

Pleasanton Weekly

The Beatles vs.
The Stones

Page 15

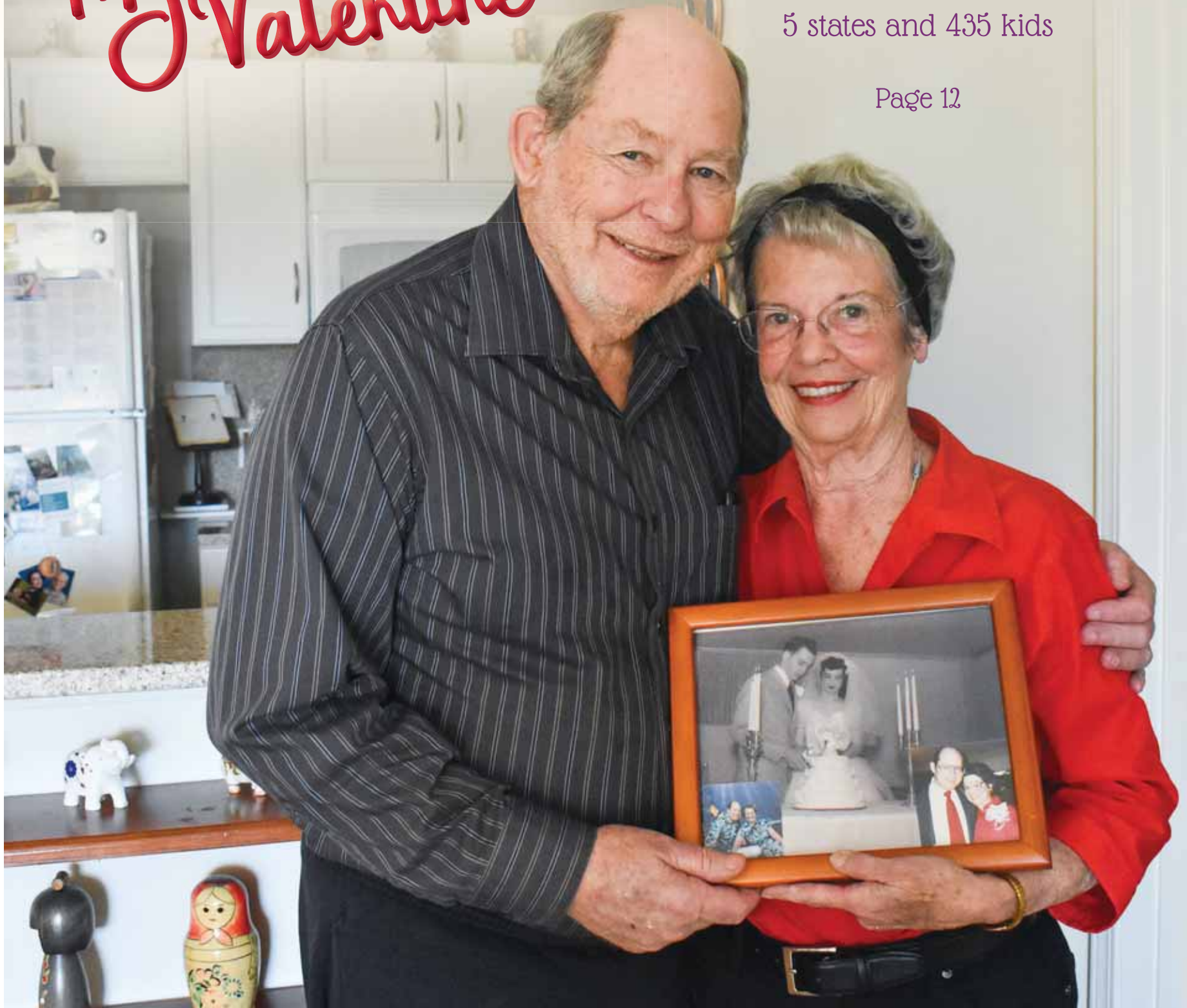
VOL. XIX, NUMBER 3 • FEBRUARY 9, 2018

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My Valentine

Pleasanton couple's
love spans 60 years,
5 states and 435 kids

Page 12



- 5 | **NEWS** Mayor settles case with FPPC for minor violation
- 11 | **EDITORIAL** Bright day for Sunflower Hill
- 14 | **TRI VALLEY LIFE** Holocaust survivor's message

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The community members for which the District seeks applications are:

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AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

Livermore veteran, 96, has reason to be proud



COURTESY OF BELLA ELLGAS

Manuel Moreno meets with the newest member of the family, Lily.

Army veteran Manuel Moreno, now 96, has reason to be proud. He served 21 years in the Infantry and the Military Police, receiving two Purple Hearts in World War II. Then, he served another 21 years on the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's security detail.

There's another reason to be proud. Manuel and wife Delilah, 90, reared five children in a two-bedroom house on Sonoma Court in Livermore.

That family now numbers 31, including Manuel and Delilah, their five children, 13 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and, most recently, his great-great-granddaughter Lily — born three weeks ago to his great-granddaughter Bella Ellgas, a former intern for the Weekly.

Manuel was 22 when drafted into the Army during World War II. After basic training, he served with an infantry division that stormed the beaches at Anzio on Italy's central west coast in 1944.

"Germans were all around us when we landed," Manuel recalls. "That's where I got shot in the wrist."

Still he stayed in the fight as his regiment broke through, drove the Germans back and fought its way north, liberating Rome. He was in Rome when loudspeakers in a public square blared the news of the landing of allied forces at Normandy. It was D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Manuel's unit battled the Germans into France. It was there, during a particularly heavy battle, that Manuel jumped into an abandoned foxhole for cover, but not before a bullet cut into his leg just above the knee. Treated by medics, he was awarded a second Purple Heart and transferred out of combat for the rest of the war.

Manuel was heading back home

to be discharged when he received a "Dear John" letter from Sarah, his high school sweetheart he had planned to marry. Sorry, she wrote, but she'd found someone else.

So he re-enlisted, this time into the Military Police. He was sent to the Canal Zone in Panama. While there, a staff clerk offered to introduce Manuel to her girlfriend as a blind date for an upcoming social.

"Sure," Manuel told her. "Bring her over. We'll go to the dance and have dinner." That's when he met Delilah, his future wife. This year, they will celebrate their 66th anniversary.

In 1963, the couple thought it was time to return to civilian life. A friend suggested Manuel apply at Sandia National Laboratories. But the human resources office was closed when he arrived, so he walked across East Avenue to the Livermore Lab, which was recruiting for its security force.

Manuel received a discharge from the MPs and took the Lab job, starting at \$2.77 an hour. Using their savings, the couple moved into a house they bought for \$18,400 on Sonoma Court, where they still live.

For the next 21 years until his retirement in 1984, Manuel headed up the Lab's security division that escorted outside contractors into the Lab for ongoing construction projects. Delilah stayed home as their family grew, with all five of their children graduating from Livermore high schools.

Manuel said that while he has never returned to Europe, that's OK. With such a large family nearby, he and Delilah don't need to travel. His oldest daughter lives next door and the other 29 offspring provide all the care and companionship they need.

"Life couldn't be any better," he said. ■

About the Cover

Pleasanton residents David and Deana Mitchell are ready to celebrate their 60th Valentine's Day together next week. Photo by Erika Alvero. Cover design by Kristin Brown. Vol. XIX, Number 3



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Senior Housing Options

February 20, 2018 | 6:00pm-7:30pm

Susan Tamaoki, a Certified Senior Advisor, describes some local options for senior housing and offers some tips on to how to pay for it.

Social Security Benefits

March 20, 2018 | 6:00pm-7:30pm

Anthony Carr, CPA, CFP®, EA, will discuss the various claiming strategies available for those filing for either retirement, disability, spousal, ex-spousal, survivor, and dependent benefits. Learn the rules and eligibility requirements that can help you make better informed decisions about the important topic of social security.

Reverse Mortgages

April 17, 2018 | 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Karen Long, a Mortgage Advisor with Opes Advisors, will give an overview of reverse mortgages. She will address how these mortgages are different today from in the past and how this program is a safe choice for seniors.

A question and answer session will follow each presentation and a light supper will be served. Please RSVP.

With Christina Rice, Seniors Real Estate Specialist, MBA, Graduate, Realtors Institute (GRI), BRE 01934850

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Do you have any special plans for Valentine's Day?



John Williams

Engineer

In fact I do! I am going with my best buddy to Korea to see the Olympics, live. We are so excited — especially because my wife insists that she totally doesn't mind.



Connor Mackenzie

Bartender

I'm taking my girlfriend on a surprise date. She has no idea where we are going, and it's making her crazy because she is a "need to know" kind of gal. She does love the suspense though, and I can assure you she will not be disappointed.



Jeff Knapp

Engineer

My wife and I are going into San Francisco to a culinary school where we are planning to take a cooking class together. She's really looking forward to it.



Tyler Jones

Manager

Well, I had the good fortune to marry a fantastic woman and every year we repeat the same ritual. We split a bottle of Cupcake brand Cabernet and get Taco Bell for dinner. It's perfect. Always.



Steve Lipner *Real estate development*

I am taking the day off from work to spend it with my wife. We are planning to take BART into San Francisco, walk a few miles to the Golden Gate Bridge, and walk across the bridge and back. I'm sure there'll be a lot of great conversation and much laughter, and perhaps even a few tears. At the end of the day, we'll return home and have a romantic dinner in Pleasanton.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Let's get married

The Alameda County Clerk-Recorder's Office is again taking reservations this year for couples who want to get married on Valentine's Day.

The office will offer the holiday ceremonies from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday at its satellite location at 7600 Dublin Blvd. in Dublin (in the outdoor courtyard) and its main office at 1106 Madison St. in Oakland (in the specially furnished Wedding Room).

A marriage license must be obtained from the main office in Oakland by Tuesday to qualify for a Valentine's Day ceremony — which costs \$75 and lasts about 20 minutes.

Appointments are required for the Dublin location and recommended for Oakland, though walk-in service will be offered in Oakland on a first-come, first-served basis.

New bus schedule

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) is implementing schedule adjustments to most Wheels and Rapid bus routes effective Monday morning.

The changes are primarily focused on minor schedule adjustments of one minute to make transfers more convenient for routes serving the eastern and western Dublin-Pleasanton BART stations, according to LAVTA officials. The changes coincide with schedule changes on BART services there.

New timetables, marked "New Schedule Feb. 12, 2018," were available on all Wheels and Rapid buses this week and they will remain available on the LAVTA website at wheelsbus.com. For more info, call the Customer Service Center at 455-7500.

Water stability

Livermore's Bankhead Theater is set to host a presentation next Thursday at 7:30 p.m. by Roger Bales from the University of California at Merced, discussing what was learned from the 2011-15 drought and what steps need to be taken to secure the state's water future.

Bales, a professor and director of the UC Water Security and Sustainability Research Initiative, focuses professionally on California's effort to build the knowledge base and implement policies that adapt our water supplies, critical ecosystems and economy to the impacts of climate warming.

He works with leaders in state agencies, elected officials, federal land managers, water leaders, non-governmental organizations, and other key decision makers on developing climate solutions for California.

The presentation is part of the Rae Dorough Speaker Series. Tickets for Thursday's talk are \$16 for students and range from \$32 to \$40 for adults. Purchase online at raedoroughspeakerseries.org or visit the theater box office in downtown Livermore. ■

Mayor Thorne reaches settlement with FPPC over Costco stock disclosure

Agrees to pay \$100 fine with state agency finding no intent to conceal or conflict of interest

BY JEREMY WALSH

Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne has acknowledged failing to formally inform state regulators about selling his Costco stock in 2016, an admission that comes as part of a proposed settlement agreement with the Fair Political Practices Commission up for final approval next week.

The agreement calls for a \$100 fine for a low-level violation of the Political Reform Act, with FPPC officials also concluding investigators found no evidence of a conflict of interest resulting from the Costco stock sale as well as no evidence of intent to conceal on the mayor's part.

Thorne, who is expected to seek a fourth term as mayor this fall, said

he feels vindicated by the outcome of the FPPC investigation — which found only a paperwork infraction stemming from former City Councilman Matt Sullivan's complaint alleging Thorne abused his powers by participating in Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone (JDEDZ) meetings while owning Costco stock.

"I think the two most important findings were that the FPPC found no evidence of a conflict of interest resulting from this interest (Costco) and found no evidence of intent to conceal," Thorne told the Weekly. "I received a minor fine for failing to fill out an FPPC form when the stock was sold. I have admitted to not filling out the form and have already paid the fine."

"In the final analysis, I feel vindicated because the complaint was for a conflict of interest and an attempt to conceal it from the public and both of these allegations were found to have no foundation and were completely false," the mayor added.

Sullivan, an outspoken critic of Costco coming to Johnson Drive who is also spearheading a lawsuit against the city for approving the JDEDZ last December, said the mayor's violation is emblematic of a "culture of corruption" in Pleasanton city politics.

"While the quantity of Costco stock owned by Thorne was minor and the fine insignificant, the real issue is the culture of corruption that has engulfed Pleasanton city

government over the past 10 years," said Sullivan, who served on the council from 2004 to 2012 before being termed out.

"Whether the money comes from developers, the Chamber of Commerce or directly from corporate entities like Costco doesn't matter. It is so prevalent that our representatives don't even try to hide it or pretend that it doesn't influence their decisions anymore," Sullivan added.



Jerry Thorne

See **SETTLEMENT** on Page 7



ERIKA ALVERO

Sherri Leal, director of Kids Against Hunger Bay Area, helps volunteers fill their rice bags at the meal-packing event at Inklings in downtown Pleasanton last week.

Volunteers pack 50,000 meals

Kids Against Hunger helps families in need

BY ERIKA ALVERO

Some 400 volunteers showed up to Inklings in downtown Pleasanton last week to participate in a meal-packing event for the Pleasanton-based nonprofit Kids Against Hunger Bay Area.

The volunteers packed 50,000 rice bags over the course of three hours on the evening of Jan. 30 in a festively crowded storeroom behind the coffee house on Main Street. The event was sponsored by Man Cave Craft Eats, a small meat company based in Minneapolis, as part of their Bite Back initiative — for every item purchased, the company will donate a meal to those in need.

The meals will go to Second

Harvest Food Bank, which will then distribute the meals to Bay Area schoolchildren with demonstrated need.

"We feel like it's our duty to give back," said Kristy Welker, the public relations director for Man Cave Craft Eats.

Volunteers were divided into three hour-long shifts from 5-8 p.m. that evening, stationed at several long tables in assembly-line fashion.

They shuffled down their tables, filling plastic bags with long-grain rice, crushed soy, dehydrated black beans and a vitamin spice blend, before making their way to the sealing station, where their bags were closed and placed in large

boxes to be delivered to Second Harvest.

Usually, volunteer meal-packing events like this cost \$20 per person for fundraising purposes, said Sherri Leal, who serves as the director of Kids Against Hunger Bay Area. But because Man Cave Craft Eats was donating the meals, January's meal-packing was free of charge.

Leal had been there all day — a group from Starbucks and a youth group had come in in the morning to participate in the packing. She said the event had "sold out" quickly, with first preference given to those who had taken part in Kids Against Hunger meal-packing events before. ■

Council approves Sunflower Hill plans

Project aims to bring housing community for adults with special needs

BY JEREMY WALSH

Sunflower Hill could be in position to begin building Pleasanton's first-ever residential community for adults with special needs by the end of the year after the City Council on Tuesday unanimously endorsed the design plans and signed off on almost \$9.4 million in financial support for the project.

The Pleasanton-based nonprofit, in partnership with Satellite Affordable Housing Associates (SAHA), plans to construct a two-story apartment building with 31 units — along with a community center, a central courtyard and other amenities — adjacent to a new neighborhood planned for the Irby Ranch site. The housing developers set aside a portion of their land for the future Sunflower Hill project.

"I think it's important that with this project we know that our underserved community is no longer invisible," Councilman Jerry Pentin said Tuesday night at the Pleasanton Civic Center.

"We will establish something here that can lead the way for other communities like this to be built," Pentin said. "I hope, as we move forward in

See **SUNFLOWER** on Page 8

Tri-Valley mayors return from summit in DC with optimism

Extending BART to ACE, helping homeless veterans among key topics in meetings with federal officials

By JEREMY WALSH

The Tri-Valley's five mayors recently traveled to the nation's capital to advocate for regional priorities with federal officials and receive insights from their peers from across the country as part of the annual U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Each man spoke positively about the experience this year and the prospect of advancing key Tri-Valley goals, including their top-priority project: connecting BART to ACE Train in Livermore.

"The Department of Transportation (DOT) is very interested in the BART to ACE connection," Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne said last week after returning from the summit.

"I am optimistic about the BART to ACE project and what it will accomplish to relieve traffic on our freeways. However, we will need to wait and see what form the Administration's infrastructure bill takes," Thorne added.

Thorne joined mayors Newell Arnerich of Danville, Bill Clarkson of San Ramon, David Haubert of Dublin and John Marchand of Livermore for this year's conference Jan. 23-26 in Washington, D.C.

"The people that we meet with, whether staff members or members



CITY OF PLEASANTON

Outside the U.S. Capitol Building are Tri-Valley mayors (from left) Jerry Thorne of Pleasanton, Newell Arnerich of Danville, David Haubert of Dublin, Bill Clarkson of San Ramon and John Marchand of Livermore.

of Congress, are always impressed to see that five mayors are working together for the good of their region, not just their individual cities," Marchand said.

The mayors met with federal officials from the departments of

Transportation, Justice, Veterans Affairs, and Housing and Urban Development, as well as spoke with Sen. Dianne Feinstein and the offices of Sen. Kamala Harris and U.S. Reps. Jeff Denham, Mark DeSaulnier and Eric Swalwell.

They also attended meetings within the larger conference, including hearing remarks from President Donald Trump.

The trip and meetings were organized by Townsend Public Affairs, the lobbying firm hired by the five cities to advocate on the Tri-Valley's behalf. Townsend is in its first year consulting for the Tri-Valley, with the five cities evenly splitting the \$120,000 annual contract, according to Becky Hopkins, Pleasanton's assistant to the city manager.

The quintet's No. 1 talking point in D.C. was BART to ACE, a regional transportation project local officials believe is vital to alleviating traffic congestion along interstates 580 and 680.

And the mayors returned home expressing optimism on that front.

"Based on our efforts with the DOT, we are now well-positioned with support from (federal legislators) to receive federal assistance in the upcoming infrastructure bill to supplement the \$550 million already committed in Measure BB," Arnerich said.

"This project scope will greatly relieve congestion on 580 and 680," he said.

Thorne said the Trump administration is looking toward creating a

list of key transit projects to streamline, and the Tri-Valley mayors hope BART to ACE can make the cut.

"Projects that are on the 'list' will bypass a lot of the federal red tape," Thorne said.

"In his discussion with a group of mayors that included the five Tri-Valley mayors, the President indicated that he would like to see 'listed' projects approved within one year," Thorne continued. "Since the BART to ACE project has substantial local, county and state funding already committed, the indication was that our BART to ACE project would be a good candidate for the 'list.'"

Projects like BART to ACE, and continued Highway 84 improvements, are important for enhancing quality of life throughout the Tri-Valley, according to Clarkson.

"Even though none of the projects are in San Ramon, and aren't even in our county, we have made a commitment to help the region," he said. "It does affect San Ramon from a regional perspective. And down the road if San Ramon has a project, it's nice to know that our fellow areas are going to come to bat for us."

The mayors said they also focused on finding support for struggling

See **MAYORS** on Page 7

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SETTLEMENT

Continued from Page 5

The FPPC is scheduled to consider approving the proposed settlement during its meeting next Thursday (Feb. 15) in Sacramento.

FPPC communications director Jay Wierenga said he could not comment on the specifics of Thorne's case because the settlement is pending.

Wierenga did speak generally about the type of agreement proposed, saying it was a "streamline settlement" that is part of a FPPC program created in 2015 to resolve lower-level, relatively technical violations that didn't cause much harm, if any, to the public.

The original complaint, which Sullivan filed with the FPPC in October 2016, targeted the city's JDEDZ consideration process to that point in light of Thorne leading council meetings on the subject while owning some Costco stock shares.

The JDEDZ proposal laid out the framework for how redevelopment could occur in largely underutilized 40 acres along Johnson Drive and Commerce Circle, southeast of the I-580/I-680 interchange — land city leaders hope will become Pleasanton's newest commercial center anchored by a Costco

store and two hotels, plus other businesses.

Thorne had participated in public meetings on the JDEDZ proposal for nearly two years until July 2016, when he abruptly recused himself from the debate after saying he discovered his retirement managed stock fund included Costco share in its portfolio.

The FPPC then determined in September 2016 that Thorne could not participate in JDEDZ discussion while owning Costco stock — the mayor owned 24 shares with a value exceeding \$2,000.

Sullivan argued in his subsequent FPPC complaint that Thorne "clearly

and knowingly violated the conflict of interest statutes of the State of California by consistently advocating for and using his mayoral powers on behalf of a proposal to build Costco in Pleasanton."

Thorne, who has continued to recuse himself from all JDEDZ hearings to avoid a perception of impropriety, sold his Costco shares in the latter part of 2016, but an FPPC investigator later determined the mayor failed to disclose the stock and sale information in his 2016 annual statement of economic interests (commonly known as a "Form 700").

Thorne has amended all financial statements and has not ever received

a penalty from the FPPC Enforcement Division for failing to file a Form 700 in a timely manner, for violating the annual gift limit or for failing to timely report a qualifying economic interest, according to the proposed settlement.

The FPPC's public meeting next Thursday is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. in Sacramento, 1102 Q St., Suite 3800. Thorne's proposed settlement is listed among the commission's 13-item consent agenda, a collection of items deemed routine in nature and voted upon all at once unless pulled for individual consideration by a commissioner.

The commission meeting comes

during a key week for Thorne and the city.

The mayor is scheduled to deliver his annual State of the City address next Tuesday during a luncheon hosted by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel — a venue located just yards away from the JDEDZ.

And the next day, city officials are scheduled to appear in court for a case management conference in Oakland for the lawsuit filed by Sullivan's resident coalition, Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth, challenging the council's environmental clearances as part of the JDEDZ approval. ■

MAYORS

Continued from Page 6

military veterans in the area.

"We all share a strong desire to help our homeless veterans, particularly with mental health support and transitional housing," Arnerich said.

Thorne said he was encouraged to hear about the Veterans Affairs' "Reveille" program to help veterans in need, and the possibility of the program being applicable to the biennial East Bay Stand Down veteran support effort at the Pleasanton fairgrounds.

"If we were to include this in Stand Down, the VA would have housing vouchers and VA hospital personnel on site to assist homeless veterans," Thorne said. "Again, I would caution that nothing has been committed at this point, but I am hopeful that we can work with the VA to improve the homeless veteran situation."

Additionally, the trip provided key opportunities to interact with — and learn from — mayors elected throughout the country, according to Haubert.

"The conference allowed us to hear from other cities on ways they handle anything from sustainability to child obesity and healthy living to homelessness, etc.," he said.

In the end, the coordinated advocacy at the annual conference, which proved fruitful for Tri-Valley mayors in years past, appeared to be well on display again in 2018, according to Arnerich.

"Our past successes were often based on timing, and I believe we were again in the right places and the right times on this trip," he said. ■



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Alameda County Fair wins industry awards

2017 fair takes home 38 regional, international honors

By JEREMY WALSH

The Alameda County Fair was recently awarded top honors for innovation and excellence in a variety of competitive categories from two industry associations for its efforts and accomplishments during 2017.

The Western Fair Association (WFA) and the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) combined to recognize the Pleasanton-based fair with 38 awards. Each industry organization sponsors an annual award program to single out outstanding achievement in specific areas and to share successful ideas and programs with other fairs.

"We are incredibly honored to be recognized within the industry for our continued efforts in making Alameda County Fair the best experience for our community each year," Alameda County Fairgrounds CEO Jerome Hoban said in a statement.

"We are fortunate to have such a dedicated team and look forward to more great things to come in 2018," he added.

The WFA recognized the Pleasanton-based fair with nine first-place awards, nine second-place awards and seven third-place awards in its division. The Alameda County Fair was also nominated for the Merrill

Award, WFA's highest honor, for its digital marketing campaign.

The first-place awards were in the following categories: Social Media Campaign, Digital Marketing Campaign, Innovative Marketing Strategy, Sponsorship, New Technology, Volunteer Program, Event within an Event, Interim Event and Collaboration.

From the IAFE, the county fair earned four first-place, three second-place and six third-place awards. First-place honors were for Electric Newsletter (E-blast), Promotional Poster, Promotional Display Piece and Promotional Event.

The second- and third-place awards, among the two contests, included a variety of topics such as competitive exhibits, contests, agricultural programming and events, advertising, marketing, communications, sponsorship, guest services, nonprofits and community outreach.

The fair is operated each year by the Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, without any tax funding from the government.

Officials are now gearing up for the 2018 fair, which is scheduled to run from June 15 to July 8. For more information, visit www.alamedacountyfair.com. ■

Swalwell introduces bill to protect journalists from physical harm

Local congressman decries 'toxic atmosphere' created by Trump administration

By ERIKA ALVERO

Local U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) introduced legislation on Monday that would make certain attacks on news reporters a federal crime.

Specifically, the so-called "Journalist Protection Act" would make it a federal crime to purposefully cause bodily harm to a journalist affecting interstate or foreign commerce in the course of reporting or in a way intended to intimidate them from news-gathering for a media organization.

Swalwell said the Democrat-sponsored legislation was borne from the Trump administration, in his eyes, fostering a hostile

and anti-media environment throughout the country.

"President Donald Trump's campaign and administration have created a toxic atmosphere," said Swalwell, whose district includes Pleasanton. "It's not just about labeling reports of his constant falsehoods as #FakeNews — it's his casting of media personalities and outlets as anti-American targets, and encouraging people to engage in violence."

Swalwell cited a handful of



Eric Swalwell

violent incidents against journalists as inspiration for the bill, including an assault against OC Weekly journalists at a "Make America Great Again" rally in March, a reporter being punched in the face at the infamous August protests in Charlottesville, Va., and a blogger in Joplin, Mo. attacked in September.

He also argued Trump's personal behavior has been setting a dangerous precedent, through actions like describing mainstream media outlets as "the enemy of the American People" and tweeting a GIF video of himself body-slammng a person

See **SWALWELL** on Page 9

SUNFLOWER

Continued from Page 5

this city, we use this as the example for community benefit for any development that comes to the city of Pleasanton, anywhere in the city."

"I'm just thrilled," Councilwoman Kathy Narum said of the project planned for just outside downtown.

"Another thing that I really like about this project is that the location is near a number of things where these kids, adults — who don't drive — can walk, from the Concerts in the Park to maybe the library, to downtown, there's a grocery store, a little shopping center," Narum added.

Council members also approved key financial support for the Sunflower Hill project: a \$2.25 million loan from the city's lower income housing fund and an allocation of up to about \$7.2 million of the city's base allocation of Alameda County Measure A1 housing bond funding, subject to final county approval.

Project proponents plan to apply for state and federal tax credits in the weeks ahead, and if that financing is approved in the summer, construction would be on track to begin by year's end, according to Susan Houghton, president of the Sunflower Hill Board of Directors.

"It's been six long years," Houghton said to the council early on during the half-hour public discussion Tuesday. "We said, as families and parents of individuals with special needs, 'If not us, then who. And if not now, then when.' And you believed in that idea."

"It really is a partnership, and you are to be commended for pushing this forward because this is going to be very unique — something you're not going to see in the East Bay, let alone in the state or let alone the nation," Houghton added.

The Sunflower Hill project aims

to bring the new residential community for special-needs adults to the Irby Ranch property where Stanley Boulevard turns into First Street.

The main apartment building is two stories, U-shaped around an interior courtyard, with one studio unit, 22 one-bedroom units and eight two-bedroom units.

An onsite SAHA property manager will live in one of the two-bedroom apartments, and the studio will be occupied by a Sunflower Hill staff member as needed to provide support for residents. In all, the complex would feature six rental apartments at 20% of the area median income (AMI), 17 units at 50% AMI and six at 60% AMI, according to assistant city manager Brian Dolan.

A 4,811-square-foot community center is proposed to sit across from the apartment building, complete with a multipurpose room, commercial kitchen, fitness room, craft room and administrative offices. The plans also call for a spa lounge area, bocce court, multi-use lawn, group outdoor seating and a convertible sport court.

Sunflower Hill's concept was backed by city officials several years ago, with the special-needs housing proposal serving as a key reason the council approved the 87-house neighborhood at Irby Ranch last year.

The Irby Ranch development plan included dedicating 1.64 acres to the city for affordable housing, and all parties envisioned that project as a Sunflower Hill facility for adults with special needs — and the nonprofit signed an exclusive negotiating rights agreement with the city for the site.

The current plan sees the city retain ownership of the land and lease it for \$1 per year for 99 years to the Sunflower Hill complex. SAHA and Sunflower Hill will operate the housing community, with the two entities serving as 51% (SAHA) to 49% (Sunflower Hill) partners.

The full project is estimated to cost \$19.2 million, with an initial construction estimate of \$13 million, according to Houghton.

The council on Tuesday approved a \$2.25 million loan from its lower income housing fund to support the project, a total that includes \$1 million paid by the Irby Ranch neighborhood developer.

Dolan said a loan is often preferred by affordable housing investors, as opposed to a grant, to avoid tax disadvantages. The city will only receive loan repayment if the project operates with a surplus.

The council also signed off on allocating up to \$7,195,844 of the city's base allocation of county housing bond money to the Sunflower Hill project.

The city has about \$7.75 million left over from its \$13.7 million allocation after committing \$4.6 million for Kottinger Gardens Phase 2 and almost \$1.4 million for its share of bond issuance and other administrative costs. That remaining balance must be allocated to a specific project by the end of 2020, Dolan said.

"We don't see another (qualifying project) on the horizon, and so we're really in a situation here where it's kind of use it or lose it," Dolan told the council. "We feel like this is a great project to support with our share of the funds."

In all Tuesday, council members approved a regulatory agreement, ground lease and loan agreement with promissory note and deed of trust for the financial support of the project.

They also endorsed project plans by beginning the two-step process of signing off on an ordinance to approve Sunflower Hill's development plan. The ordinance, introduced Tuesday night, is scheduled to return for a second reading and final adoption at the next council meeting.

All votes were 4-0, with Councilwoman Karla Brown absent. ■

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Glazer proposal on rainwater capture systems headed to statewide vote

Amendment would prevent a new system from triggering property reassessment

By JEREMY WALSH

With the water supply still on many minds across California, local State Senator Steve Glazer has authored a proposal that will be taken to statewide voters in June aimed at providing a tax incentive for people who install a rainwater recycling system on their property.

Unanimously endorsed by both legislative houses, Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA) 9 would add rainwater capture systems to the list of building additions that would not trigger a reassessment of the property's value — and the associated increase in property taxes that would follow.

"If approved by the voters, this rainwater recycling measure could play a key part in California's overall strategy of conserving our most precious resource, water," Glazer (D-Orinda) said in a statement last week after Gov. Jerry Brown approved associated legislation to send SCA 9 to the ballot.

Typically, new construction or additions to an existing home or building would result in the property needing to be reappraised by the county assessor — with four exceptions.

Glazer's proposed amendment would add a fifth exemption to the

list, in an effort to encourage property owners to install rainwater capture systems.

"Boom and bust cycles of rain may be the new norm as we face the disruptive power of climate change," the Tri-Valley's state senator said. "Conservation and water storage are key elements of allowing California to thrive despite these future difficulties."

The systems collect, store and repurpose rainwater for landscape irrigation and other non-potable uses. For example, Glazer said, a system atop a 1,500-square-foot roof in a moderate rainfall region could capture an estimated 10,000 gallons per year.

The local legislator pointed to Brown's words in his recent State of the State address on the importance of supporting rainwater recapturing now and in the years ahead.

"As the climate changes and more water arrives as rain instead of snow, it is crucial that we are able to capture the overflow in a timely and responsible way," the governor said. "That, together with recycling and rainwater recapture, will put us in the best position to use water wisely and in the most efficient way possible."

Glazer said his proposal — on the June 5 ballot as Proposition 72 — is modeled after similar legislation from the 1980s that added an exclusion for solar systems that helped the solar industry get off the ground. Current

law also exempts reconstruction to install fire prevention or suppression systems, to make a home more accessible for a severely disabled person or to make any building more usable by a disabled person.

"It is my hope that small scale water storage systems will follow the path of rooftop solar systems that allow property owners to save money and contribute to the conservation of finite resources," Glazer added.

California Secretary of State Alex Padilla said arguments for and against Prop 72, as well as rebuttal arguments, for the voter information guide will be released publicly by his office Feb. 20.

For more information on Prop 72 or the June primary election in general, visit the www.sos.ca.gov/elections. ■



Steve Glazer

SWALWELL

Continued from Page 8

with the CNN logo superimposed on their face.

"Not all attacks on journalists this year have been committed by Trump supporters, but the fact remains that rhetoric emanating from the world's most powerful office is stoking an environment in which these attacks proliferate," Swalwell said. "We must send a loud, clear message that such violence won't be tolerated."

The bill received support from the Communications Workers of America (CWA) and News Media for Open Government, a coalition of news media organizations that advocate for the free flow of information and freedom of the press.

"This is a dangerous time to be a journalist," said Bernie Lunzer, president of The NewsGuild, a division of the CWA. "At least 44 reporters were physically attacked in the U.S. last year and

angry rhetoric that demonizes reporters persists."

"Online harassment of journalists has included death threats and threats of sexual and other physical violence," added Rick Blum, director of News Media for Open Government.

"Taken together, it is clear that not only is the role of the news media in our democracy under attack, but the safety of individual journalists is threatened. It's time to reverse course. Physical violence and intimidation should never get in the way of covering police, protesters, presidents and other public matters."

The Journalist Protection Act is co-sponsored by Ro Khanna (D-Santa Clara), Grace Napolitano (D-Los Angeles), Maxine Waters (D-Los Angeles), Steve Cohen (D-Tennessee), David Cicilline (D-Rhode Island), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-Washington, D.C.), Andre Carson (D-Indiana), Debbie Dingell (D-Michigan), Darren Soto (D-Florida), Jose Serrano (D-New York), Bobby Rush (D-Illinois) and Gwen Moore (D-Wisconsin). ■

'This is a dangerous time to be a journalist.'

Bernie Lunzer,
president of
The NewsGuild

TAKE US ALONG



At the Louvre: Rick and Laura Wilson recently took their first trip to Paris. Here they posed with their Weekly outside the Louvre.

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

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Brentwood native joins Pleasanton PD

The Pleasanton Police Department recently welcomed its newest officer when Officer Joseph Garcia was sworn in by Police Chief Dave Spiller.

Garcia joined the department as a lateral transfer from the Piedmont Police Department, where he worked as a police officer since 2012. Before that, he worked as a community service officer for his hometown police department in Brentwood.

Born in Fremont and raised in Brentwood, Garcia graduated from Liberty High School.

He earned an associate's degree in liberal arts from Los Medanos Junior College before completing a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice management at Union Institute and University, with a satellite campus in Sacramento.

In his off-duty time, Garcia said he enjoys spending time with his family and anything that has to do with football.

Garcia began an intensive field training process after starting in Pleasanton on Jan. 10, after which he will be assigned to patrol the city as a solo officer, according to department officials.



Joseph Garcia

In other news

A couple has been convicted and sentenced for operating a large-scale sex trafficking ring centered in the San Ramon Valley, two and a half years after their initial arrests.

James Joseph Jr. and his common-law wife Avisa Lavassani faced charges of human trafficking and conspiring to commit human trafficking from 2001 through 2015, according to deputy district attorney Aron DeFerrari.

Separately, Joseph faced over 15 charges of forcible sex crimes against three different victims, including forcible rape, forcible oral copulation and forcible sodomy, DeFerrari said.

Joseph and Lavassani were each found guilty of all counts by a jury (except for two of kidnapping relating to one victim) and received distinct sentences.

Joseph received a sentence of 174 years to life in prison on Jan. 12.

Meanwhile, on Jan. 24, Lavassani received a 20-year suspended prison sentence, allowing her to perform a period of probation and potentially dismiss the sentence if she meets the set conditions. Sentencing Judge Barry Baskin determined Lavassani was herself a victim of human trafficking and deserved a lesser sentence.

"That James Joseph Jr. and Avisa Lavassani have finally been brought to justice is a testament to the courage and the fortitude of the human trafficking survivors that came forward to testify against them," DeFerrari said. "The indescribable path of destruction left in the wake of these two defendants' 15-year human trafficking operation was only stopped

because the survivors had the courage to stand and fight when it mattered most."

Joseph and Lavassani, along with accused co-conspirator, were arrested August 2015, after a collaborative investigation by San Ramon police, the DA's office investigators and the FBI Safe Streets Task Force.

The sex trafficking ring was based primarily in San Ramon and Danville, but extended as far as Miami and New York, according to prosecutors during the trio's indictment in 2016.

DeFerrari estimated that over 100 women were trafficked over the 15-year span of time. Ultimately, seven victims came forward and testified in the jury trial against the two defendants.

Baskin decided to hand down a suspended sentence to Lavassani because he believed that she was also a human trafficking victim of Joseph and that she should have a chance to turn her life around and be a good parent to her three children, DeFerrari said.

The terms of Lavassani's sentence dictate that she stay away from her victims and co-defendants, perform community service work, remain employed, attend therapy herself and bring her three children to therapy, according to her attorney, Dan Russo.

Russo said he was amazed by Baskin's decision.

"I think it was a very courageous decision by the judge ... He saw her as a victim," Russo said.

DeFerrari, though, said that while he respects Baskin as a jurist, he disagrees with the suspended sentencing. ■

—Erika Alvero and Jeremy Walsh



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Richard Michael Peel

July 12, 1966 – December 2, 2017

Richard passed away peacefully at Desert Regional Hospital in Palm Springs, Ca. On Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017. He was born on July 12, 1966 in Alameda, Ca. Richard was a graduate of Foothill High School in Pleasanton, CA and attended San Francisco City College. He worked for Wells Fargo for 20 plus years and was transferred to Portland, Oregon in 1996. He then moved to Palm Springs in June 2014.

His favorite TV shows were Jeopardy and the Golden Girls. Richard also loved to watch 60 minutes religiously every Sunday with NO interruptions from the peanut gallery!

He loved to travel and visited; Paris, St. Petersburg, Russia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Alaska, Sidney, Australia, New York, Maui, and he went on eight ocean cruises.

Richy's favorite restaurants were Gay 90's in Pleasanton, Mumu's in Portland and Spencer's and Trio in Palm Springs. He enjoyed bowling and swimming in his pool in the hot Palm Springs sun. He also collected Tea Pots and he loved his Teddy, "Bear"!!

Richard is survived by; his life partner Peter Skirvin, Peters mother Nancy, Peters sister Julie, brother David (wife Cindy), niece Rebecca, nephew Alexander, brother Andrew (husband Robert Skirvin-Orr), niece Danielle Skirvin-Orr. Richy's mother Diana Peel Schwerin, step-father Bob Schwerin, brother Tony Peel, nephew Preston Peel, sister and best friend Danielle Peel, niece Nicole Danner, step-brothers David Crane (wife Juli), Doug Crane (wife Brooke), niece Lola Crane, best step-mother ever Darlene Crane Peel, and "Richy's" father Mike Peel. Lastly, his other "best friend" his Shih Tzu dog named "Chanel Danielle Peel" (yes...he named the dog after his sister). Richard was preceded in death by his grandparents, Pete and Angie Martinez and Great Aunt, Eva.

Celebration of life will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 4:00pm., at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 301 Main St. Pleasanton, CA 94566

Donations can be made to: Desert AIDS Project (DAP), desertaidsproject.org, 1695 N. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262 (760) 323-2118

Cascade AIDS Project (CAP) <http://www.cascadeaids.org>, 520 NW Davis St. Suite 215, Portland, OR 97209 (503) 223-5907

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POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Jan. 30

Alcohol violation

■ 6:49 p.m. on West Las Positas Boulevard at I-680 overpass

Theft

■ 3:42 p.m. on the 2100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 5:39 p.m., 1100 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from auto

Graffiti offense

■ 3:50 p.m. on Stoneridge Drive at Santa Rita Road

Burglary

■ 5:57 p.m. on the 6800 block of Herrin Court

Jan. 29

Theft

■ 8:40 a.m., 7500 block of Rosedale Court; auto theft

■ 8:48 a.m., 7200 block of Johnson Drive; theft from auto

■ 10:57 a.m. on the 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 4:33 p.m., 4000 block of Pimlico Drive; theft from auto

■ 4:47 p.m., 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; theft from auto

■ 4:48 p.m., 4000 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from auto

■ 6:09 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Arson

■ 10:19 a.m. on the 2400 block of Crestline Road

DUI

■ 10:09 a.m. on the 1800 block of Valley Avenue

Fraud

■ 7:37 a.m. on the 2300 block of Santa Rita Road

Jan. 28

Missing person report

■ 5:26 p.m. on Pickens Lane

Alcohol violation

■ 6:17 p.m. on the 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Fraud

■ 1:44 p.m. on the 6800 block of Inglewood Court

■ 3:42 p.m. on the 3100 block of Berkshire Court

Theft

■ 12:52 p.m., 7700 block of Capewood Place; auto theft

■ 3:52 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Drug violation

■ 9:33 a.m. on Foothill Road at I-580 overpass

■ 11:47 a.m. at Santa Rita Road and Navajo Court

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

A bright day for Sunflower Hill

The Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch residential community for adults with special needs just got one step closer to becoming a reality.

On Tuesday, the City Council voted 4-0 to move the project forward and support a \$2.25 million loan from the city's lower income housing fund and an allocation of just under \$7.2 million of the city's base allocation of Alameda County Measure A1 housing bond toward construction of the project, estimated at \$19 million.

In its sixth year of operation, Sunflower Hill was founded by parents of special needs children considering the future for their children when they are gone.

Adults with developmental delays are able to lead happy and productive lives, but most are not able to live on their own without some assistance. According to Autism Speaks, 80% will end up living with their parents; when their parents become ill or pass away, they are at risk of losing their homes, becoming institutionalized or homeless.

Susan Houghton, president of Sunflower Hill's Board of Directors, has said that individuals with special needs are often considered the "hidden homeless." Many residential communities for seniors exist, but there are very few for individuals with moderate developmental delays. In Pleasanton alone there are more than 700 people with special needs who need housing, according to Houghton.

It has taken close to five years for a residential community for special-needs adults to go from a dream to a concept to a proposal. Sunflower Hill is working in partnership with Satellite Affordable Housing Associates (SAHA) to build an affordable 31-unit multi-family residential community just outside of downtown Pleasanton.

The complex will be adjacent to an 87-home development being built by Meritage Homes, The Homestead at Irby Ranch. The special-needs housing proposal was a key reason the City Council approved the 87-house neighborhood at Irby Ranch last year.

In addition to seeking council support for the loan and the allocation of county A1 housing bonds, SAHA will start applying federal and state tax credits for additional needed funds.

"While this is a competitive process, we believe we have a strong application," Houghton said. "We will know by the first part of summer if we're awarded. If we are, we'll be able to break ground by December 2018. If we're not, we'll apply again at the next competitive round and continue to look for ways to refine our application."

This project is a win-win for everyone.

The city of Pleasanton moves closer to fulfilling its mandatory affordable housing quotas and can allocate its share of A1 housing funds so they do not go back to the regional fund because of lack of use; the Sunflower Hill parents get a little peace of mind concerning the future of their children; and, of course, the residents will benefit the most by having security of a place to live and social and vocational options.

Kudos to the city for prioritizing and supporting the project that will benefit a significantly underserved population. And kudos to the founders of Sunflower Hill for having the vision and fortitude to move this and a similar project in Livermore forward, despite the obstacles set in the path to achieving this goal thus far — and for not shying away from the ones that will inevitably come. ■

LETTERS

Valley Humane Society stands apart

Dear Editor,

In light of recent controversy affecting the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), I feel it is a good time to remind the public that Valley Humane Society isn't affiliated with HSUS, nor any national organization.

Without speculating about their ongoing challenges, I can reassure the community that we are dedicated to living the values that guide our organization: compassion, companionship, optimism, gratitude, collaboration and integrity.

People often assume a funding connection between national groups and their local humane societies, but Valley Humane Society relies primarily on our local community for support. Your donations stay right here and help animals and people in and around the Tri-Valley.

Last year, Valley Humane Society rescued and re-homed more than 600 dogs and cats. We also launched a new free online service to help pets find new homes without burdening the public shelter system (Home to Home) and distributed 120,000 meals to low-income families via the AniMeals pet food pantry.

Countless hours were spent visiting those in need of a pet's healing presence during Canine Comfort Pet Therapy sessions at hospitals, senior centers, schools and the like. We taught more than 1,000 children about the humane ethic and what it means to care for an animal for life.

Thank you for your support, which has allowed us to

contribute to this community for more than 30 years. Please come and visit our facility at 3670 Nevada St. or go to our website (valleyhumane.org) for more information about programs and services.

—Melanie Sadek
Executive director
Valley Humane Society

Connecting BART to ACE

Dear Editor,

BART's blue line runs every 15 minutes all day. ACE, by contrast, serves commuters to the job-rich Silicon Valley: four trains west in the morning and four east in the evening. A Wheels bus now runs between ACE and BART Tri-Valley stations.

State legislation has created a new public body ostensibly to connect the two by rail. It contemplates a branch rail line along I-580 from Greenville Road to BART — either at Dublin-Pleasanton or Isabel.

This Tri-Valley bifurcation of ACE could severely downgrade the fine service ACE provides for both Central Valley and Tri-Valley commuters. Trains over the Altamont could go only to BART or to the Silicon Valley — not to both.

Far better: extended BART along I-580 to an ACE transfer at Greenville, leaving ACE as it is now.

Some 8,400 Livermore voters in 2011 signed a petition asking for BART initially to Isabel and ultimately to Greenville. That is where the BART shops and yard belong, not on a rat-tail spur as BART's draft EIR plans.

—Robert S. Allen
BART director, 1974-88

Code of ethics

The Pleasanton Weekly seeks to adhere to the highest level of ethical standards in journalism, including the Code of Ethics, by the Society of Professional Journalists. To review the text of the Code, please visit our website at www.PleasantonWeekly.com.

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Planning Commission

Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

• P17-0278/P17-0280, Scott Howry/Surf-Thru, Inc.

Applications for Design Review and Conditional Use Permit approvals to construct and operate a semi-automated car wash and related site improvements on a vacant lot at 3598 Stanley Boulevard.

Economic Vitality Committee

Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 7:30 a.m.
Operations Services Center, 3333 Busch Rd.

• Overview of Pleasanton's Manufacturing Sector

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



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

My Valentine

Pleasanton couple's love spans 60 years, 5 states and 435 kids

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ERIKA ALVERO

To Pleasanton's Deana and David Mitchell, love isn't a passing emotion or a fleeting thought.

"It's something you depend on, something you grow into," Deana said. "It's not a fly-by-night thing. It's something everlasting."

Now both 78 years old, the Mitchells are ready to celebrate their 60th Valentine's Day together next Wednesday at a dinner event for residents at Stoneridge Creek, a senior living community on the east side of town.

Their love story has spanned six decades thus far, including living in five different states and raising two children together — and caring for more than 400 other kids as longtime foster parents.

"They're really special people,"

said Karina Biggs, one of their former foster children who remains close with the Mitchells.

Deana and David met in high school in Licking, Mo. — then a town of 790. A few years before meeting, Deana and her family had moved there from Long Beach, in order to be closer to relatives.

She was a farm girl, while David lived in town.

Licking was the kind of town where everyone knew each other, and where families had been residents for generations. In fact, if you go back far enough genealogically, Deana and David are actually distant relatives. And Deana's maiden name was Mitchell.

"It always struck me as funny that my girl friends all changed

their names, since I didn't change mine," Deana said.

They started dating somewhat out of convenience, they said — their best friends were going out, and it made double dates easier. Their first date was not a success.

David's leg was immobilized by a full cast from his ankle to his hip, the casualty of a faulty high jump.

"We went to a drive-in with our friends, the other guy was driving," Deana said. "And you could not move, because (David) could not move."

"She didn't really want to be there. I didn't really want to be there," David added.

But, gradually, they began to go out more and more, and about a year later, were ready to get

married. The date of their wedding hinged on a few crucial factors: Deana's impending 19th birthday and the upcoming departure of their favorite preacher.

Though David was one year ahead of Deana in school, she was three weeks older than him. It would have been scandalous for her to be 19 and him to be 18 at the time of their marriage, they recalled.

"Back then you did not do that," Deana said.

But by the time of David's 19th birthday, the preacher would have left. So on April 26, 1958, four days before Deana's birthday, they wed.

At the time of their marriage, David was working as a clerk at the



David and Deana Mitchell, now settled in Pleasanton, will soon be celebrating the raised two children and cared for 433 other

St. Louis Police Department — he wasn't old enough to be a police officer. He worked the night shift, with Mondays and Tuesdays off, while Deana worked days and had Saturdays and Sundays off.

"We never fought because we never saw each other," Deana said with a laugh.

They lived near St. Louis for about four years.

"We had our own little place that wasn't nearly this big, but we thought it was huge," Deana said during the recent interview in their Stoneridge Creek home.

In 1964, David was transferred to Michigan for his job at General Foods, where they lived for two years. They then moved to Connecticut, and then to Atlanta, again for work-related reasons. By that time, they had two children starting elementary school — Teresa and David Jr. (Their son was named for "David Mitchells" on both sides of the family tree.)

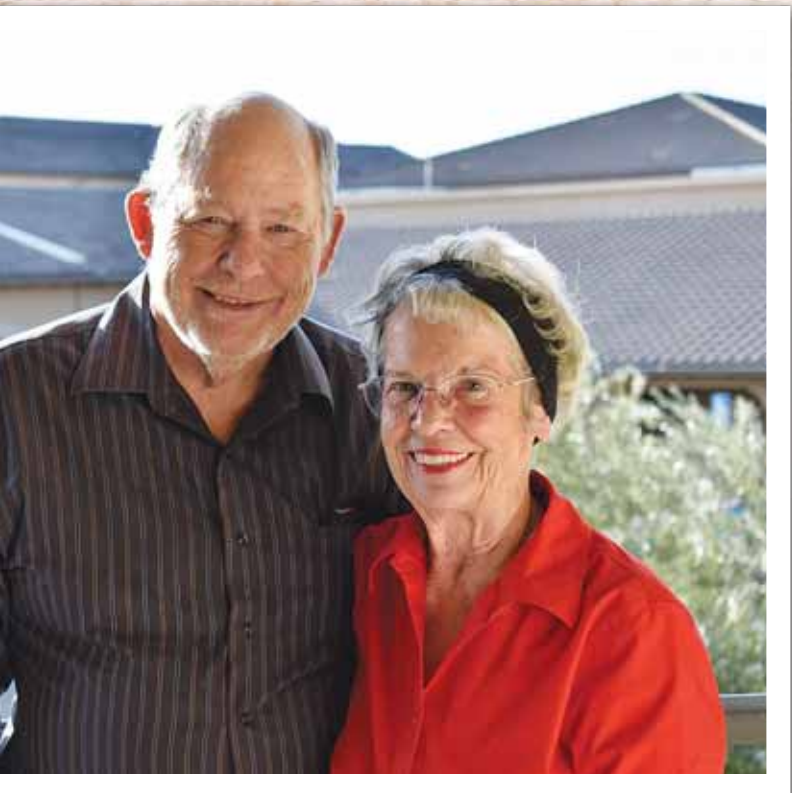
It was in Atlanta where they began fostering.

Their church hoped to establish a foster care program, and the Mitchells wanted to join, but only with support from Teresa and David Jr. Their son declined at first, and they respected his wishes, but half a year later, David Jr. decided he would allow it, saying he could share his room and his toys.

"They brought a carload of six kids, all in the same family, and said, 'Take your pick,'" Deana said.



The Mitchells were married on April 26, 1958, four days before Deana's 19th birthday. Their wedding day is remembered always in this cake-cutting photograph, framed along with two of their other favorite photos from over the years.



to a two-bedroom condominium at the Stoneridge Creek senior living community for their 60th anniversary, six decades during which they resided in five different states, and raised their kids as foster parents.

Three stayed on with the Mitchells. “Foster care there and here is totally different, and the fact that that was quite a few years ago — it was even more different,” she recalled.

The Mitchells continued as foster parents but paused after moving back to Michigan for David’s job three years later.

This time, it was David Jr.’s turn to inspire his parents to return to fostering. Deana remembered their son came to them one morning and asked how to place an ad in the newspaper.

“I said, ‘Why are you wanting to place an ad in the paper?’” Deana recalled. “‘Because I don’t have anybody to share my room and I thought it would be fun again.’”

So they called the local county services and became foster parents once more, and carried on throughout their seven years in Michigan.

The Mitchells moved again — their final inter-state migration — to Danville in 1980, when Teresa was just beginning college at Stanford and David Jr. was a senior in high school.

Their return to fostering began a bit more unexpectedly this time, when they received a phone call from the county.

A long-lost niece of David’s was living in the Bay Area, in a bad situation and unable to care for her son. Though they had never met, family is the first choice for foster placement, and when the

couple accepted the assignment, they resumed their foster parent roles once again.

Fostering in California, the Mitchells said, was a completely different landscape than in Michigan and Georgia, which had not required them to take any classes or be licensed in any way. “California is the Cadillac of foster care,” David said.

The fostering landscape nationally had shifted as well.

“(When we started), most children that went into foster care were there because a parent got very sick, was hospitalized, or usually the father lost the job, and they just needed something for a while,” Deana said. “Later that changed considerably.”

The increased drug use in the ‘90s was one of the reasons for this change, they said, both in terms of what the foster children had been exposed to and under what circumstances the minors returned to their biological parents — California passed more stringent requirements surrounding the ability of parents who had been involved in drug use to reclaim their children.

The Mitchells’ own rule for accepting foster children early on was that they wouldn’t take in children older than Teresa and David Jr. — they wanted to have had age-rearing experience.

For the most part, the fostering never really strained the family, the Mitchells said. In the early days,

Teresa and David Jr. once called a family meeting — they felt the foster children didn’t have to abide by the same rules they did. Deana and David agreed that everyone should follow the same rules, and that was the only contentious point either of them can recall.

Once Teresa was doing a school project where she had to share how many people were in her family. “Our daughter’s answer was, ‘I don’t know until I go down to breakfast and count them,’” Deana remembered.

The Mitchells cared for 433 children in all during their decades as foster parents. They estimated about 200 of those took place while living in California.

The most foster children they had at one time was five, after Teresa and David Jr. had flown the coop.

The Mitchells took in children ranging from less than a day old to 15 years of age, for a duration of under 24 hours to 3-1/2 years. Some of the children they fostered spoke no English, and they had to hone their acting skills in order to communicate. There was a year where it seemed like every other boy who came to their home was named Michael.

The bulk of the fostering fell on Deana’s shoulders while David was working, but after he retired in 1992, it became much more of a family affair.

Biggs, now an adult, spent a year with the Mitchells before she was adopted by a couple in nearby San Ramon.

Though she left their home before she turned 3, she maintained a relationship with them, and they became her “Grandma Mitchell” and “Granddad.” Every Sunday, Biggs would attend church with them, “Grandma Mitchell” driving the foster children in one car and she and “Granddad” traveling in another — allowing the latter car to make a covert McDonald’s stop for hash browns and a breakfast sandwich.

“I became really close to them,” said Biggs, who now lives in Pleasant Hill and still keeps in touch. “They were family to me.”

Deana and David continued serving as foster parents until they moved to Stoneridge Creek about four years ago.

These days, they pass their time more quietly, attending Stoneridge Creek events and reading in their two-bedroom condo or on their

back porch lit by afternoon sun. Pictures of their five grandchildren feature prominently in their living room.

Though they no longer are involved in foster care, being intensive foster parents had a lasting impact on their lives — and their relationship.

“It made us much stronger,” David said. “The fostering drew us much closer together, because you did a lot of things that took a lot of cooperation.”

“It made us realize that things we couldn’t do alone, we had to do together,” Deana said.

Love changes over the course of 60 years. It’s not the same “giddy” relationship as it was in their early years, Deana said, but is now something “more deep-rooted.”

“We’ve been through ups and downs,” she said. “We moved around a lot. But we always had family, and we had each other.” ■



The Mitchells stopped fostering children once they moved to Stoneridge Creek, but the couple have brought a rescue dog into their home, Keiki (which means “Little Child” in Hawaiian).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Eva Schloss, 88, will recount her personal experiences during the Holocaust when she and her family were deported to Auschwitz concentration camp.

Holocaust survivor warns:

'Don't just be accepting'

Anne Frank's stepsister to speak,
on diary's 70th anniversary

By **DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

Holocaust survivor Eva Schloss, 88, has a specific message for teens who will hear her presentation next week at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

"They should get involved and know what is going on in the world," she said. "They should speak up and not just be accepting."

She gave this advice in response to a question from Amador Valley High School journalism students who interviewed her via conference call last week at her home in London.

"Speak up and don't just be accepting," Schloss said. "In Germany not everyone agreed with what Hitler was doing, but people didn't have the courage to speak up."

Chabad of the Tri-Valley is hosting Schloss' visit as part of a tour that falls on the 70th anniversary of the publication of "The Diary of Anne Frank." Eva and Anne were friends and became stepsisters

posthumously after the war when Eva's mother, Fritzi Geiringer, married Otto Frank.

The Geiringer family left Austria after the Nazis invaded in 1938, moving to Holland, where one of their neighbors was a German Jewish girl of the same age, Anne Frank. Eva recalls playing hopscotch and marbles and Mrs. Frank making lemonade for them.

The Nazis invaded Holland in 1940, and in 1942 both the Geiringer and Frank families went into hiding. Eva and her mother had to be hidden separately from her father and brother, and they were shuffled from one secret spot to another. On Eva's 15th birthday, May 11, 1944, she and her mother were to be moved again, but the alleged helper was a Nazi double agent who brought them to Gestapo headquarters in Amsterdam.

"I was in shock when the Nazis arrested us," Eva recalled in a 2008 interview. "I didn't cry at first. My mother yelled that I was not Jewish saying she'd had an affair with a German. I did have

blonde hair. But it didn't help.

"Then I was beaten. I was asked repeatedly for the names of Dutch resistance people who had hidden us. Luckily I never knew their real names."

They were briefly reunited with her father and brother in a Dutch holding camp, then transported to Auschwitz-Birkenau where Eva and Fritzi survived the "selection" process and its humiliations, typhus and heavy work in a freezing room. When the Russians arrived in January 1945, the mother and daughter, the sole survivors of their family, returned to their old neighborhood in Amsterdam where Otto Frank had just learned of the deaths of his wife and daughters in Bergen-Belsen.

Eva eventually settled in England, where she worked as a studio photographer and ran an antique shop. She married Zvi Schloss and raised three daughters.

Otto and Fritzi married in 1953. They lived in Switzerland, and he spent the rest of his life spreading Anne's message from her diary:

"I still believe that deep down human beings are good at heart."

The diary was published in Amsterdam in 1947; the English translation, "Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl" came out in 1952 to worldwide acclaim, which surprised the family.

"When we were visiting them, they got letters and phone calls," Schloss remembered, "but we were not personally involved."

Since 1985, Eva Schloss has devoted herself to Holocaust education and global peace, recounting her wartime experiences in more than 1,000 speaking engagements around the world. She has written two books and had a play written about her life, "And Then They Came for Me."

A film about her, "116 Cameras," was among 10 semifinalists for 2018 Academy Award for Best Short Documentary. It follows Schloss in a project to preserve her life story as an interactive hologram for future generations.

Schloss said when she began to speak publicly about the Holocaust, her audiences were less informed.

"People didn't know anything about this and they were full of questions," she

said. "Now people know a lot more — and they are worried about, 'How can I cope with the situation now?'"

Rabbi Raleigh Resnick noted that the event is part of the ongoing effort by the Chabad of the Tri-Valley to bring Jewish life to the area.

"Mrs. Schloss dedicates her life to this to eradicate bigotry and hatred in the world," Resnick said. "The main focus of this evening is the youth — these children will tell their grandchildren that they saw Anne Frank's stepsister and friend."

The evening will include an exhibit of paintings created by Eva's brother Heinz when he was in hiding, which were discovered after the war. ■

Sharing History

What: A Historic Evening with Eva Schloss, Holocaust survivor and stepsister of Anne Frank, whose iconic diary was published 70 years ago. Event will include a Q&A and book signing.

When: 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 13

Where: Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore.

Tickets: \$36 general admission; \$20 seniors and students; \$90 VIP, includes priority seating and private pre-event reception with Mrs. Schloss. Go to www.JewishTriValley.com.

Honoring Chinese New Year

Children's book author to speak about 'The Red Lantern'

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

As the Chinese Year of the Dog begins, Towne Center Books on Main Street and the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center are presenting free events with author and artist Irma Grant next weekend.

Towne Center Books will host a book launch party for "The Red Lantern," a children's picture book, at 11 a.m. next Saturday (Feb. 17), with author Irma Grant making a brief presentation and signing books. There will also be an art activity.

Then at 12:30 p.m. that day, Grant will be at Harrington Gallery to take visitors on an informal exploration of her original oils and illustrations for the book, including a discussion and Q&A session. The works will remain on display through March 14.

"The Red Lantern" is the tale of a young girl named Annie who is helping her grandfather at his shop in San Francisco's Chinatown. She encounters the Jade Emperor's daughter, who tells her the history of the New Year's Lantern Festival and challenges her to solve three riddles before the sun sets.

Grant noted that her paintings are generally visual narrations of stories.

"Every painting presents a new adventure — a means to express some favorite memories, moments and causes," she said.

Grant, who lives in Pleasanton with her husband and two daughters, is an artist, writer and teacher. She was born and raised in the Netherlands, lived in Canada and Sweden and studied in France before moving to



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tane Chan and author Irma Grant in Chan's famous Wok Shop in San Francisco, the setting for "The Red Lantern."

the United States. Multicultural themes dominate her art and writing.

A number of Bay Area families participated in the production of the book, Grant said. Tane Chan, the owner of San Francisco's famous Wok Shop, allowed Grant to photograph her shop for the book's setting. Tom Yee, his granddaughter Trisha, and Amy Chen volunteered their time posing for the three characters in the book: the grandfather Gung Gung, Annie and the Jade Emperor's daughter. ■

Beatles vs. Rolling Stones

Legendary bands bring their 'showdown' to the Bankhead Theater

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Which band was better — the Beatles or the Rolling Stones?

The debate began in the '60s and continues still, although most agreed that originally the Beatles were a pop group whose members had the image of the boy next door while the Stones were the bad boys of rock.

The two legendary bands will engage in an onstage musical "showdown" at the Bankhead Theater on Feb. 21, courtesy of tribute bands Abbey Road and Satisfaction-The International Rolling Stones Show.

"Music fans never had a chance to see the Beatles and the Rolling Stones perform on the same marquee," said Chris LeGrand, who plays Mick Jagger in the show. "Now, music aficionados can watch this debate play out on stage."

The Livermore "Beatles vs. Stones — A Musical Showdown" is part of a 110-stop tour of the United States, Australia and Canada that began in 2011. The show also performs at Harrah's Casino properties.

The production includes some of the more popular songs from the two rock pioneers and covers the scope of their musical careers, although the set list for Satisfaction usually includes Rolling Stones songs up to the 1980s.

"They certainly have more pop songs but we're a really great live show. The fans are in for an incredible night of music," LeGrand said.

During the two-hour show, the bands perform three sets each, trading places in quick set changes and ending the night with an all-out encore involving both bands. The band members have had their outfits custom-made, since avid fans know exactly what the Beatles and Stones wore onstage during different time



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tribute bands Abbey Road and Satisfaction-The International Rolling Stones Show will perform faithful renditions of old favorites to continue the debate over which band was best.

periods in their careers.

For this performance, the professional musicians will be joined by the Mt. Eden High School String Quartet from Hayward — seniors Betsy Cordova-Chama and Jasmina Buljubasic, and juniors Edwin Ramos and Jordan Ramirez.

"My favorite Beatles song is 'Eleanor Rigby,' and I'm excited we get to perform the song in the Beatles vs. Stones show," said Ramos, 16, who has played the violin for four years.

A fun part of the evening is the good-natured jabbing between the bands.

"Without Beatlemania, the Stones might still be a cover band in London," said Chris Overall, who plays Paul McCartney. "There's no question that the Beatles set the standard."

"We're going to bring it all. It's going to be an evening of high-energy music," LeGrand said.

The family-friendly show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30-\$60. Go online to www.lvpac.org, call 373-6800, or visit the Bankhead Box Office, 2400 First St., Livermore. ■

Symphony: 'Wild Water and Wonder'

Three young competition winners part of concert program

By PATRICIA BOYLE

Livermore-Amador Symphony continues its 55th regular season with "Wild Water and Wonder" on Feb. 24 at the Bankhead Theater, with music director Lara Webber conducting. The concert will feature Ottorino Respighi's "Fountains of Rome" and Benjamin Britten's "Four Sea Interludes."

In addition, the winners of the symphony's 2017-18 Competition for Young Musicians will be featured: flutist David Davisson, a junior at Livermore High School; cellist Sean Lee, a junior at Dougherty Valley High School; and pianist Joey Zhu, a California High School junior. They will perform works by Mozart, Shostakovich and Rachmaninov, respectively.

The concert will open with Respighi's symphonic poem, "Fountains of Rome," intertwining themes of nature with daily life in Rome. Next, Davisson will perform the first movement of Mozart's elegant Flute Concerto No. 1 in G major.

"Wonderful music, like that of Mozart, makes me feel wonderful. Great composers, like Mozart, inspire me to rise to the level of perfection that they achieved," Davisson said.

Davisson has studied the flute for six years, was a member of the Oakland Symphony Youth Orchestra, participated in the All-State Honor Band, and last summer attended the Interlochen Flute Institute in Michigan. Davisson is the

principal flutist of his school's symphonic band and is occasionally a substitute flutist for the Livermore-Amador Symphony.

Next on the program, Lee will perform the first movement of Shostakovich's powerful Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat major.

Lee started his cello studies at age 8. Twice he attended the Meadowmount School of Music and was recently named a 2018 Mondavi National Young Artists Competition semi-finalist. He has performed in venues such as Davies Hall, Mondavi Center and Carnegie Hall. Lee is a member of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra and served as the principal cellist for the California Orchestra Directors Association Honor Orchestra.

He has volunteered as the principal cellist of Livermore Pleasanton Youth Outreach Symphony, and with the Bay Area Visiting Musicians and Tri-Valley Youth Music Ensemble, performing for veterans, seniors and hospice patients. Recently, he helped organize and took part in the California Wildfire Relief Concert.

"As a musician, I strive to bring our community together by performing for people of all ages and backgrounds," he said. "I believe that music was always meant to be shared with others as a way to inspire both the past and future generations to accomplish greater things."

After intermission, Zhu will

perform the first movement of Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor.

Zhu began playing piano at age 5 and has studied music composition since the age of 6. He has performed in Junior Bach Festivals and was a winner of the concerto competition of El Camino Youth Symphony (ECYS).

This summer Zhu will perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City as the first-place winner of the American Protégé International Music Talent competition. He also plays cello; he is the principal cellist in his school chamber orchestra and is a cellist in senior orchestra at the ECYS.

"I like music the same way I like math," said Zhu, who is a member of his school's math club. "Music helps me concentrate while doing almost anything. Music relaxes my soul."

The concert will conclude with English composer Britten's "Four Sea Interludes" from his opera "Peter Grimes."

The 8 p.m. concert will be preceded by a prelude talk from 7-7:30. At intermission, the teen jazz band Element 116 will perform, directed by Matt Finders. The Symphony Guild will host a post-concert reception.

Tickets are \$25-\$35. Go to www.bankheadtheater.org; visit the Bankhead ticket office, 2400 First St., Livermore; or call 373-6800. ■

Editor's note: Patricia Boyle has been writing about the Livermore-Amador Symphony for three years.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

'Celtgrass' coming to Firehouse

We Banjo 3 will return to the Firehouse Arts Center from Galway, Ireland, for two performances as part of its "Earth & Sky" tour next weekend, at 8 p.m. Feb. 17, and at 2 p.m. Feb. 18, joined by Scottish band Talisk. We Banjo 3's two sets of brothers, Enda and Fergal Scahill and Martin and David Howley, create an infectious blend of traditional Irish music with Americana, bluegrass and a hint of pop, affectionately described as "Celtgrass." Tickets are \$25-\$35. Go to www.firehousearts.org, call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

Sports



PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER



Foothill girls remain well-positioned in EBAL soccer race

Also: Tri-Valley Aquatics relays win, Amador boys reach NCS soccer playoffs

The Foothill High girls soccer team started its final stretch of the regular season with a pair of ties last week.

In the week's first game, the Falcons tied Dublin 1-1 to stay in second place.

This match against a solid Gael squad saw the Falcons fall behind in the first half, only to quickly level the match off a goal from Audriana Templeman. After half-time, the Falcons maintained an edge over the Gaels in possession and scoring opportunities but came up short of the win with the match staying knotted after another strong defensive effort.

The Falcons then traveled to Cal High for their last road match of the regular season and a showdown

with the Grizzlies for sole possession of second place in the East Bay Athletic League.

As has been the trend for Foothill as the season has gone on, a strong defensive effort with limited offensive attack resulted in another draw — this one 0-0, leaving the teams tied for second place heading into the last week of the season.

This match saw the Grizzlies create a few more scoring opportunities only to be stopped by strong play from goalkeeper Allison Jenzon and the back line of the Falcons defense.

Swimming

The Tri-Valley Aquatics swim team won four relay races last month at the Zone 2 Championships held

at Campolindo High School in Moraga, including boys and girls 200-medley and 200-freestyle relays.

The girls 15-18 relay team, winning both races, consisted of Tessie Scavone, Caroline Gjerde, Katherina Cory and Valerie Yefimov.

The girls 15-18 winning relay team was Tessie Scavone, Caroline Gjerde, Katherina Cory, and Valerie Yefimov. The boys medley relay featured of Cole Reznick, Grant Yap, Pieter Cory and Caleb Bitting, and the boys free relay was Reznick, Yap, Cory and Bobby Dean.

The club, based out of Las Positas College in Livermore, also had first-place finishers in a variety of individual events and many new personal-best times by its swimmers.



SAMUEL RIDOSKO

Winning the 200 freestyle and 200 medley relays for the Tri-Valley Aquatics were (from left) Katherina Cory, Caroline Gjerde, Tessie Scavone and Valerie Yefimov.

Amador boys soccer

The Dons got the win they needed to qualify for the North Coast Section playoffs, blanking Livermore 3-0 on Jan. 30 to clinch their postseason berth.

The goals were scored by Zion Kiehle, Peyton Henry and Ben Blackfield.

Spring sports starting

It's almost time for the spring sports to take over the athletic landscape, and we want to make sure we get the results from as many teams as possible. But we need your help to do it.

How can you help?

If you spend 10 minutes a week, you can make sure that your child's team get their results in the paper each week. All you need to do by Sunday of each week is email the results of the week's games, along with any highlights to me at acesmag@aol.com.

Many times, teams ask for parent volunteers and here is your chance to pitch in and help.

You don't have to be a writer as I am more than happy to put together the story for you; just send me the results! We are also always on the lookout for pictures, and all we ask is to identify the players in the pictures as well as include photographer credit.

One final request — please send in the weekly results, win or lose. It is always amazing how we seem to hear from teams when things are going good and then get crickets when they lose.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions. ■

Editor's note: 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.

It's not too early to start making summer plans for the kids!

Camp Connection

Special section coming February 16 inside the Weekly

Camp Directors — Learn how to get your camp program included in this special section and be listed in our online camp directory

Contact us at (925) 600-0840

Pleasanton Weekly



Castlettes raise funds for Hope Hospice

Golf group lauds nonprofit for compassionate services

BY JEREMY WALSH

The Castlettes — the Castlewood Country Club women's nine-hole golf group — recently presented a ceremonial donation check to local nonprofit Hope Hospice for \$5,700, funds raised as part of the Castlettes' annual charity holiday luncheon.

The fundraising luncheon, themed "Holiday Soiree," took place Dec. 12 and featured more than 30 donated raffle and silent auction items, with proceeds benefiting Hope Hospice.

The event, chaired by Castlettes co-captain Linda Simpson, also helped provide several overflowing bins to Toys for Tots and 42 secret Santa gifts to the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley.

"The Castlettes are a generous and lively group of women who are passionate about giving back to their community," Castlettes co-captain Nicole Murray said in a statement.

Hope Hospice holds a special

place in the hearts of the golf group, as the nonprofit has provided end-of-life care to several Castlettes over the years, according to Murray.

"While there have been many that passed over the years, we would specifically like to honor the following ladies: Sharry Bautista, Connie Duke, Juliette Simpson and Piper Wagner (Castlewood golf professional)," Murray said. "We are truly grateful for the compassionate services that Hope Hospice provides."

Hope Hospice CEO Bob Boehm, who was on-hand to receive the ceremonial check, credited the Castlettes for their ongoing support of the Dublin-based nonprofit.

"Thanks to their generosity, families in the Tri-Valley and surrounding areas can receive high quality, personalized end-of-life care so they can enjoy what matters most to them," Boehm said. ■

Community Groups

CLARE'S HOUSE SHELTER SET TO OPEN Northern California is one of the nation's busiest areas for sex trafficking of young girls. About 100,000 young girls a year are sex-trafficked in the U.S., yet the region has no safe places for these young girls seeking to escape the brutal sex trade. But that void will end soon with the opening of Claire's House, thanks to Catholic Charities. Chuck Fernandez, who heads the Oakland Diocese Catholic Charities, will tell about the Claire's House project to help mitigate the sex trafficking impacts as the Catholics@Work speaker on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville, beginning at 7 a.m., preceded by Mass at 6:30. All are welcome; sign up at CatholicsAtWork.org. Reservations not required but preferred. \$20 for members or \$30 for non-members.

Government Meetings

PLEASANTON SCHOOL BOARD The Pleasanton Unified School District Board meets at 7 p.m. next Tuesday in the District Office Board Room, 4665 Bernal Ave. The school board meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. www.pleasantonusd.net.

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave., cityofpleasantonca.gov.

Talks & Lectures

LIVING WITH DEMENTIA: UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOR AS COMMUNICATION Dementia changes the way individuals think, perceive and use language, so it is important to understand that those with dementia frequently communicate their wants and needs through their behaviors. To help promote meaningful communications between individuals with dementia and those providing care, Hope Hospice presents, *Understanding Behavior as Communication*, on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 9:45 a.m. to noon. This class is part of our Living with Dementia family caregiver education series. Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave. Suite 100, Dublin, 829-8770, (510) 439-4917, (800) HOSPICE.

AN EVENING WITH ANNE FRANK'S STEPSISTER Eva Schloss is the stepsister of Anne Frank, a Holocaust survivor, a published author and for the past 35 years a decorated ambassador for global peace. Mrs. Schloss will share her

remarkable life story Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Livermore's Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St. in Livermore. To help commemorate the 70th anniversary of the publication of Anne Frank's iconic diary, Mrs. Schloss will describe the events surrounding the diary's writing, discovery and publication. The presentation will take place at Livermore's Bankhead Theater at 7:30 p.m., and will include a Q&A and book signing. Tickets are available at www.JewishTriValley.com.

Film

HEAL DOCUMENTARY MOVIE SCREENING February 15, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Vine Cinema, 722 First St., Livermore. This documentary takes us on a scientific and spiritual journey where we discover that our thoughts, beliefs, and emotions have a huge impact on our health and ability to heal. The latest science reveals that we are not victims of unchangeable genes, nor should we buy into a scary prognosis. The fact is we have more control over our health and life than we have been taught to believe. This film will empower you with a new understanding of the miraculous nature of the human body and the extraordinary healer within us all. \$20 per person; \$15 for seniors. www.soulconnectionhealingcenter.com.

Lessons & Classes

FREE START SMART CLASS - CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL This Start Smart class is part of the San Ramon Valley's Street Smarts program and is a partnership between CHP, Street Smarts, and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District (SRVUSD). Start Smart is a free, two-hour, highly impactful interactive traffic safety class designed for drivers or soon to be drivers age 15-19 and their parents to discuss the serious laws, obligations, responsibilities, and family expectations that are part of driving a vehicle. California High School Performing Arts Theater, Feb. 13, 7-9 p.m., 9870 Broadmoor Drive, San Ramon.

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.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP Caring for a loved one is challenging physically and emotionally. Join this support group to explore resources and generate problem solving ideas from 1 p.m.-3 p.m., on the second

PET OF THE WEEK



ALLIE'S PALS

Sweet Shadow

Four-month-old Shadow is soft and plush, and a sweet little purr machine. She's used to cats and dogs. She's available for adoption through Allie's Pals Cat Rescue; contact Renee at rprimer@att.net or 997-4747.

Monday of every month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Get the support you deserve at the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. Call 931-5389.

GRIEF WORKSHOP The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief. Each person's grief journey has its own path and its own timeline. Although there is no right or wrong path, there are Stepping Stones that are part of each grief journey and we will explore them in these workshops. Join us Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. starting Thursday, Feb. 8, Thursday, Feb. 22, Thursday, March 8, Thursday, March 22, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Call Eleanor Flatley at 846-8708 for more information.

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 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.

Volunteers

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES On Jan. 8, the American Red Cross launched an urgent appeal for blood and platelet donations nationwide to help address a winter blood donation shortage. Red Cross blood products are currently being distributed to hospitals as fast as donations come in, and in particular platelet and type O negative and B negative blood donations are critically needed right now. Winter weather can have a tremendous impact on the blood supply this time of year, when brutally cold temperatures keep many donors home across the country, plus the impact of family vacations during the holidays and winter months. The Pleasanton Blood Donation Center is located at 5556-B Springdale Ave.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jump and jive

Travel back to 1920s New Orleans with the Grammy-nominated California Feetwarmers as its seven members jump and jive to ragtime, Dixieland blues and early swing, with horn-heavy rags, banjo stomps and happy traditional jazz. The boisterous show begins at 8 p.m. next Friday (Feb. 16) at the Firehouse Arts Center. Tickets are \$15-\$25. Go to www.firehousearts.org, call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

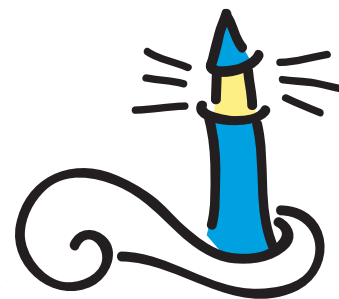
10th Annual
Ragin' Cajun
Dinner and Dance

Purchase tickets now!
www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org

Friday, March 9, 2018
6-11 p.m.
Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, Pleasanton

fogster.com THE TRI-VALLEY'S FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE

Fogster.com offers **FREE** postings online and the opportunity for your ad to appear in print to more than 80,000 readers. You can log on to fogster.com 24/7, and your online ad starts immediately. Some ads require payment.



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

Now you can log on to fogster.com, day or night and get your ad started immediately online.

So, the next time you have an item to sell, barter, give away or buy, get the perfect combination: print ads in your local newspapers, reaching more than 35,000 readers, and unlimited free web postings reaching hundreds of thousands additional people!

INDEX

- **BULLETIN BOARD**
100-155
- **FOR SALE**
200-270
- **KIDS STUFF**
330-355
- **MIND & BODY**
400-499
- **JOBS**
500-585
- **BUSINESS SERVICES**
600-690
- **HOME SERVICES**
700-799
- **FOR RENT/ FOR SALE REAL ESTATE**
801-899
- **PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES**
995-997

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

DID YOU KNOW

Information is power and content is King? Do you need timely access to public notices and remain relevant in today's hostile business climate? Gain the edge with California News Publishers Association new innovative website capublicnotice.com and check out the FREE One-Month Trial Smart Search Feature. For more information call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or www.capublicnotice.com (Cal-SCAN)

DID YOU KNOW

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

DID YOU KNOW 144

million U.S. Adults read a Newspaper print copy each week? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

DID YOU KNOW 7 IN 10

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

EVERY BUSINESS

has a story to tell! Get your message out with California's PRMedia Release" the only Press Release Service operated by the press to get press! For more info contact Cecelia @ 916-288-6011 or http://prmediarelease.com/california (Cal-SCAN)

PREGNANT?

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

For Sale

202 Vehicles Wanted

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

235 Wanted to Buy

WANTED! Old Porsche 356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1973 Only. Any condition, top \$ paid! PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-965-9546 (Cal-SCAN)

245 Miscellaneous

SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00 MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-567-0404 Ext.300N (Cal-SCAN)

Mind & Body

425 Health Services

A PLACE FOR MOM The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE/ no obligation. CALL 1-855-467-6487. (Cal-SCAN)

ELIMINATE CELLULITE

and Inches in weeks! All natural. Odor free. Works for men or women. Free month supply on select packages. Order now! 1-844-703-9774. (Cal-SCAN)

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OXYGEN

Anytime. Anywhere! No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 1-844-359-3976. (Cal-SCAN)

Safe Step Walk-In Tub!

Alert for Seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic Jets. Less Than 4 Inch Step-In. Wide Door. Anti-Slip Floors. American Made. Installation Included. Call 1-800-799-4811 for \$750 Off. (Cal-SCAN)

475 Psychotherapy & Counseling

MAKE THE CALL

TO START GETTING CLEAN TODAY. Free 24/7 Helpline for alcohol & drug addiction treatment. Get help! It is time to take your life back! Call Now: 855-732-4139 (AAN CAN)

Struggling with DRUGS

or ALCOHOL? Addicted to PILLS? Talk to someone who cares. Call The Addiction Hope & Help Line for a free assessment. 800-978-6674 (AAN CAN)

Jobs

500 Help Wanted

Acupuncturist

Company: Splendor Management Corp. Location: San Ramon Position: Full Time Associate Acupuncturist (San Ramon). Participate in diagnosis and planning treatments under supervision; assist to complete herbal prescription. Associate's in oriental medicine or rtd. Mail res. w/ salary req. to Attn: HR, 9260 Alcosta Blvd. Building C, Ste 17, San Ramon, CA 94583

560 Employment Information

AIRLINE CAREERS begin here

Get started by training as FAA certified Aviation Technician. Financial aid for qualified students. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 800-725-1563 (AAN CAN)

PAID IN ADVANCE!

Make \$1000 A Week Mailing Brochures From Home! No Experience Required. Helping home workers since 2001! Genuine Opportunity. Start Immediately! www.AdvancedMailing.net (AAN CAN)

Business Services

601 Accounting/ Bookkeeping

Accounting/Bookkeeping NEED HELP WITH QUICKBOOKS? NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO small CALL LINDA 925-918-2233

624 Financial

Are you in BIG trouble with the IRS? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, & resolve tax debt FAST. Call 855-970-2032. (Cal-SCAN)

Denied Credit??

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

RETIRED COUPLE \$\$\$

for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company www.viploan.com Call 818-248-0000 Broker-principal BRE 01041073. (Cal-SCAN)

Social Security Disability?

Up to \$2,671/mo. (Based on paid-in amount.) FREE evaluation! Call Bill Gordon & Associates. 1-800-966-1904. Mail: 2420 N St NW, Washington DC. Office: Broward Co. FL., member TX/NM Bar. (Cal-SCAN)

695 Tours & Travel

Tours, Vacation Packages and Travel Packages since 1952. Visit Caravan.com for details or call 1-800-CARAVAN for catalog. (CalSCAN)

Home Services

707 Cable/Satellite

Cut the Cable! CALL DIRECTV. Bundle & Save! Over 145 Channels PLUS Game HD-DVR. \$50/month for 2 Years (with AT&T Wireless.) Call for Other Great Offers! 1-866-249-0619 (Cal-SCAN)

DISH Network

190+ Channels. FREE Install. FREE Hopper HD-DVR. \$49.99/month (24 mos). Add High Speed Internet - \$14.95 (where avail.) CALL Today & SAVE 25%! 1-844-536-5233. (Cal-SCAN)

Dish Network

Satellite Television Services. Now Over 190 channels for ONLY \$49.99/mo! HBO-FREE for one year, FREE Installation, FREE Streaming, FREE HD. Add Internet for \$14.95 a month. 1-800-373-6508 (AAN CAN)

715 Cleaning Services

Convenient Cleaning

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

751 General Contracting

A NOTICE TO READERS:

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

757 Handyman/ Repairs

Water Damage to Your Home?

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

771 Painting/ Wallpaper

Brian Ward Painting

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

Real Estate

805 Homes for Rent

Menlo Park, 3 BR/2 BA Remodeled West Menlo Park 3 Bed, 2 Bath, Los Lomitas Schools, No Smoking or Pets, \$7,000.00 Mo. 650-851-4464

845 Out of Area

NORTHERN AZ WILDERNESS RANCH \$215 MONTH - Quiet secluded 42 acre off grid ranch set amid scenic mountains and valleys at clear 6,500'. Borders hundreds of acres of BLM lands. Near historic pioneer town and large fishing lake. No urban noise & dark sky nights amid pure air and AZ's best year round climate. Evergreen trees/meadow blends with sweeping views across uninhabited wilderness landscapes. Self-sufficiency quality loam garden soil, abundant groundwater and free well access. Maintained road to property. Camping & RV's ok. \$25,900, \$2,590 down. Free brochure with additional property descriptions, maps photos, weather chart & area info. 1st United Realty 800.966.6690. (CalSCAN)

890 Real Estate

Wanted

KC BUYS HOUSES - FAST

CASH - Any Condition. Family owned & Operated. Same day offer! 951-805-8661 WWW.KCBUYSHOUSES.COM (Cal-SCAN)

Legal Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

MANDE CONSULTING SERVICES; M AND E CONSULTING SERVICES; M&E CONSULTING SERVICES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 539758-760

The following person(s) doing business as: M AND E CONSULTING SERVICES; M&E CONSULTING SERVICES; MANDE CONSULTING SERVICES, 248 W. ANGELA STREET, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, ALAMEDA COUNTY is hereby registered by the following owner: MELISSA NELSON, 248 W. ANGELA STREET, PLEASANTON, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business names listed herein JANUARY 5, 2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on JANUARY 10, 2018. SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRANT: MELISSA NELSON, OFFICER, (Pleasanton Weekly, JANUARY 19, 26, FEBRUARY 2, AND 9, 2018)

SACRED SPACE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 539628

The following person(s) doing business as: SACRED SPACE, 3350 HOPYARD ROAD, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ST. CLARE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN PLEASANTON, CA, 3350 HOPYARD ROAD, PLEASANTON, CA 94588. This business is conducted by A CORPORATION. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein on JANUARY 1, 2015. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on JANUARY 8, 2018. SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRANT: RON CULMER, CEO, (Pleasanton Weekly, JANUARY 19, 26, FEBRUARY 2 AND 9, 2018)

ST. CLARE'S ALTAR GUILD

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 539627

The following person(s) doing business as: ST. CLARE'S ALTAR GUILD, 3350 HOPYARD ROAD, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): ST. CLARE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN PLEASANTON, CA, 3350 HOPYARD ROAD, PLEASANTON, CA 94588. This business is conducted by A CORPORATION. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein JANUARY 1, 2003. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on JANUARY 8, 2018. SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRANT: RON D. CULMER, CEO. (Pleasanton Weekly, JANUARY 19, 26 AND FEBRUARY 2, 9, 2018)

HITCHED CO.; THE HITCHED CO.; HITCHED COMPANY; THE HITCHED COMPANY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 539750

The following person doing business as: 1) Hitched Co. 2) The Hitched Co. 3) Hitched Company 4) The Hitched Company, 640 Division Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Grace Lauren Henry, LLC, 640 Division Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Grace Lauren Henry, LLC, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein February 2, 2018. Signature of Registrant, William Scott Smiley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 2, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 2018).

SCOTT'S PAINTING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 540911

The following person doing business as: Scott's Painting, 2250 Fairfield Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: William Scott Smiley, 2250 Fairfield Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by William Scott Smiley, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein February 2, 2018. Signature of Registrant, William Scott Smiley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 2, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 2018).

PERFECT SIGNINGS MOBILE NOTARY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 540922

The following person(s) doing business as: PERFECT SIGNINGS MOBILE NOTARY, 5410 MONTALVO COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY, is hereby registered by the following owner: JUDY JEONG, 5410 MONTALVO COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on FEBRUARY 5, 2018. SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRANT: JUDY JEONG, OWNER. (Pleasanton Weekly, FEBRUARY 9, 16, 23, AND MARCH 2, 2018)

business name listed herein January 17, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Joshua Kaufman, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 17, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 2018.)

Winners Bingo FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 539699

The following person doing business as: Winners Bingo, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Padrino R. Lopez, Sr., and Debra J. Lopez, 14629 Pueblo Dr., Manteca, CA 95336. This business is conducted by Padrino R. Lopez, Sr., and Debra J. Lopez, a married couple. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 9, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Padrino R. Lopez, Sr., Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 9, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2018.)

Deepti Beauty Studio FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 540503

The following person doing business as: Deepti Beauty Studio, 4625 First Street, Suite 225, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Deepti Dobhal, 231 Dixon Landing Road, Apt. #181, Milpitas, CA 95035. This business is conducted by Deepti Dobhal, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 26, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Deepti Dobhal, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 26, 2018. Pleasanton Weekly, February 2, 9, 16, 23, 2018).

Level Up Professional Development FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 540617

The following person doing business as: Level Up Professional Development, 3857 Vine Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Janice Finn Weekes, 3857 Vine Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Janice Finn Weekes, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 30, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Janice Finn Weekes, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 30, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 2018).

Rinnie and Rocket FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 540273

The following person doing business as: Rinnie and Rocket, 3768 Nichols Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: Erin Nohava, 3768 Nichole Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Erin Nohava, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 23, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Erin Nohava, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 2018).

Scott's Painting FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 540911

The following person doing business as: Scott's Painting, 2250 Fairfield Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner: William Scott Smiley, 2250 Fairfield Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by William Scott Smiley, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein February 2, 2018. Signature of Registrant, William Scott Smiley, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 2, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 2018).

PERFECT SIGNINGS MOBILE NOTARY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No: 540922

The following person(s) doing business as: PERFECT SIGNINGS MOBILE NOTARY, 5410 MONTALVO COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY, is hereby registered by the following owner: JUDY JEONG, 5410 MONTALVO COURT, PLEASANTON, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on FEBRUARY 5, 2018. SIGNATURE OF THE REGISTRANT: JUDY JEONG, OWNER. (Pleasanton Weekly, FEBRUARY 9, 16, 23, AND MARCH 2, 2018)

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Dublin

4 BEDROOMS
8205 Rhoda \$1,099,999
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Anni Hagfeldt 519-3534

Livermore

2 BEDROOMS
9687 Tesla Road \$1,099,000
 Sun 1-4 Joel Engel 580-5106

3 BEDROOMS
5283 Lenore Ave. \$738,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Anni Hagfeldt 519-3534

709 Oriole Ave. \$635,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Andrea Rozran 858-4198

4 BEDROOMS
2499 Merlot Lane Call for price
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846-6500

5 BEDROOMS
1234 De Paul Way \$879,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Melissa Pederson 359-9606

Oakland

5 BEDROOMS
6200 Contra Costa Road \$1,999,000
 Sun 1-4 Melissa Pederson 359-9606

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS
4348 2nd St. \$1,325,000
 Sat 12-4/Sun 11-3 Mike Carey 963-0569

726 Saint Michael Circle \$725,000
 Sun 1-3 Dave & Sue Flashberger 463-0436

4 BEDROOMS
784 E. Angela St. Call for price
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Gina Piper 200-0202

6570 Arlington Drive Call for price
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Gina Piper 200-0202

5038 Monaco Dr. Call for price
 Sat/Sun 2-4 Peter McDowell 209-0343

5 BEDROOMS
3546 Ballantyne Drive \$1,350,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Team600Sold 600-7653

7734 Chestnut Way \$1,200,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Gina Piper 200-0202

7507 Driftwood Way \$1,129,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Julia Murtagh 997-2411

681 Norante Court \$3,095,000
 Sat 1-4 Debby Johnson-Abarta 989-6844

San Ramon

2 BEDROOMS
9032 Craydon Circle \$349,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Emily Barraclough 895-7253

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Dec. 27-Jan. 3)

Total sales reported: 13
Lowest sale reported: \$266,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,555,000
Average sales reported: \$1,044,154

Dublin (Dec. 27-Jan. 3)

Total sales reported: 15
Lowest sale reported: \$580,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,670,000
Average sales reported: \$976,567

Livermore (Dec. 27-Jan. 3)

Total sales reported: 18
Lowest sale reported: \$556,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,217,000
Average sales reported: \$788,750

San Ramon (Jan. 9-16)

Total sales reported: 11
Lowest sale reported: \$765,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,976,000
Average sales reported: \$1,207,636

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Dec. 27 -Jan. 3.

Pleasanton

4568 1st Street M. McGillard to B. Winget for \$1,548,000

3683 Annis Circle Defillo Trust to P. Kalyani for \$908,000

2197 Arroyo Court #4 W. Ho to Q. & P. Nguyen for \$482,000

248 Birch Creek Terrace J. Darocha to S. Ferrel for \$266,000

1220 Bordeaux Street B. & R. Mould to Rescue Home Now for \$1,000,000

2505 Calle Madras R. Bowman to F. Chang for \$1,150,000

1222 Hearst Drive Richardson Trust to N. Do for \$1,715,000

4753 Holland Drive S. Johnson to V. Agarwal for \$950,000

7503 Ivy Court Flint Trust to A. Ramesh for \$730,000

1006 Kolln Street W. & J. Felton to J. Felton for \$825,000

4271 Pleasanton Avenue #B N. Sollom-Brotherton to N. Yarra for \$600,000

5251 Riverdale Court J. & F. Roberts to T. Das for \$845,000

553 Santel Court Detweiler Trust to J. & L. Leabman for \$2,555,000

Dublin

4516 Alta Terra Road P. Tan to R. & G. Batta for \$1,170,000

8678 Fenwick Way J. Anderson to C. Dao for \$1,000,000

11883 Flanagan Court L. Farrell to R. & A. Patel for \$580,000

Source: California REsource

Find more open home listings at pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate

Julia Murtagh



◀ 7507 DRIFTWOOD WAY PLEASANTON

Listed for \$1,129,000

Charming "Highland Oaks" 2 story home in a great location. Enjoy many upgrades to this 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with 2098 sqft of living space. There is a large master bedroom suite, 3 additional bedrooms upstairs, and a full bedroom downstairs. The back yard is spacious, with ample room for entertaining, gardening and kids play areas. Walk to award winning schools, parks and the pool clubhouse.

Open Saturday & Sunday,
 Feb. 10- 11 from 1-4pm



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**Charlie, Mina, Shashi, Kathleen, Antero,
Varsha, David, Stacy, Veronica**

PENDING



PLEASANTON | 3536 PIMLICO DRIVE | \$1,149,000
REPRESENTED SELLER
Popular and most desirable floorplan, East facing, approx. 2,150 Square feet of bright and airy living space, featuring formal living/dining room, newer front dual pane windows, skylight, bed and half bath on main level, new carpet, in laundry room, 3 car garage, spacious family room with fireplace, relaxing outdoor space includes patio, overhang and side yard access. Walk-in distance to Fairland Elementary School, park, cabana club community and shopping.

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4



PLEASANTON | 3546 BALLANTYNE DR | \$1,350,000
Built in 1987, this beautifully updated home is superbly located in Pleasanton Meadows neighborhood. Exquisite 5 bedroom 2.5 bath home. Desirable open floor plan. Inviting formal entry leads to formal living/dining room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace. Updated kitchen and breakfast nook featuring hardwood flooring, granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances. Adjacent spacious family room leads to inviting private backyard featuring swimming pool that includes deck with seating overhang. Ideal for relaxing and entertainment.

SOLD



PLEASANTON | 3405 STACEY WAY | \$1,150,000
REPRESENTED SELLER & BUYER
This is an absolutely charming single story corner lot updated home. Special features & upgrades include - formal living & dining rm, new stucco, hrdwd flrs, new windows throughout, hot spring spa with deck in back yard, RV parking, water softener, remodeled kitchen with granite countertops & tile backsplash, crown molding, electronic door locks on all exterior doors, skylights, new aluminum 7 inch gutters, professionally landscaped that includes grape harbor in side yard.

SOLD



PLEASANTON | 3683 ANNIS CIRCLE | \$908,000
REPRESENTED BUYER
3 Bed/2 Bath, approx. 1,336 sq.ft of Living Space. Large 6,417 sq.ft. corner lot. This unique home offers a private layout while still feeling open throughout the living room, kitchen, and dining areas! Great natural lighting in living and dining areas thanks to large and abundant windows. Large Master bedroom boasts lots of closet space with extra storage next to dual sinks and separate bath. Master also has separate access to back yard! This all original house is a blank canvas ready to be finished to your personal style and needs!

PENDING



SAN RAMON | 122 COPPER RIDGE ROAD
REPRESENTED SELLER
2 bedroom 2.5 baths 1314 Sq. Ft. Updated townhome nestled in a quiet court among beautiful tall pine trees is stylishly fitted with luxurious granite slab counter tops, rich maple cabinetry & jet pearl black appliances. Natural stone slate adorns the fireplace and entryway. Spacious Master & Junior suites and laundry closet are located on the 2nd flr. 1-car attached garage with interior access makes for modern convenient living!

COMING SOON



PLEASANTON | 4428 DEL VALLE PKWY
3 bedrooms 1.5 baths 1280 Sq. Ft.
Located in the most desirable part of Downtown Pleasanton on the most picturesque street lined with tall beautiful trees on one side and quiet rustling arroyo on the other this home is fashioned with rich engineered hardwood floors, newly remodeled fireplace wall and mantle, new paint, new front deck and beautiful natural stone tiled back patio and more.

PENDING



PLEASANTON | \$10,000,000
DUBLIN CANYON RD
106 Acres of Beautiful Prestine Rolling Hills!

SOLD



SAN JOSE | \$70K OVER ASKING!
5370 LIGURIAN DRIVE | \$1,720,000
Mediterranean styled home features soaring ceilings, beautiful winding staircase, separate step down living room, formal dining, spacious family room that opens to the kitchen and a 1st floor bedroom & full bath. Master bedroom occupies the whole back wing of the home. Spacious backyard professionally landscaped. Country club membership Optional!

PENDING



DUBLIN | 7920 CREEKSIDE | REPRESENTED SELLER
Two Master Suites one with it's own entry way. Elegant custom home offers unparalleled craftsmanship and exceptional amenities. This STUNNING home with a grand entry way that exudes elegance to it's unique floor plan and 2 luxurious master suites on each level, this home offers everything one can imagine. This exquisite home features 5 beds, 4.5 baths, game room, gym, sauna, rock climbing, miniature golf, basketball area, large pool and spa with waterfall and a BBQ area. It is an entertainers dream. Located close to freeway and shopping this unsurpassed beauty is one of a kind!

SOLD



FREMONT | 44280 REVERE PLACE | \$1,650,000
REPRESENTED BUYER
The location of this 4 bd, 2.5 ba, 2,052 Sq. Ft. property located in the Mission Dist. offers a plethora of privacy. You can be at 680, 880 and shopping in minutes! The 7,072 Sq. Ft. lot provides an abundance of space and the deck in the backyard provides views of the Bay! It offers a spacious living, dining and family room as well as vaulted ceilings. The master suite has two different closets, a contoured ceiling and a sunken tub.

COMING SOON



CASTRO VALLEY | 20067 STANTON HILL COURT
Coming Soon! 4 bedrooms 3 baths 2022 sq. ft. on 7275 sq. ft. lot Conveniently located on a spacious lot, this updated home is bright w/ a cozy open floor plan. Marble entry, hardwood floors, glass tiled fireplace, updated kitchen, plantation shutters & large rooms await you. Short drive to BART, shopping, top rated schools.

SOLD



PLEASANTON | 3414 STACEY WAY | \$1,060,000
REPRESENTED SELLER
Conveniently located in Pleasanton Meadows area, this delightfully contemporary 1985 built single story home offers great curb appeal and charm. Natural light floods the spacious family room as it pours through the sliding glass doors and illuminates the space. Featuring dual pane windows, tile roof, formal living and dining room, inside laundry room, skylights in both bathrooms, totally remodeled Master bath. Enjoys close proximity to award winning Elementary school, neighborhood park and shopping. Must see!



CalBRE#00882113

BLAISE LOFLAND REAL ESTATE GROUP

Blaise Lofland - Marti Gilbert - Kelly McKaig - Amanda Bowen - Megan Capilla

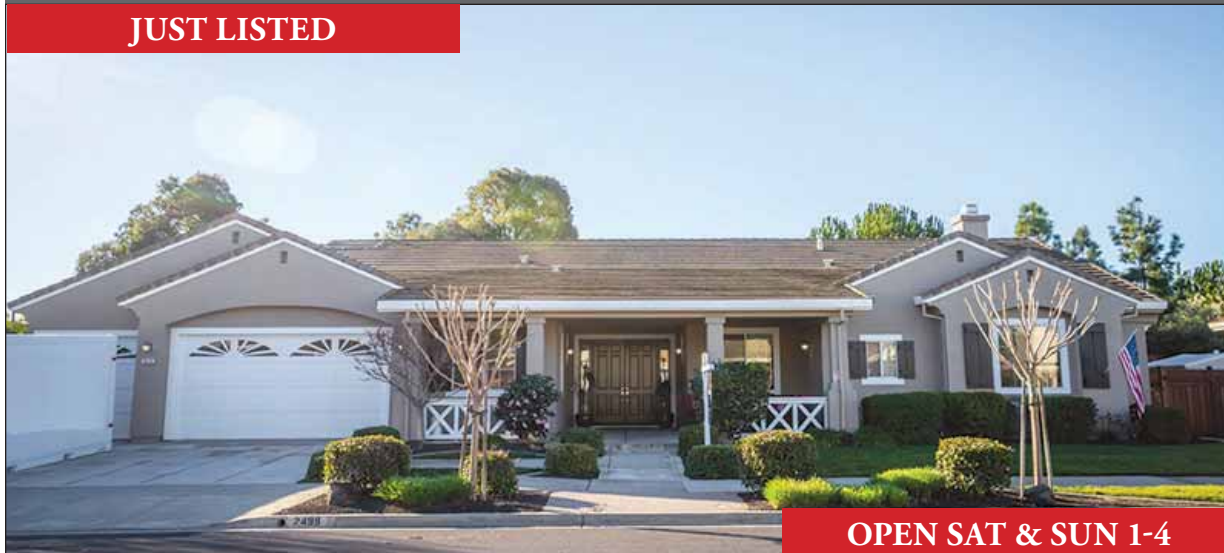
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TAPESTRY

JUST LISTED



OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4

2499 MERLOT LANE, LIVERMORE

Beautiful Single Level Home in the Desirable Tapestry Neighborhood, by Shea Homes. This Premium Convenient Location is in the Heart of Livermore's Wine Country and Near Beautiful Downtown Livermore. This Home Includes Four Bedrooms Plus Office (Currently 5th), Two and a Half Bathroom and 2,755 Square Feet and 3 -Car Garage on Premium .33 Acre Lot. New Carpets! Enjoy the Resort-Like Private Rear Grounds with In-Ground Pool & Spa, Outdoor BBQ and Bar Area, Professionally Landscaped with Large Grass Play Area, and Putting Green. It's an Entertainer's Dream! The Spacious Floor Plan Has High Ceilings and Many Windows for Natural Light. Gourmet Kitchen is Open to Family Room. Formal Living and Dining Room Provide Views of the Rear Grounds. Energy Efficient Home with Both House & Pool Solar. Don't Miss this Great South Livermore Location!

OFFERED AT \$1,299,950

PLEASANTON VALLEY

SOLD!



1757 GREENWOOD ROAD, PLEASANTON

Location, Location, Location. This Highly Updated Single-Story Country Model in Desirable Pleasanton Valley Neighborhood offers a Recently Remodeled Kitchen (2016), Three Bedrooms, Two Remodeled Baths, Hardwood Floors, Crown Molding, Plantations Shutters, Spacious Rear Yard with Stamped Concrete and Pergola. The Adorable Front Porch allows you to enjoy a Cup of Coffee or a Glass of Wine. Located Walking Distance to All Levels of Schools, Shopping, Post Office, Neighborhood Parks and Downtown Pleasanton. For More Photos and information go to 1757greenwood.com or call the Blaise Lofland Group for a Private Showing.

SOLD FOR \$1,142,000

VINTAGE HEIGHTS

SOLD!



715 MONTEVINO DRIVE, PLEASANTON

Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group Represented the Buyer in the Purchase of this Attractive Custom Built Home In Family Friendly Vintage Heights. Four Large Bedrooms Plus Den And 3.5 Bathrooms. This Open Floor Plan Home Is Tastefully Upgraded in Crowned Molding, Baseboards & Plantation Shutters Throughout. Updated Granite Slab Gourmet Kitchen W/ Stainless Steel Appliances, Center Island, Recessed Lighting, Hardwood Floors, Three Fireplaces, 1 Full Bedroom And Bath Downstairs, Gorgeous Master Suite W/ Retreat Area, Stunning Master Bathroom, Soaring Ceilings, 3 Car Garage, Beautiful Rear Grounds With Peaceful Sitting Areas & Pergola, So Much To List! Too Many Features And Updates.

SOLD FOR \$1,648,000

ST. JOHNS PLACE

SOLD!



4105 PLEASANTON AVE., PLEASANTON

Like New-Customized Downtown Home! Recently Remodeled Bathrooms & Gourmet Kitchen-GE SS Appliances! Travertine Floors, Plantation Shutters, Upgraded, Crown Molding, Newer Wrought Iron Stair Bannister, Anderson French Doors, Upgraded Lighting, Closet Organizers, Expanded Front Porch with New Large Walnut Front Door, Covered Outdoor Living Area with Paver Patio, Beautiful Landscaped! Premium Lot in the Neighborhood! Adjacent to Park! Walk to Main Street! Downtown! Don't Miss this one. It's Turn Key and exceptional! For More Photos and information go to 4105pleasanton.com or call the Blaise Lofland Group for a Private Showing.

SOLD FOR \$1,325,000

MOLLER RANCH

SOLD!



5751 ATHENOUR COURT, PLEASANTON

Premium Location! Don't Miss this Three Bedroom, Plus Office (4th area), Two and One-Half Bathroom Single Family Home in The Western Hills of Pleasanton Ridge off Foothill Road. This Property Backs to Tree Lined Open Space. Private Rear Yard with Patio, Brand New Interior Paint & Carpeting, Fireplace, Balcony, Central Air Conditioning, Tile Roof, Professionally Staged. Conveniently Located for Commute Access to 580/680 Interchange, BART's Western Station, Stoneridge Mall and Just Minutes to Main Street and Several Livermore Valley Wineries!

SOLD FOR \$1,150,000

WESTSIDE ALAMO

SOLD!



21 SUSAN COURT, ALAMO

The Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group represented the buyers! The beautiful expanded & remodeled single Level Home is located on large .60-acre lot with spacious private rear grounds with newer pool & spa. Privacy is provided by the gated driveway and conveys an estate impression. Three Bedrooms, two bathrooms, plus office with fireplace. Approximately 3500 Square Feet, with Expansive Great Room offers the blending of a large gourmet kitchen and family room for entertaining. The owned solar system provides energy savings. Just a short walk to downtown Alamo and children can attend quality schools.

SOLD FOR \$2,175,000

DOWNTOWN

SOLD!



474 AMARAL CIRCLE, PLEASANTON


























Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group represented the Buyer in the Purchase of this Original Condition Single Level Home on Premium .32 Acre Lot. Super Location on Amaral Circle in Downtown Pleasanton. Tremendous Potential with this Three Bedroom, Two Bathroom Home. Plenty of Room for Expansion and Remodeling with this Oversized Lot. Lots of Mature, Large, Beautiful Trees on Neighboring Lots to Enjoy! For more information, contact the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group!

SOLD FOR \$905,000

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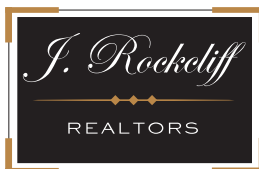
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9687 Tesla Rd, Livermore \$1,099,000
2 bdrm/2.5baths/1,440 SqFt/5 Acres
Joel Engel 925.580.5106



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4

709 Oriole Ave, Livermore \$635,000
3 bdrm/1.5baths/1,048 SqFt/6,130 Lot
Andrea Rozran 925.858.4198



9150 Crow Canyon Rd, Castro Valley \$1,250,000
3 bdrm/3baths/2,418 SqFt/1.15 Acres
Kristy Peixoto 925.251.2536



4415 Deer Ridge Rd, Danville \$2,149,000
4 bdrm/4.5baths/4,595 SqFt/ 20,234 Lot
Heather Kelly 925.323.2025



1317 Merrivale West Sq, San Jose **Coming Soon**
2 bdrm/2 baths/1,056 SqFt
Barbara Benotto 925.337.3770



6409 Alisal St, Pleasanton **Coming Soon**
6 bdrm/3baths/2,992 SqFt/.92 Acres
Katie Moe 925.216.9083



4370 Payne Rd, Pleasanton **Coming Soon**
4 bdrm/2baths/1,489 SqFt/6,200 Lot
Tracey Esling 925.366.8275

Agents:

We've added **40** Realtors® to our Pleasanton Team in the last 24 months. Thinking about becoming an agent? Not getting the training, support and fun you were promised? Contact me to set up a confidential meeting to learn why so many of your peers are joining this office. We can help your business thrive in 2018.

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1784 Dawn Street, Livermore
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3440 Gravina Place, Ruby Hill
4BR, 3BA, 2627+/- Sq. Ft.
Call For Pricing

PENDING



1012 Shotwell Ct., Pleasanton
6BR, 6.5BA, 7129+/- Sq. Ft.
Offered at \$3,495,000

SOLD IN 7 DAYS!



1028 Rhine Way, Pleasanton
Received 12 Offers!
Sold for \$155K Over List Price!
\$1,550,000



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Livermore

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- 1144 square feet
- Hardwood floors
- Updated kitchen and baths

Sold for \$715,000

SOLD



SALE PENDING

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Livermore**

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- 1366 square feet

\$699,950



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