

Pleasanton Weekly

VOL. XVIII, NUMBER 49

DECEMBER 29, 2017

Donate to the
Holiday Fund

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FAREWELL TO 2017

A look back
at last year's
news in Pleasanton

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Jeremy Walsh, editor; Regina Nestor, administrative associate; Julia Brown, staff reporter; Erika Alvero, staff reporter; Karen Klein, multimedia sales executive; Frances DeNisco, administrative associate. Front row: Jeb Bing, editor emeritus; and Gina Channell, publisher. Not pictured: Carol Cano, multimedia sales executive – real estate.

Happy Holidays ²⁰¹⁷

from all of us at

**Pleasanton
Weekly**

AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Good news on the Weekly's Holiday Fund

The good news is that as of Christmas Day, we have passed the \$55,000 mark in contributions to the Pleasanton Weekly's 2017 Holiday Fund.

That's a welcome achievement at a time when public contributions to charities and nonprofits are being stretched to the limit across the country, a concern stemming from the many added fundraisers this year for hurricane victims in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico and fire relief for those whose homes have been destroyed by fires in Northern and Southern California.

We appreciate the several hundred Holiday Fund donors who have given \$25, \$100, \$500, \$1,500, and more, including one donation of \$5,000 and another of \$10,000 from an individual who prefers to remain anonymous.

And there's more good news. It's not too late to donate to the Holiday Fund during this season of giving and in time to help the 12 nonprofits during the coming year that the 2017 campaign is supporting.

Again this year, the Weekly is partnering with Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which is handling all finances related to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. This allows donors to take advantage of a tax deduction for the dollars they contribute through the foundation's 501(c)(3) status to the fullest extent of the law, but your contributions must be made by this Sunday in order to qualify as 2017 charitable donations.

Contributions made by Jan. 12 — when the current campaign ends — will qualify for whatever the new 2018 tax laws allow.

Donations 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. They are:

- 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. They are:

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



TRI-VALLEY

Girl tie-dyes in YMCA art program supported by the Holiday Fund.

- Foundation
- Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley
- Sunflower Hill
- Tri-Valley YMCA

These organizations will need increased financial support in 2018 to meet a growing number of those in need.

Take Axis Community Health, for one. This Pleasanton-based community health center serves more than 14,000 Tri-Valley residents with primary medical care for all ages, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment and a supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children (WIC). More than 20% of Axis patients are now children under the age of 18.

"Holiday Fund support is a vital part of Axis' budget," said Sue Compton, Axis CEO.

Another beneficiary — the Tri-Valley YMCA, also based in Pleasanton — offers programs that include before- and after-school childcare, preschool, summer day camp, a statewide Youth & Government Program with more than 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 Y's Pleasanton facility," said Kenny Altenburg, branch operations director.

For more information on the 2017 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, including how to contribute, check out our Holiday Fund section inside on pages 10 and 11. ■

About the Cover

We take a look back at the top Pleasanton stories from 2017 in our "Year in Review" section, starting on Page 12. Photo by Thinkstock. Cover design by Kristin Brown. Vol. XVIII, Number 49



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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What do you hope to accomplish in the new year?



Amanda Tirello

Sales

In 2018, my goal is to find and build a relationship with myself. I hope to do that by traveling to new, unfamiliar places, and by picking up some new hobbies that I've always been interested in pursuing but have never seemed to be able to find the time for.



Michael Lawrence

Diesel field mechanic

In the new year, my goal is to spend more weekends outdoors, doing things away from work. I am also eager to bond more closely with the people who are important to me.



Danika Schultz

College student

I am eager to graduate from college next spring and start my real-life career. I am hoping to get a good job in the field I'm interested in pursuing.



Megan Grose

Elementary school teacher

I am looking forward to graduating with my masters in math education and taking a solo trip to the Grand Canyon. It's something I've always wanted to do, and in 2018 my goal is to finally make it happen.



Joel Schiffer

Veterinary health technician

Professionally, I'd like to help at least as many animals this year as I did last year. Personally, I'd like to pin down a wedding date with my fiancée and start planning for our future together.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness

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Pleasanton Weekly

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Lions' crab feed

Registration is underway for the Pleasanton Lions Club's annual crab feed fundraiser, set for 5:30 p.m. Jan. 20 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

The service organization's main fundraiser, the crab feed seats more than 1,000 attendees and usually sells out early.

Attendees will have their fair share of crab with cocktail sauce, green salad with shrimp, pasta and dinner rolls. There will be a no-host bar. Entertainment will include casino games, music and dancing, plus a variety of silent auction items.

Funds raised by the crab feed will benefit Lions Club efforts locally and worldwide. For more information, visit pleasantonlionsclub.org.

Spreading cheer

Spread Cheer With Beer, Visit Tri-Valley's seasonal beer trail passport, has returned and now through Jan. 31, people who use the passport to visit at least five participating vendors can help raise funds for local nonprofit Sunflower Hill.

The beer passport is accepted by 22 breweries, taprooms and alehouses in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Danville. For every five stamps received, Visit Tri-Valley will donate \$20 to the nonprofit working to create residential options for adults with special needs.

The donation will be made after the passport is verified in person at Visit Tri-Valley offices at 5075 Hopyard Road, Suite 240, or by scanning and emailing the passport to tourism@VisitTriValley.com.

Non-beer drinkers can contribute too, by buying a Spread Cheer With Beer ugly sweater for \$60, with \$20 going to Sunflower Hill. Details at ww2.visittrivalley.com/spreadcheer.

2017 property taxes

Alameda County Treasurer-Tax Collector Henry Levy reminded taxpayers, especially residential homeowners, to consider paying the second installment of their property taxes for the 2017-18 fiscal year by this weekend.

The due date isn't until Feb. 1 — and the tax won't be delinquent until April 10 — but the new federal tax regulations will limit the amount of the itemized deduction for paid property taxes as of Jan. 1.

Taxpayers can use all the payment options that are usually available, with Levy's office recommending payment through the internet via a bank transfer. Payments can also be made by cash, check or credit card. Visit www.acgov.org/propertytax or call 510-272-6800. ■

City plans to retain Pleasanton Garbage as solid waste hauler

Council OKs going out to bid for new company to process recyclables, organics

By JEREMY WALSH

The city of Pleasanton appears poised to continue its decades-long relationship with Pleasanton Garbage Service (PGS) after the City Council last week endorsed the early framework for a new franchise agreement to allow the local company to remain as the city's solid waste service provider.

In addition to some new services and anticipated rate reductions, a key aspect of the proposal would see the city contract with another company to process recyclable and

organic materials collected from Pleasanton residents and businesses after PGS officials said they would be unlikely to provide processing services in a cost-effective manner going forward.

Separating out processing services would allow the city to avoid needing to find a new garbage hauler and instead stay with PGS, which has been servicing Pleasanton since the 1970s.

"I'm thrilled that we're extending the franchise agreement with PGS without having to go out to

bid," Councilwoman Kathy Narum said during the Dec. 19 meeting in the council chamber. "I think it is going to be a benefit to the citizens and the businesses. They are going to see a reduction in their garbage and they're going to get more services."

Mayor Jerry Thorne also said he was extremely happy to see the city be able to continue working with PGS, which has become a Pleasanton institution.

"When I first heard that (the city might need to consider going

to bid), I kind of had a chill run down my back because these guys are part of the history of this community," the mayor added. "So I'm very, very glad we were able to work this out and we can move forward with it."

With the current franchise agreement set to expire in June 2019, city staff — along with its consultant firm HF&H Consultants — have been negotiating with PGS on a new deal for months, according

See **GARBAGE** on Page 8

Stoneridge Creek expansion nearly complete

Final phase features new homes, amenities, landscaping

By JEREMY WALSH

The Stoneridge Creek senior living community is close to seeing its full vision come to fruition.

Construction is moving toward completion on the final phase that will bring more than 150 new homes along with added indoor and outdoor amenities for seniors at the already-bustling 50-acre complex in the northeast part of Pleasanton.

In fact, dozens of condominium-style homes included in the expansion are being lived in now, with construction on that portion of the project wrapping up in October. And the remaining aspects of the project are expected to open once they're completed, with the whole effort due to be finished midway through 2018.

"Excited is a way to put it," Stoneridge Creek executive director Zeke Griffin said of the impending project completion.

"Residents — the new ones and the ones who have been here for four years — they're all excited to not only finish construction but to move in and use some of the new amenities," Griffin added. "Staff-wise, we're just excited. We want to have the whole entire community together. It's been a work in progress for at least four years of operation, but even before that."

Stoneridge Creek first opened in 2013 just down the road from the El Charro Road-Stoneridge Drive intersection, offering a variety of housing options, amenities, activities and restaurants to nearly 450 active seniors 60 and



JEREMY WALSH

New three-story condo building open in Stoneridge Creek expansion area.

older within its gated community at 3300 Stoneridge Creek Way. Its adjacent assisted living facility, CreekView, came online in late 2015.

That set the stage for work on the final phase of the main campus, a project costing tens of millions of dollars on the north end of the site backing up to Interstate 580.

Excavation work began in fall 2015, and construction started toward the latter half of 2016.

The last phase features three types of housing options: 83 apartments in the new four-story, J-shaped "Lassen" building; 56 condos spread among six "Garden Terrace" buildings at two and three stories high; and 12 "Villa" units, single-story houses designed as either standalone or a duet.

Tina Bonaccorsi moved from her house in Fremont to Stoneridge Creek in October, deciding the time was right to downsize into a one-bedroom (plus a den) Garden

Terrace unit in the expansion area.

She spoke highly of her new condo and all the amenities she can access on a daily basis, even saying she enjoys watching the construction across from her second-story unit.

"Starting with the view in the morning. Everything is so convenient, things I never thought about," said Bonaccorsi, a 79-year-old who still works, as a courtesy driver for a car dealership in Fremont. "(Stairs) prompted my move, and here everything is on the level. The floor plan is fabulous."

In addition to the under-construction Villa and Lassen housing units, the expansion area is due to bring with it a variety of new amenities, such as two flexible dining options, including a cafe, a pavilion for extra dining space, heated lagoon-style pool,

See **STONERIDGE** on Page 6

PUSD facilities workshop

Weekend board meeting to focus on enrollment, bond projects

By JULIA BROWN

The Pleasanton school board has scheduled a special meeting for next weekend to discuss school facilities.

At the workshop, which is set to begin at 8:30 a.m. on Jan. 6, trustees will discuss student enrollment as of December as well as the Measure 11 bond project list, according to PUSD spokesman Patrick Gannon.

No formal action will take place at the workshop, but the board may provide direction to district administrators on Measure 11 projects.

"The Jan. 6 workshop will be held for the Board of Trustees to discuss and provide direction regarding the size of schools, as well as enrollment in North Pleasanton as it relates to pending and future bond projects," PUSD superintendent David Haglund said in a statement.

The facilities workshop will be the second such special meeting held by the board this school year.

At a study session in September, the board reviewed the district's strategic plan and data on PUSD facilities, including guidelines regarding the size of schools and estimated costs affiliated with a prospective new elementary school. Trustees came up with a number of ideas relating to future facility needs, including finding a parcel near Hart Middle School for a new elementary campus and splitting grades K-5 between Donlon Elementary and a

See **WORKSHOP** on Page 7

Matthew Skinner as Thomas Jefferson and Rachel Powers as Martha Jefferson in the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production of "1776," which opens in Livermore on Jan. 13.



JOSH MILBOURNE

Tri-Valley Rep presenting '1776, the Musical'

Unconventional show brings American history to vivid life

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Take a romp through our country's founding, as Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre brings John Adams, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson to the stage in "1776, the Musical." The show hit Broadway in 1969, winning three Tony Awards, including Best Musical, to prove that we can tap our toes through a history lesson.

"I have come to the conclusion that one useless man is called a disgrace, that two are called a law firm, and that three or more become a Congress," John Adams opines in a booming voice, addressing the Second Continental Congress.

He goes on to list the atrocities of King George and the need for independence, concluding with, "What in the hell are you waiting for?"

Congress responds with a rousing chorus: "Sit down, John! Sit down, John! For God's sake, sit down, John!"

It is the summer of 1776, as Adams and other founding fathers attempt to convince their colleagues to sign the Declaration of Independence. The show puts a human face on history, portraying national icons as proud, frightened, uncertain, irritable, charming, often petty but ultimately noble figures determined to do the right thing for a fledgling nation.

Reviews of the musical noted that it is gripping, with "unusually full" characters.

"It is warm with a life of its own; it is funny, it is moving ... Often, as I sat enchanted in my seat, it reminded me of Gilbert and Sullivan in its amused regard of human frailties ... The songs and lyrics are ... remarkably original," wrote John Chapman of the New York Daily News.

"1776" was made into a movie in 1972 and was revived on Broadway

in 1976.

But you can see it at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore in two weeks, with producer Kathleen Breedveld; director Daren AC Carollo; musical director Sierra Dee; and choreographer Rachel Powers. John Adams is played by Eric Neiman; Benjamin Franklin, DC Scarpelli; Thomas Jefferson, Matthew Skinner; John Dickinson, Peter Budinger; Abigail Adams, Rebecca Davis; and Martha Jefferson, Rachel Powers. ■

Toe-tapping history

What: "1776, the Musical"
Who: Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre
When: Jan. 13-28; Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.; plus extra Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. Jan. 27
Where: Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore
Tickets: \$19-39. Call 373-6800; go to www.lvpac.org or theater box office.

Regional banks announce merger

Transaction between Tri-Valley Bank, Heritage Bank of Commerce valued at \$31.6M

By ERIKA ALVERO

Tri-Valley Bank announced last week that it would be merging into Heritage Bank of Commerce.

Headquartered in San Ramon, Tri-Valley Bank has branches in San Ramon and Livermore, serving businesses and individuals mostly in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The boards of directors for both companies approved the transaction, which required the approvals of bank regulatory agencies and Tri-Valley shareholders.

"We consider Heritage Bank of Commerce to be the premier community bank in the Bay Area," said Arnold T. Grisham, the president, chairman and CEO of Tri-Valley

Bank. "We are pleased to join their organization."

Owned by parent company Heritage Commerce Corp., Heritage Bank of Commerce is headquartered in San Jose with 11 full-service branches throughout the South Bay and East Bay, including at 300 Main St. in Pleasanton.

The merger transaction is valued at approximately \$31.6 million, and Heritage will issue about \$1.9 million of its shares of common stock as part of the merger.

Tri-Valley Bank shareholders will receive a fixed exchange ratio of 0.0489 of one share of Heritage common stock for every Tri-Valley share, officials said. Tri-Valley shareholders

are not expected to see gain or loss in terms of stock consideration.

Based on financial statements as of Sept. 30, the combined company would have about \$3 billion in total assets. It's expected that existing Heritage shareholders will own about 95.2% of the combined company's outstanding shares and Tri-Valley shareholders about 4.8%.

"We believe that all of our constituents, customers, shareholders and employees will benefit from the larger scale and shared commitment to community banking," Grisham said. "Heritage has a track record of strong performance, and we are excited to combine with their growing banking franchise." ■

Zone 7 recruiting for new general manager

Application deadline set for Jan. 8

By JULIA BROWN

Zone 7 Water Agency has begun the process of searching for its next general manager with the goal of making a hire by March.

Current general manager Jill Duerig, who has held the position since February 2007, announced in October her plan to retire in early 2018.

Since then, the agency has contracted with Ralph Andersen & Associates for recruitment services at a cost just under \$30,000.

The firm has set a deadline of Jan. 8 for interested candidates to apply for the job, with interviews to follow in February, according to a brochure posted to the Ralph Andersen & Associates website.

The final selection process will remain confidential "to ensure full participation of interested parties," an excerpt from the post reads.

"With the board's desire to select a well-rounded executive to lead the organization into the next decade or longer, this career opportunity is unmatched by many public entities," firm officials wrote. "The board seeks and encourages a broad field of highly qualified

candidates for review."

The ideal candidate, the firm said, should be well-versed in California water issues and know how to effectively run a business that is also a municipal organization.

"This professional will be an exceptional listener, communicator, and an accomplished presenter with the ability to build strong relationships and engender trust among staff and the public," firm officials said. "The general manager will also be both diplomatic and decisive with focus on excellence in a public agency."

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree with major coursework in engineering, business or public administration, legal or a related field, and at least 10 years of relevant professional experience with a minimum of five years of executive-level management experience. An advanced degree is preferred.

A public agency in eastern Alameda County, Zone 7 acts as a water wholesaler for water service providers in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore and San Ramon's Dougherty Valley as well as provides flood protection in the Livermore and Amador valleys. ■



STONERIDGE

Continued from Page 5

pickleball court, rose garden, second dog park, croquet court and creek with a waterfall feature.

It will also feature a hobby shop and astronomy center, fitness center and crafting space, new maintenance building, landscaped berms and new underground and perimeter parking.

And the demand certainly exists for the new addition to Stoneridge Creek, according to Griffin. More

than 200,000 residents in Alameda County are 65 or older, a population that is expected to increase significantly in the next decade as baby boomers continue aging.

"There is such a growing need for all these services in Pleasanton and throughout the Bay Area," Griffin said. "This addition to the community, combined with the earlier phases, provides a full spectrum of amenities and options for active older adults seeking a vibrant lifestyle." ■

TAKE US ALONG



Celebrating close to home: Craig and Karla Garcia celebrated their 22nd anniversary and her birthday (both Aug. 5) with a group of longtime friends. Here, the group visited Longevity Wines in Livermore. From left: PressTon (wine dog), Debra Long (co-owner), Craig, Karla, Phil Long (owner and winemaker), and Cinde and Nile Godfrey.

WORKSHOP

Continued from Page 5

new school on the property.

No decisions were made at the initial workshop, but at the time administrators indicated they would return at a second future facilities workshop with recommendations and next steps based on that discussion.

Since the passage of the school facilities bond last November, the school district has been working to determine how an estimated \$270 million in tax revenue will be expended on a list of projects approved by the school board last

year and outlined in the Measure 11 ballot language. The list includes the Lydiksen Elementary rebuild, safety and security upgrades like new fire alarm systems, and a new elementary school among other projects.

The new elementary school has been a large part of Measure 11 board discussions so far.

In February the board directed administrators to explore building a new school on PUSD's Neal property, located at 1689 Vineyard Ave. in the southeast part of the city. Trustees acknowledged then that while the property isn't in the most impacted part of the district,

potentially building there would save time and money by not having to purchase another site.

The district briefly explored the former Evangelical Free Church of Pleasanton property in the Valley Trails neighborhood, but pulled back after learning PUSD was precluded from pursuing the site based on a mitigation agreement the board had previously approved between the district and the site's developer, Ponderosa Homes. The City Council later approved Ponderosa's proposal to build 36 homes on the property.

In August, the school board authorized the first issuance and sale

of Measure 11 bonds with roughly \$1 million from the \$72 million initial series earmarked for a new elementary school feasibility study.

Trustees and community members have pointed to the continued use of portables as a reason for the need for a new elementary school, along with current and projected enrollment numbers. Although the district's demographer found in February that student enrollment is projected to decline over the next decade, the same report determined that 11 total elementary schools will be needed once PUSD reaches maturity — the unknown point in time when all land zoned residential

in the city will be built on.

The report from Davis Demographics also showed that existing elementary schools in northern Pleasanton — Donlon, Fairlands and Walnut Grove — are impacted and expected to stay that way.

As of September, the student populations at the three schools were 813, 786 and 730, respectively. Current district guidelines establish a preferred school size range of 600-700 students per elementary school.

The Jan. 6 workshop is open to the public and will be held in the district office boardroom at 4665 Bernal Ave. ■

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State officials discuss rules, fees for cannabis businesses

Supervisor Miley helps spearhead summit for Alameda County

With Monday set as the start date for legal sales of recreational marijuana in California, dozens of current and potential cannabis entrepreneurs came to a summit in Oakland last week to hear state officials explain the rules they must follow and the fees they must pay.

At the Winter Cannabis Summit at the Alameda County Board of Supervisors' chambers Dec. 20, state officials said businesses must pay one-time license applications fees ranging from \$135 to \$8,655 and annual license fees ranging from \$1,205 to \$78,000.

County Supervisor Nate Miley, who helped organize the summit and represents Pleasanton on the Board of Supervisors, pointed out, "Those are just the fees. Businesses are also subject to taxes."

In addition, Dr. Asif Mann, the chief of the Manufactured Cannabis Safety Branch of the California Department of Public Health, said cannabis businesses must get authorization, such as permits, from local officials.

County supervisors said the summit's goal was to bring key stakeholders together to address the challenges and opportunities in implementing the new legal, taxed and tightly regulated system for medical and adult recreational use of cannabis.

Panel discussions focused on regulations for licensing, manufacturers, retailers, distributors, testing labs and micro-businesses.

Although the rules and fees were daunting to many of those who attended the summit, Mann said state officials don't want to scare off people from entering the cannabis field but instead want to encourage them to enter it.

"Our goal is to get you licensed because your success is our success," he said.

Mann said the Department of Public Health's role is to promote public health and workplace safety through regulations, licensing and compliance and by making sure that cannabis products are made in a safe way.

He said labeling may not refer to products as candy and cannot be attractive to children.

Mann said another rule is that products cannot be in the shape of a human being, animal, insect or fruit.

Richard Parrott, the director of the California Department of Food and Agriculture's CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing Division, said no alcohol or tobacco sales are allowed on the premises of businesses that sell cannabis.

Parrott said people who have criminal backgrounds may apply for licenses but said all prospective entrepreneurs must undergo background checks and people who have criminal convictions that are "substantially related" to the field may be denied licenses unless they provide sufficient evidence that they're rehabilitated. ■

—Jeff Shuttleworth, Bay City News

Whooping cough cases reported at Foothill High School

PUSD notifies parents of children who may have been exposed

By JULIA BROWN

Pleasanton Unified School District has notified some Foothill High School parents whose children may have been exposed to pertussis — better known as whooping cough — in recent weeks.

There have been "a handful" of reported cases of whooping cough that started at the school three to four weeks ago, according to PUSD spokesman Patrick Gannon.

"Parents with students in classes that were potentially exposed received notifications via email," Gannon said in an email. "We're working closely with the Alameda County Public Health Department on reported cases."

Whooping cough typically starts like a cold, with symptoms including a stuffy or runny nose, a mild cough and a low fever or no fever at all, according to the county Public Health Department.

The cough steadily worsens to where coughing fits or spasms occur, causing one to have problems catching their breath or to gag or vomit after coughing. Occasionally when someone with pertussis inhales after a coughing fit, they make a high-pitched "whooping" sound.

Whooping cough is spread when a sick person coughs or sneezes in another person's face; shares a confined space for more than one hour; and by kissing, health officials said. Symptoms usually start within a week to 10 days after contact with the ill person but can take up to three weeks to develop.

Public Health Department spokeswoman Sherri Willis said Dec. 21 that year to date there have been 98 confirmed cases of whooping cough in the county. Of that total, 62 cases have involved children ages 10 to 17, which she said "is not unusual."

"We have not had an outbreak

(of whooping cough) this year," Willis said. "This ebbs and flows; it completely depends on the year and factors we can't predict."

She added, "This is one of the childhood immunizations, so kids are protected if they're properly immunized and people around them are as well."

Health officials say that "high risk contacts," or people who could become very sick from pertussis — which includes infants younger than 12 months, pregnant women in their third trimester and people who work with or are regularly around infants younger than 12 months — may need to take antibiotics to prevent getting sick if they are exposed to whooping cough.

Children exposed to whooping cough who live with high risk contact individuals should receive antibiotics even if the child has no symptoms, according to health officials. ■

GARBAGE

Continued from Page 5

to assistant city manager Brian Dolan.

Given PGS's long history of quality service to Pleasanton, the council wanted to first negotiate with the company on an updated contract, rather than conduct a costly public bidding process to find a new service provider, if PGS could meet the city's waste collection goals, according to Dolan.

City staff and PGS officials have now reached an accord for a tentative agreement, with key provisions such as a 13.3% reduction in PGS compensation, the city's franchise fee will increase from 2% to 4%, service rates will be based on an industry index and rates won't be adjusted to pay for costs incurred in prior years.

New services offered during the 11-year contract would include bulk curbside waste pickup for customers up to three times per year, collection of used motor oil and filters, PGS installing a state-of-the-art information system and the company improving public education on recycling and organics diversion.

The notable exception from the proposed contract is that the Pleasanton company would no longer be responsible for processing recyclable and organic materials. For PGS officials, processing recyclables at the Busch Road transfer station became too costly and they were concerned about being able to find

a vendor to process organics at an acceptable cost, Dolan said.

Under the new proposal, PGS would still pick up recyclables and organics from residents and businesses, but the city would instead find another firm to process those materials — and PGS would need to deliver those materials to the city's new vendor.

"Looking at what current market prices are for recyclable processing and for organics, we believe there will be an additional net savings that won't erode the 13.3% but it may improve it," Bob Hilton, of HF&H Consultants, told the council.

Thorne later asked why city officials were confident they could obtain a cost-effective contract for recyclable or organics processing when PGS couldn't do it themselves.

"I guess because every time I've done it for a city, we've been able to get it," Hilton said with a chuckle.

"It's also the fact that because as a municipal agency, you can direct your flows in materials. The companies that own these facilities have some confidence in their ability to have a contract with you that you'll live up to and they can enforce," he added.

Five residents spoke to the council, expressing support for the tentative agreement to keep PGS as the city's waste hauler while also praising PGS owners Tony Macchiano and Bob Molinaro for their positive impacts on Pleasanton and giving back in the community.

John Sensiba said being good

corporate citizens "is just in their blood ... They just do it because it's who they are." He also lauded city staff and PGS officials for finding a creative solution regarding recyclables and organics processing.

Councilwoman Karla Brown was among the council members to echo those sentiments.

"It was the reason we stayed at the table. It was the reason that we worked really hard to come to a commitment, is your citizenship and your involvement in our community and the terrific job you and your employees do," Brown said.

The council's Subcommittee on Refuse and Recycling is now set to review the final language of the new agreement with PGS in the weeks ahead.

City staff and the consultant firm will also spend the next four months conducting a public bid for organics and recyclables processing as well as work with the subcommittee on calculating the new rates for residents and businesses based on anticipated cost reductions.

As part of their discussion last week, the council approved a \$149,600 contract extension with Hilton's firm to cover final negotiations and agreement language (\$35,000), to conduct the new bidding process (\$99,600) and to set the new rate structure for city customers (\$15,000).

City officials hope to bring forward the final franchise agreement for council approval in late spring, so the agreement can take effect on July 1. ■



COSMO'S

Custom Barber Shop

Thank You for Voting Us "Best Barbershop"



Cosmo's Barber Shop now has a second location. **Cosmo's 2 Custom Barber & Beauty Shop** is now open at 2739 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton (formerly "Shear Cuts") in the Gene's Fine Foods Shopping Center. We specialize in haircuts and styles for men, women and children.

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Pedestrian killed in Hacienda Drive collision

A pedestrian who was killed after being struck by a car on Hacienda Drive last week has been identified as 29-year-old Vincent Whitley, according to the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau.

Whitley's last known address was in Oregon, according to the coroner.

At about 8:40 p.m. Dec. 20, police responded to a report of a collision between a car and a pedestrian on Hacienda Drive just north of Interstate 580.

The driver, a Pleasanton resident whose name was not released, was driving a Chevy Bolt north on Hacienda when Whitley stepped off the center median and into the path of the car, according to police.

The driver attempted to brake and swerve out of the way but struck the man with the front of her car. She stopped at the scene and called 911.

Emergency personnel arrived on scene and treated Whitley before transporting him to Eden Medical Center where he later succumbed to his injuries.

The driver was uninjured and is cooperating with the investigation. At this time, police do not believe alcohol or drugs were a factor in the collision.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to call the Pleasanton Police Department at 931-5100. Reference case No. 17-52168.

In other police news

- The California Peace Officers Association recently presented Pleasanton Police Department Lt. Maria Munayer with the 2017 Trail Blazer Award.

The award recognizes a California woman — sworn or non-sworn — who has enhanced the visibility and stature of women in law enforcement through their work.

Munayer accepted the award at the Annual Women Leaders in Law Enforcement Conference held in conjunction with the California Police Chiefs Association.



Lt. Maria Munayer

"I'm deeply honored to receive this recognition and feel inspired to continue serving the Pleasanton community alongside the dedicated men and women of the Pleasanton Police Department," Munayer said in a statement.

Munayer was the first woman to hold a command staff position in Pleasanton's 123-year history and the first female SWAT operator for the department.

"She leads committees charged with strategic planning and has developed expertise in the uncharted waters of branding police organizations," a statement from the department reads. "She is a sought-after mentor and coach in her organization and focuses much of her efforts on staff development and succession planning.

"She is an inspiration and positive influence, not only for those within her organization, but to the law enforcement profession as a whole," officials added.

Outside of the Pleasanton Police Department, Munayer devotes much of her time giving back to local communities and ones abroad. She is the founder of The Bridge-watch Angels, where she trains and mobilizes hundreds of volunteers during every major holiday to deter

suicide on the Golden Gate Bridge. She has also traveled to East Africa where she delivered hundreds of books and school supplies to children of Kenya.

Munayer has served in law enforcement for 23 years, working for the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in addition to the Pleasanton Police Department. She holds a master's degree in leadership from St. Mary's College.

- Tri-Valley law enforcement officials are joining those across the region in mourning the loss of a California Highway Patrol officer from Tracy who died following an alleged DUI collision late Sunday night on southbound I-880 in Hayward.

CHP Assistant Chief Ernest Sanchez said that Officer Andrew Camilleri, 33, died when a speeding red Cadillac hit the back of a patrol vehicle that Camilleri and another officer were in around midnight.

The patrol vehicle was parked on the right shoulder of I-880 near Highway 92 as part of the officers' efforts to patrol the highway, which involves using tools such as radar, Sanchez said.

The other officer, Jonathan Velasquez, was treated at a hospital and released.

Sanchez said the name of the

Cadillac driver, a 22-year-old Hayward man, has not yet been released. He is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and marijuana and is in serious condition at a hospital.

CHP officials said the man was coming home from a party.

"This needs to stop," Sanchez said, adding that he is not only brokenhearted about Camilleri's death, but also angry. He said that it's not just because the CHP lost one of its own but that too many fatalities have occurred, just in the past couple of weeks, in the Bay Area because of people driving under the influence.

Camilleri is survived by his wife Rosanna, three children; 12, 6 and 2 years old; his parents, a brother and sister. ■

—Julia Brown and Bay City News Service

Lasting Memories

An online directory of obituaries and remembrances.

Go to:
PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Dec. 24

Theft

- 2:19 p.m. on the 00 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 7:17 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

Burglary

- 9:34 a.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

Dec. 23

DUI

- 8:58 p.m. at Stoneridge and Johnson drives
- 11:40 p.m. at Main and Spring streets

Domestic battery

- 7:55 p.m. on Smoketree Commons

Theft

- 2:34 p.m., 4900 block of Owens Drive; bicycle theft
- 5:55 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 6:46 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Warrant arrest

- 2:23 p.m. on the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Alcohol violation

- 11:01 a.m. at Valley Avenue and Koll Center Parkway

Dec. 22

Assault/battery

- 2:33 p.m. on the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Theft from auto

- 10:46 a.m. on the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 12:15 p.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive
- 2:58 p.m. on the 3300 block of Smoketree Commons

- 8:46 p.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Bicycle theft

- 8:07 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Shoplifting

- 6:13 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Dec. 21

Burglary

- 8:04 a.m. on the 8000 block of Mountain View Drive
- 2:13 p.m. on the 4300 block of Fairlands Drive

Theft

- 12:26 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Warrant arrest

- 5:20 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Vandalism

- 6:25 p.m. on the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive

Drug violation

- 4 p.m. on the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Dec. 20

Theft

- 9:08 a.m., 8000 block of Arroyo Drive; theft from auto
- 10:39 a.m. on the 400 block of Old Bernal Avenue
- 5:08 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 9:20 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Alcohol violation

- 7:26 p.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Dec. 19

Fraud

- 1:17 p.m. on the 6600 block of Santa Rita Road

- 7:40 p.m. on the 2100 block of Camino Brazos

- 11:08 p.m. on the 4400 block of Hacienda Drive

Theft from auto

- 2:29 p.m. on the 6800 block of Inglewood Court

Shoplifting

- 2:39 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

- 6:41 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 9:28 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Missing person

- 4:07 p.m. on West Las Positas Boulevard

Dec. 18

Domestic battery

- 11:35 p.m. on Owens Drive

Shoplifting

- 4:40 p.m. on the 1700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Fraud

- 12:52 p.m. on the 200 block of Kottinger Drive

- 2:29 p.m. on the 1000 block of Hopkins Way

Burglary

- 8:04 a.m. on the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Drug violation

- 7:17 a.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

Dec. 17

Assault/battery

- 4:22 a.m. on the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

- 11:15 p.m. on the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

Graffiti

- 11:50 a.m. at West Las Positas Boulevard and Springhouse Drive

ATTENTION USERS OF CALAVERAS ROAD

The Closure of Calaveras Road to thru traffic between Milpitas and Sunol has been extended to September 30, 2018.

The nine month extension is due to heavy winter rains and damage to a section of the road in this area that prevented hauling trucks from entering the site.

More details at
sfwater.org/Calaverasroad
1 (866) 973-1476



Holiday Fund

Each year, the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund raises money to support programs and services that care for local families and children in our community. The Holiday Fund partners with the Silicon Valley

Community Foundation, which handles all finances, so every dollar of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to the 12 local nonprofits with no administrative expenses.

This year's Holiday Fund recipients that will share in fund contributions are:

Agape Villages Foster Family Agency finds stable homes and a loving environment for abused and neglected children throughout 14 counties in Northern California, including here in Alameda County.

Axis Community Health is the Tri-Valley's sole provider of medical and mental health services for individuals and families who have a low income or who are uninsured. It serves more than 14,000 members of our community.

Hope Hospice provides ethical hospice care, transition services for those not eligible for hospice, bereavement support for adults and children and end-of-life education to Tri-Valley families, regardless of insurance or income status.

Open Heart Kitchen is the largest hot meal pro-

gram of its kind in the Tri-Valley feeding the hungry every weekday at multiple locations.

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.

REACH (Resources Education Activities Community and Housing for special adults of the Tri-Valley) offers education programs, activities, resources and housing opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities.

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation provides local cancer patients with complementary therapies to help alleviate the side effects caused by radiation and chemotherapy.

Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley serves seniors over 60 in the communities of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol to promote independence, safety and well-being, preserve dignity and

improve quality of life.

Sunflower Hill is working to create a sustainable residential community for individuals with special needs, similar to senior living facilities.

Tri-Valley YMCA aims to strengthen the local communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation plans to use its contribution from the annual campaign to help fund state-of-the-art health care technology, facilities, various clinical programs and services at Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare.

Valley Humane Society rescues and rehabilitates companion animals, champions responsible caretaking, shares pets' soothing affections with people in need of comfort, and supports and preserves existing pet-guardian relationships.

2017-2018 Holiday Fund Donors

As of December 19, 221 donors have contributed \$55,792 to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

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The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

All donors and their gift amounts will be published in the Pleasanton Weekly unless the boxes below are checked.

- I wish to contribute anonymously.
 Please withhold the amount of my contribution.

Make checks payable to Silicon Valley Community Foundation and send to:
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 c/o Silicon Valley Community Foundation
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**For more information
 and to donate online, visit:
www.pleasantonweekly.com/holiday_fund**

The following agencies will benefit from the 2017 Holiday Fund:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Agape Villages Foster Family Agency | Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation |
| Axis Community Health | Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley |
| Hope Hospice | Sunflower Hill |
| Open Heart Kitchen | Tri-Valley YMCA |
| Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation | Valley Humane Society |
| REACH for Special Adults of the Tri-Valley | ValleyCare Charitable Foundation |

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Farewell to 2017

A look back at last year's news in Pleasanton

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

A proposed Costco with diehard opponents, a(nother) new superintendent of schools, too much rain, too much heat. Excellent young athletes. The aftermath of untimely deaths.

The Pleasanton Weekly chronicled everything that took place during the last 12 months, and here offers a round-up as we say goodbye to 2017 and welcome the New Year.



LISA HERMES PHOTOGRAPHY

Foothill Falcons celebrate clinching NCS championship by dousing coach Matt Sweeney with water from the cooler.

January

- Pleasanton looks forward to a 2017 building boom that is expected to add 10,000 new jobs, increase the 72,000-resident population and bring greater economic vitality, including an Asian-focused retail shopping center on the east side and new strategies for attracting more shoppers.

- East Bay Regional Park District kicks off its 24th annual Trails Challenge running Jan. 1 to Dec. 1 with a free commemorative pin for those who complete a minimum of 26.2 miles of trails or hike five trails.

- Pleasanton Unified School District board votes unanimously to fire Superintendent Rick Rubino without cause, barely six months into his tenure and less than three weeks after he was placed on paid administrative leave. Deputy superintendent of business services Micaela Ochoa is later named interim leader while the board searching for a permanent superintendent.

- U.S. Magistrate Judge Joseph Spero rules that the parents of Kate Steinle, a 32-year-old Pleasanton native who was fatally shot in San Francisco in 2015, can proceed with a lawsuit against the federal government but cannot sue the city of San Francisco or former Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi. The bullet was fired from a federal ranger's stolen gun in the hands of an undocumented Mexican immigrant who had been

released from San Francisco jail custody months earlier under the city's sanctuary city policy.

- Open Heart Kitchen names Heather Greaux as its new executive director to oversee the management of the nonprofit with a focus on fundraising, community outreach and personnel management.

- Work begins to update Pleasanton's 17-year-old Downtown Specific Plan, as a 10-member task force holds its first meeting.

- Local Congressman Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) attends the inauguration of President Donald Trump in Washington, D.C., although Democratic colleagues in adjoining districts, U.S. Reps. Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) and Jerry McNerney (D-Stockton) — who each formerly represented Pleasanton — skip the inauguration in protest.

- Members of the Tri-Valley's Muslim community present a neighbors panel the day after the presidential inauguration to educate people about Islam in the hopes of fostering mutual understanding.

- At the city of Pleasanton's request, Zone 7 Water Agency officials host a workshop to answer customers' questions about water rates and the agency's overall function.

- School board signs off on a three-year collective bargaining agreement between the

district and the Association of Pleasanton Teachers. As part of the new deal, each member will receive a one-time payment equal to 0.85% of their annual salary.

- Pleasanton Seahawks team members Miranda Heckman, 15, from Livermore and Chris Jhong, 16, from Pleasanton are among 68 young swimmers who travel to Colorado to take part in the USA Swimming National Select Camp at the Olympic Training Center.

- Tri-Valley representatives of 11 public agencies gather to kick off an 18-month, \$18.2 million expansion of the recycled water plant in Pleasanton to increase its capacity by 70% — from 9.7 million gallons a day to 16.2 million gallons.

- A state appeals court in San Francisco upholds a jury's determination that Pleasanton resident Tina Faelz, 14, was murdered in 1984 by then-16-year-old fellow high school student Steven Carlson but reduces his conviction from first-degree murder to second-degree murder and orders resentencing.

- The East Bay Parks holds a public workshop to gather feedback from residents about creating a long-term guide on protecting district assets when dealing with earthquakes, wildfires, floods, landslides, drought and other natural disasters within the 120,000-acre district.

- Ten Tri-Valley nonprofits share in \$72,156 donated by local residents and businesses for the Pleasanton Weekly's 2016 Holiday Fund.

- Pleasanton's Miguel Jara, 74, has his famed Mexican restaurant La Taqueria in the Mission District in San Francisco named one of "America's Classics" by the James Beard Foundation.

February

- Jeremy Walsh takes over as editor of the Pleasanton Weekly after founding editor Jeb Bing retires from the paper's day-to-day operations and becomes editor emeritus, which includes writing a column every other week.

- New Leaf Community Markets announces it is closing its Pleasanton grocery store, which anchors the Vintage Hills Shopping

Center at the corner of Bernal and Vineyard avenues. The Santa Cruz-based grocer opened in Pleasanton in May 2013.

- Congressman Swalwell opens a new office in Castro Valley, consolidating operations previously split between offices in Pleasanton and Hayward.

- Gable Heart Beats provides EKGs and echocardiograms for 200 young soccer players from Pleasanton RAGE and Ballistic United.

- City Council votes to support an 87-home development on the edge of downtown where Stanley Boulevard becomes First Street with 1.6 acres set aside for a planned Sunflower Hill affordable housing development for adults with special needs.

- Heavy rain wreaks havoc on roadways, with flooding on Happy Valley Road and Stanley Boulevard and creek erosion impacting homes on Foothill Road.

- A group of high school students join in a "Stress Less for Success" panel at the library.

- School board directs administrators to explore building an elementary school on the district's Neal property in the southeast part of the city.

- Nearly 150 residents of various faiths join together outside the Muslim Community Center of the East Bay in Pleasanton on a Friday afternoon to show solidarity with Muslim Americans, immigrants and refugees.

- City Council reviews a report describing infrastructure improvements and costs associated with potentially bringing unincorporated Happy Valley residents on to city water and sewer utilities. The area remains in Alameda County's jurisdiction after an annexation vote failed in 2002.

- School board unanimously passes a resolution declaring the district a "safe haven" for students and families facing immigration enforcement or discrimination; schools will not allow U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents to enter district sites without prior written approval from the superintendent.

A jury in November found Mexican transient Jose Ines Garcia Zarate (right) not guilty of killing Amador Valley alum Kate Steinle (left) on San Francisco's Pier 14 in July 2015, a verdict that sent shockwaves through Pleasanton and much of the country.



Year in Review



ASHLEY CLAYTON

Pleasanton resident Miguel Jara, owner of famed Mexican restaurant La Taqueria in San Francisco, recently took home a James Beard Award in the "America's Classics" category.



MIKE SEDLAK

2017 was another busy year for this largely underutilized site southeast of the I-580/I-680 interchange. First the City Council approved the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone for the properties, which could house a Costco, two hotels and other retail uses. Then the city faced a (failed) referendum attempt to reverse that decision. And now the city has been hit with a lawsuit over its approval.

- Pleasanton's private Stratford School announces it is adding a middle school to its campus on Willow Road, beginning with the 2017-18 school year, in response to parent requests.

March

- Pleasanton's Lucy Szela, 6, recites the Gettysburg Address on national television while dressed like Abraham Lincoln on the NBC-TV show, "Little Big Shots."
- Tom Northam, a 1981 Amador Valley High grad, dies from injuries sustained in a car crash in Roseville two weeks earlier.
- The city puts survey online at the new downtown planning website, www.ptowndowntown.org, to get feedback on what residents want downtown to look like in the years ahead.

- The Indian springtime Festival of Colors, Holi, is celebrated at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, with proceeds going to benefit free eye care for those in need in India.

- City Council declines in the short-term to alter the new configuration of eastbound Owens Drive to one lane across from the BART station, despite complaints from residents and commuters.

- Pat Frizzell, chairwoman of the military support organization Pleasanton Military Families, is honored at the State Capitol as Assemblywoman Catharine Baker's Woman of the Year for the 16th Assembly District.

- Zone 7 board unanimously authorizes spending \$1.7 million for emergency repairs to an eroding slope threatening Foothill Road houses after hearing from emotional residents.

- Pleasanton Middle School cheer squad sweeps top honors at the United Spirit Association Jr. Nationals, not only winning its division but also being crowned grand champions.

- City closes Centennial Trail between Main Street and Harvest Circle due to downed trees and severe trail-bed erosion. Mudslides also cause narrowing of trails at Augustin Bernal Park and at the Alamo Canal and Arroyo Mocho trails.

- City Council agrees to move forward on sections of the Bernal property, on both sides of I-680, with a community farm concept that will be crops-only, without a livestock component.

- City Council adopts its two-year work plan describing the city's 90 top priorities for 2017 and 2018.

- San Jose resident Matthew Tia is killed in a solo-vehicle crash on Interstate 680 near the West Las Positas Boulevard overpass.

- Maria Dykzeul, executive secretary in the PUSD student services department, is named Classified Employee of the Year.

April

- Pleasanton's Caleigh Tsay, 6, demonstrates her kung fu moves by kicking through a board on NBC-TV's "Little Big Shots."

- Local nonprofit Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation celebrates distributing its 1,000th grant provided to local cancer patients.

- Twelve female leaders from throughout the county are inducted into the 2017 class of the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame in a ceremony held at the Fairgrounds.

- Pleasanton Middle School community mourns after English teacher Carla Boerman, 61, dies when she is a passenger in a three-car collision near the intersection of Hopyard Road and Owens Drive.

- Sarah Banholzer, 15, holds her fourth annual swimathon to benefit UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland in gratitude for the care she received after she was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia when she was 4-1/2 years old.

- School board directs district administration not to pursue acquisition of the Evangelical Free Church of Pleasanton property in the Valley Trails neighborhood for a potential elementary school site.

- Planning Commission votes 3-2 to approve a plan by Ponderosa Homes to buy and tear down the financially troubled Evangelical

Free Church of Pleasanton in the Valley Trails community and replace it with 36 new single-family homes on the 9-acre site.

- Betty Nostrand and Rosemary Young receive 2017 Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards.

- A 34-year-old San Francisco man, Ross M. Colby, is arraigned in federal District Court for the Sept. 17, 2015, hacking of PleasantonWeekly.com and other websites operated by Embarcadero Media. Colby enters a plea of not guilty, posts a \$50,000 bond and is released.

- City Council approves the Downtown Pleasanton Parking Strategy and Implementation Plan, a 140-page policy document that includes an analysis of current parking conditions, strategies for increasing the parking supply, future-demand scenarios and an implementation plan.

- Hundreds of Tri-Valley nonprofit groups benefit from East Bay Gives, a 24-hour online day for donating that aims to mobilize more than 40,000 people and raise \$5 million.

- Segue, the Pleasanton firm that served as general contractor for the construction of a Berkeley apartment complex where a balcony collapsed June 16, 2015, killing six people and injuring seven more, has its license revoked.

- An Alameda County judge denies a legal petition from former Walnut Grove Elementary principal Jon Vranesh challenging an administrative hearing panel's decision that found PUSD had valid reasons to fire him nearly three years ago.

- Planning Commission calls for fewer than 39 homes in a proposed development on the 154-acre Spotorno Ranch property in Happy Valley.

May

- Estate of the late David and Barbara Mertes leaves \$6.85 million to the Las Positas College Foundation.

- Pre-applications are distributed for local seniors hoping to qualify for 130 new apartments built as part of the first phase of the Kottinger Gardens affordable senior housing development with a lottery to follow in July.

- Pleasanton teen Zhiyi Tang, who attends The Quarry School in Dublin, wins Rep. Swalwell's Congressional Art Competition for her pencil drawing, "Chinatown."

- City Council approves moving forward with the nearly mile-long Old Vineyard Avenue Trail, although first, city staff will analyze alternatives due to concerns about the trail's potential impact on neighborhoods near Machado Place.

See **FAREWELL** on Page 14

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FAREWELL

Continued from Page 13

- Pleasanton Public Library holds a contest for the new design of a library card, to focus on: “Start your Journey Here: Discover, Connect, Share.”

- Pleasanton resident Yarenit Liliana Malihan, wife of an Alameda County sheriff's deputy, pleads not guilty to gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated after being charged in connection with a crash that killed a toddler on I-680 in San Ramon last September.

- School district selects Village High School's Mario Hurtado as Teacher of the Year. He taught U.S. history, economics and leadership at Village since 2012 and “makes every day meaningful,” said principal Dana Chavez. Hurtado later takes promotion to vice principal at Amador Valley High.

- Pleasanton police shoot and kill a local resident Shannon Edward Estill, 58, after he allegedly points a replica handgun at them during a family disturbance on Burgundy Drive.

- School board announces two principal appointments: Donlon Elementary principal Sebastian Bull as the next principal of Foothill High; and Soraya Villaseñor (vice principal at Junction Ave. K-8 School in Livermore) for Valley View Elementary. Lydiksen vice

principal Janet Gates is later named as new Donlon principal.

- Eddie and Ginger Belshe, who own a home in Verona Reach, file a claim against Zone 7, the city of Pleasanton and Alameda County seeking unspecified damages for loss of property, home value and access, incidental expenses and emotional distress resulting from significant erosion that impacted their property in the 7800 block of Foothill Road earlier this year.

June

- Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) announces it will contribute \$523,000 to the school district next school year, the result of fundraising by volunteers, corporate sponsors and parents.

- A lane is closed on western Bernal Avenue for an estimated two months while crews work on the Bernal Bridge, removing lead-based paint among other improvements.

- Construction begins on two new lighted tennis courts at Pleasanton Tennis and Community Park after City Council signs off on more than \$900,000 in contracts to move the project forward.

- The Foothill High swimming and diving team is successful at the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) state meet, with

Calvin David and Jonah Cooper bringing home state titles.

- Eric Thiel, 65, who had just retired after teaching science at Amador Valley High, dies suddenly. He taught for nearly four decades and joined the Pleasanton school district in 1985.

- A cattle drive downtown kicks off the 2017 Alameda County Fair, which has a longer run and is themed “Best. Summer. Ever.”

- City Council adopts the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan update, a roughly 270-page document that culminates nearly 18 months of work among city staff, consultants, residents and the city's Pedestrian, Bicycle and Trails Committee.

- Police Department begins to offer a mobile app that allows residents to submit crime tips, get alerts, view the department's social media feeds, and see recruitment announcements, media releases and safety tips.

- School board hires Santa Ana schools administrator David Haglund, Ed.D., as the new PUSD superintendent.

- Katie Steiner, a 2013 Amador Valley High grad, wins the Cacchione Cup, an event sponsored by the U.S. Equestrian Federation, held this year in Lexington, Kentucky.

- The new Alameda East County Hall of Justice opens in Dublin at 5151 Gleason Drive. The new five-story courthouse, with adjoining county offices and near Santa Rita Jail, replaces leased court facility in Pleasanton.

- City staff recommends, in its capital improvement program (CIP) to spend \$80 million during the next four years, that the city move sooner rather than later on the \$6.4 million Stoneridge Drive and I-680 northbound improvements, foreseeing Costco being built on Johnson Drive.

- Foothill High softball team finishes its winning season with a run through the North Coast Section playoffs to beat James Logan, 6-2, in the finals.

- Temperatures soar and break records, including a high of 106 degrees in Livermore. Pleasanton activates its cooling centers to help residents cope in the triple-digit weather.

- Planning Commission says no to building a 42-room lodging facility and a three-story, amenity-filled activity center on Ruby Hill Boulevard just outside the northern entrance of the gated community.

- School board OKs a project list for the first series of Measure 11 bonds that includes a Lydiksen Elementary rebuild at a rough cost of \$30 million. Approved by Pleasanton voters in November 2016, Measure 11 is expected to generate \$270 million in revenue to improve school facilities.

- California Collision of Pleasanton gives a 2007 PT Cruiser to Livermore grandmother Donna Kreutzberg as part of a new “Wheels to Prosper” program.

- City Council approves an estimated \$31,850 proposal to temporarily convert two public

parking spaces on West Angela Street into a parklet — an outdoor seating area open to the public — and change one car-parking spot across the street into a corral for bicycle parking.

- The 12th annual Bras for the Cause 8K breast cancer walk, hosted by Tri-Valley SOCKS (Stepping Out for Cancer Kures) in downtown Pleasanton, raises \$160,000, which is disbursed to four local breast cancer charities.

July

- Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore and other local agencies seek public feedback through an online survey as part of creating a Tri-Valley Hazard Mitigation Plan to better coordinate and streamline emergency preparedness efforts.

- U.S. House of Representatives passes Kate's Law, a bill inspired by the 2015 shooting death of Pleasanton native Kate Steinle on a San Francisco pier by an oft-deported undocumented immigrant with a history of criminal convictions. The law, still pending with the Senate, would increase punishments for criminal offenders who re-enter the country illegally after deportation.

- Residents notice changes in the smell and taste of their drinking water, caused by algae blooms in the source water of Zone 7, according to officials, who say the changes are harmless, a result of the warm weather. Zone 7 adds powdered activated carbon to the water treatment process to help.

- BART completes installing security cameras in all of its train cars at a cost of \$1.42 million, after it was revealed in the aftermath of a fatal shooting on a train at the West Oakland station that some of the cameras were actually fakes.

- The city recruits candidates for a new honorary post of Pleasanton literary arts ambassador, a two-year position to raise awareness on the importance of reading and writing. Local author Meg Fleming is later appointed to the position.

- City Council endorses the Alviso Adobe Community Park Implementation Plan, outlining efforts to increase usage of the historic site on Old Foothill Road.

- Nelly's taco truck that has operated at Vineyard and Isabel avenues since the 1990s is forced to relocate — across the street — after officials determine it is creating traffic problems.

- Fair closes July 9 after a 20-day run and record-high temperatures, with total attendance of 463,783, a five-year high though still short of the record-setting 534,577 in 2012.

- Pleasanton Farmers' Market marks 25th year downtown.

- City Council OKs contracts for an estimated \$6.18 million project to undertake the annual street resurfacing and preventative maintenance program later this summer, which is to focus mainly around the central, northwestern and eastern parts of the city.



EVANS VESTAL WARD/NBC

Young Pleasanton resident Lucy Szela (right), dressed like the president she idolizes, Abraham Lincoln, entertains television host Steve Harvey with fun facts about Honest Abe while taping her appearance on NBC's “Little Big Shots.”



MIKE SEDLAK

A cattle drive through downtown Pleasanton marked the start of last year's Alameda County Fair.

Year in Review



- East Bay Parks board votes to allow electric bikes on the Iron Horse Regional Trail and two other district trails as part of a one-year pilot program.

- “Tri-Valley Youth View,” an hour-long television program produced by middle and high school students attending the ninth Community TV summer camp, airs on TV30.

- Livermore’s 1872 train depot is moved to the city’s transit center, where it will be rehabilitated to federal historic standards.

- Pleasanton Valley Club Dolphins capture their third straight Valley Swim League championship meet title, breaking three league records in the process.

- Artists work to restore brightness to the 50-year-old mural that was Pleasanton’s first piece of public art, created during the country’s bicentennial celebration, on buildings viewed from the parking lot behind what is now Main Street Brewery.

- BART releases its draft environmental impact report (EIR) providing key analysis of a potential extension of service to Livermore.

August

- Catholic Community of Pleasanton holds suicide prevention and awareness workshops for teens and parents, led by officials from Crisis Support Services of Alameda County.

- With the fall football season on the horizon,

high school players in Livermore public schools start taking part in a new free concussion baseline testing program offered by Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare.

- School board OKs the first issuance and sale of Measure II bonds, a move that will allow the district to start work on a number of projects this academic year, including rebuilding Lydiksen Elementary.

- Sunflower Hill gives its first Rainmaker Awards to Pleasanton City Councilwoman Kathy Narum, Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty and the city of Livermore for their help in establishing the nonprofit, which provides vocational, educational and residential opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

- Residents witness a partial solar eclipse as the moon obscures approximately 75% of the sun as viewed from Pleasanton. The library gives out 100 pairs of glasses to safely view the phenomenon and hosts a viewing from 8:30-11:30 a.m. with a livestream of the total eclipse and NASA commentary.

- Pleasanton planning commissioners indicate support for the concept of subdividing three neighboring Augustine Street parcels into six residential lots but say more work needs to be done to bring the proposal in line with design goals for that part of downtown.
- Library cards have a new design, created by Foothill High freshman Afreen Shameem, chosen from 100 entries.

- Pleasanton police search for three young men allegedly involved in an unprovoked attack on a local homeless man, shooting him several times with a BB gun and beating him with a hockey stick, under the Stoneridge Drive overpass where they found him sleeping.

- City staff and Costco officials agree on a tentative proposal to fund roadway improvements around the Johnson Drive site, with about one-third of the estimated \$21.47 million public infrastructure price to be paid for by city traffic impact fee reserves, another third by a cash payment from Costco, and the other by a separate payment by Costco that will be reimbursed to the company by the city through a sales tax sharing agreement.

- A grass fire breaks out at the U.S. Army’s Parks Reserve Forces Training Area in Dublin; firefighters who respond on the ground and in the air have it 90% contained within two hours although the blaze prompts evacuations in nearby neighborhoods.

- School district releases revised enrollment figures for this school year, saying a previous public report mistakenly indicated a large increase in the student population when there has actually been a slight drop.

- Alameda County Public Works Agency holds public workshops to receive feedback about bicycle and pedestrian improvements on Foothill Road, Castlewood Drive, Vallecitos Road, Pleasanton-Sunol Road, Vineyard Avenue and Stanley Boulevard, and other unincorporated roadways.



JULIA BROWN

David Haglund took the reins as the newest PUSD superintendent in July.

- Discussion at the 2017 Tri-Valley Mayors’ Summit, held in Dublin, focuses on traffic, transportation and housing.

- A fire causes significant damage to the historic tasting room at Elliston Vineyards in Sunol, reported at 5:34 p.m. A wedding reception taking place at the time is relocated.

- Tri-Valley Babe Ruth team wins its third straight World Series title, this time in the 15-year-old division tournament contested in Tennessee.

See **FAREWELL** on Page 16

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One of California's last gateway signs, the Pleasanton Arch has served as an entry to Pleasanton since it was constructed in 1932. Shown here in the 1960s (on a postcard used for decades) and during summer 2017. A city task force spent most of the year discussing ideas for how to reinvent downtown as part of the Downtown Specific Plan update process. (2017 photo by Daniel Kim. Historic photo courtesy of Museum on Main)

FAREWELL

Continued from Page 15

- Organizers of the 36th annual Harvest Wine Celebration cancel the fundraising event due to near record-breaking heat forecast for the Tri-Valley that weekend.

September

- Tenor saxophonist Solomon Alber, 18, a recent Amador Valley High grad, is one of 20 teens nationwide chosen by Monterey Jazz Festival for its 2017 Next Generation Jazz Orchestra, to perform in the 60th annual Monterey Jazz Festival.

- City Council approves a traffic calming proposal along Junipero Street and Independence Drive, with new speed lumps, crosswalk improvements, and a radar speed display sign.

- Valley Humane Society marks its 30th anniversary with a birthday bash — for humans and animals.

- Live horse racing comes back to the Alameda County Fairgrounds for the second fall in a row, with Oak Tree at Pleasanton hosting seven days of racing with \$850,000 in prize money.

- School district holds workshop to brainstorm ideas on use of current and future facilities, in light of Measure 11 passed in November 2016.

- Chabad of the Tri-Valley completes its \$2.5 million purchase of the former Pleasanton Masonic Lodge on Hopyard Road, giving the orthodox Jewish organization its first dedicated, permanent home in Pleasanton since beginning services in the founders' living room more than a decade ago.

- Fire department personnel save a beagle mix named Lucy who gets trapped in a vent in her house in approaching 100-degree weather after neighbors call, in response to her unusual incessant barking.

- City Council gives its formal endorsement to a plan for funding key roadwork around where Costco wants to add its third Tri-Valley warehouse store, near the I-580/I-680 interchange.

- In the wake of significant erosion in

Pleasanton's Verona Reach neighborhood earlier this year, Zone 7 Water Agency starts a new program offering administrative support to private landowners to help with flood protection-related projects. The board also OKs spending an additional \$2.85 million toward bank stabilization in the 7800 block of Foothill Road.

- School board OKs the first contract for a capital project using Measure 11 bond funds, authorizing the purchase of 450 Macbooks and 132 external DVD drives for K-8 teachers and instructional staff.

- Sarah Holtzclaw and Betty Taylor, both 51, complete their feat of running on every street in Pleasanton — 360 miles in 20 months.

- The Swenson family — parents William and Jess, and children Ezra, 7; Theo, 6; and Vesper, 4 — leave for a year-long quest to make the entire world their home, their classroom, their adventure.

- Trader Joe's moves across the street to a larger storefront in the Rose Pavilion.

- Prominent East Bay developer and Pleasanton resident James Tong is charged with making illegal contributions through "straw donors" to Rep. Swalwell's election campaign in 2012 and 2013. Tong later pleads not guilty. Swalwell denies knowledge and vows to donate amount of questioned funds to local charities.

October

- Custom Care Pharmacy, a Pleasanton institution, closes after being operated on First Street for more than 40 years by Mike Clauser and Rusty Hewitson.

- New I-680 toll express lanes open north of Pleasanton, from San Ramon to Walnut Creek.

- Amador Valley High is named a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School, one of 25 schools in the state to receive the honor.

- Results from the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAAS-PP) show that Pleasanton students scored higher in math and have stayed consistent in English.

- Pleasanton Police Department flies its flag

at half-staff for a week to honor the victims of the mass shooting in Las Vegas.

- The city holds its first IGNITE! arts extravaganza at and around the Firehouse Arts Center on a Saturday evening, which the Civic Arts Commission is hoping will become a signature event.

- School board authorizes expending \$31,000 in Measure 11 bond funds toward an AT&T fiber upgrade project.

- Brendan St. John, 49, a Pleasanton resident with a professional background in marketing for the medical industry, announces he is going to run next year as an Independent candidate for the 15th Congressional District against U.S. Rep. Swalwell.

- Tri-Valley Haven celebrates 40 years of serving adults and children who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault or homelessness. Haven services include a 24-hour crisis line, counseling, two shelters, a food pantry, a thrift store and programs at jails and middle and high schools.

- Pleasanton resident Gretchen Kyle heads up a project to convert feed bags to shopping bags, with sales benefiting Horses Healing Hearts rescue operations on Camino Tassajara.

- Mayor's Award goes to Doug Miller, a retired Army major and leader in the veterans community who was instrumental in establishing the Veterans Memorial at the Pioneer Cemetery last year.

- Pleasanton police send rotating teams of officers to assist in Santa Rosa after receiving a mutual aid request to support the communities being affected by fires.

- Bill James, former long-serving superintendent of Pleasanton schools, dies at the age of 84, and his memorial service is held in the Palm Pavilion at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

- The city approves raises of 3% for management employees and 3.5% for police officers.

- Pleasanton Weekly chooses its 2017 Tri-Valley Heroes: Dolores Bengtson (Lifetime Achievement); Jill Buck (Environmental Stewardship); Bob Coomber (Courage); Heidi Kenniston-Lee

and Gary Alpert (Community Spirit); Barbara Proctor (Role Model); Jasmine Steele (Innovation); Madeleine "Maddy" Wang (Rising Star); and Gary Winter (Arts and Culture).

- Zone 7 approves an initial environmental review document for a Del Valle ozone filtration project to disinfect and treat water, at a three-hour meeting with customers concerned about costs, which currently are projected to be \$38-40 million and \$1.1 million per year in maintenance.

- Jurors hear opening arguments in the trial of Jose Ines Garcia Zarate, 45, who is charged with second-degree murder in the July 1, 2015, shooting of Pleasanton native Kate Steinle on Pier 14 in San Francisco.

- Pleasanton's five school board members and first-year Superintendent David Haglund take part in a workshop covering the board's job description, what makes a good leadership team, reviewing the governance handbook, changing the superintendent evaluation process, and what legacy board members want to leave behind.

- Among the 859 bills signed by Gov. Jerry Brown are a variety authored or co-authored by local Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, including helping connect BART to ACE train, protections for vulnerable crime victims, prioritizing California students in the UC system, and warnings for firearms.

- The Pleasanton City Council has signed off on compensation increases and adjustments to benefits for city management employees and police officers. Agreements include 3.5% raise for current year for police union members and 3% pay bump for city management.

- Planning Commission gives an initial endorsement to a proposal by Sunflower Hill for a new residential community for adults with special needs just outside downtown.

- Total Wine & More shop opens on Rosewood Drive.

- Former Pleasanton school board member Clark Gunson, who served from 1984 to 1999 including during the unification effort, dies in Utah. He was 76.

- Zone 7 General Manager Jill Duerig announces she plans to retire in early 2018.



JULIA BROWN

Erosion at their property in the 7800 block of Foothill Road pushed the pool in Eddie and Ginger Belshe's backyard close to the edge of the slope.



SOLIDARITY FILMS

Bringing to light incidents of sexual assault and harassment was one of the most significant themes nationwide in 2017. Amador grad Jillian Corsie (left) and Amy Rosner worked together on "Second Assault," a documentary about what happened to Corsie when she was sexually assaulted as a freshman in college.

November

- City Council gets its first public look at the city's final Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone (JDEDZ) proposal, which outlines rules for how redevelopment could occur on roughly 40 acres of land on Johnson Drive near the I-580/I-680 interchange, to include a new Costco.

- Pleasanton native and filmmaker Jillian Corsie goes public with her deepest secret, that she was sexually assaulted 12 years ago as a college freshman, when she releases a trailer for her new documentary, "Second Assault."

- Arlie Smith, beloved longtime greeter at Danville's Costco and recipient of 2015 Tri-Valley Heroes Role Model Award, dies at his home in Tracy after battling cancer and multiple sclerosis. He was 48.

- Caltrans and the Alameda County Transportation Commission hold three public meetings in the Tri-Valley to discuss proposed Highway 84 widening and improvements to the Highway 84/I-680 interchange.

- School board approves a new collective bargaining agreement between the district and the Association of Pleasanton Teachers, which includes a 2% increase to the 2017-18 salary schedule for all APT members, retroactive to July 1 of this school year, and a one-time bonus of 1%.

- Pleasanton Downtown Association announces it is discontinuing the 1st Wednesday Street Parties after 20 years, saying they have run their course and it's time for a new summer showcase.

- Runners take to the road Thanksgiving morning for the third annual Tri-Valley Turkey Burn, a 5K/10K walk/run sponsored by Pleasanton North Rotary Club to collect canned goods and raise thousands of dollars for youth programs.

- Amador Valley and Foothill football teams win in the first round of the North Coast Section Division I football playoffs, but both see their seasons end in the next rounds.

- Some of the country's top young cricketers converge on the Tri-Valley for the National Youth Cricket Tournament.

- Signature gathering begins for proposed referendum 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, due to objections by Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth.

- Planning Commission signs off on a proposal for an 11th Starbucks in Pleasanton, this one a drive-thru coffeehouse at Owens and Chabot drives in the restaurant site vacated by Arby's in the summer.

- Vic Malatesta, owner of Vic's All-Star Kitchen on Main Street, works his last game on the volunteer chain gang for Foothill High football after 33 years.

- San Francisco Giants shortstop and 2005 Foothill High School graduate Brandon Crawford receives his third consecutive Gold Glove award in recognition of his skill on defense last season.

- Pleasanton resident Violet Campbell, 16, a Village High School junior, is one of two passengers killed in apparent drunk-driving crash on Stanley Boulevard.

- Amador Valley High's investment club hosts billionaire Silicon Valley venture capitalist Tim Draper, founder of the venture capital firm DFJ, who speaks on subjects ranging from viral marketing and Bitcoin to future innovation opportunities.

- Tri-Valley Lady Blue Devils 10U team becomes first Tri-Valley all-girls hockey champion when they won the Lady Ducks Shootout in Southern California.

- San Francisco jury finds Jose Ines Garcia Zarate, 45, not guilty of murder and assault with a deadly weapon in the 2015 fatal shooting of Pleasanton native Kate Steinle on Pier 14. He is convicted of one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

December

- City Council finishes creating a new 40-acre economic development zone near the I-580/I-680 interchange for a commercial center anchored by Costco and two hotels.



AMANDA SU

Ashley Nguyen and Jennifer Santos take samples of oranges and grapes from Amador students Ariana McFarlane and Olivia Jones as Jennifer's mother Emily Santos and Ashley's mother Katherine Nguyen look on during the Pleasanton Farmers' Market, which celebrated 25 years downtown last summer.

- The city faces a lawsuit challenging environmental clearances — but not a referendum petition — in the effort to overturn the City Council's approvals that pave the way for a commercial center to be anchored by Costco and two hotels.

- One of Pleasanton's most infamous crimes is revisited on television, as "Married with Secrets" presents "Gambling with Death," examining the case of Ernest Scherer III, who is serving life sentences for killing his parents in their Castlewood home in 2008.

- The nonprofit behind Pleasanton Gardens, an affordable senior housing complex near downtown, transfers ownership of the property to the city, paving the way for the start of Phase 2 of the new Kottinger Gardens project. Phase 1 was completed in October.

- Pleasanton native and Major League Baseball outfielder Stephen Piscotty is traded from the St. Louis Cardinals to the Oakland Athletics, a move that lets him be closer to his mother in Pleasanton battling ALS.

- City Council endorses mapping of the southeast hills in accordance with Measure PP and affirms city staff's methodology in reviewing other project areas subject to the 2008 voter-approved initiative to limit new development on hillsides.

- Pleasanton voters may have a chance next year to put a cap on how much Stanford Health and other health care providers can



FILE PHOTO

Pleasanton Weekly founding editor Jeb Bing signed off on his last paper in January before retiring from the day-to-day operations.

charge patients for medical care under a ballot initiative being advanced by the health care workers union.

- Pedestrian Vincent Whitley, 29, dies after being struck by car on Hacienda Drive near I-580.

- City Council holds a wide-ranging discussion about the city's growing pension costs, including strategies for trying to pay down some of the estimated \$160 million in unfunded liabilities associated with city employee pensions. Council expected to consider action plan in early 2018. ■

The value of community journalism

When Investigation Discovery (ID) television network wanted to do a documentary-style program about the 2008 murder of Pleasanton couple Ernest Scherer Jr. and Charlene Abendroth, they contacted the local newspaper.

The Pleasanton Weekly journalists covered the case from the discovery of the bodies through the sentencing of their murderer — their son Ernest Scherer III — three years later.

Because of the existence of the paper and the constancy of leadership, we were able to provide credible information and historical context to the “Gambling With Death” episode on ID’s “Married With Secrets” series.

A lot has changed since 2008, in Pleasanton, in the newspaper industry and at the Pleasanton Weekly.

In 2008, our division had two newspapers, four websites, twice as much office space and three times the staff. Technology, though, has disrupted the business models for media and its main source of revenue: local businesses. As more people shop online, local businesses — like the ones that support the Pleasanton Weekly through advertising — don’t have money to spend on advertising. Lack of advertising contributes to further declines in their sales, and a vicious cycle ensues.

Technology has also disrupted media, namely newspapers, by moving more information online and changing the news cycle from daily or weekly to 24/7. Journalists work as much or more than a decade ago with fewer people in the newsroom and more demand for timeliness in a 24/7 news cycle.

Online advertising doesn’t cost as much for advertisers as print, contributing to newspapers making about a third of what they used to a decade ago. When revenue declines, staffing levels decrease, and a vicious cycle ensues.

Moving content online also allows it to be “aggregated” by other companies. Google, for example, has built a successful business model taking and redistributing news produced by traditional sources who pay the journalists that produce the content. Businesses then pay Google to advertise on these news pages, cutting out the “middle man,” which happens to be the media group paying the journalists. (Google representatives claim this practice



FILE IMAGE

The Pleasanton Weekly’s award-winning coverage of the 2008 Castlewood murders reached its climax with this April 1, 2011 cover story days after Ernest Scherer III (right) was found guilty of murdering his parents for a lucrative inheritance.

helps media organizations!)

Why does any of this matter? The financial woes of the news industry affects everyone, regardless of whether they read a newspaper or get their news online. Whether it be informing and educating residents, watching out for the public good through watchdog journalism, recording local history or providing a public forum for debate and ideas, community news has value.

Having a media outlet covering your community — especially a group with history and a stake in the community, local ownership and professional award-winning journalists — is not a right.

For example, five communities near Bakersfield lost their local news sources this week when a family-owned media company in operation since 1939 closed its doors. Any time a source of quality local news is lost, it is a huge blow to the community for myriad reasons.

David Simon, a former Baltimore Sun reporter who created and produced HBO’s series “The Wire,” is quoted as saying, “It costs money to do good journalism.”

Simon furthered that we can’t replace professional journalism with posts by residents that look

and sound like news. “The internet does froth and commentary very well, but you don’t meet many internet reporters down at the courthouse,” he said.

Earlier this year, some Tri-Valley residents were taken in by a man who was hell-bent on harming a local winery and event venue for reasons unknown, or getting a lot of publicity for a local taco truck for reasons unknown. He posted information that sounded authoritative and a lot like reporting. His posts sounded credible enough that the Pleasanton Weekly staff took a lot of heat for not doing what other media groups did and just printing what he claimed verbatim.

Instead, our journalists asked questions and eventually discredited many of the man’s assertions.

Amateur reporters, online commenters and news satire shows like “Last Week Tonight” do serve a purpose. However, trained journalists are still necessary to ferret out news, be the watchdogs and quash “fake news.” A balance is imperative.

As Simon said, though, “The day I run into a Huffington Post reporter at a Baltimore Zoning Board hearing is the day that I will be confident that we’ve actually reached some sort of equilibrium. There’s no glory in that kind of journalism, but that is the bedrock of what keeps (corruption at bay).”

More and more publishers are looking to those who benefit from their services to help keep community journalism alive. You can help your local paper by patronizing our advertisers and telling them where you saw their ad, or by joining our Support Local Journalism membership program.

There is a price to be paid for quality journalism, and a price to be paid for the lack of it. ■

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THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

THERE ARE NO SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL OR COMMISSION MEETINGS THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2018

City Offices will be closed for the New Year Holiday, Monday, January 1, 2018

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

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

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Amador wrestling places second at Healdsburg tournament

Also: Foothill girls soccer posts strong showing at Tri-Valley Classic

The Amador Valley wrestling team took second in the Drew Esquivel Memorial Duals in Healdsburg earlier this month.

In pool play, Amador defeated El Molino 71-6, Casa Grande 46-24 and Stuart Hall 72-3 during the Dec. 16 tournament. The Dons advanced to the finals with a 38-30 win over Shasta. In the championship match, the Dons fell to Central 48-24.

Dons brought home three gold medals in individual competition, with Tyler Bonitz (132 pounds), Jackson Butler (160) and Cameron Ghodoucy (170) each going 5-0 in their matches. Silver medal recipients were Kurt Mirador (113) 4-1, Tyler Self (126) 4-1 and Chris Reese (195) 4-1.

Finally, earning bronze for the Dons were Kyle Jordan (106) 3-2, Devon Dy-Liacco (120) 3-2, Lucas Sira (145) 3-2 and Terrance Van Tuyl (285) 3-2.

In ladies' wrestling, Amador's McKayla Guevarra won the Brittany

David competition at Liberty on Dec. 23. Guevarra posted a 4-0 record with two pins. She won by technical fall in the final to clinch the championship.

Foothill girls soccer

The Falcons kicked off their Tri-Valley Classic play with a 1-1 draw against a talented and experienced Mitty squad last weekend.

After finishing finals, the Falcons were put on their heels immediately by Mitty's physical, fast and highly skilled play during the first 20 minutes of the match. Foothill's goalkeeper Maddie Goldberg's stellar play with several great saves kept the game even early on.

As the first half moved into its later stages, Foothill was able to match the physical and high pace of Mitty with the half ending 0-0.

The second half started like the first ended, with Foothill holding its own against Mitty. In the 62nd

minute, the Falcons were able to get a ball into the box, and after a deflection, Sarah Mirr poked the ball past the keeper to put the Falcons on top 1-0.

The lead held up until Mitty found the back of the net with 5 minutes to go knotting the score at 1-1.

The Falcons took on Las Lomas in their middle match and came away with a narrow come-from-behind 2-1 victory. Foothill was led by Megan Guerra's two goals in the second half of the match, both from short range off corner kicks.

The match was tight throughout even though the Falcons had the better of play overall. Las Lomas' only quality shot came off a set piece from 25 yards out, that was drilled in the left corner putting them up in the first half 1-0.

The Falcons showed strong focus in the second half, creating chances while putting high pressure on the opponent's defense. Eventually this pressure turned



MARK HAMILTON

Amador wrestler Tyler Bonitz (left) took individual gold at 132 pounds during the Drew Esquivel Memorial Duals in Healdsburg.

into quality scoring chances, and ultimately the two scores by Guerra to secure the victory.

Foothill completed the tournament with a relatively easy 4-0 victory over Miramonte, dominating play from start to finish. The Falcons were in full attack mode from the onset and took the lead when Mirr finished off a cross from Peyton Raun with a left foot shot to the corner of the net.

Later in the half, the Falcons doubled their lead when Kira Broacha blasted a shot past the keeper off a feed from Mirr.

The second half was much the

same as Foothill continually attacked the Miramonte defense, with Mirr netting her second goal of the match from short distance off a pass from Kasey Cring. Broacha finished off the scoring with her second tally of the match, this time with help from Taylor Noval, who provided the pass to set up the finish. ■

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

Blue Devils team wins San Jose tourney

BY JEREMY WALSH

The Tri-Valley Blue Devils 14-and-under A team earned a spot to compete in Port Huron, Mich. next month by winning the 2017 International SilverStick Regional Tournament in San Jose.

The 14U A squad battled through a tough championship game against the host San Jose Jr. Sharks before scoring the tournament-winning goal in overtime to clinch victory in the Thanksgiving weekend event.

"I am very proud of my team," head coach Joseph Carranza said in a statement after the tourney. "The success of the Blue Devils was the result of a complete team effort."

The 14U A team's win was the second championship for that age of Tri-Valley Blue Devils in San Jose. The 14U B team was victorious in its division at the SilverStick regional over the Thanksgiving break as well.

The competition started slowly for the 14U A team, which gave up two power-play goals in the final six minutes of its opening game of round-robin play, a 2-1 loss to San Jose.

The Tri-Valley players then reeled off three wins in a row — against

the Arizona Jr. Sun Devils, California Wave and Redwood City Black Stars — to earn a spot in the championship, outscoring those opponents 23-2 on the strength of solid goal-tending, strong defense and efficient offense.

Finishing round-robin play with a 3-1 record set Tri-Valley up for a rematch against the San Jose Jr. Sharks for the tournament title.

The Blue Devils found themselves down 1-0 while being outshot 16-11 after two periods, but they turned the tide on the Jr. Sharks in the third frame, outshooting them 10-5 and scoring the game-tying goal with 1:40 left in regulation.

Tri-Valley netted the game-winner with 1:59 left in sudden-death overtime to win the finale 2-1.

The 14U A team featured Matthew Braunbach, Jeffrey Brugaletta, Tanner Curtis, Mitchell Evans, Nicholas Franzwa, Jackson Gurule, Richard Harris, Hanna Huska, Matvey Ivanov, Neil Johnson, Cade Llewellyn, Wyatt Moore, Nicolas Poland, Joshua Purpura, Jeffrey Redding, Kyle Rodgers and Eric Zheng.

Carranza's coaching staff also included Gordon Moore, Mark Redding and Richard Rodgers. ■

200+ young cricketers compete in Tri-Valley event

Inter-school tourney fields high school division for 1st time

BY JEREMY WALSH

Youth cricket players from Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon took part in the fifth Cricket for Cubs Inter-school Tournament earlier this month as the international sport continues to grow in popularity in the Tri-Valley.

The competition drew more than 200 participants among 16 teams, including the tournament's first-ever high school division. In all, 35 games were played the weekends of Dec. 2 and Dec. 9.

Dublin schools led the way, with Amador Cricket Club winning the elementary school division and one of three Fallon Middle School teams winning the middle school division. San Ramon's California High School won the inaugural competition for older teens.

In elementary school, Mohr Cricket Club from Pleasanton took second place among the five-team division. Individual honors went to Arush Chitgopkar (Live Oak) as Best Bowler, Akhil Venkatesh (John Green) as Best Batsman, Aditya Chandrasekhar (Live Oak) as Best Fielder and Ayush Batghare (Amador) as MVP.



CRICKET FOR CUBS

Inter-school Tournament participants gather after completing the two-weekend competition earlier this month.

For middle school, the Fallon team led by Saketh Ayinaparthi (also Best Fielder) took first place, with Windemere Ranch finishing as runner-up in the eight-team competition. Other awards went to Sanjay Adhikesaven (Hart) as Best Bowler, Ajay Immadi (Harvest Park) as Best Batsman and Sahil Garg (Windemere Ranch) as MVP.

The new high school division featured three teams, with Cal High taking first place, Dougherty Valley finishing second and Dublin coming in third.

Individual awards went to Kaustub Kanagalekar (Cal) as Best Bowler, Shamith Pasula (Cal) as Best Batsman, Parth Gupta (Dougherty Valley) as Best Fielder and Rishab Jayaram (Dougherty Valley) as MVP.

Introduced just 18 months ago, the nonprofit Cricket for Cubs has worked to introduce cricket in 18 schools across Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon, including helping cricket become an established part of the physical education curriculum in three middle schools. ■

Calendar

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

Theatre

NOISES OFF Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. www.firehousearts.org. Jan. 27 through Feb. 11, 8 p.m. Tickets available at the theater box office. Called the funniest farce ever written, Tony Award-winning "Noises Off" presents a manic menagerie as a cast of itinerant actors rehearsing a flop called Nothing's On. Doors slamming, on- and off-stage intrigue, and an errant herring all figure in the plot of this sexy, hilarious and classically comic play. The film version of this show featured some of the greatest contemporary comedic actors of our time, including John Ritter and Carol Burnett.

Arts

CIVIC ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

Promotes the acquisition, construction and installation of works of public art in Pleasanton. The Commission also makes recommendations to the City Council regarding the City's Civic Arts programs. First Monday of the month, 7 p.m., 200 Old Bernal Ave. www.cityofpleasantonca.gov.

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

THE SPECIAL CONSENSUS Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Friday, Jan. 19, 8 p.m., Grammy-nominated for Best Bluegrass Album 2012, TSC is a superb four-man acoustic band in the classic vein, but with more than

enough modern sensibilities. With spotless vocals and playing as shiny as a newly minted penny, TSC comes at the music with boundless energy and an aesthetic reverence that tickles the ribs, tugs at the heart, and puts a restless two-step in boots and bare feet. Tickets at: www.firehousearts.org or the box office.

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 Parkway, Suite 415. Everyone is welcome to come see what a positive change Toastmasters can make in their confidence. Call 580-8660.

Family

COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES

Community Education Series is presented by the City of Pleasanton in partnership with the Pleasanton Unified School District, and Pleasanton PTA Council. Are you wondering what to expect when you start High School in the Fall? Join us for a panel discussion about real life concerns and solutions. Panelists include high school students, parents and administrator from PUSD. Wednesday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Free.

Food & Drink

BEER TRAIL Tri-Valley Craft Beer Trail. Five beer stops by Jan. 31 equals \$20 to Sunflower Hill. Visit Tri-Valley's seasonal beer trail passport, is back. Through Jan. 31, beer-lovers can download a passport or pick one up at any stop

on the Tri-Valley Beer Trail or Tri-Valley hotel, visit at least five out of our 22 breweries, taprooms or ale houses, and for every passport with five stamps that you turn in, Visit Tri-Valley will donate \$20 to Sunflower Hill, a local, nonprofit organization working to create a sustainable residential community for individuals with special needs. Bring your passport in to Visit Tri-Valley, 5075 Hopyard Rd., Suite 240 or you can scan and email your passport to tourism@VisitTriValley.com. Once the passport is received, Visit Tri-Valley will make the corresponding donation. For more info, visittrivalley.com.

Lessons & Classes

LAWYERS IN THE LIBRARY Members of the Alameda County Bar Association visit the Pleasanton Public Library on the third Tuesday of each month to give free 15-20 minute consultations. Appointments are by lottery. Register from 5:30-5:45 p.m.; names selected at 5:50 p.m. 400 Old Bernal Ave. Call 931-3400, ext. 7.

PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY USER

GROUP The PT Users Group meets at 10 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. The usual format is 2-3 presentations by various presenters. Topics include internet use, email, photos, security, help with Windows 7/8/10, smart phones, tablets. Cost is \$2.00 to \$2.50. Call 931-5365.

Health & Wellness

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

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

EAST BAY ESSENTIAL TREMOR SUPPORT GROUP If you have recently been diagnosed with ET or would like to learn more about this common movement disorder in a safe and supportive environment, please join us from 10 a.m.-noon on the third Saturday of each month, in Conference Room 112 at the

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Pretty Poinsettia

Poinsettia is a 2-year-old domestic short-hair who does everything in a big way. Not only does she like to be in the middle of things; she likes to lead the parade. She's an adventurous type who will still make plenty of time to show you her affectionate side. Her adoption fee, like all pets with holiday-themed names, is waived throughout December during the East Bay SPCA's annual Home for the Holidays promotion. Meet Poinsettia at the Dublin shelter at 4651 Gleason Drive. (Note: Facility is closed this Sunday for New Year's Eve).

Alcosta Senior & Community Center, 9300 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon. For more information, view their blog at www.eastbayet.com or call 487-5706 or email eastbayet@comcast.net.

MOTHERS WITH A PURPOSE

Mothers With a Purpose meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Foothill High School Library, 4375 Foothill Road. Mothers with a Purpose was formed by local moms to offer support to families affected by addiction. Visit www.motherswithapurpose.org.

Sports

LIVERMORE PLEASANTON UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

The Livermore Pleasanton Umpires Association is 503c non-profit organization that has been part of the local sports scene for nearly 50 years. The Livermore Pleasanton Umpires Association is looking for umpires for the upcoming 2018 fast pitch softball season. We serve the high school as well as the youth programs in Livermore and Pleasanton. Training and meetings will begin in early January 2018. Those interested should contact Brian Jensen, 640-4932 or email, lfavr@gmail.com.

BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN & TRAILS COMMITTEE

Advises Parks and Recreation Commission and City's Traffic Engineering Division on bicycle, pedestrian and trail related items. Committee reviews and prioritizes potential projects, provides input on policies related to bike ways and trails, and promotes community education. Next meeting, Monday, Jan. 22, 6:45 p.m., Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. www.cityofpleasantonca.gov.

Seniors

EYE GLASS ADJUSTMENTS AND CLEANING Stop by the Pleasanton Senior Center 5353 Sunol Blvd., from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month to have your eye glasses and sunglasses cleaned and adjusted by a representative from Sears Optical. For more information call 931-5365.

FRIENDS OF THE PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER 'NEWCOMER'S WELCOME'

The Friends of the Pleasanton Senior Center are sponsoring a "Newcomer's Welcome" from 10:30 a.m.-noon on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5506 Sunol Blvd. Tour the facility and hear about programs and activities, questions are welcome and will be answered. Light snacks will be served. Attend a free lunch at the Sage Cafe after, no reservations needed. Go to www.seniorcenterfriends.org.

PHOTO CLUB The photo club is open to any senior who enjoys the hobby of photography at any level. It is suggested that you have some form of a digital camera. The group shares photos and makes suggestions on how the photos might be improved. Meetings include occasional speakers and field trips, and are from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Cost is \$2 for residents, \$2.50 for non-residents. Call 931-5365.

MEN OF BREAKFAST Join the Men of Breakfast or MOB at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Tuesday of the month for a cup of coffee and friendly discussion at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Bring a newspaper and whatever topics pique your interest. Call 931-5369.

Community Groups

81ST AMERICAN LEGION ORATORICAL CONTEST American Legion post 237 will host our Oratorical Contest on Saturday, Jan. 20 at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main Street, at 1 p.m. Contest is open to all high school students, grades 9 thru 12. Participants must be US citizens and residents of California. See www.legion.oratorical for further information. Local prizes of \$250, \$150, \$100 and \$25. Contact Norman Houghton, 846-8725 or email norm4064@yahoo.com to enter.



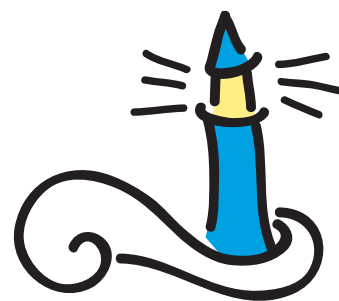
COURTESY OF NATHALIA RODRIGUEZ

Giovanettis celebrating first anniversary

Tomorrow marks one year since Tyler and Jennifer Giovanetti were married at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery in Pleasanton. Both Amador Valley High School alumni, Tyler later graduated from Chico State with a business degree and Jennifer earned an associate degree and a certificate in surgical technology from Las Positas College. They currently reside in Livermore with their dogs DD and Chance.

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115 Announcements

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 538486
The following person doing business as: SIGNATURE MOBILE NOTARY SERVICES, 5729 West Las Positas Blvd., #303, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Kerrie Watkins, 5729 West Las Positas Blvd., #303, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Kerrie Watkins, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein December 4, 2017. Signature of Registrant: Kerrie Watkins, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 4, 2017. (Pleasanton Weekly, Dec. 15, 22, 29, 2017 and Jan. 5, 2018).

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Two new Realtors join J. Rockcliff

Local office also partners with myTheo platform

By JEREMY WALSH

J. Rockcliff Realtors announced this fall that two experienced Tri-Valley Realtors have joined the firm's Pleasanton office.

MaryJane Billowitch and Tracey Esling began working at the J. Rockcliff office at 5075 Hopyard Road, Suite 110, last month.

Officials at the real estate brokerage firm are excited to have both women on-board, according to Earl Rozran, vice president and manager of the Pleasanton office.

"I have had the pleasure of working with MaryJane in the past and I am very happy that she has chosen to join our agent family" Rozran said. "She is a true professional."

"I am really happy to be working with Tracey again," Rozran added. "I have known her for over 14 years, and she is a great addition to our agent family."

A Livermore resident, Billowitch is a certified relocation specialist and accredited staging professional

who has built a reputation for her ability to showcase homes and understand clients' needs, according to her new firm.

Esling is a relocation expert in the corporate and client real estate arenas who is known for her real estate knowledge, energy and communication skills. She was also elected to serve on the Bay East Association of Realtors Board of Directors in 2018.

In other news, J. Rockcliff officials also announced that the firm has signed on with the myTheo platform, giving its agents expanded access to myTheo's tour features, automated multi-stop routing and cloud-based property notes.

The move will also help agents and their clients engage in a collaborative platform that offers full access to the best real estate data direct from the local multiple listing service (MLS), according to the firm. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Nov. 2-8)

Total sales reported: 17
Lowest sale reported: \$555,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,650,000
Average sales reported: \$1,333,765

Dublin (Nov. 2-8)

Total sales reported: 12
Lowest sale reported: \$415,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,090,000
Average sales reported: \$823,333

Livermore (Nov. 2-8)

Total sales reported: 28
Lowest sale reported: \$315,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,620,000
Average sales reported: \$729,000

San Ramon (Nov. 27-30)

Total sales reported: 19
Lowest sale reported: \$395,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,100,000
Average sales reported: \$946,368

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Nov. 2-8 for Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore and Nov. 27-30 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 3079 Alburni Court** Hahn, George & to Reddy, Sapna & Sridhar for \$2,440,000
- 7439 Alder Court** Berglund, Wade & Nicole to Machiwal, Manoj & Veena for \$1,200,000
- 2886 Calle Reynoso** Allen Trust to Young, Taylor for \$1,080,000
- 6155 Club House Drive** Swanepoel, Charles & Maricris to Kuo, Peter & Tina for \$2,650,000
- 1061 Division Street** Galt Trust to Kyer, Christopher & Kelsey for \$980,000
- 4909 Forest Hill Drive** Campisi, Steven & Maryann to Coutand, Hannah & Olivier for \$1,238,000
- 5219 Genovesio Drive** Song, Jae & Sukju to Malavathu, Sandeep for \$992,500
- 370 Happy Valley Road** Anderson & Harris Trust to Khan, Irfan & Aparna for \$1,778,000

- 4156 Jensen Street** Ferguson Trust to Montler Trust for \$890,000
- 3508 Kamp Drive** Zwingle, Michael to Hwang, Jinyong for \$930,000
- 8131 Moller Ranch Drive** Hwang, Kui to Seal Tech for \$1,065,000
- 8170 Mountain View Drive #A** Ehlers, Thomas & Lorene to Kaushik, Nina & Nanda for \$555,000
- 3822 Muirwood Drive** Gissel, Matthew & Katherine to Brandis, Aaron & Nadhima for \$1,160,000
- 3601 Olympic Court #N** Darian, Javad to Sankaranarayanan, Ramakrishnan for \$900,000
- 500 Pine Hill Lane** Bitbaba, Rishard to Fossum, Paul & Maria for \$1,300,000
- 3275 Runnymede Court** Bartolo Trust to Yang, Fei for \$1,068,000
- 1073 Via Di Salerno** Barraco Trust to Zeng, Xiaokai for \$2,447,500

Source: California REsource

SOLD IN PLEASANTON

2784 Lylewood
 4383 Bristolwood
 4729 Fair Street
 9248 Longview

SOLD IN DUBLIN

4837 Swinford
 2877 E. Castle Pines

SOLD IN LIVERMORE

2459 Wellingham
 1052 Geneva St.

THANK YOU for your support over the years!

Wishing you & your family a wonderful, prosperous, and healthy New Year!

Cindy Gee

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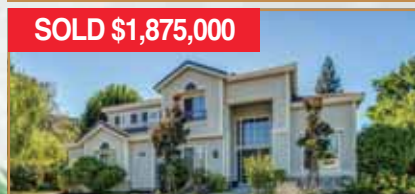
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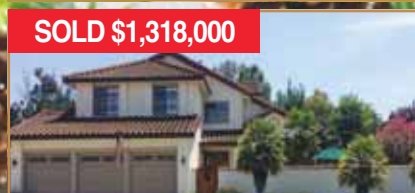
SOLD \$1,238,000

4909 FOREST HILL PLEAS.



SOLD \$1,875,000

2505 ARLOTTA PLEAS.



SOLD \$1,318,000

3117 JOANNE CIR. PLEAS.



CINDY GEE

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Better Homes and Gardens REAL ESTATE

An annual magazine featuring the neighborhoods of Pleasanton and surrounding areas.

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

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NOTE ON CURRENT MARKET - This is my 40th year as a fulltime Realtor here in Pleasanton. Over all of those years there have been hot Real Estate Markets for Home Sellers, but nothing like what we are going through right now. Here are some of the things that local Home Sellers who price their home correctly are experiencing when selling their homes: all cash offers, selling over list price, NO appraisal clause, quick closing time, AS-IS Sales, FREE rent back after closing, multiple offers, Buyer removing all contingencies upfront, waiving the Home Warranty & paying some to the Sellers closing costs. If you are considering selling your home and would like to take advantage of this current Real Estate Marketing, feel free to contact me at 925.989.4106 or tommontano1@aol.com

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JUST SOLD

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JUST SOLD

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Vintage Heights

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ANOTHER SALE PENDING - 9 OFFERS



Vintage Heights

Beautiful custom home w/ views of Mt Diablo. Granite slab kitchen. 4 bdms, 3 baths. Over 3000 sq ft. Iron baluster staircase, vaulted ceilings and more. **Pending over asking price of \$1,550,000**

JUST SOLD - \$45K OVER ASKING



4622 Mason Street, Pleasanton

Stunning one level home with granite slab kitchen, beautiful LVT wood flooring, new carpet, dual pane windows, landscaping and more! **\$945,000**

JUST CLOSED ESCROW - 3 OFFERS!



6857 Siesta Court, Pleasanton

Simply adorable one level home. 3 bdms, 2 baths. Granite kitchen with shaker cabinets and large pantry. Dual pane windows, new carpet. **\$810,000**

ANOTHER PENDING SALE!



Kottinger Ranch

Beautiful Kottinger Ranch home with 6 bdms, 4 baths, stunning backyard, pool and views! **We are honored to represent the buyer in this transaction.**

COMING SOON - JANUARY 2018



Vintage Hills, Pleasanton

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