stuck with the important but boring bass line, like the cellos and violas, many of whom did not share my fond sentiments toward the piece.

I think another part of the magic was teaming up with the school band — strings unfortunately aren't great at imitating horses, important for any sleigh ride. So we called in the percussion and brass.

The orchestras and bands at our 3,800-student high school in Colorado had a love-hate relationship. We were cut from the same musical cloth, but there was always a competitive edge whenever we joined forces, tinged with a bit of envy, at least from our side.

The band kids were just...cool. Laid-back. I think the band director, Mr. Libby, even had an earring, though perhaps my memory has drawn that on.



But competition aside, when the whole jumble of winds and brass and strings and drums gathered on-stage, "Sleigh Ride" came alive. Each section pulled the song along, the violins sweetening the ride with a bright melody, the temple blocks keeping the sleigh moving with the sound of horse clomping. And of course, a trumpet would close out with the iconic horse whinny, the punch line of the whole piece.

Somehow, even without the lyrics — though perhaps they were still etched into my

subconscious — the song managed to express anticipation for the future while also carrying the comforting weight of old traditions, and of merriment amidst a snowy winter. (And in Colorado, winters were really snowy.)

Music, to me, is at the heart of the holidays. Now, a decade later, I count the season's beginning as when radio stations flip on "Silver Bells" and Mariah Carey's Christmas album, but in high school, the start was decidedly different: It was when we first pulled out the sheet music for "Sleigh Ride." ■

# Moore

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# MADDY WANG Making an impact



By JEREMY WALSH

Madeleine “Maddy” Wang is a teen motivated to make a positive difference in the world around her.

A Foothill High School sophomore, Wang has given her time to a variety of volunteer efforts that have brightened the lives of people — and pets — young and old, as well as raised funds and awareness for Bay Area residents fighting to survive in the face of medical hardship.

The 15-year-old Pleasanton native said she really caught the volunteer bug for the first time in eighth grade, when she baked and sold dog treats to benefit Copper’s Dream Animal Rescue, a Bay Area nonprofit supporting dogs in need.

Originating from an English class assignment, Wang created her own dog treat recipes — with the most popular being her homemade, organic peanut butter dog biscuits.

For about a year, she sold the treats to family and friends, with proceeds going to Copper’s Dream, around \$200 in all.

“It was a good experience,” she said looking back. “(The recipes) took a really long time the first time I made them, so it was about becoming more efficient. And then also marketing and handling finances. I learned all those things.”

Wang also performs music for seniors at Sunol Creek Memory Care in Pleasanton once or twice a year, appearances organized by her piano teacher.

And she volunteers with Spectrum of Science, serving as a teacher’s assistant at Hearst Elementary School to work with young students after school on Wednesdays. It helps that biology and life sciences are her favorite school subjects.

“It’s really nice because they’re really curious and really interested in learning,” Wang said of working with the students. “It’s nice to see how engaged the young kids are at learning.”

But earlier this year, she took her volunteer efforts to the next level, creating her own fundraising foundation in the wake of personal heartbreak.

In March, her older cousin Justin Yu, a 21-year-old Foothill alum, died from complications from a heart defect — a loss that was particularly painful for Wang.

“It was really hard the first few weeks. He and I were really close,” Wang recalled. “He was almost like an older brother for me. So just coping with it was really difficult at first. I surrounded myself with my family and friends to get over it.”

“And I decided I wanted to do something about it,” she added. “So I started the foundation.”

That effort — the This Side Up Foundation, created by Wang — has aimed to sell originally designed t-shirts to benefit Donor Network West, a San Ramon-based nonprofit that helps facilitate organ and tissue recovery for transplantation.

Wang and a friend soon completed the logo design for her fundraising t-shirt — a left hand with index and middle fingers interlocked, with the tips painted red to look like a heart, alongside the phrase “This Side Up.”

The foundation name was inspired by the notion of handling with care and was ultimately finalized after she saw “This Side Up” on a box with fragile contents.

“And I just chose that from there,” she said with a smile. The name reminds “to kind of just be careful. Organs are fragile. Lives are precious too.”

Wang orders the shirts, custom-made with the logo, from a Fremont company and then sells them online or in person,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Maddy Wang sells these original ‘This Side Up’ t-shirts to benefit Tri-Valley nonprofit Donor Network West.

with all net proceeds going to Donor Network West. So far, she’s sold almost 90 shirts, helping her surpass her initial fundraising goal of \$800.

“Organ and tissue donation offers the hope to heal lives,” said Noel Sánchez, public affairs manager for Donor Network West. “Money raised by students and members of the community help fund initiatives and programs to promote donation education and research.”

“Students like Madeleine inspire Californians to register as organ and tissue donors, and her efforts give hope to the 22,000 people still waiting for a life-saving organ transplant in the state,” Sánchez added.

Most of her This Side Up fundraising is accomplished through t-shirt sales, but some is also raised from her helping with CPR and first-aid classes at Patterson Enterprises in downtown Pleasanton.

She promotes her efforts through social media like Facebook and Instagram and the website she created, [www.thissideup-foundation.org](http://www.thissideup-foundation.org), in addition to word of mouth.

As for growing her foundation from here, “By the end of this year, I’m probably going to have another CPR class and then sell the rest of my t-shirts, and then just kind of continue with that,” Wang said. “And then maybe next year, I’ll start on something new.” ■



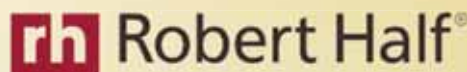
## Hero FYI

- ▲ Born and raised in Pleasanton, Wang attended Hearst Elementary and Pleasanton Middle schools before moving on to Foothill.
- ▲ Wang lives in Pleasanton with her mom Tammy Yau and father Steven Wang. Her brother Apollo, 9, and sister Alivia, 6, attend Hearst.
- ▲ Her family’s dogs, Mochi (shih tzu) and Snoopy (schnauzer poodle mix), were taste-testers for her homemade dog treats. Their favorite recipe was her top seller.
- ▲ Favorite hobby: horseback riding. She is also involved with Model UN and speech and debate clubs at Foothill.
- ▲ Wang is looking to study science in college, likely biology, but noted, “There’s still a while though.”
- ▲ Her aunt works as community education manager for Donor Network West.
- ▲ One organ donor can save the lives of up to eight people and a tissue donor can heal more than 75 others, according to the Donor Network West. People can register as a donor at [DonorNetworkWest.org](http://DonorNetworkWest.org) or at the DMV.



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# DOLORES BENGTON 'Life is wonderful'



**BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

Dolores Bengtson estimates she has led more than 5,000 people on hikes, beginning in the late '70s.

"I always hoped it gives them an appreciation of the outdoors and the natural world that will stay with them," she said.

Bengtson moved to Pleasanton, then with a population 17,000, from Richland, Wash., in 1968 when her husband took a job with Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp. They had four children, the youngest in fifth grade.

"We arrived at the time of the fair, and we couldn't find any places to stay. There were motorcycles all over and all the taverns — it was like a brawl downtown," she recalled with a laugh. "But we came back on Monday to this peaceful, quaint little town."

She started working for the city as a swim instructor as she had in her previous home. Then she began training swim instructors, and teaching handicapped swimming and exercise classes. She also went to Cal State Hayward to earn her degree in recreation.

"Later on I was a full-time city employee as a supervisor, about 1975-76, then in 1979 I became director of the department," Bengtson said.

Although the city's aquatics center had opened in 1971, Bengtson shepherded the construction of the deep water pool and built the swim program based on water safety.

"I felt we had a mission to make Pleasanton's children and adults safe in and about the water," she said. "I never cared how fast somebody swims. I wanted them comfortable in and about the water."

"In the early days it was pretty much staffed with high school and college students, 40 young people that did such a spectacular job," she added. "Those were some of the most joyous years I ever had."

As recreation director, Bengtson also developed the policy of planning neighborhood parks within a half-mile of most residences as well as larger community parks.

When she retired in 1998, Bengtson was pleasantly surprised at a City Council meeting to hear it announced that the aquatics center would be renamed in her honor. Most people assume such honors only are given in memoriam, she noted.

"I had a repairman come to my house after I retired, and

when I opened the door his eyes popped open and he said, 'Oh, you're alive,'" she remembered.

Hiking was important to Bengtson, too, as she trekked her favorite three local spots — Sunol Park, Morgan Territory and Pleasanton Ridge — volunteering to run hikes for the city and the Sierra Club.

"I always felt I should do anything I can to promote getting people outside and walking," she said.

In the early '90s she and a friend walked from the end of the Iron Horse Trail in Dublin to Shadow Cliffs.

"We showed it could be done," Bengtson said. "We started lobbying the city and East Bay Regional Park District in opening that up. It was kind of like a vision, to have these wonderful walkways you can ride your bike and walk on and no traffic."

Now 85, Bengtson often leads walks for the World Walk to Wellness group in Pleasanton that meets Saturday mornings, and her cemetery tours are especially popular.

"I can remember when I could walk 22 miles. Now I walk two miles and I'm tired," Bengtson said. "Getting old is not for the faint of heart."

In 1988 she took an adventure tour to Africa and fell in love with the continent, returning several times.

"After I retired I became enamored of Tanzania and found through Cross-Cultural Solutions a way to go for six weeks and work with schools," she said.

Now she is staying closer to home, often traveling with family members. Last year

she took her three daughters and a great-granddaughter to Alaska.

"I am trying to give 'memory trips' to my children and grandchildren," she said.

Bengtson also has been on the Kottinger Place Redevelopment Task Force and the Pleasanton Gardens board, to provide affordable housing for folks to "age in place" in Pleasanton. And she can be found working with the Amador Valley Gardening Club, where she runs the Penny Pines program for donations to plant trees in forests destroyed by fire.

Born in 1932, Bengtson says being raised during the Depression formed her.

"Living in a world that had so little, the rest of my life has been a gift," she said. "To me, life is wonderful." ■

**'Living in a world that had so little, the rest of my life has been a gift.'**

**Dolores Bengtson,**  
Tri-Valley Hero



MICHELLE SUSKI

Dolores Bengtson, 85, says after a childhood in the Depression, the rest of her life has been a wonderful gift.



MICHELLE SUSKI

Bengtson hopes her walks give people an appreciation of the outdoors.

## Hero FYI

- ▲ Dolores Bengtson taught swimming and lifesaving for 85 cents an hour in Richland, Wash.
- ▲ She almost majored in pre-law in college.
- ▲ After her children were grown, she made it a rule to walk 25 miles a week, even when working full-time.
- ▲ Bengtson has four children, six living grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.
- ▲ Her home is centrally located for family reunions — her offspring live in San Luis Obispo, Marina, Oakland and Washington state.
- ▲ While on a six-week trip visiting national parks with her grandsons, 11 and 12, she altered their route to include watching grizzlies catch fish in the Alaskan Panhandle.



MICHELLE SUSKI

Bengtson regales walkers with tales of history and lore on a cemetery tour.

rh

# Robert Half congratulates this year's Tri-Valley Heroes award recipients.

Founded in 1948, Robert Half is the world's leader in specialized staffing and consulting services. Our clients and job candidates are served through more than 320 staffing locations worldwide.

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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND DOWNTOWN

## What are you most grateful for this year?



**Kevin Dolder**  
*Engineer*

I'm incredibly grateful for my beautiful wife Jen and our happy, healthy daughters Catalina and Violet. And of course our dog Max. And that our major remodel is finished in time for the holidays so that we can all enjoy living comfortably in the home we have created for ourselves.



**Alana Meltzer**  
*Communications/marketing*

My vision, for sure. I suffer from some health issues that compromise my ability to see. The medications and other treatment I receive to care for my eyes is incredibly helpful. I don't think I could live independently and productively without all of that.



**Jon Magnusson**  
*Restaurateur*

I'm grateful for the well-being of my children who are scattered across the globe at this point in our lives, as well as for the Pleasanton community, which has supported my business through thick and thin. First and foremost though, I'm so grateful for my devoted staff. I would not be able to accomplish any of this without them.



**Esteban Blancas**  
*Director of operations*

I am so grateful to wake up each day, happy to be going to work. I love my job, my co-workers and my boss. A positive work environment like that makes all the difference in the world and impacts every other aspect of my life in such a good way.



**Sally Schwartz, with baby Anna**  
*Realtor/relocation specialist*

I am so thrilled, at my age (40), to have recently given birth to a perfectly healthy and beautiful baby girl. I remember shuddering when I saw that my hospital chart described me as being of 'Advanced Maternal Age.'

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness

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

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ©2017 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

# Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY • POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

## Theatre

**LIVERMORE SCHOOL OF DANCE**  
Le Tableau Magnifique Ballet Company is entering its 10th repertoire season with a production of The Snow Queen. Dancers range in age from 7 to 40 and are committed to the art of ballet. Livermore School of Dance offers classes for dancers ages 2-1/2 through adult. Performances are Saturday, Nov. 25, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. Tickets are available at [www.lvpac.org](http://www.lvpac.org).

## Concerts

**PLEASANTON COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND HOLIDAY CONCERT**  
Holiday Concert, Sunday, Nov. 26, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue. This year the program will feature music less familiar, or less frequently performed or heard songs, carols, and dances from the British Isles, Russia, Italy, Israel, and America, but all significant to celebrating the year-end happenings. Admission is free with open seating. Donations are appreciated. The doors will open at 1:40 p.m. For more information call 846-5897 or go to [www.pleasantonband.org](http://www.pleasantonband.org).

## Talks & Lectures

**VIRTUALLY SPEAKING TOASTMASTERS**  
Virtually Speaking Toastmasters club meets from noon to 1:00 p.m. every Thursday at Electrical Reliability Services, 6900 Koll Center Pkwy., Suite 415. Everyone is welcome to come see what a positive change Toastmasters can make in their confidence. Call 580-8660.

## Comedy

**COI: HOLIDAY SHORTS**  
Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Tuesday, Nov. 28, Thursday, Nov. 30 and Friday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Your suggestions will inspire holiday themed games, scenes, and improv fun in the first act. The audience will then vote for which short scene Creatures of Impulse will turn into an entire improvised "play" in the second act.

## Community Groups

**PLEASANTON NEWCOMERS CLUB**  
Meet your Tri-Valley neighbors, have fun and learn more about our beautiful community. Open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include monthly coffees and lunches, day trips, games, book club, wine club, shared interest groups, community service, outdoor activities such as hiking, bocce, walking, and golf. For dates and times contact 215-8405 or [pnewcomers@gmail.com](mailto:pnewcomers@gmail.com). Go to [www.PleasantonNewcomers.com](http://www.PleasantonNewcomers.com). 5353 Sunol Blvd.

**PLEASANTON NORTH ROTARY**  
We meet every Friday for lunch 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Handles Gastropub, 855 Main Street. Learn more about us online at: [www.pnr-rotary.org](http://www.pnr-rotary.org). Public Relations Contact: Stacey Blaney, 872-4036, email: [stacey@denalidatasystems.com](mailto:stacey@denalidatasystems.com) or call 519-0669.

**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 Avenue, 2nd Floor Activity Room. Cluttering

is a psychological issue, not an organizing issue. We are for the Clutterer who is ready to change. Free. Optional Contribution of \$3 to \$5 appreciated. [www.ClutterLessEastBay.org](http://www.ClutterLessEastBay.org).

**AL-ANON AND ALATEEN**  
Have you been affected by someone's drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen offer hope and strength for families and friends of problem drinkers. Contact 277-7661 or [help@AlanonTriValley.org](mailto:help@AlanonTriValley.org). Go to [www.alanonTriValley.org](http://www.alanonTriValley.org).

**PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB**  
The Pleasanton Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. No dinner will be served. For more information visit [pleasantonlionsclub.org](http://pleasantonlionsclub.org).

## Lessons & Classes

**KURUKULA EMPOWERMENT & SELF-DEFENSE CLASSES FOR GIRLS & WOMEN**  
Self Defense for Girls, adult women. Mean Girls Prep, Ages 10-14, Livermore. Mom and Girls Middle School Prep. Girls and Moms Basic Self-Defense Ages 10-Adult. Mean Girls/Relationship Safety Workshop Ages 10-16. Mom and Girls Middle School Prep. See schedule at: [empower@kurukula.org](mailto:empower@kurukula.org).

## Health & Wellness

**ADDICTION RECOVERY & MEDITATION - REFUGE RECOVERY**  
Refuge Recovery is a mindfulness-based addiction recovery community. Drawing inspiration from the core teachings of the Four Noble Truths, emphasis is placed on both knowledge

and empathy as a means for overcoming addiction and its causes. Those struggling with any form of addiction greatly benefit when they are able to understand the suffering that addiction has created while developing

compassion for the pain they have experienced. For more info: [trivalleyrefugerecovery@gmail.com](mailto:trivalleyrefugerecovery@gmail.com). Next meeting Nov. 27, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Lyons Wayside Park. First and Neal Streets - by stage, \$5 suggested donation.

## PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY/K. JACOBY

### Black Cat Friday

What type of cat do you like? Three-month-old Verdana has a bold face that will imprint on your heart. Just in case you're set on adopting, join Valley Humane Society today and tomorrow for Black Cat Friday weekend and take home any black-furred feline without fees. Visit Valley Humane Society at 3670 Nevada St., online at [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org) or call 426-8656.

## TAKE US ALONG



**On Rainbow Mountain:** The Duret family went to Cusco, Peru for a family vacation. Here is Mike, Stephanie and Matthew on top of Rainbow Mountain, 16,466 feet of elevation.

To submit your "Take Us Along" entry, email your photo to [editor@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:editor@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.

**NOW OPEN**

680

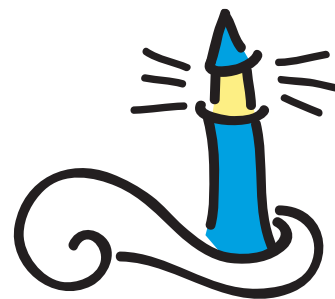
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## Bulletin Board

### 115 Announcements

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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

**145 Non-Profits Needs**  
**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 1-800-731-5042 (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)

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THE EAST BAY'S FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEBSITE

## For Sale

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## Jobs

### 500 Help Wanted

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Lead Engineer- BS CS, Info Sys or rel. + 5 yrs or MS + 2 or suitable combo. Python, Numpy, Jenkins, Linux, scikit-learn, Ruby, Ruby on Rails, AWS. Travel req. Mail res: Deep Sentinel, 600 Main Street #C, Pleasanton, CA 94566

### 560 Employment Information

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## Business Services

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**Do you owe over \$10,000**  
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**Lowest Prices**  
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### 640 Legal Services

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Work to Repair Your Credit Report With The Trusted Leader in Credit Repair. Call Lexington Law for a FREE credit report summary & credit repair consultation. 855-620-9426. John C. Heath, Attorney at Law, PLLC, dba Lexington Law Firm. (AAN CAN)

### 695 Tours & Travel

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## Home Services

### 715 Cleaning Services

**Convenient Cleaning**  
Need a thorough cleaning on an occasional or regular basis? 3 hr min for \$65/will bring supplies. 13+ yrs exp in this area. Need References? Natalie 925-922-3920

### 751 General Contracting

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It is illegal for an unlicensed person to perform contracting work on any project valued at \$500.00 or more in labor and materials. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-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.

### 757 Handyman/ Repairs

**Water Damage to Your Home?**  
Call for a quote for professional cleanup & maintain the value of your home! Set an appt. today! Call 1-855-401-7069 (Cal-SCAN)

### 771 Painting/ Wallpaper

**Brian Ward Painting**  
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR. Kitchen Cabinets, Sheetrock & Texture Repair, Powerwashing, Lic 731462. Call 925-323-7833.

## Legal Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

**Blueprint Transactions**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 537060

The following person doing business as: Blueprint Transactions, 911 Via Del Paz, Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Liana Madnick, 911 Via Del Paz, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein Oct. 23, 2017. Signature of Registrant: Liana Madnick, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Oct. 23, 2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2017.)

**Aquatec Pools**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 537320

The following person doing business as: Aquatec Pools, 4984 Sterling Drive, Fremont, CA 94536, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Antonio Padilla, 4984 Sterling Drive, Fremont, CA 94536. This business is conducted by Antonio Padilla, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein Oct. 30, 2017. Signature of Registrant: Antonio Padilla, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 30, 2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 10, 17, 24 and Dec. 1, 2017.)

**Culinary Group Solutions**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 536710

The following person doing business as: Culinary Group Solutions, 7172 Regional St., #456, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Joseph Rodriguez, 7172 Regional St. #456, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by Joseph Rodriguez, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 17, 2017. Registrant Signature: Joseph E. Rodriguez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 17, 2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 10, 17, 24 and Dec. 1, 2017.)

**Access Mobility**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 537662

The following person doing business as: Access Mobility, 6593 Cottonwood Circle #93C, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Francisco Martinez, 6593 Cottonwood Circle #93C, Dublin, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Francisco Martinez, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein Nov. 7, 2017. Signature of Registrant: Francisco Martinez, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Nov. 7, 2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 10, 17, 24 and Dec. 1, 2017.)

**KABUL KABOB & GRILL**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 536804

The following person(s) doing business as: KABUL KABOB & GRILL, 8939 SAN RAMON RD, DUBLIN, 94568, ALAMEDA COUNTY, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): SHOAB RAZAYE. This business is conducted by an Individual Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on OCTOBER 4, 2017. SIGNATURE OF REGISTRANT: SHOAB RAZAYE, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on OCTOBER 18, 2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, NOVEMBER 17, 24, DECEMBER 1, 8, 2017)

**ROYAL BEAUTY**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 537768

The following persons doing business as: ROYAL BEAUTY, 6911 MARIPOSA CIRCLE #204, DUBLIN, CA, 94568 ALAMEDA COUNTY, is hereby registered by the following owners: KISHA PRINCE, 6911 MARIPOSA CIRCLE #204, DUBLIN, CA, 94568 AND VIVIAN PHILLIPS, 3811 MAYFIELD OAKS, HOUSTON, TX 77088. This business is conducted by a JOINT VENTURE and began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein on JANUARY 1, 2017. SIGNATURE OF REGISTRANT: KISHA PRINCE, PARTNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on NOVEMBER 8, 2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, NOVEMBER 17, 24, DECEMBER 1, 8, 2017)

**MOUNTAIN HOUSE HOME CLEANING SERVICE**  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 537966

The following person doing business as: MOUNTAIN HOUSE HOME CLEANING SERVICE, 4000 PIMILICO DRIVE STE 114-212, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY, is hereby registered by the following owner: APRIL LARSSON, 4000 PIMILICO DRIVE, STE 114-212, PLEASANTON, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. SIGNATURE OF REGISTRANT: APRIL LARSSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on NOVEMBER 15, 2107. (Pleasanton Weekly, NOVEMBER 24, AND DECEMBER 1, 8, 15, 2017)

Need to publish a  
**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT**  
in a Alameda County newspaper of



general circulation?  
Call the  
**Pleasanton Weekly**  
**925-600-0840**

**Pleasanton Weekly**

"Thanksgiving is a time to give, a time to love,  
and a time to reflect on the things that  
matter most in life."

**SOLD \$1,238,000**



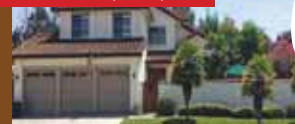
4909 FOREST HILL PLEAS.

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# Real Estate

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### Pleasanton

**5 BEDROOMS**

**3720 Raboli Street**

**\$2,499,000**

Sun 1-4

Fabulous Properties

980-0273 | 918-8226

Find more open home listings at [pleasantonweekly.com/real\\_estate](http://pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate)

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Sept. 18 to Oct. 5.

### Pleasanton

**6074 Acadia Court** Mihelcic Trust to K. Guntakalpatil for \$830,000

**6077 Acadia Court** Durrett Trust to Remmich Trust for \$750,000

**474 Amaral Circle** Stahlnecker Trust to M. Kearns for \$905,000

**4092 Brooks Court** W. & R. Harrison to V. & S. Narsingoju for \$865,000

**6479 Calle Esperanza** Leiva Trust to Moresi Trust for \$1,200,000

**7595 Canyon Meadow Circle #H** W. Lazar to R. Powers for \$586,000

**3119 Catawba Court** E. Thackaberry to Y. Wang for \$1,250,000

**3519 Chippendale Court** Coyne Trust to P. Kumar for \$1,045,000

**1957 Clover Court** G. Heist to J. Wu for \$2,400,000

**829 Division Street #A** J. Carter to J. Prince for \$424,000

**184 Junipero Street** Stairway Trust to V. Gariney for \$735,000

**244 Rachael Place** J. & V. Ravindran to S. Balamatti for \$730,000

**3339 Rosada Court** Chen Trust to Y. Li for \$760,000

**3387 Smoketree Commons Drive** R. Martino to J. Sicat for \$400,000

**5327 Springdale Avenue** Liu Trust to V. & M. Gupta for \$775,000

**878 Sylvaner Drive** J. Comendador to Sylvan Investments for \$795,000

**1994 Taboada Lane** Summerhill Las Positas to A. Chen for \$860,000

**3564 Touriga Drive** Trimble Trust to W. Guo for \$1,012,000

**28 Twelve Oaks Drive** Brown Trust to S. Zhuge for \$2,250,000

**1165 Wenig Court** S. Lacey to Y. Liang for \$1,469,000

**3671 Ashwood Drive - M. & V. Jakovljevic to H. & L. Reddy for \$850,000**

**3721 Ashwood Drive** G. & B. Estrada to W. Cabrales for \$910,000

**211 Birch Creek Drive** K. Addiego to G. He for \$811,000

**2109 Black Oak Court** Takehara Trust to N. Wu for \$2,550,000

**5430 Cameo Court** Kelley Trust to S. Palaniappan for \$765,000

**646 Concord Place** M. & T. McCoy to A. Ranjan for \$541,000

**2742 Longspur Way** Batoy Trust to J. Ding for \$1,323,000

Source: California REsource

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