

Pleasanton Weekly

Honoring
veterans Sunday

Page 5

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WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

The image features a central graphic with the text "VOTE BY TUESDAY" in large, bold, white letters with a red outline, set against a circular background with a red, white, and blue star pattern. Below this graphic, the text "PAGE 14" is visible. Surrounding the central graphic are various campaign signs for local and state-level candidates and issues. The signs include:

- RE-ELECT MAYOR THORNE** (Pleasanton Proud)
- Elect Jim JOHNSON** For Assessor (The EXPERIENCED Candidate)
- Joe Streng** City Council
- YES ON 6** REPEAL THE GAS TAX (Paid for by Voters California - Yes on 6, FPCC #1268914)
- JOHN COX** FOR GOVERNOR
- RE-ELECT Eric SWALWELL** CONGRESS
- PHONG LA** ALAMEDA COUNTY ASSESSOR
- NO ON PROP 10** IT MAKES A BAD PROBLEM WORSE
- REBECCA BAUER-KAHAN** FOR ASSEMBLY
- Re-elect KATHY NARUM** CITY COUNCIL
- Joseph Ledoux** Elect Pleasanton City Council (#LEDoux4U, FPCC # 1411106)
- RE-ELECT PETERS** FOR US CONGRESS (www.rudypetersforcongress.com, PAID FOR BY RUDY PETERS FOR CONGRESS)
- JULIE TESTA** PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL (Standing for Residents, Not Developments)
- Catharine Baker** Assembly
- NO 6** Stop the Attack on Bridge & Road Safety! (www.noProp6.com)

- 5 | **NEWS** I-680 commute through Sunol ranks as 4th-worst
- 12 | **PULSE** Puma back in wild after prowling Pleasanton
- 20 | **TRI-VALLEY HEROES** Award recipient profiles begin



“At Stanford, the whole team was great at making sure the right things happened for me to have the amazingly good recovery I’ve had so far.”

— Brett

Bicyclist Finds New “Roads” to Conquer After Traumatic Brain Injury

Brett’s cross-country bicycling trip from Santa Barbara to South Carolina ended abruptly, 1,000 miles short of its final destination. While crossing through Oklahoma, Brett fell, ending his dreams of completing a coast-to-coast charity ride, and nearly ending his life.

He was transported by helicopter to the nearest trauma center in Joplin, Missouri, where he spent nine days in a coma. Brett had suffered a subdural hematoma from landing on his head. Blood was pooling on the outside of his brain, causing his brain to swell. To create space and to remove the blood, the trauma team in Joplin removed a part of Brett’s skull. Once he was stabilized, his family requested he be transported to Stanford Hospital, where he could continue to be treated closer to home.

“Any patient who suffers a traumatic brain injury who comes into the Stanford system will have some interaction with myself or my colleague in trauma,” said Odette Harris, MD, MPH, neurosurgeon at Stanford Health Care. Brett spent eight days in the ICU, where a team of trauma and brain injury specialists managed his inter-cranial pressure, blood pressure, temperature and seizures to minimize the cascade of secondary injuries that can occur after a traumatic brain injury.

“Once we get patients through that period of survival, then we start looking at the period of recovery and rehabilitation,” said Dr. Harris. She wanted him to regain the weight and strength he’d lost after the accident before surgery to repair his skull. He spent six weeks in a rehabilitation unit at Santa Clara Valley Medical.

There, he put on weight, began walking and talking and regained his short-term memory. With his body strong enough for surgery, Brett returned to Stanford. In the first of four surgeries, Dr. Harris used a bone implant to replace the section of his skull that was removed after the accident. Subsequent surgeries were done to manage his surgical wound healing, and to create a skin flap to cover his skull.

Project Recovery

An avid cyclist before his accident, Brett made exercise an integral part of his ongoing recovery. He clocked his steps, the miles he rode on his stationary bicycle, his sleep, and shared his daily progress with Dr. Harris, who encouraged his holistic approach to recovery.

“I wanted her to know I was committed to doing the physical things necessary to keep my body in shape to recover,” he said.

The accident’s impact to the right side of his brain affected his ability to control the left side of his body. He was also experiencing minor seizures. Scheherazade Le, MD, a Stanford Health Care neurologist specializing in epilepsy and seizure disorders, supported him through the neurologic recovery from the traumatic brain injury.

“Brett was determined to make exercise a part of his daily routine, and I think that helped

strengthen his recovery and brain function,” said Dr. Le. He also stays active socially, meeting friends and colleagues for coffee or lunch nearly every day, and sharing his recovery experience with other TBI patients and Stanford neurology and neurosurgery residents. “His story is so inspiring and gives so much hope to me as a doctor and to other patients who need intense neurologic recovery.”

“The Stanford environment allows someone like Brett to truly recover in a way that’s tailored to what he needs,” said Dr. Harris. “We’re integrating not only brain injury specialists, but we’re integrating trauma specialists, specialists in orthopedics, specialists in ENT, and plastic surgery. Because of the integrated care we have, Brett has just excelled.”

Six years later, Brett remains active. “I really feel like I’ve pulled through it the best I possibly could,” said Brett, who walks between 40 and 70 miles every week. “At Stanford, the whole team was great at making sure the right things happened for me to have the amazingly good recovery I’ve had so far.”



U.S. News & World Report recognizes, again, Stanford Health Care in the top 10 best hospitals in the nation.

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Stanford
HEALTH CARE
STANFORD MEDICINE

TIM TALK



By TIM HUNT

Planning Commission rejects AT Dublin proposal

Proponents of AT Dublin, the mixed-use lifestyle retail center on Tassajara Road, took a big step toward quelling potential opposition by cutting a key deal with the Dublin Unified School District.

It did not make a difference to the Dublin Planning Commission, which voted 4-0 this week to recommend the project be denied by the City Council.

The 76-acre parcel runs from Interstate 580 to Gleason Drive, bounded by Tassajara Road and Brannigan Drive. SCS Development has proposed amendments to the East Dublin Specific Plan and the city's General Plan to increase residential development to up to 680 units (apartments, townhomes and single-family homes) and cut commercial uses to 454,000 square feet.

The plans also include a 150-room hotel — a facility that is sorely needed in the Livermore Valley where most hotels are full Monday to Thursday evenings. The existing plan calls for 261 dwelling units and 902,500 square feet of commercial.

The site is near where the school district plans to build its second comprehensive high school (and third overall) to initially house 1,000 students. The long-term plan is for a 2,500-student school. The district is negotiating to buy the Promenade parcel from developer Jim Tong.

The AT Dublin developers have agreed to pay \$28.1 million upfront in school mitigation fees, about twice the amount required by the current \$11 per square foot of residential fee. In addition, the agreement calls for expediting the payments — one after receiving approval from the city and the other \$14 million within 12 months. Typically, school impact fees are paid when individual building permits are pulled.

School trustees approved the agreement Oct. 23 without taking a position for or against the planned project. Should the City Council approve the proposal, then key funding for the high school is in place. The \$28.1 million is in addition to the \$100 million trustees have set aside from the bond issue voters passed in 2016.

Another linchpin is the land for a K-8 school that the city earmarked for the district at no cost in the Dublin Crossing project off Dublin Boulevard. One element of that

project is a dual-use gymnasium that SCS has agreed to encourage the city to allocate \$5 million of its public benefit payment. That city/school district agreement preserved the full \$100 million potentially for the high school.

The district is facing student overcrowding at Dublin High, which currently has more than 3,000 students with another 1,300 estimated to attend over the next five years. The AT Dublin project, if approved as currently proposed, would generate about 5% of the high school students. The accelerated \$28.1 million payment covers about 30% of the estimated construction costs.

This parcel had sat vacant for more than two decades as the former owner John Di Manto, CEO of San Jose Construction Co, waited for a developer to meet his price. He passed away two years ago, prompting his heirs to put the parcel on the market. The current proposal moved forward when the City Council a year ago approved studying changes to the city's plans.

During those years, the demand for traditional retail space has dropped significantly with most shopping center operators now focusing on the "lifestyle retail experience." That's the type of center that IKEA has proposed next to its store at Hacienda Drive and I-580 and is what SCS wants to build on AT Dublin. The key difference is 2-1/2 times more residential, where the demand is almost insatiable. City Center in San Ramon, which is scheduled to open Nov. 8, will be the first lifestyle center in the valley.

Tong's parcel, now designated for a high school, was supposed to be a downtown center surrounded by high-density residential. That concept did not fly in the marketplace, so he tried to increase residential zoning and was denied by the City Council. That denial preserved the parcel for the high school site, although it was not identified as such at the time.

After the Planning Commission's denial Tuesday, the plan will move on to the City Council for a final decision. There's likely to be public pressure against the residential elements based on the school overcrowding, but the SCS agreement with the district offers a direct mitigation to those complaints. ■

About the Cover

Campaign signs all around Pleasanton remind residents it's time to vote. Election Day is Tuesday. See a local election recap inside on Pages 14-15, and visit PleasantonWeekly.com and our social media for coverage on Election Night. Sign photos by Jeremy Walsh. Cover design by Doug Young.

Vol. XIX, Number 41

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www.jerrythorne.com

Paid for by Jerry Thorne for Mayor 2018 FPPC #1337409

Re-elect

KATHY NARUM

City Council

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- ★ East Bay Times
- ★ Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Fighters Local 1974
- ★ Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce BACPAC
- ★ Pleasanton Police Officers Association
- ★ Pleasanton Weekly
- ★ All 5 Tri-Valley Mayors
- ★ All 5 Pleasanton School Board Trustees
- ★ State Senator Steve Glazer
- ★ Assemblywoman Catharine Baker

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City Council



kathynarum.com Paid for by Kathy Narum for City Council 2018 FPPC# 1354971

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PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL

Standing up for RESIDENTS, not Developments.
Supporting slow and smart growth policies



"Julie is the choice of concerned residents who believe Pleasanton's City Council needs a voice for them. Make Julie your choice." - Tom Pico (Former Pleasanton Mayor)

"Join me to vote for Julie Testa for City Council. She has fought for 30 years to improve our schools, slow development, reduce traffic impacts and halt State mandates for high-density housing. It's time she serve on the Pleasanton City Council." - Karla Brown, Pleasanton City Council (2012-2020)

"The Independent recommends voting for one Pleasanton City Council candidate this November - Julie Testa." - The Independent Newspaper

Connect with me at www.JulieTesta.com

Paid for by Julie Testa for Pleasanton City Council 2018 FPPC#1412005

Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Should Halloween be changed to a fixed night each year, say a Friday or a Saturday (like how Thanksgiving is always on a Thursday), instead of it being on Oct. 31?



Bakhti Pandya, with Shivam
Busy mother of toddler

Oh I think it would be great if Halloween were never on a school night. I used to be a teacher, and the day after Halloween was always one of the craziest days of the year because the kids were so hyper and distracted.



Sumedh Mankar
Physician

Sounds great to me. It would make life so much easier and pleasant for families. I'm sure there must be some historical reason why Halloween is always on Oct. 31, but because so few people know what that reason is, I see no reason to continue adhering to it.



Brad Seliga
Paramedic

I think it should remain the date that it has always been because the kids who trick-or-treat are pretty young and go to bed pretty early no matter what. And besides, at least two out of every seven years, Halloween naturally falls on a day when there is no school the next day.



Eulalia Stephenson
Homemaker

I think it's fine for Halloween to remain a constant on Oct. 31. It is what people are used to and expect, and at least in my school district (San Ramon), there is no school on the day after Halloween, so the kids get to sleep late the following morning.



Thomas Avallone
Program director

I like having it on the 31st each year, even when it falls on a school night. In Catholic schools, like the one I grew up going to, there was never school the day after Halloween because it is All Saints' Day. I loved being able to stay up late with my siblings, trading candy, and then sleeping late and doing more candy-swapping for much of the next day.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis and Jenny Lyness

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com



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DIGEST

LPC honors veterans

The Las Positas College Veterans First Program and LPC Student Veterans Organization are set to host the 12th annual Honoring Veterans Day event next week at the campus in Livermore.

The event next Wednesday (Nov. 7) will begin with a Huey landing on Lot B at 11 a.m., followed by honor guard and national anthem performance by Elaine Johnson at 11:30 a.m., lunch at 11:45 a.m., an afternoon veterans job fair, guest speaker at 2 p.m. (retired Army Maj. Michael Young on global pursuit counterterrorism) and finally the Huey departing at 3:30 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public — though the lunch costs \$10 per plate for non-veterans; lunch is free for veterans. For questions, call 424-1570.

Prayer Breakfast

Local nonprofit CityServe of the Tri-Valley is holding its sixth annual Prayer Breakfast on Nov. 19 from 7:30-9 a.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Pleasanton at the Club.

The event emcee will be former Dublin mayor Tim Sbranti, and the featured speaker will be Roy Gobles, author of "The Junkyard Wisdom: Resisting the Whisper in a World of Broken Parts."

Tickets for the popular event are on sale now, \$50 per person or \$500 for a full table. Net proceeds benefit the nonprofit's programs serving Tri-Valley families in need. Visit cityservetrivalley.org.

2019 fair dates

Though almost a year away, fairgrounds officials are busy preparing for the 2019 Alameda County Fair.

They recently announced the theme ("I Spy Summer!") and dates (June 14 to July 7) for Pleasanton's 2019 summer showcase. The fair will run for 18 days in all, closing Mondays and Tuesdays.

More updates about the 2019 fair will be announced at alameda-countyfair.com.

Eco-friendly gardens

The Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club's regular meeting next Thursday (Nov. 8) will focus on eco-friendly gardening: "How our landscaping practices are affecting our local ecosystems, and how you can make a difference (with an emphasis on pollinators)."

The guest speaker will be Tora Rocha, who will be retiring at the end of the month from her role as curator of the Gardens at Lake Merritt in the heart of Oakland.

The meeting will be held at Alisal Elementary School starting at 7 p.m. Visitors are welcome. Visit www.lavgc.org. ■

Afternoon I-680 commute to Pleasanton ranks as 4th-worst in Bay Area

I-580 through Tri-Valley makes three appearances on most-congested list, but none worse than 14th

By JEREMY WALSH

The Interstate 680 commute across the Sunol Grade ranked as the fourth-worst Bay Area commute in 2017 for the second year in a row, according to the annual most-congested list compiled by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

For the third straight year, the I-580 commute in the Tri-Valley did not rank in the top 10 worst commutes compared to the rest of the Bay Area, but three I-580 segments in and around the Tri-Valley did appear elsewhere on the top 50 list.

Overall, the MTC reported that traffic congestion delays leveled off in 2017 after commute times worsened for four consecutive years from 2013-16.

"The good news here is that the average Bay Area commute hasn't gotten any worse," said Rohnert Park City Councilman Jake Mackenzie, who is serving as MTC chair. "The bad news is that it hasn't gotten any better either."

Bay Area drivers faced an average of 3.6 minutes of congested delay last year, matching the record high set for the region in 2016 and representing

an 80% increase from the 1.9-minute average delay in 2010, according to the MTC. "Congestion delay" is defined by MTC as time spent in traffic moving at speeds slower than 35 mph.

For 2017, the Tri-Valley area made five appearances on the "50 worst commutes list."

Tops on the local list was the I-680 commute from the South Bay up toward Pleasanton at No. 4. The northbound segment from Scott Creek Road in Fremont to Andrade Road in Sunol between 1:55-8:20 p.m. saw a daily delay of 6,280 vehicle-hours.

One other Tri-Valley route ranked in the top 10: The northbound afternoon commute on I-680 from Sycamore Valley Road in Danville to Buskirk Avenue/Oak Park Boulevard in Pleasant Hill came in at No. 10. That marked an improvement of two spots from its No. 8 ranking the previous year (5,950 vehicle hours delay in 2016, compared to 4,500 hours in 2017).

The eastbound I-580 afternoon commute into Pleasanton ranked as the 14th-worst — from Crow

See **COMMUTE** on Page 6

Veterans parade downtown Sunday

Military veterans group marches down Main Street during the 2017 Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade. This year's parade, held as usual the weekend before the Veterans Day holiday, is set to begin at 1 p.m. this Sunday downtown. The post-parade event will follow at 2:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building and include Doug Mishler's historical performance as Gen. John J. Pershing — with the parade and post-parade event both paying tribute to the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I.



MIKE SEDLAK

Former priests accused

Eight Tri-Valley priests appear on firm's list of abusers

By ERIKA ALVERO

Eight Catholic priests who served or lived in the Tri-Valley at some point years ago were identified in a recently released report by a Minnesota-based law firm listing the names of clergymen connected with Bay Area dioceses who were accused of sexual misconduct against children.

Jeff Anderson & Associates, which filed a lawsuit in early October against 10 of California's 11 Roman Catholic dioceses alleging a sexual abuse cover-up, published the names last week in a report that lists over 200 accused men across the three dioceses of San Jose, San Francisco and Oakland.

"The data reveals the scandalous scale of hundreds of priests assaulting thousands of minors from early history to the present in these Dioceses," the report states. "The data collected suggests the patterns and practices of Church officials,

including the orchestration of an institutional cover-up of an enormous magnitude."

The report suggests that as part of this "institutional cover-up," priests were "intentionally transferred and retained in trusted positions with direct access to children even when they were known to be abusers."

The law firm acknowledges in their introduction that many of the allegations have not yet been proven in a court of law.

"While lawsuits were filed involving many of these alleged perpetrators, the vast majority of the claims against these individuals have been settled or have not been fully evaluated in a civil court," the report says. "Accordingly, the allegations should be considered just allegations and should not be considered proved or substantiated in a court of law."

The list comes on the heels of — and adds to — another similar

list of accused clergymen released by Bishop Patrick McGrath of the Diocese of San Jose on Oct. 18 in an effort to increase transparency from the church.

Last month, Bishop Michael Barber from the Diocese of Oakland, which includes Tri-Valley parishes, said that he would soon be announcing the names of all clergy in his diocese "credibly accused of sexual abuse of minors." A release date has not been confirmed.

"This public accountability will allow you and others in our community to see we are keeping our promises," he wrote in a letter Oct. 2. "We have nothing to hide. It is the right thing to do."

Barber added that he anticipated the list would take about 45 days to compile, in order to ensure the accuracy of allegations.

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Brenner takes over at Harvest Park

Middle school's new principal says she's here to stay

By ERIKA ALVERO

Terry Brenner believes she has "it." "It" is what makes her at home as a middle school administrator.

"You can meet someone and you almost know immediately if they have 'it,'" the new Harvest Park Middle School principal said, her accent a reminder of her Midwestern roots. "And it's a number of things: it's the flexibility, it's what we call discipline with love and logic, you know? Being able to be strict, but loving and showing you care."

Whether she has acquired "it" or had it all along throughout her years in education, the quality has led her to her "dream job" in Pleasanton, she says.

"I have never felt at home so quickly," she said of her first months on the job.

Brenner, born and raised in Wisconsin, has been in the education world for over two decades, after a slight detour into accounting.

"And then early on I spent a lot of time in my mother-in-law's classroom



Terry Brenner

See **PRIESTS** on Page 8

See **BRENNER** on Page 11

Pleasanton synagogues commemorate Pittsburgh victims

Rabbi Resnick: 'We can come together and we can lean on each other'

By ERIKA ALVERO

Jewish community members in Pleasanton are mourning the weekend shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue, and honoring the 11 worshippers who died there.

Both the Chabad of the Tri-Valley and Congregation Beth Emek held memorials for the victims of Saturday's mass shooting in Pennsylvania in which a gunman opened fire during a service at the Tree of Life synagogue. It is believed to be the deadliest single attack on the Jewish community in U.S. history.

"These lives were cut short, were extinguished, on the holy Sabbath, in a Jewish center," said Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, spiritual leader for the Chabad, at a memorial Monday night. "In a house of worship, on the holiest day of the week, these lives were taken from us."

"We really tonight don't have many words to offer," he added. "But

we can come together and we can lean on each other."

The memorial preceded an already-planned event, a speech to commemorate the 80th anniversary of another deadly attack on the Jewish people: Kristallnacht, or "The Night of Broken Glass," which is often seen as marking the start of the Holocaust.

Over 100 people attended the memorial at the Chabad, including a handful of local elected officials such as Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne, Livermore Mayor John Marchand, Dublin Mayor David Haubert and Assemblywoman Catharine Baker.

"Eighty years ago, it was the government that was perpetrating these heinous acts," Resnick said. "Tonight it's the government that protects us. We are honored to have members, elected officials here tonight who are here to declare that we live in a country that protects and values each and

every life, regardless of race, creed, religion."

Thorne then lit a ceremonial candle before speaking to the crowd.

"I'm just not sure how you put words around something like what happened in Pittsburgh," he said. "Something as heinous and hateful and just flat-out mean as that was." He added that while his first instinct may have been to throw blame, events like this instead call for compassion for all, including someone who had "so much hate in their soul" to commit such an act.

Baker said the massacre was a call for all to reject hate in unity with one another.

"I was reminded of how much of the Jewish faith is about light prevailing over darkness. Love prevailing over hate. Knowledge over ignorance."

The lecture that followed was given by Rabbi Y. M. Wagner, a

spiritual leader in Krefeld, Germany, and the first German-born rabbi since the Holocaust. He spoke to the crowd on post-Holocaust Jewish life and confronting anti-Semitism.

Congregation Beth Emek also held its own memorial service in Pleasanton in response to the deadly attack, on Sunday night.

"Violence against Jews is the inevitable consequence of the rhetoric of incitement, of xenophobia, of the demonization of all minorities," said Rabbi Laurence Milder, the spiritual leader at Congregation Beth Emek.

"The responsibility to defuse an incendiary culture rests with all of us, with our willingness to call out racism and hate speech," he added. "It is up to us to hold accountable those who fan the fear of the enemy within. This is the fear that galvanized a madman to murder peaceful Jews who had gathered to worship God on their day of peace."

In the days following the tragedy in Pittsburgh, Pleasanton's flags were flown at half-staff in honor of the victims.

On Nov. 11, Beth Emek will be hosting its own memorial event to commemorate the anniversary of Kristallnacht, during which 91 Jews were killed, 30,000 arrested, 191 synagogues were destroyed and 7,500 shops looted, according to congregation leaders. Guest speaker Fred Rosenbaum, founding director emeritus of Lehrhaus Judaica, will discuss the history of that day, and what lessons can be learned for today.

"The events of Nov. 9, 1938 are a reminder that hateful rhetoric lays the groundwork for violence, and that acts of violence lay the groundwork for genocide," Milder said.

The lecture begins at 7 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court. ■

COMMUTE

Continued from Page 5

Canyon Road/Grove Way in Castro Valley to Hacienda Drive in Pleasanton. The similar commute was 10 spots better the year before, ranking 24th in 2016.

The westbound morning commute from the San Joaquin County line to the lane drop west of Grant Line Road in Livermore finished 24th. The segment dropped from its 17th position in 2016 (when the segment was measured from the San Joaquin County line all the way to Hacienda Drive in Pleasanton).

And in 44th was the I-580

evening commute from First Street to the lane reduction east of North Flynn Road in Livermore.

As for the overall rankings, consistency seemed to be a theme — certainly at the top.

Each of the top four worst commutes retained their position from the year before, including I-680 northbound toward Pleasanton.

Topping the list for the fourth year in a row was the afternoon slog on northbound Highway 101 and eastbound I-80 from Cesar Chavez Street in San Francisco to the Bay Bridge's Yerba Buena Island Tunnel, where commuters collectively logged an average of 14,600 vehicle-hours of delay between

12:30-10:30 p.m. each weekday.

Staying in second place was the westbound I-80 drive from Highway 4 in Hercules to the Bay Bridge toll plaza — all day, from 5:25 a.m. to 6:55 p.m. In third again was the afternoon commute on southbound Highway 101 from Sunnyvale to San Jose.

Rounding out the top five was the eastbound afternoon drive from Highway 4 in Martinez to Port Chicago Highway in Concord, which jumped up five spots from its 10th-place ranking in 2016.

The rest of the 10 were all afternoon commutes: eastbound I-80 from West Grand Avenue in Oakland to Gilman Street in Berkeley,

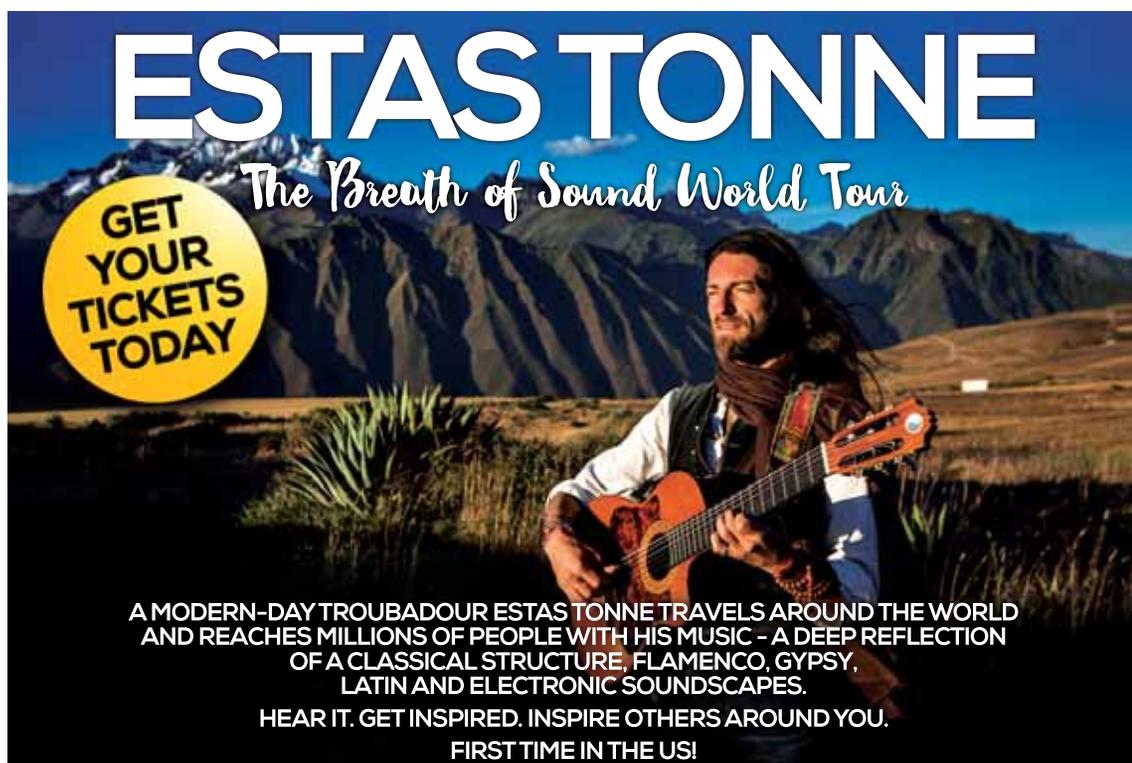
southbound I-880 from Union Street to 29th Avenue in Oakland, I-280 southbound from Foothill Expressway in Los Altos to downtown San Jose and Highway 24 eastbound from Oakland to Orinda through the Caldecott Tunnel.

Half of the top 10 worst commutes were in Alameda County, and more than three-quarters of all congested delay in the Bay Area last year occurred on freeways in Alameda, Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties.

"There's no question that our freeways haven't kept pace with the bustling economy," Mackenzie said. "We have more vehicles on the road getting people to and

from their jobs, more buses taking people to and from work, and more trucks making more deliveries. This highlights the need for more affordable housing closer to jobs, for better transit options and for key infrastructure projects."

He also used the timing of the MTC ranking release to criticize Proposition 6, the statewide ballot measure that would eliminate the recently approved gas tax and vehicle license fee increases. He argued that key congestion-relief projects, like I-680/Highway 4 interchange improvements in Martinez, would lose funding and could be suspended if Prop 6 passes at the polls next week. ■



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DAR

DAR rededicates grave marker for namesake Amador

The Tri-Valley's José María Amador Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) rededicated a DAR marker on the grave of their namesake on Oct. 13 in Old St. Mary Cemetery in Gilroy. José María Amador was a Californio soldier, explorer, rancher and gold miner who built several adobes at his Rancho San Ramon headquarters near Alamilla Springs in what is now Dublin. The local DAR chapter is named for Amador — instead of a Revolutionary War patriot — because chapters located in states admitted to the Union after 1825 may be named for territorial historic events, geographic sites or names of prominent early area pioneers.

Unanimous.



When all three Livermore newspapers join Mayor John Marchand, the entire city council, and our community's leading doctors, nurses and medical professionals in urging you to vote no on Measure U, you know there's a reason.

EAST BAY TIMES

October 13, 2018

"Measure U would impact every dentist, optometrist, podiatrist and individual or group health care provider.... Some doctors... are already threatening to pick up and move to nearby cities.... The city of Livermore is estimating the cost at \$750,000 to set up the program and \$2 million a year to run it. **Ouch.... Vote No on Measure U."**

THE *Independent*

Thursday, October 4, 2018

"Vote No on Measure U"

"The setup cost is estimated to be \$1 million, and the annual expense \$1.9 million. These are taxpayer funds that could otherwise be used for police, fire and library services.... Insurance companies stand to win.... To protect health care options in Livermore, **vote 'no' on Measure U.**"

Pleasanton Weekly

October 5, 2018

"The proposal is a wolf in sheep's clothing.... Not only will it fail to help consumers and create perverse incentives for medical centers to cut staffing levels, but it will also saddle the city with the need to hire a staff of experts to analyze and oversee the charges being made by almost all medical professionals, including individual practitioners, dentists and orthodontists.... **Vote No on Measure U."**

Protect our hospitals, our city, and your health care.

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NO ON U
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Committee major funding from
California Association of Hospitals and Health Systems
Stanford Health Care
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan

FPPC #1403025

PRIESTS

Continued from Page 5

The recently released law firm's report includes photos of the accused clergymen, details their work assignment history and accusations, and is sourced through existing online resources like media reports, The Official Catholic Directory, bishopaccountability.org and local dioceses' public statements.

According to the law firm's list, one accused priest previously served in Pleasanton, two in Livermore and four in Dublin. One accused priest also resided in Danville for a time.

Pleasanton

Edmond Cloutier, who was ordained in 1946, worked in multiple

different parishes throughout the Bay Area, but was in Pleasanton for the longest stint, serving at St. Augustine Catholic Church from 1965-81, after which he retired.

Cloutier, who died in 2003, is accused of sexually abusing at least four children at Star of the Sea Catholic Church in San Francisco, where he was assigned from 1953-60, according to the Jeff Anderson & Associates law firm.

His time at Star of the Sea marked his first California assignment after moving here from Maine, and at some point he was named in a lawsuit related to the alleged abuse, the report says, though it doesn't specify when. Cloutier's whereabouts between his departure from St. Augustine and his death are unknown.

Livermore

James Clark, ordained in 1947, also had a variety of assignments throughout the Bay Area, among them St. Michael Catholic Church in Livermore from 1960-63. At the end of this period, Clark was arrested and convicted of oral copulation of a 19-year-old man in Santa Cruz, and was ordered by the judge to "go to counseling, undergo psychiatric treatment, and that his bishop be notified of 'his problem,'" the report says.

With a felony to his name, Clark went on to serve in Oakland, Fremont and Walnut Creek — during his time at Corpus Christi Church in Fremont, Clark was accused of sexually abusing at least four children from approximately 1968-80, according to the report. He was named in multiple lawsuits and died in 1989.

Anthony Slane was another local priest, assigned to Villa San Clemente in Livermore from 1948-50 and then again in 1958-60. Slane, ordained in 1942, was named in a lawsuit alleging that he sexually abused a child at San Leandro's St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish, where he was assigned immediately after concluding his second stint at Villa San Clemente.

Slane also had parish assignments outside of California, in Wisconsin, Montana, Oregon and Washington. His name also appears on the "Seattle archdiocese's 2016 list of clergy and religious with admitted, established or credible

allegations against them of sexually abusing a minor," the law firm states. Slane died in Ligouri, Miss. in 2010.

Danville

Although he is not listed as having served in the Tri-Valley, the last known address of Mario Cimmarrusti was San Damiano Retreat House in Danville. Cimmarrusti was assigned to parishes across the country and in Sonora, Mexico, concluding his service in Delano, located within the Diocese of Oakland. He was officially accused of sexual abuse in 1994, from his time serving at St. Anthony's Minor Seminary in Santa Barbara in the 1960s, and later named in a lawsuit in 2003, according to the law firm.

A settlement was reached in 2006 for a case that involved Cimmarrusti and seven other priests accused of sexually abusing students at St. Anthony's Seminary High School, the Santa Barbara Boys Choir and the Santa Barbara Mission, and his name appears on the Archdiocese of Los Angeles' 2004 list of priests accused of sexual misconduct involving minors, the report says. His whereabouts from about 1994 until his death in 2013 are not fully confirmed, although his last known address was the retreat house in Danville.

Dublin

Four priests appearing in the report have connections to Dublin.

Ronald LaGasse, ordained in 1969, was arrested in 1984 on suspicion of sexually abusing a 17-year-old boy at St. Raymond in Dublin, the report states, adding that he served there from 1982-86, among other Bay Area locations including Walnut Creek and Martinez.

"He was sent for treatment and placed on leave for one year, then reassigned," the report continues. "It is believed he worked as an abbot of an independent Benedictine Monastery in Hawaii."

He returned to the Bay in 1989, serving in Alameda and Oakland. LaGasse retired in 2004 but his current whereabouts are unknown, though he was believed to be living in Phoenix, Ariz. as of 2012.

William Hold worked in Sacramento for about 20 years after being ordained in 1977, after which he was assigned to serve at St. Joseph Church in Pinole. (The report's exact dates contradict each other for this entry.) In 2002, Diocesan officials revealed that Hold had been accused of abuse three years prior, allegedly taking place in Woodland.

"No action was ever taken and Fr. Hold retired in good standing in 1999," the report states, adding that he also served at St. Raymond in Dublin, though it doesn't say exactly when.

Philip Steigerwald, ordained in 1976, served at various parishes in Oregon, Massachusetts and the Bay Area, including, it is believed, St. Raymond in Dublin, according to the report. He was accused in 2002 by a man who alleged that he was sexually abused by Steigerwald as a child in 1978.

Steigerwald's whereabouts from 1987 until his death in 1992 are unknown.

And Donald Eugene Broderson, ordained in 1968, also served at St. Raymond for some time, from 1980-82, the report says. Broderson was assigned to various parishes throughout the Bay Area, including Fremont and Castro Valley. He was accused by multiple survivors of child sexual abuse from about 1972-78, a time during which he worked at several sites in Alameda, Hayward, Pleasant Hill and Fremont.

Among other allegations, six brothers accused Broderson of abuse during 1972-73 while he was at St. Joachim Parish in Hayward.

"Fr. Broderson was reportedly then transferred to Most Precious Blood in Concord, California in 1973 where he continued to abuse children until 1975," the report alleges. "As the allegations surfaced, Fr. Broderson was transferred between parishes and sent to treatment and/or counseling. In 1993, he was forced into retirement by the Church and banned from ministry."

Broderson was named in multiple lawsuits and in 2005, he admitted to sexually abusing four sets of brothers during the 1970s, the report states. He died in 2010. ■

Unity Day

Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho (left) and PUSD Superintendent David Haglund sport orange downtown in honor of Unity Day on Oct. 24. Celebrated as part of National Bullying Prevention Month, Unity Day aims to promote kindness and inclusion in schools and the community.



PUSD

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LAVTA named California Transit Agency of the Year

Association recognizes Tri-Valley authority for refocused priorities, better connectivity, new projects

By JEREMY WALSH

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), which operates Wheels and Rapid bus services in the Tri-Valley, has been honored for its accomplishments over the past year as the California Transit Agency of the Year for 2018.

The award, which is given to a transit agency that has demonstrated system improvement in areas such as ridership, customer service, service expansion and financial management, was announced Thursday at the Small Operators Awards ceremony during the California Transit Association's annual fall conference.

The award acknowledges a variety of achievements for LAVTA during the previous year, including refocusing resources on more productive services, increasing ridership by over 7% and launching a shared autonomous vehicle project.

Pleasanton City Councilwoman Karla Brown, who served as LAVTA board chair during the 2017-18 fiscal year, credited the commitment of executive director Michael Tree and his administrative staff for LAVTA earning the Transit Agency of the Year recognition.

"Together with the Board of

Directors, they have converted a struggling older bus company into an industry leader, with fresh ideas and the execution of new operational plans," Brown told the Weekly.

"We have removed most of our older buses from the road, and replaced them with new hybrids that were built locally," she said. "Through hard work, LAVTA has increased ridership of our residents, middle and high school students, college students, plus BART and ACE riders."

"The next step is to complete testing of a small self-driven bus called an SAV, then put it into use in the Tri-Valley," added Brown, who represents the city of Pleasanton on the authority's board along with Councilman Jerry Pentin.

A joint powers authority among the cities of Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore and Alameda County to fulfill the Tri-Valley's transit needs, LAVTA serves nearly 2 million passengers per year on its Wheels bus and paratransit services.

Its focus also includes promoting environmental sustainability by reducing vehicle trips and traffic congestion on local streets and improving air quality in the region.

"It's amazing that so much was accomplished with such a lean, well-run organization, comprised of a 14-person staff and a seven-member Board of Directors. We have much to be proud of," said Dublin Mayor David Haubert, LAVTA's 2018-19 board vice chair.

LAVTA officials pointed to eight key recent accomplishments that led to the Transit Agency of the Year award:

- A major service restructuring that refocused resources on more productive services with improved access to BART, ACE Train and Las Positas College (LPC).

- A ridership increase of 7.2% in 2017-18 compared to the prior year.

- The successful passage of a student mobility initiative at LPC in Livermore to fund unlimited access transit passes for all LPC students.

- Launching a shared autonomous vehicle project in proximity to the east Dublin-Pleasanton BART station to help provide first- and last-mile connections with BART.

- Serving as executive and administrative support for the newly formed Tri-Valley/San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority

(Valley Link).

- Partnering with the city of Livermore to relocate and rehabilitate the Southern Pacific Railroad's historic train depot for use as LAVTA's Livermore Transit Center sales and operations building.

- Refreshing the Wheels brand

with a new vehicle design and logo that is complementary to the agency's Rapid buses.

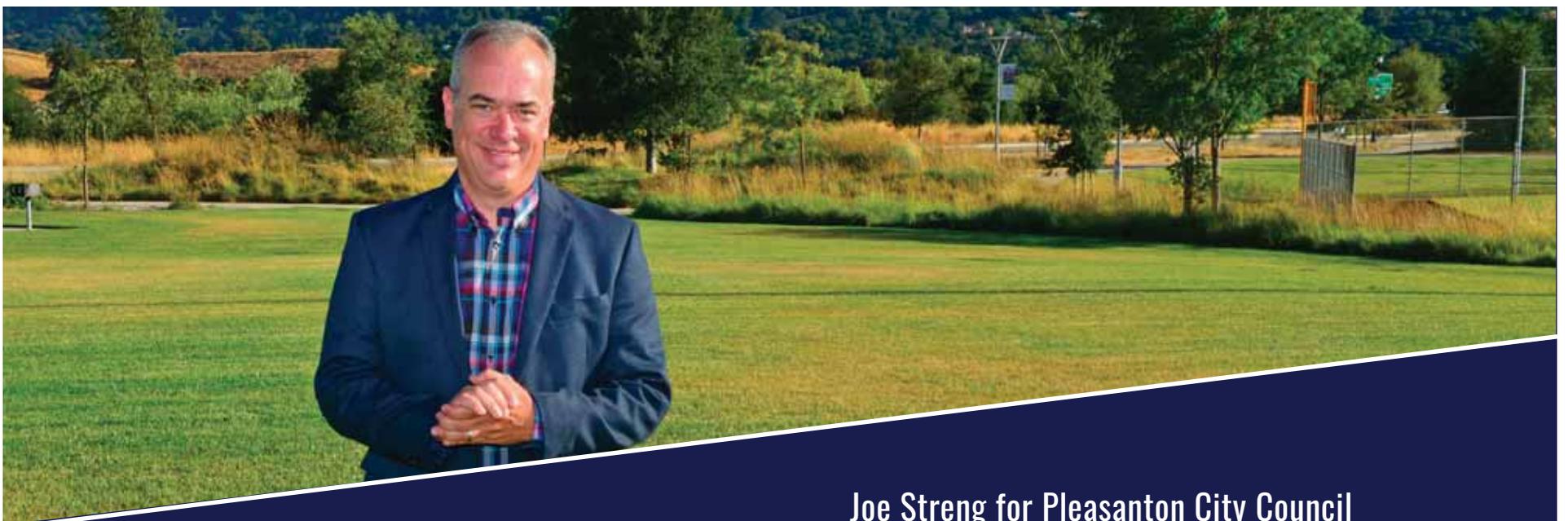
- Initiating Go Dublin, an on-demand real-time mobility alternative for Dublin residents utilizing a unique partnership with Uber and Lyft. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Charity on Tap

The Pleasanton Young Professionals, a networking group within the Chamber of Commerce, recently held its second annual Charity on Tap fundraiser at The Blue Agave Club in downtown Pleasanton. The event raised \$8,200, all of which was donated to the Valley Veterans Foundation for college scholarship funds for Tri-Valley veterans and military personnel.



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Goodguys to salute veterans at Autumn Get-Together

Car show to feature thousands of vehicles

By RYAN J. DEGAN

Goodguys Rod and Custom Association is returning to Pleasanton for its final Bay Area show of the year, bringing one of the most eclectic mix of hot rods and other cars the country has to offer with its 29th annual Fuelcurve.com Autumn Get-Together during Veterans Day weekend.

The show will feature over 2,500 American-made or -powered, candy-colored and chromed hot rods, customs, classics, muscle cars and trucks of all years for a two-day extravaganza, with a multitude of events and deals celebrating both active and retired members of the military.

"This event officially ends the Goodguys car show season for hot-rodders all over California and has become one of the must attend events," said Betsy Bennett, communications director for the Goodguys Rod and Custom Association.

"There will be several Veterans Day activities during the event, including the Vettes for Vets — a special parking area and parade each day honoring our veterans, the Young American Patriots performing during the event, presentation of the colorguard and more," she added.

For attendees looking for an opportunity to support active military serving overseas, the Pleasanton Military Families will be holding a donation drive at the event Nov. 10 at the Yellow Gate. The drive will be raising funds for the group's pack-out program, which sends care packages to military servicemen and

servicewomen stationed overseas.

Officials promise attendees will get a close-up glimpse at how eclectic the modern day hot-rodding scene is, with "acres" of American made hot rods and numerous other vehicles available for viewing.

Hot rods will not be the only type of vehicle on display. Following an autumn theme, the event will feature an inside display of trucks of all types, makes, sizes and colors.

Residents looking to break up a day of car gazing are welcome to revel in the destructive splendor of the Hayward Firefighters Local 1909 Charity Demolition Derby on Nov. 10. The derby will consist of three rounds of driving: Figure 8 Chaos, Full Contact Musical Parking Spots and an All-Out Smash-up. All proceeds will benefit the Hayward Fire Charity Fund.

The Burnout Contest will be returning by popular demand. Attendees will need to save their voice strength for this one, as the champion is crowned by crowd participation.

It wouldn't be a Goodguys show without any races. New to the Autumn Get-Together is the Fall Shoot-out, a 16-car field race with the winner and runner up qualifying for the "Duel in the Desert" at WestWorld in Scottsdale, Ariz. Racers will take the field both days in Pleasanton.

Gates are open to the Goodguys 29th Fuelcurve.com Autumn Get-Together presented by CrazyBulk Nov. 10-11 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

Ticket information is available at www.good-guys.com. ■

BRENNER

Continued from Page 5

and my sister's classroom volunteering, and realized I had made a wrong career choice," she said. "And so I went back to school for teaching, and then when my younger daughter began kindergarten, I began my first day as a teacher as well."

She taught fourth grade for one year, and then spent 15 years as a middle school language arts teacher in the Racine Unified School District — where she herself had attended from kindergarten all the way through high school. Brenner then briefly did a stint at the district's central office as interim English language arts supervisor, filling in for a woman on medical leave.

"So it gave me a semester to feel the job out, and I realized that I miss the kids so much, that this just was not for me," she said.

All set to return to the classroom, a week before the new school year, she received a call from the district office — they wanted her to interview for a principal position at an elementary school.

"Lo and behold, I loved it," she said, adding that she decided to stay in administration. She would go on to serve as assistant principal at one of the district high schools for four years after that.

She wasn't planning on leaving her home state, but when her husband received a job offer in Seattle, she decided a weekend getaway to check out the new site wasn't a terrible thing — especially amidst the 50-below Wisconsin winter.

"We fell in love with it. It was 60 degrees in February — when it was 50-below by us, and 60 there," Brenner said. "We were right on the Sound; it was just so beautiful. And we realized that we wanted to set

an example for our kids that there's more to life than Racine, Wisconsin."

Brenner and her husband have five children between them, all currently residing in Wisconsin.

In Seattle, she took a job as an assistant principal in the Edmonds School District, split between two high schools. The reality of what the split would entail didn't hit her until she began the commute — it was no "flat Wisconsin where it's a zip down the road."

"I never had quality time in a building. I was constantly running between two buildings and a lot of time at the central office," she said.

It wasn't an ideal situation, so the second year, she took a directing principal job south of Seattle in the Highline District, until, two months in, an unexpected transfer of her husband's company brought them to California.

"That was always the goal, when we went out there," she said. "But we had no idea how fast this was going to happen." So in July 2017, they moved to Pleasanton.

Brenner worked in the Acalanes school district as a high school assistant principal until her "dream job" opened up. Now she's here.

Her first few days on the job were definitely memorable. Brenner's contract officially began July 1 — two days later, a fire broke out at the Harvest Park library, temporarily shutting down campus-wide systems with it. But while a fire at the school library is not ideal, it showed her the "family" culture of the school, she said.

"It's so odd, because sometimes those type of situations — I don't want to say tragedy, because this wasn't a tragedy, because there's going to be a good outcome," she said. "But those things sometimes bring people together faster."

An important pedagogical focus of hers is restorative justice, disciplinary practices which focus on helping students make amends, such as through guided conflict resolution circles.

"Sometimes when you just punish, it doesn't repair that relationship between the kids," Brenner said.

"So with restorative practices," she added, "the main purpose is that we come away ready to move on. It's a growth mindset type of experience for kids."

And Brenner is excited to bring her crafty side to campus. (She's already brought it to the Bay — she took part in the Oakland A's campaign to celebrate their 50th anniversary with hand-painted statues of the team's elephant mascot "Stomper" now scattered throughout Oakland.)

Harvest Park has seen a good deal of changing leadership in recent years — the Valley Avenue campus has had seven principals or co-principals since the 2014-15 school year.

Brenner said she has been made aware of the turnover in "bits and pieces" over the past few months.

"But I think everybody wants to move forward in a direction where that's not going to be our focus," she said. "So the fact that there's pieces of it that I didn't know doesn't even bother me because what I love about this staff is they want to move forward."

"I think the No. 1 question that I was asked when I got here was, 'Are you here to stay?'" she continued. "And the answer is yes."

Brenner is paid an annual salary of \$148,385. She attended University of Wisconsin, Parkside for her undergraduate studies, and earned a master's degree in education from Aurora University and a second master's in school leadership from National Louis University. ■



SUSAN HUGHES

Supporting hurricane victims

Residents young and old joined together in Pleasanton last month to support families in need in Florida in the wake of Hurricane Michael. Groups from Sunol Creek Memory Care and Montevideo Girl Scouts packed 1,944 meals at Kids Against Hunger to send to hurricane victims.

Supervisor Nate Miley's
PLEASANTON
Community Meeting
6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov 8th
at the Pleasanton Public Library
400 Old Bernal Ave in Pleasanton
for more information contact:
Paul.Sanftner@acgov.org

Janet Lee Bachand

April 19, 1961 – October 14, 2018

Janet Lee Bachand was born in Dallas, TX on April 19, 1961 to Lillian and John Cohen. They moved to California in 1974 and settled in Saratoga where Janet graduated from Saratoga High School. After high school, Janet attended Fresno State where she met her husband Steve. Janet graduated with a degree in Agricultural Business/Marketing. Janet and Steve were married in 1984 and moved to the Bay Area where Janet was a marketing manager for Almaden Vineyards. After Almaden left the southbay, she had a number of marketing related jobs before finding her passion working with the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and other helpful psychological instruments working at Consulting Psychologists Press. Janet was a fun loving and outgoing person who loved reading, working out, nature and travel. She was known for her positive attitude, candor and being genuine and, of course, her smile. Janet is survived by her husband of 33 years, Steve, two sons, Kyle and Troy, sister, Deborah Cohen (Swartley), brother-in-law John Swartley, brother Daniel Cohen, sister-in-law Andrea Cohen, mother-in-law Gene Bachand, sister-in-law Michelle Bachand, brother-in-law Philip Bachand and 4 nephews; Ben Swartley, Nathan Swartley, Joe Swartley and Kevin Cohen.



Janet asked for a celebration of life service which will be held Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Drive in Pleasanton, CA.

In lieu of flowers Janet asked that donations be made to your favorite charity.

PAID OBITUARY

Beverly Ronco Smith

October 25, 2018

More than four years after receiving a Stage 4 colon cancer diagnosis, Beverly Ronco Smith, 78, lost her courageous battle on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at her long time residence. Beverly was born in Latrobe, PA, the elder daughter of Aldo and Pearl (DellaVecchia) Ronco on July 15, 1940. She attended schools in Latrobe and graduated from Latrobe High School in 1958. Her continuing education included earning an AA degree with highest honors from Chabot Community College in Livermore, CA and a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Psychology (Summa Cum Laude) from California State University, Hayward, CA.



Beverly's life was blessed and experienced joy in nearly all its aspects. She received the most delight from her family, beginning with Jim Smith her husband of 57 years, who she met when she was 14 years old. She and Jim spent the early years of their marriage moving their home to different states and jobs until 1976 when they settled in Pleasanton, CA and where they remained ever since. Throughout her life, Beverly held a wide variety of working positions, but she experienced the most joy and satisfaction from her "job" as wife, mother and grandmother.

Beverly found great pleasure in supporting the activities of her three sons, Scott (Michelle), Goleta; Galen (Sue), Brentwood; and David (Cris), Scotts Valley and also with her eight grandchildren Megan (Ben) Johnson; Rachel (Andrew) Ahr; Jacob; Spencer; Brienne; Tate; Adam and Nolan. She attended over 2000 athletic games to celebrate her family's love of sports.

Beverly was a voracious reader, game player (especially bridge) and loved going to the casinos. She enjoyed baking, cooking, and spending time at the seashore with family and friends. After retirement from AT&T where she held positions in sales and as a communications technician, she pursued these activities often. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

PAID OBITUARY

POLICE BULLETIN

Puma released to wild after prowling Pleasanton

A mountain lion was captured Monday night in Pleasanton after it hunkered down for hours in some bushes and after four doses of tranquilizer were administered, police said.

The 9- to 12-month-old cat had been safely removed from the bushes near Hopyard Road and West Las Positas Boulevard after nearly six hours Monday. Police said the puma appeared to be healthy.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife officials released the puma back into the wild near Sunol around 1:45 a.m. the next morning.

Hopyard Road was closed in both directions because of the mountain lion. As of 9:06 p.m., the road had reopened, a dispatcher said.

In other news

- A motorcyclist who died after he collided with a pickup truck on Altamont Pass Road near Livermore in unincorporated Alameda County last month has now been identified by the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau as 63-year-old Mark Nida of Pleasanton.

The collision occurred on Altamont Pass Road about a fourth of a mile north of Interstate 580 at about 4:50 p.m. on Oct. 14.

Nida and an occupant of the pickup truck were taken to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley to be treated for their injuries. Nida was pronounced dead a short time later.

The coroner's bureau did not confirm Nida's identity publicly until last week.

- A 28-year-old man was arrested Saturday on suspicion of carjacking a woman at a Chevron gas station, police said.

Police were called to the gas station at 7007 San Ramon Road around 6 a.m. to investigate a reported carjacking.

The man — later identified as Travis Byrd — allegedly entered the passenger side of the woman's vehicle while parked at a gas pump and ordered her into the backseat. The victim refused his order and escaped following a physical confrontation, according to police.

Police allege Byrd tried to drag her back into the car, but with the help of a witness, the victim freed herself and ran to the gas station store for help. The culprit fled in the victim's vehicle, according to police.

Officers tracked the suspect to the area of 83rd Avenue and A Street in Oakland, where the stolen vehicle was found. After being spotted by officers, Byrd ran into nearby residential backyards, police said.

With the assistance of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office and Oakland police, Dublin police's suspect was found hiding in the area and arrested. Byrd was taken to Santa Rita Jail and later charged with felony counts of carjacking, kidnapping and false imprisonment, police said. ■

—Bay City News Service

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Oct. 27

Burglary

■ 9:17 a.m. on the 1400 block of Kolln Street

Drug violation

■ 4:52 a.m. on the 4200 block of Valley Avenue

Oct. 26

Theft from auto

■ 6:40 a.m. on the 4100 block of Moller Drive

■ 7:39 a.m. on the 4000 block of Francisco Street

■ 9:50 p.m. on the 800 block of Main Street

■ 9:52 p.m. on the 400 block of Main Street

■ 9:53 p.m. on the 3000 block of Bernal Avenue

■ 10:32 p.m. on the 3000 block of Bernal Avenue

■ 11:16 p.m. on the 4200 block of Stanley Boulevard

Shoplifting

■ 4:40 p.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive

■ 6:35 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

■ 7:38 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Oct. 25

Drug violation

■ 8:35 p.m. on the 5300 block of Hopyard Road

Vandalism

■ 7:36 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Graffiti offense

■ 5:03 p.m. at Owens and Andrews drives

Shoplifting

■ 12:32 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

■ 12:46 p.m. on the 1200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 3:04 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Theft

■ 2:24 p.m. on the 2600 block of Chocolate Street

Alcohol violation

■ 1:17 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Burglary

■ 3:08 a.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

Oct. 24

Fraud

■ 2:25 p.m. on the 4600 block of Willow Road

Theft

■ 7:23 a.m. on the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive

Shoplifting

■ 1:15 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Oct. 23

Graffiti offense

■ 10:28 p.m. at Santa Rita Road and Stoneridge Drive

George Harold Becker

April 4, 1931 – September 28, 2018

George Harold Becker Jr. died Sept. 28 after a long illness. He was 87.

A native of Chicago, George moved from Southern California to Pleasanton with his young family in 1971. He commuted long hours to his job with the San Francisco Newspaper Agency as a journeyman pressman and member of the Graphics Communications International Union.

At home, he grew roses and tomatoes and he was a tremendous supporter of his late wife Kristina's quilting and needle arts.

During the Korean War, George served aboard the destroyer USS Porter. His tour of duty to 22 ports in 13 countries ignited a lifelong passion for travel and he and Kristina enjoyed many trips together throughout the United States and abroad.

George was a humble man, well known to the neighborhood children and beloved by his family and friends. He liked reading the daily newspaper, watching history documentaries and enjoying a good meal.

A son, Eric; daughter, Ingrid and son-in-law, Joe Cabrales, survive him. He is also survived by his brother-in-law, Svante Mannervik; sister-in-law, Margareta Mannervik; two nephews, Bjorn and Ulf and two nieces, Ylva and Asa.

At his request, no services were held. A celebration of George's life is pending.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.



PAID OBITUARY

Sports

PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

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Foothill, Amador volleyball post playoff wins

Dons head into NCS football playoffs as No. 6 seed, traveling to Freedom

By DENNIS MILLER

The Foothill and Amador Valley girls volleyball teams grabbed a pair of North Coast Section Division I playoff wins last week to set up a semifinal showdown.

In their opener, the Falcons beat Pittsburg 25-13, 25-22, 25-16. Grayce Olson led the way with 10 kills and 7 digs. Naya Williamson also had 10 kills and added 6 digs, and Ishana Ram had 34 assists and 11 service points.

In the second round, the Falcons dispatched Berkeley 25-23, 25-8, 25-19. Olson had 18 kills and 4 digs, with Emily Haskell adding 23 digs and 9 service points, 4 of which were aces. Riley Francis had 11 service points and 2 kills to round out the highlights.

The Falcons were well-represented on the All-East Bay Athletic League team.

Haskell was the MVP of the league, with Olson also being named to the first team. Haley Roundtree and Ram were second-team picks, with Williamson earning honorable mention.

The Dons, meanwhile, opened the

playoffs with a straight-set win over Irvington with a 25-14, 25-11 and 25-15 victory.

Senior right-side hitter Sarah Rieble led the attack with 11 kills and 4 service aces. Senior setter Helen Xiao stuffed her stat line with 4 kills, 4 service aces, 7 digs and 23 assists.

Other major contributors to Amador's win were Mahlia Jackson (5 kills, 4 service aces, 3 blocks) and Kaitlyn McFall (4 kills and 4 blocks).

The win set up a quarterfinal battle with Redwood, where the Dons rallied from an opening-set loss to get the win by 17-25, 25-23, 25-10 and 28-26.

In the second set, Amador Valley was down 22-18, but behind the serves of Jackson and Jillian

Wittenauer and the hitting of Rieble and Rachel Malmrose, the Dons out-scored the Giants 7-1 to tie the match at a set piece.

In the fourth set, the Dons were down 24-22 with the Giants on the verge of sending the match to a fifth set. Amador staged another big comeback taking the fourth set and marching into the semifinals.

The Dons were also well-represented on the All-EBAL teams. Rieble and Xiao were first-team selections, with Jackson a second-team honoree. McFall was the final selection, earning an honorable mention selection.

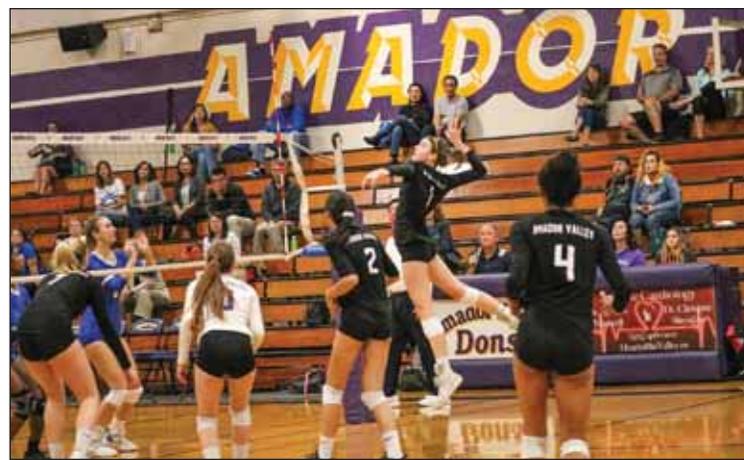
Foothill and Amador were scheduled to square off in an NCS semifinal showdown on Halloween night, after the Weekly's press deadline. Check PleasantonWeekly.com and next week's print edition for results.

Amador vs. Foothill water polo

Amador trailed Foothill 9-7 heading into the final quarter, but the Dons rode a youth movement in the final frame to come away with a 11-10 win.

The Dons led 3-1 at the end of the first quarter, but Foothill rallied, out-scoring Amador 8-4 over the middle two periods to take the lead into the final quarter.

Behind big play from sophomores Josh Freeman and Devon Kost — they finished with 4 goals and 3



JOEL WITTENAUER

Amador Valley's Sarah Rieble goes up for the kill against Irvington as teammates Kaitlyn McFall (7), Helen Xiao (2), Mahlia Jackson (4) and Jillian Wittenauer (10) look on.

goals, respectively — Amador rallied for the win.

It was the first victory for Amador over Foothill since 2014.

Standouts for Foothill in the game were Ryan Weiglein with 3 goals on 6 shots and Nathan Williams with 3 goals on 10 shots.

Sanjay Menon added 2 goals, while Dylan Weiglein added 1 goal and 3 assists and Jesse Goodman added a counterattack goal off an excellent pass by Eugene Kruger. Goalkeeper Moises Ambriz added 9 saves and 1 steal.

Football

The Dons grabbed the unofficial title of "Champions of Pleasanton" with a 31-20 win over Foothill last Friday.

The victory gave Amador a final regular season record of 8-2 and the

No. 6 seed in the upcoming NCS Division I playoffs. Due to the dilution of the NCS divisions, the Dons have a bye in the first round and will play either Nov. 9 or 10.

With the loss, the Falcons finished their injury-riddled season at 2-8.

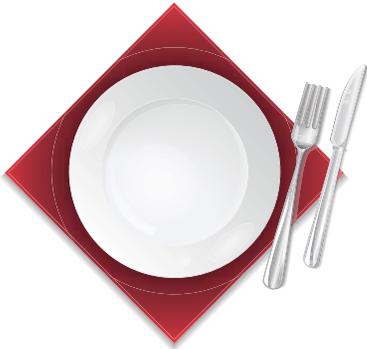
On the junior varsity side, Brendan O'Sullivan connected with Brendyn Hoag for a touchdown on the game's final play as Amador beat Foothill 27-21 last Friday.

With the game tied in the final moments, the Dons recovered a Foothill fumble on the Amador 34. O'Sullivan hit Hoag for a 41-yard gain, setting up the final game-winner. ■

Editor's note: Dennis Miller is a contributing sports writer for the Pleasanton Weekly. To contact Miller or submit local high school sports scores, email him at acesmag@aol.com.



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Vote by Tuesday

City Council election leads local balloting for midterms

By JEREMY WALSH

It's time to submit that vote-by-mail ballot, or start planning on when to visit the polls for in-person voting on Tuesday.

On Pleasanton ballots in the general election are candidates for City Council, Alameda County assessor, East Bay Regional Park District, State Assembly, U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, California governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, insurance commissioner and more.

There are also 11 state propositions to decide upon, led by Proposition 6, which would repeal the recent fuel tax and vehicle license fee increases. Other proposition topics include a veteran housing bond, a homeless housing bond, another water bond, dialysis clinic revenue limits, rent control and permanent daylight saving time.

Pleasanton voters can drop off their completed vote-by-mail ballot in the drop box outside City Hall at 123 Main St. All mail-in ballots must be turned in to a designated drop box or placed in the mail no later than Election Day.

Early voting — if pre-registered — will be available this Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day at the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office at the Rene C. Davidson Court House at 1225 Fallon St. in Oakland.

Polls will be open in Pleasanton from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday for the general election. Check www.acvote.org for polling locations.

Here's a reminder of what is at stake for Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley in the general election:

Pleasanton municipal election

In the city election this year, four candidates are competing for a pair of four-year positions on the Pleasanton City Council: incumbent Kathy Narum and challengers Joseph Ledoux, Joe Streng and Julie Testa. At least one seat is guaranteed to change hands, with Councilman Arne Olson opting not to seek re-election.

Joseph Ledoux is a 12-year Berkeley Police Department officer who has lived in Pleasanton for four-plus years. He is looking to expand his public service in his hometown by bringing an entirely new perspective to the city government — having no prior Pleasanton commission or committee experience.

He said he will work to maintain



MIKE SEDLAK

Pleasanton voters will select two new City Council members from the four candidates. From left are Joseph Ledoux, Kathy Narum, Joe Streng and Julie Testa.

Pleasanton's strong public safety record while also prioritizing mindful planning for future growth, infrastructure improvements, open spaces, public facilities and the city's small-town charm.

Kathy Narum is seeking her second full term on the council, where she has served since winning a special mail-only election to fill a vacant seat in May 2013. She is also a former member of the city's Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission.

The incumbent said her top priorities include maintaining Pleasanton's high quality of life as the city continues to evolve, providing fiscal sustainability with prudent reserves and a pension liability pay-down plan, and focusing on environmental improvements.

Joe Streng is a longtime Pleasanton resident (and an Amador Valley High School graduate) who served two full terms on the Parks and Recreation Commission before being termed out earlier this year, and prior to that sat on the Bike, Pedestrian and Trails Subcommittee.

Seeking his first council term, he said he would work to become a consensus builder who serves with optimism and enthusiasm while focused on priorities such as long-term financial sustainability, managing traffic congestion and finding carefully planned housing

smart growth policies, preserving and protecting downtown, tackling city debt, collaborating with the school district and fighting to maintain local control.

Mayor Jerry Thorne is also on the Nov. 6 ballot, running unopposed in his bid for a fourth and final term as mayor. The uncontested mayoral election needed to remain on the ballot, under state law, because the city has a contested council election this cycle, according to city officials.

Thorne has more than 23 years of city service experience under his belt, with time as mayor, City Council member and Parks and Recreation Commission member.

He said his priorities will include sensible land-use decisions, traffic solutions, advocating for local control, finding new ways to help the school district, completing the Downtown Specific Plan update, completing Pioneer Cemetery renovations and supporting sustainable water supply policies.

Local representatives

Pleasanton residents still with ballots to cast will have their say on a range of other local and regional representative positions.

Of course that list doesn't include Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees, with incumbents Joan Laursen and Mark Miller already reappointed without election after they were the only two residents to file candidacy papers.

State Assembly: Incumbent

Republican Catharine Baker from Dublin is running for a third consecutive term, this time against Democrat Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, an attorney and political newcomer from Orinda.

Baker beat Bauer-Kahan by a comfortable margin in the June primary (56.6% to 43.4%), but voter turnout tends to be larger in general elections — and it remains to be seen whether the Democrat will be buoyed by a so-called "blue wave" anticipated in some areas around the state and country.

U.S. House of Representatives: Incumbent Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) is being challenged by political newcomer Rudy Peters (R-Livermore) in his bid for a fourth consecutive term representing Congressional District 15.

Swalwell, who led the primary by almost a 3:1 margin, has become an increasingly recognizable Democratic voice nationwide. But locally, Peters has been focusing on a grassroots campaign with plenty of "Peters for U.S. Congress" signs and supporters sometimes rallying at high-profile Pleasanton and Tri-Valley intersections.

Alameda County Assessor: In another runoff election, two Alameda city residents are vying to lead the elected office charged with determining the taxable value of all land, improvements, and business and personal property in the county.

Phong La, whose real estate tax attorney practice is based in Newark, finished first in the four-candidate primary with 38.86%. In



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Assemblywoman Catharine Baker (R-Dublin) is running for a third straight term representing District 16, which includes the Tri-Valley, Walnut Creek and Lamorinda.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Political newcomer Rebecca Bauer-Kahan is vying to unseat the incumbent and turn what is a key State Assembly seat for both parties. The Orinda Democrat is an attorney and law professor, but has never held elected office.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Dublin) is competing for a fourth term in Congress after finishing comfortably ahead in the June primary election.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Livermore Republican Rudy Peters has quite the hill to climb after the primary, but his general election campaign for Congress has focused on local grassroots awareness.

second with 24.88% to become the second candidate in the general election was Jim Johnson, the chief of the Assessor's Assessment Services Division.

EBRPD: The East Bay Regional Park District Ward 5 board election features longtime incumbent Ayn Wieskamp, a former Livermore City Council member who has served on the EBRPD board since 1999, facing off against challenger Dev Gandhi, a Fremont resident and tech entrepreneur who doesn't seem to be running an active campaign beyond a candidate website.

A time of change around Tri-Valley?

The Tri-Valley communities have focused on being among the most collaborative sub-regions in the Bay Area — if not all of California. So plenty of Pleasanton eyes will be tuned in to the results of nearby municipal, school board and special district elections next week.

Livermore: Mayor John Marchand is facing a lone challenger in his re-election bid, local businessman Joshua Laine, a U.S. Marines veteran who owns Valor Winery in Livermore.

With two seats due up for election on the Livermore City Council, incumbent Bob Woerner is seeking re-election but Councilman Steven Spedowski bowed out.

The three active challengers in the race are social science researcher Patricia "Trish" Munro, Planning Commissioner Neal Pann and chief technology officer Alan "Brent" Siler. Estate planning attorney Rosmary Bartsch qualified for the ballot but is not actively campaigning for the election.

For Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees, three incumbents (Craig Bueno, Kate Runyon and Anne White) are

competing against three challengers (contract specialist Chung Bothwell, parent Emily Prusso and parent/manager Dave Vonheeder).

Also on the ballot in Livermore is Measure U, an initiative that aims to overhaul health care in the city by limiting medical care prices charged by providers to 15% above "the reasonable cost of direct patient care" — and it tasks the city government with making sure that happens with each patient at every provider, large-scale or small, in Livermore.

The measure is spearheaded by the Service Employees International Union, United Health Workers (SEIU-UHW). The opposition campaign features a coalition of health care providers, hospital staff and volunteers, and Livermore civic leaders, among others.

Dublin: Mayor David Haubert is being challenged by Councilman Arun Goel, whose council seat is not up for election this year (he was elected two years ago).

Two Dublin City Council seats will change hands with incumbents Abe Gupta and Janine Thalblum not seeking re-election.

The five candidates for two Dublin council seats are customer service representative Shawn Costello, retired state accounting officer Jim Firmeza, educator Jean Josey, project controls manager and former Dubliners United leader Bobby Khullar, and Shawn Kumagai, a consultant and master chief petty officer in the Navy Reserve.

This November marks a first for the Dublin Unified School District as it is the inaugural election with board trustees elected by geographic area, after the district moved away from at-large seats.

For Trustee Area 2, incumbent Megan Rouse is running against parent Erin Herrera. For Trustee Area 5, incumbent Dan Cherrier faces retail manager Dominic Piegaro.

San Ramon Valley: The city of San Ramon will see at least one new face serve on its City Council, with incumbent Harry Sachs deciding to not run for re-election.

The four candidates campaigning for the two available City Council seats are incumbent Councilman David Hudson, open space committee member Aparna Madireddi, parks commissioner Sridhar Verose and tech executive Sabina Zafar.

San Ramon Mayor Bill Clarkson, in his bid for a fourth and final term, is facing political newcomer Sanat Sethy.

In Danville, incumbent Town Council members Karen Stepper and Robert Storer are being challenged by resident Ram Namburi for the two available seats on the ballot. Just in the past few weeks, Danville resident and Kaiser Permanente information technology executive Jami Tucker has announced her bid to run as a write-in candidate for Town Council.

Contra Costa County residents are also voting on Measure R, a proposed marijuana tax in the county's unincorporated area at annual rates of up to \$7 per canopy square foot for cultivation and 4% tax of gross receipts for all other cannabis businesses including retailers.

DSRSD: For Dublin San Ramon Services District, five candidates are running for two available board seats: incumbent Georgean Vonheeder-Leopold and challengers James Brady (facilities manager), Richard Jesse (retired electronics engineer), Ann Marie Johnson (environmental project manager) and Chuck Haupt (nonprofit director).

DSRSD provides water and wastewater services to Dublin and parts of San Ramon as well as sewer service to Pleasanton by contract — but Pleasanton residents cannot vote in the DSRSD election because the city is outside of DSRSD's official boundaries. ■

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UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Public Notice

Applications Requested for Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

The Pleasanton Unified School District seeks community members for the Measure I1 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee, for school and classroom safety renovation, construction and modernization.

The community members for which the District seeks applications are:

- Two members who are Representatives-at-large
- One member who is active in a bona fide taxpayers' organization

Interested parties please submit a letter of qualification and an application. **The deadline is 5 p.m. on November 5, 2018.**

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

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



UPCOMING MEETING

City Council

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
 Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- **Continued from October 16** – Approve restriping Stoneridge Drive at Arroyo Mocho Bridge to facilitate two lanes in both the Eastbound and Westbound directions
- Adopt a resolution accepting the FY 2017/18 Year-End Operating Budget Report and designating General Fund Reserves

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

Pleasanton Weekly endorsements

Here again are the Pleasanton Weekly editorial board's election recommendations:

- Pleasanton Mayor: Jerry Thorne
- Pleasanton City Council: Kathy Narum, Joe Streng
- Congress (15th District): Eric Swalwell
- State Assembly (16th District): Catharine Baker
- Alameda County Assessor: Phong La
- East Bay Regional Park District Board (Ward 5): Ayn Wieskamp

- Livermore Mayor: John Marchand
- Livermore City Council: Patricia "Trish" Munro, Bob Woerner
- Livermore Measure U: Vote No
- Dublin Mayor: David Haubert
- Dublin City Council: Jean Josey, Shawn Kumagai
- San Ramon Mayor: Bill Clarkson
- San Ramon City Council: Dave Hudson, Sabina Zafar
- Danville Town Council: Karen Stepper, Robert Storer

LETTERS

Maher supports Kathy Narum

Since joining the Pleasanton school board the same year we passed the bond measure, I've learned how, even with passage of the bond, the significant state budgetary constraints on schools impacts our ability to meet all of the critical facility needs.

We must think creatively as to how we can best use the funds we have. I am excited about the future of PUSD schools. We continue to attract families who value education, and this benefits every corner of our city.

We have challenges ahead. We need partnerships from every stakeholder group in the city of Pleasanton to meet these challenges. We should continue to collaborate with the Pleasanton City Council and staff. Where there are opportunities to save money by pooling Pleasanton resources, we need to discuss them. Where there are prospects of collaborating on land-use options, we need to explore them.

I serve on the Joint Liaison Committee between PUSD and the city with council members Kathy Narum and Arne Olson. Both have been tremendous allies of PUSD and committed to helping us work on cooperative solutions to benefit our students.

I will miss Arne on the committee, but I feel it is imperative to keep Kathy onboard. That is why I join other board members in endorsing Kathy Narum for City Council.

—Steve Maher
PUSD trustee

Swalwell ineffective representing District 15 in Congress

Eric Swalwell supporters claim Eric Swalwell is "ineffective representing Congressional District 15 in Washington because of the Republican majority in Washington."

If that is a true claim, and with Swalwell supporters providing this bizarre logic, is all the more reason to elect and send Rudy Peters to Washington, whom can work with and be effective with the Republican majority in Congress while

representing Congressional District 15 in Washington.

—Michael Austin

Julie Testa for City Council

Nov. 6 is only a few days away. Please take some time to educate yourself regarding which developers and/or businesses are funding a local candidate's campaigns.

Save your stamps, ballots can be dropped off at 123 Main St. (City Hall) at an official kiosk — 24 hours a day.

Join me and vote for Julie Testa for Pleasanton's City Council. Julie has spent over 25 years as an involved private citizen, and 11 years on Pleasanton's city commissions. Julie's signs state she is "Standing for Residents, not Developments," which is a rare council candidate.

She is also passionate about our community. Julie has invested years of her personal time to ensure Pleasanton is a safe place to live and raise a family. Julie is a strong supporter of my "slow and carefully metered growth" policies for Pleasanton. Rapid growth is not the answer.

The state of California will continue to require Pleasanton to zone land for more high-density housing; however, any new projects that state mandates must be approved slowly and gradually to reduce unwanted impacts for current and future residents. Vote Julie Testa for City Council.

—Karla Brown
City Council member

Thank you, Pleasanton

I want to thank my fellow Pleasanton residents for a wonderful experience during this year's campaign for City Council. I've met hundreds of people over the past few months at the farmers market and by going door-to-door. I've truly enjoyed our conversations.

I also want to acknowledge the other candidates in the race. Running for City Council is hard work and takes a lot of commitment. This year's campaign has stayed positive and respectful. Pleasanton voters have heard clear differences between the candidates, and I'm confident they'll make an informed decision.

When you go to the polls, remember that serving on the City Council isn't an entry-level job. To be effective, you need someone who has experience serving on commissions and working with city staff to get things done. And remember that being an effective City Council member means having an open mind and a willingness to work with everyone in the community. We need someone who views the challenges we face as opportunities to make our community even better.

Pleasanton is in my blood and I'm prouder than ever to call it my hometown. I hope to have the opportunity to continue to serve you. Thank you again!

—Joe Streng
City Council candidate

Bauer-Kahan for women's rights

Many of my surgical patients are women with breast cancer, so I am naturally appalled at the Trump administration's efforts to severely rein in women's rights, including limiting funding for critical women's health programs.

I was worried about these issues in California, so I did some research. Our Assembly member, Catharine Baker, opposed funding for the "Every Woman Counts" program that provides women in underserved communities with cancer-prevention tests including clinical breast exams, pelvic exams, mammograms and pap tests. Baker also opposed the Reproductive Fact Act, which sought to protect women from unlicensed medical providers.

As a surgeon, I cannot in good conscience vote for Baker given her votes. I am voting for Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, who has pledged to reliably champion women's rights.

—Mary Cardoza, MD

Vote Testa for City Council

Julie Testa has consistently given her time and talents in service to this community.

Our family moved to Pleasanton 23 years ago. With three young children, we were attracted to Pleasanton for excellent schools and a small-town feel.

My husband and I grew up in Fremont, which was a great place in the 1960s-70s, but it grew to become a heavily populated, congested city. We chose Pleasanton: a smaller, quieter place to raise our family.

We have attended many City Council and school board meetings to speak out against over-development and overcrowding of the schools. We served on several committees. In contrast to these occasional endeavors to serve our community, Julie Testa has consistently given of herself, her time and her talents, in service to this community.

We can count on Julie Testa to take a thoughtful approach to growth that considers impacts on our schools, traffic, water and quality of life. As state legislation increasingly encroaches on our ability to determine the future of Pleasanton, we can rest assured that Julie will work tirelessly to advocate for maintaining our autonomy to make decisions that shape our community.

—Diane Martinez

Baker is best candidate

I am deeply disappointed with the misrepresentations I have seen about Catharine's outstanding record from the Bauer-Kahan campaign. Many mailers and recent letters to local newspapers have made misleading statements.

For example, a recent letter to the editor stated that Catharine voted against cap and trade. Fact: Catharine voted for this measure and Governor Brown publicly commended her for it. Mailers claim that Catharine has voted against critical environmental legislation. Fact: Catharine voted for 100% renewable energy, authored legislation to protect our coasts from more offshore drilling, and authored legislation to protect Californian's clean air rules.

Mailers claim Catharine isn't who she says she is. Fact: Catharine is the only candidate in this race to receive bipartisan endorsements from local elected officials in every single city and county she represents.

If you want the truth about Catharine, look no further than her record and what she's accomplished. Don't believe the misrepresentations.

I served over a decade as an

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American diplomat with the U.S. State Department; working extensively with members of the U.S. House and Senate and elected leaders from nations around the world. I have never come across a politician that has more integrity, is more pragmatic and has stronger principles than Catharine Baker.

She is the type of leader that we desperately need in Sacramento. Catharine has and will continue to serve us profoundly well and deserves to be re-elected.

—Cameron Burks
Vice mayor, Lafayette

Vote for Kathy Narum

Pleasanton is not immune to the financial disasters that other cities across the state are dealing with. Regardless of our relative affluence and strong housing market, we still have tens of millions of dollars in pension debt, and our buildings, infrastructure and equipment continue to age and need upkeep.

Fortunately, our current City Council has made prudent decisions to address these issues. They have set aside money in a trust for future pension payments, in addition to now requiring city employees to make contributions to their own plan. They also plan for future maintenance of city assets to avoid large repair or replacement costs.

Which City Council candidate

championed each of these measures? Kathy Narum. She has placed her engineering and business background at the service of Pleasanton and understands what it takes to keep our city financially healthy. In fact, she has overseen an unprecedented balanced budget projection for the next decade — an accomplishment other cities in the Bay Area only wish for.

We need City Council members with a real grasp of our city's finances or Pleasanton could end up financially ruined like other cities in the state. Let's keep our city fiscally responsible and sustainable — Vote for Kathy Narum.

—Matt DePrezis

Julie Testa for CC

City Council needs a strong voice and vote that cannot be co-opted by developers. We're blessed at this time to have Julie Testa as someone who has a proven record of standing up to elitists who know "what's best for us".

The stakes are high. We have a state government brimming with imperious ambitions to short-circuit local control over zoning, growth and infrastructure. We have a BART board that wants to convert precious commuter parking spaces into rental housing units. We have a Zone 7 utility that wants to process toilet water and feed it back into the drinking supply ("toilet to tap").

We have a PUSD school district that, if not challenged, will overcrowd schools as a way to shirk responsibility. We have developers and a Chamber of Commerce whose ambitions and impatience often work against the 1996 General Plan vision of managed growth.

Julie stands out as a leader who is in touch with the citizens, and committed to democratic (vs. bureaucratic) decision-making. As a measure of her integrity, she hasn't taken campaign contributions from development interests.

I'm really glad to be voting for Julie Testa for City Council. For once, I feel like my vote can make a difference.

—Pierre Bierre

Measure U is the wrong prescription

Preventive care, like regular brushing and flossing, is the first course of treatment I recommend to patients because it can prevent cavities and gum disease before they occur. On Nov. 6, the people of Livermore have a chance to enact our own preventive care by voting No on Measure U.

This burdensome initiative would decimate health care in Livermore. However, we can prevent this by coming together to defeat it.

Measure U would change the way health care providers finance patient care. It claims it will improve

affordability, but the fingerprint shows it actually forces local health care providers to pay rebates to for-profit, out-of-state insurance companies without any requirement that these savings be passed along to patients.

The cost of health care is a complex issue, and experts are working on ways to bring costs down. However, Measure U is not the right prescription. It will force health care providers to make difficult financial decisions, including potentially cutting services and personnel or closing or relocating their practice.

I have been providing dental care in Livermore for the past 25 years, and I have built an amazing community of friends, colleagues and patients. The thought that I could have to close or relocate my practice just because it's based in the 94550 zip code is devastating.

Measure U will permanently damage Livermore. Make no mistake, the side effects far outweigh any benefits proponents claim it will have. Vote No on Measure U and protect Livermore's health and sustainability.

—Sonja Sommer

The issue of public safety in Pleasanton

For me, one of the most important issues at stake is one that we seemingly take for granted, but is foundational to everything else we hold dear in Pleasanton: public safety.

In the 2017 "Community Survey," Pleasanton voters listed public safety as one of the main reasons they gave the city such high approval ratings. If Pleasanton does not remain safe, all the other issues become secondary. The stellar schools, the charming downtown, the thriving businesses and the value of our homes all depend on maintaining our quality public safety.

I realize we have a young police officer in the race for City Council, who I am sure has an excellent understanding of the law enforcement side of this issue from the city where he serves. But I am looking for a candidate with a proven record of doing what needs to be done on the public policy side of the equation here in Pleasanton.

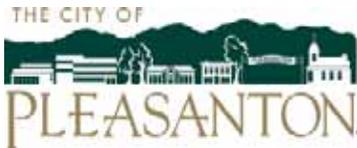
Over the past few years, Pleasanton leaders have been proactively addressing public safety. They have added two additional police officers; a new police substation is coming to northwest Pleasanton; a new tiller fire truck has been purchased; and there are plans to rebuild the fire station at Santa Rita Road and West Las Positas Boulevard.

Kathy Narum advocated and voted for each of these vital projects. She has proven time and again that she is dedicated to keeping Pleasanton safe. I urge you to vote for Kathy Narum.

—Brock Roby

See **LETTERS** on Page 18







SMALL BUSINESS

Profile



KJCOUTURE

706 Main Street, Pleasanton
(925) 425-7580
www.KJ-COUTURE.com

Monday – Thursday 11AM–6PM
Friday and Saturday 11AM–8PM
Sunday Closed



MEET THE OWNER

KIM GAPOL

Q What sets your business apart from other businesses?

A Our outstanding customer service.

Q How long has your business been in downtown Pleasanton?

A 3 years

Q Why do you want to be located in downtown Pleasanton?

A We feel Main Street is a great location for boutique shopping and restaurants. We also love the atmosphere and community.

Q What do you want your business to be known for?

A We would like to be known for our Shapewear.

FUN FACT!

We started the company off of Instagram in 2013!

SMALL BUSINESS

Profile



Gourmet Works

420 Main Street, Pleasanton
(925) 461-1110
www.gourmetworkspleasanton.com

Monday – Saturday 10AM–6PM
Sunday 10AM–5PM



MEET THE OWNER

KATHY STARKEY

Q What sets your business apart from other businesses?

A Our chocolates are handmade on the premises.

Q How long has your business been in downtown Pleasanton?

A 20 years

Q Why do you want to be located in downtown Pleasanton?

A It is the heart of Pleasanton!

Q What do you want your business to be known for?

A Delicious handmade chocolates, unique giftware and our friendly customer service.

FUN FACT!

We are a family owned and operated business.

#SMALLBUSINESSSATURDAY

#INPLEASANTON



#SMALLBUSINESSEVERYDAY

#DOWNTOWNPLEASANTON

LETTERS

Continued from Page 17

Re-elect Vonheeder-Leopold to DSRSD board

I have known Georgan Vonheeder-Leopold for over 20 years, first as a member of the Zone 7 staff and now as a Zone 7 director.

She has an extensive knowledge of the water industry and understands the importance of having a reliable supply of water. She is a career accountant that closely watches the spending of public monies including the setting of water rates. She is a strong advocate for the residents of the Dublin San Ramon Services District with proven leadership.

Please vote for Georgan Vonheeder-Leopold for the DSRSD Board of Directors.

—Dennis Gambis
Zone 7 board member

On Proposition 1

California is at the epicenter of a housing crisis, and the Tri-Valley has felt it acutely.

A third of California residents can't afford their rent and housing costs. People are spending the lion's share of their incomes on housing. This leaves little for other expenses — to say nothing of investing in the future.

We see the backbones of our communities — service workers, first

responders, teachers, to name a few — unable to live in the areas they serve. We see people torn from neighborhoods in which they were raised.

Readers should know we have a chance next week to pass a measure that is ambitious and comprehensive. Proposition 1 will invest statewide in affordable homebuilding, moving us beyond the “one step forward, two steps back” dance that has not helped solve escalating housing costs.

Prop 1 just makes sense. It foregrounds the state's top priorities — housing, jobs, and boosting the economy — while strengthening our communities and providing more access to stable, decent and affordable homes.

Habitat for Humanity has served the Bay Area for over 30 years. We've turned vacant lots into neighborhoods, rejuvenated communities block by block. We've seen what stability and self-reliant people and families can create out of affordable housing. It's a foothold on a future.

We can give that foothold to more people throughout the state. We can change the dismal headlines on housing. We can mend the fabric of our communities. We can do something concrete, next Tuesday, to move the needle on this crisis.

—Janice Jensen and Maureen Sedonaen,
Habitat for Humanity

Weekly got it wrong again

I was disappointed but not surprised to see the Pleasanton Weekly endorsements for Pleasanton City Council. Especially rich after your Editorial a few weeks ago bemoaning the situation where Jerry Thorne was running unopposed (no debates about issues, no alternative to Thorne available except for a write-in).

Two years ago, Julie Testa courageously ran for mayor against Thorne giving 12,000 Pleasanton voters a slow-growth choice to cast their vote. So, you are once again only endorsing candidates who will continue to support and endorse extreme growth for Pleasanton as directed by the Chamber of Commerce.

The PW predictably endorses the Chamber of Commerce candidates (they have their machinery in place, e.g. Leadership Pleasanton, for a long pipeline of candidates to continue to dominate Pleasanton government positions)?

Yes, we understand that the PW makes money off the chamber's advertising inserts in the PW and all those real estate ads, but couldn't you have advocated for some diverse representation on the City Council with an environmentalist, a slow-growth advocate like Julie Testa? It would have been refreshing to see the PW show some courage and financial independence and endorse a non-chamber candidate.

Pleasanton will be best served with the diverse perspective that Julie Testa will bring to the City Council.

—David Pascualy

Haubert for Dublin mayor

The residents of Dublin count on the firefighters of IAFF Local 55 every day. Now we're counting on all of you.

Your firefighters are supporting David Haubert for Dublin mayor because he's got our back. He always has.

Mayor Haubert has gone above and beyond to make sure we have the staff, training and proper equipment to keep Dublin safe. He's taken the time to participate in our exercises and visit us at our fire stations to make sure Dublin is prepared for when a disaster hits.

He is the most experienced candidate and the only one we trust to lead Dublin. We're asking you to join us and vote for David Haubert for Dublin mayor.

—Sean Burrows
President, Local 55

Joe Streng for City Council

We have known Joe Streng for nearly 40 years. When Joe's family first moved to Pleasanton in 1980, he became close friends with our son, Tyce, and the two are still close. As an Amador graduate, Joe has always

been proud of his hometown.

Over the years, we watched him turn that passion into service to the community. I personally sat next to Joe during Parks & Rec Commission meetings for the past two years in our City Council chambers. He's always respectful, thoughtful and engaging. We are proud of what Joe's done for our community.

I can't think of a better candidate for City Council. Please join my husband Jim Fields and myself in voting for him.

—Joanie Fields
Parks and Recreation commissioner

Re-elect Kathy Narum

I had the incredible opportunity to work for the city of Pleasanton but recently left to relocate. In my time there, I learned a lot, not the least of which was how difficult it is to govern, particularly at the local level when every single decision has an immediate and direct impact on our community.

Issues both large and small come before the council, and while Kathy Narum recognizes that not everyone will always come out on the winning side of an issue, she remains committed to finding the best balance that reflects this community.

Since Narum is the only current sitting council member up for re-election, she is the only one with whom I have firsthand knowledge,

and I believe she deserves our vote to represent this community for four more years. Narum doesn't behave like an incumbent who believes they are entitled to the seat. She works as hard for our votes as she does for this community.

I honestly don't get why people run for elected office. Much of it seems like a thankless task and public upset flows much more freely than does any gratitude. But Kathy Narum is deeply devoted to this community.

I've seen a lot of politicians who like the job for all the wrong reasons but very few who like it for the right ones. Narum is the exceptional politician who genuinely values the opinions of those she serves and is constantly working to improve this already exceptional community. Vote for Narum.

—Tracy Dunne

Endorsing Julie Testa

I am a longtime Pleasanton resident who has spent years watching Julie Testa's active involvement to improve our community.

First and foremost, Julie Testa is bold and independent. She does not cave to blanket votes of the council, special interest groups, staff recommendations or anything else she doesn't agree with. She makes her own evaluations based upon research and insightful questioning.

Secondly, Julie Testa does her homework. She will not skim the City Council agenda and packet and she will be prepared with questions about the items that affect us all as residents. She will relentlessly probe and ferret out as much information as she needs to make a final decision.

Julie is exactly the type of elected official we need as our city leaders advance agenda items that include the (as yet not scientifically confirmed as safe) concept of toilet-to-tap water for Pleasanton, how to address a growing long-term pension obligation debt that could impact future city services, and how much more residential growth and traffic our city can bear.

Julie Testa will make informed decisions that are in the best interest of Pleasanton residents. Vote Julie Testa for Pleasanton City Council.

—Julie Rasnick

Vote for Narum

I am proud to support Kathy Narum for re-election on Nov. 6. Kathy is an incredibly hard worker who stays informed on the myriad of issues the city faces.

I have known Kathy for years and we don't always share the same point of view, but I do know that I am always heard. I know that it is important to her to seek out different opinions before she makes decisions, and I have watched her positions evolve on issues based on the input she receives. I believe in her sincerity and her desire to do

what makes the most sense for the city of Pleasanton.

Kathy is incredibly fiscally responsible with an eye on making sure that the financial decisions made today, don't saddle the future with impossible fiscal challenges. Change is inevitable. It is how we deal with change that matters most, and I believe Kathy is the candidate that has proved she can cope with whatever that change brings without compromising the things we love about Pleasanton.

As a 30-year resident, I have witnessed a lot of changes in Pleasanton but our quality of life is still wonderful. I know that Kathy wants to keep it that way.

—Laura Darrow

Resources for informed voting

Before voting on Election Day or mailing absentee ballots, I encourage all voters to be as informed as possible. There are four candidates vying for two open seats on the Pleasanton City Council, so each voter can cast two votes.

With much to learn, resources online and in newspaper and radio advertisements are helpful. But it is one thing to read about a candidate's intentions and another to hear them speak about the issues and how they will represent us if elected.

There have been ample opportunities to meet the candidates in recent months: at public forums, neighborhood meet-and-greets and the farmers market. But many voters have inflexible schedules that often make attending gatherings a challenge.

Fortunately, Tri-Valley Community Television has taped two election specials and both videos are now available on its website, tri-valleytv.org. Voters can access them anywhere, anytime from their laptops and smartphones.

The link to "Election Special 2018" is at the top of the homepage and features individual candidate interviews on critical issues impacting us all. The "Pleasanton City Council Candidates Forum" is also available for viewing by clicking the live link near the top left of the homepage. The "Election Special" is also being broadcast regularly on Channels 29 and 30.

For me, watching "Election Special 2018" was pivotal. Kathy Narum and Joe Streng clearly demonstrate they have a firm grasp of the issues and the ability to make informed decisions. They work hard for our city and have earned my votes.

—Susan Hayes

Testa for City Council

I strongly support Julie Testa for Pleasanton City Council. I feel that she is the only person running for the council who will actually listen to and heed the needs of the citizens.

Narum is lauded as having experience with careful planning of our downtown and parks. Streng has no experience, but states that he wants to preserve the quality of life he has known in Pleasanton for many years. Same with Ledoux.

These candidates are willing to move the city offices and library to our "Field of Dreams" and decimate the downtown civic park area with high density housing, a possible hotel, and shops. How will that maintain our charming downtown? Where will visitors, diners, apartment dwellers, etc, park their vehicles?

Besides the massive development proposed for the downtown, no one has talked about the pricetag — except Julie Testa. The projected cost of all the changes to the downtown area is about \$200 million, and that money will come out of our wallets — not the developers!

Julie stands for the citizens and listens to their concerns. She is not swayed by the Chamber of Commerce and developers because her funding does not come from them (unlike Narum and Streng), and she will make decisions that will benefit our city and quality of life.

She has many years of experience campaigning for adherence to our urban growth boundary, limiting development in areas with a steep hillside slopes, and has been a strong and passionate advocate for our schools.

—Patricia Baptiste

Support for Julie Testa

Julie Testa is my choice for Pleasanton City Council.

I serve alongside Julie on the Board of Directors of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Tri-Valley. Julie has a commitment and passion for improving the quality of life for others, she has proven her effectiveness and collaboration skills in many aspects of service to our community.

In addition to representing vulnerable populations for 11 years on the Pleasanton Human Services Commission, and as a director on Tri-Valley REACH, Julie represented the Tri-Valley on Alameda County Behavioral Health Strategic Planning and Implementation committees where she played a direct role in bringing much needed mental health services to our Valley, which now benefit Pleasanton families.

As a Pleasanton resident, I want the kind of leader that has a vision for our community and the heart to serve the interests of our families. Julie's 30 years of service has shown she is committed to stand up and be a voice for Pleasanton residents.

Please join me in voting for Julie Testa for City Council.

—Armine Matentsian

Dublin: Just do it!

The room was packed for the last meeting of the Dublin City Council. The sole topic was The Glen,

a lifestyle project with high-end shops and restaurants anchored by an IKEA store.

After a presentation by city staff and traffic engineers, the IKEA team gave a description of the company's retail success in the United States and worldwide. They noted that with nighttime truck deliveries and a 10 a.m. store opening, their business would not affect the morning commute on I-580 nor on Dublin Boulevard. IKEA agreed with the conclusions of Dublin's traffic consultant.

This is a complicated proposal. In fact, one council member asked, "What if the traffic engineers and retail consultants are wrong?" To that I say, "What if they are right?"

What if the store does \$100 million in annual sales? What if the shops and restaurants are a step above what we have now? What if IKEA is a great corporate partner in our community?

What if tax revenues are even higher than \$1.75 million annually for the city and \$350,000 for schools?

That's enough "what ifs"; I say to the Dublin council: "Just Do It!"

—Bruce Fiedler

Gun Sense Candidates

As an advocate for commonsense legislation for many years, this upcoming election is critically important. I'll be casting my vote for District 16 Assembly candidate Rebecca Bauer-Kahan who is running as a "Gun Sense Candidate" and is committed to protecting our families and community.

Gun violence is now the third leading cause of death for American children and teens. As a mother of two children, I am deeply troubled by this. An average of 96 Americans die from guns every year with hundreds more shot and injured. This is not OK.

I reject the NRA leadership's radical agenda pushing guns to anyone and anywhere and will not support candidates who aren't willing to confidently take a stand in support of commonsense gun laws. I encourage your readers to please go here to find your local "Gun Sense Candidate" — gunsensevoter.org.

These candidates completed a "Gun Sense Candidate" questionnaire that showed that they would vote on the side of gun safety if elected to office.

—Nichole Hsu

Vote for Joe Streng

I have known Joe Streng for over 20 years, and I can personally attest to his passion for service, his open-minded and inclusive demeanor and his consensus building skills.

Joe has grown up in Pleasanton and balancing the small-town feel with smart and planned growth is extremely important to him. He will work tirelessly to maintain Pleasanton's charm, open spaces

and fiscal vitality.

His 10-plus years of experience serving on various Pleasanton commissions and task forces has provided him not only with the background and knowledge necessary to make informed decisions about our community, but also the familiarity of working with city staff, residents and other committee members to deliver results.

He is a positive advocate for Pleasanton who will listen to all residents (not just a select few) and problem-solve to address the pressing issues in our community. I'm voting for Joe Streng to make sure the good in Pleasanton gets even better.

—Cathy Ritter

Narum for City Council

I grew up in Pleasanton (AVHS, 1996) and I love this community. I am supporting Kathy Narum for re-election to the Pleasanton City Council, and I encourage you to do the same.

I support Kathy because she:

- Has served our community for over 15 years and understands what is important to us.
- Has helped ensure our city is fiscally responsible and supports funding our reserves and living within our means.
- Encourages regional solutions for critical issues.
- Supports local businesses.
- Does her homework for council and resident meetings.
- Believes in creating efficiencies and partnerships with the PUSD and other organizations.
- Champions retention of local control over planning and housing decisions.
- Is 100% available to talk with anyone about their concerns or visions for our city.

Please join me in voting for Kathy!
—Christina Nystrom Mantha

Proudly support Julie Testa

I proudly support Julie Testa for Pleasanton City Council. She has earned my vote, as Pleasanton's only true slow- and smart-growth candidate.

As Julie Testa's campaign manager during this election season, I have been incredibly impressed by her commitment and dedication to Pleasanton residents. She works tirelessly to educate voters about issues that face the community, ensuring that the public is informed and empowered.

I have also had the pleasure of working alongside Julie as a fellow board member of NAMI Tri-Valley. Her passion and perseverance for those families and individuals experiencing a mental illness is profound; she is exceptionally giving of her time and resources to support those struggling.

I strongly recommend that you give Julie Testa your only vote for Pleasanton City Council this Nov. 6.

—Kelley Thorpe Baker

BRYAN WARE Thinking outside the crayon box



By Ryan J. Degan

Clean up the planet and make kids happy: This is the mission of Danville resident Bryan Ware.

It's a mission he has been able to carry out by saving toxic crayons from landfills and safely donating them to sick children in need all across the country with his locally based nonprofit, The Crayon Initiative.



Bryan Ware

President and founder of The Crayon Initiative, Ware drew inspiration for the idea of the nonprofit while discussing how much being a teacher was going to cost his wife Marissa that year. In 2011, state funding had been cut to her school's art budget, and Ware was brainstorming how to help supply his wife's students with art supplies.

"My wife is a schoolteacher. I grew up in a household of a teacher, and school was not my thing," Ware said, chuckling. "Art was what kept me in school. So that was the jumping off point."

While pondering the problem at hand one night during a dinner out, Ware looked around the restaurant and, seeing a potential solution, he asked, "What happens to these crayons after we leave?"

After taking part in some research, Ware did not like the answers he found.

Due to sanitation concerns, most restaurants are forced to throw out crayons after one use. Sent to landfills, these crayons turn into a toxic waxy sludge that pollute the Earth and never fully biodegrade. According to The Crayon Initiative estimates, every year there are half a million pounds of crayons thrown into landfills.

Founded just four years ago, the initiative has already put quite a dent in this number. While accepting the Tri-Valley Heroes award for Environmental Stewardship last week, Ware announced that the nonprofit had saved more than 200,000 pounds of crayons from being sent to landfills.

Eventually the initiative grew large enough that crayons started coming in from a variety of donors, ranging from



RYAN J. DEGAN

Bryan Ware works to melt and mold new crayons from the donation piles.



RYAN J. DEGAN

corporate fundraisers and schools to individual envelopes sent by students. Ware said they even receive crayons from around the world, including from communities in Canada, Japan and the United Kingdom.

"All around the world they send (crayons) to us because they want to help their environments as well. It's pretty cool to see how the communities in different countries get involved in what we are doing," he said.

After finding that supplying children's hospitals was a more efficient and effective way to provide children in need with art supplies, the initiative has seen incredible growth. In four years Ware has helped provide crayons to over 150,000 patients across 240 children's hospitals throughout the country. In September, the nonprofit officially became a crayon provider to every registered Children's Hospital Association location — in all 50 states.

"The overhead costs go down the more crayons we make in (our Danville) facility, but our logistics go up. That's the big problem with the growth we've been having," he said. "We're doing great, but we are spending more money to cover more ground."

Ensuring that no part of the crayon goes to waste, the crayon's paper wrapping is donated to Duraflame and used in logs as a type of fire starter.

Ever modest, Ware was quick to acknowledge the thousands of volunteers from around the Tri-Valley as the movers and shakers who have made The Crayon Initiative's successes possible.

"We can't do what we are doing without the community," Ware said. "We have 700 to 1,000 individuals who come in to help us every month. It is certainly not just me."

Ware said right now he is staying focused on how to run the initiative in as effective a way as possible, but he acknowledged that there is still plenty of room for the initiative to grow and reach even more communities — particularly communities overseas.

"(Going international) is definitely in the realm of possibility. There's no plan in terms of how to execute that yet, but it is something on the horizon for us to figure out how to do," Ware said. ■

Students who volunteered at The Crayon Initiative sent in original art created with some extra crayons from the nonprofit.

Hero FYI

- ▲ The first hospital that The Crayon Initiative donated art supplies to was UCSF Medical Center.
- ▲ Ware first moved to Danville in the fifth grade and has called the town home ever since.
- ▲ According to Ware, the most popular crayon colors the initiative receives are red, blue and green. He says this is most likely due to restaurants providing patrons with a limited number of colors.
- ▲ In 1994, he graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo earning a Bachelor of Science in industrial technology with a concentration in management.
- ▲ He is also the founder of WareWorks, a local consulting firm that specializes in packaging and product design as well as the manufacturing process.
- ▲ Last year, his wife Marissa Ware, a second-grade teacher at John Baldwin Elementary in Danville, was selected as Contra Costa County Teacher of the Year and advanced to the California Teacher of the Year finals in Sacramento.
- ▲ The Crayon Initiative is located at 155 Railroad Ave. Suite E in downtown Danville. For more information, visit thecrayoninitiative.org.

SARAH BANHOLZER **Be strong and give back happiness**



CHUCK DECKERT

Sarah Banholzer (left) organized another swimathon fundraiser earlier this year, despite battling a recurrence of cancer.

By Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Sarah Banholzer, 16, celebrates milestones in her life that would give many pause. After completing 2-1/2 years of treatments for acute lymphoblastic leukemia diagnosed at age 4, she had a party.

“I got to take the steroids that made me feel awful and crush them with a hammer,” Sarah recalled with a laugh. “I was so over those medicines — it was a nice way to celebrate.”

Her family also held a party when she was five years in remission, and at 10 years, they vacationed in Hawaii.

Then a year ago, a cyst removed from her forehead revealed lymphoma, although scans showed it had mostly been removed with the surgery.

“We are still not sure if it is a relapse or something completely different,” Sarah said.

She again started treatments at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland, but she found something about the experience to enjoy.

“It was so awesome — I got to see people I remembered from 11 years ago,” she said.

Sarah was able to begin her junior year at Amador Valley High

on schedule after working all summer to make up for the school she missed. She is now in the maintenance stage of treatment, taking oral chemo every day and going to the hospital every month for IV chemo and a lumbar puncture.

After her initial lengthy hospitalization, young Sarah knew she wanted to do something to help the other kids in Children’s Hospital. When she was 10, she was inspired by a Christmas ornament made of recycled magazines at the Smithsonian Gift Shop, and she went to work to create her own.

Her parents Teri and John Banholzer joined in the endeavor and they created more than 250 ornaments, which Sarah sold, along with hot cocoa, on a weekend in December in front of their St. Mary Street home. With the more than \$1,000 raised, she went shopping, filling three carts with toys to bring to the children. The next year she sold 450 cards.

In 2014, Sarah decided to up the ante on fundraising and hold a swimathon in the spring. When Sarah was 8, she had joined the Pleasanton Valley Swim Club, which her mother Teri cites as her first “normal” activity after years of life revolving around medical treatments, so a swimathon seemed the natural fundraiser.

Sarah dubbed the event the “Be Strong and Give Back Happiness Swimathon,” a phrase she coined for a school assignment to choose six words to describe herself. She has now held five swimathons, raising more than \$50,000.

Sarah meets with people from the hospital’s Child Life Department to decide where the swimathon money should be spent.

“We bought all the equipment for the hospital variety show that is streamed on their TVs once a week, and we also bought pill kits for once the kids go home so they have their pills all set up,” she said. “We bought mats for babies’ rooms for them to crawl on. And medical play dolls and play kits so, for instance, when they get a port put on their chest, they can use the doll to see what is going to happen to them.”

Sarah also continues the holiday crafts tradition, but instead of cards she and her friends craft birdhouses and planters.

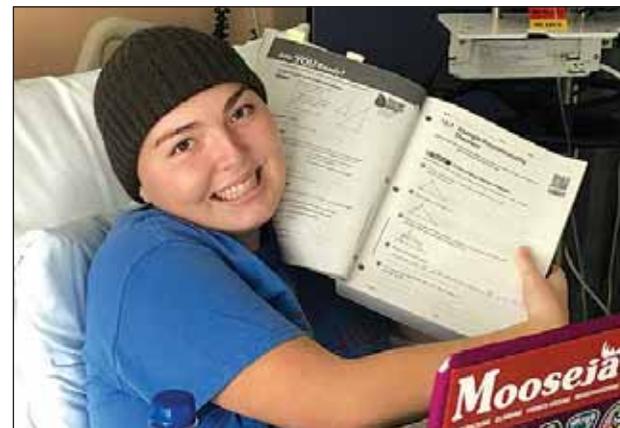
“That money goes toward gifts for kids who have to be in the hospital over Christmas,” she said. “Last year we made 40 planters and 20 birdhouses.”

Sarah also has started a Make-A-Wish Foundation chapter at Amador. Its members meet monthly to organize fundraisers to grant a sick child’s wish, which costs \$10,000.

“I was 5 when I got my wish,” Sarah said, recalling a very fun trip to Disneyland with her family, where they were treated like royalty and escorted to the front of the lines. “Honestly, I could never go back to Disneyland because of how awesome an experience it was.”

She is also on the Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area youth board, which meets once a month to share ideas.

“All of these kids are so passionate about it,” she said. “Most of us have had a wish or are siblings of wish kids.”



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Pleasanton teen was studying hard during treatments.

The Tri-Valley Heroes award for Courage is not Sarah’s first recognition. One year she led the Light the Night Walk in Walnut Creek, held by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to raise funds for research and to honor those touched by cancer.

Now Sarah is enjoying school and activities with family and friends, and slowly working her way back to participation on the volleyball team. She plans another celebration when she finishes her treatments next year.

“I think I’ll be even more excited this time,” she said. ■

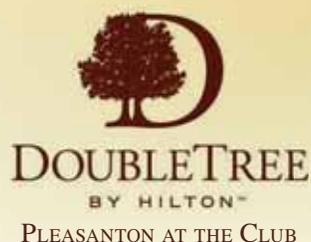
Hero FYI

- ▲ When Sarah was in the hospital and at home for treatments last year, she used gift cards to order a ukulele and taught herself to play with YouTube videos. She says playing the ukulele is uplifting.
- ▲ She swam 40 laps in each of her swimathons, even last spring when she was undergoing treatments, and says the swimathons are “super fun.”
- ▲ She has been a pescaterian for about a year and a half, after being inspired when taking a vacation with family members who are vegans.
- ▲ Despite trying for years, Sarah says she still cannot whistle — nor could she roll her R’s in Spanish class.



THANK YOU TO THE 2018 SPONSORS

LEADERS



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PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Purrrrrfect Pippa

Hi I'm Pippa, a 3-1/2-year-old domestic short-hair. When it comes to relationships, I'm very level-headed. I don't leap paws first, if you know what I mean. But give me a little time, and then I'll shower you with purrs, head-butts and plenty of lap time. Meet me, purrrrrfect Pippa, at the East Bay SPCA in Dublin. My adoption fee is waived. Visit www.eastbayspca.org.

Veterans Parade

TRI-VALLEY VETERANS DAY PARADE
The 22nd annual Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade will be held in downtown Pleasanton this Sunday, Nov. 4, along with a post-parade event. This year, both will focus on the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. The parade begins at 1 p.m. in front of the Veterans Memorial Building at 301 Main St. in and continues four blocks north to St. Mary Street. At 2:15 p.m., the post-parade event will begin at the Veterans Memorial Building and will include Doug Mishler's historical performance as Gen. John J. Pershing. There is no charge for this event; however, seating is limited.

Music

JAZZ AT INKLINGS PRESENTS ERIK JEKABSON At 7 p.m. on Nov. 9 at Inklings, 530 Main St., Erik Jekabson, a Bay Area jazz trumpeter, will be coming to the stage for this performance in the "Jazz at Inklings" concert series.

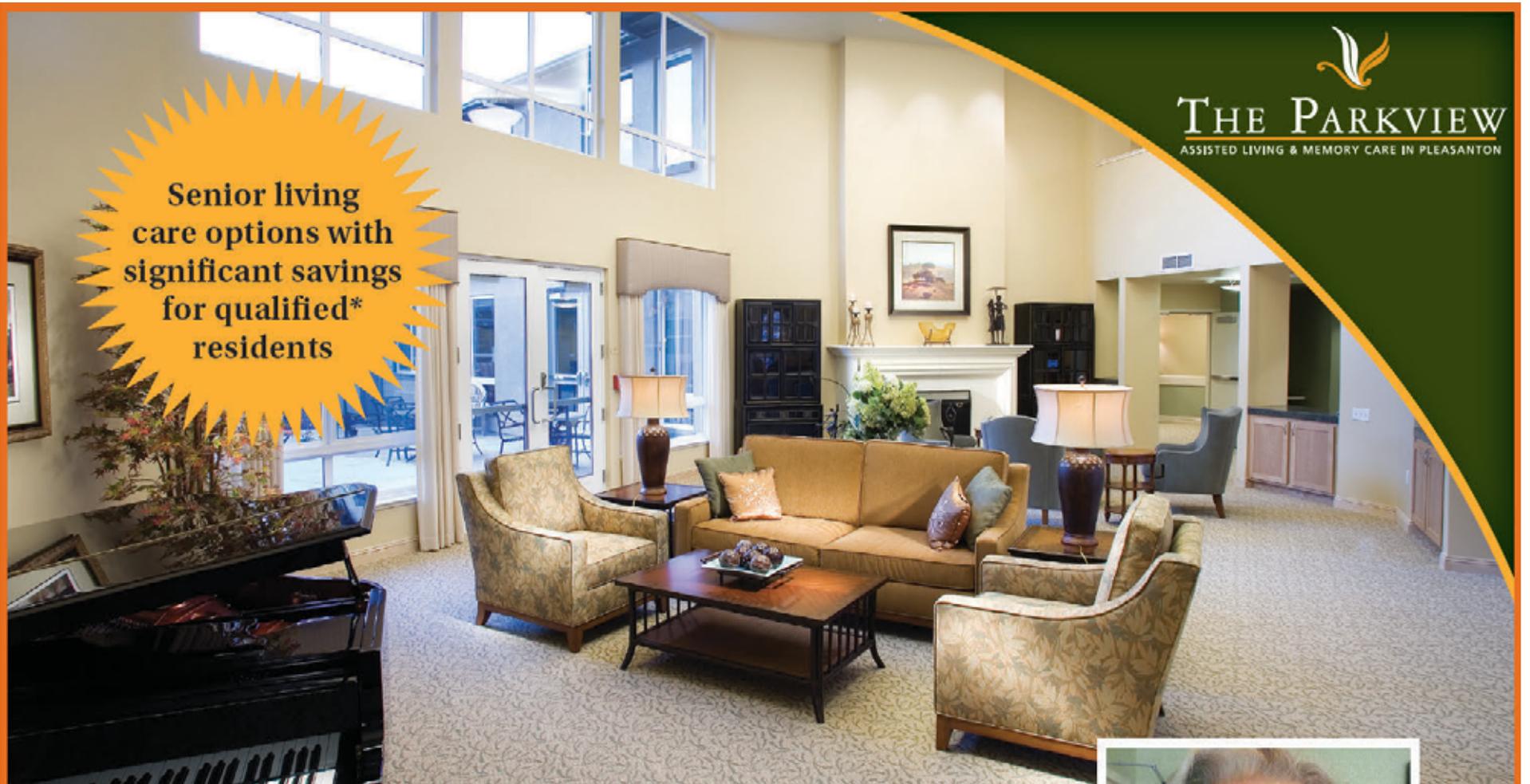
Festivals & Fairs

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FAIRE AND HIGH TEA 2018 The 7th annual Victorian Christmas Faire from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Nov. 10 at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. There is something for everyone, from handcrafted hats, holiday crafts, wooden toys and

more. Enjoy lunch at the Cat and the Fiddle Pub or sit in the park to enjoy live entertainment, visit with Father Christmas and make reservations for High Tea at either 1 p.m. or 4 p.m. Admission is free and the tea is \$25 per person. Visit brownpapertickets.com/ event.

Fundraisers

45TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR The 45th annual Holiday Bazaar is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. this Friday and Saturday at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Unique handmade gifts, children's items, holiday decorations, and ornaments. Jellies, candies, and baked goods available.



Senior living care options with significant savings for qualified* residents

THE PARKVIEW
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE IN PLEASANTON

"Every day is a great day at The Parkview."



Gayle and Rex, her cat, recently made the move to The Parkview. It was a good move for Gayle — and for her family, who know she is now getting the support she needs. At The Parkview, Gayle discovered:

- Private apartment living in a service-rich environment with three meals plus snacks every day and housekeeping
- Assistance as needed with everyday activities that have become difficult
- Medication management
- An engaging calendar of recreation, events, excursions and lifelong learning

Best of all, Rex was welcomed to The Parkview with open arms. Gayle says his favorite pastime is laying in her lap watching TV.

Pick up the phone or go online for more!

eskaton.org/parkview

The Parkview

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Transforming the Aging Experience
eskaton.org



* Below Market Rate Program, sponsored by the City of Pleasanton and Bridge Housing. Residents must have a physical need for assistance as well as meet financial requirements. Please inquire for program qualifications.

PAWS IN NEED HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE 19th annual Paws In Need Holiday Boutique, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3, at Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate/Tri-Valley Realty, 101 E. Vineyard Ave., Livermore, including animal-themed holiday gifts for people and pets, garden art, cards, ornaments, home and kitchen decor, purses, jewelry, hand-crafted items and gift basket raffles. All proceeds will benefit Paws In Need's animal medical program. For more information, contact 551-1877 or Info@Paws-In-Need.org.

SHEPHERD'S GATE HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE FUNDRAISER From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3 at Our Savior Lutheran School, 1385 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore, there will be a Holiday Boutique to raise funds for Shepherd's Gate and other nonprofit causes. Holiday offerings will include LuLaRoe clothing, handcrafted stained glass, specialty kitchen crafts, home decor, jewelry, two quilt raffles and more.

Health & Wellness

MEDICARE, AN OVERVIEW AND UPDATE From 9:45 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 10, Hope Hospice presents, Medicare: An Overview and Update, at Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Suite 100, Dublin. Information about coverage, options for supplementing Medicare, consumer rights and protections, changes for 2019, hospital and skilled nursing facility rights, and detecting and reporting fraud and abuse. Free and open to the public. Contact Debbie Emerson at debe@hopehospice.com for more information.

Home & Garden

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB Starting at 7 p.m. on Nov. 8, The Garden Club meeting will be held in the multi-purpose room of Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Rd. The meeting will focus on "How our landscaping practices are affecting our local ecosystems, and how you can make a difference."

Religion & Spirituality

HOLIDAY GRIEF WORKSHOP The holidays you have dreaded are approaching. At 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 8 at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, join us for a workshop on handling holiday grief. No registration required. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE A Mass of Remembrance is planned for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 5, at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Please join us for this special evening of worship as we honor those you love who have died. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. Please bring a small picture or memento of your loved one to share and take home at the end of the evening.

Government Meetings

PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL The Pleasanton City Council is scheduled to meet on Tuesday (Nov. 6) for a regular meeting at the Pleasanton Civic Center, 200 Old Bernal Ave. Read more about the council's agenda at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov.

TAKE US ALONG



Cruising the Caribbean: Julie and Vic Villar, Carol and Jerry Rosenblatt, and Debbie and Greg Beratlis aboard the catamaran after swimming and snorkeling the crystal clear ocean in Barbados. They started their journey by spending a few days in Puerto Rico, where they boarded their ship for their eight-day cruise in the Southern Caribbean — partying and celebrating anniversaries and birthdays.

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

Fremont

3 BEDROOMS

41497 Timber Creek Terrace \$1,210,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980.0273/519.8226

Livermore

3 BEDROOMS

474 Jensen Street \$747,000
Sat 1-4 Scott Piper 463.9500
1534 Spring Valley Common \$519,000
Sun 1-4 Melissa Pederson 359.9606

Pleasanton

3 BEDROOMS

6350 Alisal Street \$1,799,000
Sun 2-4 Doug Buenz 621.0680
234 Trenton Circle \$899,950
Sat 12-3/Sun 1-4 Brian K. Gillman 895.5300

4 BEDROOMS

520 Bunker Lane \$1,870,000
Sun 2-4 Doug Buenz 621.0680
7961 Paragon Circle \$2,068,000
Sun 1-4 Blaise Lofland 846.6500

6382 Paseo Santa Maria Call for pricing
Sat/Sun 1-4 Gina Piper 200.0202

2423 Pomino Way \$2,175,000
Sat 1-4 Fabulous Properties 980.0273/519.8226

3565 Whitehall Ct. \$1,179,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Cindy Whitehand 463.9500

5 BEDROOMS

528 Bunker Lane \$2,395,000
Sun 2-4 Doug Buenz 621.0680

1022 Deer Creek Ct. \$1,749,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Julia Murtagh 997.2411

6 BEDROOMS

2496 Minivet Court \$1,388,000
Sat/Sun 1-4 Jo Ann Luisi 321.6104

fogster.com

THE TRI-VALLEY'S FREE CLASSIFIEDS WEB SITE



TO RESPOND TO ADS WITHOUT PHONE NUMBERS GO TO FOGSTER.COM

Bulletin Board

140 Lost & Found

Reward for return: Diamond Ring
Reward for return.

Lost diamond ring with engraving "Forever"

Lost on Bernal Ave, North Side, between Mirador and Independence Drives.

Please contact if found, for return and reward.
Thank you.

145 Non-Profits Needs

Got an older car, boat or RV?

Do the humane thing. Donate it to the Humane Society. Call 1-844-335-2616 (Cal-SCAN)

For Sale

202 Vehicles Wanted

WANTED! Old Porsche

356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1973 Only. Any condition, top \$ paid! PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-965-9546. Email: porschere restoration@yahoo.com.

Jobs

500 Help Wanted

Director, Global Regulatory Affairs

Director, Global Regulatory Affairs sought by Astex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (pharmaceutical co.) for Pleasanton, CA loc. Provide regulatory expertise & support for oncology dev prog. Req.: PhD + 6 yrs exp OR MS + 8 yrs. Email resume to: beverly.howard@astx.com

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Allstate Insurance - McGlinchy
RENTERS INSURANCE — As low as \$10 a month includes \$100,000 Liability to satisfy Landlord Requirements Call us 925.846.0880 24/7, or go to www.PTownRenters.com

Home Services

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DCC Plumbing

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Legal Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Key Academy

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 550707

The following person doing business as: Key Academy, 1570 Ward Street, Hayward, CA 94541, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Knowledge Enlighthens You, 1570 Ward St., Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by Knowledge Enlighthens You, a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Krista Kastriotis, Executive Director. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Oct. 11, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 19, 26, Nov. 2 and 9, 2018).

Golden State Taqueria, LLC

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 550470

The following person doing business as: Golden State Taqueria, LLC, 4001 Santa Rita Road, Suite 1A, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Golden State Taqueria, LLC, Registrant, 4001 Santa Rita Road, Suite 1A, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Golden State Taqueria, LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Josue Ruiz, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Oct. 4, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 19, 26 and Nov. 2 and 9, 2018).

KAUFMAN RISK MANAGEMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 539985

The following person(s) doing business as: Kaufman Risk Management Consultants, 6350 Stoneridge Mall Road #G101, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joshua Kaufman, 6350 Stoneridge Mall Road, #G101, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein January 17, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Joshua Kaufman, Founder. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 8, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, 2018.)

THE CHEESY COW

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 550837

The following person(s) doing business as: The Cheesy Cow, 4083 Inniswood Place, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Debbie Barrett, 4083 Inniswood Place, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of registrant: Debbie Barrett. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 15, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2018).

Ayurvedic Center of Health & Healing

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 550942

The following person doing business as: Ayurvedic Center of Health & Healing, 4725 First St., Suite 253, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Elizabeth Jean Bonser, 4725 First St., Suite 253, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business

is conducted by Elizabeth Jean Bonser, an Individual. Signature of Registrant: Elizabeth Jean Bonser, Owner. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein Oct. 17, 2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Oct. 17, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 26, Nov. 2, 9 and 16, 2018).

STUDIO WHITESPACE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 550913

The following person(s) doing business as: Studio Whitespace, 2024 Olivia Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Amy Crandall, 2024 Olivia Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein May, 2003. Signature of Registrant: Amy Crandall, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 16, 2018 (Pleasanton Weekly, November 2, 9, 16, 23, 2018).

WESTERN GRADALL RENTALS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 551057

The following person(s) doing business as: Western Gradall Rentals, 12315 Foothill Road, Sunol, CA 94586, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Stephen D. Barkkarie, 12315 Foothill Road, Sunol, 94586. This business is conducted by a married couple. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein October 22, 2018. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 22, 2018 (Pleasanton Weekly, October 26, November 2, 9, 16).

Ed's Automotive & Light Truck Repair, Inc.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 550536

The following person doing business as: Ed's Automotive & Light Truck Repair, Inc., 26 California Ave., Suite E, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Ed's Automotive & Light Truck Repair, Inc., 26 California Ave., Suite E, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Ed's Automotive & Light Truck Repair, Inc. a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein Oct. 5, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Catherine S. Hussain, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Oct. 5, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 26, Nov. 2, 9 and 16, 2018).

Baytree Garden Coach

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT

File No.: 550906

The following person doing business as: Baytree Garden Coach, 4925 Monaco Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Louise Strauch, 4925 Monaco Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Louise Strauch an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant Louise Strauch, owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Oct. 16, 2018. (Pleasanton Weekly, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2018).

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Or e-mail: gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com

Julia Murtagh



◀ 1022 DEER CREEK CT PLEASANTON

Contemporary home in South Pleasanton built in 2004 with modern upgrades for aesthetics, efficiency and convenience. 5 bedrooms / 4 baths with 3722 sq.ft. of well-designed space for indoor/outdoor California living. Outdoor kitchen including pergola, sink, refrigerator, power outlets, Lynx Infrared Barbeque and elevated bar seating. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac, walk to award winning schools, parks and walking trails.

Just Listed for \$1,749,000

Open this Sat. and Sun. 1-4pm



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Square footage, acreage, and other information herein, has been received from one or more of a variety of different sources. Such information has not been verified by Alain Pinel Realtors®. If important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation.

JO ANN LUISI SENIOR REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST®



PLEASANTON **\$1,388,000**

2469 Minivet Court
6 bedrooms
3 bathrooms
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



WALNUT CREEK **\$1,550,000**

2364 St. Ashley Place
5 bedrooms
3.5 bathrooms
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



JO ANN LUISI
License # 01399250

925.321.6104
jluisi@apr.com
jluisi.apr.com



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249 El Dorado Court, Angels Camp at Greenhorn Creek Golf Resort



2685 sq. ft., 4 BR, 3 BA and 3 car garage

Luxurious single story craftsman style home on quiet cul-de-sac in Greenhorn Creek Golf Resort. Open floor plan boasts large master suite with picture windows and spectacular views, formal dining, and a spacious great room with 12 ft ceilings, crown moldings and views of the Foothills. The gourmet kitchen includes stainless steel appliances, custom cabinets, Silestone countertops and a walk-in pantry. A wine refrigerator that holds 90 bottles (Vinotemp) is located just off the kitchen for easy entertaining. You'll love the slate, hickory floors and Ledgestone rock facade. High ceilings and 8 ft interior doors create an opulent feel. Three-car garage and lots of storage underneath home. As a bonus, this home has an owned solar system – no electricity bills!

Golf memberships at Greenhorn Creek Golf Resort (designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr.) range from \$286 to \$404 monthly. Camps Restaurant is on property and open to the public for breakfast, lunch and dinner. In addition to world class cuisine, Camps has recently installed two Bocce Ball Courts, an outdoor pizza oven and wine tasting room. Enjoy dining inside or outside on the patio. Greenhorn Creek has two pools, a fitness center, tennis courts, and conference and bridal facilities.

Tours daily of the community and its amenities. Call today for an appointment: 209-736-5800.

\$649,900



711 McCauley Ranch Road, Angels Camp
Greenhorn Creek Golf Resort
209-736-5800

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**TRI-VALLEY
REALTY**

Open Saturday and Sunday 1-4



Scott Piper

**4973 Audrey Dr. – Castro Valley
\$775,000**

Top rated Proctor Elementary School! Fantastic corner lot home with awesome roof top deck and relaxing views. Recently updated kitchen with gorgeous granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances. Designer style flooring throughout the home. Approx. 1,544 sq ft, 3 bed, 2 bath.

Open Saturday and Sunday 1-4



Cindy Whitehand

**3565 Whitehall Ct. – Pleasanton
\$1,179,000**

Gorgeous home nestled on a quiet court in Pleasanton's highly desired Pleasanton Meadows neighborhood. This lovely home has been meticulously maintained. The popular floor plan features a full bedroom and bathroom downstairs. Approx. 2,140 sq. ft., 4 bed, 3 bath.

Call for Private Showing



Mike D'Onofrio

**4182 Rennellwood Way – Pleasanton
\$869,990**

Best value for single family home in Pleasanton! Charming "Heritage Cove" home! Master suite on 1st floor PLUS loft and full bath on 2nd floor. Updated kitchen with granite counters. Minutes to award winning k-12 schools, shopping & Downtown Pleasanton! Approx. 1,614 sq ft, 3 bed, 2.5 bath.

Open Saturday 1-4



Scott Piper

**474 Jensen Street – Livermore
\$747,000**

Darling single story in grate location. Original hardwood throughout. Solid granite countertops over stainless appliances. Great wood burning fireplace in the spacious living room. Open floorplan with large dining area. Approx. 1,618 sq. ft., 3 bed, 2 bath.



Jennifer Branchini

**4737 Maureen Circle – Livermore
\$859,000**

This is it! As you enter into this single level home, you are greeted with soaring ceilings, formal living and dining rooms, a generous sized kitchen with loads of counter space, newer appliances and more. Approx. 1,798 sq. ft., 4 bed, 2 bath.



Pilar Jacabo

**2857 Poppy Hills Lane – Dublin
\$1,399,998**

Create your own memories with family in this 4 bed, 3.5 baths, 4,027 sq. ft. lovely home. Front double doors opens to a grand foyer with high vaulted ceilings and plantation shutters. The kitchen has a new range hood/ back splash, instant hot water, double oven, coffee bar area, and more!



Kellie Graham

**1709 Concord Court – Escalon
\$475,900**

Custom renovated home in highly desirable Vintage Estates neighborhood. Cul-de-sac location. 3 bed, 2 baths single story with high end finishes. Open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. Approx. 1,595 sq. ft.



Charo Rodriguez

**1087 Murrieta Blvd. #240 – Livermore
\$365,000**

Charming condo in lovely Livermore! Short drive to Vineyards, and 5 minute walk to downtown Livermore! With plenty of custom upgrades, built in closets, corian counter tops, ceramic tile on bath and kitchen floors and more! Approx. 758 sq. ft., 1 bed, 1 bath.

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7961 PARAGON CIRCLE, PLEASANTON



Highly Upgraded La Jolla Model with Downstairs Master Suite in Desirable Laguna Oaks! Located Away from Freeway. This Impeccably Maintained Home Has 4 Bed, Bonus Room, 3 1/2 Bath and 3886 Square Feet. It's Situated on a Large Premium .35 (15,662) Lot with Pleasanton Ridge Views from the Private Expansive Rear Grounds. Front & Rear Landscaping Upgraded in 2016. Recently Completely Remodeled Beautiful Gourmet Kitchen Opens to Remodeled Family Room. Spacious Master Suite with Fireplace and French Doors to Backyard Patio and Sitting Area. Upgraded Master Bathroom Includes New Large Walk-In shower and Recently Installed Closet Organization Systems in Double Walk-In Closets. Two Zone Heating and Air Conditioning, Tile Roof and Air Conditioned 4 Car Garage with Electrical 220V Upgrades for Workshop Option. Save \$1,000's with Owned Solar System. South Pleasanton Location Provides Quick Access to Freeway for Silicon Valley. Quiet Community Includes No Thru Traffic, Pool/Spa, Clubhouse Park(s) and Tennis & Basketball Courts. Minutes to Downtown Pleasanton and Many Livermore Wineries. For More Information and/or a Private Showing Contact The Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group. For additional photos/video tour visit www.7961paragon.com

OFFERED AT \$2,068,000

570 SYCAMORE CREEK WAY, PLEASANTON



Premium Location and .31 Acre Corner Lot for this Desirable Bridle Creek Home! Adjacent to Quiet Court. Four Bedrooms (One Downstairs), Three Bathrooms, Bonus Room and Office/Den with 3445 Square Feet. Spacious Gourmet Kitchen with Granite Countertops. New Interior Paint, New Carpeting and Extensive Crown Molding. Beautifully Landscaped Grounds! Escape to Your Own Private Backyard Oasis for Relaxation and Outdoor Dining which includes Solar Heated In-Ground Pool & Spa, Palm Trees, Tanning Area and New Fencing. Conveniently Located Near Downtown, Mission Hills Park and Access to 680. Includes Three Car Garage and is within Desirable Schools Attendance Area. Just Five Minutes to Castlewood Country Club. This Well-Maintained Home was Built in 2000 by Greenbriar Homes. To Schedule a Private Showing Contact the Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group. For More Additional Photos/Video Tour Visit www.570sycamorecreek.com

OFFERED AT \$2,095,000

1416 CALLE ENRIQUE, PLEASANTON



Excellent Location for this Completely Remodeled in 2014 Single Level Townhome that Feels Like a Single-Family Home! You Own the Land. Includes Two Bedrooms, Two Remodeled Bathrooms and Remodeled Gourmet Kitchen with Wall Removed So Now Opens to Family Room, Two Car Attached Garage, Short Walk to Downtown-Arroyo Del Valle Walking Trail, Adjacent to Greenbelt and Nearby Community Pool, Beautifully Landscaped Private Patio, Newer Roof (2016), Newer Wood-Style Flooring, New Carpe, Newer Windows, New Doors and Door Hardware, Newer Mirrored Closet Doors, Newer Furnace and Air Conditioner, Newer Hot Water Heater, Newer Whirlpool Washer, Dryer and Frigidaire Stainless Steel Refrigerator All Included. For More Information and/or a Private Showing Contact The Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group. For additional photos visit www.1416calleenrique.com

OFFERED AT \$709,500

Square footage, acreage, and other information herein, has been received from one or more of a variety of different sources. Such information has not been verified by alain pinel realtors*. If important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation.



A Team That Speaks Your Language

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- 600+** Properties Listed & Sold
- \$650M+** In Closed Transactions
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Just Listed



701 Hollyview Court, San Ramon
3 Bed 2 Bath 2,065 Sq Ft 0.15 Ac \$1,328,888

Sold



Previously listed for 75 days.
Sold by US in 2 days!

491 Trebbiano Place, Ruby Hill
\$1,551,500 Represented Seller

Sold



480 Montori Court, Ruby Hill
\$1,569,000 Represented Buyer

Sold



463 Montori Court, Ruby Hill
\$1,642,000 Represented Seller

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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4



528 Bunker Lane

Spectacular home with 5 BR, 5.5 BTHs on a 1 acre lot with pool, outdoor kit & fireplace!
Offered at \$2,395,000

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4



520 Bunker Lane

4 BR, 3.5 BTH luxury home in Castlewood on premium 2/3 Acre lot with beautiful views!
Offered at \$1,870,000

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4



6350 Alisal Street

2800 sq ft one story on FLAT 1.5 Acre lot with detached bonus rm, huge shop area, and more!
Offered at \$1,799,000

LARGE LOT



387 Mullin Court

Gorgeous home featuring 5 BR + Loft, 4.5 BTHs, 3 car garage, and huge .28 Acre cul-de-sac lot
Offered at \$1,799,000

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Release Clauses in Contingent Offers

Contingent offers are simply when the buyer makes an offer on a property, subject to them selling their home. As part of the contingency document there is a release clause. The release clause simply gives the seller the opportunity to cancel a contingent buyer if they accept another offer. We call this a "bump", so the seller can "bump" a contingent offer with another offer if the seller gives the first buyer notice. A release clause stipulates the time frame the seller has to wait before cancelling the current buyer after giving them notice, IF the buyer is unwilling or unable to remove all contingencies.

So the scenario goes like this. I am a seller. I accept a contingent offer. I get another offer that I would like to accept. I accept that offer and I have to give that buyer three days notice, which is the default position in the contract. It can be any time frame that is negotiated, but let's say three days. I give that buyer three days to remove all contingencies including their sale contingency and firm up on their contract, or I can cancel it as the seller. So that's what a release clause is intended to invoke.

So as you can see, the release clause really protects the seller against being on the market forever with a contingent buyer who can't get their home ...

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SOLD



480 Montori Court, Ruby Hill
4BR, 3BA, 2680+/- Sq.Ft.
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1517 Whispering Oaks Way, Pleasanton
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Offered at \$1,299,000



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