

# Pleasanton Weekly

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Election Night results

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## STATE OF THE CITY

Thorne reflects on housing, public safety, city programs, local economy in final address as mayor

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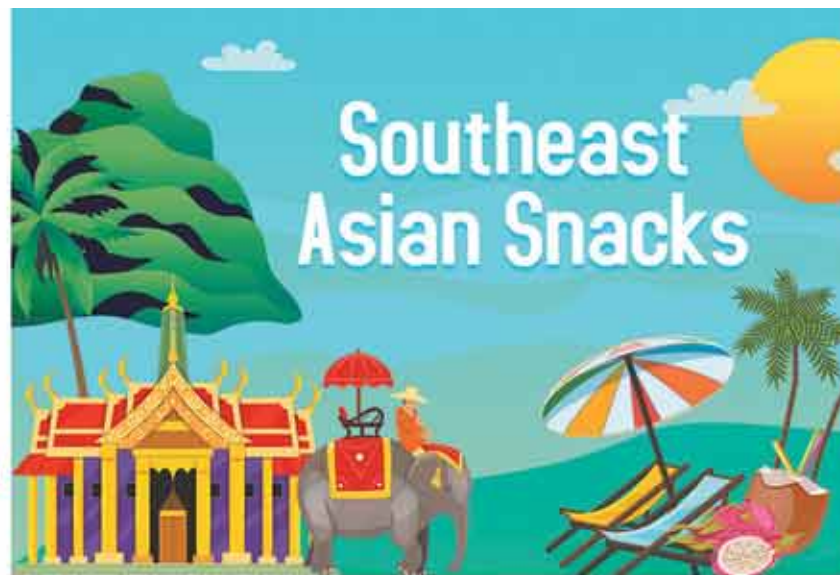


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# TIM TALK



By TIM HUNT

## Local company using AI, 'guards' to prevent crime

Pleasanton-based Deep Sentinel announced another milestone this week when it launched its security service for business.

Headquartered in a second-floor office above Main Street, the company launched its residential security system in the spring of 2019. Company founder and CEO Dave Selinger explained that very quickly after the residential program started, clients were asking what they could do for their businesses. So, last June they started working on their system for businesses.

The residential system uses three battery-powered cameras with loud-speakers and alarms built in to monitor the grounds. The cameras are wirelessly linked to a control device powered by artificial intelligence (AI) so it can separate a deer from a potential intruder. If something is amiss, the 24/7 center with "guards" is alerted so they can intervene. In about 90% of the situations, talking to the potential intruder scares them away. In the event the person does not leave, the local police are called.

Deep Sentinel has customers all over the country and has been beta testing the program in businesses for several months before its public launch this week.

Selinger identified three key advances that were necessary for Deep Sentinel's system to move into the business sector.

- The wireless capability for the cameras has been enhanced so the system can cover warehouses or parking lots with tens of thousands of square feet.
- More power options have been added including solar wall power and power over Ethernet in addition to the batteries.
- The AI capabilities are more robust. It's gone from handling four cameras last summer to six in November and now is 20 or more. The AI hub still will be onsite in the residence or the business to ensure speedy response by guards (for business, it's guaranteed 10 seconds or less — also the target for residential response).

Selinger loves to tell the story of how Deep Sentinel's system has helped Andrew Lenz of Lenz Arts in Santa Cruz. He had issues with transients leaving garbage, human waste and needles on his porch. Once he installed the system last July, the guards intervene by asking people

to leave the property. If they don't comply, there's a loud and unpleasant two-tone alarm. If that doesn't do it, the police are called. Ninety percent of the time the guard's intervention takes care of the issue.

"We are intervening earlier in the lifecycle of a crime than anyone has ever seen with any other technology or security solution. Ever. No one has ever seen anything like this and so we've had to learn that when we're that early sometimes we're going to catch things, even before the crime is started, and that's actually where we have the biggest impact," Selinger said in an interview last week.

He pointed out that Deep Sentinel would have prevented the two home invasion burglaries that occurred in Pleasanton over the past few months as well as the rash of burglaries that plagued Ruby Hill over the holidays.

He related that a Pleasanton police officer was walking in a neighborhood with a resident who asked about various security systems. They stopped in front of a house with a Deep Sentinel system. Within 30 seconds, the homeowner opened the front door — after being notified by a guard that police officer was outside.

"From a presentation perspective we've been making a really big effort to reach out to the local community. We have spent a lot of time with Ruby Hill. We're spending some time with Kottinger Ranch. We've been doing what we can to support the police department which as you know is, is wildly proactive in these instances. And now we're going to be able to protect the downtown, which if you actually look at the crime stats appears to be where the majority of these types of crimes are actually happening," he said.

Selinger described the marketing as "surgical" such as meeting with Kottinger Ranch and Ruby Hill residents. The company doesn't have the financial resources to match Ring, Simply Safe or ADT so they have been much more focused.

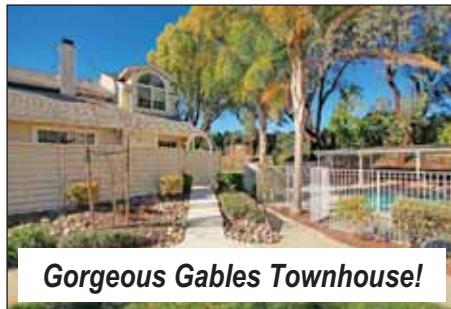
In addition to the launch of the business security system, Deep Sentinel also announced a venture capital investment by Nationwide, a Fortune 100 company offering insurance and financial services. The investment brings the total Series A funding to \$24 million.

It will allow the company to continue to hire more people as well as expand to another office. ■

### About the Cover

Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne covered a range of topics during his final State of the City address as mayor on Feb. 25. Thorne photo by Mike Sedlak; city vista view photo by Chuck Deckert. Cover design by Doug Young.

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# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

## How concerned are you about the coronavirus?



### Suzi Potts

VP, human resources

I am somewhat worried because organizations I work with are canceling conferences and events on account of the virus. We are planning to talk through it as a team and plan accordingly. Now that it has a direct impact on my work, I can't ignore it.



### Matt Albers

Engineering manager

I am concerned about it because it impacts my business, especially my colleagues who have traveled to Korea and Ireland. They have actually been quarantined. I worry about my parents, as well, who live in Napa, not far from the airport which is accepting many evacuees who are returning from China and Korea.



### Laura Olmedo

Server

I am very concerned because I am trying to avoid any kind of contamination in my restaurant. The uncertainty of whether any customers are infected with the virus is very stressful. We are taking many precautions in order to ensure the safety of our customers so that no one will get sick.



### Grace Nash

Wealth management

I worry about it a little bit, but not too much. I try to maintain good, safe, hygienic practices like washing my hands often, especially after I've been in direct contact with people. But I believe that like most things, this too shall pass.



### Deb and Mike Williams, with Roxie

Finance and high tech

We think about and are conscious of the situation, but we will not allow it to affect how we live our lives.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis

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

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Keynote Speaker:

**Kuljeet Multani, MD, HDMC**

Master of Ceremonies:

**Dublin Mayor David Haubert**





## DIGEST

### St. Pat's Brew Crawl

"Get your green ready ... The more green the better!"

That's what Pleasanton Downtown Association officials are saying ahead of the annual St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl, which will arrive in downtown on the evening for March 14.

Attendees have the chance to sip craft brews and sample snacks at more than 25 locations in the downtown area. Guests are encouraged to wear green clothes and accessories in the St. Patrick's Day spirit.

The crawl runs from 5-8 p.m. March 14. Event-goers will receive a wristband, commemorative 2020 St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl glass and program that includes a map and listing of participating businesses and breweries.

Tickets cost \$45 through midnight March 13. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the check-in tables outside the Museum on Main for \$50 cash or check only. For more information, visit [pleasantondowntown.net](http://pleasantondowntown.net).

### Senior Transit Fair

The city of Pleasanton is hosting its annual Transit Fair at the Pleasanton Senior Center on March 17, bringing transit agencies and other groups together to assist local seniors with their transportation needs.

The event is free, open to the public and will include door prizes.

Organizations scheduled to attend include Wheels, Department of Motor Vehicles, Pleasanton Paratransit Service, Alameda County Transportation Commission, Pleasanton Library, Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, Pleasanton Police Department, California Highway Patrol and Altamont Corridor Express.

The fair will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 17 at the Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

### Nature Programs

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District announced the start of its free weekend ranger-led Nature Programs all month long, open to all residents.

The first session is "Holdener Hills and Flowers" this Sunday (March 8) at 10 a.m. at Holdener Park, 2995 Hansen Road in Livermore.

"Join Ranger Amy for a slow-paced, one-mile wander to see how many different types of wildflowers we can find. Trails are narrow and steep, but we will be traveling slowly," LARPD officials said.

The other events are each at Sycamore Grove Park: "Mammals of the Ice Age" on March 14, "March (Wildflower) Madness" on March 22 and "Spring Creek Walk" on March 28. Call 960-2400 for information. ■

# PUSD bond Measure M finishes well behind on Election Night

Measure P sees 'reaffirming' victory in Livermore; school bonds in Dublin, Sunol too close to call

By JULIA BAUM

Measure M, the \$323 million school facilities bond measure proposed by the Pleasanton Unified School District to upgrade and build classrooms and other campus resources, showed to be trailing with 51.41% No and 48.59% Yes, according to unofficial results at the end of Election Night.

Earlier in the night Tuesday, shortly after the first wave of results indicated Measure M was behind the 55% approval threshold required, supporters said they still felt confident

about the measure passing.

PUSD Superintendent David Haglund said he was "optimistic" after the polls closed but that had dimmed by Wednesday morning as more results were released by county election officials.

"While we are surprised and disappointed with the early returns, we are still waiting to see the final numbers," Haglund told the Weekly.

"We expected at least a 50% voter turnout which if correct, indicates there may be another 13,000 uncounted votes out there. Based on

conversations with the Alameda County Registrar, they indicated to us that there is a 'very significant number of ballots left to be counted.' We will continue to monitor the results," he added.

As for how the district will adjust plans to increase student capacity without more bond money, Haglund said they will figure out how to make do.

"There are no easy solutions to some of these long-standing and significant infrastructure needs and our ability to move critically needed

projects forward. If the bonding capacity is not expanded, we will do our best to repair what we can with the resources we have," he added.

Former PUSD trustee Kathleen Rueggeger, who was a vocal opponent of Measure M since its introduction, said on Wednesday, "Until all school districts learn to use deliverable projects with no clauses that absolve them of producing them, I don't think voters will be willing to pay."

See **MEASURES** on Page 8

## Fairlands' Living Museum

Students embody historic figures for Black History Month

By JULIA BAUM

Instead of visiting a museum to learn about the history and contributions of African-Americans, students in teacher Kelly Lack's fifth-grade class at Fairlands Elementary School became the museum last week for Black History Month.

Now in its sixth year, the appropriately named Living Museum is now in its sixth year and highlights historical black figures. Students in Lack's class select an historic African-American person to study and then portray at the annual event by dressing up in outfits that best reflect the person's life and giving an informational first-person speech.

As part of their project, students also set up and decorate their own table inside the school's multipurpose room, complete with photos, books and other items that represent an important part of their subject's life.

Some recognizable figures made an appearance again at this year's exhibit on Feb. 26, including baseball player Jackie Robinson, former President Barack Obama (his wife, Michelle, made her Living Museum debut this year), abolitionist Harriet Tubman and civil rights activist Rosa Parks.

But a number of students picked individuals who have been overlooked or forgotten: Eugene Bullard (the first African-American military pilot), retired astronaut Guion Bluford, and Daisy Bates, an Arkansas newspaper publisher who became an important figure in the



JULIA BAUM

Eli Chavez chose saxophonist Coleman Hawkins as his historical figure to portray for the sixth annual Living Museum event at Fairlands Elementary School.

desegregation of schools after the Supreme Court's ruling on *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954.

Carol Cao told the Weekly that she admired how Bates overcame her early childhood trauma and her role in orchestrating the escort of nine black students to their first day at the then-newly integrated Central High School in Little Rock.

"I feel like Daisy went through

a really hard time when she was little because her mom was killed by three white men," Cao said. "She was affected by that and she confronted racism at an early age."

"She was really determined because she never gave up. It takes guts to be really brave like her and I kind of want to be like that," Cao added.

See **MUSEUM** on Page 9

## Council restarts east side planning

3-2 vote confirms new public process guided by commission

By JEREMY WALSH

The city will soon begin work to draft an East Pleasanton Specific Plan after the City Council approved the project approach and scope of work for the multi-year public planning process in a 3-2 vote Tuesday.

Confirming their prior decision to re-prioritize east side planning, the council majority signed off on a public process starting anew with a "blank slate" overseen by the Planning Commission, with frequent check-ins with the council along the way — as opposed to forming a new task force like what occurred with the previous specific plan attempt that was discontinued several years ago.

"This whole thing about the process being driven by (developer) Ponderosa is pure, homogenized nonsense. This process will be driven by the Planning Commission, the City Council, the staff and you, the residents. It won't be driven by Ponderosa," Mayor Jerry Thorne said during the hearing at the Pleasanton Civic Center.

"Remember this is a planning process ... It will be years before you ever, ever see anything built on the east side — I can almost guarantee you that, because it takes us years to do anything in this city,"

See **EAST SIDE** on Page 10

# District 1 Supervisor headed to runoff; Haubert leads, Bacon second on Election Night

Miley wins District 4 Supervisor re-election; Green supplanting Quigley on Zone 7 board

By JEREMY WALSH

The District 1 seat on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors will advance to a two-person runoff election in November, but the candidate list for the fall is still too close to call after Election Night in the primary ballot.

The four candidates finished Election Night all within 1,255 votes of each other, but none reached anywhere near the 50%-plus of overall ballots that was required to win the seat outright in the primary election.

Dublin Mayor David Haubert sat in first place with 26.97% of the vote, according to unofficial results reported as of early Wednesday morning — which represent the bulk, but not all, of the eligible ballots cast. District 1 covers Dublin and Livermore in the Tri-Valley, as well as Fremont and part of Sunol.

Fremont City Councilman Vinnie Bacon was in second place at 26.10% (233 votes behind Haubert), in position to advance to the runoff election in November if the order holds after remaining ballots are counted in the coming days.

Not far behind was Dublin City Councilwoman Melissa Hernandez, with 24.67%, trailing Bacon

by 381 votes for second place.

Rounding out the list was State Sen. Bob Wieckowski, a Fremont resident who is terming out at the state level this year, with 22.26% of the vote.

The four candidates were vying to succeed Supervisor Scott Haggerty, who is retiring after six terms on the county board. Haggerty had given a dual endorsement ahead of the primary, supporting Hernandez and Wieckowski.

The unofficial election results include early vote-by-mail tallies and totals reported by the precincts on Election Night. The election figures will likely change in the coming days as final vote-by-mail ballots, provisional ballots and other qualifying ballots are processed, according to the California Secretary of State.

The Tri-Valley's other Board of Supervisors position, District 4 which includes Pleasanton, appears to be a done deal with incumbent Supervisor Nate Miley holding a nearly 2-to-1 lead after Election Night.

Miley garnered 67.20% of the vote in his bid for a sixth consecutive term, comfortably ahead of lone challenger Esther Goolsby, an environmental community organizer from Oakland, at 32.80%.

The clear majority over 50% would give Miley the victory outright in the primary election to retain his position representing District 4, which in addition to Pleasanton includes East Oakland, Montclair, Castro Valley, Ashland, Cherryland, Fairview and El Portal Ridge.

In the other Board of Supervisors race, which is outside of the Tri-Valley, District 5 Supervisor Keith Carson finished well ahead of lone challenger Albany City Councilman Nick Pilch — 79.67% to 20.33%.

## In other elections

- Pleasanton resident Laurene Green is poised to unseat an incumbent to win a position on the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors.

Green, a first-time candidate and a water resources engineer by trade, finished Election Night comfortably in second place (27.59%) with three seats up for grabs on Tuesday.

Leading the Zone 7 contest in first place with 28.92% was incumbent Director Sandy Figuers, a Livermore resident and groundwater geologist by trade who has been on the board since 2008 (plus 12 years of prior board

service in the '80s and '90s).

In position for the third and final seat is incumbent Director Angela Ramirez Holmes, a two-term board member who lives in Pleasanton and works in political consulting, with 22.25% of the vote.

Four-term incumbent Dick Quigley from Pleasanton is on the outside looking in with a fourth-place finish, currently at 15.25%. The final candidate, Livermore resident Hugh Bussell, garnered just 5.98%.

- Alameda County will have a November runoff election for Superior Court Department 2, with no single candidate earning a 50% majority on Tuesday.

The top two candidates, percentage points apart, advancing to the runoff are civil rights attorney Mark Fickes (38.47%) and trial attorney Elena Condes (37.98%). In third place was administrative law judge Lilla Szelenyi (23.56%).

This is the bench position opening up with the retirement of longtime Judge Carol Brosnahan.

- Pleasanton's incumbent Democratic legislators in the State Senate, State Assembly and U.S. House of Representatives are also set to compete in November runoffs, each against a Republican challenger who finished well

behind in the primary election.

Sen. Steve Glazer (D-Orinda) sat in first place with 48.2% in his bid for re-election to a second full four-year term representing District 7.

Republican Julie Mobley, who is listed on the ballot as a community volunteer, was in second place with 30.7% for a spot in the runoff. Democrat Marisol Rubio, a scientific research and health care provider from San Ramon, finished in third with 21.1%.

Incumbent District 16 Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) will head to the general election after earning 63.1% in the primary. Alamo businessman Joseph Rubay, a Republican, came away with 36.9% — but he had already qualified for the runoff.

U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) stood comfortably in first place against six challengers with 56.5%. He'll face Republican Alison Hayden, a special education teacher, in November after she garnered 20.1% in the primary for second place.

The other 15th Congressional District candidates, in order, were Peter Yuan Liu (9.1%), Samantha Campbell (8.7%), Tuan Phan (3.0%), Don J. Grundmann (1.4%) and Austin E. Intal (1.2%). ■

## Feds suspend self-driving commute vehicle program

EasyMile ordered to stop testing with passengers after rider hurt in Ohio

By JULIA BAUM

The prospect of the autonomous vehicle test program in Dublin starting to carry passengers soon is now on hold after a rider was injured in an "unexplained braking incident" in another state, U.S. vehicle safety regulators announced last week.

The pilot project with France-based EasyMile and the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) was announced in June 2018 to test the technology of self-driving cars and help commuters travel between the eastern Dublin-Pleasanton BART station and local job centers. EasyMile also had two shuttles at Bishop Ranch in San Ramon that stopped operating last year.

But on Feb. 25, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said it had "suspended passenger operations for 16 of EasyMile's autonomous vehicles, pending an examination of safety issues related to both vehicle technology and operations." The agency took action after a

passenger fell from a seat and reported being hurt in Columbus, Ohio one week earlier.

Tony McCaulay, LAVTA's director of planning and marketing, told the Weekly, "Our EasyMile autonomous vehicle is still in the testing phase and is not carrying passengers. For now, NHTSA has indicated that testing of EasyMile vehicles without passengers can continue. We will monitor the outcome of NHTSA's review."

During the incident in Ohio, a battery-powered shuttle involved was driving at 7 mph "and made an emergency stop as it is programmed to do for safety, according to EasyMile."

The vehicles are still allowed on public roads but cannot carry passengers while the NHTSA investigates the incident — a decision the company called "a clear indication it considers them safe for other road users."

NHTSA said they will "continue to work with all affected parties, including EasyMile and local authorities, to evaluate potential

future vehicle operations, consistent with applicable legal requirements and public safety."

Lauren Isaac, director of business initiative for EasyMile, said she "can't speak to how quickly the suspension will be lifted ... but we hope soon."

California law allows the operation of AVs on public roads with a driver or — in the case of the EasyMile shuttles which lack a steering wheel, brake pedal or accelerator — an attendant present during testing.

Dublin Mayor David Haubert and Pleasanton City Councilwoman Karla Brown are among the local leaders who have publicly supported the pilot AV shuttle program and LAVTA's mission to simultaneously create more commuting options for Bay Area residents and increase environmental sustainability.

EasyMile, which is privately held, has driverless shuttles across the world, including 16 cities in 10 U.S. states. ■



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY/W. ANZENBERGER

## \$20,000 from 'bottle that benefits'

Darcie Kent Vineyards recently presented a \$20,000 donation check to Valley Humane Society in Pleasanton, funds generated from sales of the Livermore winery's 2019 Dog Day Cabernet. Promoted as "the bottle that benefits," the special wine has been sold in eight Costco stores in Northern California with \$5 from each purchase earmarked to support the lifesaving and life-enriching programs of Valley Humane Society. The amount donated last month represents only half of the Dog Day Cabernet originally distributed; the other half is still available for purchase at Costcos in Livermore, Danville, Concord, Fremont, Tracy, Manteca, Almaden and Santa Clara. Look for the distinctive red label featuring Kent's beloved dogs Shepherd and Brunello, plus the nonprofit's logo.

# Health officials confirm first county cases of coronavirus

PUSD, city taking extra precautions and educating residents about how to prevent spread

By JULIA BAUM

In addition to several more newly identified cases in the Bay Area, public health officials confirmed the first presumptive positive case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Alameda County last weekend.

The patient is currently in isolation at home and awaiting test results from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, according to the Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD).

A presumptive positive case is a patient who has tested positive by a public health laboratory and pending confirmation by the CDC. Reported to be a healthcare worker at NorthBay VacaValley Hospital in Vacaville, the Alameda County patient was said to be exposed to the community-acquired case at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. Another healthcare worker at the same facility who lives in Solano County was also exposed to the same case and is now under home quarantine as well.

A second Alameda County case was reported on Tuesday involving a Berkeley resident who recently returned home after traveling abroad.

Those two remained the only confirmed cases of the coronavirus in Alameda County as of press time Wednesday afternoon.

"The health risk from novel coronavirus to the general public remains low, and while COVID-19 has a high transmission rate, it has a low mortality rate," ACPHD said in a statement issued on their website. "Alameda County continues to monitor the community for possible cases, and it is likely that there will be more cases identified in the Bay Area, and person-to-person spread could occur."

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common among humans and animals, causing mild to moderate respiratory illness. The novel coronavirus that has been circulating for more than a month is a newly discovered strain that was previously undetected in animals and people.

Symptoms are very similar to the flu and include fever, coughing and shortness of breath, appearing to cause less severe illness in younger people. In some rare cases, coronavirus can cause severe illness or even be fatal, particularly for older individuals with existing medical conditions, but most people with common coronavirus infections usually recover on their own, according to the CDC.

According to the California Department of Public Health, there were a total of 40 positive cases in the state as of Sunday including three new cases announced that same day in Santa Clara County.

Of those 40 cases, 24 are from repatriation flights; the other 16 confirmed cases include nine related to travel, two caused by person-to-person exposure from family contact, another two from person-to-person exposure in a healthcare facility and three from unknown sources.

Around 300 people in California have been tested to date; ACPHD said they are working closely with other public health agencies and "preparing for an increase in disease investigation, monitoring, mitigation, and community outreach and education activities."

The cities of Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore also continue to receive regular updates while sending reminders and educating the public about preventing the spread of COVID-19. Pleasanton Unified School District is also taking extra sanitary precautions for all 15 of their school sites.

"As a preventative measure, the district's custodial staff will provide additional cleaning, disinfecting on high touchpoints around our schools like doorknobs, elevator buttons, countertops, student desks and handrails," PUSD Superintendent David Haglund said in a message to the community.

"The district will ensure that all soap and hand sanitizer dispensers remain full for all students and

staff to use regularly" he continued. "We will continue to keep staff, students and families updated with new information that we receive related to the health and safety of our district students and staff."

Last Friday, the state Department of Public Health announced that new CDC test kits used to detect COVID-19 are now available in California to do community diagnostic testing, helping to better protect public health by identifying and treating cases and tracing locations of possible exposure.

The state will receive another shipment of kits to test upwards of 1,200 people; California Public Health Director Dr. Sonia Angell said, "The availability to test at California's public health laboratories is a significant step forward in our ability to respond rapidly to this evolving situation."

Health officials including the World Health Organization (WHO) are reminding people that wearing surgical and N95 masks are not effective against the transmission of COVID-19, and that the virus does not survive long on objects such as letters or packages.

ACPHD has regular updates on its website, including from the CDC, WHO and CADPH, at [www.acphd.org/2019-ncov/resources.aspx](http://www.acphd.org/2019-ncov/resources.aspx). ■

## TAKE US ALONG



**A little holiday shopping:** Pleasanton residents Jon and Kathleen Kalb brought the Weekly along as they visited the Christmas markets in Salzburg, Austria last year.

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

## COVID-19 Prevention Tips

Officials are advising people to do the following:

- Wash hands with liquid soap and water, and rub for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your face including eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze.
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Get updates from ACPHD at [acphd.org/2019-ncov/resources.aspx](http://acphd.org/2019-ncov/resources.aspx).

## BLACKHAWK MUSEUM



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# Plans for Irvington BART station in Fremont move forward

\$205M project would add station between Fremont, Warm Springs by 2026

The BART Board of Directors unanimously passed a resolution last week in support of the design phase of a new station between Fremont and Warm Springs.

The board voted 8-0 on Feb. 27, with Director Bevan Dufty absent, to approve a resolution of public compliance and initial project report as part of its consent calendar for a planned BART station in the Irvington district of Fremont.

The board's vote will allow the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to vote at a future meeting to allocate \$2 million in regional bridge toll funding to complete the station's design phase. The Alameda County Transportation Commission allocated an initial \$16.45 million for the design phase last spring.

The Irvington station was deemed optional when the BART board

approved the Warm Springs extension project in 2003. Funding could not immediately be identified for the station's construction, resulting in service beginning along the Warm Springs extension in 2017 without a stop in the Irvington district.

In 2014, Alameda County voters approved Measure BB, which allocated \$120 million toward the station's construction. Since then, BART officials have worked with the city of

Fremont to update the station's concept plan, surrounding area plan and environmental review.

After significant revisions to the original station plan from 2003, the Fremont City Council approved the station plans last July and the BART board approved the updated environmental review last August.

Final designs for the station are planned for completion by July 2022. If the project remains on schedule, BART will break ground on the station in August 2022, with service expected to begin by August 2026. The entirety of the project is expected to cost roughly \$205 million. ■

—Bay City News Service

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Remembering Garrison

The Pleasanton real estate community is mourning the loss of longtime agent Donna Garrison, who died last week after a battle with cancer.

Garrison worked for years alongside her sister Susan Schall, and their Fabulous Properties Team (at Venture Sotheby's International Realty) was among the most well-regarded in Pleasanton, including as a five-time winner of the Pleasanton Weekly Readers' Choice for Best Real Estate Team.

A longtime Pleasanton resident and married mother and grandmother, Garrison was also known for giving back in the community, including leadership roles with the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation and Ruby Hill Giving Thanks Charity Committee, as well as for producing two independent films.

Memorial service details and a family obituary are pending.

### PulsePoint outage

The Alameda County Fire Department recently announced an outage with its PulsePoint app that could likely extend into next month.

"ACFD implemented a planned upgrade to our computer dispatch software. We are currently working with PulsePoint developers to fix the PulsePoint outage. We anticipate PulsePoint to be active again on April 15, 2020," fire officials posted on the department's Twitter account.

The PulsePoint app allows subscribers who are trained in CPR to be alerted if someone nearby is having a cardiac emergency and may require CPR, a service offered in the area in collaboration with ACFD.

### 'One City, One Book'

The Dublin community is once again joining together for a shared reading experience with its "One City, One Book" program in which individual residents and families all read the same book during the month of March.

The book this time around is "Flora & Ulysses," by best-selling author Kate DiCamillo. A master calendar has been created so that everyone reading "Flora & Ulysses" can stay on track and read the same chapters each day. For more information, visit [dublin.ca.gov](http://dublin.ca.gov).

### Veteran housing

The city of Livermore's Housing Authority earlier this winter was awarded \$68,706 from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department's Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program that aims to give homeless military veterans access to supportive housing.

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein announced the local funding as part of \$10.5 million in federal grants disbursed throughout California in the program. ■

## MEASURES

Continued from Page 5

"They need to protect homeowners. Especially when it would have been \$1.2 billion to them," she said.

Earlier on Election Night, Haglund and Bryan Gillette, co-chair of the

Yes on M campaign, each told the Weekly that they were hopeful the initiative will pull through, citing the recent South Carolina caucus as a possible reason for some voters delaying to cast their ballots.

"It's early plus a lot of Democratic votes are being held," Gillette said.

"There's been a much lower turnout in Alameda County over the last couple of days compared to other elections, so we're expecting more Democratic votes to come in, just because they are the later ones to vote."

Declining to entertain the prospect of a loss, Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation Executive Director Steve McCoy-Thompson said a Yes vote on Measure M was "critical for the future of our schools," but that he was "still hopeful" about the community improving it.

"We were able to talk to a lot of Pleasanton residents; my first impression is that I was impressed by how engaged our citizens are on this issue," McCoy-Thompson said. "I'm also impressed by how much all our community supports our schools, and that's regardless of how they feel about this bond measure."

The unofficial election results include early vote-by-mail tallies and totals reported by the precincts on Election Night. The election figures will likely change in the coming days as final vote-by-mail ballots, provisional ballots and other qualifying ballots are processed, according to the California Secretary of State.

### In other results

• Over in Livermore, Mayor John Marchand called the early results on Measure P "reaffirming" and "incredible" in light of a public battle over the past year to maintain the city's course for development of its downtown core.

After Election Night, the measure to codify a previously approved deal for building a three-story hotel on the east side of Livermore Avenue next to the Bankhead Theater had pulled ahead with 64.57% of votes, compared to 35.43% — passage required a simple majority.

A separate "Central Park Plan" initiative is slated to be on the November ballot but Marchand said he was unfazed.

"This election shows that the voters recognize that the city listened to the voters and have affirmed the council's decision," he said. "The Livermore voters are very smart and they understand the difference between a plan and a drawing, and this community sadly has been divided.

## THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



### UPCOMING MEETINGS

#### Planning Commission

Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- **P19-0431, Maurice Dissels**  
Application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to serve alcohol after 11:00 p.m. at an existing restaurant, Oyo, located at 680 Main Street
- **PUD-136, Stoneridge Properties, LLC (Simon Property Group), 1700 and 1008 Stoneridge Mall Road**  
Workshop to review and receive comments on an application to construct 486 apartment units on a site designated for housing at Stoneridge Mall, to be integrated into a redesigned version of the previously approved commercial project that included the demolition and replacement of the existing Sears Department store with a 258,000-square-foot development including new retail, grocery, cinema, and specialty lifestyle health club uses (net increase of 80,070 square feet)

### COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES RECRUITMENT

The City Council is accepting applications for the following:

#### Civic Arts Commission\*

1 Youth Member

#### Economic Vitality Committee

1 Member from each of the following categories:

Commercial Real Estate Developer

Environmental Industry

Financial Services

Non-Profit Community Based Organization

#### Housing Commission\*

1 Member

#### Youth Commission\*

3 Middle School Members

#### Tri-Valley Conservancy Board\*

1 Member

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020

For more information or to apply, please visit

<http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/depts/clerk/boards/default.asp>

Applicants must reside within the Pleasanton city limits\*

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

# Chamber reveals Community Service Award winners

57th annual ceremony set this month at Firehouse

By JEREMY WALSH

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce has announced the recipients of its 2020 Community Service Awards, who will be honored during a special ceremony later this month in downtown Pleasanton.

The annual awards aim to recognize “deserving individuals, groups and businesses who have demonstrated excellence and community leadership in business, volunteer activities and achievement within the Pleasanton community,” according to chamber officials.

This year’s winners will receive their awards during a presentation at the Firehouse Arts Center on March 23.

The 57th annual Community Services Awards will go to:

**Business Philanthropy: UNCLE Credit Union.** “For businesses that have provided philanthropic service beyond the scope of normal business activity.”

**Excellence in Business: BumbleBee Marketing Services.** “For businesses that have made a positive impact in the Pleasanton community through their achievement within the scope of normal business activity.”

**Green Business: East Bay Regional Park District.** “For businesses that promote sustainable environmental business practices throughout their organization for the benefit of employees, customers or the community.”

**Excellence in Service: Spectrum Community Services.** “For organizations that have contributed to Pleasanton.” Spectrum is a nonprofit that assists low-income individuals, families and seniors in the Tri-Valley — most notably by administering the local Meals on Wheels program.

**Distinguished Individual Service: Bernie Billen.** “For individuals who have contributed to Pleasanton through exceptional

service to the community or philanthropic efforts.” Noted for her community spirit ever since she moved to Pleasanton in the 1970s, Billen has been dedicated to organizations and activities such as the Pleasanton Downtown Association, the city’s Centennial Celebration in 1994, the Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association and now Hively.

**Chevron Fuel Your School Teacher Award: Jonathan Grantham.** Given to a stand-out Pleasanton Unified School District teacher, the award this year honors Grantham for his dedication as director of bands for Amador Valley High School, a comprehensive program with 350 participating students involved in different types of bands and ensembles.

**Lifetime Achievement: Vic Malatesta.** “For individuals who have contributed to Pleasanton through exceptional service to the community or philanthropic efforts over the whole of a career.” Malatesta owned and operated Vic’s All Star Kitchen in downtown for 25 years until recently selling the restaurant to enjoy retirement. A longtime supporter of Foothill High School athletics, Malatesta also previously chaired the PDA, the Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club of Pleasanton.

The award ceremony will kick off at 6 p.m. March 23 at the Firehouse and will also feature a hosted bar, heavy appetizers and a silent auction. The event costs \$40 per person to attend, with tickets available at [www.pleasanton.org](http://www.pleasanton.org).

Event sponsors are Amos Productions, Black Tie Transportation, Cellar Door, Chevron, Golden I Credit Union and Moving Perceptions. A limited number of sponsorship opportunities remain available. For more information, contact the chamber at 846-5858. ■

## MUSEUM

Continued from Page 5

Vennelakiran Prathuri dressed up as Tubman, whose story of leading slaves to freedom on more than a dozen Underground Railroad trips she called inspirational. “I love how she was a person who kept going on,” Prathuri said. “She kept going on because she knew she was a woman who wanted to change the world.”

Saxophonist Coleman Hawkins

was Eli Chavez’s choice; his love of baseball originally drew him to do a presentation on Robinson but instead settled on Hawkins because, “I think music is so great to play when you’re down ... and when you’re relaxed, you can play something to jazz you up.”

“I learned that music should always be an adventure,” Chavez said. “It also doesn’t matter what your skin color is; if you put enough effort into what you love, you can pursue your dreams.” ■

# Celebrating female veterans

Las Positas College luncheon set for next week

By JULIA BAUM

Las Positas College will honor several decorated female military service members with a special event next week.

The Honoring Women Veterans Luncheon next Wednesday (March 11) includes a Q&A panel discussion with female student veterans, scholarship presentation and a keynote speech by U.S. Army Reserve Lt. Col. Jennifer Nolan.

“We are proud to honor the special contributions made by women in the military by presenting this event during Women’s History Month,” said Todd Steffan, who supervises the Veterans First Program at LPC.

The program offers services and resources to help veterans realize their academic goals; according to LPC, more than 600 veterans, reservist/guard, and active duty military personnel were enrolled during the last academic year.

Special guests include Nolan, who most recently served as the chief of strategy for U.S. Southern Command in Miami, Fla.,



Lt. Col. Jennifer Nolan

where she oversaw the combatant commander’s theater strategy in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition to the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal and four Meritorious Service Medals, among others, Nolan has also received the Humanitarian Service Medal for response to the El Salvador earthquake in 2001.

U.S. Army veteran Xochitl Rodriguez Murillo is another honored guest who currently serves as the deputy secretary of Minority Veteran Affairs at the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

Murillo is “well-versed in the machinations of the military,” delivering supplies to American forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004, and wants to champion for minority and underrepresented veterans “reaching areas where we have a gap,” she said.

Lindsey Sin, deputy secretary for Women Veterans Affairs at the California Department of Veterans Affairs, will also be present for the event.

Sin served in the U.S. Navy from 1997 until 2005, working in military intelligence and supporting Operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom during that time. She achieved the rank of Petty Officer First Class before returning to Sacramento and working with veterans at local colleges and universities.

The Honoring Women Veterans Luncheon is March 11 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Building 1600, Room 1620 A/B in Livermore. RSVP is required; search for the event by name at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com). ■

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# City seeks residents for commissions

Openings for handful of seats; applications due March 18

BY JEREMY WALSH

Pleasanton city officials are searching for resident volunteers to serve on one of the city committees and commissions that oversee specific topic areas and make recommendations to the City Council.

Seats are open on the following groups: Civic Arts Commission (one youth member), Housing Commission (one regular member), Youth Commission (three middle school members) and the Tri-Valley Conservancy Board of Directors (one Pleasanton representative). Applicants for all of those positions must live within the Pleasanton city limits.

There are also four seats available on the city's Economic Vitality Committee, one member each in the categories of commercial real estate developer, environmental industry, financial services and nonprofit community-based organization.

Applicants can live or work in Pleasanton.

Terms vary for each of the commissions and committees, but they are typically four-year terms with a two-term maximum. Applicants should look at the individual commission or committee for which they are applying to get specific details.

Applications are due March 18 at 5 p.m.

Mayor Jerry Thorne will interview candidates later in the month. He will then make recommendations for all available posts, and his colleagues on the City Council will be asked to ratify Thorne's list, typically on the consent calendar.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 931-5027. Applications are available on the city website by going to [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov) and searching for "Boards and Commissions" on the City Clerk page under the "Government" tab. ■

## EAST SIDE

Continued from Page 5

the mayor added.

Timing seemed to be the central issue during the council members' deliberations on Tuesday night, their third in-depth hearing on the proposed east side process since November.

Council members in favor of restarting the process now viewed this as the right time to help ensure coordinated, city-led planning of the East Pleasanton area while also aligning well with city preparations for the upcoming regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) and Housing Element update cycle.

"I have complete confidence in the Planning Commission," said Councilman Jerry Pentin, who joined Vice Mayor Kathy Narum in the majority.

"The possibilities that are out in the east side are wonderful. A mixed community that meets Pleasanton needs is what should come out of this specific plan," Pentin added.

The dissenting council members argued the city should not start east side planning until knowing Pleasanton's next round of RHNA numbers, which assign how many housing units and at what affordability levels Pleasanton must plan for its 2022 Housing Element — draft RHNA numbers are expected to be announced in March 2021.

"I like the idea of giving a year, knowing what our RHNA number looks like and working from that. I think we'll have plenty of time to incorporate (east side) into our RHNA numbers if we need it," said Councilwoman Julie Testa, who voted No along with Councilwoman Karla Brown.

"To say 'clean slate' doesn't make it happen. I think that there has

been an undue influence. We've promised our community a process with a clean slate, and we're not going to have that right now. It's already gone too far into (Ponderosa) marketing a plan," Testa also told the audience.

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 (some within the city limits, some outside) long eyed for potential redevelopment with residential, commercial, business and other uses.

The council voted early last year to place the 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 process framework for the project approach and scope of work.

Council members hosted hour-long public hearings on the east side process at their Nov. 19 and Feb. 18 regular meetings. With the latter debate extending beyond midnight, they pushed out final deliberations to their next meeting — which was on Tuesday, coinciding with Election Day in the primary.

The planning process, recommended by city staff and approved Tuesday night, 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 possibility, but has not

been confirmed.

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

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 RHNA cycle.

There is also renewed interest from the major private property owners in East Pleasanton, after they 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.

The council heard similar comments from new speakers aligning with either side of the issue Tuesday night.

At the end of the two-hour hearing, the council majority voted 3-2 to direct staff to move forward with the recommended East Pleasanton Specific Plan drafting process.

As part of their approval of the planning process, they added language to the motion to state the city and Planning Commission are restarting "with a blank slate" as well as to direct city staff to begin work now to look citywide for all properties that could qualify as RHNA sites. ■

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**TAKE US ALONG**

**Cruisin' through Oceania:** Pleasanton residents Sandy and Gene Block took the Weekly on their 35-day cruise in Oceania last year, which included a stop at Ulun Danu Temple in Bali, Indonesia.

## BAY CITY CORNER

Editor's note: Here's a snapshot of regional articles by Bay City News Service that piqued our readers' interest online over the past week. Read the full stories online at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com).

### Proposed \$2.14B fine

The California Public Utilities Commission last week proposed a \$2.14 billion penalty against PG&E for its role in the catastrophic wildfires in the North Bay and Butte County in 2017 and 2018.

The proposed decision by Administrative Law Judge Sophia Park adds \$462 million to a \$1.7 billion penalty settlement agreed to last year by PG&E, the commission's safety staff, and utility union representatives for violations of regulations.

Like the previous settlement, the proposed decision would require shareholders rather than customers to absorb the cost of the penalty. But in addition to increasing the penalty amount, the revised proposal would require that any tax savings PG&E gains from tax deductions for the penalty would benefit customers and not shareholders.

### Racial disparities

BART Police Chief Ed Alvarez presented a report to the agency's Board of Directors on Feb. 27 showing that black BART riders are cited more frequently than other riders for certain violations.

BART released the data last week, showing that black riders received more than half of the citations for "quality of life" offenses, such as fare evasion, disruptive behavior and eating, drinking or smoking on trains, in both 2018 and 2019.

In comparison, black riders were cited more often for quality of life offenses than white and Hispanic riders combined in both years. Only about 10% of BART riders are black, while white riders comprise 35% of the system's riders.

### Clorox named in suit

The Berkeley-based nonprofit Earth Island Institute has filed a suit alleging that some of the world's largest food, beverage and product manufacturers are polluting the world's oceans and waterways with millions of tons of plastic.

The suit, which was filed in San Mateo County Superior Court on Feb. 26, seeks unspecified compensatory damage and legal fees as well as a court order requiring the companies to reduce plastic production, pay for cleanup and stop implying their plastic containers will be recycled until there are resources available to do so.

The suit names as defendants The Clorox Company, Crystal Geyser Water Company, Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Nestle USA, Mars Inc., Danone North America, Mondelez International Inc., Colgate-Palmolive and Procter & Gamble. ■

## County wins Beacon Award

Institute cites strong environmental practices

BY RYAN J. DEGAN

The Institute for Local Government (ILG) recently honored Alameda County with the prestigious Beacon Award, recognizing the county for its comprehensive and exemplary efforts to locally combat climate change.

Designed to recognize local efforts in energy efficiency and sustainability, officials said the county received a Silver Beacon Award for "illustrating a comprehensive approach to adopting policies and programs that foster sustainability and help meet aggressive state climate goals."

Specifically, through enforcing eco-friendly policies, Alameda County has been able to achieve a 14% reduction in community greenhouse gases, 14% reduction in agency greenhouse gases, 13% energy savings, 5% natural gas savings and received a platinum level award in sustainability best practices, according to county officials.

"Climate leadership is a key responsibility of local government. We have a duty to our residents to do our part to combat climate change — and to help our communities prepare for the changes that are already happening," Alameda County

Supervisor Keith Carson said in a statement.

The award was presented to the county during the Board of Supervisors meeting on Feb. 4.

From creating a Clean Commute Program for employees to engaging their community through the Green Child Care Program and multi-lingual programs, Alameda County has long striven to create a healthy, sustainable and economically prosperous community, officials said.

Currently, 153 cities and counties throughout the state have committed to combating climate change by participating in the Beacon Program. Participants must set goals, document their progress and share the best practices to create more efficient and vibrant communities with their neighbors.

"The economic and social impact of climate change on communities cannot be understated," said Erica Manuel, executive director for ILG. "The cities and counties participating in ILG's Beacon Program have been leading the fight against climate change for more than a decade, and we are thrilled to honor their strategy, dedication and accomplishments." ■

### James Lavell Cox

March 24, 1938 – February 16, 2020

Beloved brother, father, grandfather, great grandfather.

Jim passed away on February 16, 2020, at the age of 81.

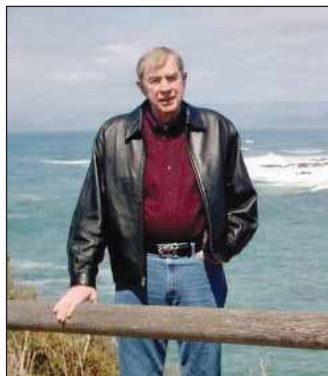
Jim was born in Columbia, MS. He proudly served in the Airforce from 1955-1958. Upon discharge from the service, Jim raised a family and owned a few businesses, including a southwestern Indian jewelry and supply company in New Mexico.

Jim enjoyed music, dancing and traveling. His greatest pride and accomplishment was his family.

Jim is survived by daughter Dawn, grandchildren, Tabitha, Joseph, Lindsay, and Dylan, great-grandchildren, Chloe, Evelyn and Henry as well as his sisters Johnnie Earl and Janet. He will be forever in our hearts.

There will be a celebration of life and military honors at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton at 2PM on Saturday, March 7, 2020.

The family suggests memorial contributions be sent to support cancer research.



PAID OBITUARY

## Lasting Memories

An online directory of obituaries and remembrances. Search obituaries, submit a memorial, share a photo.

Go to: [PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries)

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### Anna Maye Evanson

July 21, 1935 - February 3, 2020

Anna Maye (Hein) Evanson, born July 21, 1935, left this world for a better place on Monday, February 3, 2020 to be reunited with her husband of almost 60 years and love of her life - John David Evanson. Ann passed away peacefully at the age of 84 in her home in El Dorado Hills surrounded by her daughters.



Ann grew up in Lake Stevens, Washington with her parents, John Elden Hein and Katherine Koestlin, and two brothers. She was active in her community, attended Lake Stevens Jr. College where she studied to be a dental hygienist, and even served as an Air Spotter during World War II. Ann first met John when she was 13 years old and fell in love. Being seven years her senior, John considered it only a teenage crush, however, after serving in the Marines, being drafted into the Army and spending a tour in Korea, John returned home to ask Ann, now 21, for her hand in marriage. They were inseparable and their love, honor and care for one another was a gift and legacy to their family.

Ann will always be remembered for her passion for family, friends, food and fun. She had a heart of service, deeply cared for people and was never shy about showing off her spunky sense of humor. Ann and John purchased their home in Pleasanton in 1969, raised their family and planted deep roots in the community. Ann and John were some of the first members of Trinity Lutheran Church and faithfully served the church body until John's death in 2016. As a member of the church social committee, Ann was known for serving up lefse parties (all good Norwegians say "Uff Da!"), smorgasbords, and strawberry socials. Ann was also an auxiliary member and active volunteer for many years at Valley Care Hospital. Even after having to move away from her beloved home and community in Pleasanton, Ann continued to reach out to new neighbors, friends and caregivers with her welcoming personality. She will be truly missed by many.

Ann is survived by her daughters, Cathy Hirata, Teri Becker (James), and Jan Ibarra, as well as seven grandchildren - Lindy (Ranfie), Evan, Ben (Chelsea), Jason, Danielle, Ethan, Matthew and two great granddaughters - Carly and Hannah Patricia Ann. Ann is interred alongside her husband, John, in the Wall of Valor, Chapel of the Chimes in Hayward. A private celebration of life will be held this summer in her honor - friends of the family are welcome to contact the daughters for details.

PAID OBITUARY

# STATE OF THE CITY



## Thorne reflects on housing, public safety, city programs, local economy in final address as mayor

Mayor Jerry Thorne gave a thorough overview of Pleasanton in his State of the City address on Feb. 25. (Thorne photo at right by Mike Sedlak. City view photo by Chuck Deckert.)

By JEREMY WALSH

**P**leasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne touched on a little bit of everything during his final State of the City address last week.

Highlighting city accomplishments from 2019, the fourth-term mayor focused his reflective 33-minute speech on Pleasanton's strong local economy, housing and homelessness strategies, new public and private projects, key City Council actions, city and regional transportation infrastructure, and advocating for Tri-Valley priorities at the state and federal levels.

"We accomplished plenty in 2019, and there is still much work to be done in the last nine months of my tenure as your mayor," said Thorne, who is in his last year in office due to term limits.

"This may be my final State of the City address and these my final months as mayor, but there will always be work to do to retain the special character of this great city," he told the nearly 300 government leaders, business professionals and other residents at the State of the City event. "Every contribution is valuable as we all collaborate to build a Pleasanton community that openly reflects the breadth of our residents and businesses."

### LOCAL ECONOMY

Another strong economic year propelled Pleasanton to success in 2019, Thorne said during the sold-out luncheon event sponsored by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce in a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel ballroom on Feb. 25.

"The state of your city is very strong, and also the state of your economy is very, very strong," the mayor told the audience.

Thorne commended the city government's fiscal situation as sound and well-managed, saying general fund revenues are projected to reach \$127 million this year compared to \$121 million in estimated expenditures.

"Not only is our budget balanced, but we've also sharpened our pencils to meet our financial obligations and set aside money for a rainy day," he said.

Short- and long-term fiscal sustainability remain a priority for the city administration.

Over the past year, officials increased the city's general fund operating reserves from 20% up to 25% — all while preparing a 10-year infrastructure and facilities replacement

plan and supporting its new pension trust fund to address long-range costs related to retired city employees.

"The city is focused on the future to ensure our commitments are fulfilled and community service levels are sustained well into the future," Thorne said.

The city government's positive fiscal situation has been buoyed by "robust economic vitality" in the private sector across Pleasanton, according to the mayor.

Overall, Pleasanton has maintained a healthy 8% office vacancy rate, a data point demonstrating employment stability in town, he said.

He also called out several corporate highlights from 2019, starting with the grand-opening last May of the new Workday headquarters campus on Stoneridge Mall Road.

"This new LEED platinum building houses 2,200 of its 4,600 employees, affording many of them the ability to work and live in Pleasanton or use BART," he said. "You can step right out of the BART station and onto Workday property, which I think is really neat."

Thorne pointed to Pleasanton's growing life

sciences industry as well.

"Last year we helped to host the second annual Tri-Valley Life Sciences Summit to continue to support the game-changing biotech and medical device industry that we are building right here in Pleasanton," the mayor said.

### LIVING IN PLEASANTON

"While Pleasanton means home to us, others also acknowledge this special place that we've built," Thorne said when praising Pleasanton as a great place to live, work and play.

He called out Pleasanton being ranked highly last year by Money Inc. among the 20 best places to live in Northern California as well as Wallethub naming Pleasanton as the second-best small city in the state.

Effective leadership at the local governmental level is one main reason Pleasanton has achieved these honors and others, Thorne said. He pointed to support from his fellow City Council members, city commissioners and city employees, as well as the city's cooperative relationship with the Pleasanton Unified School District to accomplish shared goals — and he teased more city-PUSD collaborative projects will be on their way soon.

"There really is no place like Pleasanton, and many of us are fortunate to call this place home," Thorne said, adding: "But we know that housing in Pleasanton and in the surrounding Tri-Valley cities is certainly not getting any less expensive."

Pleasanton remains committed to doing its part locally to be part of the solution to the affordable housing availability problem that persists statewide, according to Thorne.

He cited two examples of city-supported projects that reached milestones in 2019:

**'The state of your city is very strong, and also the state of your economy is very, very strong.'**



MOVING PERCEPTIONS

Thorne delivers his 2020 speech to a packed audience inside the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel during a sold-out luncheon organized by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce.

Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch, with 31 apartment units for adults with special needs that broke ground in May; and the second phase of Kottinger Gardens senior housing, which became fully leased last summer.

But the City Council is also keeping a close eye on proposed housing solutions coming out of Sacramento, to ensure those proposals align with Pleasanton priorities, as well as Tri-Valley regional priorities.

At the forefront is maintaining local control in the face of many “one-size-fits-all” ideas being introduced in the State Legislature to impel housing development.

“I’ve used this analogy many times before. It’s like the government goes out and does a survey: ‘What shoe size does everybody where?’ And he comes back and says, ‘Well, the average shoe size is an 8-1/2, so everybody’s got to wear a size 8-1/2 shoe,’” Thorne said, adding:

“Well, Pleasanton is not San Francisco, it’s not Oakland and it’s not San Jose. And we don’t want to look like those, so we have to stay on top of this legislation that’s coming down from Sacramento.”

The mayor specifically spotlighted the recent defeat of Senate Bill 50, a proposal by San Francisco Democratic Sen. Scott Wiener to spur rapid housing development by relaxing standards for many residential projects and overriding local zoning regulations near transit stations and job-rich areas.

Pleasanton leaders advocated against SB 50, opposing provisions such as allowing higher-density developments near the ACE Train station in downtown and granting the right for any vacant residential lot or existing home to be converted into multi-unit housing (up to a four-plex).

“Senator (Steve) Glazer was one of those No votes, and he stood up for his constituents and went against his party’s recommendation, which I really think took a lot of guts and courage, particularly when he’s up for re-election,” Thorne said. “We are being heard, and we have some good people representing us.”

“By far the debate is not over,” the mayor added. “But at least we will continue to be at the table engaging in substantive dialogue on housing solutions appropriate and balanced for Pleasanton.”

As part of the housing conversation, the city is also focusing on support for people experiencing homelessness locally — which despite perception is in fact a reality in Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley, according to Thorne.

“By the way, there is a myth, I think, rampant out there that the people that are homeless here in Pleasanton come from some place else. No, a majority of them are our residents,” the mayor said. The city has worked to partner with



The State of the City has always been a popular feature story for the Pleasanton Weekly. Here is Thorne gracing previous Weekly covers, in posed photographs to align with themes from that year’s speech, such as (from left) Callippe Preserve Golf Course in 2014, the Veterans Memorial in 2018 and in downtown last year.

Tri-Valley public agencies and nonprofits to help homeless residents.

“Our police department has also created a ‘Homeless Outreach Team’ dedicated to working alongside with other city departments to help connect our homeless people with city departments and needed services and shelters,” he added.

### CITY PROGRAMS

Supporting the Pleasanton Police Department’s “community policing” approach to public safety remains a top priority for council members.

That includes familiar programs like Coffee with a Cop, National Night Out and one-on-one meetings with residents and businesses, but also new efforts to increase visibility on the north end of town — namely partnering with BART to open the new joint police services center last year in the parking garage at the West Dublin-Pleasanton station and across from Stoneridge Shopping Center.

Thorne also highlighted Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department enhancements such as the new ladder-tiller truck stationed at Fire Station No. 3 on Santa Rita Road.

“Pleasanton was ranked by Safewise as the 10th-safest city in California and it’s among the top 30 safest cities in the entire nation.

And that is something we all need to be very ‘Pleasanton Proud’ of,” the mayor said. “This would not be possible without the dedicated police and fire departments.”

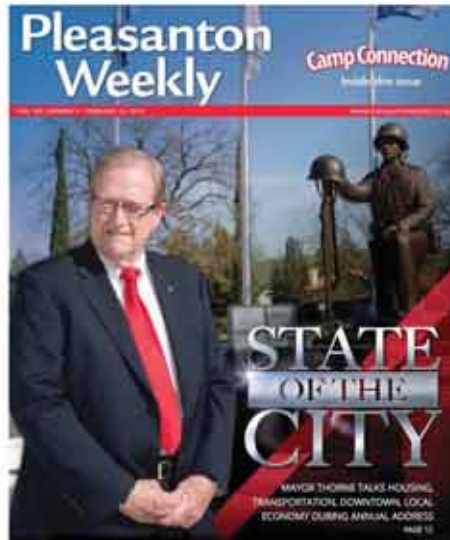
Another key project completed by the city in 2019 was adopting the new Downtown Specific Plan.

“The updated plan will serve as a long-range framework to guide future development and preserve the city’s downtown historic district, while also encouraging continued commercial advancement,” Thorne said.

Among the most popular destinations downtown is the Pleasanton Public Library, which the mayor praised for its new “Pop-Up” events that started last fall to bring library programming to other locations in town to increase access.

“Additionally, in following library policy trends nationally, and to further grow our connection with the community, the city has eliminated daily overdue library fines to remove barriers to information access and eliminate penalizing patrons for overdue materials,” Thorne added.

On parks improvements, the mayor



mentioned the new multi-generational swings at Hansen Park, renovations of the big slide at Mission Hills Parks and plans to develop the city’s first all-abilities playground.

Creating a positive community for youth was also the motivation behind the council’s decision last month to support a full ban on the sale of flavored tobacco, electronic smoking devices and related vaping paraphernalia in Pleasanton — a new policy driven significantly by the efforts of student advocates and the city’s Youth Commission, according to Thorne.

“With the participation of our city’s youth, we benefit by better decision-making when it comes to policies impacting youth and we are helping shape future leaders of this community and this country.”

### THINGS TO COME

Looking ahead to the rest of 2020, his final year in the mayor’s seat, Thorne said he is happy that the council recently reapproved the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone, “which means projects like the hotels, Costco, and area transportation improvements can now move forward.”

He is also anticipating the council will discuss comprehensive plans proposed for the redevelopment of the Stoneridge Shopping Center site, updates to the city’s Climate Action Plan and taking a closer look at the East Pleasanton area.

Thorne said he is hopeful to see the proposed Valley Link project — a commuter light-rail system to connect commuters from Livermore and the San Joaquin Valley to the eastern Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station — continue to gain momentum despite some initial funding setbacks in 2019.

“And before my term as mayor is over, I will have done my part to make the widening of Highway 84 from Pigeon Pass to I-680 a reality,” the mayor added.

The highway project, managed by the



FILE IMAGES

‘I ask each of you to find your passion ... find whatever motivates you to get engaged in the community.’

Alameda County Transportation Commission, is on track to see final designs approved in the next month or so, with right-of-way contracts to be signed by April and heavy construction to begin in spring 2021, according to Thorne.

“I am holding to the plans for a fall groundbreaking (in 2020),” he said, hoping that event will put a symbolic bow on his mayoral tenure in the weeks before he terms out in December, since Highway 84 expansion has been a top priority for him.

Winding down his more than 25 years of service to the city government, including the Parks and Recreation Commission, the City Council and now in his eighth year as mayor, Thorne ended his State of the City address with a call to fellow residents to get involved with community service.

“It has truly been an honor to serve a community with such tremendous character — one with 125 years of rich history and one comprised of residents and businesses and business people like all of you who are committed to making Pleasanton the very best city in which to live, work and play,” he said.

“Now as I stand before you in my last nine months as mayor, I ask each of you to find your passion, find your cause, find whatever motivates you to get engaged in the community,” Thorne added. “My hope is to be sitting where you are today, eager to hear your journey and how you made a difference in the city of Pleasanton. There’s no other place like it.” ■

*Editor’s note: Those who were unable to attend the chamber’s State of the City luncheon can watch Thorne’s speech on Tri-Valley Community Television stations TV29 and TV30 and via video on demand online. Visit [www.tv30.org](http://www.tv30.org) for details.*



MIKE SEDLAK

Thorne poses at the mayor’s desk at the Pleasanton Civic Center, an office he’ll occupy for another nine months before terming out.

## LPC PRESENTING 1930S CLASSIC 'STAGE DOOR'

Play features relationships, snappy dialogue as it explores world of theater



AARON BURG

The cast of "Stage Door" includes (back row) Mathew Glynn and Raymond Borden, and (front row) Caitlyn Acha, Erin Thrush, Liva Langer and Laura Lentz.



**By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

The New York theater and the Hollywood film industry are both explored in "Stage Door," which first opened in 1936 and is now being presented by the Las Positas College Department of Theater Arts.

The plot revolves around a group of young women who move to New York to study acting and find jobs in Hollywood, summing up show business on both the East and West coasts. While a valentine to the legitimate stage, the cheapening of talent in Hollywood comes under constant attack.

"As a fan of all things '30s and '40s, I have wanted to direct 'Stage Door' for a long time," director Dyan McBride said. "As a director

I am generally drawn to material featuring relationships, snappy dialogue and plays about women. This play is in the grand tradition of drawing room comedies from the early 20th century."

In the play, the courageous Terry Randall fights for a position in the theater, where she will ultimately conquer. One of the women gives up in despair, one gets married and one goes into pictures. Color and contrast are offered by Mattie, the maid; Frank, her husband; a few young men callers; a movie magnate; and young Keith Burgess, the playwright who "goes Hollywood."

"Stage Door" features an elaborate set, multiple characters and many doors, pointed out McBride. "Most theater companies can't afford to do a play of this type

any longer as the costs are just too great. So, enter Las Positas College," she said. "I knew we had the acting talent and I knew we had the right team of designers to give this gem life."

The creative team for the production also include producer: Titian Lish; technical director: John Kelly; costume design: Alexandria Volk; scenic design: Brian Watson; lighting design: Mike Rinaldi; and sound design: Karl Haller.

Student performers are Liva Langer, Caitlyn Acha, Erin Thrush, Laura Lentz, Lea Blevins, Charlotte Crespin, Sammantha Hixon, Lyle Sahagun, Brittney Bistline, Sierra Bolar, Sofia Barrera, Elizabeth Jensen, Alise Bradford, Jasmine Guerrero, Kate Holmes, Veronica Valenti, Micaelan Schreckengost, Saige Aronson, Gretchen Klees,

Colton Watson, Colin FitzMaurice, Matthew Glynn, Ramo Borden, William Burgess and Jonathan Weiss.

For more information and tickets, visit [laspositascollege.edu/theater/events](http://laspositascollege.edu/theater/events). ■

### Show business

What: 'Stage Door'  
Who: Las Positas College Department of Theater Arts  
When: March 6-15; 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays  
Where: LPC Mertes Center for the Arts, Main Stage Theater, Building 4000  
Tickets: \$20 general admission; \$10 students/staff; \$15 seniors/vets. Purchase at [laspositascollege.edu/theater/events](http://laspositascollege.edu/theater/events) or at the door when available. Parking is \$3.



AARON BURG

The Las Positas College production of "Stage Door" features Liva Langer (middle) and Caitlyn Acha (bottom).

### New Actors Conservatory

Las Positas College is launching its Actors Conservatory in the fall, a two-year certificate program to educate actors in a deep understanding of the craft of the theater. Students will complete the program with the experience necessary to continue in the performing arts.

"At the Actors Conservatory, we believe students should be able to explore their passion and dedication for theater in a meaningful, affordable and inspiring way," said Titian Lish, theater and performing arts coordinator.

Courses are led by faculty and professional experts in acting and directing on stage and in film, many of whom are members of the Actors Equity Association and the Screen Actors Guild.

"When people ask me how life after high school has been, I always tell them that becoming a part of the Las Positas theatre arts program was the best decision I've ever made," theater arts student

Sofia Barrera said. "I've learned so many invaluable lessons about how to cultivate my passion into a lifestyle and career."

The first year will include the foundational methodologies of acting through concentrated immersion into the program, with courses such as acting I and II, musical theater workshop, stage speech, movement and voice, with the opportunity to perform in a production as well.

During the second year, students will have the opportunity to perform in multiple productions to showcase their readiness to continue in the performing arts field. Performances are held in the Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, which has black box and main stage theaters, and an outdoor amphitheater.

The deadline to apply for the fall Actors Conservatory is Aug. 1; applications are available at [laspositascollege.edu/theater](http://laspositascollege.edu/theater). ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

# Museum on Main to highlight Uyghur culture

Family Day will include food, music, dances, circus acts

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

This spring, Museum on Main is celebrating the Uyghur culture, partnering with the local community to raise awareness of its existence here and its struggles against China.

Uyghurs are ethnically and culturally a Turkic people living in the heart of Asia, on the fabled ancient Silk Road, occupied by China since 1949. The Turkic-speaking Uyghurs, who have inhabited the area for almost 4,000 years, are under threat by China as it opposes its centuries-old traditions.

“We feel very fortunate to be a part of a diverse community here in Pleasanton, and each year we try to highlight that diversity with our Celebrate Community partnerships and programs,” said Sarah Schaefer, the museum’s director of education. “This year we are honored to be spotlighting the local Uyghur community and helping to raise awareness of the plight of the Uyghur communities in East Turkistan.”

The following free programs will be held:

- MoM’s Toddler Reading Time with Uyghur Nowruz, ushering in of the new year, a spring festival: 10 a.m. next Wednesday (March 11).
- Celebrate Community: Uyghur Nowruz Family Day: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 21. Uyghur music, dance, hair braiding, crafts, demos, crafts, calligraphy, cross

stitch, traditional games, and food from a Uyghur restaurant, plus amazing circus acts and Uyghur dances.

- “A Discussion with ... Uyghur scholar Dr. Erkin Sidick”: 5:30-7 p.m., April 25. The NASA scientist will discuss Uyghur culture and language and the current crisis in China. He has traveled the country and the world to raise awareness about the plight of the Uyghur community.



Left: Turghun Kashgari plays Uyghur Dutar music. Right: Aygul Memet, shown doing flame acrobatics on Canada’s “Got Talent,” will perform in Pleasanton.

The one-hour talk will be followed by a reception. Free but reservations required.

Today, it is estimated that more than 20 million Uyghurs live in East Turkistan and abroad. According to the Uyghur Congress, “Human rights

violations remain pervasive including persecution on cultural and religious grounds, arbitrary arrests and the silencing of peaceful dissent.”

Museum on Main is at 603 Main St. Call 462-2766 or visit [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org). ■



ROGERS MEDIA PHOTO

# Bernardi wins Lions speech contest

Homelessness topic brings more entrants than usual

Preston Bernardi of Amador Valley High School has won this year’s speech competition sponsored by the Amador Valley Lions Club, the first step to winning scholarships for college.

Bernardi was one of six competing in the annual California Club contest last month. Multiple District 4 California Lions Club International



Preston Bernardi

sponsors the program to emphasize public speaking as a critically important life skill.

The theme for this year’s speech was “Homelessness in California: What is the Solution?” This timely topic aroused the interest of Amador Valley students, resulting in the most entrants at this level in many

years.

Amador Valley Lions Club

president Chris Ben said he was impressed by the expression and creativity of the students from Amador Valley.

“I’m so proud that we were able to provide them with the opportunity to share their views and skill,” Ben said.

Bernardi will advance through the district levels toward the state level of competition for a chance to accrue scholarships worth \$10,000, Ben added. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Real Irish Comedy Fest is coming to the Firehouse Theater on March 14, complete with charming accents and insights into the Emerald Isle of today.

# Blast of blarney

Real Irish Comedy Fest coming to Firehouse

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Irish comedian Dave Nihill regaled the audience with his views on dating in America.

“The datin’ over here is mad,” he exclaimed in his charming Irish accent. “You guys love unnecessary activities. Like outdoors — very different here.

“In Ireland, you see a mountain, you tend to just leave it alone. Never do we feel the need to cover ourselves in Lululemon merchandise and Patagonia jackets and fill every available orifice with Clif Bars as if you might starve in that two-hour period, and drag your potential mate up to the top, all the way, only to point down and be, like ‘Look at the view down there,’ and you’re like, ‘I know, that’s where I should be.’”

Nihill, the first Irish winner of the prestigious San Francisco Comedy Competition, and four

others — Adam Burke, Niamh Marron, Martin Anglolo and Francis Cronin — will showcase their wit and storytelling talents at the Real Irish Comedy Fest at 7 p.m. next Saturday (March 14) at the Firehouse Arts Center.

The fest is touring eight cities to share insights about modern Ireland and combat stereotypes the comedians are finding in the States. They especially want to clear up one apparently common misconception: It is Paddy’s Day, not Patty’s Day.

The comedians, who hail from Dublin as well as counties Armagh and Sligo, hope to have more than Irish eyes smiling as they bring the laugh of the Irish to town.

Tickets are \$20-\$30. Go to [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), call 931-4848, or purchase at the theater box office, 4444 Railroad Ave. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# Speaker: ‘Bring Back the Pollinators’

Janet Sluis, well-known curator, horticulturist and program developer of Sunset Western Garden Collection, will speak on “Bringing Back the Pollinators — One Yard at a Time,” at the Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club meeting at 7 p.m. next Thursday (March 12) at Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Road. Visitors are welcome. Sluis will outline what individuals can do to address the declining insect and bird populations by selecting regionally appropriate plants, old and new, to support local pollinators. She also will identify easy care landscape solutions and give tips on tree selections and how to provide year-round habitat and food sources. To learn more about the club, visit [www.lavgc.org](http://www.lavgc.org).

# Chorale to 'Celebrate the Night'

Performance includes 'Moon River' and 'Moonlight Sonata'

Valley Concert Chorale will perform songs to "Celebrate the Night: Dreams, the Moon and the Stars" at 3 p.m. next Sunday (March 15) at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1385 S. Livermore Ave. in Livermore.

From the serious to the lighter side, the chorale will perform songs of American composers Randall Thompson, Stephen Foster and Daniel Elder, including "Three Nocturnes" and his version of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

The concert also will include every choral singer's favorites — Morten Lauridsen's beloved "Sure on this Shining Night" and Eric Whitacre's beautiful "Sleep" — as well as Disney's timeless "When You Wish upon a Star" and Henry Mancini's romantic "Moon River."

The concert will also feature the chorale's accompanist, concert pianist Daniel Glover, performing Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" to celebrate the composer's 250th birthday.

Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. High school and college students are \$10; children are free. Order tickets at [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org) or call 866-4003. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



Valley Concert Chorale, under the direction of John Emory Bush will perform songs to "Celebrate the Night: Dreams, the Moon and the Stars."

VCC

# Alameda County recognizes the arts

Board proclaims March as Art IS Education Month

BY RYAN J. DEGAN

In a public showing of support for the arts in the East Bay, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors has recognized March as Art IS Education Month and April as Arts, Culture and Creativity Month.

Presented by the supervisors during a special ceremony on Feb. 25, the proclamations spotlighted Art IS Education Month and Arts, Culture and Creativity Month as programs initiated by Alameda County in partnership with the Alameda County Library to promote a love and appreciation of arts and culture.

"I am pleased to recognize Art IS Education Month of March and Arts, Culture and Creativity Month of April," Board President Richard Valle said in a statement. "These initiatives encourage Alameda County community members of all ages to connect with each other, create solutions, and build community through the arts."

At the event, Valle was joined

by the other four members of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors; County Administrator Susan S. Muranishi; Melissa Wilk, county auditor-controller; Deb Sica, Alameda County's deputy librarian; Rachel Osajima, director of the Alameda County Arts Commission; county staff; and appointed members of the Alameda County Arts Commission.

Art IS Education was founded in 2000 by the county's Arts Commission and Office of Education, making this the 20th anniversary of the program.

County officials said that 2020 also marks the 10th anniversary that the county library system has joined in partnership with the Arts Commission to present more than 200 free arts events at 11 library locations across the county each year. Cultural events include a wide range of workshops, performances, concerts, movies, art contests, exhibitions and story time activities for all ages.

Art IS Education series events are

presented through support of the county's "New Beginnings" mentor and on-the-job training program for youth and the Alameda County Arts Commission's 100 Families program, which brings together families through making art.

All library events are listed at [www.aclibrary.org](http://www.aclibrary.org).

County officials say that Arts, Culture and Creativity Month recognizes the crucial role of arts, culture and creativity in the lives of everyone in California. Organized by Californians for the Arts, the event encourages community members and arts organizations throughout the State to come together in support of the arts.

During the month of March, the Arts Commission's "Create Alameda County" division and "Create California" program is encouraging community members across the state to sign a pledge in support of arts education online at [www.createca.net](http://www.createca.net). ■



ALAMEDA COUNTY

2020 marks the 20th anniversary of the Art IS Education program in Alameda County. The Board of Supervisors honored March as Art IS Education Month and April as Arts, Culture and Creativity Month with special proclamations last week.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## 'Laughing' with Second City

Chicago-based comedy group The Second City returns to the Bankhead Theater with "Laughing for All the Wrong Reasons" in a single performance at 8 p.m. March 20. This all-new, all-hilarious revue breaks all the comedy rules they made famous, guaranteed to make audience members rethink everything they thought they knew about what's funny. Tickets are \$20-\$65 for adults; \$20 for students under 21 and military. Call 373-6800, visit [lvpac.org](http://lvpac.org), or go to the theater box office, 2400 First St. in Livermore.

## Wollesen earns rank of Eagle Scout

Project installs playground fencing for children's safety

Davis William Wollesen has achieved Boy Scouting's highest rank, that of Eagle Scout.

Wollesen, 17, is a member of Boy Scout Troop 945, sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and has held numerous leadership positions. He started out in the Boy Scout program as a Tiger Cub in 2010, and he earned the Arrow of Light award in 2014.

Wollesen chose to do his Eagle project at Sunol Glen School, where



Davis Wollesen

he added fencing to an existing playground for young children after noticing a need to keep them safe. He installed a five-section fence with 10 posts to help divide smaller children from larger ones to prevent injuries. He also installed a brief opening in the middle so the children could enter and exit.

Wollesen, son of William and Brooke Wollesen, is currently a senior at Foothill High School. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Details emerge about fatal crash near Sunol

A San Jose man died from injuries sustained in a head-on collision on Highway 84 near Sunol late last month, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The Alameda County Coroner's Bureau on Tuesday identified the victim as 60-year-old Jeffrey Shumate.

The crash occurred at about 1:50 a.m. on Feb. 21 on Highway 84/Vallecitos Road approximately half a mile east of Little Valley Road in Sunol, according to CHP Officer Tyler Hahn.

Arriving officers found the aftermath of a head-on collision in which a silver Honda Civic, driven by Shumate, crossed over the double-yellow lines for unknown reasons and struck a silver Volkswagen Jetta driving in the opposite direction on the highway, Hahn said. Both drivers were seriously injured, and both cars had major damage.

Shumate was in critical condition when the CHP reached the scene. He was transported to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley, where he was pronounced dead just before 4 a.m. that day, according to Hahn.

The Jetta driver, a 20-year-old Turlock woman whose name was not released, sustained major injuries and was taken to San Jose Regional Medical Center, where she later stabilized, according to Hahn. A lone passenger in the Jetta sustained minor to moderate injuries and was transported to a hospital as well.

The cause of the collision is still under investigation, in part because officers were unable to speak with Shumate for a statement, but crossing the double-yellow lines for the unknown reason was the primary factor, according to Hahn.

#### In other news

- A federal judge last month ordered a further competency evaluation of up to 45 days in a U.S. prison facility for an undocumented Mexican citizen accused of illegally possessing the gun that killed Pleasanton native Kate Steinle on a San Francisco pier in 2015.

U.S. District Judge Vince Chhabria said on Feb. 19 that the evaluation could result in Jose Ines Garcia Zarate taking medication that would enable him to be competent to stand trial.

A recent three-hour evaluation by a psychiatrist concluded that Zarate is currently incompetent, but could be made able to undergo a trial if given medication, according to descriptions of that

evaluation given by Chhabria and Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric Cheng at a hearing in Chhabria's San Francisco courtroom.

Zarate faces federal charges of being an undocumented immigrant and an ex-felon in possession of the gun from which a ricocheting bullet struck and killed Steinle on Pier 14 on July 1, 2015.

He contends that the shooting was an accident, that he didn't know a wrapped object he found under his chair was a gun and that he threw it in the water as soon as it fired. He was acquitted of murder and manslaughter charges in San Francisco Superior Court in 2017.

Chhabria delayed Zarate's federal trial and ordered the recent three-hour evaluation after concluding that Zarate didn't seem to understand the federal charges.

A longer 30- to 45-day evaluation would provide an opportunity for Zarate to be prescribed medication and then be observed, Cheng said.

Defense attorney Erica Treeby and Cheng both agreed to the plan, which Chhabria ordered after briefly closing his courtroom for a private discussion with Zarate.

Lead defense attorney Tony Serra has previously said he believes Zarate is competent and wants him to be able to go to trial because the alternative could be being held in a prison medical facility for long-term treatment. Serra has said he expects an acquittal.

The judge said at the Feb. 19 hearing that Zarate was formerly given medication while being held at Alameda County's Glenn Dyer Jail in Oakland, but "it appears inexplicably that they stopped treating him" when Zarate was moved to the county's Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

Chhabria said it will be up to the medical evaluators to decide whether to prescribe medication for Zarate, but if the medication is prescribed and Zarate takes it, he may be able to go to trial.

Under federal law, the continued evaluation can last no more than 45 days. It would take place at a U.S. Bureau of Prisons facility in Seattle, Los Angeles or San Diego.

Chhabria also noted during the hearing that in an evaluation in a previous case a few years ago, Zarate was found to be competent to stand trial after being given medication.

In that case, a medical evaluator diagnosed Zarate with schizophrenia and concluded he was competent to stand trial because he was properly medicated at the time, Chhabria said in the document. ■

—Pleasanton Weekly staff and Bay City News Service

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Feb. 29

#### Theft

■ 11:40 a.m., 7800 block of Flagstone Drive; theft from auto

■ 1:31 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 3:12 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Domestic battery

■ 9:03 a.m. on First Street

### Feb. 28

#### Weapons violation

■ 4:31 a.m. on the 3700 block of Hopyard Road

#### Assault/battery

■ 6:15 a.m. on the 6800 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Burglary

■ 12:45 p.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Shoplifting

■ 5:07 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### DUI

■ 11:00 p.m. on the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

### Feb. 27

#### Theft

■ 8:39 a.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

#### Burglary

■ 10:25 a.m. on the 3400 block of Old Foothill Road

#### Drug violation

■ 4:11 p.m. at Foothill Road and Laurel Creek Way

■ 9:22 p.m. on the 3700 block of Stanley Boulevard

#### Warrant arrest

■ 10:09 p.m. on the 4200 block of First Street

### Feb. 26

#### Sex offenses

■ 10:48 a.m. on Santa Rita Road

#### Theft

■ 1:21 a.m. on the 600 block of Concord Place

■ 4:32 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### DUI

■ 2:52 a.m. on the 11300 block of Dublin Canyon Road

#### Assault/battery

■ 2:54 p.m. on the 4400 block of Hacienda Drive

#### Drug violation

■ 11:38 p.m. on the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive

### Feb. 25

#### Theft

■ 9:21 a.m. on the 2200 block of Oakland Avenue

#### Sex offenses

■ 2:00 p.m. on Santa Rita Road

### Feb. 24

#### Theft

■ 3:18 p.m., 1400 block of Calle Enrique; theft from auto

■ 4:11 p.m., 2600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 5:04 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Embezzlement

■ 4:05 p.m. on the 1600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Warrant arrest

■ 11:03 p.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive

### Feb. 23

#### Robbery

■ 7:01 a.m. on the 4200 block of Remillard Court

#### DUI

■ 3:37 p.m. at West Lagoon Road and Bernal Avenue

#### Theft

■ 8:41 a.m., 8100 block of Mountain View Drive; auto theft

■ 9:24 a.m., 5700 block of Johnson Drive; shoplifting

■ 6:18 p.m., 8000 block of Ensenada Drive; theft from auto

■ 6:58 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Warrant arrest

■ 8:37 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

### Feb. 22

#### DUI

■ 12:27 a.m. at Bernal and Pleasanton avenues

#### Drug violation

■ 2:33 a.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive

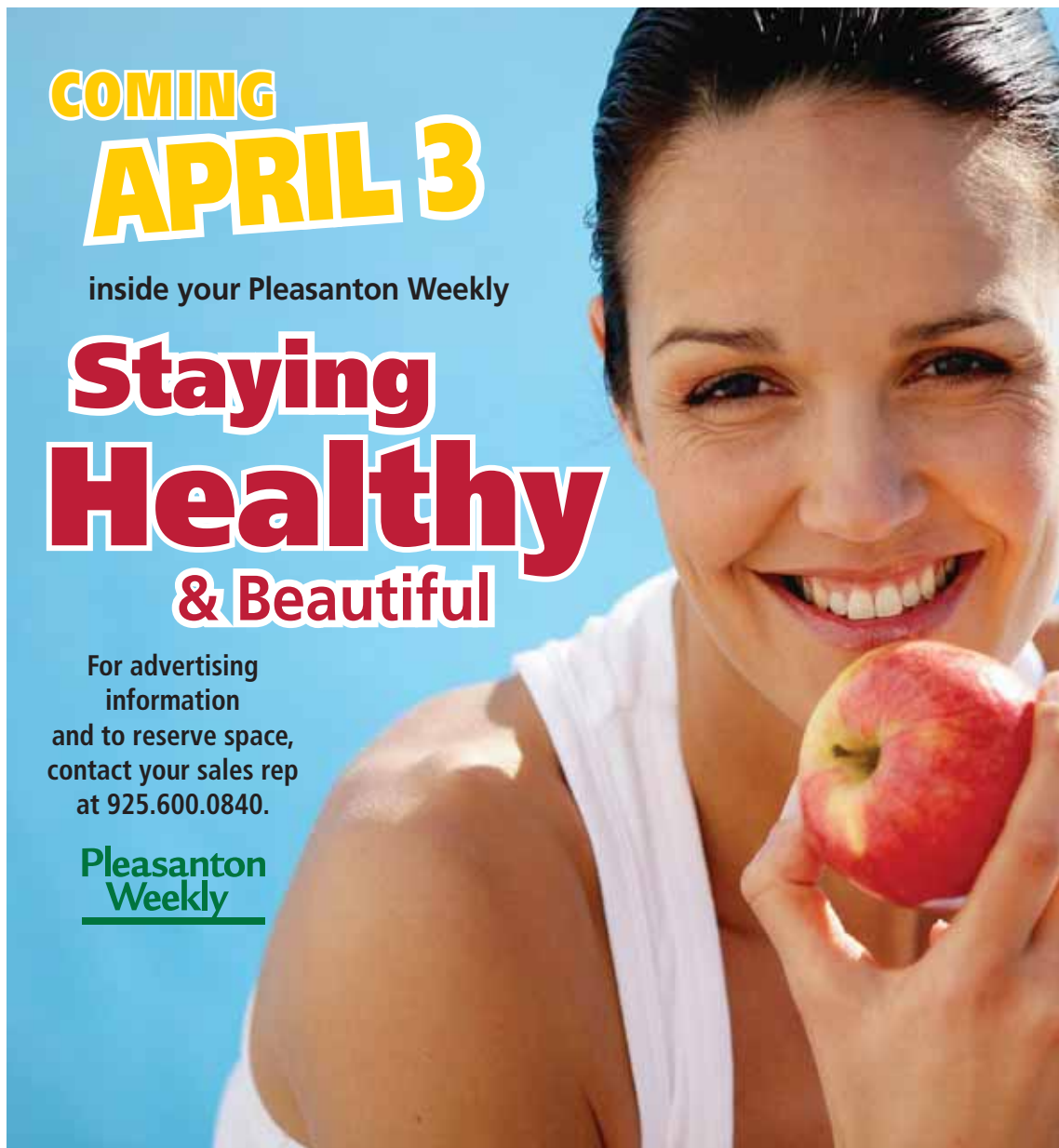
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# LETTERS

## Disappointing Tim Talk

Dear Editor,

I was deeply disappointed in the Pleasanton Weekly's decision to run Tim Hunt's column on Feb. 21 ("Paying the price to battle climate change").

Our collective impact on the environment is based on scientific fact and measurable data, not a theory with changeable assumptions.

It's healthy and productive to have a debate on the steps we should take to protect our planet for future generations. But it's irresponsible for a community publication to endorse a position that is objectively false.

—Joe Streng

## Climate action plans

In response to Tim Hunt's Feb. 21 column, I would like readers to understand the nature of the climate action plans mandated by AB 32

back in 2006. Cities throughout the state — like Dublin and Pleasanton — are implementing such plans.

In AB 32, the Legislature found that global warming poses a serious threat to the economic well-being of the state, to public health, to natural resources and the environment.

The adverse impacts of global warming to California include the exacerbation of air quality problems, a reduction in the quality and supply of water to the state from the Sierra snowpack, a rise in sea levels resulting in the displacement of thousands of coastal businesses and residences, damage to marine ecosystems and the natural environment and increased incidences of infectious diseases, asthma and other human health problems.

In other words, global warming will have detrimental effects on California's largest industries. Economic consequences of global warming were the impetus for the Legislature's bipartisan action.

AB 32 also provides financial investments to accelerate market transitions to cleaner technologies. An

important source of funding is the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, which comes from auction proceeds by the Air Resources Board's cap-and-trade program. AB 32 doesn't simply rely on fees to ratepayers to fund the transition to cleaner technologies.

Climate action plans include investment in renewable energy sources, large-scale reforestation projects and scalable methods of carbon capture. These plans by cities throughout the state represent significant public action and have the power to make a difference while there is still time.

—Catherine Brown

## Swalwell embarrasses

Eric Swalwell is not a serious credible representative for the 15th Congressional District and has become the laughing stock of the current Congress. The press often calls upon him for the most ridiculous comments. We in San Ramon find him to be an embarrassment.

—Carl Swanson

## Black history videos

Black history becomes most visible in February, with acknowledgments of the people, organizations and traditions that have made an impact on our country. I love learning about the amazing figures that have contributed so much, many unacknowledged in their lifetime.

Yet, for America — and African Americans in particular — Black history is fundamental to our story, a piece of our history that cannot be separated from the whole.

For all of us in education, it is our duty to make each student feel seen every day, every hour, every moment. We need to ensure that each student's uniqueness is visible and celebrated.

I carry the legacy of Black history with me, and my family's place in it is knowledge I treasure. While I can trace back the struggle of my family and the community that surrounded them, I can also trace the power of that community. That power and that struggle were instilled in me as I grew up.

The Alameda County Office of Education created a series of videos in honor of Black history that I am excited to share with you to carry past the end of this month. I hope you will take a moment to view the stories, and reflect on your history, our history and our future.

—L. Karen Monroe,  
Alameda County superintendent  
of schools

## RE: 'Paying the price...'

Mr. Hunt, you are old school, old-world, and plain and simply "old-aged" when it comes to understanding the science behind climate change. Most of all, you are not a scientist!

There are a few scientists who dispute the theories about it, not necessarily because they think it's untrue, but because they're seriously conservative and want exponential proof,

and not just projected estimates based on current truths. The great majority of scientists do understand that some things if left uncontrolled could become catastrophic if we wait that long for proof, and we could all be dead.

Yes, there have been warming trends and ice ages before, and those came about through hundreds of thousands of years in the making, not simply a few decades as this current warming trend has occurred due to our added atmospheric changes.

We've had less massive volcanoes than ever before as well so the theory that it's not man-made doesn't stand on reality either. Massive fires are a contributing cause, and those were not happening until the recent warming has occurred, again, in the last few decades, not over millenniums as was historically the case.

Older folks, and those stuck in their ways, don't want change, don't want to pay to make it right, and don't care about passing their bad acts on to future generations. Being an ostrich with their head in the sand is just simply easier and more comforting, like those with anxiety who just stay home. You seem to be of that persuasion.

—Karen Bilbrey Zengel

## Bubbles & Bacon review

My friend and I shelled out \$41.60 each to support our downtown for the second annual Bubbles and Bacon on Saturday, Feb. 22. As we walked along Main Street, we were among hundreds of our neighbors on a chilly sunny afternoon. Kudos to the volunteers at the Museum on Main who banded, fluted and mapped us — you all were the best and most efficient team!

We plotted our path from the north to south, from savory to sweet. I have been a professional chef for 25 years, and Ro has been a professional eater for many more. Our primary take-away: This was an opportunity for our local restaurants to shine, to show their creativity, and to present an attractive combo which might encourage us to dine at their establishments in the future.

Some rose to the occasion, others failed. The cardinal rules are:

1. Serve what you advertise.
2. Never run out until the very end. Forty-five minutes with partial offerings is not acceptable.

Two places offered candy. Three places poured chintzy amounts of bubbly. Four left off major components of their published dishes. Kombucha? Nobody goes to a street fair for kombucha. Winners: Primrose Bakery and The Blue Agave. Fantastic!

We weren't sorry we attended — hello Toni from Pennsylvania — but the food itself was pretty disappointing, and certainly not worth \$40. Step up your game, downtown. You can be more creative than what you proved at this event. Better luck next year. I mean, better cheffing...

—Claudia Imatt

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Summer 2020

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7690 Quail Creek Cir. | Dublin | (925) 271-0015 | KidzKraftz.com

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## Stratford School

<http://stratfordschools.com/summer>

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**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!

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## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

### Amador girls' run in NCS soccer tournament ends in semifinals

Spring seasons underway with lacrosse, tennis and baseball

The Amador Valley girls soccer team's impressive 2019-20 season ended with a 2-0 loss to eventual champion Monte Vista in the North Coast Section semifinals on Feb. 26.

Amador had numerous scoring opportunities but were unable to convert. They gave up single goals in each half.

The Dons' defense concluded the season conceding only 12 goals and was anchored by UC Berkeley-bound Julia Gonsman and UC Davis-bound Bella Mayo.

The offense scored 50 goals on the campaign, led by juniors Kennedy Mayo with 12 and Noelle Marceno with 10.

Amador's seniors provided strong leadership all season: Gonsman, Bella Mayo, Kate Reedy (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo), Allie Jones and Sophia Griffen.

#### Boys lacrosse

The Dons played three games last week, with the season opener coming on Feb. 25 — a 13-6 win over Clayton Valley.

Goalie Jonny Wessel kept Amador in the game early on in the goal before the offense got going. The Dons were led on offense by Cal Ewanich (2 goals, 4 assists).

The JV team came out with a 21-7 win. Robert Sitter (3 goals, 3 assists) and Carson Fialho (4 goals, 2 assists), while Reed Shaw (2 goals, 2 assists) and Will Coultrip (3 goals, 1 assist) racked up points.

Next up for the Amador program was a matchup with Granada.

The varsity rolled to a 22-2 win, led by Jackson Hilton (5 goals, 2 assists), Colin Wallace (4 goals, 3 assists) and Ewanich (1 goal, 6 assists). Ryan Chiou, Timmy Gallagher and Kaleb Real combined to win 100% of the faceoffs.

The JV team also won 21-4 with Shaw scoring six goals. Fialho (3 goals, 4 assists) and Ryan Brace (3 goals, 4 assists) had big offensive games as well. Ross Brown led the defense with three forced turnovers.

Then last Saturday, the Dons traveled to Los Gatos and split their games.

The varsity lost 12-10 in a very physical game. Ewanich (2 goals, 5 assists) and Hilton (4 goals, assist) led the way on offense, while Chiou, Ewanich, Luke Jacobson and Mateo Castillo battled for multiple ground balls.

The JV team won 19-10. Fialho had seven goals and six assists, while Shaw had four goals and four assists. Goalie Alec Smith made 12 saves.

For crosstown Foothill, the Falcons varsity lacrosse team suffered a 5-3 loss to Dublin to open the season.

The Falcons also need to fund the purchase of helmets for all the new players. You can support their efforts by attending their fundraiser at Side-Track Bar + Grill on Monday (March 9) where you can enjoy a delicious meal while receiving excellent wait service supported by the players.

All tips will go to the Foothill Boys Lacrosse Program. Reservations can be made for the March 9 dinner fundraiser at [www.sidetrackeats.com](http://www.sidetrackeats.com), or if you are unable to attend and would like to support this local program email [laxfoothill@yahoo.com](mailto:laxfoothill@yahoo.com).

#### Foothill baseball

The Falcons opened their season with a 6-2 win over Bellarmine on Feb. 26 in San Jose.

Right-hander Josh Anderson started the game for the Falcons, going three innings on the mound and

earning the win. He also had two hits at the plate, including an RBI single in the second inning. Matt Ager, Kyle Bautista and Nathan Shinn finished the game in relief throwing four shut-out innings.

The Falcons had 10 hits including a three-run HR in the fourth inning. Grant Eggers also hit a double along with Justin Durlinger and Niko Mollat.

In the second game of the week, Tommy Scavone drove in five runs on three hits, including a two-run homer in the first inning, to lead the Falcons to a 23-2 win over Castro Valley.

Bryce Lombardi, Russell Crumrine, Jaden Cardera, Paul Priess, Ager and Durlinger each contributing RBIs in a nine-run, fifth inning.

Ben Hansen started the game on the mound, with Shinn, Cardera, Sam Milera and Vinny Galli closing it out.

#### Boys tennis

The Dons rolled to pair of wins over De La Salle and Livermore by a combined 18-0 final.

In the win over De La Salle, the singles were swept by Brett Miller, Vishal Muthuvel, Ben Deriquito, Bryan Park, David Alber and Nithilan Muruganandham. The teams of Robert Heeter/James Heeter, Samarth



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Josh Anderson pitched well for Foothill against Castro Valley last week.

Badyal/Idan Belau and Aditya Nair/Atul Nair all swept their matches, losing only six games combined.

Next up was Livermore in a match where the Dons dropped all of one game overall. Park, Alber, Muruganandham, Belau, David Qiu, and Sunny Mukherjee all made quick work of their opponents in singles play. In the lone doubles match, Badyal and Kunal Kadile swept their match. The other two doubles matches were by default.

For Foothill, the boys tennis team opened with a 7-0 defeat of non-conference opponent James Logan and followed that with an 8-1 victory

over Granada.

Foothill then pulled out a 5-4 win over Dougherty Valley. The Falcons prevailed in the No. 1 through No. 5 singles to secure the win. The deciding sets were Adam Linette's and Ian Dong's singles matches at No. 1 and 5. Ani Pouri, Christopher Lee, Jivan Krishna also won their singles matches. ■

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



HOPE HOSPICE

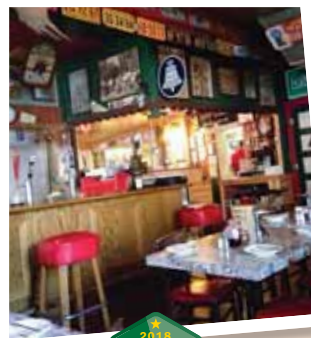
### Castlettes contribute to Hope Hospice

Members of the Castlettes, Castlewood Country Club's all-female nine-hole golf group, presented a ceremonial donation check for \$5,100 to Hope Hospice at the nonprofit's headquarters in Dublin last month. The funds came from the Castlettes' annual holiday luncheon that benefits several local organizations, Hope Hospice among them. The fundraising event, held in December and organized by Vicki Brown, was held this year in honor of Bob Glynn, Harry Sheppard and Sharon DeSousa; Hope compassionately cared for Glynn and Sheppard during this past year.

## Marketplace

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

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## Religion

**MARCH RELIGION CHAT** The topic: Most faiths tell us to be kind to the stranger. How does your faith respond to the “other”? The speaker will be Nan Obsorn. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, March 11, 4:30-6:30 p.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton.

## Concerts

**VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE** Enjoy an afternoon of musical selections

about dreams, moon and the stars. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Sun., March 15, 3 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1385 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

**VILLAGE THEATRE - MCKENNA FAITH** Fresh off her “Love and Theft” tour, rising country singer and songwriter McKenna Faith is coming back to the stage at the Village Theatre. \$20 at the door and \$15 pre-sale. March 13, 7 p.m., Village Theatre, 233 Front St, Danville.

## Talks & Lectures

**WOMEN'S 'SUFFRAGE WARRIORS' TALK 2020** The year 2020 marks the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote. In honor of this milestone, professor Wendy Rouse will give a talk “Suffrage Warriors: The (Extra) Ordinary Women Who Campaigned for the Vote”. Sunday, March 8. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. for the suffrage displays. Livermore Public Library,

1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Visit [livermoreindivisible.org](http://livermoreindivisible.org).

**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. \$9 per month.

**LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB** The monthly meeting will feature Janet Sluis, curator, horticulturist and program developer of Sunset Western Garden Collection. The presentation will be on Bringing Back the Pollinators-One Yard at a Time”. March 12, 7 p.m., Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton.

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** Linda Harms Okazaki will discuss the ports of entry, the records generated, and the laws which impacted who and how the immigrants arrived. Monday, March 16, 7-8:30 p.m., Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton.

## Fundraisers

**THE SOCIETY OF SINGLE PROFESSIONALS -TRI-VALLEY WINE TASTING FUNDRAISING PARTY** Single professionals of all ages are invited to meet new friends who appreciate fine wine and care about others. This is a fundraiser for The Seva Foundation in Berkeley, CA to restore sight to the blind. \$10 at the door includes 3 tastes of wine. Sunday, March 15, 4-6 p.m., Pat Paulsen Vineyards, 5143 Tesla Road, Livermore.

## Seniors

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

**MOVIE MADNESS** Every 2nd and 4th Monday movies are shown in the Main Hall featuring a large screen and theater-style sound, with movies that range from old classics

to the more recent favorites. 1:15 p.m., Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

**BOOKS & COFFEE** Join us as we get together to discuss books, have a cup of coffee and make new friends. Discover your inner bookworm with staff from the Pleasanton Library. Thursday, March 12, 10:15-11:15 a.m. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

**ANNUAL TRANSIT FAIR FOR SENIORS** The City of Pleasanton is hosting its annual Transit Fair, with several transit agencies participating in order to assist senior citizens with their transportation needs. The event is open to the public and will include door prizes. Tuesday, March 17 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

## Community Groups

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

**GRIEF WORKSHOPS** The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Join them on your healing journey at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, March 12 and 26. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. Call Eleanor at 846-8708. St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton.

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

## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

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 Inc., 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.)

Crow Canyon Dry Cleaners  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 568519  
The following person doing business as: Crow Canyon Cleaners, 7272 San Ramon Road, Dublin, CA 94568, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: JNG Group LLC, 7272 San Ramon Road, Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by JNG Group LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Gurpreet Sahni, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 13, 2020. Pleasanton Weekly, February 28, March 6, 13, 20, 2020.)

Western Rail Management Services Inc.  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 568590  
The following person doing business as: Western Rail Management Services Inc., 12315 Foothill Rd., Sunol, CA 94586, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Western Rail Management Services Inc., 12315 Foothill Rd., Sunol, CA 94586. This business is conducted by Western Rail Management Services Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 13, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Stephen D. Barkkari, President, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 28, March 6, 13, 20, 2020.)

Neighborhood Gardener  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 568847  
The following person doing business as: Neighborhood Gardener, 1440 Mowry Ave., Fremont, CA 94538, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Nabiullah Bakhtar Khurasani. This business is conducted by Nabiullah Bakhtar Khurasani, an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Nabiullah Bakhtar Khurasani, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 24, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 28, March 6, 13, 20, 2020.)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
File No. 562380  
The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on

the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME: TNT Mattress Outlet, 6200 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: August 15, 2019 UNDER FILE NO. 562380. REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): Justin Warren, 8561 Rhoda Place, Dublin, CA 94568; Dominic Garibaldi, 11 Redtail Court, Danville, CA 94526. THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY Justin Warren; Dominic Garibaldi, General Partners. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on February 18, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 28, March 6, 13, 20, 2020.)

Discover Chiropractic  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 568898  
The following person doing business as: Discover Chiropractic, 39284 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont, CA, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Hans Freericks Chiropractic Corporation, 39284 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont, CA. This business is conducted by Hans Freericks Chiropractic Corporation, a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 6, 2005. Signature of Registrant: Hans Freericks, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 25, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020.)

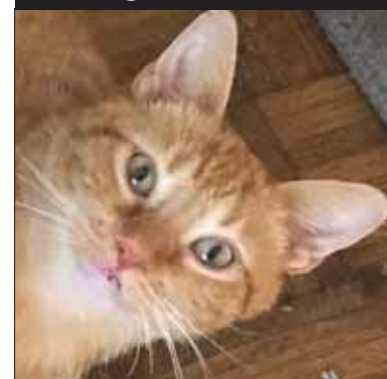
Tri-Valley Speech Therapy  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 568632  
The following person doing business as: Tri-Valley Speech Therapy, 7596 Driftwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Brenna Donovan, 7596 Driftwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Brenna Donovan, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Brenna Donovan, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 18, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, March 6, 13, 20, 27, 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.

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

## PET OF THE WEEK



ALLIE'S PALS

### Peyton's place

You just can't help but smile when you meet Peyton. She's always so happy to meet you, and that enthusiasm is infectious. This sweet girl was definitely struggling when she arrived at a local shelter. Whatever world she was living in had not been easy on her. Allie's Pals Cat Rescue volunteers have been so thrilled to see how quickly she bounced back with just a bit of time, attention, love and medical care. Call Terri at 487-7279.

# Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### DUBLIN

**3664 Rimini Ln \$890,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/2 BA  
Stephany Jenkins 989.3318

### LIVERMORE

**12200 Tesla Rd \$1,895,000**  
Sat/Sun 2-4 4 BD/2.5 BA  
Stacy Gilbert 487.4883

### PLEASANTON

**1053 Happy Valley Rd \$1,450,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 2 BD/2 BA  
Fabulous Properties 519.8226

**4587 Shawnee Way \$648,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 3 BD/1.5 BA  
Eva Deagen 699.2133

**3937 Alma Ct Call for price**  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4 4 BD/2 BA  
Cindy Gee 963.1984

**3208 Bolla Ct \$2,450,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/4 BA  
Fabulous Properties 519.8226

**4792 Canary Dr \$1,895,000**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 4 BD/2 BA  
Stacy Gilbert 487.4883

**3698 Fairlands Dr \$1,299,950**  
Sat/Sun 1-4 5 BD/3.5 BA  
Lisa Sterling-Sanchez 980.9265

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

## SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Dec. 30-Jan. 3)

**Total sales reported:** 11  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$610,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,800,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,011,454

Dublin (Dec. 30-Jan. 3)

**Total sales reported:** 11  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$525,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,568,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$915,545

Livermore (Dec. 30-Jan. 3)

**Total sales reported:** 13  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$585,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,290,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$742,692

San Ramon (Jan. 21-24)

**Total sales reported:** 7  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$829,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,406,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$900,000

Source: California REsource

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Dec. 30 to Jan. 3 for Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore, and Jan. 21-24 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

**278 Birch Creek Drive** K. & B. Stout to M. Gonzalez for \$675,000  
**3837 Brockton Drive** M. Pankhaniya to Y. & Y. Wang for \$610,000  
**2659 Calle Morelia** S. Park to S. & V. Balusamy for \$1,368,000  
**3259 Flemington Court** N. Baban to R. & C. Wang for \$966,000  
**915 Kolln Street** C. & S. Busch to T. & J. Atwater for \$1,158,000  
**8107 Moller Ranch Drive** F. Zhang to 42186 Palm Ave Developers LLC for \$1,145,000  
**456 Montori Court** H. Ghal to H. Wang for \$1,475,000  
**3443 Gravina Place** C. & M. Hodges to M. James for \$1,800,000  
**3862 Pimlico Drive** S. Pallerla to J. & S. Pal for \$705,000  
**7251 Valley Trails Drive** Novak Trust to A. & S. Jagariamudi for \$1,013,500  
**3782 Vine Street** B. & D. Woods to G. & M. Singaraj for \$851,000

### Dublin

**7778 Alto Way** S. & B. Morales to S. Polji for \$1,020,000  
**7631 Calle Verde Road** Dixon Living Trust to E. & J. Jiang for \$910,000  
**6002 Citra Court** Calatlantic Group Inc to P. Chiang for \$975,000  
**7633 Frederiksen Lane** J. Alexander to G. Ackerson for \$770,000  
**6055 Hillbrook Place** J. Sicat to M. & A. Gaikwad for \$969,000  
**8042 Iglesia Drive** C. & D. Radian to Y. & R. Yee for \$1,100,000  
**7881 Shannon Avenue** R. Tanner to S. & M. Sahu for \$723,000  
**1688 North Terracina Drive** Liu Family Trust to U. & L. Bhamidipati for \$1,568,000  
**4371 Brannigan Street** Wong Living Trust to B. & J. Kim for \$525,000  
**7198 Emerald Avenue** Y. Yu to K. & C. Ararsa for \$982,000

**4634 Sandyford Court** B. Manoharan to P. & S. Santhanam for \$765,000  
**2723 Palatino Court** Vista Trust to M. & V. Batchu for \$1,575,000

### Livermore

**6438 Almaden Way** S. & P. Shepler to S. & B. Muchhala for \$747,500  
**1737 Altamont Circle** M. Reidy to S. & D. Chandrasekaran for \$915,000  
**1483 Genoa Street** P. Bento to Jp Invs & Prop Mgmt Inc for \$712,000  
**765 Geraldine Street** B. Ashley to C. & G. Judie for \$730,000  
**173 Heligan Lane #1** T. & L. Mocci to R. & R. Barranti for \$585,000  
**619 Lorren Way** C. Chen to R. & C. Teslich for \$815,000  
**3862 Madeira Way** Light Trust to J. & R. Gonzalez for \$610,000  
**933 Verona Avenue** F. Lima to J. & S. Deras for \$776,000  
**2688 East Avenue** T. Toll to M. & J. Odom for \$749,000  
**813 South I Street** E. Frost to Z. & I. Sojkic for \$1,005,000  
**454 Persimmon Common #10** K. & M. Watson to D. & R. Allamsetty for \$700,000  
**1473 Rhododendron Drive** Duncan Trust to K. Dayton for \$667,000  
**1155 Riesling Circle** Bonlie Family Trust to E. Berry-Polash for \$1,290,000

### San Ramon

**10031 Albion Road** R. & D. Au to S. & G. Anantha for \$829,000  
**330 Jade Court** Y. & S. Yang to R. Durairaj for \$980,000  
**6150 Lakeview Circle** Lamb Living Trust to M. & M. Rolli for \$900,000  
**3336 Montevideo Drive** Community Equity Group Inc to B. & D. Roy for \$865,000  
**9 Ridgeview Court** E. & A. Moayedi to C. & M. Mccourt for \$1,406,000  
**9746 Tareyton Avenue** J. & R. Tabayoyong to C. Bryden for \$890,000  
**501 Wells Court** H. Shen to S. & W. Wei for \$1,370,000

Source: California REsource

## SPRING SELLING SEASON IS HERE THIS COULD BE THE TIME TO SELL!

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4 PM



**FABULOUS FRENCH COUNTRY ESTATE**

**3208 BOLLA COURT, RUBY HILL**  
4 BD, 4 BA, Formal study, 4,295 SF on .52 Acre  
Offered at \$2,450,000

COMING SOON



**NEWLY REFRESHED**

**2496 SPYGLASS HILLS ROAD, LIVERMORE**  
4 BD, 2.5 BA, 1,987 SF on .22 Acre, 3 car garage  
Call for Preview Showing

OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4 PM



**CUSTOM HOME OPPORTUNITY**

**1053 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD, PLEASANTON**  
2 BD, 2 BA, 1,456 on 10.47 Acre  
Offered at \$1,450,000

COMING SOON



**GRAND AND ELEGANT RUBY HILL**

**1548 GERMANO WAY, RUBY HILL**  
5 BD, 4 BA, 4,862 SF on .6 Acre  
Main floor guest suite and Study  
Swimming Pool & outdoor fireplace  
Call for Preview Showing



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## Real Estate Preview

Pleasanton's spotlight on local Real Estate

Coming inside your Pleasanton Weekly on  
**April 24, 2020**



The Spring Real Estate Preview section will include news and articles of interest about the local real estate market.

### Attention Real Estate Agents:

Showcase your current listings and introduce yourself to prospective clients by advertising inside Spring Real Estate Preview.

Contact your Sales Rep at 925-600-0840 for more information. Deadline April 16.

**Pleasanton Weekly**



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lindafutral.com  
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katgaskins.com  
DRE 01137199



**Marti Gilbert**  
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**Janice Habluetzel**  
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**Jo Ann Luisi**  
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Enjoy living in this beautiful Las Positas Gardens townhome with three bedrooms and one and a half bathrooms. Move-in condition. Light and bright. New interior paint, new carpet, new stainless steel appliances, updated bathrooms, and much more. Close to top-rated Schools, BART, 580, parks, public bus transportation, shopping and dining. LOW HOA.  
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**588 DOVECOTE LANE, #3**  
LIVERMORE, CA

Brand new on the market! This 3 bedroom townhome with loft (possible 4th bedroom/studio/office/gym) w/nearly 2,200 sf has 1 bedroom & full bath on main level. Upgraded cabinets, granite counters, hardwood floor, tankless water heater, contemporary fixtures, fireplace, fresh paint & more! Private driveway access to 2-car garage. Contact Bob at 925.487.8734 or Bob.Cilk@remax.net for details!  
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Some conditions apply.

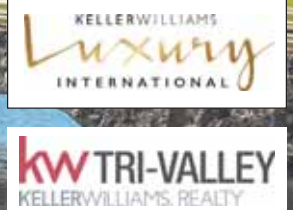


This is not intended as a solicitation if your property is currently listed with another broker. The above information, is based on data received from public sources or third parties and has not be independently verified by the broker, Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty. If important to readers, readers are advised to verify information to their own satisfaction.



*DeAnna Liz*  
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**NEW LISTING**



1990 Nicosia Court, Ruby Hill  
4BR, 3BA, 3252+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at \$1,789,000

**NEW LISTING**



2792 Spotorno Court, Ruby Hill  
4BR, 3.5BA, 4688+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at \$2,499,000

**NEW PRICE**



3242 Novara Way, Ruby Hill  
5BR, 5BA, 6997+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at \$3,449,888

**NEW LISTING IN CASTLEWOOD**



53 Golf Road, Pleasanton  
5BR, 3.5BA, 4970+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at \$1,995,000

**PENDING IN 9 DAYS**



3618 Dunsmuir Circle, Pleasanton  
4BR, 2.5BA, 2142+/- Sq. Ft.  
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**PENDING IN 8 DAYS**



1373 Buckhorn Creek Road, Livermore  
3BR, 2.5BA, 2578+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at \$1,195,000

**SOLD OFF MARKET**



2407 Belmont Drive, Livermore  
Represented Seller & Buyer  
\$1,765,000

**SOLD**



1089 Via Di Salerno, Ruby Hill  
5BR, 5.5BA, 6059+/- Sq. Ft.  
\$2,750,000

**COMING SOON**



3669 Manchester Street, Pleasanton  
4BR, 2.5BA, 2150+/- Sq. Ft.  
Offered at \$1,249,000



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Team Leader/Realtor



**Liz Venema**  
Team Leader/Realtor



**Kim Hunt**  
Team Manager/Realtor



**Lisa Desmond**  
Realtor



**Michelle Kroger**  
Realtor



**Alexis Venema**  
Realtor



**Amanda Davlin**  
Transaction Coordinator  
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