

# Pleasanton Weekly

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A look at  
top 2019  
stories  
reflects on  
year that  
was for  
Pleasanton

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Senior living care options with significant savings for qualified\* residents



*“Every day is a great day at The Parkview.”*



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

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

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# TIM TALK



By TIM HUNT

## Time for school district to ask — what if?



JEREMY WALSH

New discussions about the city's proposed changes to this intersection should prompt the Pleasanton Unified School District to ask some important questions.

The Pleasanton school board, at its final 2019 meeting, heard a report of the options the city is considering to add a second left-turn lane at Bernal Avenue and First Street/Sunol Boulevard.

The city can either cut into the hillside on the south side and build major retaining walls or work out a deal with the district to cut down some trees and take some of its parking lot. The choice is obvious and should be a precursor to a broader discussion between the two agencies.

The block between Abbie/First/Bernal that the district owns is terribly under-utilized for such a valuable parcel. It's devoted to the continuation school, the district office, some other offices and the district's corporation yard, all in buildings that have been remodeled but date to the 1960s or earlier.

With the city expecting to restart the planning process for East Pleasanton after recently finishing updating its downtown specific plan, it's a perfect time to ask "what if" facilities can be relocated and what kind of joint ventures can be planned with the city? The two agencies have different financial situations, but share the same clients — the citizens of Pleasanton.

The district office parcel would be attractive to developers who know people want to live within an easy stroll of downtown. The district also has the Vineyard Avenue school site that could figure in. It's the wrong place for an elementary school, but would be ideal for upscale homes like the type of houses that surround it.

Trustees have placed another facilities bond on the ballot for March. It totals \$323 million, potentially taking a bite out of the estimated \$1.1 billion needed facilities upgrades or new construction identified in the district's 2018 Facilities Master Plan.

This will maintain the same tax rate as two existing bonds that will be paid off in next year.

The measure did not promise specific projects, letting trustees and senior staff evaluate how to best spend the money should 55% of voters approve it in March.

In the public hearing, parents complained about the old facilities such as the Amador gym that dates to the 1970s.

This measure will address facilities, but the looming elephant in the room is how to deal with the operating budget that continues to be squeezed by the soaring retirement contribution. All districts are part of the State Teachers Retirement System that the Legislature addressed in 2014 by approving a series of increases to bring it back toward financial stability.

State funding for schools has soared almost 50% since the low with the booming California coastal economy, but lots of it has been eaten up by these contributions. In addition, because of the agreement between the teachers union and the district that teachers would pay for their own benefits, the compensation package is not competitive with other Tri-Valley districts. And, Pleasanton receives the lowest per-student state rate.

Perhaps it's time for Pleasanton trustees to consider a parcel tax that would be local money that can be spent locally.

That won't necessarily be an easy sell, but it doesn't matter how good the facilities are if the teachers don't measure up. ■

*Editor's note: Journalist Tim Hunt has written columns on the Tri-Valley community for more than 40 years. He grew up in the valley and lives in Pleasanton. His "Tim Talk" blog appears twice a week at PleasantonWeekly.com.*

### About the Cover

It was another busy year for the Tri-Valley, filled with ups and downs. We take a look back at the top stories in and around Pleasanton from 2019 in our "Year in Review" section, starting on Page 11. Cover design by Rosanna Kuruppu.

Vol. XX, Number 49



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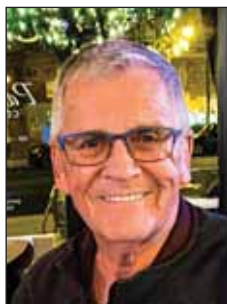
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## If you could spend New Year's Eve anywhere in the world, where would you spend it?



**Carl Churilo**  
*Retired*

I would want to spend it anywhere in the world where my fiancée was. We met at a Starbucks, and I noticed she had some chocolate on her face. So I offered her a handkerchief, and it was the beginning of a beautiful relationship.



**Jaime Lequin**  
*Product manager*

I would spend it up in Tahoe with my closest family and best friends, after a long and enjoyable day skiing at Homewood. I've been going there for years. It is my favorite resort on the West Shore.



**Jenny Lutz**  
*Event coordinator*

I would spend it in Dublin, California with all of my besties from high school. It is so unusual at this point in our lives for us to all be together in the same place at the same time. It would be such a thrill to ring in the new year with each and every one of them.



**Chris Gomez**  
*Retail manager*

I would spend it in New York City, and more specifically, Times Square. It has always been on my bucket list to do that. I'm sure I will get there some day.



**Ray Vincent**  
*Warehouse manager*

Oh, for sure it would be Disneyland. I have four children ranging in age from 12 to 18. Disneyland is a place where we all always have a wonderful time together. We've been there several times, and it truly is the happiest place on Earth.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis

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

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## DIGEST

### Holiday tree pickup

Signups are underway for the annual Christmas Tree Pickup and Recycling Day next month benefiting Boy Scouts of America Troop 941 in Pleasanton.

Money raised by the effort is used to help buy camping equipment and fund the troop's scouting activities such as weekend outings and their annual summer camp at Wente Scout Reservation.

Holiday tree pickups will take place Jan. 4 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., and are restricted to Pleasanton addresses. Live trees only; no flocked or artificial trees. Register by Jan. 1. Visit [www.Troop941.org](http://www.Troop941.org).

For residents who miss out on the troop's pickup, Pleasanton Garbage Service will start picking up Christmas trees on regular collection days, from Jan. 6-17. To learn more, call PGS at 846-2042.

### Baker in the race

Former Tri-Valley assemblywoman Catharine Baker is among the 22 people who applied to be appointed as Contra Costa County's next head elections official.

The long list to replace disgraced former clerk-recorder Joe Canciamilla also includes a sitting Contra Costa County supervisor, several current and former city council members, multiple attorneys and three current employees of the department, among others.

Canciamilla, who boasted a long career in various elected offices, resigned in late October abruptly and without explanation — and a week later, he reached a deal with the Fair Political Practices Commission for using over \$130,000 in campaign funds for personal expenses.

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors hope to make a final appointment as soon as Feb. 4.

### Committee seats

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority needs two alternates to serve on the Tri-Valley Accessible Advisory Committee.

LAVTA, which operates Wheels and Dial-A-Ride services in the Tri-Valley, is currently seeking applications to fill alternate vacancies on the committee for the cities of Dublin and Livermore; one resident as an alternate from each city is needed.

According to LAVTA, "committee members are expected to provide a forum and advise LAVTA staff on accessibility issues facing senior and disabled residents on LAVTA fixed route buses and Dial-A-Ride paratransit services."

An application can be requested by calling 455-7555 or downloading one at [www.wheelsbus.com](http://www.wheelsbus.com). Applications should be submitted by Jan. 15. LAVTA's Board of Directors approves the representatives. ■

## Council supports allowing youth members to vote on city commissions

Also: New rules to protect historic homes, redeveloping old Denny's site & loan to Hacienda

By JEREMY WALSH

Let the youth vote.

That was the message from the Pleasanton City Council last week as its majority endorsed a proposal to allow the youth member on four city commissions to receive a full voting position, just like the adult commissioners.

"If they're there and they're on the commission, they should be voting," Councilwoman Julie Testa, a former Human Services Commission member, said during the Dec. 17 meeting. "I believe that they will work as hard as I did those first couple of years to understand it and make thoughtful decisions."

Four city commissions currently have one youth member each (Parks and Recreation, Library, Civic Arts and Human Services), but the student member holds only an advisory position and doesn't cast votes in commission business as the adult members do.

The city's Youth Commission — a separate body comprised primarily of youth members, who all vote — set out earlier this year to change the situation for their peers on the other commissions.

The Youth Commission's Public Policy Subcommittee presented the proposal to the four commissions. The Library, Civic Arts, and Parks

and Recreation commissions all endorsed, but the Human Services Commission did not.

In a 5-2 decision among the adult members, the Human Services Commission voted to oppose the proposal for its body, with the majority reasoning the youth member who serves only one or two years would lack the experience to vote on the city's complex housing and human services grant program — perhaps the commission's most important task.

After that, the Youth Commission still opted to advance its original recommendation to the City Council, for the city to grant voting power to the youth member on all four

commissions.

"We believe that the youth provide valuable points to the discussion and they can help the adult members consider different things," Youth Commission member Keshav Patel told the council. "They are capable of learning on the go."

"Our youth commissioners are some of the best and brightest in the city ... They're responsible. They're actively engaged; they want to serve," added Michaela Hertle, an adult member of the Library Commission. "I trust them. Our Library Commission trusts them ... The question

See **COUNCIL** on Page 9

## Nominated for national awards

Longtime PUSD instructors Farthing, Chase up for SHAPE America's Teacher of the Year

By JULIA BAUM

Two Pleasanton teachers were recently recognized by SHAPE America for their outstanding contributions to health and fitness instruction at local schools.

Diane Farthing and Cindi Chase, both longtime physical education teachers at Pleasanton Unified School District, are each up for national Teacher of the Year awards in the categories of adapted physical and health education, respectively.

Chase, who has taught adapted physical education for 17 years at several PUSD sites including Vintage Hills and Walnut Grove Elementary, and Farthing, a health educator at Amador Valley High School for 21 years, were nominated by their colleagues earlier this year.

Chase told the Weekly that the experience so far has been eye opening.

"That's the honor, just to be recognized and to bring light to our field in adapted PE, specifically," Chase said. "It's opened doors and really provides opportunity for us through this journey to connect with people at a higher level that are impacting their state. I've already learned so much from others and hope some can learn some things from me."

Chase's area of specialty has a laser focus on teaching physical education to disabled students and her favorite part of her job is connecting them with their able-bodied or neurotypical peers through integrated classes



Cindi Chase



Diane Farthing

and special events like the Special Olympics East Bay Track and Volleyball Tournaments in the spring, which she called a "whole school involvement" where she took charge of the track and field events.

"It's a matter of connecting the students and watching them in that cooperative setting, so whether it's dance or activities like relays; it really shows the kids helping each other and working towards one goal," Chase said. "It's great to see our neurotypical peers helping and then seeing the abilities of our students and specialists."

It's those types of experiences that Chase hopes to create more often for the benefit of her students. "I want to make a meaningful impact on my students," she said.

Farthing said her favorite part about her job is teaching "not activities but topics" that are challenging to dive into but need to be discussed, and using that knowledge to help students that are in crisis.

"When we talk about depression and suicide, it's a difficult

conversation. But I think we're able to sometimes identify students that need support, and that comes out a lot through our classes, which is good," Farthing said. "We help them realize there is help."

With her role concentrated on helping students understand their overall physical, mental and emotional health, Farthing said that "our curriculum is set up a bit differently in that we have skills standards similar to physical education so trying to help students develop those skills to become more literate is a challenge."

"We're definitely striving to have our students leave with really strong skills like decision-making, goal-setting," she added. "That's something that we're striving for, that they'll be able to advocate for their health and the health of others. That's our challenge."

Both Farthing and Chase will find out this spring whether they win the top honor; Farthing said just being nominated is worth celebrating and that "it's an incredible honor to be acknowledged for how hard we work."

"I think many times teachers don't get a lot of positives and this is huge to be acknowledged. There are people we respect and people who are experts in their field who want to say you're doing a good job," Farthing said. "Most teachers are pretty critical of themselves and are always trying to be better. It's never good enough because there's always something that you could do to reach one more student." ■

## Maher to serve as 2020 board president

Yee selected as vice president for next year

By JULIA BAUM

Trustees Steve Maher and Jamie Yee will take charge of leading the Pleasanton school board when the new year rings in next month.

At its Dec. 10 meeting — the board's final regular meeting for 2019 — the Board of Trustees unanimously appointed Maher as the 2020 board president and Yee as vice president.

A Pleasanton Unified School District trustee since 2016, Maher is currently serving his first term, has extensive teaching and administrative experience at almost every PUSD site.

He also brings more than 40 years of insight to his new role, and serves on multiple Board-appointed committees such as the City of Pleasanton Liaison Committee, PUSD Audit Committee, Alameda County School Board Association, Tri-Valley Education Coalition and PUSD Board Facility Subcommittee.

Yee is currently serving her third term since first being elected in 2008; the district said that Yee



Steve Maher

See **MAHER** on Page 6

# Say goodbye to 2019 with Crawdad Republic

Local band to perform New Year's Eve show at the Bankhead

By RYAN J. DEGAN

Another decade is rapidly nearing its end and Tri-Valley residents can go to Livermore's Bankhead Theater on New Year's Eve to kiss 2019 goodbye in style with a special musical performance — some strings attached.

Local Americana, folk and bluegrass band Crawdad Republic will be bringing their vocally driven style to the Bankhead on New Year's Eve for a special performance that will be followed by a reception in the theater's lobby.

"Expect a memorable night and a fantastic show. Quite simply, expect to have fun. Crawdad Republic is a group of young talented, home-grown artists always aiming to share their original art, heartfelt songwriting, and sense of humor with their audience," band member Jonathan Williams told the Weekly. "You will laugh, you will cry, you will connect with these freshwater crustacean



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Crawdad Republic will entertain the audience at the Bankhead Theater's New Year's Eve celebration next Tuesday.

representatives."

The Livermore local Crawdad Republic features Doug Allen on the keys, Dusty Boyle on the upright bass, Adam Elliott on the drums, Dave Haberman on the mandolin/guitar, Brandon Olivo on the banjo and

Williams on the guitar/mandolin.

"Most of us were born and raised in Livermore, and we are very grateful for the community in the Tri-Valley, the following that supports us here. Playing venues like the Bankhead is always an honor, and we are

humbled for the opportunity to play on New Year's Eve," Haberman said. "We have been playing together in different configurations since high school, however Crawdad Republic has been a band since about 2011."

Haberman said that the band will treat attendees to a mixed blend of Crawdad Republic's original music, featuring both early classics and more recent materials. Most of the music will be original hits off of the band's first two albums, "Crawdad Republic" and "Crawdad Republic II", along with the possibility of some surprise covers.

Inspired by the likes of acclaimed singer-songwriter Jackson Browne and American funk group Vulfpeck, in addition to the "amazing community of artists" found locally, Crawdad Republic is currently recording its third album for fans, according to Haberman.

Following the performance, Crawdad Republic will meet to mix and

mingle with fans during the Bankhead's lively after-party, which will be held in the theater's main lobby. At the party, attendees will be served complimentary sparkling wine and coffee, and can access a dessert buffet to sneak in some sweets before new year resolutions officially begin.

While the after-reception is expected to close out around 11 p.m., Bankhead marketing manager Roberta Emerson says local bars are located within steps of the theater and offer exciting opportunities for residents to ring in the new year and take a look back at auld lang syne.

New Year's Eve with Crawdad Republic is scheduled to be held next Tuesday (Dec. 31), starting at 8 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St. in downtown Livermore. Tickets range from \$20 to \$40 and can be purchased from the Bankhead ticket office, by calling 373-6800 or online at [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org). ■

## Downtown restaurant red-tagged by county health department

Inspector found cockroaches when assessing Alberto's last week

By JEREMY WALSH

The Alameda County Environmental Health Department closed Alberto's Cantina, a popular Mexican cuisine restaurant and bar in downtown Pleasanton, last week after an inspector found cockroaches during a routine assessment on Dec. 18, according to officials.

The restaurant at 435 Main St. was still red-tagged as of Monday morning, after failing a follow-up

inspection on Friday due to the presence of several newly hatched cockroaches (also known as nymphs), according to Cynthia Bartus, supervising specialist of the county's Environmental Protection Division.

Alberto's has to remain closed until the major violation for vermin is corrected and cleared by the health department, according to Bartus.

"This is an unfortunate circumstance, and while we do not want business operators to be impacted, our mandate is the protection of public health," she said. "Food facilities must be maintained in a sanitary condition. The presence of vermin in any food facility can contaminate food and utensils and is considered an imminent health hazard which warrants closure."

The routine inspection on Dec.

18, which apparently occurred one day after a pest control company treated the restaurant, resulted in the discovery of "numerous dead cockroaches" and one live nymph onsite, a major violation that prompted the forced health closure, Bartus said.

There were dead cockroaches that contaminated the bar ice as well as were found on shelves in the kitchen, bar, dry storage area and restrooms, and those surfaces were not cleaned and sanitized, according to Bartus.

The inspector also found over a dozen minor violations, citing problems such as potential cross-contamination of uncovered food, cold food temperatures above 41 degrees Fahrenheit, no paper towels or soap at the kitchen hand-washing sink, possible use of an unapproved pesticide and operating permit not posted in public view, she said.

A county inspector returned to reassess the restaurant last Friday

for possible reopening but discovered several live nymphs in the food preparation and hot water heater areas, Bartus said. As a result, Alberto's remained closed as of Monday morning.

The restaurant could also face another issue related to the red placard itself.

The red-tag notice posted by the county inspector on Dec. 18 was not clearly visible affixed to the front window on Friday morning but was displayed in plain view early Friday afternoon. The county inspector arrived onsite around noon to find the red placard facing outward as it should have been, and it was unclear to them if it had been moved, Bartus said.

It is a violation to remove, obscure or tamper with the placards posted by county health officials. ■

*Editor's note: The Weekly went to press early because of the Christmas holiday, so the closure status was as of our early deadline on Monday.*



RYAN J. DEGAN

## Impeachment rally

In national news, the U.S. House of Representatives voted last week to impeach President Donald Trump on two articles (abuse of power and obstruction of Congress) related to allegations that Trump pressured Ukrainian officials to investigate 2020 U.S. presidential candidate Joe Biden and his son ahead of the election. The primarily party-line vote in the Democrat-controlled House came a day after protests in downtown Livermore (shown) and San Ramon were among those in the Bay Area and nationwide on Dec. 17 in support of impeachment proceedings. The case will now head to the Republican-controlled Senate for trial.

## MAHER

Continued from Page 5

"brings valuable perspective to the Board in her role" as a former PUSD parent and PTA leader.

Like Maher and the rest of the board, Yee also sits on several committees: the City of Pleasanton Economic Vitality Committee, PUSD Board Facility Subcommittee, PUSD Audit Committee (as an alternate), and the Tri-Valley Education Coalition.

Superintendent David Haglund shared his appreciation for Trustee Valerie Arkin's leadership as board

president in 2019 in an announcement last week.

"I would like to extend my personal thanks to Trustee Arkin for her leadership this past year as board president," Haglund said. "Our staff, students and community have benefited greatly from the countless additional hours you have dedicated to ensuring PUSD continues to support our mission — that our students will go on to make a better world."

Maher and Yee will assume their new roles at the board's first meeting of the new year on Jan. 14. ■

# Details revealed in LVJUSD lawsuit against vaping company

Case alleges JUUL uses unethical marketing strategies to target teens

By RYAN J. DEGAN

While various government agencies work to counter the use of e-cigarette use among teenagers, officials from the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District have decided to take the fight directly to its source, filing a lawsuit against San Francisco-based vaping giant JUUL Labs.

Filed by the school district in federal court on Dec. 16, the 82-page lawsuit claims that the e-cigarette manufacturer uses unethical marketing tactics that target underage users, promoting use some say has reached epidemic proportions.

In addition to the LVJUSD, the San Francisco Unified School District, Cabrillo Unified School District, San Mateo-Foster City School District and Jefferson Union High School District had filed litigation as of Dec. 16.

"We still do not know the extent of vaping's health consequences for our kids, but we know the results are serious," LVJUSD Superintendent Kelly Bowers said. "Educators see the impact of Juul's teen-focused marketing efforts firsthand every day. Our schools must hold Juul accountable for misleading the children we serve."

In the lawsuit the school district alleges JUUL's "marketing strategy, advertising, and product design targets minors, especially preteens and teenagers, and has and will

continue to increase the likelihood that minors, like the students in the district, will begin using e-cigarettes and become addicted to tobacco products and this will cause further harm."

Taking particular issue with the design of JUUL's vaping products, the lawsuit alleges that e-cigarettes' design designs are portrayed as "must have tech products" that can be easily hidden or mistaken for a USB drive, in combination with "a more powerful and addictive" nicotine delivery system that hooks users.

Those sleek designs, in combination with marketing strategies such as pushing candy flavored vape pods and using paid social media advertising that is tailored toward a young audience, influences teenagers to become addicted to nicotine at a young age, argue district officials.

In addition to seeking damages for marketing efforts that are designed to specifically appeal to youth under the age of 18, district officials say they also hope to change JUUL's marketing practices.

In a written statement after the lawsuit filing, JUUL representatives say they remain focused on earning the public's trust and working with "attorneys general, regulators, public health officials and other stakeholders" to combat the use of vaping among underage users. They further

added that they remain committed to converting adult smokers from combustible cigarettes to electronic ones.

"As part of that process, we recently stopped accepting orders for our Mint JUULpods in the U.S., suspended all broadcast, print and digital product advertising in the U.S., are investing in scientific research to ensure the quality of our FDA Pre-market Tobacco Product Application application and expanding our commitment to develop new technology to reduce youth use," JUUL representatives said in a statement.

"Our customer base is the world's 1 billion adult smokers and we do not intend to attract underage users. To the extent these cases allege otherwise, they are without merit," they added.

District officials say the lawsuits have been filed by the Renne Public Law Group, a boutique public interest law firm co-founded by Louise Renne.

"Big tobacco tried to hook our kids on cigarettes years ago, and now they're at it again. Juul's focused efforts to create a generation of vaping addicts with marketing that targets children is unacceptable," Renne said in a statement. "I'm proud to support the educators that sit on the front lines of this health crisis created by Juul. We are united in our commitment to the health of our children." ■

## British treasures coming to Bankhead

Filmed plays from UK will be shown on the big screen

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

New in 2020, the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center is importing a series of British plays on film to be shown on the large projection screen installed earlier this year, which extends the height and width of the stage.

The popular Classic Film Musicals of America favorites will continue, plus 12 National Theatre Live Encore Screenings from the UK are being added, starting next week.

National Theatre Live has brought the best of British theater from more than 20 live stages in the UK to more than 3,500 cinema screens around the world. It uses state-of-the-art filming techniques, specifically tailored for each play, to provide audiences with a viewpoint as if they were sitting in the best seats in the house.

From close-ups that capture every flicker of emotion, to sweeping wide shots of the stage, the goal is to provide audiences with an experience that is the next best thing to actually being there.

Among the 12 National Theatre



JOHAN PERSSON

Helen Mirren portrays Queen Elizabeth II in "The Audience," a play by Peter Morgan, which will be on the big screen at the Bankhead Theater on March 26.

Live Encore Films at the Bankhead will be the legendary Helen Mirren in "The Audience," Gillian Anderson in "All About Eve," Sally Field with Bill Pullman in "All My Sons," and Benedict Cumberbatch in the lead role of "Hamlet."

The films will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday evenings; tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students up to 21. A 20% discount is offered for a full series subscription.

The first National Theatre Encore Screening will be "The Tragedy of King Richard the Second" by William Shakespeare next Thursday (Jan. 2), an acclaimed production

from Almeida Theatre.

The Classic Film Musical series, which debuted in 2018, will continue through the spring with four more well-known musicals, starting with "West Side Story" starring Natalie Wood in February and "Fiddler on the Roof" in March. These movies are shown at 7 p.m. Wednesdays; tickets are \$5.

Popcorn, movie treats and beverages will be available in concessions for all films. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First St., Livermore.

For complete listings, go to [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org). ■

## TAKE US ALONG



**Sunny, with a few clouds:** Norma Whitt from Southlake, Texas and Roberta Gonzales from Pleasanton took the Weekly to Stonehenge earlier this year. The Stonehenge landscape is a property at the National Trust, located on Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire, England.

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

*Return of a Christmas Tradition*

### Western Garden Nursery's Christmas Shop Progressive Sale & Clearance

**Save on all Christmas decorations, ornaments, Barcana permanent trees and Luxurlyte flameless candles**

**Dec. 27-30 – 50% off**  
**Jan. 2-5 – \*60% off**  
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*All of us at Western Garden Nursery wish you a Happy New Year!*

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Special Holiday Week Hours:  
 Dec. 27-30: 10-4  
 Dec. 31 & Jan. 1: Closed

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# Holiday Fund

Each year, the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund raises money to support programs and services that care for local families and children in our community. The Holiday Fund partners with the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which handles all finances, so every dollar of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to the 10 local nonprofits with no administrative expenses.

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

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

**CityServe of the Tri-Valley** supports the community by caring for people in crisis, coordinating resources between the faith-based community, nonprofits, schools, businesses, and government agencies and connecting volunteers in the community to nonprofits.

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

**Open Heart Kitchen** is the largest hot meal program of its kind in the Tri-Valley feeding the hungry every weekday at multiple locations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Holiday Fund

Enclosed is a donation of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Only required if business name is to be listed as donor in the paper)

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- In my name as shown above       In the name of business above  
 – OR –  
 In honor of:     In memory of:     As a gift for:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name of Person)

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

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

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

Make checks payable to Silicon Valley Community Foundation and send to:  
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For more information and to donate online, visit:  
[siliconvalleycf.org/pleasantonweeklyholidayfund](http://siliconvalleycf.org/pleasantonweeklyholidayfund)

## 2019-2020 Holiday Fund Donors

As of December 17, 191 donors have contributed \$44,526 to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

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Continued from Page 5

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IN HONOR OF

Joy of "5" Grandkids "SMMCB"  
 from R&G Spicka..... \*\*  
 My Family, from Eleanor  
 Tandowsky ..... \*\*  
 Hans Hansen, from Art & Tuny  
 Dunkley..... \*\*

AS A GIFT FOR

Jon Threshie's birthday ..... \*\*  
 Those less fortunate,  
 from Mark & LaRene Kidd..... \*\*

tonight is: Do you trust our youth commissioners to make good decisions on behalf of their community?"

Human Services Commissioner Mike Sedlak said he recognizes the hard work of the commission's youth members, but the nonprofit grant process requires "a commissioner's seasoned judgment to make a determination as to the level of funding, if funded at all."

"Their request undercuts the need to become familiar with the complexity of the special needs of the agencies that the Human Services Commission considers funding for through the grant process," he told the council. "Two years and out is not the long-term commitment that the human services commissioners sign up for."

The council majority supported the recommendation to give the youth member a vote on all four commissions.

"The comment was made that some of the youth commissioners, they only serve a year or two. But if you're an adult and you become a member of this commission, do you vote the first year even though you've only served a partial year? And you also vote the second year?" Councilwoman Karla Brown asked, rhetorically.

Mayor Jerry Thorne added, "Commissions aren't final decision-makers. The commissions recommend to the City Council, and (we) make that final decision. So if there was a problem with a vote ... then the commissions could come talk to the council itself."

Councilman Jerry Pentin dissented, saying he thought the council should respect the Human Services Commission's recommendation. "I think when you take a commission that has asked not to give voting power to the (youth) commissioner, we have to listen. We're not listening."

The council voted 4-1 to approve the introduction and first reading of the ordinance to implement the youth vote. The second reading and final adoption is scheduled for the Jan. 21 council meeting.

As part of their support, the

council majority asked that the four commissions report back in one year about the impact of the youth member voting. The proposal does not change the commissions' quorum requirements, but that could be reconsidered in a year.

In other business

The council gave unanimous support to an ordinance creating strict penalties for unauthorized demolition or alterations of buildings designated as historic in Pleasanton.

The new regulations include a maximum fine for unpermitted work based on the replacement value or the appraised value — whichever amount is greater — of the affected part of the historic building, before demolition or alteration, as determined by a licensed appraiser selected by the city.

In practice, the ultimate fine amount in each case would be determined by the city's community development director, based on the range from \$0 up to the maximum.

The other key penalty would be restrictions on future redevelopment at the site, meaning the owner could not reconstruct with a new building that exceeds the square footage, floor-area ratio, height or placement onsite as the demolished original structure for 20 years.

In an associated resolution, the council approved an update to the city's purchasing procedures and manual to allow the city to cancel contracts with businesses that violate the Pleasanton Municipal Code, including the new rules for historic buildings.

The new regulations were inspired by the case of an historic house on Second Street being fully demolished this summer — when the owner only had permits to tear down the back portion. While investigating that incident, officials realized the city code had no provisions specifically about unpermitted work on historic buildings.

The council endorsed a property owner's proposal to tear down the former Denny's restaurant building at 6455 Owens Drive and replace it with a larger commercial building with multiple tenants.

The project parcel, with the

rundown restaurant building left vacant since Denny's moved out about four years ago, is situated between Johnson Court and the Larkspur Landing hotel, next to the oft-crowded driveway to Chick-fil-A and a short block from the busy Owens Drive-Hopyard Road intersection.

Owner Abbas Mash plans to demolish the old restaurant and construct a single rectangular building at 10,980 square feet with five commercial tenant suites, with one intended to be a restaurant and the others some form of retail or commercial business.

The council approved of the city loaning \$732,548 to the Hacienda Business Park Owners Association to renovate certain landscaped areas in street medians and other public right-of-way in Hacienda that the association is required to maintain.

The landscaping has fallen into very poor condition from drought impacts, deferred maintenance and other reasons, and with Hacienda lacking the reserve funds to pay for the entire project upfront, city staff sees the loan as the most efficient and expedient way to get the needed improvements completed, assistant city manager Brian Dolan said.

The work will involve replacing plants, increasing plant density, replacing lost trees and installing landscaping that complies with the city's water efficient landscape ordinance.

A 10-year loan with 2.72% annual interest, the \$732,548 agreement will be paid out of the city's Downtown and North Pleasanton Reserve Fund, which is comprised of unused bond proceeds from the North Pleasanton Improvement District.

The council's vote was 3-2. Brown dissented in opposition to using public funds for a large loan to a private entity that could pursue a bank loan or a special assessment. Testa said she couldn't support without provisions to allow the city to impose penalties if Hacienda's public landscaping deteriorates again in the future.

Council members signed off on the mayor's recommendations for assigning his colleagues to various committees, boards and liaison positions for 2020. Among them was Councilwoman Kathy Narum being named vice mayor for the year.

The council approved a nine-item consent calendar, which included a \$249,985 contract with Cascadia Consulting Group for services related to updating the city's Climate Action Plan, and two contracts with Jeff Katz Architecture — \$42,000 for construction support for the library office and storage remodel and \$12,500 for a privacy needs assessment at Fire Station No. 2.

All votes were unanimous, except Brown dissented for the item that renominated former councilman Arne Olson to serve as Pleasanton's representative on the Alameda County Housing Commission's Housing Authority. She argued the position should have been more visibly recruited in the public. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fun farewell to 2019

The 27th annual Big Fat Year-End Kiss-Off Comedy Show will present an evening of pure yuks at the expense of the year 2019, at 8 p.m. tonight (Dec. 27). Stand-up, improvisation and loosely written sketches (PG-13) are guaranteed to mock, scoff and taunt with taste. This year's event stars regulars Debi Durst, Michael Bossier, Johnny Steele, Mari Magaloni, Arthur Gaus and special guests Diane Amos and Dan St. Paul. Tickets are \$20-\$30. Go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave.

# POLICE BULLETIN

## Teens arrested for brazen burglary on video in Vintage Hills

Pleasanton police announced last Friday that three teenagers have been arrested in connection with the high-profile crime from September in which masked burglars kicked in the front door of a Vintage Hills house while the homeowner and her young son were inside — with it all caught on camera.

The teen boys, already lead suspects in a similar crime in Fremont, were booked into a juvenile detention facility on suspicion of residential burglary for the Pleasanton incident. The case was forwarded to the Alameda County District Attorney's Office for review for formal charges within the past week, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Steve Ayers.

The arrestees' names were not released because they are underage, but Ayers said there were two

17-year-olds and one 15-year-old.

The case was put in the national spotlight back in September after Ring doorbell-security video of the burglars kicking in the front door with the family inside was shown across news media and went viral.

The original break-in occurred around 8:30 a.m. on Sept. 11 at a house on Burgundy Drive while one of the homeowners was upstairs taking a shower and her 9-year-old son was playing downstairs.

She told news outlets at the time she'd heard her dogs growling and a loud commotion before the masked burglars broke in. They were scared away after she started yelling at them, likely because they were not expecting anyone to be home. Although the door was damaged, nothing was taken from the home.

The homeowners shared the video footage with police, and it was also posted on social media. Detectives working to identify and apprehend the culprits also alerted neighboring law enforcement agencies about the case, Ayers said.

Then, on Halloween day, Fremont police detectives contacted Pleasanton PD to say they had arrested three juveniles in connection with a similar residential burglary in their city. Pleasanton detectives worked for weeks to collect evidence that eventually linked the trio to the Burgundy Drive break-in, according to Ayers.

The updated final police report was completed for DA's office review on Dec. 13, Ayers said.

### In other news

- A man was sentenced to two days in jail and three years of probation after pleading no contest in the fall to misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter for causing the all-terrain vehicle crash that killed a Tri-Valley native at a state-operated park near Pismo Beach in June, prosecutors confirmed last week.

Oscar Renteria Corchado, now 35, also was ordered to complete 300 hours of community work service and pay a \$500 fine for his misdemeanor conviction in San Luis Obispo County Superior Court on

Oct. 28, according to assistant district attorney Eric Dobroth.

Corchado was identified early on as the at-fault driver in the ATV collision at Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area that killed 37-year-old Shawn Joseph Imlig, a Brentwood man who was born in Livermore and spent parts of his life living in Pleasanton as well as Livermore.

An avid outdoorsman, Imlig died from injuries he sustained when, while riding an ATV on a dune on the evening of June 22, he was struck in the helmet by a recreational off-highway vehicle (ROV) that went airborne after reaching the top of the dune, California State Parks officials reported at the time.

State Parks rangers initially arrested Corchado on suspicion of fatal DUI, alleging he was drunk and speeding at the time of the crash, but further investigation led the San Luis Obispo County DA's Office to not file DUI-related charges — though Dobroth did not elaborate on the evidentiary reasons for that decision.

Prosecutors instead charged Corchado with one misdemeanor count of vehicular manslaughter without gross negligence on Aug. 8.

After his no contest plea on Oct. 28, Corchado was also ordered to pay restitution to Imlig's family. A restitution status determination hearing is scheduled for Jan. 29, Dobroth said.

- A state judicial commission last

week publicly admonished Alameda County Superior Court Judge Morris Jacobson for misconduct that included hitting a defense attorney on the hand in 2011.

The public admonition by the San Francisco-based Commission on Judicial Performance was also for a second count of using crude and inappropriate language when telling a female court administrator in 2016 about sexual misconduct by a Texas judge two decades earlier.

Jacobson agreed to the commission's decision on both counts and agreed not to seek review of his case by the California Supreme Court.

According to facts agreed to by Jacobson, he hit the hand of a deputy public defender on June 29, 2011, after he called her up to the bench to apologize for having spoken sharply to her during an arraignment.

Jacobson's lawyer, Edith Matthai, said the judge agreed to and stands by the stipulated language that he "hit her hand, and inadvertently used enough force to leave a visible impression."

But the attorney said, "As his counsel I can say that the stipulated language was not intended to convey that there was an assault ... Neither Judge Jacobson nor I believe it is appropriate to assault anyone."

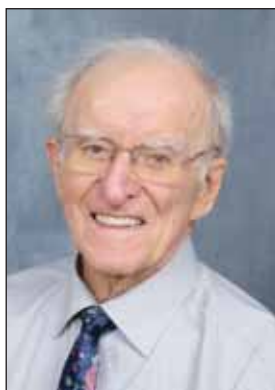
The admonition is the third time the commission has rebuked Jacobson. ■

—Jeremy Walsh  
and Bay City News Service

## Richard Donald Hannigan

August 3, 1935 - December 14, 2019

Richard Donald Hannigan, aged 84, a long-time resident of Pleasanton, CA, passed away at home December 14, 2019 surrounded by family after a hard-fought battle with pancreatic cancer.



Richard was born in Leominster, Massachusetts on August 3, 1935. He grew up in Lowell, MA, where he attended Lowell High School, and met the first love of his life, Helene (deceased 1991). He attended Bentley College of Accounting in Boston, MA. Upon graduation, he married Helene and had 3 daughters, Janice, Gail & Jill. In 1963, with \$1500 in his pocket, he packed his wife and 3 daughters in the family car and drove across country to Tempe, Arizona.

In Arizona, Richard started his career at Motorola in the semi-conductor industry. In 1968 he moved to Cupertino, CA where he continued to elevate his career at National Semi-Conductor, Fairchild Semi-Conductor and Eaton Corporation. After 30 years in the industry, he concluded his career as CFO of Genus Inc.

He met and married the second love of his life, June Kennedy, in 1994 and moved to Pleasanton, CA. They cherished 25 years of marriage during which they enjoyed frequent visits with children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren; trips to the east coast to visit family, countless golf trips with wonderful friends, and many days at Castlewood Country Club. Richard also loved to watch and care for his flock of hummingbirds in his backyard with passion.

Richard is survived by his wife June Hannigan, his three daughters Janice Kerr, Gail Loperena, and Jill Bodenbach, stepdaughter Natalie Kennedy, 10 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren.

He was loved greatly and will be missed by his family & friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00am on Saturday, December 21, 2019 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566. There will be a private family internment at Alta Mesa Memorial Park, Palo Alto.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hope Hospice, Dublin, CA. <https://hopehospice.com/donate/ways-to-donate/>  
Checks can be mailed to: 6377 Clark Avenue, Dublin, CA 94568.

PAID OBITUARY

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## Gilbert E. Machado

January 28, 1925 - December 2, 2019

Gilbert Machado passed away on Monday, December 2, 2019. He touched many lives with his positive outlook on life. He worked at Lone Star for 48 years and loved his job. Gilbert was born in Pleasanton on his family's ranch on Vineyard Ave. He loved hunting up in the Ruby Mountains in Elko, Nevada, with his friends Charley and Kirk Malot. Gilbert is survived by his loving wife, Dolores Machado, of 70 years, devoted children; Michelle Casey Machado, Kathy Rizzo (passed), grandchildren; Tom Cohan, Ty Poorman, Erik Dayton, Tony Rizzo, Shane Rizzo, Misty Rizzo, great-grandchildren; Alaze, Elean, Anthony, and Emma. Gilbert will be truly missed by all who knew him. At Gilbert's request he did not want any services. His daughter will take his ashes up to the Ruby's in the springtime.

PAID OBITUARY

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Dec. 15

#### Burglary

■ 2 p.m. on the 5800 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Fraud

■ 11:53 a.m. on the 4500 block of Shearwater Road

#### Theft from auto

■ 7:18 a.m. on the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

■ 11:06 a.m. on the 5700 block of Belleza Drive

#### Vandalism

■ 8:16 a.m. on the 500 block of St. Mary Street

#### DUI

■ 2:20 a.m. on the 3400 block of Gravina Place

#### Domestic battery

■ 12:18 a.m. on Johnson Drive

### Dec. 14

#### DUI

■ 10:19 p.m. at Santa Rita Road and Mohr Avenue

#### Theft

■ 6:12 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 7:01 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 7:45 p.m. at Laurel Creek Way and Foothill Road

#### Drug violation

■ 7:19 p.m. at Santa Rita Road and Pickens Lane

#### Assault/battery

■ 1:48 p.m. on the 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Graffiti

■ 12:09 p.m. on the 4400 block of Railroad Avenue

#### Vandalism

■ 12:04 p.m. on the 3000 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Burglary

■ 11:32 a.m. on the 5700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

### Dec. 13

#### Drug violation

■ 6:27 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Theft

■ 1:59 a.m. on the 1300 block of Harvest Road

■ 8:17 a.m., 3800 block of Saratoga Way; theft from auto

■ 8:59 a.m., 5700 block of Owens Drive; theft from auto

■ 9:06 a.m., 3600 block of Manchester Street; theft from auto

■ 9:22 a.m., 5600 block of Owens Drive; theft from auto



MIKE SEDLAK

Pleasanton City Council members hosted the ceremonial cake-cutting for the six-tier anniversary cake designed and baked by Primrose Bakery for Pleasanton's 125th Anniversary Celebration on Aug. 2.

# WHAT A YEAR

A look at 2019 stories shows Pleasanton at its planning finest

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Pleasanton's secret sauce is its planning, and a look back at Pleasanton Weekly stories from 2019 illustrates this as the city bought property adjacent to the Firehouse Arts Center, OK'd the updated Downtown Specific Plan, and adopted a work plan of priorities for the next two years. The school district continued to look ahead to accommodating increasing student populations as well as dealing with aging facilities and voted to put a \$323 million bond measure on the March ballot to fund upgrades.

Projects came to fruition this year, too, including opening the new youth agricultural center at the fairgrounds, completed upgrades at the aquatic center locker rooms and solar panels at the Amador Valley High parking lot.

And 2019 saw its share of happenings.

Pleasanton was the scene of its first Women's March, the arts continued to thrive, student-athletes had excellent seasons, teens found more than \$1.6 million in potential energy saving with a summer energy

audit of city and school buildings, fundraisers hit their targets, and the 2019 Alameda County Fair ran for 18 days, kicking off with its last cattle drive through downtown.

The city also recognized its part in the larger community. As dozens of housing crisis bills worked their way through the State Legislature, Pleasanton and its Tri-Valley neighbors endorsed a Tri-Valley cities' housing and policy framework of regional housing goals. On a hopeful note, resident Don Lewis released a new album, "Amazing Voyage," an effort to help heal the chaotic political moods now gripping the nation.

The year began and ended being impacted by the weather — some flooding early in the year, PG&E outages in October, and the annual holiday parade being canceled in December.

A big event for Pleasanton was the 125th anniversary of its incorporation, and the city celebrated with two months of special events during the summer and a big party downtown.

Happy Birthday to Pleasanton, goodbye to 2019, and welcome, 2020!

## January

- The Alameda County Sheriff's Office recently shines a spotlight on the 40th anniversary of the murder of Frances Rash at her home in Dublin, putting out a renewed call for information that could help investigators solve the cold-case homicide.

- Zone 7 Water Agency releases an advisory to help residents be prepared for potential flooding during the wet weather, including making sandbags available.

- The city of Pleasanton completes the latest update of the Development Project Status map on its main webpage.

- Livermore Valley Opera holds a new kind of benefit event, an elegant evening with dinner and a peek "Behind the Curtain" as though attendees are backstage at an opera.

- As part of first steps toward building a second campus on the Donlon Elementary School property, the school board begins reviewing options to pay for the estimated \$61.25 million project.

- Chabot-Las Positas Community College District trustees restart the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Longtime Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty announced his retirement after his current term.

hiring process to find a permanent chancellor after not approving any applicant from the first round of recruitment. The board soon elevates vice chancellor Ronald P. Gerhard to interim chancellor during the new search process.

- Pleasanton City Council gives its initial endorsement to changes proposed for the policies governing development in Hacienda Business Park aimed at updating regulations.
- The annual Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund giving campaign wraps up for the season, raising \$68,416 to benefit 15 Tri-Valley nonprofits.
- Chabot-Las Positas Trustee Carlo Vecchiarelli, a longtime Pleasanton resident, steps down from the Board

of Trustees to retire from district service after more than 50 years.

- On the second anniversary of the 2017 international Women's March, hundreds of Tri-Valley residents gather for Pleasanton's first Women's March, celebrating diversity, inclusion and the success of women locally and nationally.

- As the federal government's longest partial shutdown continues, local nonprofits Open Heart Kitchen and Tri-Valley Haven increase their services to help feed the thousands of Alameda County families affected.

- Livermore-Pleasanton union firefighters sign a new contract with both cities that has four salary increases over the next 3-1/2 years, along with some union members covering an extra 0.5% of their pension costs starting in mid-2020.

- PG&E officially files for bankruptcy, but plans to continue operating, as the company estimates more than \$50 billion in liability from fatal Northern California wildfires.

- Sixty students from Foothill High School are recognized at the annual DECA Northern California Career Development Conference, held in San Ramon with more than 850 in attendance.

- Pay raises are approved for members of the Pleasanton Unified School District's leadership team when the

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## WHAT A YEAR

Continued from Page 11

Board of Trustees signed off on a 2.5% salary increase for executive cabinet members and a 5% bump for the board's own monthly stipend.

- City officials lead a presentation at a school board meeting discussing state and local housing trends, noting that local jurisdictions will have less control as the State Legislature attempts to solve the housing crisis.
- Pleasanton resident Melissa Gianotti holds a book giveaway for victims of the Camp Fire, which wiped out the town of Paradise in November 2018, after collecting thousands of donated books.
- The Dublin community commemorates a somber anniversary, 30 years since Ilene Misheloff disappeared while walking home from middle school.
- A legal consultant is investigating allegations of inconsistent grading and transcript practices at PUSD high schools.

### February

- A group of voters successfully petitions to cancel the Dublin Unified School District's provisional appointment of Nini Natarajan to the Board of Trustees, setting the stage for a special election for Trustee Area 4 residents in June.
- Weather conditions are just right overnight to bring white to hills and peaks around the Tri-Valley. Snow could be seen on hillsides and ranges north, south and east of Pleasanton — a sight uncommon for the East Bay where snow seldom arrives.
- In approving comprehensive update to the city's Human Services Needs Assessment Strategic Plan, the City Council commends Axis Community Health upon the opening of the Tri-Valley nonprofit's first-ever dental clinic.
- BART changes schedules as work begins on the seismic retrofit of the Transbay Tube, starting service around 5 a.m. weekdays, an hour later than usual.
- Pleasanton closes escrow on the \$2 million purchase of a commercial parcel next to Lions Wayside Park and the Firehouse Arts Center.
- PUSD had two incidents of administrators improperly removing a

course from a high school student transcript — one inadvertent, one intentional, but both impermissible, according to the findings from the law firm investigating the integrity of district transcripts.

- A brazen bank heist takes place in Pleasanton. Police continue to search for culprits behind a takeover-style robbery of the Wells Fargo on Hopyard Road that led to a police chase with shots fired at an officer and a carjacking before the robbers escaped town that day.
- Brandon Crawford, former Foothill High star baseball/football player and current San Francisco Giants shortstop, holds third annual Crawford Family Invitational Golf Tournament, this year to benefit ALS CURE.
- East Bay Regional Park District takes possession of the "Grove property" between Dublin and Livermore after closing escrow on the nearly \$1.3 million acquisition paid for largely by district Measure WW open space bond funds.
- Amador Valley High School first-year principal Alberto Solorzano is granted a leave of absence for unspecified personal reasons. Former principal Mike Williams returns to campus to provide administrative support.
- Fairlands Elementary students from teacher Kelly Lack's fifth-grade class dress up and portray historic black figures to create the fifth annual "African-American Living Museum" as part of Black History Month.
- The 2018 Alameda County Fair receives more than 40 regional and international awards for innovation and excellence in competitions, agriculture and marketing.
- Officials close Del Valle Regional Park for at least two weeks as rain continues, explaining that flooding is a strong possibility, which would render recreation unsafe.
- High school pole vault coach Douglas Beck is dismissed after allegations of "harassing" text messages to a student-athlete.
- Simon Property Group unveils its plans for redesigning the eastern edge of Stoneridge Shopping Center left vacant when Sears closed. Plans include a movie theater, grocery store, lifestyle health club, outdoor courtyard, and new retail

and restaurants. The city would approve the plans in April.

- Rev. Paul D. Minnihhan, pastor of the Catholic Community of Pleasanton for the past six years, dies after a recent battle with aggressive cancer. He was 52.
- Mayor Jerry Thorne's annual State of the City address reports another year of accomplishments and touches on topics ranging from the local economy to housing to downtown improvements.
- Pleasanton-based Bay East Association of Realtors installs its 2019 leadership team, including Nancie Allen of MasterKey Real Estate Advantage in Fremont as president.
- The Nimmo family works to sound the alarm about the impacts of anxiety after Zachary, 14, takes his own life. Dad Steve, mom Manmie and daughter Samantha go to a screening of "Angst" to remind everyone "it's OK not to be OK."
- Livermore rancher Jeffrey Murray, 54, is charged with murder after authorities allege he fatally shot his younger brother Todd during a dispute over electricity on their family's ranch.

### March

- The Board of Supervisors inducts 12 women and two teenagers into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame, including Pleasanton residents Teri Johnson and Spojmie Nasiri, and Dubliners Kimberly Larson and Akemi Williams.
- Dublin school district Trustee Dan Cunningham abruptly resigns in the middle of his third term, leaving the Board of Trustees with two of its five seats vacant.
- School district board appoints vice principal Nimarta Grewal to serve as interim principal at Amador.
- Chabad of the Tri-Valley hosts Jeannie Opdyke Smith to tell the story of her mother, Irene Gut Opdyke, a Polish Catholic woman who risked her life to save Jews during the Holocaust.
- For the fourth time, Foothill High is recognized as a California Distinguished School by the state's Department of Education.
- School board OKs security and remodel upgrades for several schools, including major work at Lydiksen Elementary.



ANNA VINN

Pleasanton resident Melissa Gianotti refills a free little library in Paradise that survived the devastating Camp Fire.

- Compass, the venture-funded real-estate startup that launched its first office in the local market just over two years ago, becomes the Bay Area's largest residential brokerage firm this month after acquiring Tri-Valley powerhouse Alain Pinel Realtors.
- Amador presents Every 15 Minutes, an anti-DUI program that acts out the aftermath of a car crash, including a death and a teen's arrest for DUI.
- Castlewood Country Club members vote to proceed with remodeling the clubhouse and pool area to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards in the 1970s-era clubhouse and its swimming pool area.
- Pleasanton resident Tammy Ma, Ph.D., a leading experimental plasma physicist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, is named Woman of the Year for State Assembly District 16.
- Alameda County Fairgrounds unveils new Marissa Hunt Agricultural Education Center, an 8,000-square-foot facility for agriculture-focused youth groups such as 4-H and the Future Farmers of America.
- As dozens of housing crisis bills move through the State Legislature, the cities of Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore and San Ramon and the town of Danville each votes to approve the Tri-Valley cities' housing and policy framework of regional housing goals.
- An online fundraising drive raises more than \$12,000 in two weeks for Ben Jacobs, a utilities systems operator with Pleasanton who was diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndrome.
- Don Lewis, a Pleasanton vocalist and multi-instrumentalist, releases a new album, "Amazing Voyage," that he hopes will help heal the country's long-festering slavery issues and current chaotic political moods.

- The Alameda County Board of Supervisors votes 3-2 to confirm sweeping changes to Urban Shield, a law enforcement training program and expo held in recent years at the fairgrounds in Pleasanton.
- The Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group celebrates a diverse group of companies operating on the cutting edge of their industries, at its fourth annual #GameChangers recognition event.
- Longtime Zone 7 Director Bill Stevens resigns from the board for personal reasons less than a year into his sixth term.
- City hires an engineering firm to assess the aging Amador Theater, which has served as Pleasanton's principal and still largest performing arts facility for more than 80 years.
- Foothill High School Athletic Boosters donate \$513,965 raised in the last year toward renovating the school's aging athletic field, which will cost nearly \$1 million.
- The City Council ratifies a new rent stabilization agreement with the owners of Hacienda Mobile Home Park on Vineyard Avenue that allows annual increases of no more than 5% through December 2029.
- A state appellate court rules that PUSD was within its legal rights to terminate former Walnut Grove Elementary principal Jon Vranesh in 2014 after he was accused of sexual harassment.
- Leslie Boozer's tenure as Dublin schools superintendent ends abruptly with little explanation, with school board members announcing that they and Boozer "mutually agreed to a separation." No reason has been cited publicly.
- Dublin teachers march down Village Parkway in protest, with the union calling for smaller classes, counseling and support services, and medical benefits.



PUSD

The Amador Valley High parking lot solar panel project was a focal point for public hearings throughout the year before its completion on Oct. 15.



# YEAR IN REVIEW



ALEX MORENO

The Foothill Falcons erupted with celebration after clinching the North Coast Section softball championship.

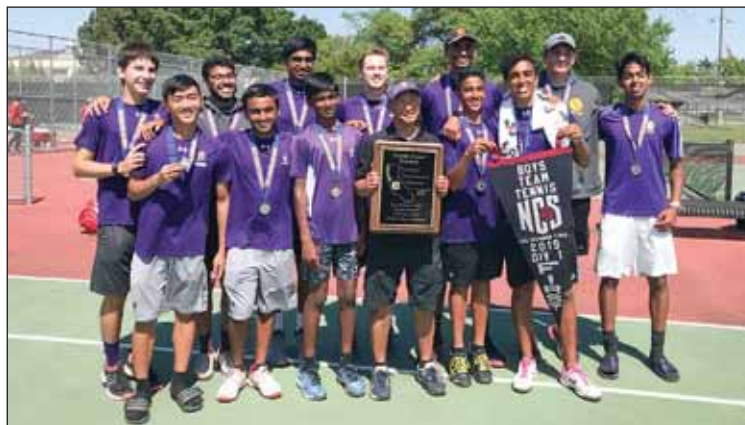
- Arlen Ness, 79, acclaimed for his custom motorcycles and related motorcycle supplies sold at his agency in Dublin, dies at his home in Alamo.
- Courtney Lynne Peterson surrenders to authorities on two counts of vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated for the collision on Altamont Pass Road in October 2018 that killed motorcycle driver Mark Nida, 63, of Pleasanton, and 64-year-old Kathleen Seifert, who was his passenger.
- The City Council completes its biennial process of adopting a work plan of top priorities for the city to accomplish over the next two years, with record input from residents and stakeholders, listing 81 specific priorities.
- Longtime Valley View Elementary administrative secretary Nancy Rae is named PUSD Classified Employee of the Year.

## April

- Amador Valley and Foothill each represent California at the We the People national finals in Washington, D.C., where the Dons place second.
- City and school district leaders examine sharing maintenance facilities, during their annual joint meeting.
- East Bay Regional Park District, which includes Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area in Pleasanton and Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore, marks its 85th anniversary with free concerts and other events, and establishing "Free Park Fridays" through the end of the year.
- "ACE Rail mTickets" launches for commuters to purchase and manage their Altamont Corridor Express train tickets on the mobile app.
- Dave Marken comes out of retirement to step in as interim superintendent for DUSD. He later signs on for the next two years to allow the district ample time to select its next permanent superintendent.
- Nearly a year after Foothill High student Justin Wang receives a heart transplant, the Make-a-Wish

Greater Bay Area publishes his health cookbook.

- Pleasanton is said to have the 13th fastest growth rate in rents among the nation's similar-sized cities, according to Apartment List Rentomics; rents in the city are up 3.7% over the previous year.
- Tri-Valley Congressman Eric Swalwell, 38, announces he is running for the Democratic Party's nomination for president in 2020.
- School district stakeholders, including Superintendent David Haglund and trustees Joan Laursen and Jamie Yee, are among the scores of East Bay education advocates who rally at the State Capitol for increased public education funding.
- Former Dublin mayor and current Dublin High School athletic director Tim Sbranti is appointed to fill the vacant Tri-Valley seat on the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees.
- The City Council approves a new three-year contract with the Pleasanton City Employees Association (PCEA) Local 955 that will raise salaries by 3%, and then 3% again as of April 2020 and April 2021, give them a one-time \$900 bonus and calls for employees to start contributing \$50 monthly toward their medical coverage.
- BART police and staff begin working an extra day each week as mandatory overtime, for their increased presence to discourage crime.
- DUSD and the Dublin Teachers Association reach tentative agreement to end months of tense negotiations that were on the brink of a strike. Key provisions include a 4.5% ongoing salary increase, a 1% one-time bonus and a health insurance subsidy.
- A City Council meeting runs for nearly six hours as leaders, stakeholders and residents debate the Downtown Specific Plan update and endorsing a neighborhood



DANNY YEE

The Amador Valley Dons celebrate after winning the NCS boys tennis team title.

compromise for the Chabad Center for Jewish Life expansion.

- Longtime TV30 commentator Tom Morrison dies with wife Kathy and family at his side, ending his long battle with cancer. He was 83.
- Students at Pleasanton schools and the district offices conduct daily audits of lunch waste for a few months, sorting nearly 2,000 pounds of trash, recycling and compost material, to help meet new waste management policies in lunch areas.
- Foothill alum Erik Keith Woodward dies after being struck by an SUV while walking along Highway 29 in Napa. He was 25.
- More than a decade after planning began, Zone 7 broke ground on the \$110 million project to expand and upgrade the Patterson Pass Water Treatment Plant to double its size to 24 million gallons per day of better tasting and smelling tap water.
- The school district issues an online survey for Amador parents asking for input regarding the upcoming construction of a new solar energy structure in the school's parking lot, which will begin in the summer but run into the fall semester.
- PUSD staff updates the trustees on efforts to curb the vaping trend in Pleasanton, saying its students are "right up there with the national level" with 20% of high school students and 5% of middle schoolers using electronic vaping devices.
- Vintage Hills Elementary principal Ann Jayne takes an indefinite leave of absence due to an undisclosed family emergency. She would resign a month later.
- The school district expands the online school quality stakeholder survey to include more residents to give feedback on school leadership, safety and behavior, academic preparation and student support.
- The school district honors Theresa "Tessie" Gonsalves as its Teacher of the Year, for her work mostly at Harvest Park Middle School for more than two decades.
- Amador boys tennis team finishes a 24-0 regular season by winning the East Bay Athletic League title with a 6-3 win over crosstown rival Foothill.

- Former U.S. Rep. Ellen Tauscher, a centrist Democrat who represented the Tri-Valley in Congress for years and was known as a pioneering leader throughout her professional and political careers, dies following a bout with pneumonia. She was 67.

## May

- Cincinnati hospital executive Rick Shumway is named president and CEO of Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare.
- Zone 7 appoints Dublin resident and public relations professional Michelle Smith McDonald to vacant seat on its Board of Directors.
- The idea to park several hundred cars on Amador Valley High tennis courts while a solar panel structure is built in the front parking lot sparks backlash from tennis players and coaches.
- An Alameda County Superior Court jury awards more than \$2 billion in damages from Monsanto Co. to Alva and Alberta Pilliod of Livermore, who claimed the company's Roundup weedkiller caused them to develop cancer. A judge later upholds the verdict but reduces the damages to \$86.7 million.
- Dublin voters pass Measure E, extending DUSD's \$96-per-parcel tax for another nine years in a mail-only special election — with 74.49% of voters in favor.
- The Pleasanton Weekly takes home seven awards, including first place for online Coverage of Local Government, for stories throughout 2018 in this year's CNPA California Journalism Awards.
- Longtime Hart Middle history teacher Mark Tierney dies surrounded by family at age 46.
- The Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation's seventh annual Run for Education sets an event fundraising record by netting \$113,000.
- Two scientific studies commissioned by the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association show 12 identifiable growing districts within the 260,000-acre Livermore Valley American Viticultural Area (AVA).
- The Amador boys volleyball team wins the North Coast Section championship, defeating Monte

Vista in the finals, 25-21, 25-22 and 25-18.

- The Amador boys win the NCS team tennis championship, defeating Redwood, 4-3, in the finals.
- Members of the Castlewood Country Club reject a proposal to negotiate a letter of intent for the Bay Club to take over ownership of the club and its two 18-hole golf courses.
- Sunflower Hill celebrates the groundbreaking of its residential community for adults with special needs just outside downtown Pleasanton.
- The school board scraps a proposal to park hundreds of cars on the Amador tennis courts during construction of a solar panel structure in the parking lot after tennis coaches and families pan the plan.
- City contemplates major changes to paratransit service, including for Pleasanton to shift service for adults with disabilities to Wheels and refocus its in-house program to seniors-only.
- Residents move into 52 new affordable apartments for elders on the south side of Kottinger Drive, the culmination of an 18-year effort to replace small and old units at Pleasanton Gardens with larger, accessible and energy efficient homes.
- Workday Inc., a fast-growing software company, opens its new six-story architecturally striking corporate headquarters building on Stoneridge Mall Road.
- Fire Chief Ruben Torres steps down from LPFD to become next leader of the Santa Clara Fire Department. Assistant fire chief Jeff Peters is named interim chief.
- Tri-Valley Blue Devils ice hockey club has two teams that win California state championships and another four that advance to the earlier Northern California tournament.
- The Foothill High girls softball team completed its incredible 28-0 season by winning the North Coast Section championship with a 2-0 win over Heritage.
- NorCal Night Market returns to Pleasanton for its second year, inspired by the famous open-air nighttime bazaars of Asia.
- Kaiser Permanente opens its new Medical Offices and Cancer Center complex in Dublin.
- Triton Water Polo Club launches its opening season based out of the Foothill pool, offering boys teams this summer during its inaugural season and plans to expand with girls teams in the winter.

## June

- The Pleasanton Heritage Association acknowledges owners of five historic homes who have made restorations while carefully preserving their features of yesteryear.
- Foothill boys and girls volleyball coach Dusty Collins is recognized

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MIKE SEDLAK

Downtown Pleasanton was the center of fun activities, business comings and goings, and public debate for the Downtown Specific Plan update process.

## WHAT A YEAR

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as the 2018-19 California Boys Volleyball Coach of the Year by the California Coaches Association.

- The Pleasanton Downtown Specific Plan Update Task Force votes 4-3 to reject the City Council's direction on several key policy issues to further restrict residential development and height in the area.
- Gabrielle Blackman wins special election to represent Area 4 on the DUSD Board of Trustees.
- Jonathan Epps, who attended Walnut Grove, Harvest Park and Amador, is surprised when billionaire businessman Robert Smith promises to pay off all student debt for Epps and his classmates at historically black Morehouse College in Atlanta.
- Dublin City Council votes unanimously to fly the rainbow flag at City Hall to recognize the LGBTQ community.
- The library summer program, "Reading through the Years," celebrates Pleasanton's 125th anniversary this year, kicking off with songs, puppetry and dancing on the front lawn.
- The school board appoints Amador vice principal Josh Butterfield, who grew up and attended school in Pleasanton, to be the new principal. He is one of five new principals for 2019-20, along with Joe Nguyen at Pleasanton Middle, Caroline Fields at Hart, Heidi Deeringhoff at Fairlands and Mike O'Brien at Vintage Hills.
- Ross Colby, 36, who hacked and temporarily shut down Pleasanton-Weekly.com and other Embarcadero Media websites in September 2015, is sentenced in San Jose federal court to jail time served, one year of home incarceration with electronic monitoring, three years of supervised release, and \$27,130 in restitution.
- Pleasanton celebrates the 125th anniversary of the city's incorporation, with programs, camps and

events throughout the summer, and a celebration downtown.

- Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty announces he won't seek re-election in 2020, opening the door for a hotly contested election to represent District 1, which includes Dublin and Livermore.
- Museum on Main closes temporarily to renovate its permanent history gallery and do some building upgrades.
- A cattle drive kicks off the 2019 Alameda County Fair for the last time, and thousands of people go to Main Street to watch the celebration of Pleasanton's Old West origins.
- The 2019 Alameda County Fair runs for 18 days with the theme, "I Spy Summer," and featuring carnival rides and games, nightly concerts, local entertainment, exhibitions, horse racing, fried foods, farm animals and more, and ending with a demolition derby.
- Youths who did the dirty work of the recent trash audit at the schools are recognized during the annual World Environment Day Celebration at the Veterans Memorial Building hosted by the Go Green Initiative.
- The school district strikes a deal to temporarily use part of the parking lot at Valley Community Church in the fall semester while Amador Valley High's student lot has a solar panel structure installed.
- The family of Jacob Bauer, a 38-year-old man who died at a hospital in Pleasanton police custody the previous summer, files a wrongful-death lawsuit against the city and Police Department.
- Shawn Joseph Imlig, who grew up in the Tri-Valley, dies in an ATV collision at Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area near Pismo Beach. The other driver is accused of DUI while causing the fatal crash. Imlig was 37.
- The school district conducts a community poll about a potential new \$120 million school facilities bond measure for the March 2020



US STATE DEPT.

Former Tri-Valley congresswoman Ellen Tauscher died on April 29.

primary election ballot.

- Blackhawk developer and resident Kenneth E. Behring, known for his worldwide philanthropy, his development career and collection of automobiles, dies at age 91.
  - Foothill softball player Nicole May is named to the All-USA High School Softball First Team.
  - Crews plant a 35-foot Deodar cedar outside the Museum on Main to be the city's holiday tree, after the old one that had grown to seven stories tall was removed for health reasons.
  - Pleasanton resident Lisa Deanne Carlson, 44, is killed by her estranged husband, who then turned the gun on himself, at the Castro Valley home of the man's mother, according to the sheriff's office.
  - Twenty-five teams and more than 200 volunteers support the American Cancer Society's 24-hour Relay for Life of Tri-Valley at Granada High School in Livermore and raise more than \$100,000.
- July**
- The cities of Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore and community organizations team up again to provide provisions this summer for hundreds of Tri-Valley families and individuals affected by food insecurity.
  - Zone 7 asks Tri-Valley residents to take part in an environmental



PPD

David Spiller retired as Pleasanton police chief in November after eight-plus years.

review process concerning possible changes in reclamation and mining activity in the unincorporated Chain of Lakes area between Livermore and Pleasanton.

- The Planning Commission moves the draft Downtown Specific Plan forward to the City Council but urges officials to prioritize a downtown parking action plan as soon as possible, noting that its absence in the plan makes it incomplete.
- Rep. Eric Swalwell ends his presidential campaign, becoming the first serious Democratic candidate to bow out of the crowded field.
- Livermore High student Emanuel Moseby, 16, is shot and killed near the Taco Bell in the Peppertree Plaza Shopping Center. Police are still searching for their suspect, 21-year-old Jorge Luis Tellez.
- The City Council welcomes a new Ambassador, Jeffrey, a member of the local Williams family, with a ceremonial green leash to highlight the dog-friendly policies and practices in Pleasanton, including work by Valley Humane Society.
- Pleasanton Public Library eliminates daily fines for overdue items, to focus on recovering materials and positive interactions with library-users.
- Construction begins to add a solar panel structure and reorient the Amador student parking lot facing Santa Rita Road.

- U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) reintroduces proposed legislation aimed at stopping law enforcement firearms from getting into the wrong hands, inspired in part by the shooting death of Pleasanton native Kate Steinle four years ago.
- The city renovates locker rooms at the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center, changing the style and configuration indoors and adding rinse showers outdoors.
- Two longtime East Bay private nonprofit organizations, Child Care Links and Family Service Counseling and Community Resource Center, merge under the names Hively, derived from "lively" and "hive," meaning a place full of life and energy.
- Pleasanton resident Minseok Bu, 20, dies in a crash near the ACE train station in Livermore after a train hits the back of his car pushing it hard into a power pole.
- The newly launched Pleasanton Youth Theater Company offers 17 performing arts camps, with more than 200 attending.
- A hotly contested plan to build a three-story boutique hotel on the southeast corner of South Livermore and Railroad avenues in downtown Livermore generates intense debate at the Livermore City Council meeting. A hotel development agreement is approved, but



# YEAR IN REVIEW



SIMON

Initial architectural drawing shows overhead look at proposed commercial renovations for the eastern side of Pleasanton's Stoneridge Shopping Center, replacing the now-vacated Sears site. Later in the year, Simon Property Group also released plans for 486 apartments in another part of the mall site.

later challenged by a referendum petition.

- Gerry Beaudin, the city of Pleasanton's community development director, announces he will leave next month to become assistant city manager in Alameda. His second-in-command, Ellen Clark, is later promoted to lead the Community Development Department.
- The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) announces that a new parking garage at the Dublin-Pleasanton BART station project will receive a share of \$9.3 million in funding from bridge toll revenue, which will complete the funding needed.
- A stretch of the Centennial Trail in Pleasanton is reopened after being closed for repairs to a damaged bank slide in a flood control channel overseen by Zone 7.
- Livermore dedicates new \$6 million City Council chamber, meeting rooms and emergency operations center on South Livermore Avenue.
- Tri-Valley Conservancy holds a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of construction on a new bridge at Sycamore Grove Park that will permanently connect a 44-mile trail through five parks from Livermore to Fremont.
- In the face of a referendum petition backed by JUUL Labs, Livermore community rallies in support of new city ordinance to ban the sale of flavored tobacco in Livermore, as well as severely restrict businesses from selling electronic smoking paraphernalia and establish a city tobacco retailer license program for the first time.

## August

- Pleasanton hosts a 125th Anniversary Celebration downtown, with a "Happy Birthday" sing-along and cake-cutting, the unveiling of the Museum on Main's new exhibits, and a special Concert in the Park.

- Yaneli Morales, 26, of Livermore, is struck and killed by a car while trying to cross the street on a stretch of East Avenue notorious for high speeds and dangerous conditions. Her supporters later call on the City Council to prioritize safety improvements there.
- Tiffany Cadrette takes the reins as executive director of the Pleasanton Downtown Association after her predecessor, Pleasanton native Laura Olson, steps down to relocate with family to Alabama.
- A fire breaks out at Chabad Center for Jewish Life but significant damage is limited to the exterior and roof of the Pleasanton synagogue. LFPD reports no immediate indications of arson but continues to look for the cause of the fire.
- Pleasanton city leaders lament the destruction of a historic home at 4371 Second St., allegedly torn down early in the summer in violation of city regulations that protect heritage resources.
- The renovated Museum on Main reopens with more interactive ways to engage visitors and a new permanent exhibit that is a collection of three-dimensional objects, images and archives.
- The City Council signs off on updates to the Downtown Specific Plan with regulations and objectives for the downtown business district and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Niche.com's 2020 Best Schools raised PUSD from No. 17 to No. 11 in school districts in California. Amador is ranked as the No. 1 high school in Alameda County, followed immediately by Foothill. Harvest Park and Fairlands also rank as the county's best in their school levels.

- Members of the Amador Valley High School Local Leaders of the 21st Century Club are given the prestigious Next Generation Recycler Award, which was designed to promote the next generation of zero-wasters in California.

- The City Council gives Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho a 12% salary increase and city attorney Daniel Sodergren an 8% raise, raising them to \$255,452 and \$226,800, respectively.
- Jose Ines Garcia-Zarate, an undocumented Mexican immigrant who held the gun that killed Pleasanton native Kate Steinle on a San Francisco pier four years ago, still faces two federal gun charges, but a California appeals court has now overturned his state gun possession conviction.
- Livermore Shakespeare Festival presents its final performance at Wente Vineyards after five years of performing Shakespeare-in-the-round outdoors at the winery. Next season it will perform at Darcie Kent Vineyards.
- The school board unanimously adopts a resolution that aims to snuff out flavored tobacco and e-cigarette use among students.
- Livermore council confirms the "Central Park Plan" downtown initiative measure for the November 2020 ballot. The city is also

now facing a referendum in March 2020 over its developer agreement with the city's Downtown Specific Plan (which the initiative seeks to supplant).

- Local nonprofit CityServe of the Tri-Valley announces the hiring of Christine Beitsch-Bahmani as its new CEO.
- Foothill's renovated athletic field hosts its first football game of the season, a 34-13 varsity win over Heritage. Delays with the renovation project had pushed into the regular season, meaning the Falcons' first "home" game a week earlier was actually played at Amador.

## September

- Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club members celebrate their 35th anniversary at one of their monthly meetings with a slideshow and special exhibit.
- Students uncover more than \$1.6 million in potential energy savings for both the city and the school district, according to the Go Green Initiative, after 33 high school and college interns spent the summer performing an energy audit on their buildings.
- Simon Property Group, owner of the majority of Stoneridge Shopping Center, files an application to build nearly 500 apartments on a southeast portion of the mall site.
- The school board reviews progress from the district's summer school enrichment courses and intervention programs, which served 938 students in prekindergarten through 12th grade.
- Former Foothill football star Isaiah Langley, 23, is among 12 people charged by the Alameda County District Attorney's office in a widespread crime ring that targeted UPS and FedEx drivers delivering cellphones to cellphone stores.
- The City Council endorses a conditional use permit to allow an ax-throwing lounge to open in the Valley Plaza shopping center.

• A brazen residential break-in — in which masked burglars kick in the front door of a Vintage Hills house while a resident and her child were inside — is caught on camera and sends shockwaves through the community.

- The Niles Canyon Railway, operated between Sunol and Niles by the nonprofit Pacific Locomotive Association, holds a three-day commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the true completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, which took place when the local line was finished.
- Pleasanton Public Library begins Pop-Up Programs, bringing its offerings to new locations around town.
- Dublin City Manager Chris Foss announces his retirement effective Dec. 31. The City Council then selects his top deputy, assistant city manager Linda Smith, to become the next city manager.
- Foothill drops its freshman football team due to a lack of players, with the remaining players combined with the junior varsity team.
- Four candidates emerge for the election to succeed Supervisor Haggerty: Fremont City Councilman Vinnie Bacon, Dublin Mayor David Haubert, Dublin Vice Mayor Melissa Hernandez and State Sen. Bob Wieckowski, a Fremont resident who is being termed out at the state level.
- Foothill High School alumnus Seth Rogers' quest to become the next "American Ninja Warrior" comes to a close when he falls off the course during the final stage of the NBC athletic competition show, although at 19 he was the youngest ninja to make it to the show's third and final round.
- Pleasanton police Officer Brad Middleton is 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.

See **WHAT A YEAR** on Page 16



MIKE SEDLAK

Employees walked toward their work stations in Workday's new six-story headquarters building on Stoneridge Mall Road, now Pleasanton's tallest office building.



## WHAT A YEAR

Continued from Page 15

### October

- Downtown Pleasanton lights up with IGNITE!, the third annual extravaganza where art meets innovation in front of and inside the Firehouse Arts Center.
- Pleasanton police Chief David Spiller announces he will be retiring next month after more than eight years at the helm.
- The owner of the Owens Drive property where the former Denny's building has sat vacant for years proposes to redevelop the site with a large commercial building.
- The Clubhouse and Lily's Spirited Dining restaurants inside the Pleasanton Hotel both close their doors without warning, less than a year after opening.
- Stanford-ValleyCare receives certification as a primary stroke center by a national quality accrediting group.
- The Pleasanton Police Department and BART Police Department mark the opening of their Joint Police Services Center at the West Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station.
- The BART Board of Directors votes to adopt swing-style barrier gates to make it more difficult for scofflaws to evade paying fares, which is done by 5% to 6% of riders, costing the transit system \$25 million to \$30 million a year.
- A video goes viral of a traditional Filipino dance called "tinikling" performed to "My Type" by Bay Area rapper Saweetie and choreographed by Mireya Paulos, a 2017 graduate of Foothill.
- Work is underway on the Tri-Valley's first all-abilities playground in Dublin.
- Amador parking lot facing Santa Rita Road reopens with its new half dozen solar panel structures.
- The Valley Link commuter light rail system aiming to directly connect BART to Livermore and the San Joaquin Valley likely won't see its first trains run until at least 2027, three years later than initially estimated, as regional officials are now planning on less funding from the state in the short term.
- Pleasanton shakes to a 4.5-magnitude earthquake at 10:33 p.m. on a Monday, centered near Walnut Creek. The next day a 4.7 magnitude quake hits near Hollister and another at 3.4 magnitude is in Pleasant Hill.
- Actress Felicity Huffman is incarcerated for 11 days in the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin following her conviction in the college admissions scandal.
- East Bay real estate developer James Tong, 74, is found guilty of funneling tens of thousands of illegal contributions to the congressional campaigns of U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore).
- Former Foothill superstar softball player Valerie Arioto, now 30, is



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Foothill alum Mireya Paulos choreographed a new twist on the traditional Filipino tinikling dance that ended up going viral after being posted online.

- named to the U.S. Olympic Team for the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo.
- Pleasanton resident David James Bamber Jr., 28, is identified as the suspect in two kidnappings who died after being shot by law enforcement in Idaho while trying to flee from state police and county deputies during a high-speed chase.
- Kyle Henriksen, a Pleasanton Police Department officer whose battle with aggressive pancreatic cancer inspired support from throughout the community, dies at the age of 36.
- In response to high-velocity winds heightening the risks of wildfires, PG&E issues shutoffs that leave tens of thousands of Tri-Valley residents without power, some for days at a time. Outages affected approximately 4,900 Pleasanton residents; 6,800 in Livermore; 3,523 in Dublin; 2,673 in Danville; and 1,601 in San Ramon.
- The Weekly announces its 2019 Tri-Valley Heroes: E. Trent Thompson (Arts & Culture), Gary and Nancy Harrington (Community Spirit), the Nimmo family (Courage), Tri-Valley Conservancy (Environmental Stewardship), Darrell Jobe (Innovation), Vidhima Shetty (Rising Star), Dana Dornisife (Role Model) and Alex Mehran Sr. (Lifetime Achievement).
- More than 500 students are recorded absent from Pleasanton Middle School on one day at the height of a stomach virus.
- JUUL Labs withdraws its Livermore referendum, clearing the way for the special election to be canceled and the new city ordinance banning flavored tobacco sales and implementing other anti-vaping regulations to take effect.
- The City Council endorses a property owner's plan to tear down and replace the 7-Eleven store and Shell service station on Hopyard Road with a new 7-Eleven, gas station and drive-thru car wash.
- More cutting-edge treatment arrives at Stanford-ValleyCare with new wire-free radar technology to help breast cancer patients.

### November

- Capt. Craig Eicher, a career officer and supervisor with the Pleasanton

- Police Department, takes over as interim police chief.
- The City Council signs off on a response plan to address levels of certain human-made chemicals found in the local groundwater supply.
- Catherine Kuo wins special election to represent Area 3 on the DUSD Board of Trustees.
- The city commemorates Livermore's 150th anniversary and dedicates new community room in honor of founding father William M. Mendenhall.
- Local CHP officers Samuel Garcia-Zepeda and Luis Toris are hailed as heroes for pulling a badly injured woman out of her car as it caught fire following a crash in rural Livermore.
- The school board agrees to place a \$323 million bond measure on the March 2020 election ballot to fund projects on the district's 2018 Facilities Master Plan, which has identified \$1.1 billion of facilities needs and upgrades.
- The Chabot-Las Positas board approves a three-year contract with Dyrell Foster, Ed.D, a Riverside County college administrator with career ties to the Bay Area, to become the next president of Las Positas College.
- WalletHub names Pleasanton the No. 2 best small city in California to live in, just behind Los Altos. Dublin, Livermore and Danville were rated fourth, ninth and 10th, respectively.
- The Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) selects deputy executive director Tess Lengyel to serve as its next executive director after predecessor Arthur Dao retires at year's end.
- DNA from a discarded plastic Baskin-Robbins ice cream spoon leads to the arrest of Livermore man resident Gregory Paul Vien, 60, for allegedly sexually assaulting two women more than 22 years ago.
- The city closes in on new regulations to create strict penalties for unauthorized demolition or alterations of buildings designated as historic in Pleasanton.
- Alan Leeds, whose life was saved by a group of quick-thinking good Samaritans and first responders when he suffered a sudden cardiac arrest while playing racquetball in

June, invites them to a reunion at his home in Ruby Hill.

- Newsweek's Top 500 Best STEM Schools rankings includes Foothill and Amador among the 82 in California.
- Mayor Jerry Thorne presents the 2019 Pleasanton Mayor's Award to Christina Gray, a photographer, business owner and author who volunteers her time and skills to a variety of causes.
- The Amador girls and boys cross-country teams both win NCS championships and post strong showings at the state meet, including the boys team finishing in eighth place and setting a slew of new team records.

### December

- The City Council delays further discussion about the project approach and scope of work for the new East Pleasanton Specific Plan process until January after a council member is out sick from the originally scheduled meeting.
- Pleasanton cancels the annual Hometown Holiday Parade and Tree-Lighting Ceremony due to rainy and windy conditions but reschedules the tree-lighting for the following Friday.
- Zone 7 applies to the state for a \$500,000 grant to safeguard its water supply; the California Department of Water Resources signed off on Zone 7's Alternative Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) earlier this year.
- Final set of public records reveal little about the sudden departure of former superintendent Leslie Boozler from DUSD in March — pretty much nothing other than a few emails with the teachers union president over the disputed donation of LGBTQ-themed bunny book "A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo."
- Sandia National Laboratories announces James S. Peery, Ph.D., will be the new director of the country's largest national laboratory, which includes its facility in Livermore.
- Just a small fraction of Alameda

### Top 10 Most-Read Stories on PleasantonWeekly.com

1. "Two restaurants in Pleasanton Hotel abruptly close"
2. "City: Historic downtown Pleasanton home demolished without permit"
3. "Amador Valley High principal takes leave of absence"
4. "Stoneridge Mall owners submit plans for new cinema, retail, health club at Sears site"
5. "Feds: Pleasanton restaurant cited for violating overtime pay regulations"
6. "Ax-throwing lounge approved in Pleasanton"
7. "Pleasanton woman killed in Castro Valley murder-suicide"
8. "PUSD enlists law firm to investigate transcripts, grading practices"
9. "Remembering Mark Tierney, longtime Hart Middle School history teacher"
10. "Woman killed trying to cross East Avenue in Livermore"

County's homeless live in the Tri-Valley but local communities face unique challenges serving their needs, according to experts and advocates who spoke during a panel on homelessness at Congregation Beth Emek.

- Two PUSD programs — Local Leaders of the 21st Century Club and Estrella del Pueblo, PUSD's Mariachi program — earn Golden Bell awards from the California School Boards Association.
- Planning Commission endorses revised Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone plans, setting the stage for City Council reconsideration in January over the city's policy effort to provide the framework for a Costco store and other new redevelopment on land near the I-580/I-680 interchange. The plan was reworked after additional environmental work spurred by a lawsuit over the council's previous JDEDZ approval. ■



MIKE SEDLAK

Castlewood members debated throughout the year how to address ADA problems at the country club.

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## GUEST OPINION

BY HERB RITTER

# What a year for the Chamber of Commerce

Wow! The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce had a fantastic year.

It has been an honor to serve as the 2019 chair of the Chamber board — it is the “Best Volunteer Job” in the world.

I want to thank the amazing staff and the Board of Directors for their tireless efforts in helping to support the 725-plus active members and the residents.

Check out some of the many 2019 accomplishments — it was a fantastic year!

1. Women’s Business Luncheon to learn from and celebrate local women leaders. (Sold out!)



Herb Ritter

2. Establishment of the “Chair Crew” comprised of past Chamber chairs with over 56 years of Pleasanton Chamber experience.

3. Reintroduced a strong marketing campaign, including banners, branding clothing and a video demonstrating the “Value Proposition” of being part of the Chamber.

4. Elevated the “Circle of Influence” business members with a private breakfast with the city manager, mayor and city leaders.

5. Encouraged and promoted diversity amongst the board and local business members.

6. In addition to introducing new members at the monthly mixers, introduced and promoted select “longtime” Chamber members. (Some have been members over 50 years!)

7. Introduced and promoted a

philanthropic organization at each of the monthly mixers to complement the 2019 Community Service Awards, which was the 56th annual.

8. Introduced a new “Chamber Mission Statement” for 2019. “The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce for our members will be:

- The catalyst for business and economic growth

- The convener of leaders and influencers

- The champion for a stronger and healthy community.”

9. Updated and expanded the Chamber’s “Business Community Vision” to 2025.

10. Introduced an organization

chart to show the many benefits and opportunities to serve with the Chamber of Commerce.

11. Last but not least had a record-breaking year with membership growth by asking “prospective members” to learn more about the chamber.

- Special thanks to the extremely energized ambassadors and staff.

Thank you all for your support in 2019. Happy Holidays! ■

*Editor’s note: Herb Ritter served as the chair of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for 2019. Ritter, owner of Ritter Investments LLC, is also a member of the city of Pleasanton’s Planning Commission.*

## LETTERS

### Bad advice

Dear Editor,

I was very disappointed when I read your Dec. 6 article “Tips for a merry holiday home” and the first suggestion was to have a fire in your home fireplace.

There are so many warnings and health recommendations not to have fires in your home for health and environmental reasons. It would seem you could suggest using gas log systems that are safe and a healthier option. It is very upsetting when you just open your door and the smoke from other homes engulfs your home.

Just a thought to keep our ourselves and our planet healthy!

—Joyce Bank

### Impeachment can’t wait

It’s time for members of the GOP to find their voice, break ranks with Trump, and demand his impeachment and removal. History will remember how Republicans acted in this moment — whether they upheld the rule of law or fearfully supported the criminal in the White House.

For three years, we have watched Trump threaten our elections, obstruct justice and make a mockery of our Constitution. The latest news of Trump’s solicitation of foreign election interference in the 2020 election is a serious escalation of his corruption and abuse of power.

Thanks to multiple whistleblowers and witness testimony from at least half a dozen witnesses in the House’s impeachment inquiry, we know that Trump pressured the president of Ukraine to dig up dirt on the Bidens. He then threatened to withhold military aid to force Ukraine to comply.

Poll after poll demonstrates that the American people are sick and tired of Trump’s assault on our democracy — and we’re urging Republicans to support the only viable way to hold him accountable for his actions: impeachment and removal.

Failing to check Trump’s abuse of power would send a signal to this lawless president that he’s free to break the law with impunity. It’s time for GOP representatives to stand on the right side of history — because pushing foreign governments to interfere in an American election is unacceptable.

—Susan Miller

### Daft theory of foreign interference

The catchphrase “Trump asked Ukraine to interfere in our election” is highly loaded with speculation, assumption and partisan perspective.

Since when is bringing out adverse publicity about one’s opponent “election interference”? Are the details of the Biden-Burisma relationship now something the American public is not entitled to know? What makes the Dems think the 2020 election would be tipped by knowing these details?

It might help Biden. Or, Biden might not be the nominee. Congress makes the law regulating campaigning behavior, and what Trump did in his phone call was clumsy and oafish — lacking diplomatic finesse — but nothing illegal.

A competitive infospace leading up to elections can never be labeled as an attempt to interfere, so long as the info is obtained legally, is true and is not tainted by foreign money.

—Pierre Bierre



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## PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

### Amador girls soccer stars at Tri-Valley Classic

Plus: Highlights from wrestling and basketball across Pleasanton

The Amador Valley girls soccer team kicked off its preseason in style with three straight wins in the Tri-Valley Classic soccer tournament, sponsored by Monte Vista and San Ramon Valley high schools.

The Dons opened the tournament last Friday night in a very dense fog and took down Bishop O'Dowd 2-0, with both goals coming from

forward Kennedy Mayo.

On Saturday the Dons recorded two victories within hours of each other. In the first game, the Dons defeated Westview from San Diego 2-1 in a physical battle with goals supplied by Noelle Marceno and Emma Fuller.

The final matchup had the Dons going up against Maria Carillo of

Santa Rosa. The Dons fell behind 2-0 early but kept their composure and rallied back with three unanswered goals to win the game in dramatic fashion 3-2. The first two goals came from midfielder Penny Murphy and Julia Gonsman, with the late gamewinner coming again from Fuller.

The Dons started their East Bay Athletic League season before the tournament, with a scoreless draw against Dublin. Gonsman and Bella Mayo anchored a stout Dons defense.

#### Foothill wrestling

Three Foothill wrestlers competed in the Liberty Tournament on Saturday, with all three finishing in the top four.

Ruby Duncan took first place, pinning all four of her opponents. Sam Wade finished second and James Parisi was fourth.

#### Amador wrestling

The Dons' varsity team went 3-2 at the Drew Esquivel Dual Meet Tournament in Healdsburg.

In going 3-2, the Dons beat Drake, Napa, and Corning, while losing to Ukiah and Casa Grande. The results gave the team a third-place finish.

Here is how the Amador wrestlers

fares: Julius Ramos (106 lbs., 2-1), Noah Thames (113 lbs., 4-1), Kurt Mirador (120 lbs., 4-1, All-Tournament), Luke Neely (126 lbs., 4-0, All-Tournament), Demetrio Lozares (126-132 lbs., 3-1), Schon Gonzales (132-138 lbs., 3-2), Owen Boyce (138 lbs., 1-1), Noah Marek (145 lbs., 2-3), Andrew Saah (152 lbs., 4-1), Lucas Chiu (160-170 lbs., 1-2), Jackson Navarette (160-170 lbs., 1-2), Horatio Wolfe (160-170 lbs., 2-1), Nathaniel Cabrales (182-195 lbs., 3-2), Blake Kenney (182-195 lbs., 2-0), Ryan Bailey (220 lbs., 3-2) and Nathan Boyce (285 lbs., 3-2).

Highlights included freshman Noah Thames just missing out on qualifying for 106-pound category (by 0.2 lbs.), having him wrestle kids up a weight class. He found a lot of success going 4-1 with two pins.

Freshman Schon Gonzales and junior Nathaniel Cabrales came back from well behind to pin their opponents during the Napa dual meet and ensure a victory for Amador.

In a potential North Coast Section Finals matchup, Amador's No. 3-ranked Ryan Bailey wrestled Ukiah's No. 1, Frankie Pomilla, ending with Bailey getting pinned in the third.

The Amador girls competed at the Brittany David Invitational at Liberty. Here is how the Dons finished: Peyton Boone (101 lbs., 1-3), Mikayla Gueverra (106 lbs., 3-1, second place), Megan Rovira (116 lbs., 1-2), Izzy Harrison (143 lbs., 2-3, eighth place) and Sophia Jetton (150 lbs., 3-1, seventh place).

#### Foothill boys basketball

The Falcons split a pair of games last week.

First, they traveled to Mountain

House and came away with a 48-45 win. Josh Valentine had 12 points to lead the Foothill scorers, with Garrett Hill adding nine and Anirudh Murugesan putting home eight.

The following game was a 47-46 loss to Northgate at Foothill. Valentine and Hill had 12 each with Nick High adding 11.

#### Foothill boys soccer

The Foothill varsity boys had a nice run last week, beating all four of their opponents — Campolindo, Livermore, Granada and Newark by a combined 14-1.

Jensen McMillan, Davis Wollesen, Pablo Gill, Michael Kachkouche, and Jonah Shirakura all scored goals. Adam Harbourne (2) and Cam Pena (1) combined for three shutouts in goal.

The Foothill junior varsity boys split their two games. They beat Livermore 1-0 on a Leo Koempel penalty kick. They lost to Granada 3-1 with Ben Harbourne scoring the lone goal.

Foothill's JV girls played two defense games, tying Livermore 0-0 and losing 2-0 to Granada.

#### Amador girls basketball

The Dons played in the Windsor Basketball Tournament the weekend of Dec. 12, going 1-2 in the event.

In the opener that Thursday, the Dons fell to Vanden, playing well but running out of gas late. The Dons led by seven at the half and two heading into the fourth quarter but ended up losing by 25. Isabella Mauricio led the team in scoring with 17 and Jenny Yang had 15.

That Friday, Amador fell to Montgomery, losing by 10. Mauricio led scoring with 15 with Yang adding 11.

In the final game of the tournament, the Dons beat McKinleyville by three. Yang had 19 and Mady Sweeney had nine. Mauricio made the All-Tournament Team.

#### Hart girls basketball

The Hart Middle School eighth-grade girls team took the Tri-Valley Athletic League championship, beating Harvest Park 48-25 in the finals.

The team, which finished the season 11-1, consisted of coaches Terri McMorro and Gina Lyng, and players Paige Bennett, Abi Arunachalam, Emily Schuchardt, Natalie Piergrossi, Sasha Jones, Riley Young, Beti Terpstra, Katie Salonga, Shayna Humphrey and Jillian Barth. ■

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

## Marketplace

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

If you wish to learn more about these advertising options, please call 650.223.6582 or email [digitalads@pawebly.com](mailto:digitalads@pawebly.com).

## Employment

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Sr. Data Informatics Analyst sought by Ellie Mae Inc in Pleasanton, CA. Contribute substantially in the implementation of business intelligence solutions using Talend, Tableau, and SQL Server 2008/2012. Apply @ [www.jobpostingtoday.com](http://www.jobpostingtoday.com) (ref# 29045)



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### Team donates stuffed bears

The Livermore Fusion Soccer Club 2006 (U14) Girls Maroon NPL collaborated on creating 40 stuffed bears to donate to Shriners Hospital for Children in Sacramento while on their way to a match in the fall. Wearing Fusion attire and accompanied by coach Mary Whisler, the 17 players undertook the project at Build-A-Bear in the Stoneridge Shopping Center — and also gave away a few bears to random kids in the mall. They had another donation drop-off in the works to support Agape Villages Foster Family Agency this month too.

## PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

### Dainty Daisy

Hiya there. I'm dainty Daisy, an 8-year-old domestic short-hair cat. My devotion is ageless. Spend some time with me and you'll see. Once I get to know you, I'll shower you with purrs, head-butts and plenty of cuddles! Meet me at the East Bay SPCA in Dublin (4651 Gleason Drive). My fee is waived during "Home for the Holidays." Visit [eastbayspca.org](http://eastbayspca.org).

or wood turning from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., on Mondays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., State-of-the-art equipment is available. A woodshop monitor is available to guide you. Cost is \$5.50 for residents and \$6.50 for non-residents. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

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

**PLEASANTON SOLE MATES** The Sole Mates meets at 8:45 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., for a 2.5 to 3 mile walk at a moderate pace. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

**BOOKS AND COFFEE** From 10:15 to 11:15 on the second Thursday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., join us as we get together to discuss books, have a cup of coffee and make new friends with the staff from the Pleasanton Library. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

## Home & Garden

**LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB** The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club (LAVGC) will host ROSEANDTHORN DESIGN, noted floral designers, to present "Bloomed This Way! Beauty and Sustainability Together as One" at the Livermore Amador

Valley Garden Club's meeting at 7 p.m. Jan. 9 at Alisal School in Pleasanton, 1454 Santa Rita Road. Guests are welcome. For information, visit [www.lavgc.org](http://www.lavgc.org). Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.

## Volunteers

**FREE RESTRAINING ORDER CLINIC** Get help in getting a domestic violence restraining order from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of every month, at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza Dublin. No appointments necessary, just drop-in. This is a free, confidential service. For more information about the services provided, please call Tri-Valley Haven at 449-5847 ext. 2606. Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. <http://dublin.ca.gov/Calendar.aspx?EID=4385>

## Health & Wellness

**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." Kindred Hospice Main Office, 4120 Dublin Blvd. Suite 105, Dublin.

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## Music

**DRUM AND FLUTE (FIFE), PLEASANTON KIDS COLONIAL MARCHING BAND** New members are welcome, no musical experience needed. Children ages 8 to 16 learn to play drums or fife (like a flute) in a small group setting. Music lessons are \$14 per week. They meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Friday at Band Headquarters on Dennis Drive. [YoungAmericanPatriots.com](http://YoungAmericanPatriots.com). \$14 for each 90 minute, weekly small group music lesson Band headquarters, Dennis Drive, Pleasanton. Learn more at [www.YoungAmericanPatriots.com](http://www.YoungAmericanPatriots.com)

Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Dec. 19, Jan. 9 and 23, Feb. 13 and 27 and March 12 and 26. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Eleanor at 846-8708. St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton.

**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. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd, Pleasanton.

## Talks & Lectures

**HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS CLUB: GUESTS & NEW MEMBERS WELCOME** Hacienda Park Toastmasters Club: Guests Welcome. Improve your public speaking, confidence, listening and leadership skills. Meetings are every Thursday at noon for one hour meeting in the Dublin Library or Dublin City Hall Regional Meeting Room, 100-200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. Contact 398-3257 or 895-6796. [HaciendaTM@gmail.com](mailto:HaciendaTM@gmail.com). \$9 per month Dublin Library, City Hall, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin.

## Seniors

**LINE DANCING** The Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., has beginner's line dancing groups from 3 to 4:15 p.m., There is also an intermediate line dancing group. Pre-register for these classes. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

**DROP-IN WOODSHOP AT THE SENIOR CENTER** Discover the joy of wood working, wood carving

## TAKE US ALONG



**Rizal Park:** On a summer vacation tour of the Philippines, Miranda Paulos (Foothill alum and recent graduate of UC Irvine), Mireya Paulos (who entered UCLA this fall) and Dr. Arnold Paulos stop for a visit at Rizal Park — an historical urban park in Manila.

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

## Community Groups

**FOOD ADDICTS IN RECOVERY** Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a program based on the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). There are no dues, fees, or weigh-ins at FA meetings. FA is a fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience and mutual support, are recovering from the disease of food addiction. If you are suffering please join us at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays at 3311 Pacific Ave. in Livermore. The program is free. Visit [foodaddicts.org](http://foodaddicts.org) for more information. Food Addicts in Recovery, 3311 Pacific Ave, Livermore.

**GRIEF WORKSHOPS** The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Please join us on your healing journey at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001

## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

**Moondogs FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT** File No.: 565490  
The following person doing business as: Moondogs, 126 Kilkare Road, Sunol, CA 94586, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Corey Eaton, 126 Kilkare Road, Sunol, CA 94586, and Corin Cartagena Grillo, 126 Kilkare Road, Sunol, CA 94586. This business is conducted by Corey Eaton, a General Partnership. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein November 18, 2019. Signature of Registrant: Corey Eaton, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 18, 2019 (Pleasanton Weekly, December 13, 20, 27, January 3, 2020).

**Moondogs Mobile Pet Grooming Salon FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT** File No.: 565491  
The following person doing business as: Moondogs Mobile Pet Grooming Salon, 126 Kilkare Road, Sunol, CA 94586, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Corey Eaton, 126 Kilkare Road, Sunol, CA 94586, and Corin Cartagena Grillo, 126 Kilkare Road, Sunol, CA 94586. This business is conducted by Corey Eaton, a General Partnership. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein November 18, 2019. Signature of Registrant: Corey Eaton, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 18, 2019 (Pleasanton Weekly, December 13, 20, 27, January 3, 2020).

**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME** File No. 522934  
The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name. The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME: Glosson Law, 6361 Hansen Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda on: Sept. 27, 2016 UNDER FILE NO. 522934. REGISTRANT'S NAME: Julie Glosson Ishll, 6361 Hansen Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566. THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY Julie Glosson Ishll, an Individual. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on Dec. 4, 2019. (Pleasanton Weekly Dec. 13, 20, 27, 2019 and Jan. 3, 2020).

**Halcyon Child Care FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT** File No.: 566243  
The following person doing business as: Halcyon Child Care, 19500 Mount Jasper Dr., Castro Valley, CA 94552, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: XiaoYing Liang, 19500 Mount Jasper Drive, Castro Valley, CA 94552. This business is conducted by XiaoYing Liang, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein in 2015. Signature of Registrant: XiaoYing Liang, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 9, 2019 (Pleasanton Weekly, December 13, 20, 27, January 3, 2020).

**A-Hero Driving School FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT** File No.: 566394  
The following person doing business as: A-Hero Driving School, 6200 Stoneridge Mall Road, Unit #3109, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Sabaoon Rahimi, 1326 Gentry Lane, Tracy, CA 95377. This business is conducted by Sabaoon Rahimi, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Sabaoon Rahimi, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 11, 2019. (Pleasanton Weekly, December 20, 27, January 3, 10, 2020).

**SERVDAY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT** File No.: 566018  
The following person doing business as: Servday, 1024 Serpentine Lane, #101, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: 6 Sense AI Software Systems, Inc., 1024 Serpentine Lane, #101, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by 6 Sense AI Software Systems, Inc. a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 2019. Signature of Registrant: AJay Dhillon, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 3, 2019. (Pleasanton Weekly, December 27, January 3, 10, 17, 2020).

Call (925) 600-0840 for assistance with your legal advertising needs.

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (Nov. 4-14)

**Total sales reported:** 14  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$710,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,800,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,320,285

### Dublin (Nov. 4-14)

**Total sales reported:** 15  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$519,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,520,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$740,200

### Livermore (Nov. 4-14)

**Total sales reported:** 24  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$315,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,295,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$757,916

### San Ramon (Nov. 4-14)

**Total sales reported:** 38  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$410,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,940,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,009,342

Source: California REsource

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Nov. 4-14.

### Pleasanton

**2284 Goldcrest Circle** K. & M. Lafferty to J. Waldron for \$725,000  
**1516 Greenwood Road** Foster Trust to R. & B. Kellmann for \$1,020,000  
**819 Oak Manor Court** Diaz Family Trust to Y. Tsang for \$2,300,000  
**1773 Orchard Way** Malmrose Family Trust to A. & G. King for \$1,450,000  
**3069 Paseo Granada** M. & J. Swadley to K. & M. Amirkiai for \$1,550,000  
**3720 Raboli Street** Cressall Family Trust to K. & B. Keighley for \$2,359,500  
**5568 Corte Sierra** J. & M. Monette to J. & B. Vasishtha for \$1,140,000  
**3277 Curtis Circle** Neale Trust to J. & I. Hwang for \$1,130,000  
**844 Genevieve Place** C. & A. Hein to R. Olsen for \$1,300,000  
**2856 Gray Fox Court** Olsen Trust to Ritter Living Trust for \$2,350,000  
**1707 Orchard Way** Dns Spouses Trust to Norman Trust for \$1,231,000  
**1264 Pineto Place** Peralta Parish Ventures LLC to Castillo Family Trust for \$943,000  
**2115 Rheem Drive** P. Solomon to P. & S. Kanoongo for \$710,000  
**1759 Spumante Place** Richwood Family Trust to A. & S. Kumar for \$2,800,000

### Dublin

**6541 Bantry Bay Street** M. & K. Hatsushi to Y. & K. Yu for \$770,000  
**3420 Finnian Way #317** Proud Start LLC to M. Shirani for \$566,000  
**6060 Nesta Court** Calatlantic Group Inc to J. & E. Chulani for \$978,000  
**3132 Paolo Terrace** E. Lam to B. & M. Uppaluri for \$1,125,000  
**5675 Sterling Street** Calatlantic Group Inc to S. Jin for \$745,000  
**7631 Sunwood Drive** A. & P. Rowland to K. Rajasekaran for \$750,000  
**4271 Clarinbridge Circle** J. Luebbert to L. & M. Lingam for \$662,000  
**8321 Davona Drive** S. & S. Saddik to Gadkari Family Trust for \$945,000  
**5501 De Marcus Boulevard #639** R. Yau to S. & J. Yuan-Miu for \$519,000  
**3275 Dublin Boulevard #130** S. & S. Biswas to Chin Trust for \$648,000  
**4285 Fitzwilliam Street #206** Y. Ku to A. & G. Staples for \$727,000  
**4198 Forest Springs Road** N. Ramasahayam to M. & M. Kancharla for \$950,000  
**7546 Langmuir Court** P. Hodges to S. & L. Stauffer for \$640,000  
**4491 Pine Mountain Way** R. Ontiveros to M. Isaac for \$1,520,000  
**2820 Randall Loop** J. Chan to N. & J. Dhake for \$1,160,000

### Livermore

**1651 4th Street** Sahlin Trust to C. & B. Ruebsamen for \$710,000  
**6452 Aspenwood Way** K. & D. Wilhoit to E. & L. Cheung for \$841,000  
**1908 Banyon Common** S. Tang to P. Wong for \$745,000  
**2137 Buckskin Road** R. Burton to T. Garcia for \$750,000  
**1074 Glenn Common** A. Benzel to R. Mcgrath for \$527,500  
**2141 Hampton Road** S. & J. Manzanares to A. & S. Bailey for \$1,020,000  
**1527 Marigold Road** R. Dorsey to V. Harris for \$460,000  
**956 Roxanne Street** A. & E. Jurgenson to L. & F. Tapia for \$800,000  
**3874 Stanford Way** J. & M. Villalobos to R. & K. Sanchez for \$795,000  
**2762 Vine Drive** S. & B. Lesser to M. & J. Hettinger for \$1,295,000  
**2330 Broadmoor Street** J. Reeder to C. Veach for \$750,000  
**671 Buckeye Drive** Bridge Equity Group Inc to D. & L. Mullins for \$750,000  
**1037 Canton Avenue** Wilkerson-Noble Family Trust to Nmt Financial LLC for \$645,000  
**608 Carla Street** K. & G. Stone to K. & J. Babbitt for \$745,000  
**1921 Depot Drive #105** C. Cusimano to J. Monette for \$650,000  
**2785 East Avenue** Alvarez Family Trust to A. & N. Martinez for \$510,000  
**1451 Jasmine Court** Eloise Trust to J. & J. Eiland for \$800,000  
**2165 Mezzamonte Drive** R. Ruffin to L. Fernandez for \$1,343,000  
**767 Misty Circle** A. Heal to H. & S. Cho for \$780,000  
**1132 Mount Whitney Street** C. & S. Judge to I. & S. Haider for \$860,000  
**1085 Murrieta Boulevard #301** Y. Zhang to E. & R. Schwerin for \$315,000  
**2134 Terra Bella Court** Ponderosa Homes to Marchand 1998 Trust for \$1,940,000  
**276 Wildrose Common #7** Knott Trust to R. Neves for \$635,000  
**6122 Winterberry Common** T. Legris to M. & K. Gergis for \$715,000

**2317 Elan Lane** H. Arora to C. & G. Wong for \$965,000  
**511 Labro Court** L. An-Chi to X. & Y. Cheng for \$1,250,000  
**768 Lakemont Place #6** J. Huh to Tadlock Living Trust for \$825,000  
**4015 Marblehead Drive** M. & J. Merrill to Y. & M. Guo for \$1,470,000  
**2597 Marsh Drive** Clark Living Trust to M. & R. Bell for \$649,000  
**2799 Marsh Drive** S. & C. Manthei to R. & S. Rehman for \$815,000  
**10081 Santa Rosa Avenue** Walker Living Trust to Amaf Investments LLC for \$865,000  
**7458 Stoneleaf Road** Jacobus Trust to N. & C. Sorreera for \$776,000  
**9621 Thunderbird Drive** Barton Living Trust to A. & R. Verma for \$1,014,500  
**208 Veritas Court** Shetty Family Trust to K. & K. Lee for \$1,220,000  
**919 Vista Pointe Drive** P. Shelton to S. & P. Prabhu for \$980,000  
**1 Almond Orchard Lane** N. & B. Ketroser to S. & K. Raut for \$940,000  
**2505 Aranda Drive** D. & R. Jensen to C. & A. Wong for \$1,175,000  
**4 Balsam Lane** Gentz Family Trust to A. & C. Mcguire for \$950,000  
**1708 Blakesley Drive** S. Vanbach to S. Moduguta for \$1,105,000  
**7315 Briza Loop** N. Jandwani to R. & V. Santamaria for \$760,000  
**3203 Browntail Way** B. Nagarajan to Y. & R. Selvaraj for \$911,500  
**2786 Canyon Creek Drive** S. & J. Lahodny to N. & S. Tsaryk for \$995,000  
**3642 Cinnamon Ridge Road** C. King to A. & A. Tirmizi for \$1,355,000  
**132 Corral Circle** Brown Family Trust to C. & R. Poulos for \$1,229,000  
**805 Destiny Lane** Biagtan Family Trust to N. & D. Beckerman for \$625,000  
**306 Eastridge Drive** K. Roof to J. & A. Lu for \$500,000  
**10033 El Dorado Drive** Bryant Trust to S. & C. Wong for \$1,100,000  
**3066 Enfield Street** Marcis Family Trust to P. & P. Mutyala for \$1,150,500  
**618 Kyler Court** Tan Living Trust to R. & K. Senji for \$1,560,000  
**6231 Main Branch Road** Goldberg Trust to S. & N. Parasuraman for \$1,170,000  
**266 South Overlook Drive** D. & D. Holquin to A. & R. Medsger for \$630,000  
**321 Paradiso Court** Faria Preserve LLC to N. & R. Sharif for \$1,160,000  
**285 Reflections Drive #21** Eisenberg Family Trust to R. & Y. Pettigrew for \$410,000  
**3308 Vera Cruz Drive** Ineson Living Trust to K. & B. Stout for \$1,090,000  
**6985 Wisteria Street** Bonner Trust to A. & C. Turner for \$625,000

Source: California REsource



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

Coming inside your Pleasanton Weekly on **February 21, 2020**

Our Neighborhoods showcases selected neighborhoods and captures the particular qualities that make it unique. Each Neighborhood profile includes local features — such as parks and shopping centers — and a fact box including the median home sale price, how many homes were sold and the nearby schools.

Our Neighborhoods is a great resource for current residents or those looking to relocate to the Tri-Valley.

**Pleasanton Weekly**

**ATTENTION ADVERTISERS**  
 Get your ad featured inside Our Neighborhoods. Learn more by calling: **925.600.0840**

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

**80 transactions and \$100 million in volume in 2019.**

*Thank you for all of your support and referrals throughout the year.*

*Wishing you and your family a Happy New Year!*

1063 Nelson Ct.	Buyers/Sellers	2646 Becard Ct	Sellers	4583 Gatetree Cir.	Sellers
1249 Village Green	Buyers	2686 Calle Alegre	Sellers	4644 Cope Ct.	Sellers
1280 Bradford Way	Buyers	276 Wildrose Cmn	Buyers	4758 McHenry Gate	Buyers/Sellers
129 Biscayne Way	Buyers	2776 Hartley Gate	Sellers	4862 Woodthrush Rd	Sellers
1401 Elliott Cir.	Sellers	2868 Longspur Way	Sellers	4872 Canary Dr	Sellers
1469 Entrada Verde	Buyers	3114 Lansdown Ct.	Sellers	4880 South Lewis Ave	Sellers
1471 Maple Leaf Ct.	Sellers	338 McLeod St	Buyers	5099 Monaco Dr	Sellers
1584 Foothill Rd	Buyers/Sellers	343 Brittany Pl.	Buyers	5130 Genovesio Drive	Sellers
1653 Calle Santa Anna	Buyers	348 Acorn Pl.	Sellers	5147 Angelico Ct.	Buyers/Sellers
1715 Beachwood Way	Buyers/Sellers	3507 Mosley Ct.	Sellers	5147 Angelico Ct.	Buyers
1823 Harms Dr	Sellers	3657 Olympic Ct.	Buyers	5816 Corte Margarita	Sellers
1832 Zenato Pl.	Buyers/Sellers	3681 Shenandoah Ct.	Sellers	5982 Via Del Cielo	Sellers
2115 Tanager Ct.	Sellers	37335 Sequoia Rd	Buyers	636 Norante Ct.	Buyers
2116 Neptune Road	Sellers	38289 Ford Lane	Sellers	6397 Calle Altamira	Sellers
2256 Camino Brazos	Buyers	3836 Appian Street	Sellers	674 Los Alamos Ave	Buyers/Sellers
2341 Greenberry Ct.	Sellers	39 Silver Oaks Ct.	Sellers	6842 Brighton Dr	Sellers
2373 Sandpiper Way	Sellers	4045 Pomona Way	Buyers	6964 Corte Antonio	Buyers/Sellers
24 Centennial Way	Buyers/Sellers	4086 Inniswood Pl.	Sellers	7692 Arbor Creek Ct.	Buyers/Sellers
2455 Wood Hollow Dr	Buyers	4187 Crisfield Lane	Sellers	82 Silver Oaks Terr.	Sellers
2471 Bay Meadows Cir.	Buyers/Sellers	4270 Mairmont Dr	Sellers	879 Oak Manor Way	Buyers
2512 Fountainhead Dr	Sellers	4425 Mirador Dr	Sellers	906 Crellin Rd	Sellers
257 S. Sea Way	Buyers	4457 Sutter Gate Ave	Sellers	930 Randy Way	Buyers
2608 Calle Morelia	Buyers	4574 Mohr Ave	Buyers/Sellers		



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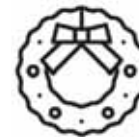
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**1644 Tanglewood Court, Pleasanton**

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**Golf Road, Castlewood, Pleasanton**

Coming Soon



Wishing you and your loved  
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Our mission is to help everyone find their place in the world. Compass is continuing to expand our California presence through new partnerships with local firms Alain Pinel Realtors®, Paragon, and Pacific Union International. Aided by our technology, service, and access to more agents in the region, you can now go further in your home search.

**Pleasanton/Livermore Valley**  
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