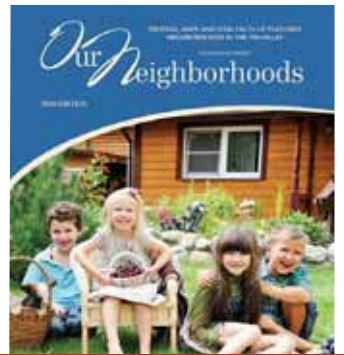


Pleasanton Weekly

Our Neighborhoods

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



VOL. XXI, NUMBER 4 • FEBRUARY 21, 2020

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Cheza Nami! (Come play with me)

Local group celebrates multiculturalism and diversity through interactive learning, live performances

Page 12



- 5 | **NEWS** City to ban sales of flavored tobacco, vape products
- 5 | **NEWS** Council again delays decision on east side planning
- 14 | **TRI VALLEY LIFE** Perfect balance: embalming and acting

free & fun HEALTH FAIR

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Heart Health talk at 9:30am

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TIM TALK



By TIM HUNT

Paying the price to battle climate change

California's extreme climate goals are continuing to take a toll.

Last year, the state energy commission approved plans from several cities and Marin County to ban natural gas pipes in new construction. For cities such as Berkeley and Menlo Park, those over-the-top measures weren't surprising. The Berkeley action is being challenged in court.

What was surprising is to learn that on Dec. 17, the Dublin City Council considered a similar action.

Dublin city staff are updating the community's Climate Action Plan that was originally enacted in 2010. It was required by AB 32 passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2006. That set the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions (think the carbon dioxide that we expel every time we exhale and that trees and other plants need) to 1990 levels by 2020. The report to the council indicated the city was on target to meet those goals.

What requires more draconian steps were SB 32 that requires emissions be reduced to 40% below the 1990 levels by 2030 and SB 100 that requires all electric generation be 100 carbon-free by 2045.

The Legislature and former Gov. Jerry Brown doubled down on their opinions and established even more challenging goals. Brown, throughout his second two-term governorship, cast himself as an international leader pushing for nations to deal with climate change.

If Dublin's understanding of the law is correct — and there's no reason to think anything else — then its policy will be the forerunner to similar policies across the state.

Does anyone else see the contradiction between jousting with the theory of man-caused climate change and relying on an electrical grid run by a bankrupt utility (PG&E) that has neglected maintenance and upgrading equipment for decades. PG&E embraced the climate change strategy, as did the California Public Utilities Commission that regulates the company.

That's why we pay the highest electrical rates in the country as well as about \$1 more for gallon for gasoline than the national average.

PG&E's CEO has said publicly it could take up to 10 years to update

and upgrade its grid so we don't see more planned electric shutoffs during dry fall weather.

PG&E leaders have embraced the renewable alternatives and the dropping price of solar panels has some real upside for residential use. The irony of the natural gas bans is that most of the power plants developed for peak demand times are powered by natural gas. It's clean burning and efficient, whether used for heating homes or offices or cooking. To its credit, Dublin's proposal exempts restaurants and hospitals.

And then there's the conflict between technology such as the giant second-generation windmills in the Altamont Pass and elsewhere and the death toll they take on raptors foraging for prey in those grass-covered hills. It's the same in one commercial solar array in the desert where habitat for native animals such as tortoises has been destroyed. We see conflicts between environmentalists backing renewable energy and others battling for raptors and other wildlife.

Personally, I have my doubts about man-caused climate change. It's clear the climate has changed over the centuries — the geologic record shows two ice ages that came and went. Many climate scientists argue that man's impact is causing the climate to change, while others take the opposite view. The modeling that predicts temperature increases and rising oceans comes down to what assumptions that are plugged in.

Change the assumptions and you change the results.

That's certainly not the approach that this blue state with one party has taken (although Gov. Arnold claimed he was a Republican). For the wealthier folks living in the 16 coastal counties that dominate California politics, the majority seem happy to pay the price.

For the rest of the state, particularly the great Central Valley, the costs sting families, particularly those living in poverty. The San Joaquin Valley has the highest poverty rate in the country, while Fresno is the second most impoverished city in the state.

Gov. Gavin Newsom had made addressing the two Californias a priority of his administration, but when will it show any fruit? ■

About the Cover

The Pleasanton-based Cheza Nami Foundation travels to conduct African cultural performances throughout the Bay Area year-round. Photo by Ryan J. Degan. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XXI, Number 4

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Adorable townhouse in The Gables within walking distance to BART!

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Coming to market in late February.

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What tactics do you use to start a conversation or keep it going?



Caryn Hart
Phlebotomist

Usually I ask if they have a pet because I know if they do, we have something in common. And it is always easy to keep a conversation going by swapping cute pet anecdotes.



Ed Santero
Wood shop and PE teacher

If I'm conversing with a woman, I will usually ask her about her music preferences. And if I'm talking with a guy, I tend to ask sports or work-related questions, depending upon the environment we're in at the time of the conversation.



Jodie Park *Finance*

Well, if the person is talking or wants to talk politics, I end that conversation right away, as I don't want to go there. As for any other kind of conversation, it depends on the context. If I'm at school, I ask about people's children. If I'm at work, I will generally keep a conversation going by talking about work-related matters. My conversations are typically very situation-specific.



Ken Sanders
Jazz drummer

It depends upon who I am communicating with. If I'm having a conversation with someone I have a lot in common with, I don't even have to think about what to do or say to start or keep the conversation going. The conversation just flows.



Carlos Quiros
Business owner

I have so many fascinating stories from my life, so if a conversation seems to stall, I just start telling a story that takes over the conversation. Then at some point the other person or people will chime in with their own life stories.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Be prepared

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department is hosting its first Disaster Preparedness Training of the year this Saturday at the Pleasanton Senior Center from 10 a.m. to noon.

With a focus on individual and family readiness, the event will include topics such as utility shut-off, family planning, disaster kits and more. The training is free but space is limited. Register at www.pleasantonfun.com, using code No. 18823.

A similar training will also take place on April 11, and city officials have scheduled daylong disaster readiness classes on April 4 (in English) and May 2 (in Spanish).

Tree work on Hwy 84

Caltrans started performing tree pruning overnight along Highway 84 between Sunol and Fremont (Pleasanton Sunol Road to Mission Boulevard), a project that will continue through March 8.

One-way traffic controls will be in effect. Work hours are weeknights 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. and weekends 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Public safety HQ

The city of Dublin is celebrating the grand opening of its new police headquarters with a ribbon-cutting ceremony this Saturday, two years after construction on the complex started.

Located at 6361 Clark Ave., the new Public Safety Complex, as it is officially known, houses essential functions like Dublin Police Services administration and an expanded Emergency Operations Center that is much larger than the former one at Dublin Civic Center.

There is also a briefing and training room and administrative offices for Alameda County Fire Department personnel onsite as part of the \$15 million project.

The festivities begin at 11 a.m. There is no admission to attend the event, which also includes facility tours and a free barbecue lunch provided by the Dublin Lions Club.

Potable reuse update

After the Weekly went to press last week with the story “Studying potable reuse,” Pleasanton city officials confirmed that the follow-up discussion on the regional studies would occur at one of the City Council’s March meetings — not this past Tuesday, as initially indicated.

The city is contemplating signing on to a Tri-Valley task order — with a local pricetag up to \$250,000 — to explore the possibility of supplementing the local water supply with recycled water treated for drinking purposes, better known as potable reuse water.

The hearing date is not yet confirmed. ■

Pleasanton moves to ban sales of all flavored tobacco, vaping products

Dozens of students, adults speak to council in favor of full prohibition over partial restrictions

By JEREMY WALSH

The City Council gave initial support Tuesday night to swift regulations that would ban the sales of flavored tobacco, e-cigarettes and related paraphernalia in Pleasanton, hoping to establish a strict ordinance to help curb teen vaping in the community.

Council members went against some less-stringent restrictions recommended by city staff, supporting the dozens of youth and adult speakers advocating strongly for a full prohibition on sales of flavored tobacco and vapor products as opposed to a

proposed partial ban that would still allow a handful of tobacco shops to sell those items to age-eligible adults.

They also expressed a desire to prevent Pleasanton from becoming a go-to destination for access to vape products in the Tri-Valley in light of more stringent regulations on sales approved in Livermore and Dublin.

“I unfortunately started smoking when I was 13 years old, and I didn’t quit until 1997,” Mayor Jerry Thorne said to open the council’s final deliberations. “Today I have COPD and emphysema, and I have to use a nebulizer at least two to

three times a week.”

“So that is what that stuff will do to you, and I’m a good example of it,” the mayor added. “I would give anything if the city councils and governments when I was growing up had the courage to do something really strong, and I hope this council has that same conviction.”

“I really do believe that we have a responsibility to create an environment to support our families,” Councilwoman Julie Testa said. “They can’t do it alone.”

Because the council’s decision deviated so much from the draft

ordinance prepared by staff headed into the meeting, city staff requested more time to rewrite the proposed ordinance for a formal vote at a future meeting.

City Manager Nelson Fialho told the Weekly he expects the revised ordinance to be presented at one of the council’s March meetings for a first reading. If approved then, the ordinance would return for final adoption two weeks later — as part of a required two-meeting process.

The crux of the 3-1/2-hour public

See VAPING on Page 9



JULIA BAUM

Lydiksen Elementary principal Jacob Berg and Pleasanton Vice Mayor Kathy Narum look on as students take part in last Friday morning’s groundbreaking ceremony for the school’s modernization project.

Breaking ground at Lydiksen

Work begins onsite for \$30M school modernization project

By JULIA BAUM

More than three years after Pleasanton voters passed the \$270 million school facilities bond Measure 11 to repair and modernize local schools, Pleasanton Unified School District celebrated the start of the initiative’s first large-scale construction project with a groundbreaking ceremony at Lydiksen Elementary School last Friday.

The \$30 million Lydiksen rebuild will kick off with construction of the secondary parking and drop-off loop and relocating

the Kids Club classrooms. The secondary drop-off loop will help ease traffic jams at the front of the school and along Foothill Road, and set the stage when new classroom buildings are added this summer at the campus that was originally built in 1968.

The late-morning event Friday was attended by hundreds of Lydiksen students wearing clothes in their school’s signature shade of purple, as well as PUSD staff including Superintendent David Haglund and the entire Board of Trustees, and Pleasanton Vice

Mayor Kathy Narum.

During introductory remarks, Haglund asked the children to tell each other about the holiday gifts they received recently, then held a white safety helmet up high in the air.

“Here’s my Christmas present; it’s a hard hat, and that’s because we’re going to start the construction projects here at Lydiksen,” Haglund said. “During this year, we’re also going to start (building new science classrooms) at

See LYDIKSEN on Page 7

East side decision postponed again

Council waiting for ‘clearer heads’ after lengthy meeting night

By JEREMY WALSH

The City Council again delayed making a final decision on restarting the East Pleasanton Specific Plan, opting to hold off until next month rather than deliberate after midnight Wednesday morning.

Council members spent nearly two hours listening to city staff and residents about the east side planning process, but as the clock approached 12:30 a.m., the council majority supported tabling the public hearing to another meeting date so they could revisit it with “clearer heads” — at the end of a nearly six-hour meeting that also focused heavily on the city’s proposed anti-vaping ordinance.

It marked the second time in the past three months the east side debate was left unresolved following an hours-long council hearing about the proposed scope of work and public review process for the multi-year planning project.

The item is anticipated to return to the council for a decision during the regular meeting on March 3, which is Election Night.

This latest council discussion — which began late Tuesday night and crossed into the next day — played out similarly to the initial hearing the city held on the topic on Nov. 19,

See EAST SIDE on Page 10

Zone 7 puts Livermore marijuana farm on hold

Wastewater system permit pulled after agency noticed document errors

By JULIA BAUM

Livermore's first legal marijuana farm is on hold after the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors recently noticed a number of errors, omissions and discrepancies in documents submitted for approval of an onsite wastewater treatment system.

The discovery led to the board unanimously rescinding their prior approval and requesting a full environmental impact report for the project last month.

Oasis Venture is seeking to build a 32,000-square-foot cultivation facility located at 7033 Morgan Territory Road in unincorporated northern Livermore.

The 98-acre property would include about 22,000 square feet of marijuana canopy, a 5,040-square-foot building for processing, storage, maintenance and office space, and 26 parking spots. A private home

currently occupied by the Oasis founder is also on-site. No retail sales or production of extracts or concentrates would be permitted there.

As part of the approval process, Oasis applied last year for a conditional use permit with the Alameda County planning department. According to Carol Mahoney, integrated water resources manager for Zone 7, Oasis had supplied an independent hydrology analysis report for the permit as required.

"They said, 'Can we use this to get our septic tank approval in place?'" Mahoney told the Weekly. "In September, we brought that information to the board, and the board approved of the use based on the information that we received from the application and through this hydrology report."

But when the mitigated negative declaration from the county came

out in December, Mahoney said "it had different numbers than what was shown in the (hydrology) study that had been done back in August, prior to the September approval."

There were discrepancies between the numbers in the hydrology report and those in the mitigated negative declaration project description, as well as in some of the analysis of the California Environmental Quality Act document, according to minutes from the Jan. 15 board meeting.

"Basically it's a problem and it's our own fault," Oasis founder Chuk Campos told the Weekly. "The CEQA document that ended up being published had older numbers. It's been an iterative process for months and months and months and we didn't update the thing properly, and it didn't have the latest, greatest (information)."

The board was concerned

because, according to Mahoney, "it's not unusual to have an environmental document explore a range of options, but the challenge was that the range went outside of what was adopted and accepted."

"If we're going to authorize an application, it needs to match what's going to be in the conditional use permit," she added.

Several Zone 7 directors, including Angela Ramirez Holmes and Michelle Smith McDonald, said they were "uncomfortable with the fact that Zone 7 received inaccurate information in which the approval was based on," while Board President Sandy Figuers was concerned about the request to approve the use of an existing fourth septic tank on the property.

Oasis originally planned to remove the tank but found it "was not dry and some water could be taken

out of it, so they petitioned Zone 7 to keep the fourth well," according to the minutes. Figuers was worried "about the lack of water currently being pumped out of the wells" and what would happen to the water supply for surrounding neighbors if Oasis started pumping harder.

Campos said the property has "more than enough capacity" and that it's now a matter of updating the hydrology report before reapplying for the permit. "I truly believe we have a good case ... we just need to get our ducks in a row like they should've been."

Just how long the project has been delayed is unclear but Campos said at this point, "60 days is my best guess." Should things get back on track, groundbreaking would happen later this year with construction lasting about four to five months. ■

Amador wins award for diversity in computer science program

Chosen from among 20,000 eligible high schools across country

By JULIA BAUM

Amador Valley High School's computer science program and its leaders were celebrated at last week's Pleasanton school board meeting for being one of only 639 high schools nationwide to recently earn the College Board AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award.

The school was selected to receive the award out of more than 20,000 eligible schools across the country "for their efforts in engaging more young women in computer science," according to Pleasanton Unified School District.

There has been a 10% increase over the past three years in female students taking computer science courses at Amador, which "has nearly doubled the number of classes offered due to overall interest" including a computer science principles class where students learn about coding, robotics, virtual reality and game theory.

Sophomore Alyssa Chen, who was part of the first all-girls team from Amador to advance in the Regional Chevron Design Challenge last year, said computer science is everywhere these days and that understanding it is helpful.

"It's interesting to see how computer science is integrated into so many fields these days ... it's very versatile and I feel that general knowledge of computer science helps," Chen said. "It's also interesting because you're taking virtually nothing and you're pulling out the knowledge that you know and creating something that can be used."



PUSD

Amador Valley High was recognized by the Pleasanton school board last week for earning the national College Board AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award.

Amador computer science teachers Richard Hanson and Kevin Kiyoi were credited by PUSD assistant superintendent Janelle Woodward for fostering "an incredible environment that helps encourage more students to explore the field of computer science."

Together the duo has hosted all-female professional panels for the past two years to inspire students and to change the public image of what a programmer looks like and does, and also extended learning opportunities about computers to include the ACE Coding and Girls Who Code clubs on campus, which they supervise.

"I'm most inspired by the motivated, driven female students who are not letting anything stand in their path. They're go-getters," Hanson said. "We're lucky to live

in a community with great family support and really inquisitive students. We try to put our students in situations where they'll be successful that will touch a nerve and awaken something inside them."

Kiyoi called the "very active" Girls Who Code club that he oversees, "a nice way for our female students to keep coding and mentoring each other and feeling like they can succeed" and a "safe and inviting environment."

This year the group will host a day-long Girls Who Code event open to all PUSD elementary and middle school students on March 7 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The club is also currently seeking donations and partners to support their cause. Visit <https://avhsgwc.weebly.com/2020-summit.html>. ■

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Coomber won't seek re-election

Livermore council member to finish year and focus on health

By RYAN J. DEGAN

Livermore City Councilman Bob Coomber has officially announced that he will not be seeking re-election in November in order to focus on his health.

Revealing the news during Livermore's regular City Council meeting on Feb. 10, Coomber — who was elected to the council in 2016 — said he is facing kidney failure and currently waiting on a transplant.

Reaching the decision in consultation with his wife, Coomber added that the medical appointments and health issues associated with his kidney will prevent him from giving an adequate amount of time to city issues.

"I have now three hospitals that I am on a transplant list for and I need to be ready to move at a moment's notice. If that should happen, I don't want to take six months, seven months off of the council. So knowing that it can happen at any time, I have decided it's best to take care of myself and get out and do things in the meantime," Coomber told the Weekly.

He added that thanks in no small part to his wife's cooking and healthy living, his condition, while not good, has not worsened, and

he is still able to stay active and do many of the things he loves.

"I try to get out on trails as often as I can, you know try to fight off some of the fatigue that comes on sometimes, but usually it's not a horrible day," he said.

Coomber's decision guarantees at least one regular council seat will change hands after the November general election — Councilman Bob Carling is also up for re-election. Livermore's mayoral position will be up for grabs as well, with Mayor John Marchand being termed out.

The recipient of the Weekly's Tri-Valley Hero Courage Award in 2017, Coomber has been known as a community leader and trail-blazer, even before his election to the council.

His story of maintaining an active lifestyle, though he has used a wheelchair since the 1990s due to serious bone density problems resulting from juvenile diabetes, was the subject of the documentary "4 Wheel Bob." Through years of trial and error, Coomber says



Bob Coomber

he has been able to enjoy the outdoors in "extreme fashion," continuing a love of hiking California's peaks.

Coomber also reflected on his decision to not seek re-election on his Facebook page, saying in part, "What this does is provide an opportunity for the many really bright members of the Next Generation to step up and compete for a seat. The City has a lot of momentum now, and I hope there are fresh ideas and interests to keep things moving in a good direction."

"As I gear up to be placed on other facility's transplant lists, it'll require even more time out of town and on the road. Other than that, and as always, it's all good! Just back from Brushy Peak, where I rolled out to a low lying pond and watched Avocets prowl the shoreline," he added.

When asked if he had any advice for his eventual successor, Coomber told them to focus on the interests of the residents and keep up with the city's budget.

"You don't want to put the city in a debt situation," he added. "I would just say do your best to stick to the truth and don't believe all that you read in the Independent." ■

TAKE US ALONG



Pleasanton's namesake: Pleasanton resident Keith Barlow visited the gravesite of Gen. Alfred Pleasonton at the Congressional Cemetery in Washington, D.C. Pleasanton is named after the late Civil War general (though a U.S. Postal Service typo led to the different spelling). It's a familiar sight for Barlow, who also sent in a Take Us Along from Pleasanton Road at Fort Bliss in Texas back in 2015.

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

LYDIKSEN

Continued from Page 5

Foothill and Amador, so I'm really excited to have my hard hat so that I can start the construction projects."

"Foothill was not here when Lydiksen was built; Stoneridge Mall was not here when Lydiksen was built. Many of your parents and your principal were not here when Lydiksen was built, either," principal Jacob Berg told the crowd. "We are building this new school for our 689 students who are sitting here with us today. We are building this new school for you ... for all the students who will be here eventually."

Other Measure 11 projects have been relatively low profile, like

when the campus received a technology and network upgrade last year along with all other PUSD elementary sites and Village High School. Fire alarm and security system upgrades are also planned for PUSD campuses in the future.

With the larger Measure 11 projects gearing up, PUSD is also preparing to build new science classrooms at Foothill and Amador Valley High later this year, and Hart Middle School will also have a new science building next year. Measure 11 revenue will fund construction at all three schools.

The Lydiksen rebuild is expected to be complete by next summer and open with the start of the 2021-22 school year. ■



JULIA BAUM

PUSD Superintendent David Haglund (center) and assistant superintendents (left to right) Ed Diolazo, Janelle Woodward, Julio Hernandez and Ahmad Sheikholeslami.



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Bauer-Kahan, Glazer co-author bill to hold power companies accountable

AB 2356 would empower local district attorneys to act against electrical corporations

By JULIA BAUM

Tri-Valley lawmakers introduced a bill this week that would allow the state and local prosecutors to take action against electric power companies that fail to comply with safety regulations.

Known as “The Utility Accountability and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2020,” Assembly Bill 2356 was authored by Tri-Valley Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) and Senator Steve Glazer (D-Orinda), among other state officials, to give local authorities the same enforcement mechanisms that are employed by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

The bill is based on the enforcement authority of the California



Rebecca Bauer-Kahan



Steve Glazer

Department of Toxic Substances Control, which shares power with local district attorneys to move against companies and individuals who neglect safety precautions. Currently, only the CPUC has authority to bring action against electricity corporations that violate state safety regulations.

“This bill in no way diminishes

the primary responsibility or authority of the CPUC to enforce and take action against electrical companies,” Bauer-Kahan said in a statement. “This bill simply adds the attorney general and district attorneys to the enforcement team so they can act to protect and ensure the safety of Californians against utilities that have a long track record of neglecting our safety.”

In October, PG&E conducted a series of statewide Public Safety Power Shutoffs, sometimes for days, in an attempt to prevent wildfires caused by faulty equipment in high-risk areas, knocking out power for up to three million Californians.

The state “must do all we can to force PG&E to run an electricity

grid that protects lives and property from wildfires when the wind blows,” Glazer said. “This bill gives California a new tool to keep us safe.”

Representatives partly attributed climate change to the impacts of the deadly wildfires that have burned large swaths of the state and killed dozens of people, but said “there is no doubt that decades of utility companies’ mismanagement, and their refusal to put the safety of the public over profits, is also to blame.”

“Our state is facing dire circumstances. Four of the five largest wildfires in California’s history have happened in the past seven years,” Bauer-Kahan added. “The devastating loss of loved ones,

homes and in some cases, entire communities must not be endured again. By empowering local jurisdictions to enforce existing safety regulations, we aim to stop the next disaster before it starts.”

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O’Malley’s comments echoed Bauer-Kahan and Glazer.

“California must face the reality that climate change will continue to pose massive threats of wildfires throughout the state. We cannot afford to be complacent,” O’Malley said. “As district attorneys, our job is to ensure the safety of our communities. This legislation gives us the tools to prevent further catastrophic loss of life and property by ensuring utility companies abide by the laws.” ■

Dublin’s military banner program honors hometown heroes

Custom displays will be along Dougherty Road until Veterans Day

Local veterans and active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces will be honored again this year by the city of Dublin, which displays military banners on local streets as part of an annual program created in 2018.

From Memorial Day until Veterans Day 2020, the banners will be displayed along Dougherty Road in Dublin.

Details about the honoree, including their photo, name, rank, branch

and whether they are active duty or a veteran, will be featured on the banners — which will then be presented to the honoree or sponsor when the exhibition period ends.

To qualify for the military banner program, the honoree must be an active duty member or honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, be a current Dublin resident or have an immediate family member (spouse, parent, sibling, child or grandchild) who

resides there, or be a former Dublin resident with a “demonstrated long term, positive impact on the Dublin community,” subject to approval by the city.

The deadline to apply is March 25; the online application form is available at <https://dublin.ca.gov>. For more information, contact Suzanne Iarla, management analyst II, at 833-6650 or by email at banners@dublin.ca.gov. ■

—Julia Baum

FUN STUFF FOR KIDS OVER THE SUMMER

Camp Connection

Summer 2020

Fashion Design & Sewing Camp @ KIDZ KRAFTZ!
 7690 Quail Creek Cir. | Dublin | (925) 271-0015 | KidzKraftz.com
 Focus on sewing stylish, wearable clothing, accessories, craft and jewelry projects, while introducing children to fashion design concepts, sewing techniques, basic pattern manipulation and fashion illustration. Sewing machines and notions provided. FREE fabric for first day of the camp. Pizza party on last day of the camp. Early Bird Registration Special, as well as many discount options available.

Stratford School
<http://stratfordschools.com/summer>
Summer@Stratford - Discover Where the Extraordinary Begins
 Stratford School infuses its STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) and academic curriculum into an innovative and enriching summer camp experience for Preschool, Elementary, and Middle School.
Preschool/PreK (age 2½ – 4) Weekly themes come to life as Young Campers learn, explore, and engage in imaginative activities that promote STEAM learning. Each session is designed around inquiry-based projects that develop foundational skills in phonics, math, motor skills, music, social skills, and more!
Kindergarten Prep (age 4 – 5) Jr. Campers will develop the skills necessary for success in Kindergarten like phonics, fluency, math, printing, and social skills. Afternoons will feature fun, hands-on, STEAM-based activities that incorporate art, science, and music.
Elementary (entering grades 1 – 5 next school year) We take our enriched academic preparation and themed project-based learning to a whole new level! Students will collaborate to tackle real-world problems by utilizing cross-curricular academic principles (Math, Science, and Language Arts) and new concepts in a fun and engaging way. Specialized courses at select campuses include Multimedia Storytelling for Past, Present & Future, Engineering by Nature, Money Mastery for Kids, and Explorers & Ambassadors – Bringing Word Cultures to Life while Destination Science camps feature Robot Island and Movie Makers, Galactic Space Training, Playspace Engineering and Spy-Tech, and STEAM Inventors and Gravity Racers.
Middle School (entering grades 6 – 8 next school year) Middle School programs are designed to educate and provide academic, social, and emotional skills. Math and Language Arts concepts will be covered, in addition to developing life skills needed for Middle School and beyond. Afternoon options will allow students to explore their interests as well as continue to learn new concepts.
Extended Day (all programs) Camp does not have to be over at 3:30 p.m. Summer@Stratford extends the camp day with engaging and creative activities to keep campers active until 6:00 p.m. This option can be added onto any afternoon or full-day camp session. Find out more and sign up today!

Write Now! Summer Writing Camps
 Pleasanton/Palo Alto
 Hacienda: (925) 485-5750 | Emerson: (650) 424-1267
www.headsup.org | writenow@headsup.org
 Improve your student’s writing skills this summer at Hacienda School of Pleasanton and Emerson School of Palo Alto. Courses this year are Expository Writing, Creative Writing, and Presentation Techniques. Visit our website for more information.

Visit pleasantonweekly.com/camp_connection/
 To advertise in the April Camp Connection, call (925) 600-0840 ext. 122
 or email kklein@pleasantonweekly.com

PARADISE AWAITS at

Valley Humane Society's

6th annual gala!

Friday, March 6

6-11 pm

Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery
Pleasanton

Tickets available at
valleyhumane.org

Presented by Jeff and Doris Hank



Valley
HUMANE SOCIETY
your means
to a friend

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Amador gear drive

Spurred by their success last time, the Equipment for Everyone Club at Amador Valley High School is hosting another sports gear collection drive this Sunday (Feb. 23).

New or lightly used athletic equipment will be collected in the Santa Rita Road parking lot from noon to 3 p.m., then given to students around the Bay Area who are less fortunate or have special needs.

Donated goods will be given to the Pleasanton Challenger Baseball League and the local Boys and Girls Club. For more information, email equipmentforeveryone@gmail.com.

Climate education

The Tri-Valley Citizens' Climate Education program is holding its monthly meeting next Thursday (Feb. 27) from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Livermore Library at 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

The featured presentation, entitled "Pathways to Zero: How California Can Have a Carbon Neutral Economy," will be delivered by speaker Roger Aines, Ph.D., chief scientist for the energy program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

To learn more, visit trivalleyccce.org.

Veteran support

The Pleasanton Public Library is set to host the Veterans Affairs (VA) Palo Alto Mobile Medical Outreach Team and the Alameda County veterans service officer next Thursday (Feb. 27) to facilitate free examinations, consultations and referrals for veterans, as well as provide other information about VA resources.

Veterans uncertain of their benefits eligibility are encouraged to visit as requirements have changed, and VA health care may complement current medical coverage. Veterans should bring military discharge papers (Form DD-214) and a list of current medications.

Thursday's event is scheduled to run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the library at 400 Old Bernal Ave. Contact library officials at 931-3400, ext. 4.

Fair awards

The Alameda County Fair recently earned top awards from the Western Fairs Association and the International Association of Fairs and Expositions for innovation and excellence in competitive exhibits, agricultural programs and marketing for 2019.

In all, the Pleasanton-based fair took home 34 WFA awards in its division, including 17 first-place honors. IAFE recognized the fair with seven international awards.

Awards included categories ranging from Maintenance to Cultural Programming to Digital Advertising to Sponsorship Innovation. The Fair received additional awards in a variety of categories for Competitive Exhibits, Year-Round Events, Guest Services and Social Media Campaigns.

The local fair also received top honors in Innovative Marketing Strategies and Technology and Human Resources divisions. ■

Ragin' Cajun returns, this year with Bollywood theme

Fundraiser benefits Sandra J. Wing Foundation

By JULIA BAUM

Experience the magic of Mumbai without leaving the Tri-Valley when the fun-filled 12th annual Ragin' Cajun fundraiser returns next month.

This year, the March 13 event at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery in Pleasanton sports a "Bollywood By the Bay" theme, continuing the tradition of reimagining Mardi Gras in a new global setting while raising money for the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation, which provides supportive services for cancer patients.

Donations raised at Ragin' Cajun pay for a number of complementary therapies including acupuncture, acupressure and massage that alleviate radiation and chemotherapy side effects. In past years, the event has raised more than \$100,000 for the foundation — and created some

unforgettable memories for Sandra Wing, founder and board president of Healing Therapies.

"Last year we went to Africa and that was a very different deviation," Wing told the Weekly about the previous year's theme. "People still talk about how amazing that event was. Hopefully this year will top it."

Guests will be greeted with the event's signature cocktail, a tropical mango spritzer. Once inside, Bollywood dancers will entertain the crowd with carefully choreographed performances, and Bollywood music will play throughout the evening.

Attendees can sample samosas from the extensive Indian-themed food menu, which also includes curried carrot soup, saag paneer, naan, chicken korma, and cardamom panna cotta for dessert.

There will also be several raffle prizes and auction items this year



COURTESY OF SJWHFTF

Guests at last year's Ragin Cajun fundraiser made their best offer during auctions for a variety of prizes.

including 49ers items like autographed and framed Jimmy Garoppolo and George Kittle jerseys, tickets to sporting events and concerts, and get-away packages to Lake Tahoe, Puerto Vallarta, Cabo San Lucas and a cruise with an undetermined location, as of production deadline.

Wing — who expects "a lot of people will be dressing up, including me, into Indian attire" — said last year's event sold out and that almost

300 tickets have already been sold for next month. "You're going to see a lot of beautiful colors with saris and the traditional Indian wear, so I think people will have a lot of fun with this one this year."

The 12th annual Ragin' Cajun "Bollywood By the Bay" takes place March 13, starting 6 p.m. in Pleasanton at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, 410 Vineyard Ave. To purchase tickets, visit www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org. ■

VAPING

Continued from Page 5

hearing Tuesday night centered on the differences between the proposal of the city's Youth Commission, which included an all-out ban, and the recommendation of city staff that they said aimed to strike a balance between limiting tobacco access and exposure for teens and not unfairly impacting existing businesses and adult customers.

The five-pronged ordinance originally proposed by city staff hinged in part on a key distinction between the types of businesses that sell tobacco products.

They suggested prohibiting flavored tobacco and vapor product sales at tobacco retailers, defined as businesses like grocery stores, gas stations and convenience stores in which tobacco sales are incidental to the main business (of which Pleasanton has 49).

They did, however, recommend allowing those sales to continue at tobacco stores, considered as a business in which 60% or more of its revenue is from tobacco product sales and store entry is restricted to adults-only. There are four such businesses on record in the city.

But all of the 32 student speakers at the council meeting — a mix of middle- and high-schoolers — and more than half of the 19 adult commenters strongly disagreed.

They argued a full prohibition on sales in Pleasanton storefronts was the best deterrent to youth access to vaping products. Even with age limits and other restrictions, teens are finding ways to acquire the highly addictive items from local stores, either themselves or via an

adult proxy, they said.

The vaping critics' comments spanned the gamut, from lambasting flavors that entice youth like " Unicorn Tears" and "Cotton Candy" to the products mimicking the appearance of school items like pencils to their effect on young people's physical, mental and emotional health to vaping being trendy and a source of peer pressure in schools.

"It's just everywhere and an incredibly pervasive problem," Harvest Park Middle School student Ethan Han told the council.

"The main attraction here is the flavors," said Ashwin Sriram, a Hart Middle School student and Youth Commission member. "As an eighth-grader moving into high school, I want to make sure that this trend does not continue ... to make sure that a high school bathroom isn't labeled the 'JUUL Room' because people are known to vape inside."

"This is more than money ... This is lives at stake," added Tess Shotland, another youth commissioner. "Death that is preventable. I don't want to see my friends die. I would not like to see my friends die. And this something that is on your shoulders as the council. You can make it better."

"This is an issue that we need to address now," parent Jennifer Duncan said. "I realize that some people claim to use vaping devices as a smoking cessation device. The FDA has not approved that because the pros do not outweigh the cons. And for every one adult that stops smoking using a vape pen, 80 youth start."

"We're here tonight to urge Pleasanton to pass the same comprehensive policy so we can show a united front in the fight against youth vaping," said Kristie

Wang, co-founder of Flavors Addict Kids-Livermore.

The council did hear from a handful of adult speakers in support of allowing some form of flavored tobacco and vapor sales in Pleasanton, a mix of people who either had quit traditional cigarette smoking by switching to vaping or who operated an existing tobacco-selling business.

"I smoked for about 25 years ... this product saved my life, vape," said David Wilson, a 1999 Amador Valley High grad.

"If we take this and ban all flavors and all sales, I'm probably going to go back to smoking because I am an addict and it's hard to deal with, but what we're not going to do is realize that all of these sales will go online ... and all you have to do is click, 'I am 21 years old,'" he added.

"I would lose a good vast proportion of my business," said Rick Kutler, who sells flavored pipe tobacco and cigars, but not vape products, at his Pleasanton tobacco shop. "What I ask is that all retail stores, tobacco stores, cigar stores are not bunched together. We have really complied, explicitly."

Still, the prohibition proponents far outweighed the vaping sales advocates.

"Vaping and smoking are one in the same," Livermore parent Paula Lorenz told the council toward the end of the two-hour-plus public comment period. "We have to do what we can for our kids to protect them from this product."

The council majority strongly sided with the full ban camp.

They voted unanimously to prohibit all sales of electronic smoking devices and related vaping paraphernalia throughout Pleasanton.

The vote to prohibit all sales of flavored tobacco, including menthol cigarettes, was 4-1 with Councilman Jerry Pentin in dissent, saying he supported allowing the four existing tobacco stores to continue those sales coupled with other strong city regulations to prevent underage transactions.

The three other aspects of the proposed ordinance garnered less attention and were supported by the council majority.

That included prohibiting new tobacco retailers and new tobacco stores within 1,000 feet of public schools, public parks and recreation facilities while existing retailers and stores within that distance could continue operating as grandfathered in. (With the two other bans, those businesses could only sell non-flavored tobacco.)

The fourth point would direct staff to develop and implement a new, strict tobacco retailer licensing program that would require all tobacco retailers and tobacco stores to obtain an annual permit from the city. They would then be subject to fines and permit revocation for sales violations.

The fifth aspect would formally prohibit anyone under 21 years old from possessing any tobacco product, subject to confiscation and diversion — but no criminal penalties or fines.

Those provisions would be part of the overall revised ordinance scheduled to be presented to the City Council next month. The council may also talk that night about implementing minimum pack sizes and pricing for tobacco products, as suggested by the Youth Commission. ■

TAKE US ALONG



The nation's capital: Posing in front of the U.S. Supreme Court are the Goode family of Pleasanton, Dennis and Mimi Goode with son Johnny B. and granddaughter Shelby. Their trip to Washington, D.C., last year featured a week of hot and humid weather, but that didn't put a damper on the itinerary Johnny arranged for the family. It was an amazing educational trip for all; nothing was left out, they said.

Dottie Somerset Berck

August 22, 1932 – February 11, 2020

A 50-year resident of Pleasanton

Dottie went to her rest surrounded by loving family at Kaiser Hospital after suffering cardiac arrest. She will be remembered by all as an outgoing vivacious woman who had a smile and a hug for everyone she met.

Dottie was born in Camden, Arkansas to Deleta Patterson and Irvin Williams. Her father's work advancements moved her across the country through Savannah, Georgia, Kansas City, Kansas, and Seattle Washington before settling in Oakland, California at the age of 15. She graduated from Oakland High School at the age of 16 and went on to attend San Francisco Community College for a year before entering the workforce. There she met her first husband, David Somerset, while employed at Bank Of America. Following their marriage in 1955, they moved from San Leandro to Hayward where they raised two wonderful children, Dwight and Dorri. The family bought a new home in the up and coming Del Prado area of Pleasanton in 1969 and quickly became established members of their community.

Dottie became a loyal and contributive employee of Allied Brokers where she rose to the rank of Executive Vice President and oversaw property management.

Dottie is survived by her loving husband of 11 years, Bill Berck, her former husband and the father of her children David Somerset, her son Dwight (Joy) of Portola Valley, her daughter Dorri Cavestri (Bruce) of Murphys, and four grandchildren; Andrea Gerton, Daniel Gerton, Scott Somerset (Becca) and Christine Somerset.

Services will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at her church, Trinity Baptist Church, 557 Olivina Avenue, Livermore. A celebration of her life will follow with an opportunity for friends and family to share Dottie's life experiences. Interment at Chapel of the Chimes, Hayward will be at 10:30 AM on Sunday February 23, 2020

In lieu of flowers, she would appreciate donations to the Alzheimer Association to honor her step-father Joe Smith who suffered with the disease.



PAID OBITUARY

EAST SIDE

Continued from Page 5

including lengthy citizen input that hinged on the overarching question of adding new housing in the East Pleasanton area, which could be a major aspect of the specific plan.

The East Pleasanton Specific Plan would be the city policy document that lays the foundation for future development of Pleasanton's so-called east side, a swath of land on the far southeastern edge of the city long eyed for potential redevelopment with residential, commercial, business and other uses.

"What this specific plan process, I think, affords the city and the council is the ability to comprehensively plan so that everything is well-integrated and works in a manner that's consistent with the expectations of the community," City Manager Nelson Fialho said Tuesday night at the Pleasanton Civic Center.

"We're starting with the assumption that it's a blank slate," he added.

The council voted early last year to place the East Pleasanton Specific Plan back onto its official priority list, almost four years after the city hit the pause button on a prior east side planning effort amid drought concerns and other considerations.

Before moving forward this time around, city staff wanted council confirmation on the planning process framework, in a big-picture way — for the project approach and scope of work.

The council first debated the new east side planning process in depth in November, but the follow-up discussion was delayed for more than two months, for scheduling reasons, until Tuesday night.

The process recommended by city staff centers around workshops

and meetings overseen by the Planning Commission, with regular check-ins with the council along the way, as opposed to creating a new task force to lead the effort like what happened from 2012 until mid-2015 when the city previously attempted to complete an East Pleasanton Specific Plan.

The final city deliberations on the specific plan, once completed, would occur before the council — though a public vote on ratification remains a real possibility, but has not been confirmed.

Estimated to last 18 to 24 months, the process would be paid for in part by Pleasanton-based developer Ponderosa Homes, which has secured agreements with key east side property owners, but all consultant contracts would be retained and managed independently by the city, staff said.

'All of the alternatives will be considered ... and it is the City Council and the community that will drive that process.'

Ellen Clark,
City community
development director

"This is a city-driven process," community development director Ellen Clark told the council.

"Ponderosa has an interest, certainly as a residential developer, an interest in an outcome that they've made clear (but) they don't have special standing in the process. All of the alternatives will be considered as appropriate, and it is the City Council and the community that will drive that process to decide," she added.

Jeff Schroeder, senior vice president for Ponderosa, said the company is excited to work with the city on an inclusive public process to develop a plan to hopefully bring a new community to the east side that "meet the needs of Pleasanton residents for affordable housing, senior housing, family housing, parks and schools, trails, traffic circulation and related community infrastructure."

When pressed by Councilwoman Julie Testa about whether the company was already "marketing" their development plan for the east side when the planning process is supposed to be a "clean slate," Schroeder said, "Yes, we do have a plan."

"And you're going to have a plan, and everybody's going to have a chance to take shots at it to propose alternatives, to come up with different ideas. It's an open slate," Schroeder added. "But we have to start from somewhere, so yes of course we have a plan. And we've shown it to people, yes."

City planning officials want to restart the east side process soon to solidify the specific plan and help

maintain coordinated local control over development of the area, and they contend the planning process would dovetail well with the next regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) cycle.

There is also renewed interest from the major private property owners in East Pleasanton, who recently inked agreements with Ponderosa to represent them during the specific plan process, as well as from some affordable housing advocates who see the east side as an opportunity zone.

Some residents in town — including the PleasantonVoters.com citizen group, who have framed the debate as "East Pleasanton sprawl" — oppose the proposal, arguing the city is rushing unnecessarily to restart east side planning with a poor process to appease a developer and should instead wait for the next RHNA numbers to be released.

During their Nov. 19 debate, Mayor Jerry Thorne and council members Kathy Narum and Jerry Pentin voiced support for the staff-recommended concept while Testa and Councilwoman Karla Brown were more hesitant.

Council members asked pointed questions of city staff somewhat reflective of those similar viewpoints Tuesday night, but they held back on conveying their final thoughts in favor of postponing the hearing two weeks given the late hour.

But they also heard plenty of feedback from resident speakers — 23 in all — on both sides of the east side planning debate.

"I am against planning the east side now," said Sandy Yamaoda, PleasantonVoters secretary. "This accommodation is for the benefit of the developer, not the voters ... It is premature to move forward without all the facts."

"On behalf of those who need housing, I would ask that you would engage this plan; say 'yes' to it," said Rev. Ron Culmer, of St. Clare's Episcopal Church.

"I, along with many other residents, are concerned about the timing of the planning process, the groups that are driving the planning, the level of community involvement, and the fiscal impact and long-term cost to the community regarding the push to plan this area," Kelly Cousins, president of PleasantonVoters, told the council.

"I feel strongly that planning needs to proceed on this plan so the city is able to plan affordable housing, distribution and placement, and infrastructure can be set in place to accommodate future expansion and maintain the 'City of Planned Progress,'" resident Jennifer Whitehouse added.

As public comment ended around 12:20 a.m., the majority of council members said they wanted to postpone their final deliberations until March 3 so they could have "clearer heads" in light of the late hour — all except Pentin, who was ready to move forward. ■



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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

PPD says goodbye to retiring sergeant, welcomes son to force

It was a special week for the Boland family, and the entire Pleasanton Police Department, last week as the department gave a retirement send-off to Sgt. Jim Boland one day after welcoming his son, Jimmy Boland Jr., as the newest city police officer.

"Recognized as a compassionate, helpful and organizational leader, Jim's easygoing demeanor will be missed," officials wrote on the Pleasanton PD Facebook page Feb. 13. "Thank you for your service and commitment to the city of Pleasanton and the Pleasanton Police Department."

And of the new officer, Interim Police Chief Craig Eicher said in a later statement, "Officer Jimmy Boland represents the very best. He separated himself from the rest of the candidates by demonstrating solid ethics, strong communication skills ... and most certainly, he represents a great fit for Pleasanton."

The Boland ceremonies occurred on back-to-back days, beginning with Officer Jimmy Boland Jr. taking the oath of office on Feb. 12.

Boland Jr., who was a member of the 166th graduating class from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Police Academy, is an alum of De La Salle High School as well as California State University, Sacramento, where he earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He gained service



PPD

From left: Sgt. Jim Boland, Officer Jimmy Boland Jr. and Interim Police Chief Craig Eicher at Boland Jr.'s swearing-in ceremony last week.

experience in his youth as well, as an active member in the Boy Scouts of America, where he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

One day later, Feb. 13, the department recognized Sgt. Boland upon his retirement after nearly 18 years with the department — part of a 20-year-plus law enforcement career that included time as a deputy sheriff with the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office and as a police officer in Antioch.

In Pleasanton, Boland worked a variety of assignments, including patrol officer, motor officer and member of the SWAT Team until his promotion to sergeant in 2010. In that role, he served as patrol supervisor, canine unit supervisor, and for the last four years, as special events supervisor.

In other news

- A 33-year-old pedestrian was struck and killed early Sunday

morning by a driver exiting east-bound Highway 4 in Pittsburg at the Loveridge Road off-ramp, the California Highway Patrol said.

The male victim was in the No. 2 lane of the off-ramp when he was struck by a 36-year-old Livermore man driving a 2013 Honda who exited the highway shortly after 1 a.m.

The pedestrian was pronounced dead at the scene. He was later identified as Charles Guerrero of Antioch.

The driver was not injured and cooperated with investigators. His name was not released publicly.

The driver was not impaired at the time, according to the CHP. It was not immediately known if the victim was under the influence, and investigators are unclear why he was on the roadway on foot.

- Pharmacy giant Walgreens Co. has agreed to pay \$7.5 million to settle a consumer protection lawsuit alleging that it put people's health at risk by allowing a phony pharmacist

to handle more than 745,000 prescriptions in the Bay Area, prosecutors said earlier this month.

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley said she and Santa Clara County DA Jeff Rosen filed the suit after they learned that Walgreens had employed Kim Thien Le as a pharmacist for over a decade, even though she wasn't licensed by the California State Board of Pharmacy.

"This case serves as a cautionary tale for every health care provider that hires people into positions requiring a professional license," O'Malley said in a statement.

O'Malley said, "The burden is on the company to make sure its employees are properly licensed and to complete a thorough background check. My office will be vigilant in protecting consumers and enforcing licensing laws."

The complaint alleges that Walgreens failed to vet Le, 44, of Milpitas,

thoroughly when it promoted her to positions requiring a license and failed to make sure that its internal systems were strong enough to prevent an employee from evading them.

It alleges that Le, who worked as a pharmacist in Milpitas, San Jose and Fremont, performed one or more of the pharmacist-required steps for more than 745,000 prescriptions, including over 100,000 prescriptions for controlled substances such as oxycodone, fentanyl, morphine and codeine.

Le's employment with Walgreens ended in October 2017. She was later charged with felony counts of impersonating pharmacists, stealing their identities and obtaining money under false pretenses between 2006 and 2017. Her case is pending in Alameda County Superior Court. ■

—Jeremy Walsh and Bay City News Service

Gloria Jane Watson

March 19, 1937 – February 15, 2020

Gloria Jane Watson, a long-time Pleasanton resident and beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend, passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 15 surrounded by her family after fighting a long battle with kidney disease.

Gloria was born in Oakland, California on March 19, 1937. She graduated from St. Elizabeth High School in Oakland, where she was very active in sports such as basketball and softball. After high school, she worked for the Office of the Alameda County Superintendent of Schools. In 1959, she met her husband Robert Watson and they married in 1960. They lived in San Leandro and started a family before moving to Pleasanton in 1965. Gloria worked for a pediatrician and then several different attorneys as a legal secretary until she retired in 1999.

Gloria and Bob loved to travel and be in the outdoors. She enjoyed playing golf with her husband and close friends at different golf courses in California, Nevada and Arizona. She was a member of the San Ramon Women's Golf Club and was the club champion in 2001. She loved boating and waterskiing on the San Joaquin Delta with her family during the hot summer months.

Gloria loved creating beautiful ceramics and was an avid painter. She displayed her works in the Alameda County Fair and won many awards. She also very much enjoyed attending concerts in the park on Friday nights as well as entertaining in her home.

Gloria is survived by her husband of 60 years, Robert Watson, her children Sharyn Roloff (Rod), Jeff Watson (Michelle) and four grandsons, Aidan Roloff, Jyles Watson, Logan Roloff and Vaughn Watson as well as her brother, Paul DelChiaro. She is preceded in death by her parents, Peter DelChiaro and Maude Kayser, her sisters June Stables, Barbara Bas and her brother Peter DelChiaro.

Friends and family are invited to Gloria's Celebration of Life on Friday, February 21 at 4:00 p.m. at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street in Pleasanton.



PAID OBITUARY

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Feb. 16

Fire

- 5:31 a.m. on the 1400 block of Calle Enrique

DUI

- 7:36 a.m. at Riddell Street and Sullivan Court

Theft

- 10:35 a.m. on the 6400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

- 12:54 p.m., 7300 block of Johnson Drive; bicycle theft

- 1:42 p.m. on the 5400 block of Black Avenue

- 5:41 p.m., 6000 block of Johnson Drive; theft from auto

Feb. 15

Assault/battery

- 8:11 a.m. on the 6400 block of Randall Court

- 1:37 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

- 8:46 p.m. on the 1200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Drug violation

- 2:57 a.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

DUI

- 12:31 a.m. on the 4400 block of Stoneridge Drive

Theft

- 7:25 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 9:51 p.m. on the 3300 block of Harpers Ferry Court

Feb. 14

Theft

- 11:41 a.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

- 4:43 p.m. on the 4800 block of Willow Road

- 7:39 p.m. on the 3000 block of Yuma Way

Vandalism

- 2:10 a.m. on the 1900 block of Harvest Road

Feb. 13

Drug violation

- 1:08 a.m. Stanley Boulevard/Bernal Avenue

- 7:13 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

- 7:31 p.m. on the 1400 block of Freeman Lane

Burglary

- 10:17 a.m. on the 1300 block of Brookline Place

Theft

- 2:44 p.m. at Brookline and Pimlico drives; theft of auto

- 4:47 p.m. on the 4500 block of Black Avenue

Fire

- 6:41 p.m. at Tessa Place and Craig Court

Assault/battery

- 8:52 p.m. on the 500 block of Mavis Drive

Feb. 12

Theft

- 7:07 a.m. on the 5500 block of Pleasant Hill Road

- 3:02 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

- 3:28 p.m. on the 2700 block of Stoneridge Drive

Burglary

- 8:58 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Vandalism

- 3:39 p.m. on the 400 block of Bonita Avenue

Drug violation

- 8:35 p.m., 4200 block of Valley Avenue

- 9:00 p.m. at Stanley Boulevard and First Street

Feb. 11

Burglary

- 1:20 a.m. on the 4200 block of Tamur Court

- 3:43 a.m. on the 3000 block of Crestablanca Drive

- 10:38 a.m. on the 1600 block of East Gate Way

- 8:20 p.m. on the 2200 block of Camino Brazos

Theft

- 6:07 a.m. at Bernal and Vineyard avenues; auto theft

- 7:45 a.m., 1600 block of East Gate Way; theft from auto

- 1:08 p.m. on the 3900 block of Stoneridge Drive

Cheza Nami!

(Come play with me)

Local group celebrates multiculturalism and diversity through interactive learning, live performances

Story and Photos by Ryan J. Degan

To many students in the United States, Black History Month is synonymous with topics such as the civil rights and abolitionist movements, as well as exploring the lives of famous African-Americans who have helped shape the country into what it is today.

For Pleasanton-based cultural group Cheza Nami Foundation, the month represents a distinct opportunity to promote diversity and multiculturalism through interactive performances of traditional African music and dance.

Cheza Nami — named for a Swahili phrase meaning “Come play with me” — was founded in 2011 by Pleasanton resident Catherine Ndungu-Case, a Kenyan

immigrant who wanted to provide a place for her children to learn about their ancestral home, as well as an outlet for fellow immigrants to share different aspects of African culture with their community.

“The whole idea was to have this kind of playful approach to exploring something sort of foreign,” Ndungu-Case told the Weekly. “So the main focus for us is to continue to be representative of our background, of our cultures, but to also contribute in a way that can be enriching and can make the community that we live in more vibrant.”

To achieve these goals, the group travels to schools and theaters throughout the Bay Area year-round for musical and dance performances

where audience participation is not just welcome but enthusiastically encouraged.

The Cheza Nami dance ensemble itself is made up of artists who originate from all over the world, including Brazil, Congo, Kenya, Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal and Zimbabwe.

Ensemble members — who are contracted through Cheza Nami’s volunteer administrative team — will practice together and work collaboratively to blend each performer’s unique cultural style into a group performance.

Using the talents of multiple artists found throughout the Bay Area who possess a diverse variety of backgrounds and talents, the group fuses together a large variety of



Nano Linaud Loubayi and Mandjou Kone warm up for a performance at Longwood. The Cheza Nami Foundation typically performs at multiple schools every month and in Livermore in October.

African dance and music to create a new experience — while still practicing and preserving ancestral customs.

“We are creating new dances, we are creating new movements and we’re calling it sometimes it’s our fusion of cultures,” Ndungu-Case said.

“If you think about how the African-American community and the origins, many of them came from different countries in Africa and came here through slavery. But in a place where they don’t know each other, they can’t speak the same language, they don’t eat the same foods, and somehow this beautiful culture came out of that that has beautiful music. Think about jazz, at its roots that has beautiful dance,” she added.

While dances created by people of African-American descent may not be the exact same as those made in Africa, they all have the same roots, according to Ndungu-Case.

“Together we can appreciate the differences and bring that music together into say a 90-minute piece that shows really how diverse people can find a common song or common dance,” she said.

Performances provide these artists the opportunity to share their cultures and passions with the community, giving residents the opportunity to experience a

truly authentic demonstration of the many different facets of African culture.

“I love to work with people from different countries,” said Ibou Ngom, musical director and performer at Cheza Nami. “They are all family and we love to share our own country with the students and play with them ... (It takes) lots of practice to make it work, but we’re all professional. They are the best.”

Interactive, play-based learning is a key tenant of Cheza Nami. During performances, artists will bring audience members on stage to receive a hands-on lesson in drumming or dancing, and will intermittently teach audience members certain words from various African languages — there are estimated to be more than 1,000 languages spoken in Africa.

“Bringing the idea of African dance and culture to a non-African country, I wanted it to be very clear that we want to make a fun approach to education, but we don’t want to take out the idea that we also want to educate the community,” Ndungu-Case said.

Since much of African culture has been carried down through an oral tradition, Ndungu-Case added that traditions can be lost as immigrants assimilate to their new homes, and that this interactive



Aline Nkouakoua and musical director Ibou Ngom are two of the members who travel with Cheza Nami and work to blend the multitude of diverse musical and dance customs found in Africa.



Elementary School in Hayward holds its A Taste of Africa festival

History Month has schools and community members feeling particularly interested in learning about cultural diversity.

“We get very busy,” Cheza Nami principal artist Mandjpu Kone said.

“It’s a special month because not many people know about Africa, especially in the western world. So for us to present our culture, it means a lot to us. It’s not just that they tell the kids that Africa is just elephants and giraffes, right?” she laughed. “Doing this shows the rich culture that we have. It is very important for me to teach the kids.”

Ndungu-Case added that she is often approached by schools and other organizations to speak at events around African-American History Month — what she calls “multicultural or diversity season” — but often struggles to find her place in that context.

“I know my African culture and I can be able to represent that with a lot of confidence because it’s innate to me. But then, how do I put that into the African-American struggle, which I haven’t experienced having not grown up here?” she said. “And I want to be part of that conversation and I want to learn because for me equally as much as I want people to learn about me, I also want to learn about them.”

Ndungu-Case also said Cheza Nami takes advantage of this time of the year to open up a dialogue

about the diversity of black people, saying that there are African-Americans whose ancestors historically came to the United States as a result of slavery, and a whole generation of people who emigrated from the many different countries found throughout Africa.

“We have one month where we can really focus on doing a deep dive. I think it should be something that is ongoing; you know, not just one month,” she added.

Residents interested in viewing a Cheza Nami performance in person can mark their calendars for the first Saturday in October when A Taste of Africa festival returns to the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore.

At the annual event, Cheza Nami artists will be given a platform to perform pieces from their specific country alongside their individual groups that they work with year-round.

A festival unlike any other in the Tri-Valley, A Taste of Africa is a free family-friendly event that in addition to the dances and music found on the continent of Africa features an African Gojo hut exhibit, a reading library, face painting, photo booth and a variety of activities for kids.

Residents can learn more about the Cheza Nami Foundation and track upcoming events online at www.chezanami.org. ■



With Cheza Nami, artists are given the opportunity to showcase their cultural heritage on the stage, sharing their passions with the community and preserving their cultural traditions.



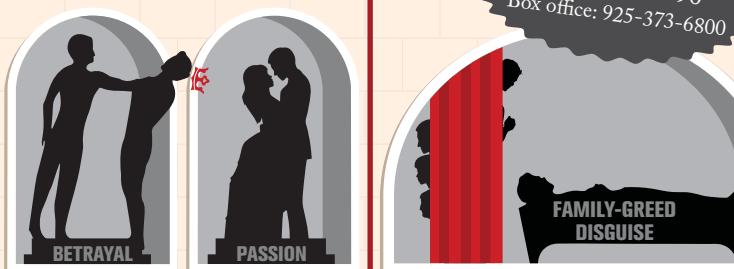
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PERFECT BALANCE: embalming and acting

Chloë Angst (left) portrays Edwin Drood in "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," presented by Foothill Music Theatre from Feb. 27-March 15 at the Lohman Theatre in Los Altos Hills. Also in the cast, from left, are Durdles (Linda Piccone), The Chairman (John Mannion) and Rosa Bud (Brenna Sammon). DAVID ALLEN

Both careers create beauty for audience to cherish, artist says

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Chloë Angst discovered musical theater when she was 5, and hasn't stopped singing since.

"The first show I was in was 'Alice in Wonderland,' then 'The Wizard of Oz,'" recalled Angst, 28, who grew up in Vacaville.

Her whole family ended up getting involved.

"My dad still does some local theater in Vacaville," Angst said. "And my sister is a singer. She travels around and does professional stuff."

Angst was in musical theater in high school, as well as the choir, and then studied classical voice in college, but she wanted to find a career that was 9 to 5.

"I realized I am more the type of person who needed a job with a steady income," Angst said.

She searched the internet and college courses for something that interested her, already thinking of embalming, which she had always found fascinating.

"Funeral Service Education" caught her eye, and American River College in Sacramento, where she lived at the time, was one of two embalming schools in the state. Its courses include biology, chemistry, embalming, restorative art and funeral service fundamentals.

Now Angst is employed as a

licensed embalmer by Graham Hitch Mortuary, working in Pleasanton to manage all prep work operations for its four locations.

"I do everything behind the scenes," she said. "I will embalm or do whatever preparations need to be done."

But she hasn't given up her singing or theatrical endeavors. Sometimes she will sing at funerals, including "Ave Maria," "Over the Rainbow" or whatever the family requests.

"My mezzo soprano card is out front with all the funeral director business cards," she said.

She more frequently entertains in community theater, including with Sunnyvale Community Players, Broadway by the Bay, City Lights Theatre Company, Los Altos Stage Company, Contra Costa Civic Theatre, Lamplighters Music Theatre and Pocket Opera.

Currently she is rehearsing for "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," being presented by Foothill Music Theatre and opening next Thursday in Los Altos Hills.

The mystery is based on the unfinished Charles Dickens novel of the same name. Angst plays the role of Drood, whose disappearance leads his friends, family and mysterious acquaintances to suspect foul play.

Everyone becomes a suspect in

this Tony-winning musical whodunit, and the audience votes on who killed Drood, which means that the cast must prepare for multiple possible conclusions.

"There are over a hundred possibilities that could be the ending," Angst explained. "It's really cool."

"Luckily my character is not one of the people who needs to learn many possible endings," she added with a laugh.

Now she rushes to rehearsals after work, much as she rushed to practices after school as a child, and she noted that her two professions blend perfectly.

"I like to consider myself an artist in both my embalming career and my acting career," she said. "Both take a lot of training and patience and lead to the end result of creating something beautiful for an audience to cherish."

She said the Foothill Music Theatre company is "awesome."

"I hadn't worked with them before," she said. "They are very on top of the scheduling and making things convenient for the actors."

Performances are Feb. 27 to March 15, in the Lohman Theatre in Los Altos Hills. Tickets are \$12-\$36. Call (650) 949-7360 or visit www.foothill.edu/theatre.

"Drood is a fun character, because



RYAN J. DEGAN

As for her day job, Angst is a licensed embalmer who works for Graham Hitch Mortuary, including at its Pleasanton location.

I play both a male and a female," Angst said. "Each character in 'Drood' is an actor in an English music hall in the late 19th century."

"I portray Alice Nutting, who is acting as the character Edwin Drood," she continued.

"I love playing gender-bent roles, and have even personally produced two gender-bent cabaret style shows this last year."

Angst lives in Niles with her husband who, she mentioned, is extremely supportive of her theater

endeavors but has no interest in joining her onstage.

She enjoys her drive through Niles Canyon each morning to reach Pleasanton.

"I'm an introvert and express myself either on stage or through the care of those who have passed on," Angst said.

"I love what I do in both aspects of my life and couldn't ask for more of a perfect balance. Life is busy, but it's what I need to do to keep things interesting day by day." ■

Pianist performs with pizzazz

Classically trained Jason Lyle Black returns to hometown

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Pianist Jason Lyle Black returns to his hometown of Livermore next week to perform his unique concert at the Bankhead Theater. A classically trained pianist, Black blends popular music with his own comedic flair — including sitting backwards to play.

He first performed at the Bankhead a decade ago in a Livermore Talent Competition and now returns to headline his own show as part of the Bankhead Presents season with music from Disney and Broadway classics, the Beatles, AC/DC and movie themes at 8 p.m. next Friday (Feb. 28).

Black was born and raised in Livermore and was a valedictorian of the Granada High School class of 2005, where he played in the marching and jazz bands.

He started playing classical piano when he was 8, and although he also studied trumpet and organ, piano became his passion. He was just a teen when he entered a talent show and decided to learn how to play the keyboard backwards.

Black began writing music in high school, and he recorded and



TYLER MCCULLOCH

Pianist Jason Lyle Black, who graduated from Granada High in 2005, returns to Livermore on Feb. 28 to perform his unique concert at the Bankhead Theater.

released his first piano album while still a student. He has followed it with four more albums, including his most recent, "Piano Preludes," which debuted at No. 1 on iTunes and No. 2 on the Billboard music charts.

This is Black's first performance at the Bankhead as a nationally touring entertainer, but when still in high school he and other musicians from Granada organized a benefit concert for victims of the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia. He received a music scholarship from the Livermore Rotary in high school and was named a Pedrozzi Foundation Scholar in 2005.

During his school years in

Livermore, Black was also a renowned speller, emerging five times as the school spelling champion and twice in regional spelling bee competitions.

Remaining tickets for his single performance at the Bankhead are \$30 although \$20 tickets for students and military personnel are still available. Call 373-6800, visit lypac.org, or go to the box office, 2400 First St., Livermore. ■

For choral teachers 'in a rut'

Cantabella workshop to feature renowned choir conductor

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Cantabella Children's Chorus is offering a workshop for teachers presented by professor Tom Shelton of Westminster Choir College in Princeton, N.J. He also is director of Children's and Youth Choirs at Princeton United Methodist Church and conducts two ensembles with the Princeton Girlchoir.

The workshop is dubbed "Getting Out of the Rut — Ideas for Introducing a New Song to Developing Voices."

"We all have our individual teaching styles when introducing new music," Shelton said. "Sometimes we lose our creativity, fall into a 'rut,' and introduce new songs the same way every time. This session will explore creative ways to introduce a new song to young singers."

The creative ways include focusing on multiple learning styles — aural, visual, kinesthetic — and incorporating musical literacy, he added.

At Westminster, Shelton teaches classes in conducting, sacred music and music education. He has taught middle school choral music in North Carolina for 18 years, and has

conducted numerous choral festivals and presented workshops in 21 states, as well as in Hong Kong and Jakarta.

The local workshop, being held in conjunction with the 2020 Young Voices in Harmony Festival, will take place from 6-9 p.m. April 17 at the Bothwell Arts Center, 466 Eighth St. in Livermore.

It is open to all music professionals, educators and students plus anyone who is interested in learning to be a better choral director. The fee is \$45 for early-bird registration and \$30 for college students.

Light refreshments will be served from 6-6:30 p.m., prior to the workshop, offering an opportunity for networking and conversation with fellow teachers and choral directors.

Registration for the workshop before March 18 will include a complimentary packet of music appropriate for middle school and high school choirs. Each piece is introduced in a different way, using warm-ups, sight-reading exercises, games and movement activities.

To register, visit cantabella.org or email bee@cantabella.org. ■



'Art & Wine Intertwined'

"Gryphon Rock" by Linda Ryan is among her works in the "Sea Change" exhibit of her pour paintings at the Bankhead Theater's Founder's Room. In the adjacent lobby, the "Living Large" display includes large format art pieces of lush abstracts, seascapes, nature and figurative images in oil, acrylic, pour media, photograph and mixed media. "Art & Wine Intertwined," from 1:30-3:30 p.m. this Saturday (Feb. 22) is a chance to enjoy both exhibits (which close March 2) with wine tastings, which are \$2 each or three for \$5. Admission to the exhibits is free. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First St. in Livermore.



40 YEARS

by your side

Please join **Hope Hospice** as we celebrate 40 years of caring for Tri-Valley hospice patients and their loved ones. At this special luncheon, you will learn about the programs serving your community and how you can provide essential support to local families.

Thursday, March 26, 2020
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Castlewood Country Club, Pleasanton

Purchase tickets and tables at
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Keynote Speaker:
Kuljeet Multani, MD, HDMC



Master of Ceremonies:
Dublin Mayor David Haubert

Opinion

LETTERS

Laurene Green for Zone 7 Board of Directors

Dear Editor,

I am voting for Laurene Green for Zone 7 Board of Directors.

The city of Pleasanton has been required to shut down one of our three wells due to recently discovered high levels of the toxic chemical PFAS. Zone 7, our water provider, also has alarming levels of PFAS contamination in their wells.

With concerns such as PFAS and potable reuse (a.k.a. toilet to tap), water quality and supply has become complicated; as a water resources engineer Laurene Green is uniquely qualified to represent our interests on the Zone 7 Water board.

We are fortunate to have a candidate with the technical background and skills to help develop well-informed, cost-effective, transparent and sustainable policies for our Tri-Valley's water resources.

Please help ensure we have safe, clean and reliable water. Vote Laurene Green, for Zone 7 Board of Directors. Visit www.LaureneGreenforZone7.com.

—Julie Testa,
Current City Council member

Re-elect Angela Ramirez Holmes

Angela Ramirez Holmes is a true leader and visionary for our Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, also known as Zone 7 Water Agency.

She has served on the Zone 7 board since 2012 and as board president in 2018-2019. Angela fought for greater transparency of Zone 7's meetings and decision-making processes, including the broadcast of our board meetings on Tri-Valley Community Television.

She led the effort to organize regular finance committee meetings to ensure Zone 7's financial documents and decisions are carefully reviewed and discussed. When the Zone 7 board reviewed water rates in fall 2018, Angela joined me and voted No.

The broad range of issues facing Zone 7 requires a leader like Angela. In 2019, Angela requested that a discussion about homelessness along the arroyos be discussed in open session, and prioritized Zone 7's role as a regional partner both to protect our water supply and work with the city of Livermore to tackle this important issue.

Angela is prepared to respond to the lessons learned from our recent and severe drought. She understands the urgency of diversifying our water supply and working with other agencies on vital resources

such as the Los Vaqueros intertie connection.

I am proud to endorse Angela for re-election to our Zone 7 Board of Directors. Join me on March 3 and vote Angela Ramirez Holmes.

—Olivia Sanwong
Vice president, Zone 7 board

PUSD students — Get out the vote!

I am a current senior at Amador Valley High School and I am fortunate to have received a great education from PUSD. I started attending PUSD schools in kindergarten, so I've been part of the school system for all of my education.

Pleasanton schools, specifically the ones I attended (Alisal, Harvest Park and Amador), have a special place in my heart because of the important lessons I've learned from my teachers and my fellow students.

The people I've encountered throughout my years in Pleasanton schools have been inspirational and nurturing, but I've noticed that the facilities aren't in the best condition. For that reason, I support Measure M.

This year, I have the pleasure of serving as student body president at Amador Valley High School. Many of my classmates have turned 18, and I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage current and recently graduated high school students of voting age to VOTE on March 3.

We have firsthand experience with broken temperature controls in our classrooms, leaky ceilings and the overall deterioration of infrastructure. When you go to the polls, vote Yes on M for necessary improvements to provide a more productive learning environment for future PUSD students.

Let's keep our schools strong for decades to come. Vote Yes on M.

—Catherine Murphy,
Amador Valley ASB president

We need Measure M

I believe that our children and our students will make a better world. And our role — as teachers, as board members, as Pleasanton residents — is to help support them and make this possible.

Measure M is exactly what our students and our community need to stay competitive and to continue to provide the best possible educational experience.

It's no surprise that Pleasanton Unified School District is ranked No. 1 in Alameda County and No. 11 in all of California. Students graduate from our district, ready to join the workforce, and excel in college.

In this ever-changing and increasingly competitive economy, preparing students for the world ahead is of utmost importance. Measure M

will build additional classrooms, labs, and school facilities to support a 21st-century education, including a new career technical education high school. Providing students with skills in tech, engineering, business, and real-life work experiences will help ensure our students leave our schools ready for life and ready for today's jobs.

Measure M provides it all — ensuring our schools can give well-rounded and advanced education that is required today.

As a longtime resident, my two children received an excellent education. But to remain competitive and keep pace with today's educational needs, we need Measure M.

There are many important issues on the ballot this March, but none is more critical to the Pleasanton community than Measure M. Please vote Yes and support Pleasanton students.

—Jamie Yee,
PUSD board trustee

'Valentine to last a lifetime'

I just read Dolores' article (Feb. 14). It was so beautiful and moving. I would like to thank her for sharing this story. The love and joy for her family shines through. Thank you!

—Diana Champlin

Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

My name is John Gahagan, and I am a colorectal surgeon with Stanford-ValleyCare. As you may be aware, March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

This year, approximately 140,000 people will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 56,000 people will die from this disease. Yet, it is a highly preventable and treatable disease if caught early and an estimated 40,000 or more lives could be saved through screening and early treatment.

That is why as a colorectal surgeon I am writing to you to request that you consider writing an article or doing a story on colorectal cancer during Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month this March: to ensure your readers learn about the importance of early screening for colorectal cancer and what they can do to minimize their chances of getting this disease or, if they do get it, greatly increase their survival likelihood.

As a specialist in the screening, prevention and treatment of colorectal cancer, I see patients with this disease who have been screened early and treated for it. I would be happy to speak with you about these experiences and share my professional expertise on the current medical thinking on the best ways to screen for, prevent and treat colorectal cancer.

—John V. Gahagan, MD

Laurene Green for Zone 7

I'm a mom of two teens and a Pleasanton resident of 16 years, and for the past three years, I've been a member of the city of Pleasanton's Committee on Energy and the Environment. I am playing my part in taking ownership of our community by volunteering my time to understand the topics concerning our environment (water, air, climate, and energy), and working closely with city staff to voice my questions, concerns, and ideas related to these issues.

In my time working with Laurene, a water resources engineer, who is also on this committee, (vice-chair/chair 2018 and 2019), I was able to observe her leadership, commitment, and thoroughness to the details of various environmental issues.

Whether it is about water conservation, the Climate Action Plan or topics of waste management, Laurene has not only the technical expertise and experience to ask important critical questions, but her passion to understand how these issues are tied to the larger picture is indispensable.

It will be a win-win situation for all members of our town and region if Laurene is elected to the Zone 7 Board of Directors. She will bring not only fresh perspectives to the board, but also experience that is vital, as we build resilience and response to the impacts of climate change. Laurene will be the voice that is thorough, unbiased and representative for all stakeholders in our region.

—Terry L. Chang

Yes on Measure M

I am a lifelong Pleasanton resident, current member and past chair of the Citizen Bond Oversight Committee and a supporter of Measure M.

Our three children are fifth-generation Pleasanton students. Their great-grandmother was one of the first graduating classes of Amador and their great-great-grandmother went to elementary school in Pleasanton. Overwhelmingly, we have had positive experiences with Pleasanton schools.

From my perspective on the oversight committee, the district is doing a good job of managing past bond funds. Independent financial and performance audits have confirmed that funds are being used appropriately. Nevertheless, Measure M is needed for important projects not funded by the last bond measure.

My wife and I are empty-nesters and our kids are out of Pleasanton schools; we are still voting Yes. While we won't benefit directly, young people are a big part of our community, and when they are engaged at school in safe and well-equipped facilities, they become better citizens and better members of the community.

Nothing enhances the quality of

Pleasanton Weekly

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life in a community like good public schools and its students.

Even if you simply want to vote your pocketbook, Measure M is the right choice. Our public schools have a significant impact on property values.

Pleasanton schools' excellent performance won't continue forever if we don't invest in them. Good teachers and supportive parents will move to communities that provide a better learning environment. Not tomorrow or the next day, but over time.

—Steve Zevanove

PleasantonVoters.com endorses Green for Zone 7

Pleasanton Voters questioned and researched the candidates running for the Zone 7 District director because clean, safe water is a critical quality of life issue for Pleasanton residents. As a result, we are endorsing Laurene Green, a Stanford graduate with vast technical expertise in water resource engineering.

Laurene has a master's in civil engineering-water resources and has worked as both a senior hydrogeologic engineer for Superfund sites and as a senior engineer with Chevron at sites around the world. Her specialty involved aquifers, and groundwater is a significant source of Pleasanton's water supply.

Her combined portfolio of work experience and education has impressed us. We feel confident that Laurene can navigate the complex topic of water delivery for Pleasanton residents, with a careful eye on recycled water and toxic PFAS, (chemicals found in more than 5,000 substances including non-stick pans, waterproof jackets, waterproof mascara and shampoo).

Drinking water is one of the most common routes of exposure to PFAS, which one senior CDC official cites as "one of the most seminal public health challenges for the next decades."

On this topic, Laurene has voiced concerns that potable reuse water (commonly referred to as toilet-to-tap) safety and cost effectiveness has not been demonstrated.

We support bringing a water industry expert to the Zone 7 Board of Directors. Please join us in this effort. Vote for Laurene Green on March 3, 2020 and visit www.PleasantonVoters.com for updates on issues that impact the quality of life for Pleasanton residents.

—Kelly Cousins, President, PleasantonVoters.com

No or Yes on M?

I am struggling with my decision to vote Yes or No on Measure M.

I am a cheerleader for education. I don't think I have ever voted No for a school bond but ... the Pleasanton community has chosen not to maintain its schools for years and now it is "catchup" time.

We passed a bond in 2016.

More than half the money has not even been spent.

I am also concerned with how money is spent now. It appears that some schools are better maintained than others. Alisal has an ugly six-foot, chain-link fence. Walnut Grove has a wrought-iron fence topped with sharp spikes, both a deterrent and beautiful. At almost 70 years old, I could hop the Alisal fence. It is unsightly and not going to stop anyone.

Funding schools on debt is stupid. As a senior, I have paid through property taxes (45 years), my children's education and my grandchildren's. There is no "opt-out" on this bond for seniors and estimated time frame for repayment is 35 years. We must fully fund schools through the state budget, not on bonds.

—Emelie Rogers

Please vote Yes on M

As an engineering teacher at Amador Valley High School, I see the value of our schools firsthand. Each day, I get to work with hardworking students and dedicated teachers.

Our district prides itself on providing a rigorous and relevant education and challenging students to think critically. Students who come back to visit me after graduating and going to college, consistently tell me how well prepared they were for their next step.

But it's not just the students who benefit from our schools. Our broader community as a whole benefits by having some of the top schools in the state right here in Pleasanton.

Living in a community where people want to be here and value being here is what makes this a great place to live. Not to mention the businesses who rely on an educated workforce and the resulting strong property values that benefit us all.

This is a district that is well-run and can make the tough decisions when necessary. When I look around at our nearby communities, I know that I am fortunate to live and work right here in Pleasanton in our school district.

This is why I am a strong supporter of Measure M. I believe in our schools and know that Measure M is just what we need to keep them going. Please join me.

—Tony Dennis

Green for Zone 7

Vote for Laurene Green, district director, Zone 7 Flood Control and Water Conservation.

She has extensive work experience as a hydrogeologic engineer for groundwater investigations at LLNL and international work involving aquifers.

A graduate of Stanford with a BS in geology and MS in civil engineering-water resources makes her a knowledgeable contributor to the Board. In our community she has founded and contributed to a number of air quality, energy and environmental committees.

She knows that providing adequate safe drinking water is one of the biggest health challenges we face. She is up to the challenge. Vote for Laurene Green for the Zone 7 board.

—Sandy Yamaoda

Agree with Weekly on Zone 7

As the founder of Citizens for Sensible Water Rates, I believe strongly that the residential, business and agricultural customers of the Tri-Valley deserve both transparency and thoughtful decision-making from our local water agencies.

Water is a critical resource in our communities. Experience and common sense matter greatly as we plan for future water reliability in the face of climate change and continue to take steps to improve water quality while keeping rates at a reasonable level.

That is why I am supporting the incumbent members of the Zone 7 Water Agency board for re-election. I believe this current group of board members has the ability and desire to accomplish these important goals.

The arrival of a new general manager, as well as new board members, has placed Zone 7 in a position to work cohesively and collaboratively with water retailers in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin. The board's increased visibility in the community, including televised meetings and an increase in community outreach shows that the board encourages the

engagement of its ratepayers and that it values public input.

This board is well-positioned to make the vital decisions that will be coming before it in the coming months and years. Water matters and our votes in this election matter as well.

I agree with the Pleasanton Weekly's endorsements for the Zone 7 board. Please join me in voting for incumbents Angela Ramirez Holmes, Sandy Figuers and Dick Quigley on March 3.

—Linda Kelly

Measure M is vital for students

I am a strong supporter of Measure M, as it is the only way our schools can be updated to the level that we expect here in Pleasanton.

When it comes to capital improvements, school districts are largely on their own to find a solution. Over the years, the state has become an unreliable partner when it comes to funding our schools — and the federal government is no different.

Developer fees also provide some additional funding to help offset any additional school construction that is necessary when new homes are built in our community. But the law limits what fees we can charge, so they don't come anywhere close to fully funding necessary upgrades to classrooms, science labs and schools.

I share the public's frustration that

the state and developers do not provide more, and many continue to lobby at the state level to find ways to increase school funding.

If we vote against Measure M out of anger at the state or as a symbolic vote, we are only letting Pleasanton students suffer. We cannot let our current students miss out on the classrooms and education that they deserve.

Measure M is a necessary and urgent measure that will make our schools what they should be. Measure M is also a local measure with funding that stays right here in Pleasanton. I hope you vote Yes on this important measure for our students.

—Steve McCoy-Thompson, PPIE executive director

Election letters

The Pleasanton Weekly will accept letters to the editor of up to 250 words on issues related to the primary election until 5 p.m. Feb. 23. Letters are published based on order of receipt and space availability, among other factors. We will publish only one letter per person per election topic this winter, and we reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted. Send via email to editor@pleasantonweekly.com.



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Employment

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Multiple Positions

Submit resume by mail to: Workday, Inc., Attn: Human Resources/Immigration, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference job title and job code.

Workday Inc. is accepting resumes for the following positions at various levels in Pleasanton, CA:

Software Engineer / Software Development Engineer (P3/P4-SESDE-01-001/002-J01 2/9) - Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Exp Incl: Object-oriented design & development; Algorithms & data structures; programming language such as Java, C# or C++; & Database & querying languages such as SQL.

Product Manager (P3/P4-PM-01-007/008-J01 2/9) - Designs, develops and manages activities for a specific product or group of products from product definition and planning through production, release, and end of life.

Exp Incl: Requirement gathering and writing functional design documents; Object-oriented programming, design, or development; & pdt mgmt.

Quality Assurance / Automation Engineer (P3/P4-QAAE-01-005/006-J01 2/9) - Debugs software products through the use of systematic tests to develop, apply, and maintain quality standards for company products.

Software Application Engineer (P3/P4-SAE-01-003/004-J01 2/9) - Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Exp Incl: Object-oriented design and development in an object-oriented language such as Java, C# or other object-oriented language; designing or developing business applications using system visualization tools such as UML class diagrams or other related software or technology; & XML & integration concepts.

Technical Product Manager (P3/P4-TPM-01-009/010-J01 2/9) - Designs, develops and manages activities for a specific product or group of products from product definition and planning through production, release, and end of life. Exp Incl: scrum and/or other agile software dev methodologies; gen purpose prog languages; data driven analysis for prob solv'g; & prod mgmt.



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PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Dons close girls soccer regular season with decisive wins

Also: Another head-scratching decision by NCS seeding committee

The Amador Valley girls soccer team faced off against Granada and Foothill in the final week of the regular season and came away with two convincing victories.

On the road against Granada on Feb. 11, the Dons prevailed 2-0 on the strength of goals from Kate Reedy in the first half and Maille Smith in the second. Assists were provided by Julia Gonsman and Bella Mayo. Once again, the Don defense dominated to record the shutout.

Then on Feb. 13, Amador faced off against crosstown rival Foothill in the final game of the regular season. The Dons dominated from the opening whistle, recording a 3-0 win.

Amador went up 2-0 in the first 10 minutes. Kennedy Mayo struck first with a well-placed blast off a Penny Murphy assist. Noelle Marceno

followed shortly after with an impressive strike via a Mayo cross.

Natalie O'Sullivan capped the scoring in the second half with a fantastic unassisted goal in front the Falcon net.

The Dons' defense handled any Falcon offensive threat to record their ninth shutout of the season.

Foothill boys basketball

The Falcons closed out the regular season with a pair of wins, beating Livermore and Amador on the road.

The week opened with a 69-35 win at Livermore. Nick High had 20 points to lead the way for Foothill, with Dylan D'Amico adding 10 as the other Falcon in double figures. Damascus Shields scored seven for Foothill.

Later in the week, Foothill knocked



MAGGIE NOSTRAND

Amador's Kennedy Mayo passes the ball upfield in the Dons' 3-0 win against the Foothill Falcons.

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off Amador for the second time this season, this time 59-53. High had 27 for the Falcons with Josh Valentine adding 15.

For Amador, Will Sadler had 16 points and Dominic Miranda had 15.

NCS basketball

It's good to see we can always count on the North Coast Section seeding meetings providing some truly head-scratching decisions, and this time it took place in the Division I boys basketball brackets.

Foothill and Amador both finished 15-11 overall, with the Falcons winning both meetings with the Dons this year. Seems simple enough that Foothill would get a better seed than Amador, doesn't it?

Nope and not even close.

Amador was given the No. 6 seed and home game to open the tournament, while Foothill was seeded No. 9 and must go on the road to face College Park.

College Park, playing in a much easier league than the East Bay Athletic League, finished 13-13 on the season, yet was given the No. 8 seed and a home game.

Foothill coach Jason Wallis was not pleased with the seeds, nor should he be. Then again, over the last 30-plus years I have learned that NCS — to me it means "No Common Sense" — takes logical conclusions and stands them on their ears.

Beers, Brats and Bingo

I have had the honor of getting to know several military veterans from the American Legion Post 237 over the last few years at the gym, and it gives me pleasure to help promote one of their fundraisers.

The Beers, Brats and Bingo event is just as it sounds, and it will take place next Saturday (Feb. 29) at the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Building. The doors open at 5 p.m., with the games starting at 6 p.m.

The event, which is open to families, has limited seating and only the first 200 people will be guaranteed a seat.

Spring sports

With the winter sports teams heading into postseason play, it means that spring sports are underway with practice and soon to be games ready to go.

That also means it is time to find a volunteer to send me your results each week! It doesn't take much time, probably about 15 minutes a week. Just send the scores of your games and some highlights, and I will put it together to run in the Weekly.

Of course, we are always looking for pictures as well, with the identification of the athletes in the photo, as well as the name of the photographer.

The deadline each week is noon on Sunday and send the story to acesmag@aol.com. ■

Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Talks & Lectures

BLACK HISTORY MONTH - KEYNOTE RECEPTION Keynote speaker Shawn Taylor will discuss his ideas on "Black to the Future", what the future looks like for African-Americans. Thurs., Feb. 27, 2-4 p.m., Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore.

HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS CLUB Guests Welcome. Improve your public speaking, confidence, listening and leadership skills. Meetings are every Thursday at noon for one hour 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.

TRI VALLEY CITIZENS' CLIMATE EDUCATION Featured speaker: Roger Aines, PhD, chief scientist, energy program, Lawrence Livermore National Lab. "Pathways to Zero: How California can have a carbon neutral economy". Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

LIVERMORE TEEN ACADEMY - SUMMER PROGRAM INTERNSHIP The Livermore Teen Academy is a 3-week program that includes a series of interactive workshops and a short internship with the City of Livermore. Those who successfully complete the workshop will receive a \$330 stipend. The Livermore Public Library is accepting applications through Feb. 28. City of Livermore - Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore, Livermore.

Music

BACKWARDS PIANO PLAYING - JASON LYLE BLACK Livermore native Jason Lyle Black returns to his hometown with a one-of-a-kind piano experience that blends popular music with his own comedic flair. Friday, Feb. 28, at the Bankhead Theater, 8:00 p.m., 2400 First St., Livermore.

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

Fundraiser

BUBBLES & BACON The event features bacon-inspired food paired with a sparking adult beverage at 15 downtown restaurants. Proceeds benefit the Pleasanton Downtown Association. Feb. 22, 4-7 p.m., tickets \$45 at www.pleasantondowntown.net.

HEARTY HAR HAR Comedy benefit for Open Heart Kitchen.

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Big orange cat!

That's me, Jack O' Lantern. Big orange happy cat. No surprise: I love treats! No surprise: I'll do tricks. Like purr when you stroke my fur, or melt into your lap when you give me scratches. At just over 1 year old, I'm pretty happy-go-lucky and ready to settle into your home. Meet me at the East Bay SPCA at 4651 Gleason Drive in Dublin. My adoption fee is waived! Visit www.eastbayspca.org.

Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m., Tommy T's Comedy Club, 5104 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Admission \$25.

Dance

AUDITIONS FOR DISNEY'S NEWSIES: THE MUSICAL Las Positas College Theater Arts is excited to announce auditions for Disney's Newsies: The Musical, to be performed in the outdoor amphitheater in July 2020. Feb. 22, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Contact mtishows.com/newsies-0. Las Positas College Mertes Center for the Arts, Green Room 4129, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore.

Health & Wellness

VA MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH The Pleasanton Library will host the VA Palo Alto Mobile Medical Outreach Team to facilitate free examinations and referrals for veterans on Fri., Feb. 27 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 400 Old Bernal Ave. For more information contact the library's information desk at 931.3400 x4.

STANFORD HEALTH CARE-VALLEY CARE, HEALTH FAIR Interventional Cardiologist experts Community Talk, Feb. 22, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Roundhouse Market & Conference Center, 2600 Camino Ramon, San Ramon.

Business

PLEASANTON PROFESSIONALS NICER NETWORKING From 4 to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays at Mountain Mike's Pizza, 5424 Sunol Blvd., learn, connect, grow. Are you a new business owner, or did you recently start a sales position? Are you looking for a place to not only meet more people, but to learn how to connect more efficiently with your potential clients? Welcome to Nicer Networking. We are a business networking/leads group focused on growing our business through networking, referrals and partnerships. Mountain Mike's Pizza, 5424 Sunol Boulevard, Pleasanton. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pleasanton-professionals-nicer-networking-tickets-64980760203?aff=ebapi>

BRN, GROUP 2 The Business Referral Network Wednesday Group meets the first and third Wednesday of every month, from 9:00-10:00 am. We are always looking for professionals interested in building their business through referrals and networking. All are welcome to contact us and visit a meeting. 2400 Camino Ramon, Suite 158/K, Bishop Ranch 6, San Ramon. <https://members.sanramon.org>.

Community Groups

PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB The Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Inklings, 530 Main St. All are welcome to attend. pleasantonlionsclub.org. For more information contact Lion's President Renee Huber at 789-0804.

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. The program is free. Visit 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 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, 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.

See **CALENDAR** on Page 20

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Healthy Home Maintenance and Repair FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 567628
The following person doing business as: Healthy Home Maintenance and Repair, 9 Castledown Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: James A. Capaccioli, 9 Castledown Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by James A. Capaccioli, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 16, 2020. Signature of Registrant: James A. Capaccioli, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 16, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, January 31, February 7, 14, 21, 2020.)

Smart Ace Tech FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 567857
The following person doing business as: Smart Ace Tech, 6450 Stoneridge Mall Road, #N219, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Ampreet Singh, 6450 Stoneridge Mall Road, #N219, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Ampreet Singh, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Ampreet Singh, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 24, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, January 31, February 7, 14, 21, 2020.)

Teddi Funderburk's Designs FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 567459
The following person doing business as: Teddi Funderburk's Designs, 19047 Vannoy Ct., Castro Valley, CA 94546, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Teddi Funderburk, 19047 Vannoy Ct., Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by Teddi Funderburk, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein June 1, 2017. Signature of Registrant: Teddi Funderburk, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 13, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 7, 14, 21, 28, 2020.)

Life Style Concierge FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 568131
The following person doing business as: Life Style Concierge, 1355 Brookline Loop #5104, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Gisela Diaz Chavez, 1355 Brookline Loop #5104, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Gisela Diaz Chavez, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Gisela Diaz Chavez, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 14, 21, 28, March 6, 2020.)

Atomic Cleaners FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 567771
The following person doing business as: Atomic Cleaners, 4000 Pimlico Drive, Suite 212, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Lorenz Harald Beck, 897 Tranquility Circle, #7, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by Lorenz Harald Beck, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Lorenz Harald Beck, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 14, 21, 28, March 6, 2020.)

Simply Burma FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 568455
The following person doing business as: Simply Burma, 7172 Regional St., #156, Dublin, CA 94568, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Origin Bay LLC, 7172 Regional St., #156, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by Origin Bay LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant has not yet

begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Martin Chou, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 11, 2020 (Pleasanton Weekly, February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 2020.)

Le' Grenier FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 568346
The following person doing business as: Le' Grenier, 2450 Somerset Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Jeanette Ann Gilson, 2450 Somerset Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546. This business is conducted by Jeanette Ann Gilson, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein November 1, 2005. Signature of Registrant: Jeanette Ann Gilson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 6, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 14, 21, 28, March 6, 2020.)

Pearls & Teeth, Dental Practice of Veena Madhure, DDS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 568450
The following person doing business as: Pearls & Teeth, Dental Practice of Veena Madhure, DDS, 5720 Stoneridge Mall Road, #285, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Veena Madhure, DDS, Inc., 1619 Angsley Lane, San Ramon, CA 94582. This business is conducted by Veena Madhure, DDS, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 15, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Veena Madhure, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 10, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13, 2020.)

LB Collisions Inc. DBA Lopez Brothers FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 568511
The following person doing business as: LB Collisions Inc. DBA Lopez Brothers, 25401 Mission Blvd., Hayward, CA 94544, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: LB Collisions, 25401 Mission Blvd., Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by LB Collisions Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein February 12, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Manuel Lopez, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 11, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 2020.)

997 All Other Legals

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: HG20054124 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Komal Sagar, on behalf of, Maanvi Sanket Sagar, a minor, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Maanvi Sanket Sagar to Maanvi Parmar Sagar. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: April 3, 2020, 11:00 a.m., Dept. 17 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: PLEASANTON WEEKLY. Date: February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 2020. Judge Desautels, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

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Symphony to perform 'Angels and Demons'

Performance will include winners of young musicians competition

By **PATRICIA J. BOYLE**

Livermore-Amador Symphony continues its 57th regular season with "Angels and Demons" this Saturday at Livermore's Bankhead Theater with guest conductor Jason Klein.

The concert will feature Franz von Suppé's Overture to "The Beautiful Galatea," Joachim Raff's "Walpurgisnacht" from Symphony No. 8, and César Franck's "Le Chasseur maudit" ("The Accursed Huntsman"), with special performances by clarinetist Igor Aprelev and cellist Starla Breshears, winners of the symphony's 2019-20 Competition for Young Musicians.

Klein is conductor and music director of the Saratoga Symphony.



Jason Klein will be guest conductor of the Livermore-Amador Symphony's "Angels and Demons" on Feb. 22 at the Bankhead Theater.

He attended Stanford University, where he was a student of Livermore-Amador Symphony's music director emeritus Arthur P. Barnes.

"There are many choices for entertainment," said Klein, in recognition of how difficult it can be to capture the public's attention. "We in this business have an obligation to provide stimulation of an entirely different sort, and that relies almost solely on the inexplicable power of connected and blended musical sounds to stir our souls to something resembling the same emotions that those other media give us."

"It's my goal to do this by choosing music whose content is full of character and beauty," he added. "In this case we have the added attraction of two remarkable young soloists."

Igor Aprelev, 17, a junior at Amador Valley High School, began studying clarinet in the third grade. He will perform the first movement of Carl Maria von Weber's Clarinet Concerto No. 2 in E-flat.

He was accepted to the All-State California Honor Band in eighth through 10th grades and the All-Northern Honor Band in seventh through 10th grades, and has participated in summer music camps throughout middle and early high school. Most recently, he was accepted to the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra for the 2019-20 season.

Since seventh grade, Aprelev has also played alto saxophone, for which he received an honorable

mention award in the 2019 Music Teachers National Association Junior Young Artist Competition at the statewide level.

He lives in Pleasanton with his parents, Jenya and Alexander. When not playing music or plowing through mountains of homework, Igor likes to hang out with his friends, ski, ride his mountain bike and swim.

Starla Breshears, 11, will perform the first movement of Joseph Haydn's Violincello Concerto No. 2. She began cello lessons at age 3, and by 6 she was studying at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Pre-College Division.

Starla has won numerous solo contests, including the Parnassus-San Francisco Conservatory of Music Concerto Competition. She also won first place in the ASTA (American String Teachers Association) State Competition finals.

She is the principal cellist of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-College Division String Orchestra. Starla plays a quarter-size 19th-century Hill & Sons cello on loan from J & A Beare Ltd., London.

The second of six children, Starla's parents are Dustin and Julie; the family lives in San Pablo. She is a sixth-grader at the Crowden School in Berkeley. Besides playing music, Starla's favorite activities are hanging out with friends, eating good food, and playing with her siblings.

The overture to Suppé's 1865



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Left: Clarinetist Igor Aprelev, 17, one of two winners of the 2019-20 Competition for Young Musicians, will perform von Weber with the symphony. Right: Starla Breshears, 11, began cello lessons at age 3 and will join the symphony in a Haydn violincello concerto.

operetta "The Beautiful Galatea" is bright and uplifting. The operetta, one of Suppé's most successful compositions, concerns the Greek myth of Pygmalion, a sculptor who fell in love with a statue he carved and named Galatea.

Raff's "Walpurgisnacht" and "Le Chasseur maudit" by Franck represent the concert's demonic music.

"Composers through the years seem to have reveled in the opportunity to portray the satanic in music," conductor Klein said. "The resulting pieces are almost always fiery, intense and full of surprising effects. That is true of our two scary pieces, a witchy work 'celebrating' Walpurgisnacht, which is a springtime version of Halloween, and 'The Accursed Huntsman,' in

which a hunter, having the temerity to hunt on a Sunday, is cursed and ultimately chased into oblivion by demonic forces."

Jazz band Element 116, featuring young musicians under the direction of Matt Finders, will perform during intermission.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. preceded by a prelude talk from 7-7:30. The Symphony Guild will host a post-concert reception.

Tickets are \$12-\$36. Go to www.bankheadtheater.org, the Bankhead ticket office at 2400 First St., Livermore, or by call 373-6800. ■

Editor's note: Patricia J. Boyle, immediate past president of the California Writers Club Tri-Valley branch, has been writing about the Livermore-Amador Symphony for seven years.

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI) TRI-VALLEY FAMILY/CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP (PLEASANTON) From 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month, at 5674 Stoneridge Drive, #114. Families network, encourage and support each other through the challenges of advocating and caring for adult loved ones who are diagnosed with a severe mental illness. Resources and information are provided as well. There is no cost.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Kindred Hospice, 4120 Dublin Blvd., hosts a grief support group facilitated by a bereavement specialist from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on the first Monday of the month.

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.

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 a free, confidential service. For more information about the services provided, please call Tri-Valley Haven at 449-5847 ext. 2606.

Schools and Education

CHABOT LAS-POSITAS WELCOMES DYRELL FOSTER, Ed.D. A welcome reception for Dr. Foster will be held on Feb. 20, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Las Positas College Cafe, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore, Bldg. 1600, Rm. 1620.

Government Meetings

PUSD BOARD MEETING The PUSD will meet at 7 p.m. on Feb. 25 at 4665 Bernal Ave. in the Pleasanton Unified School District Board Meeting Office. The regular meetings of the Board are held on the second

and fourth Tuesday of each month. Pleasanton Unified School District Board Meeting Office, 4665 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION The Pleasanton Planning Commission has canceled its Feb. 26 meeting in the council chambers at the Pleasanton Civic Center at 200 Old Bernal Ave. The commission typically meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. For more information, visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING The City Council holds regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m., in the council chambers at 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next regular meeting is set for March 3, Election Night. Council meetings are open to the public, and comments are always welcome. Contact the City Council at 931-5001 or citycouncil@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

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.

DROP-IN WOODSHOP AT THE SENIOR CENTER Discover the joy of wood working, wood carving 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 assist. Cost is \$5.50 for residents and \$6.50 for non-residents.

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 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.

BOOKS AND COFFEE Join others to discuss books, have a cup of coffee and make new friends with the staff from the Pleasanton Library from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. on the second Thursday of the month at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

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 Joel & Cindy Engel 580.5106

PLEASANTON

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Call for price
 Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA
 Melissa Pederson 858.1984

4244 Garibaldi Pl
\$939,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/2.5 BA
 Melissa Pederson 858.1984

5553 Corte Sonora Ct
\$1,380,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 5 BD/2.5 BA
 Kris Moxley 519.9080

3618 Pontina Ct
\$2,880,000
 Sat/Sun 1-4 6 BD/5.5 BA
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Ruby Hill – 3618 Pontina Court, Pleasanton Open House: Sat 1-4; Sun 1-4

A Grand presence in the Prestigious Ruby Hill gated community. This absolutely stunning 6 bed, 5.5 bath Estate offers 5,881 SF of living space & 20,255 SF lot. A full bedroom/bath downstairs, along with an additional bedroom/office. OWNED SOLAR. A private backyard with a detached covered portico & expansive hillside views are additional features of this court located home. **\$2,880,000**



5553 Corte Sonora Ct., Pleasanton Open House: Sat 1-4; Sun 1-4

A court located 5 bed, 2.5 bath home with 2,630 SF in the heart of Pleasanton. Featuring updates throughout with a gourmet kitchen, heated floors in the master bath along with a skylight, spacious step in shower. Indoor laundry, formal dining with an eat-in kitchen area. Side yard access and a solar heated pool. **\$1,380,000**

Pending with multiple offers



3636 Camelot Court, Pleasanton

This 4 bed, 3 bath home was built in 1970. The expanded home offers an expansive master bedroom with walk in closet. There is a bedroom and full bath on main level. Step down into the family room with additional custom cabinetry and access to the rear yard & outdoor kitchen. **\$1,189,000**

... Look what's Coming Soon in Pleasanton ...

- ☑ Pleasanton Valley – 4 bed, 2 bath
- ☑ Jensen/Amador – 3 bed, 2 bath
- ☑ Vintage Hills – 3 bed, 3 bath
- ☑ Orloff Park Area – 3 bed, 2 bath

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"Kris is amazing. She worked with us over an extensive period of time to find a wonderful house in a location that we love. She worked hard to negotiate for us in our home purchase and followed through long after the close of escrow to make sure all of the details of the sale happened as they should. Kris also managed the sale of our home. We got offers after our first open house and sold the home for a great price. The sale went so smoothly. I cannot recommend Kris enough – She is by far the most professional and dedicated person to work with for the purchase or sale of a home."

- Sally

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Bridle Creek

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Amazing 8000+ sq ft estate with casita on a private 1.5 acre lot with pool, outdoor kitchen, and more. Call for Price



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From the Blog: When should a seller engage with a REALTOR?

I would pose the question more like this, "When should you engage with your CPA when it's tax time? On April 14th or maybe October 30th of the year before?" The answer is October 30th, so you have time to plan, so you can make some adjustments, so you can position yourself to have the best possible outcome in terms of your tax return. It's the same way with real estate.

If you're thinking about moving in the near future; engage with a realtor NOW. Why? Because a top realtor can suggest upgrades and things you might want to do to enhance the value of your property. Of course, we can always use our Compass Concierge Program to [Go to 680Homes.com](https://www.680homes.com) to **read the rest of this article.**

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