

# Pleasanton Weekly

Pleasanton Life

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



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# AROUND PLEASANTON



By JEB BING

## Towne Center Books expanding into Livermore

When Kevin and Yvonne Greenlee in 1998 told their book distributor's marketing director, Judy Wheeler, that they wanted to sell the downtown Pleasanton bookstore they'd owned for just five years, they had an instant buyer.

"I'd been in retail all my life," Wheeler said. "I majored in retail at Purdue University and I'd always wanted to own my very own store. Also, I didn't want Pleasanton's only bookstore to close."

This Saturday, she'll do the same for Livermore, opening a second Towne Center Books (Vol. 2, as she calls it) at 2375 Railroad Ave. It's a fantastic location right across from Livermore's two-story parking garage, within an easy walk from the Bankhead and Livermore 13 Cinema on First Street and next door to Livermore's popular Cream, known for its specialty ice cream sandwiches.

Wheeler — whose husband Bob Ditter, a retired publisher's representative, also works in the bookstore — quips that just as her Pleasanton store customers often settle in with drinks from nearby coffee shops, she looks for her new book shoppers to be carrying Cream's ice cream delights.

The Livermore store will have only a "soft" opening this weekend. A grander opening and ribbon-cutting will be held later in October.

"I'm opening a second bookstore in Livermore for the same reason I bought Towne Center Books in Pleasanton 21 years ago," Wheeler said. "Many of my customers come from Livermore and have asked for a bookstore there." She will be splitting her time between the two stores making sure both are well stocked and customers' special orders are fulfilled.

Altamont Books, formerly Good-enough Books, closed in 2005 after operating in Livermore for 25 years.

Wheeler notes that while e-commerce, namely Amazon, continues to take the bulk of book orders, the "indies" — as independent bookstores like Wheeler's are called — are in a revival mode.

"We've grown by some 400 either new owners or new bookstores," Wheeler said "That's pretty good for just Northern California."

Wheeler said people enjoy the sense of community that they find in bookstores like hers. The joy of just being in a place with people instead of on a phone or computer is coming back. "Customers love



JEB BING

Judy Wheeler, at her Towne Center Books counter, says she's usually the last downtown business to close every night. "It's like I'm turning off the lights on Main Street when I go home," she said.

our events and they like to come in and just chat books with us," she said.

Wheeler points out that reading an actual book you're holding in your hands rather than on a screen is better for your mind. There are a lot of studies that show you remember more this way. It's also easier to go back to reference passages with a physical book.

Towne Center Books, both in Pleasanton and now Livermore, also offer a full calendar of book-related events. These include guest authors "Read It and Eat" luncheons and arranging speakers for schools and business meetings. The store also offers complimentary gift-wrapping.

"Amazon's domination involves more than just independent bookstores," Wheeler said. "There is growing awareness among shoppers that if you don't use it, you'll lose it. Your favorite places won't be there for you to browse. People are starting to get that as they see places going out of business. That's true in downtown Pleasanton, even in our mall. It's true everywhere."

Wheeler is enthused about operating both stores.

She added, "I get to see my friends when I'm working and I don't have to commute. I meet important people and famous people and read good books. We have wonderful customers and it's fun to go to work. It's a good life." ■

*Editor's note: Jeb Bing is editor emeritus for the Pleasanton Weekly.*

*His "Around Pleasanton" columns typically run on the second and fourth Fridays of every month.*

### About the Cover

Cantabella Children's Chorus performs its spring concert at the Bankhead Theater with Eileen Chang directing. The founder, Bee Chow, is receiving a 2019 Alameda County Arts Leadership Award. Photo by Tat Lim. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XX, Number 36



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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

In light of the recent, broad-daylight burglaries in town, have you been doing anything special to secure your home and protect your family?



**Cheryl Katz Cohen**  
*Educator*

Absolutely. I've been checking and double-checking to be sure all house doors and car doors are locked when I'm at home, in addition to while I'm out of the house. I also have a large dog who I hope serves as a visual deterrent to any would-be intruder.



**Dr. Mark Shusterman**  
*Biotechnology*

Yes. We have implemented additional weapons and empty-hand combat training, and have shortened the maintenance intervals for all of our firearms, to ensure that we (my family members and I) are optimally prepared to defend ourselves and our home.



**Cat Reese**  
*Veterinary technician*

Well, I live with my grandparents, and they already have all sorts of safety measures in place, like making sure the doors and windows of our house are locked at all times. And we keep our cars basically empty so that there is nothing in them to steal or to attract anyone who might be inclined to break into them.



**Olga Sfarid**  
*Scientific systems analyst*

My neighbors are so vigilant, and are often lurking around the neighborhood looking for bad guys intent on doing harm, that I can't even imagine anyone getting over the hurdle, or under the radar, of their watchful gaze. In light of the recent break-ins, however, I've been making it a point to lock my front door and to close my garage door.



**Meghan Orstadt**  
*Homeowner*

I bought one of those doorbell Ring systems that record people who come to your front door. And I hope that that's enough.

*—Compiled by Nancy Lewis*

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

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## DIGEST

### PPIE gala

Indulge in a decadent evening of Old Hollywood glamour at the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation's 15th annual Fall Gala. A red carpet makeover will transform the Castlewood Country Club venue for a "Night of the Stars," a retro Hollywood-themed fundraiser benefiting Pleasanton public schools on Oct. 11.

Guests will enjoy a reception with school administrators and free wine pours before a sit-down dinner. During that time, student greeters and presenters will discuss the impact of PPIE fundraising at their schools, and student musicians also will entertain the crowd.

Live and silent auction items include vacation packages, "Hamilton" tickets, Golden State Warriors seats and more.

The Fall Gala is Oct. 11 from 6 to 10 p.m. at Castlewood. To purchase tickets, visit [ppie.org](http://ppie.org).

### Pool problems

The athletic pools at both Amador Valley and Foothill high schools have been inhibited by equipment problems in recent weeks — failed aging pool pumps to be precise.

The Amador pool repairs are on track to be completed by the end of the week, but the Foothill pool is awaiting the arrival of a custom-made replacement pump, expected in next week, according to district spokesman Patrick Gannon.

With the water polo season in full swing for both schools, they are due to co-host the annual Amador-Foothill Tournament this weekend. Gannon said the tourney is still scheduled to come to Amador if the pump is fixed — and if not, The Wave in Dublin or Acalanes High School in Lafayette have been identified as alternate game sites.

### Visit the mosque

"Tri-Valley Muslims want their neighbors to know: Please don't fear us."

That's the message behind open house at the Muslim Community Center-East Bay in Pleasanton this Sunday, as organizers offer residents the chance to step inside a mosque and to clear up misconceptions about the faith.

After the formal presentation by guest speaker and peace activist Steve Slocum, the Pleasanton mosque will offer a tour, invite attendees to taste ethnic food and get their name written in Arabic calligraphy.

The event will take place at 2-3:30 p.m. this Sunday at the Pleasanton mosque, 5724 W. Las Positas Blvd., No. 300. For more information, visit <https://mceastbay.org>. ■

## Announcing 2019 Tri-Valley Heroes

RSVP now for eighth annual awards ceremony, set for Oct. 21

By PLEASANTON WEEKLY STAFF

The Tri-Valley Heroes panel of judges has selected the recipients for the 2019 awards, which are bestowed on residents and organizations who are making contributions to better our communities and their residents.

This is the eighth year the Pleasanton Weekly and its sister publication, DanvilleSanRamon.com, have recognized local heroes through the award program.

"We launched the Tri-Valley Heroes award program eight years ago to acknowledge those individuals and groups that have gone

above and beyond for our community and neighbors," said Gina Channell, publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly and DanvilleSanRamon.com. "Because they typically stay behind the scenes, these unsung heroes don't receive the recognition they deserve. We are honored that, through our program, more than 50 Tri-Valley Heroes have been publicly thanked for their work and their causes highlighted."

The awards will be presented Oct. 21 at the DoubleTree Hilton, 7050 Johnson Drive in Pleasanton.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. and

the presentations will begin at 6:45 p.m. If you would like to attend to honor a recipient, RSVP at [Tinyurl.com/2019HeroesRSVP](http://Tinyurl.com/2019HeroesRSVP) or email Channell at [gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com) with the name, hometown and email address of the attendee(s).

Sponsors of the 2019 Tri-Valley Heroes program are Monterey Private Wealth, Robert Half, Harrington Art Partnership (Arts & Culture Award), Summit Financial Group, Crown Trophy and DoubleTree Hilton.

This year's recipients are:

**Arts and Culture: E. Trent Thompson, Dublin.** Artist E.

Trent Thompson has an interest in seeing the total person — and a heart to help those in need. He used his artistic ability to launch Pictures for People, a project to get to "call attention to the needs of our community through the individuals we walk by every day."

To bring attention and assistance to the homeless in our area, Thompson captured the spirit of six people on the street in personal portraits, then auctioned off the paintings. Close to \$8,000 was raised for local charities that help the homeless.

See **HEROES** on Page 8



Vinnie Bacon



David Haubert



Melissa Hernandez



Bob Wieckowski

## Supervisor election heating up

Four candidates so far vying to succeed Haggerty

By JEREMY WALSH

The race to replace retiring Tri-Valley Supervisor Scott Haggerty on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors is beginning to take shape.

Four people with a variety of elected office experience have already announced their intent to run for Haggerty's District 1 seat: Fremont City Councilman Vinnie Bacon, Dublin Mayor David Haubert, Dublin Vice Mayor Melissa Hernandez and State Sen. Bob Wieckowski of Fremont.

The nomination petition period for the March 3 primary election officially opened two weeks ago. To date, none of the supervisor candidates have taken out nomination papers from the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office — they, and any other prospective challengers, have until Dec. 6 to file — but all are actively campaigning for the District 1 seat.

Haggerty, who is from Livermore, set the stage for a hotly contested election when he announced in June that he would not seek re-election, retiring from public service after his current term to cap 24 years in office.

The District 1 seat represents the cities of Livermore and Dublin, most of Fremont and unincorporated communities in eastern Alameda County, including Sunol.

So far, the ballot is shaping up to pit Dublin against Fremont.

In announcing his candidacy, Haubert cited a "track record of success" over years of elected experience on the Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees, Dublin City Council and now as the city's mayor.

"I'm proud of many accomplishments which have improved the quality of life in my community. But, there is still work to do in the East Bay regarding transportation, bringing jobs closer to home and keeping our communities safe," he said on his campaign page.

Hernandez, first-term City Council member in Dublin and the currently appointed vice mayor, said she aims to bring a fresh perspective to the county board.

"As supervisor, I want to help hard-working families move into the middle class, to protect our

social services that help veterans and the elderly, create more affordable housing and improve transportation and public safety to ensure safe, successful and vibrant communities for all Alameda County families," she said on her campaign site. "I know the importance of these critical county services. I know what they mean to families because I've lived it."

Wieckowski, who is being termed out of the State Senate in 2020, also cites years worth of elected experience and accomplishments, which includes time on the Fremont City Council and in the State Assembly as well.

His campaign page said key issues for him on the Board of Supervisors would be "improving our transportation infrastructure, addressing homelessness and our housing crisis, expanding quality health care access and fighting poverty, and taking urgent action on climate change."

Bacon, a second-term Fremont City Council member elected at-large, is bringing his "clean money

### HEAD OF THE CLASS

## Finding opportunity through education

Nguyen takes reins as principal at Pleasanton MS

By JULIA BAUM

"Education is a family business, I always say," Pleasanton Middle School's new principal Joe Nguyen told the Weekly during a recent interview at the campus that he started leading less than two months ago.

The business of teaching runs in Nguyen's family at least three generations — his grandfather was an English professor and his mother taught grammar school — and also spans the globe.

"A lot of great memories I have in my mom's fourth-grade classroom in Vietnam," Nguyen said.

After seven years as principal at Iron Horse Middle School in San Ramon, Nguyen was appointed by the Pleasanton school board in late spring to take over the Case Avenue campus this school year, succeeding retiring principal Jill Butler.

Nguyen's career started in the United States, but the life lessons from his parents started as a child in Vietnam, where he was born.

"Education was important in



Joe Nguyen

See **CANDIDATES** on Page 11

See **PRINCIPAL** on Page 11

# PUSD survey finds support for new bond measure 'hovers' at 55%

Also: Cost increase for Foothill and Amador portables, science labs

By JULIA BAUM

Results from a recent survey gauging local voters about a potential new \$150 million bond measure were presented at the Pleasanton school board meeting Tuesday.

Pleasanton Unified School District officials first raised the idea last year of placing a proposed bond measure on the 2020 primary election ballot that would extend the existing district tax rate when two other bond measures from 1998 and 1997 expire during next year.

"It's not just that we have to believe there's a need and there's great things we want to do for kids, we have to be able to pass it," Board President Valerie Arkin said as the board discussed the voter survey results Tuesday night. "I want to have confidence and less stress in going forward and making sure we can get something passed."

Properties within the district are taxed at a rate of \$49 per \$100,00 of assessed value under the current \$270 million Measure II bond approved by Pleasanton voters in 2016.

Approximately \$145.5 million still has yet to be allocated for the Measure II projects list, which includes plans to reconfigure and modernize Donlon Elementary School. The district has previously stated that all three high schools would have major science lab upgrades funded by the proposed bond.

The tax rate originally suggested for a new bond measure was \$120 million overall, but the survey polled participants about two possible amounts of \$150 million and \$393 million.

A total of 619 interviews were completed for the hybrid telephone and email-to-web survey, which was conducted by a private consulting group between Aug. 23 and Sept. 6.

The resulting 23-page report on the survey stated that "nearly three-quarters of voters believe it is crucial for Pleasanton to have excellent schools even if that means raising taxes," and "support for a bond measure today hovers around the 55% threshold required to pass; with a slight difference in support between the two amounts tested."

Three-quarters of respondents rated the statement, "The job Pleasanton Unified School District is doing overall," as either "Good" (49%) or "Excellent" (26%), but ranked the district's management of their budget and voter-approved bond monies less favorably.

Opinions on the district's budget management skills were nearly split, with 39% answering either "Excellent" or "Good," and 34% categorizing the district's job as either "Only Fair" (21%) or "Poor" (13%); the remaining 27% selected "Don't Know."

Survey contributors were also divided about PUSD's performance of bond revenue management; 33% rated the district as either "Good" (28%) or "Excellent" (5%), while 30% selected "Only Fair" (19%) or "Poor" (11%). However, 37% of respondents selected "Don't Know," outnumbering either group.

Last month the district completed its second issuance for \$90 million of Measure II bonds, which almost sold out within hours. The district said the quick transactions and low interest rates were helped by their credit rating and the community's overall stability and growth of assessed property values.

Most of the board on Tuesday voiced optimism that voters would support a new bond measure.

"Most people know we have a hard time cutting our grass," Trustee Steve Maher said during discussion. "We're behind and we need to do something about it. And if we

don't do it now, I'm not sure what's going to happen a few years down the road."

Arkin said there's "absolutely a need, there's no question" for more funding but had "concerns" about the responses to sample opposition statements. The report found that "opposition messaging impacts support for a measure; however, support does not fall below 55%" for either proposed amount that was surveyed.

"Some of these numbers just make me a little uncomfortable, and it's all about risk-taking, and I'm not going to risk that," Arkin said. "What concerns me are some of the opposition statements."

Arkin said the amount of respondents who rated a sample opposition statement that "developers are responsible for more families moving to Pleasanton and should cover the costs of expanding schools to accommodate growing student enrollment" as either "somewhat" or "very" convincing was "compelling." Other similar sample language also gave Arkin momentary pause.

"That's a pretty compelling number, as are some of the other ones," Arkin said. "I'm more comfortable going with — I don't want to call it an extension but we have a bond expiring, but it's a net increase of people's taxes — but I would be in favor of that."

The trustees have until early December to decide if another bond measure will be on the March 2020 primary election ballot.

## In other business

- A couple major school site projects on the consent calendar using Measure II funds received the green light that night.

The trustees approved amendments to two contracts to replace the portables and renovate the science labs at both Foothill and Amador Valley high schools. The increased contracts cover \$58,254 at Foothill and \$58,191 at Amador, according to district records.

The portable replacements and new science labs at both schools will cost around a total of \$15.7 million. Construction is set to begin next summer and finish by the end of 2021.

- The board installed Ahmad Sheikholeslami as the district's new assistant superintendent of business services and Carole Strothers as the new vice principal at Donlon Elementary School.

- At one point on Tuesday, the meeting went to the dogs — literally. Four very furry therapy dogs received the Purveyor of Hope award for giving comfort and companionship to PUSD students. ■

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**Towering view:** Natalie and Robin Myers brought the Weekly with them to Paris, posing here with a beautiful view of the Eiffel Tower.

# Dublin city manager set to retire; top assistant picked as successor

Linda Smith poised to become fourth city manager in city history, pending successful contract talks

By JEREMY WALSH

Dublin City Manager Chris Foss is retiring at the end of the year to cap a nearly four-decade career in local government, including the past 5-1/2 years as Dublin's top city administrator.

Foss, who has logged 20 years in all with the city of Dublin, informed the City Council members of his decision in closed session during their regular meeting Sept. 17.

The council then selected Foss' top deputy, assistant city manager Linda Smith, to become Dublin's next city manager, subject to successful contract negotiations, city officials announced on Sept. 19.

"It has been my great pleasure to work with Chris Foss over the last several years. His leadership and professional guidance helped to make Dublin a great place to live, work, and raise a family," Mayor David Haubert said in a statement.

"The City Council has the utmost confidence in Linda's ability to carry on the values of professional leadership, coupled with her enduring passion for this community. She is the right person to lead Dublin into the future," Haubert added.

Foss has led Dublin as city manager on a permanent basis since



Dublin City Manager Chris Foss (left) announced his upcoming retirement last week, and the City Council then confirmed assistant city manager Linda Smith as its choice for the next city manager.

April 2014 — which followed nearly five months of him holding the job as acting city manager following predecessor Joni Pattillo's retirement in December 2013.

Dublin has realized continued commercial, corporate and residential growth during Foss' tenure at the helm.

City leaders like Haubert have lauded Foss for steady leadership among the various expansion projects while always striving to maintain sound financial practices to keep the city government in a healthy fiscal position.

They specifically credited Foss for overseeing phase two of Fallon

Sports Park, The Wave water park, Valor Crossing affordable apartment complex for military veterans and two new neighborhood parks. They also pointed to key private projects such as the new Kaiser Permanente campus and the future campus for Carl Zeiss Meditec.

"I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with Dublin City Council and city staff to bring the best services possible to our residents and businesses," Foss said in a statement.

Foss' retirement is scheduled to take effect Dec. 31.

And the city already knows who will take his place — as long as

contract negotiations go well — with the council voting to appoint Smith as the next city manager, Dublin's fourth since incorporating in 1982.

"I am also pleased that the City Council has appointed Linda Smith to fill my shoes," Foss added. "Her extensive background working in a variety of local municipalities, in addition to her decade of experience in Dublin, makes her the most qualified person to lead Dublin into the future."

Smith, who has worked for the past 5-1/2 years as assistant city manager, expressed excitement at the opportunity to lead the city government in her hometown.

"It is a privilege to serve the City Council and I am grateful they selected me to lead this incredible organization of dedicated staff," Smith said in a statement. "Dublin is a dynamic community with a rich diversity of people and opinions and it's a place that I am proud to call 'home.'"

With more than 17 years of experience in local government, Smith has worked for the city of Dublin for the past decade — first as assistant to the city manager, and then economic development director and public information officer

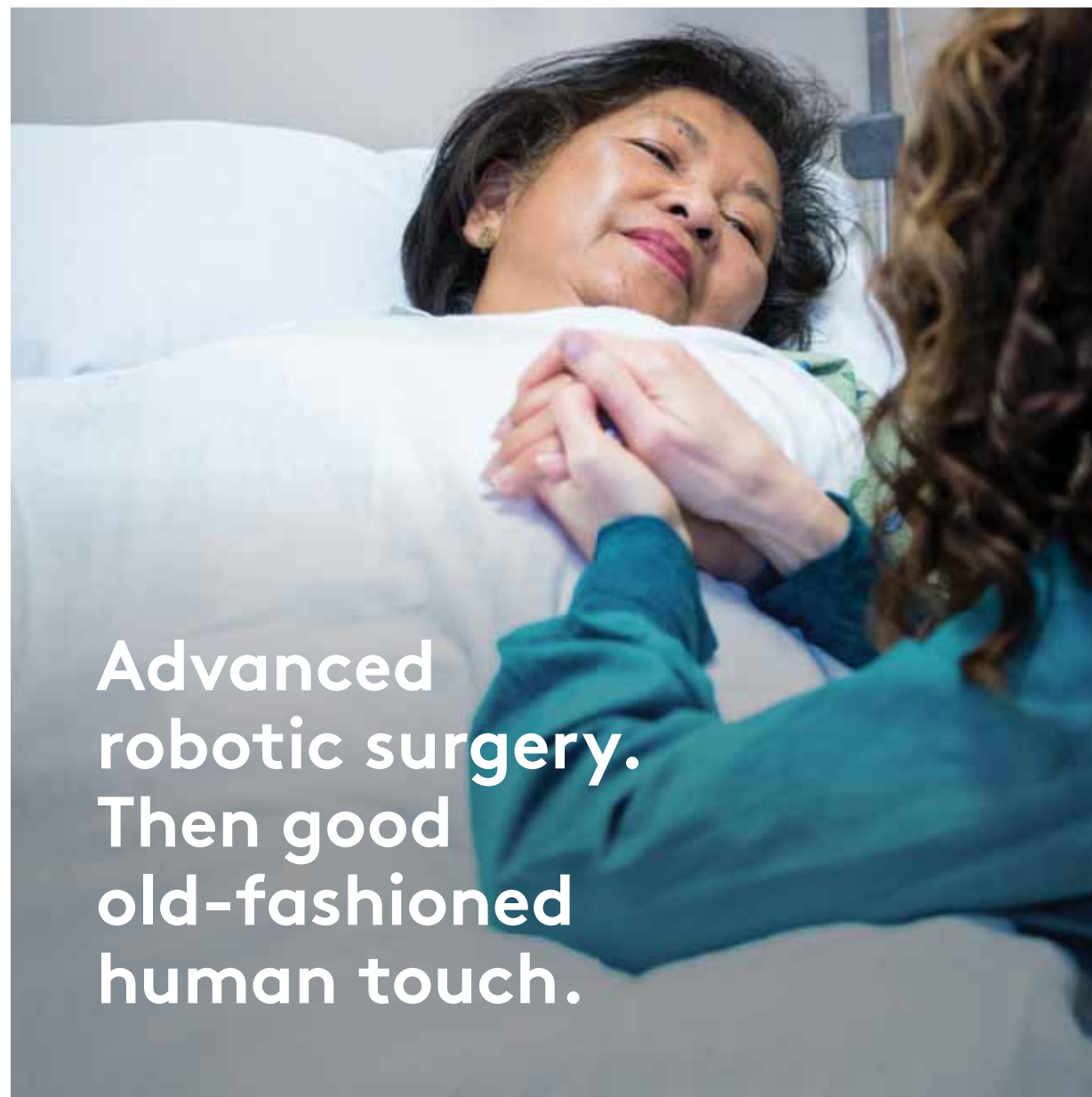
before being promoted to assistant city manager alongside Foss' elevation in 2014.

In her current role, Smith has been directly responsible for leading major city operational areas, such as public works, parks and recreation, community development, economic development, and communications, according to city officials.

Smith is an award-winning member of the International City Management Association and Municipal Management Association of Northern California. In town, Smith is an active member of the Dublin Rotary Club and serves as vice president for the Dublin Partners in Education (DPIE) Board of Directors.

Smith holds a bachelor's degree in public relations, with a minor in political science, from San Jose State University.

After college, she spent nearly 10 years working in marketing and communications in the private sector for technology start-ups in Silicon Valley as well as corporate mainstays such as Levi Strauss, Visa, Bank of America, and the Clorox Company. She then transitioned to local government, working in economic development for Brentwood and Tracy before coming to Dublin in 2009. ■



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# Meet Las Positas College president finalists

Field of contenders for long-vacant post now down to top five candidates

By JULIA BAUM

More than a year after the search for the next Las Positas College president began, the pool of contenders has narrowed to a field of five finalists from around the state.

The finalists, all with advanced degrees and extensive experience in education, are a “highly competitive and outstanding group of candidates from throughout the region, state and nation,” LPC representatives said in a statement late last week announcing the candidate list.

Each finalist was scheduled to participate in an open public forum at the Livermore community college campus on Wednesday, with a video-recording of the forum due to be posted online by the end of the week.

LPC has been looking for a new permanent leader since former president Barry Russell retired in April 2018 after five years at its helm. Interim president Roanna Bennie, who was vice president of academic services at the time, was appointed to temporarily fill the position.



**Marsha Gable**



**Dyrell Foster**



**Don Miller**



**Katrina VanderWoude**



**Tina Vasconcellos**

The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees had originally expected to select the new president by last July, but the process extended into the 2019-20 academic year — and now coincides with the board's search for a new district chancellor.

“The goal is to have a permanent president approved by the Board before the end of this calendar year, with a start date of January 2020,” said Guisselle Nuñez, director of public relations at the district.

Three of the LPC president finalists are from the Bay Area, including Tina Vasconcellos, who currently serves at

the College of Alameda in Alameda as vice president of student services and accreditation liaison officer.

Before then, she was dean of academic and student affairs at Laney College and Merritt College in Oakland. Vasconcellos also received her Master of Counseling psychology from John F. Kennedy University in Pleasant Hill.

Don Miller is another applicant who also works at the College of Alameda, as vice president of instruction, and serves as vice president of the California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers organization.

Miller also has a history with LPC; previously, he was the school's interim vice president of academic services and a dean of academic services for the division of arts and humanities and dean of learning communities. Miller holds a doctorate degree in philosophy from the University of Utah.

Another East Bay candidate is Katrina VanderWoude, the current president of Contra Costa College in San Pablo. VanderWoude moved to the area from San Diego County, where she had been vice president of academic affairs at Grossmont College. She earned a doctorate degree in education leadership from Eastern Michigan University.

A couple of people from outside the region who made the final cut include Marsha Gable, who also has ties to Grossmont College as

its current vice president of student services. She was also dean of counseling services at Cuyamaca College in El Cajon. Gable has a Doctor of Education in educational leadership from San Diego State University.

Dyrell Foster is also from Southern California but started his career in the Bay Area. Now vice president of student services at Moreno Valley College in Riverside County, he previously worked as an administrator at San Jose State University and Evergreen Valley College in San Jose. Foster has a Doctor of Education from the University of Southern California.

At the public forum Wednesday, each candidate was scheduled to present a brief introduction followed by a question-and-answer session. Attendees were due to receive feedback forms, with those forms to be collected at the end and given to the interim chancellor for review.

To learn more about the candidates and the forum, visit [www.clpccd.org](http://www.clpccd.org). ■

## HEROES

Continued from Page 5

**Job Bing Community Spirit Award: Gary and Nancy Harrington, Pleasanton.** Educators and philanthropists Nancy and Gary Harrington have contributed extensively to public art in Pleasanton for many years and enjoy leading public walks in downtown Pleasanton to view artwork.

The couple initiated a campaign to build a Veterans Memorial at Pleasanton's Pioneer Cemetery, and led fundraising efforts and conceptual planning for the project, which was dedicated in 2016. They are currently working with East Bay Regional Park District to help create an open-air interpretive pavilion at Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area, which will allow visitors to learn about the history of the park and the wildlife while walking through the site without a naturalist.

**Courage: The Nimmo Family, Pleasanton.** Anxiety led to Amador Valley High School freshman Zachary Nimmo's death by suicide late last year. In Zachary's honor, his parents, Mannie and Steve, and sister Samantha created the Z-Cares Foundation to “start the conversation about anxiety and keep it going.”

The foundation hosts screenings of the documentary, “Angst,” which explores anxiety, its causes, effects and what can be done about it, followed by discussion panels. The family wants to spare others from the pain of losing a loved one by ending “the stigma associated with mental health while creating a shared understanding among teens and adults it is ‘OK to not be OK.’”

**Environmental Stewardship: Tri-Valley Conservancy, Livermore.** For 20 years, Tri-Valley Conservancy has been protecting open space for parks, farms, trails, ranches and wildlife habitat in the Tri-Valley. Through acquisition, public outreach and stewardship programs, the group protects and cares for open space for parks, farms, trails and wildlife habitat in the Tri-Valley.

More than 5,400 acres of land has been protected since the group formed. It also saves wildlife and connects open space through conservation easements or acquisition, like when 74 acres was acquired and added to Sycamore Grove Park in 2014. The park expansion provided a wildlife corridor and public access and trail connections to parks in Del Valle Regional Park and parks in Berkeley, Sunol and Fremont.

**Innovation: Darrell Jobe, Livermore.** Darrell Jobe believes in second chances — for packaging products and for people.

In 2015, Darrell Jobe founded a completely green company in Livermore and hires ex-felons to help them transition back into society. Vericool manufactures 100% recyclable, 100% compostable packing containers made from renewable and post-consumer materials and compostable insulation. Knowing how difficult it is for ex-felons to find employment after being released from jail, Jobe, a former gang member, hires them at Vericool to give them a second chance.

**Rising Star: Vidhima Shetty, San Ramon.** When Vidhima Shetty was on staff at The Californian, the California High School newspaper,

she wrote a story about a Cal High graduate who was suffering from chronic fatigue syndrome.

When the story published in 2016, she received comments from people around the world, thankful someone wrote about the disease that affects 1.5 million to 2 million people in the United States, but is not very well-known. After doing more research and asking medical professionals to look over her findings, she published a 122-page book, “An Adolescent's Guide to ME/CFS.” She donates proceeds to the Open Medicine Foundation, which is doing research to find a cure.

**Role Model: Dana Dornsife, Danville.** Dana Dornsife first became involved in cancer patient advocacy in 2003 when her brother-in-law, Mike Miller, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Dornsife found a clinical trial for Miller that gave the family more time with him. She then founded the non-profit Lazarex Cancer Foundation in 2006.

The unique mission of Lazarex is to improve access to clinical trials for advanced stage cancer patients and the medically underserved by assistance with costs for FDA clinical trial participation, identification of clinical trial options, community outreach and engagement. Lazarex is the only nonprofit that works on behalf of patients to remove barriers to clinical trials.

**Lifetime Achievement: Alex Mehran Sr., San Ramon.** Alex Mehran Sr.'s vision and leadership have transformed San Ramon and the Tri-Valley. Sunset Development is environmentally responsible, as evidenced by Bishop Ranch boasting the largest concentration of

LEED space outside a major metropolitan area, an award-winning transit program, extensive recycling initiatives, modern systems and green cleaning practices.

Under Mehran's leadership, Sunset created City Center at Bishop Ranch, with shops, dining and

entertainment that draws from all over the Tri-Valley. Mehran is also responsible for the Masud and Alex Mehran Foundation, which provides tens of thousands of dollars every year to support education, health and human services organizations. ■



DALE BOWMAN

## Quilt of Valor for Roger Schmidt

Karin Linforth of the Quilts of Valor Organization made a presentation Sept. 7 to Roger Schmidt of the Pleasanton American Legion Post No. 237, who served in the U.S. Coast Guard for 23 years. He began as a seaman, then worked his way through the ranks, traveling the world, and retired in 1978 as the chief of aviation training in Washington, D.C. Quilts of Valor recognizes service members and veterans who have been touched by war, giving them handmade quilts to provide comfort and healing. To date, more than 170,000 quilts have been presented to men and women who have served the country. To receive an application to nominate a veteran, call Linforth at 550-2726.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

# Sunset proposes 4,500 housing units in Bishop Ranch

Proposal would transform corporate park into full-fledged community

### Children's Pow Wow

A Native American Day Celebration will be held from 12-5 p.m. this Saturday on the Bankhead Plaza for the fourth year.

Organized by Mary Putoff of the American Indian Center, the Children's Pow Wow in Livermore will feature a dance contest for boys and girls up to age 18. Visitors can explore a 20-foot Lakota tipi as well as visit a craft station for students, and vendors will offer Native American crafts and food for sale.

This is the first of seven free community events held each season to honor diverse cultural traditions. Bankhead Plaza is located at 2400 First St., Livermore.

### Record-setting run

Foothill High School alumnus Seth Rogers' quest to become the next "American Ninja Warrior" came to a close last week, when he fell off of the course during the final stage of the NBC athletic competition show.

During his run in the game show, not only did the 19-year-old Rogers make it the farthest out of any rookie in the show's history, but he also became the youngest ninja to ever make it to the show's third and final round.

### Alamo Creek work

The Zone 7 Water Agency is beginning work to repair banks along Alamo Creek in Dublin between Willow Creek Drive and Crossridge Road, according to Dublin city officials.

The trail will be closed in that area for approximately three weeks while the work is being completed, city officials said. For more information, visit [www.zone7water.com](http://www.zone7water.com).

### Junk and quilts

The Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton will be host this weekend to events for clientele interested in either vintage items or quilting materials.

First, the Quilt, Craft & Sewing Festival will offer a variety of sewing, quilting, needle art, craft supplies and more today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission inside the festival is free. Visit [www.quiltcraftsew.com/pleasanton](http://www.quiltcraftsew.com/pleasanton).

Then from 6-9 p.m. today and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, the inaugural Rebel Junk Vintage Market is coming to the fairgrounds. The traveling flea market-type event offers an array of vintage, antique, farmhouse, rustic and "funky junk" home decor items. Entry costs \$10 for adults; \$5 for teens (children 12 and younger are free). Visit [www.rebeljunk.com](http://www.rebeljunk.com).

As usual, parking at the fairgrounds will be \$10. ■

BY RYAN J. DEGAN

Stoneridge Shopping Center isn't the only retail and corporate area eyed for new residential development.

Bishop Ranch officials have announced an ambitious plan to develop 4,500 multi-family housing covering approximately 170,000 square feet in the heart of the San Ramon property, in part aiming to help the business park's estimated 30,000 employees live closer to where they work.

The project, with initial plans recently released and envisioned to be phased in over the next quarter-century, is centered around the goal of keeping housing off of San Ramon's hillsides while still improving the city's jobs to housing ratio, according to Alexander Mehran Jr., president and CEO of Sunset Development Company — owner of the Bishop Ranch property.

"You've got developers building up on the hillsides, and nobody wants to see that. So we're keeping the housing down here, keeping them out of people's neighborhoods," Mehran told the Weekly. "It (also) keeps a lot of pressure off of the city to not have to follow state housing mandates so that they don't have to end up with projects that pop up in the middle of a neighborhood."

Bishop Ranch comprises 585 acres in the heart of San Ramon off Bollinger Canyon Road near Interstate 680 — long focused as a corporate business park, but recently adding the City Center retail and entertainment complex.

The housing project area would cover 135 acres and consist of four blocks in Bishop Ranch.

Housing would be located in a series of neighborhoods that would each contain between 500 and 1,200 units within that property in apartment buildings.

The proposed project would include a 169-room hotel to accommodate business travelers and other visitors to San Ramon, a number of new parks and new parking structures that will replace existing surface parking lots, according to Sunset officials.

Additionally, in accordance with San Ramon's state-mandated housing regulations, at least 15% of the units at the new project would be designated for affordable housing, they said.

Bishop Ranch officials added, now that San Ramon has a downtown environment at City Center, they hope to extend this community environment to the proposed new residential project with the addition of new community amenities. The goal being to further open



The proposed new development project would consist of 4,500 multi-family homes covering approximately 170,000 square feet of the Bishop Ranch property, to be phased in over 25 years.

up Bishop Ranch to the surrounding area.

"It's about creating a neighborhood where people feel like they aren't going to the lake in their office building, they're going to the lake that's in the community," said Jeff Dodd, senior vice president of retail at Bishop Ranch. "That's kind of the next level of overcoming people who are hesitant to come in because they think 'oh I don't want to go into the office park.' (We want to) create a cohesive community out of it."

New community amenities planned to achieve this goal include the construction of an amphitheater with a potential capacity for 1,500 seats, two new community centers, an interconnected parkway system that will link planned residential neighborhoods, new dedicated parking for visitors of Annabelle Lake, expanded pedestrian and bicycle trails that connect to Iron Horse Regional Trail, and a new transit center to help residents take advantage of mass-transit modes in San Ramon.

Bishop Ranch officials added that the influx of available housing in San Ramon will help alleviate the East Bay's rush hour traffic woes. Achieving this by helping people commute less by living closer to where they work.

"Traffic on the freeway is a big problem; that's a harder thing to fix it's a regional issue," Mehran added. "I think people will tend toward having jobs closer to where they live and that will be a Bay Area wide trend and that's why we're doing it."

Mehran also said that in addition to the new transit center, they would be giving each apartment dweller a free bus pass so they can take advantage of local transit that

also connects to BART lines.

The project remains early in the development phase, with city hearings still some time away. Mehran said he hopes construction will start in 2021 with the completion of the first phase by 2023. ■

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#### October 27 – Succulents and perennials:

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# Time to IGNITE!

Art meets innovation to light up the night

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Downtown Pleasanton will light up next Saturday evening with IGNITE!, the third annual extravaganza where art meets innovation.

The family community event takes place from 5-9 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Firehouse Arts Center, filling its grounds and surrounding streets. Last year, 3,000 people attended.

Pleasanton recreation manager Tamara Whitney recalled the event and after dark seeing “pops” of light up and down Division and Railroad avenues as people wore giveaways that lit up the night. The evening includes an illuminated attire parade.

“You had this fun flair of almost whimsy, kind of like the Disneyland Main Street Electrical Parade but without the large floats,” Whitney said.

The event is not a street festival, she added.

“It’s our strong intention to meld art and technology in innovative ways,” Whitney said. “We have a great lineup of performances, from different cultures, and also unique ways to create art.”

One highlight will be a performance by electronic music pioneer, North Wind, which “sculpts” the sounds created on a keyboard through hand gestures and body movements into a full-fledged EDM — electronic dance music



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Shown: Last year’s IGNITE! event celebrates what happens when art meets innovation and technology. The third annual event Oct. 5 will have exciting new performances and vendors.

— experience. In addition, Quattrosound will bring its innovative fusion of classical, jazz and Latin rhythms to the stage.

“With Quattrosound, music turns into visions,” Whitney explained.

Local cultural groups will include Te Mana O Te Ra, a Tahitian dance group; Rasatmika Arts Dance Ensemble, performing East Indian Classical Dance; and Pleasanton’s own High School Music Collaborative.

“Highlights of vendors include the Pleasanton Art League, Cubes and Things featuring their Polyhedra Party, and the Pleasanton Library sharing their Robots on the Loose and Virtual Reality

experience,” Whitney said.

IGNITE! is planned as a signature event in Pleasanton, a collaboration by the city, Museum on Main, Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, Pleasanton Downtown Association and Pleasanton Unified School District to combine art and innovation — and technology — as a nod to what is happening right here.

“Technology is literally and figuratively right in our backyard, which is home to many tech companies and their employees,” Whitney said.

A list of entertainment, vendors and volunteer opportunities is available at [www.firehousearts.org/programs/ignite](http://www.firehousearts.org/programs/ignite). ■

## Walk to School Month

Pleasanton special events start next week

Public agencies in Pleasanton are partnering to present “Walk to School” events on Wednesdays throughout October in recognition of Walk to School Month.

“Morning events will highlight a healthy way to travel to school, help alleviate school-related traffic, and promote safety awareness and physical activity. All elementary schools will welcome walking

families with refreshments before school begins at front of school or lunch areas,” city officials said in a statement.

The program is a collaboration among the city, the Pleasanton Unified School District and Alameda County’s Safe Routes to School.

The events will kick off before school at Donlon, Mohr, Valley

View, Vintage Hills and Walnut Grove elementary schools, as well as at Harvest Park Middle School, next Wednesday morning (Oct. 2).

Alisal and Lydiksen elementary schools will host special events before school on Oct. 9, and Hearst Elementary will round out the event series on Oct. 23. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

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## CANDIDATES

Continued from Page 5

candidate” campaign from his city elections to his county bid.

“As a county supervisor, I will continue my fight to stop the profit-driven poorly planned developments that are creating traffic gridlock, threatening our open spaces, and damaging the quality of life in the Bay Area,” he said on his campaign site.

Former Dublin mayor Tim Sbranti's name has also been linked to the District 1 supervisor race, but Sbranti confirmed to the Weekly on Monday that though he initially considered running for Haggerty's seat, he has decided not to pursue it.

The local election cycle just began, in an official sense, with prospective candidates able to take out nomination petitions from the county elections office starting Sept. 12. The nomination documents and declaration of candidacy must be filed by Dec. 6 to qualify for the primary ballot.

Any candidate could win the District 1 position outright in the primary election if they earn more than 50% of the vote. If no one wins a majority in March, then the top two

finishers would advance to a runoff to be held during the general election on Nov. 3.

For more information about pursuing candidacy, visit [www.acvote.org](http://www.acvote.org) or call 510-272-6933.

### Other March contests

District 4 Supervisor Nate Miley, who represents Pleasanton on the Board of Supervisors, has already launched his campaign for re-election to a sixth consecutive term.

No challenger has announced a bid to unseat Miley thus far. The district also includes East Oakland, Montclair, Castro Valley, Ashland, Cherryland, Fairview and El Portal Ridge.

Also up for election this year is the District 5 seat, which is held by Supervisor Keith Carson and represents Berkeley, parts of Oakland and other areas.

Pleasanton residents, like peers in Livermore and Dublin, will get the chance to vote on three seats on the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors — at-large positions currently held by Sandy Figuers, Dick Quigley and Angela Ramirez Holmes. The Zone 7 seats will be decided outright in March.

For higher offices, Pleasanton's

“fell in my lap” during his seventh year teaching at Iron Horse.

Family needs had prompted him to think about a job in the tech industry. “I knew I needed to make a change but didn't want to be done with kids,” he recalled.

A job offer came soon after Nguyen's job search began but it wasn't right. “Eleventh hour, I decided not to take it because I love teaching. I just was one of those teachers,” he said. “A month later at a staff meeting, our principal said he was going to leave ... so the assistant principal interviewed and was hired to be the principal, and he approached me and said, ‘Joe, would you be my assistant principal.’”

“I didn't even have a credential so I was an intern. I had to get my credential while working as administration, so it really fell in my lap,” Nguyen added.

He would go on to become an elementary school principal in Castro Valley and then in San Ramon before returning to Iron Horse as principal for the 2011-12 school year.

Nguyen's move to Pleasanton came about after Hart Middle School reached out to Iron Horse for assistance creating a multi tiered systems of support program. “Basically it's a school structure where you create teams and different levels of intervention services, both academic and behavior. We spent five years building that up and saw a lot of success,” he said.

“They were going to start that this year and they came and visited at Iron Horse,” Nguyen said. “I worked with their intervention specialists and teachers. Then when

## BART board approves purchase of new headquarters

Officials say building's \$227M pricetag will result in savings long-term

The BART Board of Directors recently approved moving the transit agency's headquarters to another building in Oakland because the cost of leasing the current space is increasing and BART will save money in the long run by buying and renovating a different building now for nearly \$230 million.

BART's current headquarters is at 300 Lakeside Drive, but its lease expires in July 2021 and the cost of leasing the 369,000 square feet of office space on 14 floors with a boardroom in a separate building is set to go up

by 60%.

The BART board voted Sept. 12 to move the headquarters to 2150 Webster St. in the spring of 2021. Both the current and future headquarters are near the 19th Street BART Station in uptown Oakland.

BART Board President Bevan Dufty noted that the new building will have a ground-floor board room that is more accessible to the public, and the 244,000 square feet across 10 floors will “spur BART administrative staff to downsize their footprint.”

The \$142 million purchase

of the building and \$85 million in interior construction is being financed by a 25-year sales tax bond, and the agency says it will save at least \$210 million over that 25-year period by purchasing the building rather than staying at the Lakeside Drive location.

BART has had its headquarters in the current location since 2003. It was forced to move to the leased space after the original headquarters building at the Lake Merritt station was deemed to be seismically unfit. ■

—Bay City News Service

Democrat representatives in Congress (U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell) and the State Legislature (Senator Steve Glazer and Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan) are running for re-election, with the lists of potential challengers still emerging.

There are four seats on the Alameda County Board of Education will appear on the March ballot, but none of those districts include Pleasanton. Also, 27 Alameda County Superior Court judgeships are due for re-election; challengers

are uncommon for incumbent judges.

Pleasanton voters will also have their say in the U.S. presidential primary election. Neither of California's two U.S. Senate seats are due for election in 2020. ■

## PRINCIPAL

Continued from Page 5

that my family immigrated, or were refugees from Vietnam in 1975, and growing up my mom and dad always made it very clear: ‘The reason why we left was so you had an opportunity to have an education.’ So education was always at the forefront.”

Nguyen reflected on his first brush with the American public school system when his family arrived to Oakland that year.

“(I) was an English learner in the ‘70s, which meant we got pulled out (of the classroom) a lot to read books on tape,” he said. “I wanted to stay with my classmates and learn English that way. I learned a lot of English through ‘Sesame Street.’”

Eventually his family settled in San Leandro, where Nguyen spent the remainder of his childhood before moving to Los Angeles for college. While pursuing pre-dentistry at UCLA, Nguyen took an upper division class at UCLA that landed him in a fifth-grade classroom as a teaching assistant “just helping the teachers, and I caught the teaching bug.”

Realizing that he loved the classroom more, Nguyen switched his major and returned to the Bay Area after completing his bachelor's degree in psychology.

“I loved UCLA but I didn't love LA — too many people,” he said. Nguyen then got his master's degree and teaching credential at CSU East Bay, and eventually found himself at Iron Horse.

Nguyen's start as an administrator

I saw that Pleasanton Middle School needed a principal, it was an opportunity for me to come and do this work here.”

Whether it's a new city, country or campus, Nguyen's path has always led him back to school. “I feel like it's the best job in the world;

even with the challenging times now of being an educator, it is absolutely enjoyable and fulfilling.” ■

# Fall Buying & Selling

REAL ESTATE

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**October 18, 2019**



The Fall Buying & Selling Real Estate section will include news and articles of interest about the local real estate market, and how to prepare a home for sale.

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Pleasanton Weekly



## MUSIC EDUCATOR BEE CHOW BEING HONORED FOR FOUNDING CANTABELLA CHILDREN'S CHORUS

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

**T**he human voice is the perfect instrument, says piano and voice teacher Bee Chow.

"It is free — and it accompanies you everywhere you go," said Chow, who was inspired by composer Zoltan Kodaly's philosophy that the singing voice should be every child's first and lifelong musical instrument.

Chow is being honored next Tuesday with a 2019 Alameda County Arts Leadership Award for founding the Cantabella Children's Chorus in 1992. The other countywide recipients are

Kendra Barnes and Laura Elaine Ellis (joint award), Suzanne Gayle, James Gayles, and Rob Jackson.

"I have a master's degree in music education from the University of Iowa," Chow said, "and view myself as a music educator who nurtures and trains young musicians through choral singing, piano playing and conducting."

Her two children, now grown, inspired her to found the Cantabella Children's Chorus when they were 8 and 6. She was teaching them piano using the Suzuki method, and was driving her daughter from their home in Livermore to Oakland twice a week to sing with the San Francisco Girls Chorus, where she would observe the sessions.

"I had to fight the traffic on a weekday,

stay two hours, and fight the commute traffic coming back," Chow recalled.

Plus, of course, her son could not join the girls' chorus.

"I wanted my children to sing when they were young, besides playing the piano," Chow said. "It helps to find your voice when you are young. When you try to find it as an adult, it is so much harder — there is insecurity and baggage already."

She also likes the community aspect of singing.

**'It helps to find your voice when you are young. When you try to find it as an adult, it is so much harder.'**

**Bee Chow,**  
Chorus founder

"Learning to play the piano is lonely, but in a choir the bonding is special when you are singing with a group of people," she said.

Chow had 15 young piano students at the time and reached out to their families.

"I offered to them that if I could get at least 10 to

sign up to sing together, I could start a group here," she remembered.

Eleven made the commitment, and Cantabella Children's Chorus was born — right in her living room — where she used Kodaly's method, originated in Hungary.

"Kodaly's emphasis is on teaching music literacy using singing," Chow said. "His approach uses a lot of fun and engaging circle games."

Chow believes in prompting children to use their naturally high voices.

"Their vocal mechanism is still maturing so we don't want to mess with it," she said. "It can be heard when they sing as a group."

"During the early years, we had kids who came with no concept of how to use their singing voice," she added. "One of the most satisfying things was helping supposedly tone deaf children to find their voice and enable them to sing in tune."

She chose the chorus' name from the Italian words "canta" and "bella."

"That translates to 'sing beautifully,' and that was my founding vision for the chorus," she said.

Chow was the sole teacher for a few years, and the children continued to gather in her home.

"Then it got too big. I had different groups coming on different days," Chow said.

One of the choir moms, Laurie Stull-Lane, applied for nonprofit status for the group.

"We then became a community choir rather than an extension of my piano studio," Chow explained. "We were able to rehearse in churches."

They began at Granada Baptist Church in Livermore, where the chorus still practices to this day, then expanded to Valley Community Church in Pleasanton. A few years later, they grew to another site in Dublin, which moved to San Ramon. Then last year when Contra Costa Children's Chorus closed for lack of enrollment, its members joined Cantabella,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bee Chow is receiving an Alameda County Arts Leadership Award for founding Cantabella Children's Chorus. **Above:** Younger Cantabella members perform in a concert last year. (Photo by Tat Lim).

resulting in a fourth location, in Lafayette. Now Cantabella has more than 250 singers, from kindergartners to high school students.

"We come together for performances and get a nice full choral sound," Chow said.

Looking back at its founding 27 years ago, Chow is amazed.

"My motive was to provide a quality choral community for my own two kids," she said.

One of her greatest satisfactions has been the pride and joy on the faces of her choristers

See **CHORUS** on Page 13

## Author of 'Elderhood' to speak

Old age is a time rich in satisfying experiences, she says

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Dr. Louise Aronson, a Harvard-trained geriatrician, points out three stages of life: childhood, adulthood and elderhood. She says the final stage, which begins at age 60, now frequently lasts up to 40 years, and medical delivery for this stage needs to be reworked.

Aronson, the author of "Elderhood: Redefining Aging, Transforming Medicine, Reimagining Life," will be speaking at 1 p.m. Oct. 8 at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Livermore, and sharing practical steps on living for older people and receiving medical care.

She notes that people 60 and older need for those years to be as productive and comfortable as possible. Although people are living longer than ever before, society has turned old age into a disease, she says, a condition to be dreaded, disparaged, neglected and denied. The community should instead recognize it as a time rich in satisfying experiences that may not even have been

possible when younger.

Later life also mandates being proactive to prevent or forestall complications of aging, she says. In "Elderhood," she cites programs such as fall prevention education as being more effective than dealing with the surgeries and rehabilitation required after a fall.

Aronson is a professor of medicine at the University of California at San Francisco, where she directs the UCSF medical humanities program. In her book, she includes anecdotes from her 25 years of caring for patients, as well as from her personal experiences of getting older and watching her parents age.

St. Charles Borromeo Church is located at 1315 Lomitas Ave. in Livermore. The talk is free as part of its Life Transitions for Aging Adults program. ■



Dr. Louise Aronson



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Michael Wittman, founder of Blue Sky Biochar, will speak at the Oct. 10 meeting of Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club about creating living soil.

## Creating living soil

Club talk on sustainable soil health

The Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club is inviting everyone who loves gardening and wants to improve their soil through environmentally sound gardening practices to the next meeting.

The speaker will be Michael Wittman, founder of Blue Sky Biochar, a firm promoting sustainable soil

health and the means to make it happen. He will talk about custom composting, worm castings, complex rock dust blend and mycorrhizae.

Wittman's own edible garden is a laboratory for what he teaches, including rainwater harvesting, composting, making biochar and concocting soil-improving mixtures. He

has influenced municipal planting practices in his home city of Thousand Oaks, resulting in not only better plant viability but reduced water and chemical input use.

He also offers a free online course, which can be found on the Blue Sky Biochar Facebook page.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. Oct. 10 in the multipurpose room of Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Road. For more information, visit [www.lavgc.org](http://www.lavgc.org). ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

## Air show next weekend

Day of family fun will include performances and flybys

The 23rd annual Livermore Airport Open House and Air Show will offer a day of fun for the family with a display of military, classic, homebuilt and aerobatic aircraft, vintage cars, music and local vendors, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. next Saturday (Oct. 5).

Performances and flybys will be performed by renowned air show pilots and military planes, and there will also be parachute demonstration jumps. Children can enjoy kid zone activities, magic

tricks and a jump house.

Food Truck Mafia will be selling an array of food at the event. Also, 18 Livermore Valley wineries are offering wine tasting. Ticket packages are available in advance at [www.LVwine.org](http://www.LVwine.org).

The city of Livermore is also looking for volunteers to work at the event. For more information, including the program and a parking map, go to [www.cityoflivermore.net](http://www.cityoflivermore.net). ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Bayou blues

Marc Broussard will present "Soulful Bayou Blues" at 8 p.m. this Saturday night at the Firehouse Arts Center. The famed Louisiana singer/songwriter/guitar man has a unique blend of classic R&B, rock and old-school Southern soul with contemporary vibes. Tickets are \$36-\$46. Go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

## CHORUS

Continued from Page 12

performing in public for the first time, such as when they were featured by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Orchestra as special guests or cast as street urchins in Livermore Valley Opera's production of "Carmen."

She credits God for giving her the passion to strive for excellence to offer the best to the children who have come through her program.

She also thanks her husband Bob, her children and all the choral parents through the years, who volunteered their time and talents to make

the program a success.

"They trusted their children's music education to me, especially in the early days when I did not have a choir," she said, "And many of them tenaciously stuck with the program for many years."

She is also grateful to her committed staff and board members. Chow passed her conducting baton to Eileen Chang, who became director in 2007.

"She's successfully taken over," Chow said. "Just this past summer she took the Cantabella Tour Choir to the World Youth Choral Festival in Jeju, South Korea, and came home with two Gold Prizes plus the Grand

Prix top prize."

Chow recently moved back to Fremont where she continues with her piano studio. And she continues to attend Cantabella board meetings as director emeritus.

She loves seeing Cantabella alumni continue to cherish the joy of singing together.

"Some of them have become music, choral and theater directors themselves and several have returned to help at Cantabella," she said. "That is very satisfying."

"The miracle was not in starting the choir or growing the choir but how much fun I had — how much joy it brought me," she added. ■



NATE WONG

The training choir of Cantabella Children's Chorus. Founder Bee Chow believes in prompting children to use their naturally high voices.

# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Officer earns Bronze Star for response in bank robbery with gunfire

Pleasanton police Officer Brad Middleton was recently awarded a Bronze Star for Heroism from the department for his actions in the face of gunfire while responding to an armed robbery at a Hacienda bank last winter.

In announcing the honor bestowed by Police Chief David Spiller, department officials last week also confirmed for the first time that arrests had been made in connection with the February take-over-style robbery from which the culprits initially escaped — though details on those arrests were not revealed, in light of the investigation still being active.

“These suspects were clearly a danger to the community, and Officer Middleton’s resilient pursuit forced the suspects to make several mistakes. These mistakes caused the suspects to leave behind valuable evidence, which led to their identification and ultimate arrest,” officials wrote on the Pleasanton Police Department’s Facebook page on Sept. 19.

Spiller also commended Middleton in comments to the Weekly after awarding the Bronze Star, which recognized the officer for putting his own safety at risk in the protection of residents and fellow officers.

“I’m incredibly proud of Officer Middleton — equally so, his peers



PPD

Officer Brad Middleton of the Pleasanton Police Department displays his new Bronze Star for Heroism award.

and supervisors are proud of him as well,” Spiller said via email. “He demonstrated bravery and fearlessness. His actions in this incident revealed tenacity and fortitude in his disciplined pursuit of these dangerous felons. He is a great cop!!!”

A rarity in suburban Pleasanton, the armed bank robbery with gunfire unfolded in the late morning on a dreary Friday at the Wells Fargo bank branch in Hacienda Business Park, at 4967 Hopyard Road.

The Feb. 8 incident was well-documented at the time, though police added new details when recounting Middleton’s response last week.

Four armed robbers in masks burst in to the bank around 10:40 a.m. yelling at customers and employees to “get down!” while threatening the occupants and

demanding money from the tellers and the vault, according to police. They were inside the bank for about 2-1/2 minutes.

Several bank employees pressed emergency buttons to alert their alarm company about a potential holdup robbery, and the alarm company in turn contacted Pleasanton PD, according to police.

Among the officers dispatched was Middleton, who was already near the area when the call came in. Upon arrival, he noticed a white SUV backed into a stall toward the front of the bank, and a person wearing all-black clothing moving toward the SUV, according to police.

The department had not yet received confirmation of a legitimate robbery incident, but Middleton followed his instincts with the suspicious SUV and began trailing the vehicle as it left the parking lot, police said.

Middleton was positioned directly behind the SUV with dark-tinted windows at the intersection of Hopyard Road and Inglewood Drive when “suddenly and without provocation the suspects opened fire on Officer Middleton with both handgun and rifle fire,” police said. The officer ducked down behind the engine block to avoid the gunfire coming into the patrol car, and at one point, he felt something strike him in the forehead, initially thinking it was a bullet, according to police. The injury was later deemed to be from splintered windshield glass.

The gunfire stopped as the SUV sped away, and Middleton sat up and pursued the armed robbers on Inglewood Drive, where they again

opened fire on the officer, police said. Middle continued to follow behind the SUV until his patrol vehicle stopped working due to a bullet hitting the radiator.

Police officials credited Middleton’s extended pursuit with yielding valuable evidence that helped in the identification of those involved in the robbery.

Police reported at the time that the robbers actually crashed their SUV in the neighborhood and then carjacked a Honda CRV. Officers closed off streets in the area as they searched for the robbers, including aerial assistance by helicopter, but the culprits were not caught that day.

Last week, Pleasanton PD confirmed that arrests had been made at some point during the investigation, but representatives declined to reveal any specifics at this time.

“We are not providing any details concerning the arrests as the investigation is still ongoing,” Lt. Maria Munayer told the Weekly by email.

### In other news

• A man registered as a sex offender with ties to Dublin was arrested on Saturday after an incident involving a girl at a local park two days earlier, according to Pleasanton police.

The situation unfolded at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 19, when two 12-year-old girls at Creekside Park were approached by a male stranger, according to Pleasanton police Lt. Brandon Stocking.

The man talked to the girls and convinced one of them to leave the West Las Positas Boulevard park with him, according to Stocking.

The man bought candy for the girl at a nearby convenience store before taking her to a canal on Santa Rita Road, where he obtained her cellphone number before the two parted ways, Stocking said. No physical or sexual assault was reported.

The girl went home and told her parents about what happened, and the parents then reported the incident to Pleasanton police, the lieutenant said.

Subsequent investigation led police to identify their suspect as Muneer Hassan, a 44-year-old man who dually resided in Dublin and San Leandro, according to Stocking. Police allege Hassan is a registered sex offender who had an outstanding arrest warrant for drug-related charges at the time.

Pleasanton police detectives located Hassan and arrested him at his Dublin home on suspicion of one felony count of annoying and molesting a minor, one felony count of failing to register as a sex offender and having an outstanding narcotics warrant, according to Stocking.

The lieutenant said anyone with information about this or other similar incidents can contact the department at 931-5100.

• A South Korean citizen who was extradited 10 years after being charged in a \$60 million investment fraud based in Pleasanton is due to be sentenced in federal court in Oakland Nov. 19 for his role in the scam.

Jin Chung, 56, of Seoul and formerly of Los Altos, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Jeffrey White on Sept. 3 to one count of laundering money by depositing \$520,000 gained by fraud into his personal bank account in August 2008.

Chung admitted during the guilty plea that the currency exchange trading investment scheme conducted from a Pleasanton office by Chung and a partner, Peter Son, caused more than 400 victims to lose \$60,300,000, according to U.S. Attorney’s Office spokesman Abraham Simmons.

Most of the victims were Korean-Americans or Koreans living in California or South Korea, prosecutors said.

A pair of investment companies run by the two men closed abruptly in October 2008. Chung was in South Korea at the time and was extradited in February of this year.

Chung was originally charged along with Son in 2009 with conspiracy to commit wire fraud. The charge was revised to a money laundering count this year. Chung faces a possible maximum sentence of 10 years in prison at his Nov. 19 sentencing by White.

Son, 47, who formerly lived in the gated Blackhawk community, pleaded guilty in 2010 to charges of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and conspiracy to launder money gained by fraud. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

In court papers, prosecutors said Son and Chung promised investment returns of up to 36% per year and conducted “a classic Ponzi scheme.” ■

—Jeremy Walsh and Bay City News Service

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**POLICE REPORT**

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

**Sept. 22**

**Assault/battery**

- 8:03 p.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

**Alcohol violation**

- 4:01 p.m. on the 400 block of Main Street

**Theft**

- 12:46 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 3:02 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

**Domestic battery**

- 8:42 a.m. on Hopyard Road

**Sept. 21**

**Alcohol violation**

- 10:44 p.m. on the 1300 block of Benedict Court
- 11:24 p.m. on the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

**Drug violation**

- 9:17 p.m. at Owens and Hacienda drives

**DUI**

- 8:56 p.m. at Willow Road and Gibraltar Drive

**Theft**

- 3:59 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

**Domestic battery**

- 2:58 p.m. on Bernal Avenue

**Fraud**

- 2:57 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

**Sept. 20**

**Domestic battery**

- 10:16 p.m. on Interstate 880
- 11:31 p.m. on Rosewood Drive

**Drug violation**

- 1:14 a.m. at Hopyard Road and Owens Drive
- 8:32 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

**Sex offense**

- 8:23 p.m. on Owens Drive

**Graffiti**

- 6 p.m. at Stoneridge Drive and Santa Rita Road

**DUI**

- 4:03 p.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue

**Theft**

- 6:14 a.m., 5000 block of Hopyard Road; auto theft
- 3:12 p.m., 2600 block of Stoneridge Drive; theft from auto

**Alcohol violation**

- 12:18 p.m. on the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

**Burglary**

- 10:01 a.m. on the 6300 block of Singletree Way

**Sept. 19**

**Domestic battery**

- 10:23 p.m. on Ray Street
- 11:31 p.m. on Rosewood Drive

**Theft**

- 11:29 a.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 4:46 p.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive
- 5:14 p.m., 5800 block of Owens Drive; auto theft
- 5:30 p.m. on the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road
- 6:40 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

**Drug violation**

- 9:53 a.m. on the 5500 block of Sunol Boulevard

**Sept. 18**

**Theft**

- 2:27 a.m., 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road; auto theft

- 5:37 p.m. on the 4400 block of Yuma Court

- 7:02 p.m., 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; theft from auto

- 7:45 p.m. on the 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

**Robbery**

- 6:13 p.m. on the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

**Burglary**

- 3:58 p.m. on the 5600 block of Stoneridge Drive

**DUI**

- 12:48 a.m. at Vineyard Avenue and Montevino Drive

**Sept. 17**

**Vandalism**

- 9:32 p.m. on the 2700 block of Stoneridge Drive

**Fraud**

- 8:52 p.m. on the 3500 block of Wind Cave Court

**Theft**

- 2:15 p.m. on the 4300 block of Fairlands Drive

- 7:58 p.m., 2000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

**Alcohol violation**

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

**Burglary**

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

**Sex offense**

- 8:13 a.m. on Johnson Drive

**Sept. 16**

**Drug violation**

- 10:56 p.m. at Stoneridge and Denker drives

**Theft**

- 6:51 a.m., 3000 block of Hopyard Road; bicycle theft

- 9:16 a.m., 5300 block of Owens Court; auto theft

- 3:32 p.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

- 3:40 p.m., 1600 block of East Gate Way; theft from auto

- 3:58 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 8:58 p.m., 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from auto

**New faces at Pleasanton PD**

Department welcomes four employees, plus promotes next sergeant

By JEREMY WALSH

The Pleasanton Police Department held a special badge-pinning ceremony last week in honor of three new police officers, the department's new community service officer and the newest sergeant.

Leading the way was Pleasanton native Anthony Pittl being promoted from officer to sergeant.

An Amador Valley High School alum and U.S. Marine Corps veteran, Pittl has worked with the Pleasanton Police Department for nearly 10 years. He has served in a variety of roles, including with the East County Tactical Team, detective in the criminal investigations unit and as a leader in active shooter and threat training presentations not only for the department but for local businesses as well.

Pittl, who is pursuing a degree from the American Military University, began his sergeant role immediately with reassignment to the operations division.

Police Chief David Spiller on Sept. 18 also conducted the oath of office for three new patrol officers — David Cach, Matthew Campisi and Charles Mayo — and the department's new community service officer, Lee Godfrey.

Cach is a Livermore native who graduated from Livermore High and Las Positas College. He joins



PPD

Sworn in to his new promoted position is Sgt. Anthony Pittl (right), with oath administered by Police Chief David Spiller.

Pleasanton PD in a lateral transfer from the Oakland Housing Authority Police Department, where he worked for the previous eight years, spending the majority of his career on patrol but also some time with the crime prevention unit.

Campisi, who grew up in Folsom, served in the Marines with a four-year overseas tour as a machine gunner. Upon returning home, he enrolled in the criminal justice program at Sierra College in Rocklin. Campisi was hired as a police recruit in March and completed his academy training at the Alameda County Sheriff's

Office Regional Training Center last week.

Mayo, born and raised in Manteca, served in the U.S. Air Force including time with its prestigious Security Forces Unit, where he traveled to over 60 countries with the U.S. president, vice president and secretary of state. He was hired as a police officer after successfully completing the San Joaquin Delta College Police Academy.

Godfrey will become one of the more visible representatives of the department as community service officer. A San Lorenzo native and Cal State East Bay graduate, Godfrey has worked as a loss prevention officer in the Tri-Valley, where he was recognized for his work in theft resolution and participation with community events.

All four new employees said they were excited to begin their service in Pleasanton; each will undergo training before working their beats on their own. ■



**Charles Mayo**



**David Cach**



**Lee Godfrey**



**Matthew Campisi**

*Mickey Lowrey*

*April 16, 1926 – September 22, 2019*

Mickey Lowrey, a longtime Pleasanton resident of 61 years, passed away peacefully Sunday, September 22, 2019 at the age of 93.3 years. Mickey had a long, happy life initially working to build trigger housing in rifles for WWII soldiers. Mickey loved taking care of many of Pleasanton's children for 19 years at Shober's Gym. Every Christmas Mickey played an elf at the Pleasanton Stoneridge Mall, and was a proud member of the Presbyterian Women's Guild, YMCA Y-wives, and the Pleasanton Red Hats. Mickey loved life, never had a mean word to say to anyone, and will be missed by many. Mickey is survived by her beloved husband Maurice Lowrey, son Mark Lowrey, daughter Kimberly Lowrey, and grandchildren Mitchell Lowrey, Katelyn Blum, and Timothy Macor.



Funeral services including a viewing at 10:00 a.m. will be held Saturday, October 5, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at Graham-Hitch Mortuary Funeral home, 4167 1st Street, Pleasanton, California, 94566. A family only private burial will be held later in the week.

PAID OBITUARY

*Carl Thomas Klenk*

*October 26, 1934 – September 7, 2019*

Carl Thomas Klenk passed away on Saturday, September 7, 2019 at Silver Oak Manor in Livermore, California.

Carl was a long-time resident of Pleasanton, California, living there for over 53 years. He was born in Chicago, Illinois. As a boy, he and his family lived in Hawaii and were on the island of Oahu the day Pearl Harbor was bombed. Shortly after his family moved to Southern California and later settled in Galt in the Central Valley. The Pearl Harbor experience fostered a lifelong interest in World War II.

Carl attended University of California at Berkeley on a baseball scholarship and graduated from Fresno State University. There he met and married his wife, Joan Halls. He was a member of the Air National Guard and Reserves for many years.

Joan and Carl shared a love of gardening at their home in Pleasanton that they built in 1966. Carl also enjoyed model airplanes, slot car racing and for years participated in the Model Railroad Club of Pleasanton at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Joan Klenk. Remembrances may be sent to Valley Humane Society Inc. 3670 Nevada Street, Pleasanton, California 94566.

PAID OBITUARY

## GUEST OPINION

BY KELLY MOKASHI

### No decision is permanent

Pleasanton's downtown has a strong sense of historic preservation and distinctive architecture that makes our town unique.



However, this core foundation has been weakened, as a result of the final adoption and approval of the updated Pleasanton Downtown Specific Plan (DSP), finalized by our City Council. The updated DSP does not go far enough to protect and preserve our historic downtown areas.

Adversely, the approved ordinance No. 2193 paves the way for rezoning designations for several properties within our downtown. For instance, certain public land-use properties are now approved to be rezoned as "mixed-use downtown" areas, including where the Civic Center resides.

Mixed-use zoning means the first floor is used commercially, and subsequent floors are used for residential housing. These newly zoned "mixed-use downtown" areas allow for buildings up to 46 feet in height and three stories maximum — though a developer could try for four stories through a planned-unit development (PUD) application. These changes go against what many residents surveyed in 2017 who stated, "No more housing downtown!"

DSP historic preservation goals were ignored in the plan by including revised standards that are "out of scale" to the architectural compatibility of nearby downtown areas.

In my opinion, the updated DSP falls short of seeking comprehensive solutions and lacks a clear vision for our residents. Instead, there is an over-emphasis on rezoning land-use areas, with a shortsighted solution to relocate the Civic Center to Bernal Park.

The updated DSP should have diligently searched for multiple solutions on how to revitalize our downtown areas, instead of prioritizing expansive building projects. It also should have included more strategic options for improving existing public land-use areas, such as by redeveloping the existing Civic Center into two stories or adding a community center.

Looking beyond many debates held during the DSP review process, we must not lose sight of the real battle at hand. We must remember, the residents still have a voice to preserve public land-use areas by keeping the existing Civic Center in its current location.

How? The public must stay firm and vote against the relocation of the existing Civic Center to Bernal Park.

Why? Because then, Pleasanton city staff and the City Council must go back to amend the DSP, as it relates to the existing Civic Center

site. Simply stated, the mixed-use downtown zoning area would most likely be rezoned back to public land-use.

As residents, we must consider what makes Pleasanton's downtown unique and remember it's about protecting and preserving the small-town, historic buildings, its downtown areas and the downtown public land-uses. Until the time comes for us to cast our final vote, remember that no decision is permanent!

Until then, I urge all residents to email our City Council at [City-Council@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:City-Council@cityofpleasantonca.gov) and ask for concrete next steps and

assurances for the preservation of our historic downtown areas.

Why? Because many elements of the updated DSP leave room for potential undesirable outcomes, that are contradictory to historic preservation and do not reflect the many voices of our residents. ■

*Editor's note: Kelly Mokashi was an active citizen voice during the city's Downtown Specific Plan update process in 2019. She is a newer transplant to Pleasanton, just shy of two years, and a mother of three children in local schools. She is a former educator and currently a K-12 educational consultant and content development writer.*

## LETTERS

### Thank you from Open Heart Kitchen

Dear Editor,

Open Heart Kitchen held its annual fundraiser on Sept. 13 at the Palm Event Center in Pleasanton, raising more than \$95,000 toward its meal programs. Serving nutritious meals free-of-charge to those in need, Open Heart Kitchen provides about 3,500 meals and 2,650 student lunches weekly throughout the Tri-Valley.

Keynote speaker Alexandra Boskovich, from Alameda County Community Food Bank, shared that in Alameda County the annual income required to afford basic costs of living is rapidly approaching \$100,000 per year or more than three full-time minimum wage jobs for a family of four.

This translates into nearly 26,000 Tri-Valley residents that are struggling to meet their very basic and essential needs like healthy food.

The event also celebrated Katherine Smith, a dedicated volunteer for more than 10 years, and Kaiser Permanente, which received the volunteer group award. Kaiser employees spent more than 250 hours volunteering at six meal service sites. In addition to volunteering, Kaiser recently awarded a generous \$40,000 grant toward the children's weekend bag lunch program.

The conclusion of the event was an announcement regarding a new flagship food service facility that will greatly help people experiencing crisis or homelessness. The new kitchen and dining facility will be co-located along with affordable housing provided by the Housing Consortium of the East Bay.

For more information, please visit [www.openheartkitchen.org](http://www.openheartkitchen.org) or call 925-580-1616. Photos from the event can be viewed online at [www.facebook.com/OpenHeartKitchen](http://www.facebook.com/OpenHeartKitchen).

—Denise Bridges  
OHK development director

### Preserve Tesla Park

Many years ago, I would help neighbors gather cattle on what is now the Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area or "Tesla Park." I also trained my long-distance endurance horses over most of that beautiful, isolated and rugged landscape every week.

That firsthand experience of silence and wonder taught me the unique value of this precious natural area and why we must do everything we can to preserve Tesla's special native landscape.

The "Scientist Consensus Statement on the Ecological Value of Tesla" signed by over 40 professors and scientists, including from my alma mater at UC Berkeley, states that "sacrificing such a resource for OHV (off-highway vehicle) play is ill-conceived in the extreme and would be a particularly conspicuous failure of public land stewardship."

I am proud of our community, including the public agencies, organizations and public officials that together are fighting to preserve Tesla's extraordinary mix of biological, cultural and scenic treasures. I thank our Assembly member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and Senator Steve Glazer for working to ensure that this year AB 1086 is signed into law by the governor.

—Marilyn Russell

### Guns

How can any sane person think that allowing weapons of mass destruction, such as AK-47s, in the hands of anyone other than our military is OK? What? Are you so gullible as to buy the NRA gun profiteers' lie that taking away AK-47s means that soon they will be after your legitimate rifles and pistols?

Lie. Lie. Lie.

Just stop it and let my grandchildren go to school without fear!

—David Macmillan

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THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

### Upcoming Meetings

#### City Council

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Consider adoption of an ordinance approving the application of Saravana Chilla for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) development plan to demolish an existing home and construct three detached single-family homes and related improvements located at 3987 Stanley Boulevard, and approval of a growth management agreement, as filed under Case PUD-133

#### Human Services Commission Meeting

Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Consider support for a Municipal Code Amendment allowing youth members to vote on the Civic Arts, Human Services, Library, and Parks and Recreation Commissions

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov)



## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

### Foothill volleyball makes deep run in East County Tournament

Also: Strong start to water polo league play for Falcons despite pool issues

It was a successful week for the Foothill girls volleyball team as the Falcons rolled to a pair of East Bay Athletic League wins and made the semifinals of the East County Tournament last week.

The stretch started with a 3-1 win over San Ramon Valley led by 21 kills and 21 digs from Grayce Olson. Naya Williamson had 14 digs and 11 kills, with Ishana Ram doling out 36 assists and adding 14 digs.

Next up was a 3-1 win over Dublin, with Olson ripping off 30 kills and 17 digs. Emilie Clark had 14 digs and six kills, with Auguste Kersulyte getting 13 digs and five kills.

In the East County Tournament, Foothill beat Branson 2-1 and lost to Pleasant Valley 2-1. In the playoffs the Falcons beat Burlingame 2-1, but lost

to Campolindo 2-0 in the semifinals.

Olson (43 digs and 41 kills), Williamson (43 digs, 35 kills), Ram (88 assists) and Amanda Dilger (12 kills) all played well throughout the tournament.

Across town for Amador Valley volleyball, the Dons split EBAL matches last week

The schedule started with a 3-0 loss to Monte Vista. The Dons were led by junior setter Colette Wogsland, who finished with 16 assists, 11 digs and eight kills. Senior opposite Phoebe Monette and sophomore outside Camille Ernst finished with eight kills and seven kills, respectively.

Two days later the Dons rebounded nicely with a 3-0 sweep of Granada.

The Dons were led on offense by Monette (8 kills), Wogsland (7

kills) and Ernst (7 kills). Wogsland also contributed 13 assists and four service aces. Junior outside Danielle Caccamo also had four service aces.

The Dons defense against Granada was paced by junior libero Jillian Wittenauer and Caccamo with nine digs and eight digs, respectively.

#### Foothill water polo

The Foothill varsity boys water polo team is currently 2-0 in EBAL play and 6-3 overall, despite having limited practice space for several weeks due to the breakdown of a pump at the school's pool.

The team has pushed through a tough tournament and non-conference schedule, getting in some practice time at Castlewood Country Club.



LUREE JONES

Foothill water polo goalie Moises Ambriz blocks a shot, with defense from Eugene Kruger and Ian Jones.

On Sept. 13-14, the Falcons took a trip to Merced to compete in the annual Roddy Svendsen Tournament.

The boys played tough matches with wins against Oakdale and Lincoln and losses to Buhach Colony and Porterville. Combined goals in the winning games were made by Sanjay Menon (6), Daniel Kim (3), Eugene Kruger (2), Jackson Koempel (2) and one each for Jesse Goodman and Ian Jones.

Kruger led the team on defense with a combined total of 11 steals, and goalie Moises Ambriz kept the cage locked up with a total of eight blocks. Jones and Giovanni Minnite assisted with winning sprints.

The Falcons went on to play Las Lomas on Sept. 19, one of the top teams in the North Coast Section.

Foothill started off strong with a quick goal and stiff defense. Playing Las Lomas tight for the first two quarters, Menon scored three goals for the Falcons, with Kruger and Kim contributing two goals each. Ambriz had a great game in goal with eight saves and two steals.

Koempel helped move the offense drawing a kick out and forcing a turnover. In the end, the lack of practice time showed as the Falcons ended the game with a loss exhausted.

The Falcons finished strong this week with an 11-6 win over Bishop O'Dowd.

Leading on offense for the game was Menon contributing five goals and Kruger with four. Kim and Darragh Kennedy assisted the team offensively with a goal each.

On defense, Kruger led Foothill with five steals, one block and earned three power play advantages for the Falcons.

#### Football notes

After dropping two straight games, Amador Valley (3-2) returned to winning ways with a 34-0 blasting of Castro Valley. The Dons now have a bye week and return Oct. 3 with a game against Dougherty Valley.

Foothill (3-1) had the week off and returns to play this week with the Falcons' homecoming game against Dougherty Valley. ■

A great big THANK YOU to our guests, donors, sponsors, volunteers and vendors for making our 2019 fundraising dinner impactful, successful and SO MUCH FUN!

Celebrating 25 Years Impacting Over 250,000 Lives

**Teen Esteem**  
EMPOWERING STUDENTS FOR LIFE

## Music

**DRUM AND FLUTE (FIFE) WEEKLY LESSONS, PLEASANTON KIDS COLONIAL MARCHING BAND** Drum/Flute (Fife) Music Lessons. Pleasanton's award-winning children's fife and drum 1776-era marching band offers lesson to kids 8 thru 16 for \$14 per week. Small group setting, expert local percussion and fife teachers, no experience needed. We meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Pleasanton each Friday for small group music lessons at Band headquarters, near Amaral Park, Dennis Drive. Visit [YoungAmericanPatriots.com](http://YoungAmericanPatriots.com) for more information.

## Festivals

**NOSTALGIA DAY CAR SHOW** From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sept. 29, the Nostalgia Day Car Show will be held on the streets of downtown Livermore. The show has grown to display 600 plus muscle cars, street rods, custom and classic cars.

**IGNITE! WHERE INNOVATION MEETS ART** The City of Pleasanton is pleased to announce the annual community extravaganza where art meets innovation to IGNITE! The Night. Bring the whole family to this free community event from 5 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. For more information or to see a full listing of the entertainment and vendors, visit [firehousearts.org/programs/ignite](http://firehousearts.org/programs/ignite).

**OKTOBERFEST** At 3 p.m. on Oct. 5 at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, there will be free admission to the beer garden, with four local breweries. Local artisans crafts market, music by the Queen of Hearts Combo, food and

drink available for purchase. Proceeds to benefit the work of the church.

**ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES FAIRE** From 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 13, The Fall Antique & Collectibles Faire is returning to Downtown Pleasanton. There will be up to 400 dealers selling antiques and collectibles only. This is a rain or shine event. There is no admission fee. If you need dealer or show information, please contact Jerry at Turn Key Show Productions, (510) 972-0613, email [jerry@turnkeyprod.com](mailto:jerry@turnkeyprod.com), or visit [pleasantonantiquefaire.com](http://pleasantonantiquefaire.com).

## Talks & Lectures

**RAE DOROUGH SPEAKER SERIES** At 7:30 on Oct. 10 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, Jonathan Reichenthal, presents "The Fourth Industrial Revolution: Winners and Losers". All evidence suggests that we are at the start of the fourth industrial revolution and no one can escape the impact of a world in momentous change. For additional information, visit [raedoroughspeakerseries.org](http://raedoroughspeakerseries.org) or call 373-6800.

**TRI-VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED** At 6 p.m. on Oct. 10, at Beeb's Sports Bar and Grill Banquet Room, 915 Clubhouse Drive, Livermore, all Republican women and men are cordially invited to a monthly buffet dinner to hear speaker June Gilliam speaking about the infiltration of socio-communism into society today. Reservations are due by Oct. 8. Call Jo Molz at 367-6155 and include all names and a phone number, or email [rjm911@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rjm911@sbcglobal.net). TVRWF Members \$30; guests \$35.

## Fundraisers

**2 FEET-4 PAWS-1 CAUSE WALK** At 9:30 a.m. on Sept. 28 at Thermo Fisher Scientific, 6085 Sunol Blvd., join Early Alert Canines to raise funds to place medical alert service dogs with people with type one diabetes for only a small application fee, rather than the \$35,000 it takes to train, place, and support a dog. Food, vendors, a team t-shirt competition, friendship, and a social dollar auction will be included in the day. Visit [earlyalertcanines.org/walk2019](http://earlyalertcanines.org/walk2019) for all the details. Children: \$20, Adult: \$50.

**AMERICAN LEGION TO HOST BEER, BRATS AND BINGO** At 5 p.m. on Sept. 28 at the Veterans Memorial Bldg., 301 Main St., American Legion Post 237 will once again host "Beer, Brats and Bingo". Doors open at 5 p.m. This very popular event provides great family friendly entertainment and raises money for the various needs of local veterans. Numerous area businesses have donated bingo game prizes and beer will be provided by locally owned and operated Eight Bridges Brewing Company. Seating is limited to the first 200 attendees.

**TRI-VALLEY HAVEN'S OCTOBER PACE FOR PEACE** Whether you walk or run, be sure to join us on Saturday, Oct. 5, at 8 a.m. for Tri-Valley Haven's 5K /10K Hope Run through Livermore's beautiful wine country. Race day registration starts at 7 a.m. at 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore or to register online follow the link at [trivalleyhaven.org](http://trivalleyhaven.org). All proceeds go to local survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and homelessness served by Tri-Valley Haven. Join us afterwards for refreshments. For more information and to download your pledge forms please visit The Haven's website at [trivalleyhaven.org](http://trivalleyhaven.org) or contact Christine at 667-2707.

**JEWELRY DONATIONS NEEDED** The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop, 1989 Santa Rita Road, is holding its semi-annual jewelry event on Oct. 11 thru 13. The Discovery Shop is requesting donations of necklaces, bracelets, rings and watches. Help make a difference in the fight against cancer. Donations are accepted at the shop Monday thru Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m. Please contact Kelley Meno at 462-7374 for more information.

**SWEAT 4 A CAUSE BENEFITING LYMPHATIC EDUCATION AND RESEARCH NETWORK** From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Oct. 12, at Prodigy Fitness & Performance, 5653 Stoneridge Drive, #101, join us for a day of fun, fitness, and community as we help to raise money for the Lymphatic Education & Research Network. Prodigy will put on a 45 minute group fitness class that is open to all levels. Buy your tickets at [prodigyfitness-sweat4acause.com](http://prodigyfitness-sweat4acause.com).

**HOPE 100 GOLF MARATHON** The Fifth Annual Hope 100 Golf Marathon is now accepting player registrations. Join Hope Hospice for a fun and challenging day where you

## PET OF THE WEEK

### One order of Fettuccine

One look in his eye and that's amore! Bells will ring and your heart will sing when you meet this sleek 5-month-old kitten. Get yourself a big helping of Fettuccine and your appetite for companionship will be satisfied. Meet Fettuccine at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada St. Open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit [valleyhumane.org](http://valleyhumane.org) or call 426-8656 for more information.



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY/E. SCHOLZ

will be among an exclusive group of passionate golfers completing 100 holes in one day, all for a great cause. The event takes place Sept. 30 at Castlewood Country Club on Castlewood Drive. Register at [hope100golfmarathon.com](http://hope100golfmarathon.com). For registration questions or sponsorship inquiries, contact the Hope Hospice Development Department at 829-8770.

## Family

**VALLEY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM TRYATHALON** From 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Oct. 20 at Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway, Dublin join a fun, non-competitive family event that playfully mimics a real triathlon. Teams are made up of child/adult pairs who challenge themselves in three events: Running Course, Wheels Course and Water Activity (Rain gutter Regatta includes each child building a miniature sailboat and then working to sail it to a finish line). \$30/pair; \$10 extra member. \$5 discount before Oct 15. Visit [valleychildrensmuseum.org](http://valleychildrensmuseum.org) for more information.

**HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT** Calling all little ghouls, witches, princesses and super heroes to downtown Pleasanton. The annual Halloween Scavenger Hunt will take place from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19, while supplies last. Please note treats will be limited to the first 600 children. Children have to solve the clue in order to find the next downtown location, where they will be given a small goodie or treat. Parents will be given the clue and answer sheet to help children find the treat locations. For more details email [events@pleasantondowntown.net](mailto:events@pleasantondowntown.net).

**GENEALOGY HELP AT THE PLEASANTON LIBRARY** From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., get help finding your roots. Volunteer docents from the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society can help. Docents are available on Wednesdays, or you can make appointments by writing to [docents.chair@L-AGS.org](mailto:docents.chair@L-AGS.org).

**CONVERGENCES: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ART - ARTISTS RECEPTION** The Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., will host a major installation entitled "Convergences: Science, Technology, and Art," on view to the public from Sept. 28 through Oct. 26. The exhibit

opens with an Artists' Reception in the gallery on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 1 to 3 p.m. A donation of \$5 is suggested.

## Food & Drink

**HEARST ELEMENTARY FAMILY BREAKFAST** Let's start the day off right. At 8 a.m. on Oct. 9 at Hearst Elementary, 5301 Case Ave., please join us for a fun family breakfast. We will be serving mini muffins, yogurt, granola, fruit skewers, hard boiled eggs and a variety of fruit, milk, and coffee.

## Classes

**FREE COMPUTER CLASS, INTRODUCING THE DIGITAL LIBRARY** From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., on Monday, Sept. 30, the Livermore Public Library will host a class entitled "Introducing the Digital Library" in the Community Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. This is a free class, and no registration is required. For more information, please call 373-5505.

**LIVE WEBINAR: THE DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (CAL/OSHA) UPDATE FOR CALIFORNIA** From 12 to 1 p.m. on Oct. 2, at 6770 Bernal Ave., #440, this live, interactive webinar is presented by Sutton Hague Law Corporation attorney, Brett Sutton. Also presented by guest speaker Juan Calderon, the District Manager at the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health Outreach Coordination Program. He will be presenting on enforcement priorities and an overall update. Participants will be eligible for 1 HRCI and 1 SHRM Credit. Visit [pleasanton.org/events/details/live-webinar](http://pleasanton.org/events/details/live-webinar) for more information.

## Health & Wellness

**TURNING 65? WELCOME TO MEDICARE** Welcome to Medicare - 2019. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Oct. 8 at the John Muir Outpatient Center, 5860 Owens Drive, this free seminar, offered monthly, is for those new to Medicare who want to understand the many benefits available. You'll learn about health benefits, prescription drug coverage and how to supplement your coverage.

# Employment

### International Product Manager

International Product Manager for Roche Sequencing Solutions, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Up to 25% int'l & domestic travel, fully reimbursed. Req: Bach's in Molecular Bio, Microbio, Bio Sci, or rlted + 4 yrs exp. Apply: <http://applyroche.com/201909-126485> (Job ID: 201909-126485)

### Part-Time Meal Site Supervisor Open Heart Kitchen

\$15.52/hour ~ 15-20 hours/week. The Site Supervisor is responsible for over-seeing the operation of OHK's hot meal service at specific serving locations in the Tri-Valley. Please send resumes to [operationsdirector@openheartkitchen.org](mailto:operationsdirector@openheartkitchen.org)



Sign up today at [PleasantonWeekly.com/express](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/express)

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## TAKE US ALONG



**Croatian falls:** During their European vacation, Pleasanton family (from left) Patrick Markel, Kanoa Markel, Jenny Mack and Ellen Markel stopped to enjoy the waterfalls at Plitvice Lakes National Park in Croatia.

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

Medicare & You 2019 booklet and other materials will be provided. Visit [johnmuirhealth.com/classes](http://johnmuirhealth.com/classes) or call 941-7900 option 1 to register.

**MEDI-CAL AND COVERED CALIFORNIA INFORMATION TABLE** From 1 to 4 p.m. at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, Axis Community Health is at the library every second Monday of the month to give you some answers to your Medicare questions. You may be eligible for financial assistance to cover the cost of a health plan. Let their certified enrollment counselors help get you and your loved ones covered.

## Teens

**SPECIAL SCREENING OF "ANGST" RAISING AWARENESS AROUND ANXIETY** "Angst" is being presented on three separate evenings in Sept., Oct., and Nov. at venues in the Tri-Valley. The showings will be on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at The Vine Cinema, 1722 First St., Livermore, and on Wednesday, Nov. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the Center for Performing Arts and Education, 8151 Village Parkway, Dublin. Registration is requested. RSVP at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) by searching for "Angst."

## Seniors

**LINE DANCING** From 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. on Fridays the Pleasanton Senior Center has beginner's line dancing groups. From 3 to 4:15 p.m., at the Center, there is an intermediate line

dancing group. Come join us and have a lot of fun learning to line dance. Pre-register for these classes.

**DROP-IN BOCCIE AT THE SENIOR CENTER** From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Mondays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., come and play Bocce with us. The cost is \$2.25 for residents and \$2.75 for non-residents.

**DROP-IN WOODSHOP AT THE SENIOR CENTER** From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., on Mondays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., discover the joy of wood working, wood carving or wood turning. Take advantage of this great opportunity to use state-of-the-art equipment to make that unique project. A woodshop monitor is available to guide you. Cost is \$5.50 for residents and \$6.50 for non-residents.

**AMERICAN STYLE MAH JONG** At 1 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., stop by and play a game of American Style Mah Jong with us. The cost is \$2.25 for residents and \$2.75 for non-residents.

**FALL PREVENTION EXERCISE** From 10:15 to 11:10 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., this exercise class focuses on strength and flexibility. Other benefits are improved health and well-being, more stamina, energy and a decrease in the likelihood of falls.

**WATERCOLOR PAINTING FOR SENIORS** From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., come and

do a watercolor painting. Bring your own supplies and a project or paint a monthly theme. The fee is \$2.25 for residents and \$2.75 for non-residents.

**GAME TIME AT THE SENIOR CENTER** Playing games is a great way to keep your mind sharp. At 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., drop in, socialize, meet new friends and learn a new game with us.

## Community Groups

**TOASTMASTERS: CHAMBER CHATTERS** Need to practice public speaking? Want to improve your communication and leadership skills? Experience Toastmasters. We meet from 12 to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave. Visit [toastmasters.org](http://toastmasters.org) for more information.

**PLEASANTON LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING** At 7 p.m., on the first Thursday of each month in the City Council Chambers, at 200 Old Bernal Ave., the Commission meets to advise the City Council on matters related to the Pleasanton Library and library services including policy, rules, capital projects, service levels and ongoing operations.

**HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS CLUB: GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME** Communication is a priceless skill, whether on the job or in your community. Improve your public speaking, confidence and leadership skills. Come join us at 12 p.m., on the first, third and fifth Thursday of the month, and the second and fourth Thursday at 5:30 p.m. for a one hour meeting held at 100-200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. Contact 398-3257. [HaciendaTM@gmail.com](mailto:HaciendaTM@gmail.com). [Toastmasters.org](http://Toastmasters.org).

**PLEASANTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TRAVEL PREVIEW MEETING** Travel with the Pleasanton Chamber and Collette. At 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 2, at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave., join us for a preview meeting of our exciting upcoming travel destinations.

## Volunteers

**LITERACY/ESL VOLUNTEER TUTOR TRAINING** Pleasanton Library's Literacy Program needs volunteer tutors to help adults improve their English skills. The next training event will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Volunteers should be at least 18 years old, fluent in American English and familiar with American culture.

## Business

**PLEASANTON PROFESSIONALS NICER NETWORKING** From 4 to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays at Mountain Mike's Pizza, 5424 Sunol Blvd., learn, connect, grow. Are you a new business owner, or did you recently start a sales position? Welcome to Nicer Networking. We are a business networking/leads group focused on growing our business through networking, referrals, and partnerships.

**TRI-VALLEY SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOP** From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 3 at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan will host a free workshop with resources and information for the Tri-Valley small business community. RSVP no later than Sept. 30 at [A16.asmdc.org](http://A16.asmdc.org)/event. For questions call 328-1515.

## Government

**PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING** The City Council holds regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m., in the Council Chamber at 200 Old Bernal Ave. Council meetings are open to the public, and your comments are always welcome. Contact the City Council at 931-5001 or [citycouncil@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:citycouncil@cityofpleasantonca.gov) for more information.

## Support Groups

**FALL GRIEF WORKSHOP** The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Please join us for our Fall Workshop at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings beginning Sept. 5 and ending Oct. 24 at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive. Pre-registration is required. Please call Eleanor at 846-8708 for

more information. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation.

**MINDFULNESS AND GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** Hope's new support group, Mindfulness and Grief, begins Oct. 1 at Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Dublin. Advance registration is required. This program is for those interested in establishing a foundation of mindfulness practice to develop compassion and awareness as it relates to the grieving process. The program is geared toward people who have already begun the journey of processing their grief and are looking for further support along this path. For details visit [bit.ly/mindfulhope](http://bit.ly/mindfulhope).

**TRI-VALLEY PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP** Those with Parkinson's or a variant diagnosis, plus their care partners, meet from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the second Saturday of every month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Join us to hear speakers on a variety of related topics and to share challenges, solutions, and triumphs. There is no cost.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** From 4 to 5:30 p.m. on the first Monday of the month, at Kindred Hospice, 4120 Dublin Blvd., we have a grief support group facilitated by a bereavement specialist. It can be a great space to remember your loved one and look to creating your "New Normal."

# Marketplace

The Pleasanton Weekly offers advertising for Home Services, Business Services and Employment.

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# Public Notices

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

Allied Brokers Real Estate Services  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 563456

The following person doing business as: Allied Brokers Real Estate Services, 665 Palomino Drive, Unit D, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Tyler Bernard Smith, 665 Palomino Drive, Unit D, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Tyler Bernard Smith, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 10, 2010. Signature of Registrant: Tyler Bernard Smith, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Sept. 13, 2019. (Pleasanton Weekly, 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 2019).

Freelap USA  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 563352  
The following person doing business as: Freelap USA, 3336 Medallion Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: SimpliFaster, Inc., 3336 Medallion Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by SimpliFaster, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein February 19, 2012. Signature of Registrant: Christopher Glaeser, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on Sept. 11, 2019. (Pleasanton Weekly, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 2019).

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## Make it a bug's life in your yard

By **HEATHER ZIMMERMAN**

Creating a habitat sounds like a complex, daunting task — a job for Mother Nature or perhaps even the local zoo — but it's something that can be accomplished on as small a scale as a home garden. And it starts with native plants.

"(Native plants) are not only a wonderful source for butterflies but flies, wasps, moths, a lot of things will come to your garden. So it's not just a pretty garden that's eye candy for humans, it's actually habitat for the plants that females will put (their) eggs on. And let your plants be eaten by creatures in your garden — think of it more as a habitat than as a botanical garden," said Liam O'Brien, a Bay Area lepidopterist (a person who studies butterflies and moths).

O'Brien was one of five speakers featured at the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) "Gardening for Biodiversity in a Climate Crisis" symposium on Sept. 21 at Foothill College. The event focused on creating gardens that draw local wildlife, and in particular, attract pollinators. Many of the speakers were experts on insects, including Doug Tallamy, professor of entomology at the

University of Delaware and author of "Bringing Nature Home," who was the keynote speaker.

"Simply put, (gardening for biodiversity) is trying to get as many bugs and creatures into your yard, really. It's creating a garden that really welcomes wildlife," said Sherri Osaka, chair of CNPS Santa Clara Valley Chapter's Gardening with Natives group.

She said that the event's emphasis on pollinators was inspired by society members. CNPS hosts many free educational talks in the Bay Area throughout the year, and the subject came up a lot in the course of organizing those events.

"We kept noticing that pollinators were a real focus for our members. That's why we decided: The time is now," Osaka said.

Creating a garden for biodiversity means thinking about building a chain reaction, with native plants drawing insects, which then also attract other wildlife, Osaka said.

"If you have an oak tree or a willow — those are two of the best trees in our area — you're going to attract hundreds of insects and because of that, you're going to have lots and lots of birds feeding those insects

to their babies," Osaka, who's also a landscape designer, said. "It just propagates this whole cycle. If you don't have them, the babies may starve or the birds just won't nest in your yard. That's why we're seeing such a demise of both insects and birds. Birds are really suffering too."

Speaker Kim Chacon, a Ph.D. student at UC Davis concentrating on bee habitat analysis and landscape design, shared her research at the symposium.

"The key to a lot of biodiversity requires having these plants pollinated and then the plants play other roles as far as providing habitat for other organisms. Bees are a really important group of species as far as supporting a lot of other species," she said.

Chacon has mapped the activity of various native bees in California and shares the results on her website, beelandscapes.com. She has found, among other things, that bee habitat is very fragmented — in other words, there are figurative "islands" planted with the resources that bees need, but they're isolated areas. "Little bee gardens that are planted far apart from each other and should be more strategically placed in order to have a



KIM CHACON, BEELANDSCAPES.COM

A bee gathers pollen from a flower in an image captured by Kim Chacon as part of her research.

better function in the landscape," she said

Choosing plants for the garden that native bees need for food, as well as reproduction, helps bridge islands of bee-friendly areas, offering more potential habitat.

"It creates a network for them in terms of genetic diversity and genetic exchange and not becoming inbred and in being able to move across the landscape in case of climate change, for example," she said.

Similarly, O'Brien is working on preserving and rebuilding habitat for butterflies. He got his start studying butterflies while helping the Green Hairstreak butterfly regain some ground in San Francisco, leading an effort to plant the insect's preferred "host" plant, coast buckwheat,

and other nectar-producing plants in neighborhoods, which expanded the habitat for the butterfly. At the symposium, he'll discuss the Green Hairstreak Project's origins and share ideas on how to create similar grass-roots — or "citizen science" projects.

"(I discuss) what people can do with single species-driven projects and how they can get involved, using it almost as a template if they have an idea for something they want to help maintain and survive," O'Brien said.

He noted that recent efforts to support the monarch butterfly population, with more gardeners planting the milkweed that monarchs rely on, is one of the better known examples of this type of work.

"It's almost like some of us are in triage trying to help many of these things still hang on," he said.

Though O'Brien acknowledged that not all efforts are going to succeed in the face of climate change, he said that his efforts are also meant to inspire the next generation.

"I think more than anything, if the next Jane Goodall is 4 years old and their parents bring them on a Green Hairstreak walk to go see this butterfly, maybe that little 4-year-old will figure out better things after I'm gone. Right now it's just triage to keep it around so 4-year-olds can still see it." ■

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Open House  
9/28  
1-4pm

**1759 Spumante Place, Ruby Hill**  
5 Bed 4.5 Bath 6,403 Sq Ft New Price: \$3,075,000



Open House  
9/28-29  
1-4pm

**4183 Torino Court, Pleasanton**  
3 Bed 2.5 Bath 1,503 Sq Ft \$799,888



Open House  
9/28-29  
1-4pm

**1996 Taboada Lane, Pleasanton**  
4 Bed 4.5 Bath 1,948 Sq Ft \$964,888



Active

**3358 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton**  
2 Bed 1.5 Bath 1,146 Sq Ft \$675,000

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COMPASS

**OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND**

**DANVILLE**

**20 Red Maple Ct \$1,699,950**  
Sun 1-4 4 BD/3 BA  
Joel & Cindy Engel 580.5106/580.5017

**DUBLIN**

**6842 Brighton Dr \$868,888**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/2 BA  
Tim McGuire 462.7653

**LIVERMORE**

**2331 Chateau Way \$649,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA  
Miranda Mattos 336.7653

**1524 Murdell Ln \$779,990**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Mike D'Onofrio 510.507.2550

**PLEASANTON**

**936 Happy Valley Rd \$1,649,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Tim McGuire 462.7653

**915 Kolln St \$1,175,000**  
Sat 11-2/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA  
Kris Moxley 519.9080

**4425 Mirador Dr \$1,049,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA  
Tim McGuire 462.7653

**3300 Newport St \$1,550,000**  
Sat 1-4 3 BD/3.5 BA  
Fabulous Properties 519.8226/980.0273

**6786 Rancho Ct \$835,000**  
Sat 1-4 3 BD/2 BA  
Maureen Nokes 577.2700

**4183 Torino Ct \$799,888**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Uwe Maerz/Sonali Sethna 360.8758/525.2569

**4743 Amanda Pl \$1,529,888**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/3 BA  
Blaise Loffland 846.6500

**6814 Corte Nuevo \$1,349,000**  
Sat/Sun 2-4 4 BD/3 BA  
Doug Buenz 785.7777

**3491 Park Pl Call for price**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/2.5 BA  
Katie Moe 216.9083

**3069 Paseo Granada Call for price**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/3 BA  
Fabulous Properties 519.8226/980.0273

**2161 Pomezia Ct \$1,770,000**  
Sun 1-4 4 BD/3 BA  
Fabulous Properties 519.8226/980.0273

**1996 Taboada Ln \$964,888**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/4.5 BA  
Uwe Maerz/Sonali Sethna 360.8758/525.2569

**1644 Tanglewood Ct \$1,190,000**  
Sun 2-4 4 BD/2 BA  
Peter & Mari McDowell 596.8731

**1018 Via Di Salerno \$2,445,000**  
Sun 1-4 4 BD/3.5 BA  
Fabulous Properties 519.8226/980.0273

**892 Chateau Heights \$2,419,000**  
Sat/Sun 2-4 5 BD/4.5 BA  
Doug Buenz 785.7777

**3720 Raboli St \$2,398,000**  
Sun 2-4 5 BD/5.5 BA  
Dave & Sue Flashberger 463.0436

**8213 Regency Dr \$2,328,000**  
Sun 1-4 5 BD/3.5 BA  
Cindy Gee 963.1984

**1759 Spumante Pl \$3,075,000**  
Sat 1-4 5 BD/4.5 BA  
Uwe Maerz/Sonali Sethna 360.8758/525.2569

**900 Sycamore Rd \$2,850,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 6 BD/7 BA  
Fabulous Properties 519.8226/980.0273

**1502 Via Di Salerno \$3,150,000**  
Sun 1-4 6 BD/6.5 BA  
Fabulous Properties 519.8226/980.0273

**SALES AT A GLANCE**

**Pleasanton (Aug. 12-23)**

**Total sales reported:** 28  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$70,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,813,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,210,537

**Dublin (Aug. 12-23)**

**Total sales reported:** 35  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$480,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,770,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$873,485

**Livermore (Aug. 12-23)**

**Total sales reported:** 64  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$385,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,600,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$820,625

**San Ramon (Aug. 12-23)**

**Total sales reported:** 52  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$500,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,275,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,143,846

Source: California REsource

**HOME SALES**

This week's data represents homes sold during Aug. 12-23.

**Pleasanton**

**3836 Appian Street** D. Chen to R. & S. Gowda for \$1,100,000

**5450 Black Avenue** E. & D. Soh to T. Green for \$639,000

**5895 Black Avenue** X. Fu to Fu Living Trust for \$1,050,000

**7826 Creekside Drive** Sanders Living Trust to S. & S. Chandran for \$710,000

**2377 Foothill Road** Dotson Family Trust to K. Oliveira for \$435,000

**3127 Half Dome Drive** Porter Family Trust to S. & S. Tye for \$935,000

**3232 Harvey Court** A. & S. Ferro to G. Xiong for \$1,300,000

**4619 Helpert Court** C. & R. Ventura to P. & V. Rai for \$1,000,000

**4905 Hillcrest Way** Ferolito Trust to S. & J. Mears for \$70,000

**4039 Page Court** Blue Bay Ventures LLC to S. & G. Balasubramanian for \$960,000

**6236 Robin Court** Moynihan Family Trust to S. & S. Mitra for \$888,000

**7989 Spyglass Court** Nelson Trust to K. & W. Wei for \$1,345,000

**875 Bonde Court** M. Borges to M. & K. Campbell for \$1,230,000

**1496 Calle Enrique** I. Chun to R. & R. Aware for \$731,000

**7750 Canyon Meadow Circle #H** D. Sundt to S. Ghosh for \$535,000

**18 Castlewood Drive** Gottscho Living Trust to T. & P. Heisig for \$1,567,000

**7025 Corte Blanca** Ko-Mak Family Trust to D. & L. Silverstein for \$1,458,000

**5502 Corte Sonora** B. & V. Kamath to E. & D. Soh for \$1,085,000

**7801 Flagstone Drive** Cornfield Trust to S. & L. Krattiger for \$1,190,000

**2550 Jolene Court** D. & M. Vipani to L. & B. Young for \$2,000,000

**615 Junipero Street** R. & J. Bauer to Y. & J. Lee for \$1,390,000

**1059 Laguna Creek Lane** Ciaravino Trust to P. & U. Kumar for \$2,000,000

**4145 Moller Drive** Graham Living Trust to N. & R. Mallegowda for \$900,000

See **HOME SALES** on Page 22

Find more real estate information at [pleasantonweekly.com/real\\_estate](http://pleasantonweekly.com/real_estate)

**JUST LISTED!**

Open Saturday and Sunday 1-4pm



**3491 Park Place, Pleasanton**  
**4 Bedroom | 2.5 Bathrooms | 2,196 sq ft**

Just listed in Pleasanton Meadows! Katie Moe is proud to present this move-in ready home. Featuring hardwood floors and an open living space with vaulted ceilings. The home includes recently upgraded bathrooms with attention to detail.

The kitchen is open to the family room with recently upgraded appliances. Privately tucked away near Meadows Park and top rated Pleasanton schools in addition to convenient commute options! **Contact Katie for pricing.**



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**MOVING YOU FORWARD**

# Open Sunday 9/29 1-4 pm

20 Red Maple Ct, Danville  
Listed for \$1,699,950

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This gorgeous home and property have been completely updated & remodeled! The main home includes 4 bedrooms and 3 baths - all on one level! Don't miss the added bonus! Located on the upper level is a full apartment with kitchen, living room, bedroom, bathroom plus expansive walk-in attic/storage. Enjoy spectacular views of Mt Diablo from the gourmet kitchen featuring cherry cabinets, solid stone counters, slate backsplash, stainless steel appliances, large center island with sink and mini-refrigerator, wine beverage center, double ovens, gourmet 5 burner gas cooktop, and the built-in kitchen dining. Fabulous location on a private & serene court. This home has an impressive front presentation with a deep set-back emphasizing the manicured grounds and mature trees. The grounds have been professionally designed and includes custom hardscape and an entertainer's backyard with a built-in fireplace, outdoor kitchen, spa, and views of the hills and Mt Diablo. Close to and an easy walk to shops, dining, and hiking trails. This central location offers easy access for commuters! Don't miss the opportunity to view this exceptional property!



Joel Engel & Cindy Engel  
925.580.5106  
joel.engel@compass.com  
DRE 00961854/00612136



The Engel Group  
190 Hartz Ave, Suite 200  
Danville, CA 94526

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## HOME SALES

Continued from Page 21

- 5163 Muirwood Drive** J. Yang to S. & V. Mahadevan for \$1,425,000.00
- 1826 Palmer Drive** Payne Family Trust to Ramesh Family Trust for \$1,515,000
- 1170 Pineto Place** S. Boright to Y. & Q. Tu for \$2,550,000
- 715 Sycamore Road** Lewis Trust to N. & R. Kumar for \$860,000
- 1121 Via Di Salerno** Q. Tu to N. & H. Turkhan for \$2,813,000

## Sunol

- 12034 Glenora Way** L. & J. Barrington to K. Bergmann for \$742,000

## Dublin

- 7341 Brookdale Court** Wenger Trust to R. & S. Atiuri for \$898,000
- 2255 Carbondale Way** A. Sultan to T. & C. Francis for \$1,035,000
- 8335 Cavalier Lane** W. Cogshall to S. & I. Kareem for \$767,000
- 4335 Clarinbridge Circle** E. & G. Abad to R. & W. Pang for \$630,000
- 2757 East Cog Hill Terrace** Moussa Family Trust to S. & S. Sharma for \$1,770,000
- 7900 Crossridge Road** J. & A. Watson to V. Gunreddy for \$1,050,000
- 2626 Drytown Avenue** Tri Pointe Homes Inc to D. & S. Basak for \$1,015,000
- 3465 Dublin Boulevard #242** B. Manansala to Tai Trust for \$568,000
- 3465 Dublin Boulevard #102** Hosseinzadeh Family Trust to D. Tanna for \$598,000
- 8359 Ferncliff Court** I. & Y. Sirovskiy to S. & L. Sepulveda for \$836,000
- 3763 Finnian Way #49** M. Hernandez to T. Marcos for \$725,000
- 3928 Guerneville Way** KB Home to R. & J. Subramaniam for \$895,500
- 3360 Maguire Way #128** P. Chayanam to C. & E. Lejano for \$615,000

- 6550 Nottingham Place #115** C. Semidey to J. & L. Masai for \$690,000
- 4530 Pisano Terrace** A. Hansoti to S. & L. Kamisetty for \$1,110,000
- 7212 Quartz Circle** Floth Trust to A. & P. Varma for \$931,000
- 9486 Albert Drive** S. Kaur to A. & R. Suresh for \$1,600,000
- 6814 Amador Valley Boulevard** V. & N. Nguyen to S. & H. Imudianda for \$865,000
- 6884 Amador Valley Boulevard** R. Javaid to I. & P. Monga for \$870,000
- 3298 Araldi Lane** Khakhar-Patel Family Trust to S. & A. Chittawadgi for \$952,500
- 7367 Bedford Way** L. & M. Temple to Q. & P. Han for \$820,000
- 3821 Branding Iron Place** A. Nabawy to H. & K. Chan for \$818,000
- 8552 Briarwood Lane** D. Wright to F. Mihale for \$825,000
- 4572 Central Parkway #20** Eckman Living Trust to M. & A. Vasanth for \$730,000
- 3420 Finnian Way #317** S. Sarkar to Proud Start LLC for \$480,000
- 8026 Galaxy Way** R. Jin to P. & I. Gill for \$890,000
- 6023 Hillbrook Place** Shao Family Trust to H. Fu for \$993,000
- 2772 South Kilbride Lane** Amin Trust to J. & M. Tiwana for \$1,190,000
- 7790 Landale Avenue** Perry Living Trust to H. & M. Angel for \$839,000
- 3138 Maguire Way** Hung Trust to Y. & L. Qi for \$910,000
- 7066 North Mariposa Lane** E. Kim to Y. & J. Icasiano for \$880,000
- 4722 North Spago Drive** Curry Family Trust to J. & A. Kandasamy for \$1,199,000
- 5498 Springvale Drive** G. Bhagat to A. & R. Lingam for \$1,130,000
- 7808 Starward Drive** W. Crawford to J. & A. Vurakaranam for \$808,000
- 3979 Windsor Way** Th Wr-8 Venture LLC to M. & A. Jackson for \$1,120,000

Source: California REsource

## Concierge Real Estate™

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Pleasanton

### 2856 Gray Fox Court

5 Bed | 2 Bath, 2 Half Bath | 4,658 +/- SF | Call For Pricing



Danville

### 2007 Scarlet Oak Place

5 Bed | 2 Bath | 3,200 +/- SF | Call For Pricing



Pleasanton

### 1644 Tanglewood Court

4 Bed | 2 Bath | 2,066 +/- SF | Price Improvement \$1,190,000

Thinking about making a move? Give us a call today to learn more about these properties or our "Coming Soons."

Had to pinch ourselves to believe yesterday was real! Thank you, Peter and Mari! you advocated, fought, counseled, and took SUCH incredible care of us. We are beyond grateful!

— J. Smith



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mcdowellhomesgroup.com

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Megan Capilla



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blaise@blaiselofland.com

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**WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!**

**1781 ORCHARD WAY, PLEASANTON**

5 BD | 3 BA  
2,749 SF  
**OFFERED AT  
\$1,449,500**

Don't Miss this Remodeled & Expanded Heritage Model in "Pleasanton Valley" in a Premium Location! Five Bedrooms, Three Bathrooms and 2,749 Square Feet, Full Bathroom & Bedroom (Downstairs), Expanded & Remodeled Gourmet Kitchen & Breakfast Nook. Remodeled Bathrooms (2016), Crown Molding & Custom Door & Window Trim Throughout, Upgraded Windows, New HVAC (2014), Solar Heated In-Ground Pool, Upgraded Rear Landscaping & Fencing (2019), Premium Location Allows for Walking to Downtown, All Levels of School, the Aquatic Center, Amador Valley Community Park, and Two Shopping Centers. Located on a Quiet Street with Preferred Elevation & Front Porch!



**NEW LISTING!**

**4743 AMANDA PLACE, PLEASANTON**

4 BD | 3 BA  
3,000 SF  
**OFFERED AT  
\$1,529,888**

Bonde Ranch Beauty! This 1997 Built Shapell Home sits on .22 Acre Lot that's Perched on a Court Located at the Top of Bonde Ridge with Views of Pleasanton Ridge, The Valley and Oak Studded Permanent Open Space Behind. This Home has an Owned Solar Power System. Its Beautifully Landscaped with Private Rear Yard with Flagstone Patio and Arbor! Included are Four Bedrooms (1 Downstairs), Plus Loft /Flex Space for Office Area or what you might need, Three Full Bathrooms and Approximately 3,000 Square Feet. It has a Three Car Garage, Upgraded Windows Throughout, New Carpet (Upstairs) and Upgraded Engineered Flooring (Downstairs), Concrete Tile Roof & Owned Kinetic Water Filtration & Softening System! It's a Short Walk to Downtown and Just a Few Minutes to be Commuting on 680/580.



**NEW LISTING**

**OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1-4PM**



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Doug Buenz  
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DRE 00843458

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**936 Happy Valley Road, Pleasanton**  
3 Bed | 1+ Bath | \$1,649,000

Tim McGuire  
925.462.7653  
DRE 01349446

Eva Tia  
510.847.4310  
DRE 02072764

OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4:00PM



**6814 Corte Nuevo, Pleasanton**  
4 Bed | 3 Bath | \$1,349,000

Douglas Buenz  
925.785.7777  
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**1644 Tanglewood Court, Pleasanton**  
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Peter & Mari McDowell  
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DRE 02023352

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**915 Kolln Street, Pleasanton**  
3 Bed | 2 Bath | \$1,175,000

Kris Moxley  
925.519.9080  
DRE 0790463

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**4425 Mirador Drive, Pleasanton**  
3 Bed | 2 Bath | \$1,049,000

Tim McGuire  
925.462.7653  
DRE 01349446

BY APPOINTMENT



**4113 Garibaldi Place, Pleasanton**  
3 Bed | 2.5 Bath | \$949,000

Lily McClanahan  
925.209.9328  
DRE 01975835

Helen Chu  
510.717.4701  
DRE 01957473

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**6842 Brighton Drive, Dublin**  
4 Bed | 2 Bath | \$868,888

Tim McGuire  
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DRE 01349446

OPEN SATURDAY 1-4:00



**6786 Rancho Court, Pleasanton**  
3 Bed | 2 Bath | \$835,000

Maureen Nokes  
925.577.2700  
DRE 0589126

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4:00PM



**1524 Murdell Lane, Livermore**  
3 Bed | 2.5 Bath | \$779,990

Mike D'Onofrio  
510.507.2550  
DRE 01110896

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4:00PM



**2331 Chateau Way, Livermore**  
3 Bed | 2 Bath | \$649,000

Miranda Mattos  
925.336.7653  
DRE 01260301

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:00PM



**3720 Raboli Street, Pleasanton**  
5 Bed | 6 Bath | Price Upon Request

Sue Flashberger  
925.463.0436  
DRE 01001584

Dave Flashberger  
925.463.0436  
DRE 01243871

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