

Pleasanton Weekly

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POLICING IN PLEASANTON

Community listening session gives residents
on all sides a chance to voice their opinions

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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF
AWARD-WINNING JOURNALISM

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— A Weekend — On Main

PLEASANTON

4pm Fridays
through 8pm Sundays
June 19 - August 9

**As you enjoy Downtown safely,
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- * Face coverings **MUST** be worn when not dining
- * Maintain 6ft of physical distancing
- * Watch for nearby cyclists, motorists, and traffic at cross streets



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VALLEY VIEWS

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



Setting goals, tracking accomplishments

Here we are, heading into Week 545 of sheltering in place. How are you feeling? I mean emotionally. If you are running a fever, have no sense of taste, and your joints ache, that is another grim subject.

For most of us, life goes on, although ordinary life events have a sort of underground feeling to them. For instance, families with newborns can't freely welcome the usual visitors, and any baby shower has to be virtual.

Life events are a shadow of themselves. Birthdays mean dropping off a present and perhaps visiting in the front yard for a few minutes. Weddings are postponed and often downsized, or couples have friends join them on Zoom or elope. Even for funerals, attendance is limited and distancing is maintained.

We who live alone seem responsible only to ourselves since no one is going to drop in unexpectedly. Would anyone know if I ate an entire quart of ice cream at one sitting? Besides my digestive system — and my thighs? I clean house only for myself, although I admit a nagging vision of me keeling over, my daughter coming to investigate and saying, "Wow, when was the last time she vacuumed?"

We are living in an alternate universe, where Europeans reject our lucrative visits and school is not a given. Old people are learning to Zoom, and youngsters engage in creative play such as building an obstacle course in the backyard.

I have heard this is a good time to set ourselves goals so we can feel a sense of achievement. Well, I did get my taxes done. That is, I hired someone to do my taxes, but I am the one who gathered everything together and figured how to get it to the accountant without taking any health risks.

I also am tracking my accomplishments during this time, and they are nothing to brag about so I review them humbly. Does trimming my bangs count? Or mastering Instacart? How about staying sane? I did buy a SodaStream to carbonate water and figured out how to set it up and use it, but I

will admit it was not rocket science. Or even preschool science. Although the instructions do say not to let children use it.

My son, who lives in Berlin, thinks I should take this time to learn to make sauerkraut. "This is the perfect time to learn about fermentation," he said. Luckily, he has already mastered sauerkraut because things have opened up in Germany so he is getting out, wearing a mask of course.

Does reading a lot of books count as a goal? For a while I felt my brain could only handle cozy mysteries, kind of like when I go on trips that entail multiple airports and time zones. But as time passed, I resumed a variety of reading matter.

I just finished "The Splendid and the Vile" by Erik Larson, the story of Winston Churchill during his first year as prime minister when German bombs fell nightly on London and the future was scary and uncertain. This put my hardship of staying in place into perspective — at least I have no bombs falling on me. They, on the other hand, could hug and go out with friends even as the bombs fell.

I also am reading "War and Peace," albeit slowly. It is a long, satisfying read and a great escape as the French troops advance to Moscow — at least I am not on the battlefield fighting Napoleon — and the love entanglements grip my heart. Since I have no deadline to complete the tome, it is a joy to read Tolstoy's well-chosen words a bit each day. As he depicts the Russian national soul, I ponder the American equivalent.

I just heard that the angriest block of voters is grandmothers who miss seeing their grandchildren in person. Hear, hear! I have always touted resilience as the most important attribute to possess and nurture in our children. Now I am being tested on my own resilience. Maybe "anger" isn't the right word for what I am feeling, but I am sure am sighing a lot. ■

Editor's note: Dolores Fox Ciardelli is Tri-Valley Life editor for the Pleasanton Weekly. Her column, "Valley Views," appears in the paper on the second and fourth Fridays of the month.

About the Cover

Police Chief David Swing, who is in his second month with the Pleasanton Police Department, was among the city leaders hearing residents during Tuesday night's community listening session on policing. Photo by Ryan J. Degan. Cover design by Amy Levine.

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Our team is remodeling this adorable one level home with a gorgeous new kitchen, new flooring, paint and more. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths on a large pie shaped parcel. Priced in the low \$900,000's. Let us show you what we can do to help you get top dollar for your home too!

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COMING SOON!



Our team is working to completely remodel this 4 bedroom, 2 bath home so the owners can get top dollar. New quartz kitchen, bathrooms, flooring and paint. Fabulous location in a wonderful neighborhood, minutes to all highways, shopping and schools.

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3 bedroom, 2 bath, one level home with 1,436 sq ft. Granite kitchen and remodeled baths. Priced in the mid \$900,000's

COMPASS

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Check out our guide to local
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We've compiled this ever-evolving list of restaurants, cafes, breweries, wine shops and bakeries throughout the Bay Area that are providing takeout or delivery service.

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3 bed, 2 bath | 1,515 SF | \$815K
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JUST SOLD

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4419 Newman Place, Pleasanton
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4402 Del Valle Pkwy, Pleasanton
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Fully Upgraded At No Out-Of-Pocket Cost to Seller



SOLD

3897 Brockton Drive, Pleasanton
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SOLD

2985 Threecastles Way, Dublin
4 bed, 3 bath | 2,306 SF | \$1,190,000
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SOLD

8530 Zandol Court, Dublin
3 bed, 2 bath | 1,852 SF | \$930K
Multiple Offers, Off-Market



SOLD

148 Metairie Place, San Ramon
4 bed, 2.5 bath | 2,088 SF | \$1,148,000
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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND DOWNTOWN

How do you like to get your exercise when it is very hot outdoors?



Lauren Fairchild

Student/server

I like to go on bike rides, even in extreme heat, and especially when my sister is able to join me. And the moment we get home, we put on our swimsuits and jump into the pool.



Christian McElfresh

Student/bar back

I like to go rock climbing indoors. There is a particular indoor rock climbing venue in Danville that I really like. Unfortunately, it is closed right now. So I go running, even though it's really hot out.



Ashley McHone, with baby Malia

Project manager

I get up super-early in the morning to meet up with my girlfriends at Patelco Park, where we all work out together on the AstroTurf, before it gets too hot out. Socially distanced, of course.



Brody McHone, with baby Malia

Sales executive

I get up really early and go for a walk into town and back with my little daughter Malia, and our dog, Maui. It is a quiet and peaceful time for all of us, and a really great way to start a very hot day.



Greg Gowanloch

Sales director

My beautiful wife Dawn and I get up very early and take our dog, Bella, for a nice long walk through our neighborhood, and often into town and back.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Haven volunteers

Tri-Valley Haven is seeking “dedicated, enthusiastic volunteers” for training starting next month as sexual assault, crisis line or legal clinic advocates.

For more than 40 years, the local nonprofit agency has sheltered and counseled survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness in the Tri-Valley.

The 70-hour training course will be held every Tuesday and Thursday evening for 10 weeks starting Aug. 4. Volunteers who successfully complete training will be certified and required to volunteer for one shift every month for one year.

Volunteers must be 18 years or older; applications and advocacy descriptions are available at www.trivalleyhaven.org. Contact Fatima at 925-449-5845, ext. 2711, or fatima@trivalleyhaven.org.

LAVTA board chair

Livermore Vice Mayor Bob Woerner will serve as the Livermore-Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) board chairman for the upcoming year, after recently being unanimously elected to the post.

“The coming year is going to be a very challenging one as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated financial challenges our agency faces,” Woerner said. “However, I am confident that the LAVTA Board and staff will continue to deliver quality transit service to the residents of the Tri-Valley.”

Woerner, who has sat on the LAVTA board for two years, was chosen by the seven-member board after serving as its vice chairman for the past year.

State appointment

California State Treasurer Fiona Ma recently appointed former Pleasanton banker Nancee Robles as executive director of the California Pollution Control Financing Authority (CPCFA).

The CPCFA “provides low-cost innovative financing to California businesses, including issuing tax-exempt private activity bonds to qualified waste and recycling projects, and other projects to control pollution and improve water supply,” according to Ma.

Currently a resident of Sacramento, Robles worked as a senior credit supervisor and primary underwriting trainer for Fireside Bank for over 17 years, with many of those years spent at the Pleasanton office.

“We hit it out of the ballpark with Nancee. She is a highly regarded professional with superb public- and private-sector leadership experience. I am confident she will lead the CPCFA with skill, dedication and passion,” Ma said. ■

Mental health matters take center stage in city’s policing discussion

Praise for Pleasanton PD, calls for defunding department among other key perspectives at workshop

By JULIA BAUM

Nearly 100 residents weighed in about the overall performance and service of the Pleasanton Police Department at a virtual community listening session on Tuesday, following a recent spate of public discussions on policing practices that were triggered by the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis on Memorial Day.

The open-mic format gave residents the opportunity to directly address both the Pleasanton City Council and Police Chief David Swing, who joined the force just

two months ago, about issues like defunding the department, racial bias and profiling, developing civilian oversight and responding to service calls for mental health crises.

City leaders did not respond to any of the speakers; in total, 98 people shared their thoughts and experiences of interacting with Pleasanton police Tuesday evening.

A good number of participants expressed strong support for and praised the department for their work, but many others said that change is needed, particularly in the area of responding to calls

for people in a mental health crisis. Multiple speakers requested that police officers undergo more mental health training and urged the city to invest in additional resources for that cause.

John and Rose Bauer, whose adult son Jacob died after being restrained by Pleasanton police officers in 2018, said their concerns for Jacob’s safety in the month before his death were “minimized” as “small” and that “we were laughed at by one officer.”

“Another officer came to our home and stated that Jacob had it too easy, he needs to hit rock

bottom, we should start his descent by evicting him from our home,” John Bauer said. “When our family really needed the services of PPD, the response was always, ‘If he’s not a threat to himself or others, nothing we can do.’”

Rose Bauer said the department assured her and John that their officers were “so highly trained in de-escalation and no harm will come to Jacob.”

“Within a month, Jacob was dead as a result of an encounter with PPD. The officers failed to use

See **POLICING** on Page 10



Pleasanton’s Hailey Maggy, 9, and her prizewinning steer Johnny, named 2020 Supreme Champion Market Beef for Alameda County.

Johnny the steer takes top honors

Raising livestock is a family affair for this 9-year-old girl

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Hailey Maggy, although only 9, is experienced with livestock. A member of Abbie 4-H Club, she raised two steers this year: Dylan, the son of a cow she showed at age 2; and Johnny, who was named Supreme Champion Market Beef last week at the fair’s virtual Livestock Show and Auction.

“I have been in Abbie 4-H for three years,” Hailey said. “This is my first year showing market animals at the Alameda County Fair.”

Hailey lives with her mom Breanne, grandparents Suzette and Robert Maggy, and her great-grandmother on 7 acres in the rural northern part of Pleasanton and attends Tassajara Hills Elementary School.

“We just moved here a year and a half ago,” Breanne Maggy said. “We have 20 head of cattle right now.”

Breanne, who grew up in town in Pleasanton and graduated from Amador Valley High, started with Abbie 4-H when

she was Hailey’s age after she went horseback riding at a YMCA camp and became enamored with horses.

“It’s really cool because the animals she shows now back up to the first I ever showed in 2000,” Breanne said. “Honey, the one she showed when she was 2, is the daughter of the very first show cow I had, Belle.”

Hailey has been showing her

See **STEER** on Page 9

Supervisor candidate forum set for Aug. 17

Bacon, Haubert in runoff election for District 1 seat

By PLEASANTON WEEKLY STAFF

The two candidates for Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 1 on the November ballot, Dublin Mayor David Haubert and Fremont City Councilman Vinnie Bacon, will take part in an election forum in Livermore next month.

The Pleasanton Weekly is partnering with the Dublin, Fremont and Livermore chambers of commerce to present the forum on Aug. 17 from 6-8 p.m. Weekly publisher Gina Channell and editor Jeremy Walsh will moderate.

The forum will be recorded live and in-person at Amos Productions studios in Livermore, with physical-distancing protocols in place for all participants. No audience will be allowed in the room because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but citizen questions will be solicited beforehand.

The event will be livestreamed on the Facebook pages of the Weekly



Vinnie Bacon



David Haubert

See **FORUM** on Page 6

Latest Tri-Valley coronavirus update

Livermore becomes Tri-Valley epicenter; new outbreak at Santa Rita Jail; outdoor haircuts could be on horizon

By RYAN J. DEGAN

In the nearly five months since the novel coronavirus officially reached pandemic proportions, news and knowledge about the virus continue to evolve at a rapid rate.

While local leaders attempt to tackle recent infection spikes among residents in vulnerable living conditions at the Livermore Community Living Center and Santa Rita Jail, the COVID-19 case total continues to grow throughout the region, with Livermore becoming the most affected community in the Tri-Valley.

In an effort to stem the spread of the virus, local leaders have called for residents to continue to follow guidelines set by health officials, some of which have resulted in businesses temporarily needing to close or adapt their business model.

“As a reminder, if everyone continues to follow protocols, we will be able to continue having a life during this pandemic. If not, we go back to square one. Like Governor Newsom said, reopening is like a dimmer switch — we don’t want it all the way off or on, we need to find a balance,” Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley said in a statement over the weekend.

Here are some of the most recent updates on the coronavirus in the Tri-Valley that have occurred over the past couple of weeks:

Tri-Valley trouble spots

Coronavirus hot spots have recently developed in certain areas in the Tri-Valley, with Santa Rita Jail in Dublin and the Livermore Community Living Center — a military veteran care facility — both seeing

recent outbreaks of COVID-19 that have local leaders concerned.

The Livermore CLC, which is part of Palo Alto VA Health Care System, originally reported 18 confirmed cases and one death related to a coronavirus outbreak as of June 29, the cause of which Veterans Affairs Department officials are still investigating. The federal officials declined to provide updated COVID-19 data to the Weekly this week before Wednesday’s press deadline.

Over in Dublin, Santa Rita Jail — which is operated by the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office — has been hit particularly hard by the coronavirus over the past week, with the number of reported cases among the prison population increasing dramatically.

According to ACSO officials, the jail had 103 active cases of coronavirus among inmates, up from 46 cases on July 16 and six on July 15. That represents a more than 1,500% increase in total cases in less than a week.

Jail officials did not respond to requests for comment on the source of the recent outbreak.

ACSO officials added that those figures are in addition to a reported 46 inmates who have recovered from the virus, 17 who have been cite-released after testing positive and 10 who have recovered and since been released.

There are currently 10 active cases of COVID-19 among jail staff or contractors, including Deputy Oscar Rocha. Additionally, 34 jail staff or contractor employees have recovered after testing positive for the virus, according to ACSO.

State of the Tri-Valley

Like many communities throughout the country, reported coronavirus cases have spiked in the Tri-Valley in recent weeks, with the weekly average of cases continuing to rise as state and county health officials attempt to crack down on activities that precipitate its spread.

According to the Alameda County Public Health Department, as of Tuesday a total of 9,643 cases and 171 deaths have been documented in Alameda County. Livermore leads the Tri-Valley, accounting for 393 of those cases, followed by Pleasanton with 198 and Dublin with 104, as of Tuesday.

Breaking down total countywide case numbers by race/ethnicity, ACPHD reports that the majority of these cases have affected residents who identify as Latino, who make up 4,861 of the 9,643 total cases.

In neighboring Contra Costa County communities are likewise seeing spiking cases, with the seven-day average of newly reported cases reaching 123 as of Tuesday, according to Contra Costa Health Services. In total 6,202 cases and 129 deaths have been reported in Contra Costa as of Tuesday, with 142 cases in San Ramon, 110 in Danville and 60 in Alamo.

California restrictions

On the state level, Gov. Gavin Newsom has recently been enacting policies geared toward reducing further spread of the virus — policies that have also resulted in many businesses needing to close or adapt their operating practices.

The governor last week banned indoor fitness centers and personal care services — however those operations had not yet reopened in Alameda County — in addition to previous closures covering indoor shopping and dining, movie theaters, zoos and bars including outdoors.

On Tuesday, Newsom cleared the way for hair salons and barbershops to operate outdoors under a tent, canopy, or other sun shelter, just so long as no more than one side is closed, “allowing sufficient outdoor air movement,” according to state guidelines.

Alameda and Contra Costa counties remain on Newsom’s COVID-19 watch list, as of Tuesday, which places some additional restrictions on the region that aren’t felt in areas with lower infection rates.

Those additional restrictions include shutting down malls like Stoneridge Shopping Center, closing offices for non-critical sectors and halting worship services inside (outdoor worship services are allowed with social distancing).

Local leaders in Pleasanton — as well as Livermore and Danville — have done their best to take advantage of the state’s provision allowing for outdoor dining, and on weekends continue to close main downtown streets to vehicles, turning the area into an open space dining and shopping area for local businesses.

Schools going virtual

All four public school districts in the Tri-Valley are slated to exclusively offer remote learning for students when classes go back into session in the fall, a move that matches closely with state health guidelines.

In Pleasanton, when schools begin on Aug. 11, instruction will initially take place virtually, but district officials say efforts will be made to continuously evaluate the situation and adapt as needed.

“(We) will revisit the status of this decision monthly during our regularly scheduled board meetings and implement our plan (to reopen) when data suggests that it’s safe to do so,” Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent David Haglund said during the board’s online meeting on July 14. “This is a strange situation we find ourselves in and it’s never happened before, at least not in the last 100 years.”

The plan from Newsom and California State Superintendent of Schools Tony Thurmond also largely

focuses on distanced-based learning for school reopenings, with physical campus reopenings to be based on local health data concerning test positivity rate and the change in hospitalization rate among other criteria.

Public schools in counties on the state’s COVID-19 watch list, like Alameda and Contra Costa counties, must remain closed to students until their virus conditions improve.

“Learning is non-negotiable,” Newsom said in a statement.

“The virus will be with us for a year or more, and school districts must provide meaningful instruction in the midst of this pandemic. In California, health data will determine when a school can be physically open — and when it must close — but learning should never stop. Students, staff and parents all prefer in-classroom instruction, but only if it can be done safely,” he added.

Stay healthy, Pleasanton

As case numbers continue to rise, state and local leaders alike have implored residents to continue to act responsibly. That means wearing masks whenever leaving home and maintaining social distancing of at least six feet when around others.

“We all have a responsibility to slow the spread. It is imperative — and required — that Californians protect each other by wearing masks and practicing physical distancing when in public so we can fully reopen our economy,” Newsom said. “We all need to stand up, be leaders, show we care and get this done.”

The regional COVID-19 testing site at the Alameda County Fairgrounds is available to test residents of Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore through August.

The drive-thru testing site is open to residents 10 years old or older, regardless of symptoms — with no appointment necessary and no out-of-pocket expense — and runs Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Residents in need of testing are encouraged to drop by early, as the available supply allows for a maximum of 200 individual tests a day and the site often runs out. ■



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

LIVERMORE RESIDENTS: Share your talents with the community by volunteering on one of the City of Livermore’s working groups. We are accepting applications now through Friday, August 7, 2020.

Equity & Inclusion Working Group (up to 18 vacancies)

Join us in developing and implementing a framework through community outreach and engagement to address structural racism and its impact on people of color and to better embed equity and justice in the Livermore Community.

SAVE THE DATE! Interviews will be held the evening of August 11, 2020. For more information or to apply, please visit www.cityoflivermore.net/AB, call the City Clerk’s office at (925) 960-4200, or email us at cityclerk@cityoflivermore.net.

FORUM

Continued from Page 5

and each of the three chambers. A full recording of the forum will be available afterward as well.

Bacon and Haubert advanced to the Nov. 3 runoff after finishing one-two, respectively, in the four-candidate primary election in March trying to determine the successor for longtime Supervisor Scott Haggerty, who opted not to seek re-election after six straight terms.

The tightly bunched March 3 ballot saw first and fourth place separated by less than six percentage points. Supervisorial District 1 includes Dublin and Livermore in the Tri-Valley, as well as parts of Fremont and Sunol.

Bacon, an at-large councilman in Fremont, led the way in the primary with 27.22% of the vote, finishing 874 votes ahead of second-place Haubert but well short of the 50%-plus-one required to win the Board of Supervisors seat outright in March.

Haubert garnered 25.94% of the vote to finish 483 votes ahead of third place and earn a spot in the two-person runoff on the Nov. 3 ballot.

As the general election campaign season kicks into gear amid the pandemic, the Aug. 17 forum by the Weekly and the three chambers will represent the first districtwide debate of the fall for Haubert and Bacon.

Registration will be necessary to watch the livestream that night. Go

to PleasantonWeekly.com for details closer to the event.

Anyone who would like to propose a question for the District 1 candidates can email Channell at publisher@pleasantonweekly.com. The moderators will consolidate submitted questions with similar themes and will ask as many questions as time allows — but they won’t be able to ask every question.

The Weekly is also working to partner on candidate forums for other local elections this fall. Tentatively scheduled so far are Pleasanton city candidates Sept. 3, city of Dublin on Sept. 10, Dublin Unified School District on Sept. 17, Dublin San Ramon Services District on Sept. 17 and city of San Ramon on Sept. 24. Details to follow when confirmed. ■

More candidates emerge for Pleasanton school board

Two incumbents, two challengers enter race so far as filing deadline looms

By JULIA BAUM

Two incumbents and two newcomers are seeking election on the Pleasanton school board in the Nov. 3 election so far, the Weekly confirmed through Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office records and interviews with candidates as of Wednesday.

The candidacy nomination period for the Board of Trustees opened to residents 18 years and older living within the geographic boundaries of Pleasanton Unified School District last week.

Three board seats will appear on the fall ballot; those positions are currently filled by trustees Valerie Arkin, Steve Maher and Jamie Yee.



Steve Maher



Kelly Mokashi



Chong Wang



Jamie Yee

Maher and Yee have said they will run for re-election this fall, but Arkin, whose PUSD term expires at the end of the year, is running for the Pleasanton City Council instead in November. Newcomers Kelly Mokashi and Chong Wang, each local parents, are the only challengers to announce their intent to run

for the school board this fall.

Yee, who was first elected to the board in 2008, confirmed via email on Sunday that she was in the process of filing her candidacy for another term.

"I would love to continue to provide stability during these uncertain times," Yee said. "PUSD

needs board members with in-depth knowledge and experience; I would love to continue to provide governance during these uncertain times."

Maher, who has been on the board since winning his seat in 2016, has not officially filed his candidate papers yet either but said he plans to and would "love to continue" in his role.

"We're still on a path to stability; at this time with COVID going on, we certainly need stability," Maher said.

Challenger Wang formalized his run for trustee on July 15; the first-time candidate and high tech security consultant said his only

relationship with the district are his two children who attend Harvest Park Middle and Amador Valley High schools.

"I'm just an ordinary parent; that's it," Wang said. "My vision is to support PUSD in continuing to be a top school district by providing high-quality educational and extracurricular programs for all students in a healthy and safe learning environment."

Mokashi formally announced her candidacy more than a month ago and submitted the mandatory paperwork on July 13, the first day of filing. A mother of three children

See **SCHOOL BOARD** on Page 10

Livermore Reads Together selects John Lewis' 'March' trilogy for 2021 program

Series spotlights late leader's journey from youth to civil rights movement to Congress

By RIYA CHOPRA

City officials announced that the 15th annual Livermore Reads Together community literacy program will feature the "March" trilogy by late Congressman John Lewis, the American civil rights leader and longtime legislator who died last week.

"March" is a graphic novel trilogy co-created by Lewis (D-Ga.), who prior to serving in the U.S. House of Representatives for 33 years was one of the "Big Six" leaders who organized the 1963 March on Washington. He also served as chairman of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee from 1963-66, among many other accomplishments and distinctions.

Lewis died last Friday (July 17) at the age of 80 after battling pancreatic cancer. His death inspired national mourning and remembrance.

Tri-Valley Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) spoke on Twitter about his colleague's passing this weekend, saying, "John Lewis was a hero we didn't deserve — a champion for equality and freedom, a steadfast statesman, and one of my personal heroes — and I'm heartbroken at his passing."

"He lived a remarkable life and

inspired a generation of Americans to fight for a better tomorrow," Swalwell continued. "John was gravitas and dignity personified; whenever he spoke, even amid the noise of the House, the room would always become silent. May we honor his legacy by continuing to make 'good trouble' and remembering that no one is free until we are all free."

The Livermore Public Library announced the day before his death that Lewis' "March" trilogy was their selection for the 2021 Livermore Reads Together program.

Their choice was inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement that has gained prominence over the last few months. Librarian Paul Sevilla said, "We hope that the trilogy will not only educate readers, but also inspire them to act for racial justice."

Throughout Black History Month in February, the Livermore Public Library will be hosting events for youth and adults to explore the themes depicted in "March."

Lewis created the "March" trilogy, alongside co-writer Andrew Aydin and artist Nate Powell, to provide a "vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for

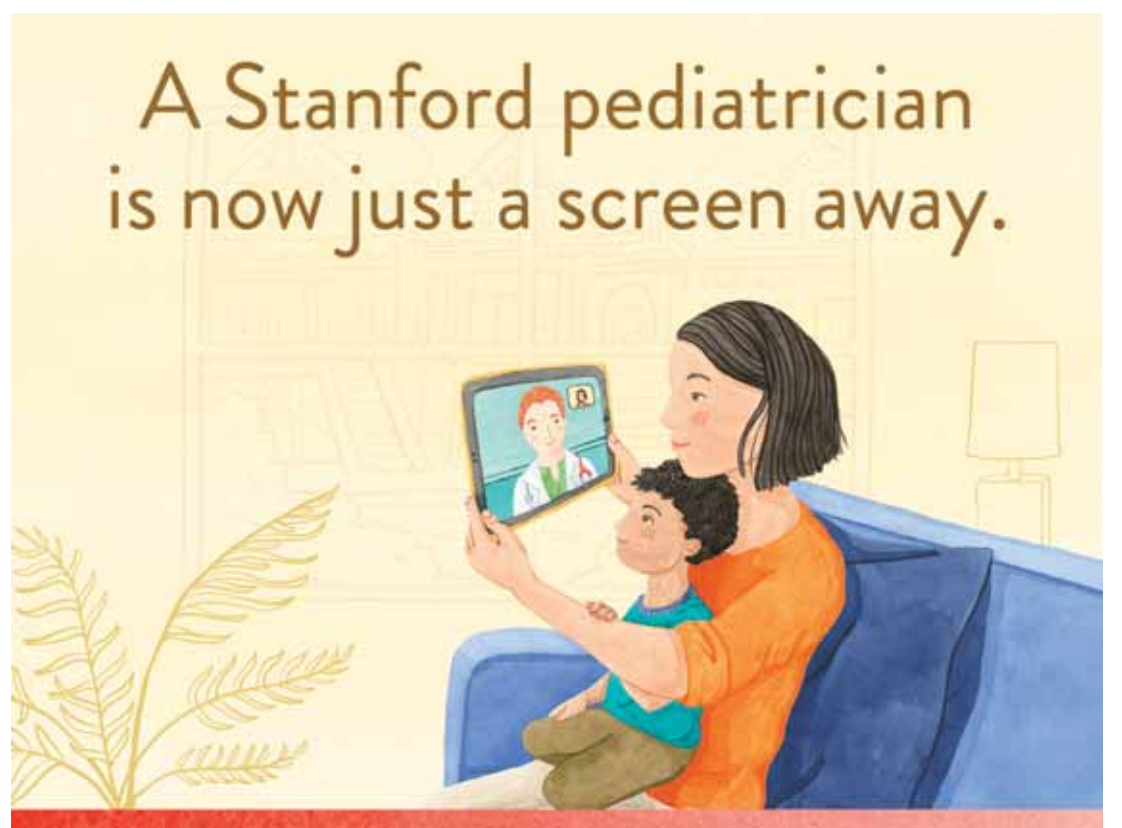
civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation," according to library officials.

"His commitment to justice and nonviolence has taken him from an Alabama sharecropper's farm to the halls of Congress, from

a segregated schoolroom to the 1963 March on Washington, and from receiving beatings from state troopers to receiving the Medal of Freedom from the first African American president," library officials said in a statement July 16.

The trilogy, which covers Lewis' journey from rural Alabama to

the House of Representatives, has received numerous accolades, including the distinction of being the first graphic novel to receive a Robert F. Kennedy Book Award. It is a Coretta Scott King Honor Book and an American Library Association Notable Book, among other recognitions. ■



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LIVERMORE LIBRARY

The "March" trilogy details the life of civil rights icon John Lewis.

DUSD shifts start of school year to full-time remote learning

Vote comes one day before Newsom says schools must stay closed in counties on watch list

By **RIYA CHOPRA**

The Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously last week to start the upcoming school year with full distance learning for at least six weeks.

The tentative agreement with the Dublin Teachers Association that was approved at the July 16 special board meeting called for a fully online opening to the year, modified the calendar for the 2020-21 school year and outlined safety protocols that will be in place when the district eventually shifts toward a hybrid on-campus model.

“Safety needs to come first for students, staff and teachers,” Trustee Gabi Blackman said, echoing the sentiments expressed by the entire board. “Our staff has done a lot of amazing work to make sure that our students’ education will continue and that they will be in class, even though it will be through a computer.”

The board’s decision came a day before Gov. Gavin Newsom unveiled new mandates that

require public school districts to remain physically closed until their county has been off of the state COVID-19 monitoring list for 14 consecutive days. Alameda County is currently on the state’s watch list.

Newsom’s plan also requires distance learning to be rigorous and involve daily live interaction with teachers and between students. DUSD acknowledged the need for highly structured and comprehensive online learning.

“We want to make sure that what we provide online is as robust as possible,” Acting Superintendent Dan Moirao said.

In order to do so, the approved calendar modifications moved staff-development days that were slated for later in the year to the first week of August and added two extra staff-development days. These days will focus on professional training to adapt to teaching through Canvas, an online learning platform that the district will adopt this year.

Diane Manske, interim assistant

superintendent of human resources, stated that the two extra staff-development days will use funds that the state government has granted to the district for the specific purpose of closing learning gaps that have emerged due to the pandemic.

The addition of extra staff-development days has pushed back the first day of school for students to Thursday, Aug. 13.

Moirao emphasized that the situation is in constant flux, noting that the six-week time period was chosen to ensure that staff is consistently re-evaluating the situation. He noted that the district’s long-term plan is to move from distance learning to a hybrid model, then to full on-campus attendance with restrictions like masks and social distancing, and then eventually to full on-campus attendance without restrictions.

In response to a question raised by Trustee Catherine Kuo about the criteria that will determine when the district can move forward in these next steps toward

a full reopening, Moirao replied that the criteria is currently being developed. Reopening plans will also take into consideration ongoing county and state guidance.

The tentative agreement with the teachers’ union that was approved will apply to the entire school year, Manske explained. That will ensure that even if schools need to reopen or close back down as the situation continues to fluctuate the transitions between in-person and remote learning will be smooth, she said.

Newsom’s plans touched on the need for these transition protocols as well, stating that once schools begin to offer in-person learning again, they must shut back down if more than 5% of the student population tests positive for COVID-19. If more than 25% of the schools in a district are closed, the rest of the district must do so as well.

Public comment on the DUSD item largely revolved around the details of what distance learning could look like, with parents

especially concerned about the effectiveness of online learning for special education programs, younger children and English language learners.

Trustee Megan Rouse echoed these concerns but assured the public that these details regarding the logistics of distance learning will be discussed at length at a subsequent regular board meeting this summer.

The board did assure the community that regardless of the format of school, students will be given formal grades and attendance will be taken daily.

Board President Dan Cherrier also raised an issue with current district policies that require doctor’s notes as proof of illness, suggesting that this should be revisited in light of a pandemic where officials are encouraging people to stay home if they have any reason to believe they may be ill. Staff stated that there will be time at later board meetings to revisit and potentially revise district health policies wherever necessary. ■

Self-driving cars hit the Tri-Valley pavement

LAVTA kicks off non-passenger testing on SAVs

By **JULIA BAUM**

Don’t be surprised to see an autonomous vehicle cruising the Tri-Valley streets again this summer; the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority recently started non-passenger testing on its shared autonomous vehicle (SAV) project with partnering mobility company Transdev.

Public transit riders would have a new connection option between the Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station and local job centers, once SAV testing is finished and the program is in full swing.

The autonomous vehicle is designed to travel at low speeds with a maximum speed of 13 mph; a safety operator will be on board at

all times. According to LAVTA, the SAV will operate in “mixed traffic” along a route that’s just under one mile long, and includes two stops and one traffic light.

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty, who sits on the LAVTA board and secured the project’s funding through a grant from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, said in a statement that he’s glad to see the pilot project progressing and thanked Transdev for their collaboration.

“I am confident we will soon be carrying passengers on this zero-emission service to employment, retail and residential destinations located near the Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station,” Haggerty said.

The SAV boasts 100% electric power and cutting-edge cameras, sensors and GPS capabilities, as well as an access ramp. Testing will take place this summer and passengers should be allowed to board the vehicle when its initial service starts by late August, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“We are excited to begin testing with LAVTA and bring this area’s vision for autonomous vehicles to life,” said Neal Hemenover, vice president of innovation for Transdev. “It’s important to note that the health and safety of our employees, passengers and communities is our highest priority and all EPA and CDC-approved social distancing and cleaning protocols

will be in place during testing, as well as when we start accepting passengers.”

In February, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ordered EasyMile — which manufactures the self-driving cars being used in the pilot project — to suspend passenger operations on all of their driverless vehicles in the U.S. after a rider was minorly injured on an SAV in another state. The suspension was lifted in May.

California vehicle code permits autonomous vehicles on public roads with a driver or operator on board while operating.

To learn more about the SAV pilot project, visit www.wheelsbus.com. ■



SAN RAMON ARTS FOUNDATION

The eagle is landing

San Ramon will soon be home to the largest eagle in California, when the city unveils a new bronze statue of a Golden Eagle next year. Commissioned by the city in 2018, the statue has been designed and actively being worked on by celebrated local artist Brian Keith. The San Ramon eagle sculpture is set to land at Rancho San Ramon Community Park in spring 2021. City officials say the statue will stretch 13 feet and be displayed poised in defense, wings outstretched and curved into a protective stance.

Chamber holding virtual trade show

Local companies showcase their products, services during online event

By **RIYA CHOPRA**

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce is hosting a virtual trade show promoting members of its “Circle of Influence” now through next Friday (July 31).

“A Virtual Tradeshow: Celebrating our Circle of Influence Members” is meant as “an opportunity for these members to showcase their business, products and services in a visually appealing, user-friendly online setting,” chamber officials said in a statement.

“Hosting the online trade show is one way we are trying to

remain relevant and present for the business community and general public during these times,” stated Susie Weiss, communications and events manager for the chamber.

The event is intended to raise community awareness of these businesses and drive interest to their websites and social media pages during the pandemic.

The Circle of Influence is a group of local companies that the chamber has deemed instrumental to growing Pleasanton’s economy and providing leadership in

the community.

“(Member companies) fulfill an important role in safeguarding Pleasanton’s future at the highest levels of chamber membership,” chamber officials said. “The Circle of Influence is a catalyst for the exchange of ideas and engaging key leaders regarding both obstacles and opportunities for local business growth and economic expansion.”

A list of businesses comprising the Circle of Influence, as well as details on how to view the online show, can be found at www.pleasanton.org. ■

STEER

Continued from Page 5

cattle all over the state the last nine months and even made a road trip to Oregon for the Klamath Jackpot, a steer and heifer show. When things went virtual, Hailey began to enter shows all over the country.

“In one virtual show I won showmanship,” she said.

When the 2020 Alameda County Fair was canceled in May due to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff members began working with local 4-H and FFA leaders on plans to continue the Livestock Show and

Auction. Exhibitors of large market animals — sheep, goats, pigs and steer — were able to upload pictures and videos of their animals to the fair website, and they were categorized by weight before virtual judging began and the auction was held July 12.

“The fair team is thrilled to offer the virtual auction to 4-H and FFA exhibitors,” Fair CEO Jerome Hoban said. “Agriculture is the foundation of county fairs across the nation, the virtual auction helps exhibitors complete their projects.”

More than 700 bidders registered, an increase of 40% over 2019.

Normally steers are sold by their weight, which runs from 1,000 to 1,300 pounds, at about \$4 per pound, Breanne explained. With the virtual auction, the animals were sold “by the lot,” or for a flat price.

“Johnny went for \$6,500,” she said, “and we also had \$1,750 in add-ons — if somebody just wants to support the project, they can do an add-on.”

The fair takes a small percentage to help run the auction, but most of the money goes back to the 4-H member who raised the animal.

Hailey paid \$1,500 for Johnny last fall; she is putting her profits

toward purchasing other animals and buying necessary equipment.

This year Hailey also raised a market goat she named Jesse James.

“I was able to be there when he was born, and even helped delivering some of his siblings,” Hailey said. “It was so exciting.”

Two other Abbie 4-H members won awards, for their hogs: Grace Olguin won Champion Yorkshire Market Hog, and Heath Cowan won Champion Berkshire Market Hog.

Saying goodbye to their livestock is a little difficult, Breanne said, but 4-H members go into

the project knowing they are raising an animal for market.

“They get to learn so much about responsibility, and where their food comes from, and what it takes to produce it,” she added. ■

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PG&E sues San Ramon Valley Fire over safety procedures

Local ordinance requires advanced notice for work; utility company argues rules fall under state authority

An ongoing dispute between PG&E and the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District over fire safety procedures has escalated, with PG&E filing a lawsuit seeking to overturn restrictions on its work procedures.

The lawsuit, which was due to be heard in Contra Costa County Superior Court on Thursday, asked the court to invalidate Ordinance 35, which prohibits PG&E and any other electric utility from performing non-emergency electrical work — or any electrical work during periods of high fire danger — within district boundaries without 48 hours' prior notice to the district.

The ordinance also prohibits PG&E from deploying a "safety and infrastructure team" without notice, and it allows the district to fine the utility and recover costs for overseeing the company's electrical utility work after each violation.

In its lawsuit, PG&E claims the ordinance exceeds the fire district's regulatory authority, infringing on jurisdiction that belongs to the California

Public Utilities Commission.

"These requirements interfere with PG&E's ability to respond flexibly to changing conditions in order to protect public safety," the company said in its complaint.

"The safety of our customers, employees, first-responders and the communities that we serve is PG&E's most important responsibility," added PG&E spokesman Matt Nauman.

The current dispute has its origins in a plan PG&E presented to San Ramon Valley Fire officials last year. The Wildfire Mitigation Plan for minimizing the risk of wildfires caused by PG&E equipment was approved by the CPUC. It provides for the deployment of PG&E safety and infrastructure teams to oversee the utility's electrical maintenance work.

The plan met strong opposition from the fire district, however, which was disinclined to let PG&E decide procedures for protecting district residents and their property from fire danger.

"This is especially true of a

company that has repeatedly shown that it cannot oversee or safely manage its own activities," Fire Chief Paige Meyer said. "They tell us that their 'hot' work is so dangerous that they need their own firefighter crews to stand by and monitor the work of their maintenance crews? In other words, PG&E intends to provide its own oversight? That's not going to happen in our district."

PG&E recently emerged from bankruptcy, having been saddled with billions of dollars in liabilities from numerous catastrophic wildfires, including a devastating fire that killed 85 in Northern California in 2018.

A Contra Costa County civil grand jury, in its 2020 report on wildfire preparedness, recommended that county cities and fire boards consider mechanisms such as the San Ramon Valley Fire ordinance "that enable the fire district or fire department to recover labor and equipment costs from PG&E for overseeing electrical utility work that presents a high fire risk."

In May, the district responded to the explosion of a power transformer that occurred while PG&E maintenance crews performed work on site, with two company safety and infrastructure teams on standby alert. Per its ordinance, the district fined the company \$1,000 for failing to provide advance notice of the deployments and billed the utility \$1,077 for costs incurred, demanding payment by July 31.

But the district insists the ordinance is not about money. At \$61 million, San Ramon Valley Fire maintains one of the most robust cash reserves among fire agencies in the Bay Area, equaling more than nine months of district operating expenditures.

"We are doing this to stand up for our citizens," Meyer said.

PG&E insists the ordinance will hinder the company's ability to take needed safety actions during times of high fire risk.

"The 48-hour notice requirement isn't feasible, especially related to a Public Safety Power Shutoff event,"

Nauman said. "We also need flexibility to move crews performing non-emergency work around depending on many other factors, including permitting, rights of way, access, etc."

Despite the lawsuit, Nauman expressed some hope that PG&E and the fire district might manage to negotiate a solution to the current impasse.

"We continue to have discussions with the District," he said, "and hope that this situation can be resolved as both PG&E and the District know the importance of public safety."

But fire district officials don't seem charitably disposed toward the utility.

"The company had the opportunity to review the ordinance before we voted on it but we never heard from them," district board President Don Parker said. "We just don't want their people setting up their fire department in our district, and say 'Trust us.' There's not a lot of trust left there." ■

—Nick Marnell/BCN Foundation

POLICING

Continued from Page 5

a single de-escalation tactic," Rose said.

Xiaofang Chen, co-founder and president of the Alan Hu Foundation, told the council that people experiencing mental illness are treated as criminals too often and "need emergency mental health medical expertise and compassion. They do not need more enforcement."

Chen — whose teenage son Alan died by suicide several years ago and had multiple police encounters resulting from his struggles with major depression, anxiety and borderline personality disorder — said the typical law enforcement response was degrading.

"Each time he was traumatized; in one of those crises, Alan was on the Golden Gate Bridge feeling extremely lonely and didn't know what to do," Chen said.

"He needed a mental health counselor's guidance and compassion. However, when the police officers found him, they had cuffed him, questioned him in a small room, threw him in the back of the police patrol car and brought him to the hospital."

"Alan felt that he was treated like a criminal and was greatly humiliated and traumatized. Later he said he'd rather die than go to the hospital again," she added.

Laura Danielson, who has experience as a school nurse, said also the response to calls at the local high schools where she worked was lackluster.

"The kids were treated to cops putting them in handcuffs and ambulances being called and them being taken away," Danielson said. "I hope that since we're talking about things we can do with the police department, that we can look at the resource officer position and not let the high schools

abdicate their responsibilities for treating mental health issues."

"Oftentimes kids were put in handcuffs before their parents even arrived at the school, and I can't imagine how traumatizing that is for those kids years and years later, and how that would make you feel about a police officer," she concluded.

Heather Truro said the community needs to "look at the amount of mental health issues being brought up" and also "become a leader by taking the initiative to fine-tune and get those '21st Century Policing' pieces in place that we don't have currently."

Truro also called for putting "a special attention on civilian oversight" and noted the anecdotes shared that evening. "We need to make sure that there is oversight on these policies. You can see there is public interest in it," Truro said. "We need to make sure that if there are complaints, that that can be raised to an issue. No one can police themselves, no industry, no nothing, and it's the same for police."

Making sure to not overlook "the magnitude of why we need proposals in the first place" should also be a priority, said Aryan Ohri.

Ohri stated that "Pleasanton is a great department" but warned officials that "they can become a bad department and there's nothing stopping them."

"We don't really have enough legal barriers," Ohri said. "They could become the next Minneapolis. It's about protecting our rights and our freedoms, and really the only thing preventing them from doing that is a promise."

"I don't want my life guaranteed by a promise; I want my life guaranteed by a law," he added.

Though many residents said they supported defunding the police, Go Green Initiative founder Jill Buck cautioned that doing so could endanger the quality of service that many have come to expect.

"One of the things that I'm noticing is, if we're going to keep the four-minute response time or better, defunding our police force would make it very difficult to keep the response time we all enjoy and expect," Buck said. "This level of staffing and this level of budget is very appropriate, and I hope we do not take any action to defund our police department."

Joshua Rodriguez said he appreciated the police presence during recent demonstrations, adding that he was "able to be in peace that I was going to be safe because police officers of Pleasanton were going to be watching over my home."

"I am a Hispanic. I have never been profiled, I have never been treated differently because of my skin color or how I look," Rodriguez said. "I have a great amount of respect for our police officers. I am so grateful that you dedicate your time and you risk your lives every single day for us. Please do not cut back on any budget."

Another meeting on use-of-force policies has been tentatively scheduled for Aug. 20 at 6:30 p.m. That event will focus on the "8 Can't Wait" topics such as chokeholds and de-escalation, among others. ■

SCHOOL BOARD

Continued from Page 7

currently enrolled in PUSD, Mokashi is an educational consultant with experience in teaching children and is also currently on the Pleasanton Youth Commission.

The candidacy nomination period for the Pleasanton school district runs through Aug. 7. If an eligible incumbent declines to run, the deadline will be extended by five days to Aug. 12. (That extension would occur if Arkin does not enter the PUSD race.)

General election information, and details on filing for election or on how to register to vote, are available at www.acvote.org. The general election will be held Nov. 3. ■

Editor's note: Look for individual profiles of each of the new PUSD candidates online at PleasantonWeekly.com. Mokashi was already profiled in June after she announced her candidacy.



RYAN J. DEGAN

Police Chief David Swing is wrapping up his second month at the helm of the Pleasanton Police Department.

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FOUR FOOTHILL GIRLS SHARE PASSION FOR THE ARTS

Teens help younger students find their voices in these trying times



Annika Gangopadhyay



Arya Krishna



Sandra Srinivasan



Samyukta Chittoor



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Late last year, four Foothill High freshmen realized they wanted to help younger students express themselves through writing and drawing.

"We decided we needed more artistic representation in our community so decided to start a nonprofit to engage others," said Annika Gangopadhyay.

'We decided we needed more artistic representation in our community so decided to start a nonprofit to engage others.'

She and three of her longtime friends — Arya Krishna, Samyukta Chittoor and Sandra Srinivasan — began the Pens and Paints Foundation to help them achieve their goals.

"We started in December of 2019 and spent the rest of January and up to March planning and contacting local venues. We had to put a lot of thought into our initial stages," Gangopadhyay

explained. "We are dedicated to providing art opportunities for local youth. These include contests, workshops and exhibitions that involve talents from both visual arts and writing disciplines."

Since the pandemic hit, their mission has expanded to help younger students express themselves about their new way of life.

"We transformed our plans to give students a time to reflect on their environments and help their voices be heard," Gangopadhyay said.

Recently they released a digital anthology by elementary and middle school students in Pleasanton, titled "Eunoia: Beautiful Thinking." It showcases artwork and poems, with some noted as winning entries.

"The word 'eunoia' originated from ancient Greece. It essentially means 'beautiful thinking,'" Gangopadhyay said. "We wanted to help the community take a moment to think about the beauty of life to combat our new circumstances."

The four also worked on origami projects with students at Donlon Elementary School, where they attended, and have been giving weekly art and writing workshops as part of the summer offerings by the local after-school program, Safari Kids.

"We attended Safari Kids when we were in middle school," Gangopadhyay said. "We always kept in touch with them because they made such a profound impact on our lives."

The summer program is conducted online using Zoom and Webex, and they give prompts to help the younger students express themselves by writing short stories and memoirs.

"Every single week the four of us go on these online platforms and have one-on-one conversations with these kids: How is their day going? How do they think about this unique situation?" Gangopadhyay said. "We give students time to share what they think about the current situation."

"All four of us think it is extremely important for them to be heard during these times when no one seems to be in control," she added. "We give them a creative outlet."

They also work on technique, she said, and keep it all friendly. This summer, they have been teaching the foundations of art and writing, including illustration, crafts, poetry and short stories.

"We are continuing these lessons until the fall," Gangopadhyay said, "and we've also opened an online journal, 'The Summer Journal,' for kids aged 13 and under to submit visual art and writing pieces they've been working on this summer."

Writing can be submitted through pensandpaints.wixsite.com/pensandpaints.

The anthology "Eunoia" can be viewed on this site, too.

Pens and Paints also joined with the Interact Club at Foothill High to create thank-you cards to send to essential workers, and more can still be submitted via the website.

The foundation provides art tips and inspirational pieces on Instagram, @pens.and.paints.foundation, and its Facebook page, Gangopadhyay said.

'We understand that times like these require collaboration and unity.'

"We hope we can continue to share our passion for the arts with our community," she noted. "We understand that times like these require collaboration and unity, and we strive to help our youth think creatively, no matter what skill level they start from." ■

Museum opens 'Water/Ways' exhibit

Three presentations to explore local water history, issues

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Pleasanton's Museum on Main is presenting its second virtual exhibit, "Water/Ways," which was developed by the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service.

The exhibit explores the importance of water, its impacts on climate and how it sculpts the landscape: Humans and animals rely on water for health, food and hygiene, and its availability has decided settlement and migration patterns. Control of water resources has been a central part of political and economic planning, but water also plays an important part in American culture as people are attracted to it as a source of peace and contemplation.

The Museum on Main, which is closed due to COVID-19, will be sharing the exhibit online. Each Tuesday, museum staff members will post a new installment of the "Water/Ways" virtual tour on YouTube and Facebook, and

Pleasanton water-related content will be posted every Wednesday and Saturday through Aug. 15 on the Museum on Main Facebook page.

The museum also will be hosting a series of water-related programs on its YouTube channel, open free to the public, which will be streamed live. Members of the community are invited to join these discussions and screenings to learn about the history of water in the valley as well as current water issues.

A Discussion with ... Museum on Main Curator Ken MacLennan — 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 29

Museum on Main curator Ken MacLennan will share his presentation, "Pleasanton Water, a Historical Perspective," about residents' relationship with water from the eve of the Spanish invasion into the 1980s.

He will explore how the changing use of land has led to changing



MUSEUM ON MAIN

The new Museum on Main exhibit, "Water/Ways," can be viewed on YouTube and Facebook since the building is currently closed.

demands on our water resources — not just greater consumption from a rising population in the Valley, but also reclamation, flood control and integration into a statewide water infrastructure.

A Discussion with ... Zone 7 Board President Olivia Sanwong — 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 12

Olivia Sanwong, board president of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation

District, also known as Zone 7 Water Agency, was first elected in 2018. She will speak about the agency and planning for droughts and floods, and provide an overview of water supply and demand in the Tri-Valley region.

Go Green Initiative Film Screening — 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 15

The Go Green Initiative, which provides schools with the tools, training and ongoing support

needed to create a "culture of conservation" and natural resource stewardship within the community, will screen its new film, "Hometown Water: The Lifeline of Pleasanton." The film will explore how the population interacts with water today and how water use in the past helped shape the community landscape.

For more information about Museum on Main, visit www.museumonmain.org or call 462-2766. ■

Dublin student launches podcast to address mental health

TeenTalks interviews youth about their experiences during school closures

BY RIYA CHOPRA

Ever since schools were shut down in mid-March as a result of the rapid spread of COVID-19, students in the Tri-Valley and across the nation and globe have been left in a state of uncertainty.

Yash Khaitan, a rising senior at Dublin High, launched the TeenTalks Podcast to address the impact that the pandemic has had on local high-schoolers and their mental health.

"I think COVID-19 has placed an invisible barrier between all students," Khaitan said. "It has forced students to stay out of contact with each other."

Khaitan described how the isolation of the prolonged shelter-in-place has adversely impacted students.

"At first, I thought it was a dream



Yash Khaitan

come true," he said of the announcement that schools would be shutting down. "I didn't need to get up early to go to school. I could take my classes and do my school assignments in bed. (However), I soon realized that I was waking up late and missing my classes. I started losing grip on my daily tasks."

"This podcast is my attempt to come together with the community, students and parents to talk about what will happen next in the world," he continued. "In each episode, I bring on one high school student to discuss the impacts that COVID-19 has had on their mental health and their personal, academic

and social life."

Khaitan's guests have included student body leaders and activists. They tend to be rising seniors; as such, college admissions is a frequent topic.

"(There is) so much on the student's shoulders, including standardized tests, college applications, extracurriculars," Khaitan said. He referenced the cancellation of standardized testing dates for months on end and the lack of stability in students' coursework during this time of sudden school closures.

Khaitan insists that this, plus the ever-changing admissions criteria for universities who are trying to grapple with the pandemic themselves, is only increasing the stress on local high-schoolers.

The TeenTalks Podcast can be found on Spotify. ■

Young authors win fair competition

Tri-Valley Writers pitch in monetary awards

Five young Alameda County authors, including one from Pleasanton, were winners in this year's Alameda County Fair competition, with monetary awards coming from Tri-Valley Writers.

Winners were as follows:

- Best Open Youth Creative Writing, ages 9-12: Rachel Hernandez for "Carla's New Job."
- Best Open Youth Creative Writing,

ages 13-17: Jeshua Wickham for "The American Revolution."

- Best Education Poem, grades K-5: Alyssa Liu for "Corona Virus Poem."
- Best Education Short Story, grades K-5: Siya Singh for "The Lemonade Escapade."
- Best Creative Writing, grades 6-8: Kelly Feng, of Pleasanton, for "Many Kind Hands."

Exhibit coordinator Kari Estabrook

thanked Tri-Valley Writers for the help.

"Especially in the absence of the traditional fair, you really stepped up to help make the virtual fair the best possible experience for everyone," Estabrook said.

For more information about the CWC Tri-Valley Branch, visit www.trivalleywriters.org. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



COURTESY CALIFORNIA 4-H FOUNDATION

Parent Rey Godoy helps 4-H members Aiden, Quill, Felix and Sydney as they sell baked goodies and drinks last year to benefit 4-H programs. This year, donations can be made online.

4-H Cake Booth goes virtual

Fans still have a chance to give to popular programs

This year, fans of 4-H have a chance to support its cake booth — without the calories.

Since the 2020 Alameda County Fair was canceled, so of course were sales in the exhibition hall kitchen manned by 4-H members to earn money for its programs. The cake booth is a popular draw for fair-goers keen to support the club or who just want to taste something sweet while resting out of the sun.

Now the 4-H Cake Booth has gone virtual with a goal of raising \$50,000 from those willing to donate without getting baked goodies in return. Organizers are hoping people who normally attend the fair will consider donating the cost of their ticket

and gas to the cause by visiting ucanr.edu/4hcakebooth.

Funds from this year's virtual 4-H Cake Booth will go toward continuing programs, including the Small Animal Field Day, the 4-H Horse Show, Fashion Revue, Film & Photo Festival, 4-H Camp, scholarships to leadership conferences, and an incentives and recognition program.

"As true 4-H members, we pledge our heads to clearer thinking, our hands to larger service, our hearts to greater loyalty, our health to better living for our club, our community, our country and our world," they explained in a press release. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

PPD: Burglar arrested in 'The Case of the Open Garage'

Pleasanton police arrested a man for allegedly burglarizing several homes, including three with open garage doors, earlier this month.

Police officials detailed the July 11 case, generally, in a post on its social media accounts, calling it "The Case of the Open Garage."

"Three burglaries in less than an hour and they all had something in common: an open garage," officials wrote on the Pleasanton Police Department's Facebook page. "We value the help of our community and thank you for being our extra eyes. (emoji) Please remember to secure your belongings and CLOSE your garage."

Teri Yan, public relations coordinator for PPD, provided more details on the case this week in a follow-up with the Weekly.

The situation unfolded in the evening hours of July 11, in which the same burglar stole items from three Pleasanton homes with the garage door open and a fourth property that was not garage-related, according to Yan. The incidents all occurred that day but not in the same neighborhood.

Police got help from one resident's security system, which recorded the burglar pulling a vehicle into the driveway, entering the open garage and leaving with a bicycle that he then loaded into the vehicle — which was later discovered to have been reported stolen out of San Jose.

"With the help of vigilant residents as well as their security footage, our officers apprehended the suspect during a short foot pursuit in an open field near Pleasanton Middle School," Yan said.

The 31-year-old man was arrested and booked into jail on suspicion of burglary, receiving stolen property, resisting arrest, theft and possessing a stolen vehicle.

The suspect's name is being withheld in accordance with Embarcadero Media's policy on identifying arrestees before prosecutors file formal charges.

In other news

- An Alameda County sheriff's lieutenant has been fired following an investigation into the death of a man arrested in Fremont in 2019 after his parents called police seeking care for him, a sheriff's spokesman confirmed last week.

Lt. Craig Cedergren no longer works for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office following an investigation into the death on June 15, 2019, of Christian Madrigal, sheriff's spokesman Sgt. J.D. Nelson said.

Civil rights attorney John Burris, who is representing the parents in a lawsuit against the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, said the decision to fire Cedergren was important.

"I'm glad to see it's taken place," Burris said.

Burris said Madrigal's parents called police on June 10 to get medical attention for their son, who was having a mental health crisis. His parents told police that Madrigal had recently been in a hospital to address his mental health and needed to return, Burris said.

Burris said police arrested him instead, for being under the influence of illegal drugs, and took him to Santa Rita Jail, where deputies ignored the request that he be seen by a mental health professional and taken to a mental health facility.

Cedergren allegedly had Madrigal chained to a cell door, in violation of the jail's internal policies, Burris said.

Madrigal was left unattended for at least 10 minutes and was found trying to hang himself with the chains used to restrain him, Burris said.

He was taken to a nearby hospital, which referred him to a trauma center because his internal injuries were so severe, and he died at the trauma center, according to Burris.

Burris initially filed a civil rights claim — required before a lawsuit is filed — against Fremont police and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. But he did not name Fremont police in the lawsuit.

Burris alleged that Fremont police officers beat, choked and placed Madrigal in a full-body restraint before Madrigal was taken to Santa Rita Jail.

Police spokeswoman Geneva Bosques said the city of Fremont maintains that its officers did not use excessive force when they arrested Madrigal.

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley's office did not respond last week when asked whether she will file criminal charges against Cedergren.

- Police K-9 Officer Arrack, who served with Dublin police for just over two years, died earlier this



Dublin police K-9 Officer Arrack, shown here with human handler Deputy Charles Krause.

month shortly after being diagnosed with aggressive cancer.

The 5-1/2-year-old Belgian Malinois worked for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, assigned to Dublin Police Services under the city contract, along with his human partner Deputy Charles Krause.

"Arrack served Alameda County and the community of Dublin with honor, pride and valor. His service was greatly appreciated and he will be dearly missed," Dublin police Capt. Nate Schmidt told the Weekly.

The K-9 unit of Krause and Arrack had been assigned to the department's overnight shift. The dog was specially trained in people tracking, searching for firearms and

suspect apprehensions, according to Schmidt.

The sudden cancer diagnosis came after Arrack was seen not acting like himself on July 12, Schmidt said. A long visit to an emergency veterinarian revealed cancerous tumors throughout the dog's body.

"A very tough decision had to be made and after several days of making Arrack as comfortable as possible he was put down on Thursday, July 16th," the captain said. "Members of DPS and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit gathered at Animal Control to give Arrack his final send-off." ■

—Jeremy Walsh and Bay City News Service

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

July 18

Theft

- 10:45 a.m., 5900 block of Hansen Drive; bicycle theft
- 10:20 p.m., 5700 block of Owens Drive; theft from structure

Sex offenses

- 12:37 p.m. on Bernal Avenue

Weapons violation

- 6:55 p.m. on the 5300 block of Owens Court

Drug violation

- 11:34 p.m. at West Las Positas Boulevard and Owens Drive

July 17

Fire

- 2:17 a.m. on the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane

Vandalism

- 11:59 a.m. at Stanley Boulevard and Valley Avenue
- 10:54 p.m. on the 3900 block of Mt. McKinley Court

Assault/battery

- 1:41 p.m. on the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue

Sex offenses

- 6:43 p.m. on Santa Rita Road

Drug violation

- 10:38 p.m. on the 5200 block of Hopyard Road

July 16

Shoplifting

- 12:23 a.m. on the 4400 block of Downing Court

Warrant arrest

- 12:46 p.m. at Hacienda and Owens drives

Vehicle tampering

- 11:51 a.m. on the 2300 block of Woodthrusch Way

July 15

Vandalism

- 9:23 a.m. on the 4500 block of Sutter Gate Avenue

- 10:09 a.m. on the 4600 block of Gate Way

Graffiti

- 11:04 a.m. at Old Foothill and Foothill roads

- 1:17 p.m. on the 3200 block of West Lagoon Road

Theft

- 12:33 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 6:31 p.m., 8100 block of Miller Ranch Drive; theft from auto

- 10:45 p.m., 800 block of Sunny Brook Way; theft from auto

Domestic battery

- 4:56 p.m. on Delucchi Drive

July 14

Vandalism

- 10:51 a.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

- 1:25 p.m. on the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

- 2:18 p.m. on the 4700 block of Saginaw Circle

- 11:18 p.m. on the 400 block of Bernal Avenue

Missing person report

- 10:53 a.m. on the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

DUI

- 6:22 p.m. on the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive

July 13

Drug violation

- 12:02 a.m. on the 4000 block of Santa Rita Road

Domestic battery

- 7:32 a.m. on Mohr Avenue

- 11:46 a.m. on East Gate Way

Burglary

- 8:37 a.m. on the 3300 block of Dennis Drive

Shoplifting

- 7:09 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Assault/battery

- 11:24 p.m. on the 1300 block of Ridgewood Road

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Consider running for local elected office

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Now is the time to act, if the thought has ever crossed your mind to run for office.

The success and credibility of public agencies — and by extension, the communities they serve — depend on well-informed and well-intentioned citizens holding their elected positions.

That's especially true at the local government level here in the Tri-Valley, where elected leaders make important decisions every meeting that have real, tangible impacts on our residents' lives.

But oftentimes these local offices have few candidates on the ballot, or in some cases only the same number of candidates as available seats or an incumbent goes unchallenged.

As we've said before this time of year, contested elections are invaluable. They enhance the public discourse around vital local issues and better engage and educate the electorate.

If you're a civic-minded resident who wants to give back to your

community, we urge you to seriously consider taking the plunge this fall. Put your name on the ballot. And then do your research, share your perspectives and engage the public before Nov. 3.

The best candidates share similar attributes: selflessness, knowledgeable, compassion, open-mindedness and a sincere desire to improve their community. They're in it for the right reasons; they seek the truth; they don't fear making tough decisions; and they listen to all stakeholders.

The Tri-Valley has a wealth of local elected offices on the ballot this fall, depending on where you live.

Multiple candidates are especially important in contests where an incumbent isn't running or is ineligible due to term limits.

All four directly elected mayor positions in the Tri-Valley will be fully up for grabs with the current mayors termed out. There are also cases of open seats like Pleasanton Unified School District, where Trustee Valerie Arkin is running

for City Council instead of re-election to PUSD, or Livermore City Council where Councilman Bob Coomber isn't running for health reasons.

Of course, there are contested seats open to incumbents and challengers for city or school positions in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville as well.

But it's not just the high-profile local offices on the ballot; special districts like Dublin San Ramon Services District, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Diablo Community Service District and others also need informed and motivated candidates to come forward.

Act quickly though, because the deadline fast approaches.

The candidacy nomination period for city, school and special district elections runs until 5 p.m. Aug. 7. The deadline will be extended by five days, to Aug. 12, for challengers if an eligible incumbent chooses not to run.

In general, the only requirements are that a candidate must be

a registered voter, at least 18 years of age and live within the geographic boundaries encompassing the open seat.

Contact the individual local agency for information on candidacy paperwork, or visit www.acvote.org for general election information.

We hope to see a diverse range of candidates for all local elections this fall.

We also look forward to seeing how this campaign season will play out — knowing full well it will be unlike any other in recent memory due to the COVID-19 crisis and shelter-in-place orders.

And for all adults across the board, make sure you're registered to vote for the Nov. 3 election. If you're uncomfortable with the prospect of voting in-person amid the pandemic, sign up for a vote-by-mail ballot.

Then learn about all of the candidates and ballot measures, and when the time comes (and we can't stress this enough!), actually vote on or before Election Day. ■

LETTERS

More work needed understanding racism

Dear Editor,

Tim Hunt's column on race in America (July 17, 2020) was not helpful in understanding the complex issues of race, and it most unfortunately rephrased some long-standing negative stereotypes of Black Americans.

Shelby Steele is quoted as identifying the No. 1 challenge to Blacks in America as the collapse of the Black family. Statistics followed about the dramatic decline of intact families ("with a mom and a dad") since the 1960s, specifically mentioning that "Today 75% of Black babies are born out of wedlock." Without further examination, statistics such as these have too long been used to support negative stereotypes of Black Americans.

Understanding the complexities behind the statistics requires examining the link between the skyrocketing rates of Black male incarcerations in America at the time that the Black family was "collapsing." Laws and policies for enforcement and sentencing specifically targeted minorities, as compared to enforcement of crimes committed by white Americans. Truth seekers are encouraged to watch

the documentary "13th."

Regarding racism in policing, Hunt writes, "It's sad to see what a few bad officers have done to a noble profession." Malcolm Gladwell's book "Talking to Strangers" illuminates how the intentions of police forces to lower violent crime has resulted in flawed training and techniques, wherein individual police officers make decisions about whether a person is "suspicious" based on how the officer believes the person should behave, and not based on illegal activity.

This is not a few bad officers, but an institution that requires change.

—Linda Taylor,
Pleasanton

Impressive Tim Talk column

I was impressed with Tim Hunt's article in last week's Pleasanton Weekly edition regarding "A black conservative's view on race in America."

I am familiar with Shelby Steele and Bob Woodson, and it was a breath of fresh air to read their views in the Pleasanton Weekly. Both of these great American civil rights leaders have so much good to share with all America. They have firsthand knowledge and experience on

what the root causes are with race relations in America.

The youth of today have swallowed the lies that the far-left antifa/marxists have spread on the race issue. These two factions are using African Americans and other minorities as their pawns and do not want to improve race relations but instead their goal is to destroy America.

We all could learn so much on what needs to be addressed from listening to and taking the lead from Shelby Steele and Bob Woodson. Thank you for sharing another view that has gone unheard.

—Dave Ott

We must expand vote-by-mail now — everywhere our flag flies

The impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on all of our lives is clear. Even as some states begin to recover or even reopen, many of us are properly concerned for the health and well-being of our families, friends and colleagues.

This crisis will impact our elections. It impacted elections already this year in places like Wisconsin and Georgia and this pandemic will jeopardize Americans' ability to vote in-person in the 2020 election.

While some states are taking steps to help people vote safely, Trump and his administration are going to great lengths to make mail-in voting seem like a voter fraud scheme — even though Trump himself votes by mail.

Congress needs to intervene and focus on what's right for the American people in every state: expanding vote-by-mail and other voting options.

To keep voters safe, we need our representatives in the House and Senate to provide states with emergency funding to ensure that every eligible American can safely cast their ballot through the mail, that they can register to vote online, and that any in-person polling places are safe for voters and poll workers.

I have complete confidence that all three members of Congress that represent us here in the 15th District already support vote-by-mail (thank you Eric Swalwell, Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris), but we need to encourage fellow citizens represented by other members of Congress to ask for support of vote-by-mail as well.

Nothing less than our democracy is at stake.

—Andrew A. Turnbull,
Sunol



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

High school fall athletics postponed due to COVID-19

Revised NCS schedule consolidates sports into two seasons later in school year

The uncertainty surrounding whether there would be high school athletics during the 2020-21 school year was cleared up Monday — at least from a scheduling standpoint — when state and local officials announced timelines that postpone fall sports until likely the second semester due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The California Interscholastic Federation released its schedule at 9 a.m. with the statement saying there would be no sports played this fall, with those sports moved back until January 2021, with practices starting in mid-December. Under the CIF

timeline, section football playoffs would be completed by April 10, with the state championships finishing by April 17.

This is of course if restrictions relating to the COVID-19 crisis are lifted.

For the North Coast Section, there will be two high school seasons, instead of the usual three (fall, winter and spring).

The revised “fall” season will consist of football, volleyball (boys and girls), water polo, cross-country and traditional competitive cheer.

The new “spring” season will consist of baseball, softball, basketball,

competitive cheer (stunt), golf (boys and girls), lacrosse (boys and girls), soccer (boys and girls), tennis (boys and girls), track and field (boys and girls), swimming (boys and girls) and wrestling (boys and girls).

The blending of some sports into the same season — volleyball and tennis come to mind — could create some coaching nightmares.

At Foothill High School, volleyball coach Dusty Collins has been the longtime coach of both the boys and the girls teams for the Falcons. He is one of the most successful coaches in the history of the East Bay Athletic League, but now is staring at the possibility of coaching only one of the teams because both will compete in the same season.

“I just now looked at it all,” Collins said when reached Monday. “Practice would be doable, but if it’s like basketball where the teams play on the same night at different locations, it wouldn’t be possible. It wouldn’t be in the best interests of the kids to try.”

CIF and NCS officials have given the date parameters, but it will still be up to the individual leagues to determine the schedules — locally, that means the East Bay Athletic League.

One other move by CIF announced on Monday relates to outside competition and states: “Due to the need to move sports to non-traditional times of the year, the CIF is temporarily

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suspending Bylaws 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, and 605 for all sports for the 2020-21 school year. Accordingly, students will be allowed to participate on an outside team at the same time they participate on their high school team. As per CIF Article 23, local schools, school districts, leagues, and Sections may develop a more restrictive rule than the CIF State Office with respect to the aforementioned Bylaws.”

A few hours later after the CIF announcement, NCS put out a calendar for the year with scheduled starting dates for practices.

The fall sports will begin practice Dec. 14, 2020.

Regarding football, the window from Dec. 25 to Jan. 2 is where teams will be allowed to play a scrimmage provided both schools have had at least 10 days of practice. The first date a regular season game can be played is Jan. 6. The league season will end March 20, with the NCS finals to be played April 9 or 10.

Spring sports have a variety of starting dates for practice.

Soccer has a first practice date of Feb. 22. Swimming, tennis and wrestling can begin on March 8. Baseball, softball, basketball, golf, lacrosse and tennis will start March 15.

There are going to be logistical issues in the spring as facilities are

going to be impacted at both Amador Valley and Foothill. With boys and girls tennis taking place in the same season, there will be adjustments for court space, with use of city facilities a possible solution.

Soccer, lacrosse and track will have to share use of the football field, with there being possible spill over to other school fields, or even city facilities. This could also impact youth sports in the town.

Collins, who was the Foothill athletic director for 10 years before stepping down this last year, said he knows the potential problems of scheduling.

“We were told we would be required to be creative,” Collins said. “The cities are going to have to come in and work together with the schools. They haven’t worked well together in the past, but they will have to if there is going to be any chance of this working.”

It is not going to be easy, but it can and will be worked out. It’s what the city needs, and it is what the kids need. Let us hope everyone works together for the benefit of the kids and we get this done. ■

Editor’s note: Dennis Miller is a contributing sports writer for the Pleasanton Weekly. To contact him about his “Pleasanton Preps” column, email acesmag@aol.com.

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Tri-Valley man elected to Hall of Fame

Krueger worked 40+ years at Round Hill in Alamo

By JEREMY WALSH

Alan “Al” Krueger, retired golf professional from Round Hill Country Club in Alamo, is being inducted into the Northern California Section of the PGA of America (NCPGA) Hall of Fame.

An Army veteran who worked at Round Hill for over 40 years before retiring in 2005, Krueger was one of five PGA professionals chosen for the 2020 Hall of Fame class, a list that includes former PGA Tour player and NBC Sports golf commentator Roger Maltbie.

“This year’s class, like those before them, is made up of leaders and stewards of the game with track records of success that span decades. Each of these inductees has represented the NCPGA with great class and professionalism, and we are very proud to add their names to the NCPGA Hall of Fame,” Len Dumas, executive director of the Northern California PGA, said in a statement announcing the inductees on July 14.

Krueger, 80, has been a member of the PGA of America for 51 years and amassed a successful amateur golf resume in addition to his long career as a local golf professional overseeing Round Hill.

A Minnesota native and the eighth

of 11 children in his family, Krueger joined the U.S. Army in 1963 after graduating from the University of Minnesota, where he played golf and was a trumpeter in the school’s marching band. During his military service, Krueger won the sixth Army Golf Championship and qualified for the All-Army Golf Team.

He joined Round Hill in 1965, first being hired as a golf shop assistant. He remained at the Alamo country club for the next four decades, much of which as its PGA golf professional.

“During his tenure, Krueger made significant impact on membership growth, while serving as a leader in junior golf development, among other successes,” NCPGA officials said.

Krueger served as a dedicated NCPGA volunteer and served on the Board of Directors, as well as leading the Seniors Board, during his professional career, officials said. He earned the NCPGA Golf Professional of the Year award in 1992 and the Bill Strausbaugh Award in 2005.

An accomplished golfer, Krueger won multiple NCPGA Senior Player of the Year awards and was a longtime member of Senior Cup team. He also owns the distinction of having made 16 holes-in-one as a golfer.



NCPGA

Al Krueger, from Round Hill Country Club in Alamo, was named to the 2020 class of the NCPGA Hall of Fame.

Joining Krueger in the 2020 Hall of Fame class are Maltbie, a five-time winner on the PGA Tour and national golf broadcaster from the San Jose area; Charlie Leider, owner of Pajaro Valley Golf Club in Salinas; Rick Rhoads, former head professional at San Francisco Golf Club; and Ken Towns, winner of multiple NCPGA tournaments and former golf professional at Tracy Country Club and Graeagle Golf Course in Blairsden.

“Our five inductees for 2020 have each placed a distinct footprint on the game in Northern California and in some cases nationally. They have established a benchmark that can and will inspire future PGA professionals, and we thank them for their passion and dedication to the game,” Dumas said. ■

Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Fundraiser

GROWL MEOW & WINE ONLINE Join in supporting the East Bay SPCA mission of helping dogs and cats in need in our community. There will be animal appearances and a lively silent auction. The event is Aug. 16 from 5-5:45 p.m. Register at rsvp@eastbayspca.org.

DRIVERS FOR SURVIVORS BLACK & WHITE BALL This virtual event includes a live and silent auction. The event is Aug. 14 at 6 p.m. Visit DFSBall.org for more details.

Food & Drink

WINE DOWN WEDNESDAY:

VIRTUAL WINE TASTING ON JULY 29 The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation is pairing up with Page Mill Winery for a virtual wine tasting night. Owner and winemaker Dane Stark will guide participants through a virtual tasting of a 2019 Angela's Cuvee (rosé) and a 2017 GPS. A foundation representative will deliver your two bottles of wine to your home prior to the event. Sign up by 11:59 p.m. on July 26. Zoom meeting details will be provided to all participants prior to the event. Visit <https://app.donorview.com/E4jWA>.

WINE DOWN WEDNESDAY: VIRTUAL WINE TASTING ON AUG. 5 The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation is pairing up with Wente Vineyards for a virtual wine tasting night. Wente Vineyards Wine Ambassador Kevin Gott will guide participants through a virtual tasting of a 2019 Eric's Chardonnay and a 2018 Winemakers Selection Artisan Red (blend). Sign up by 11:59 p.m. Aug. 2. Zoom meeting details will be provided to all participants prior to the event. Visit <https://app.donorview.com/w79pk>.

TASTE OUR TERROIR & LIVERMORE VALLEY WINE AUCTION The weekend of July 23-26, wineries across the region will collaborate to host two virtual seminars and an in-person wine tasting event. Register online at lwvf.org.

Family

POP-UP DRIVE-IN MOVIES The Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton hosts drive-in movies this summer, featuring movie classics, Friday and Saturday nights through Aug. 1, starting at dark, but not before 8:45 p.m. A parking fee of \$25 per vehicle will be charged in advance online. Visit AlamedaCountyFair.com.

GRAB-N-GO FOOD TRUCKS Friday and Saturday nights through Aug. 1, food trucks will set up on the fairgrounds to sell fair favorites. Food trucks will be open from 5-9 p.m. each night. A parking fee of \$10 per vehicle will be charged in advance online or at the gate. Food is sold separately. Visit AlamedaCountyFair.com.

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Darby here

Hi, I'm Darby. At 9 years old, don't let my age fool you; I'm a senior gal who is packed with energy. I love treats and am a great learner — give me something to do and best believe I'll do it! Then I'll happily curl up on the couch with you and shower you with cuddles and kisses. I prefer people to other dogs, so I'll need to be the only dog of the house. Could you be my best friend? Mention me on your application at eastbayspca.org. My adoption fee is waived.

Arts

PAINT IT FORWARD-VIRTUAL PAINTING EVENT Enjoy a night of learning to paint and raising funds for a great cause (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers). \$55 per person includes all painting supplies. Have supplies shipped (fee) or pick up. Event is Aug. 12 at 6 p.m. Register at <https://bit.ly/2VCqzU>.

Library

CURBSIDE LIBRARY PICKUP Place items on hold and select a time slot to pick up when ready. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 1-6

p.m. For more information, visit www.cityofpleasantonca.gov.

Seniors

PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER CLOSURE The Pleasanton Senior Center is currently closed due to COVID-19 restrictions. They continue to offer transportation (70+) for grocery and medical appointments, senior lunch curbside to-go meals (60+), Friendly Calls and a variety of virtual programs. Contact: 931-5365 for more information. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

TAKE US ALONG



Mount Kilimanjaro: Jeff and Joanne Lenigan pose with the Weekly at Amboseli Airstrip in Kenya with Mount Kilimanjaro in the background. The Lenigans traveled to Kenya in January with a team from the Oakland Zoo to visit the partner animal conservancy agencies and to take daily drives into the bush to view the wonderful wildlife.

With many vacations on hiatus this summer due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we invite you to pose with your Weekly at home or around town. Remember to send in your photograph to editor@pleasantonweekly.com by noon July 26 for consideration for our special "Take Us Along (home edition)."

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Pleasanton Weekly
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571276
The following person doing business as: Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Embarcadero Media, 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306. This business is conducted by Embarcadero Media, a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein February 15, 2009. Signature of Registrant: Peter Beller, CFO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 9, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 2020.)

Tri Valley Taxi
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571030
The following person doing business as: Tri Valley Taxi, 4900 Hopyard Road, #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Ali Naqi Akbari, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by Ali Naqi Akbari, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 1, 2013. Signature of Registrant: Ali Akbari, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 29, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2020.)

Flex Locksmith
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571330
The following person doing business as: Flex Locksmith, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Ali Naqi Akbari, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by Ali Naqi Akbari, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein June 20, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Ali Akbari, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 10, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2020.)

DeSoto Cab of Tri Valley
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571331
The following person doing business as: DeSoto Cab of Tri Valley; Yellow Cab; Pleasanton Taxi; Dublin Taxi; Livermore Taxi; Sunol Taxi, DeSoto Cab Dublin; DeSoto Cab Pleasanton; DeSoto Cab Livermore; DeSoto Cab, 4900 Hopyard Road, #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Ali Naqi Akbari, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by Ali Naqi Akbari, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 30, 2007. Signature of Registrant: Ali Naqi Akbari, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 10, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2020.)

Yellow Cab Company
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571332
The following person doing business as: Yellow Cab Company; Yellow Cab Pleasanton; Yellow Cab Dublin; Yellow Cab Livermore; Yellow Cab Co; Yellow Cab Sunol; Yellow Cab Co Dublin; Yellow Cab Co Pleasanton; Yellow Cab Co Livermore; Yellow Cab Co of Tri Valley, 4900 Hopyard Road, #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Ali Naqi Akbari, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by Ali Naqi Akbari, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 30, 2007. Signature of Registrant: Ali Naqi Akbari, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 10, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2020.)

DeSoto Access Transportation
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571377
The following person doing business as: DeSoto Access Transportation, 4900 Hopyard Road, #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: DeSoto Access Transportation LLC, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by DeSoto Access Transportation

LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 1, 2013. Signature of Registrant: Ali Akbari, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 13, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2020.)

Orange Cab Co
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571378
The following person doing business as: Orange Cab Co, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: American Cab & Orange Cab Co LLC, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by American Cab & Orange Cab Co LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 1, 2013. Signature of Registrant: Ali Akbari, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 13, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2020.)

Liberty Cab
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571379
The following person doing business as: Liberty Cab, 4900 Hopyard Road, #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: DeSoto Cab Company LLC, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by DeSoto Cab Company LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 1, 2013. Signature of Registrant: Ali Akbari, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 13, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2020.)

DeSoto Cab Company
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 571380
The following person doing business as: DeSoto Cab Company, 4900 Hopyard Road, #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: DeSoto Cab Company LLC, 367 Earhart Way, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by DeSoto Cab Company LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 1, 2013. Signature of Registrant: Ali Akbari, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 13, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 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.: HG20065646 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Sandra Marie Nayebi filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: Sandra Marie Nayebi to Sandra Marie Plunkett. 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: July 31, 2020, 11:00 a.m., Dept. 17 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located 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: July 10, 17, 24, 31, 2020. Judge Desautels, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

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

'It's the wave of the future': More home showings go virtual

Buyers, agent never have to enter a home for sale during pandemic

By EMMA HALL

As COVID-19 continues to impact every aspect of life, Tri-Valley real estate professionals have had to change how they show homes.

Technology now allows potential buyers to see homes and agents to market their listings without anyone ever having to enter the seller's home.

"Once real estate and real estate photographers were deemed essential business, we have offered professional photography, aerial drone and 3D WalkThrough Tours, and we have seen a dramatic increase in the use of 3D and video for agents to offer virtual open houses," said Tim Denbo, president/CEO of Virtual Tour Cafe based in Pleasanton.

Virtual showings are nothing new to the real estate world, but due to COVID-19, more Realtors and brokers are adopting it.

"While virtual tours have been used to help market listings for the past 20-plus years, the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting shelter-in-place around the country has given new rise to the use of virtual tours and other virtual marketing tools,"

Denbo said. "As a national do-it-yourself subscription service, we immediately saw an increase in inquiries from associations, brokers and agents using our online services around the country."

Locally, the Tri-Valley has seen a significant increase in virtual tours versus the traditional in-person tours.

"Real estate is 90% online these days and just a small percentage are seeing homes in-person now," said Susan Schall, a Pleasanton real estate agent. "We are going pending on homes after as little as one to five showings in many cases, versus having many through open houses."

According to Tina Hand, 2020 president of Bay East Association of Realtors, roughly 85% to 90% showings have become hybrid virtual showings, in which homeowners first spot a home through a virtual showing, make an appointment and physically visit a home. However, to follow U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, the home is sanitized before and after interested buyers visit.

"It's the wave of the future," Hand

said. "I see a hybrid where you'll have the virtual tours and then the buyers will actually go into the properties, walk the grounds and walk the house."

Virtual staging involves technology to place virtual furniture in a room for potential buyers as opposed to a blank space.

"Another related service to virtual tours to help real estate agents market their properties is virtual staging," Denbo added. "We have seen a dramatic increase in virtual staging as well."

Realtors in the Tri-Valley agree.

"We have been using virtual showing techniques in real estate for 15-plus years," said Steve Mohseni, another Pleasanton real estate agent. "However, innovation has been at work recently to enhance these methods by necessity, and I am sure virtual reality and augmented reality solutions are going to be an integral part of real estate marketing in the future."

Agents foresee sellers pushing for more virtual tour technology to slow the spread of any illness, COVID-19 related or not.

"What will further drive the virtual tour technology are the sellers who may not want to allow a public open house with 50 groups walking through their homes in one day and leaving their germs behind," Mohseni added. "Any prospective buyer will have to screen homes virtually first and only selected people will get to view the properties in-person."

Mohseni predicts that the public will become more health conscious after COVID-19. As a result, the further use of virtual showings will increase and virtual tour technology could advance, possibly retiring physical-only showings — meaning the future of real estate might become a virtual hybrid.

"I see the hybrid model as a great tool for the agents because it does benefit our sellers so well and give maximum exposure to the property," Hand added. "I believe, so I'm thankful (for technology), especially in this day and age. Who knows what's coming down the road?"

However, Denbo thinks there likely won't be a future with no physical home showings, believing that it's human nature for buyers to

want to visit their prospective new house in-person.

"I think the trend is more toward virtual, even though you'll never stop having open houses," he said. "But people will always want to visit the home."

If anything is for certain, the future of real estate will be using more virtual tours, even post COVID-19, according to Hand. The traditional open houses, where homes open up for viewers and agents to see freely, will not be coming back right away — or potentially at all.

Buyers and sellers are adapting to new ways to see homes too. In recent months the local market has seen an increase in inventory and homes sold with multiple offers.

"We have all learned new ways to do things, and real estate is no different," Denbo said. "Real estate agents, homeowners and buyers are learning that they can meet with their agent over a Zoom call and buyers can preview homes online using virtual tours, video and virtual reality to save time and be more efficient. I think things have changed for a long time, if not forever." ■



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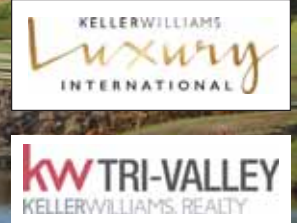
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Offered at \$2,499,000

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\$3,300,000

SOLD



1327 Hearst Drive, Pleasanton
Multiple Offers Over List Price
\$2,120,000

SOLD



523 Saint John Street, Pleasanton
2BR, 2.5BA, 1287+/- Sq. Ft.
\$730,000



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Team Leader/Realtor



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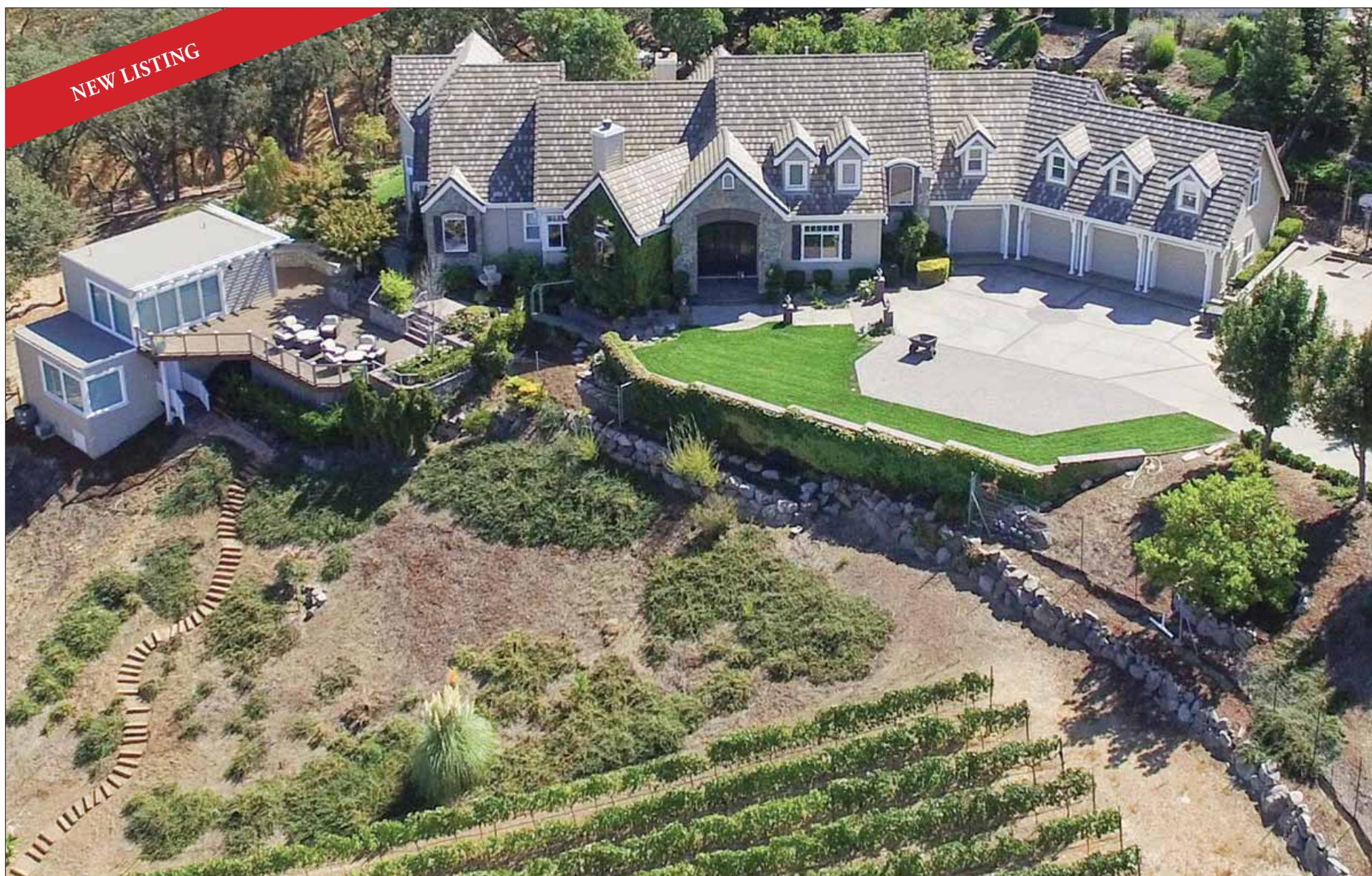
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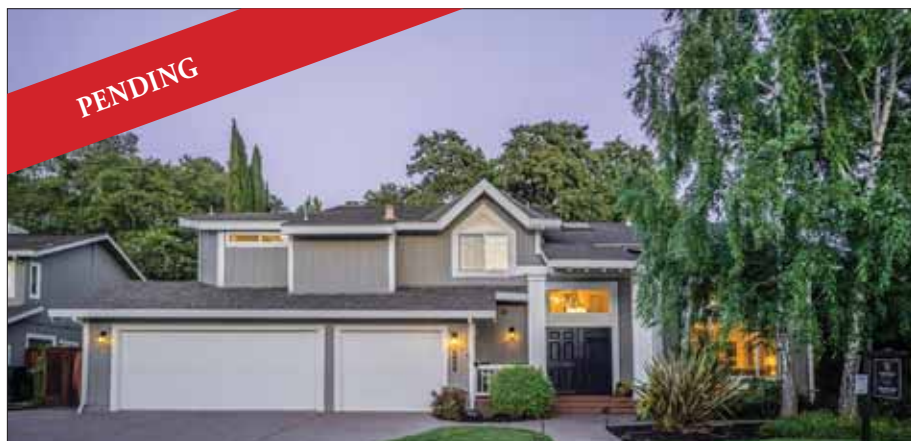
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3 BD | 2 BA | 1,600 SF

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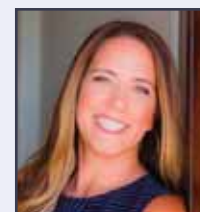


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Single-Family Homes
Approx. 2,405 – 3,531 Sq. Ft.
From the High \$600,000s
925.701.1563

PLEASANTON

ROSE AVENUE ESTATES

Single-Family Homes
Approx. 3,906 – 4,463 Sq. Ft.
From the Low \$2 Millions
925.200.4146

PLEASANTON

SYCAMORE

Single-Family Homes
Approx. 2,451 – 3,200 Sq. Ft.
From the Mid \$1.5 Millions
925.200.1633

PLEASANT HILL

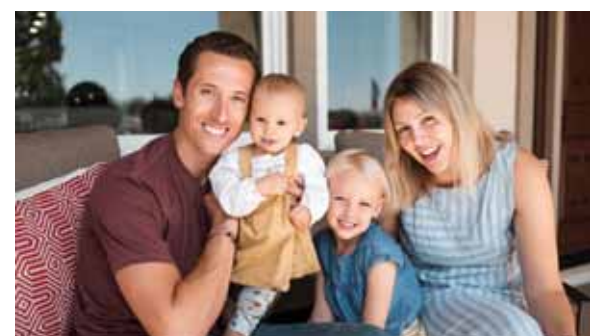
THE RESERVE

Single-Family Homes
Approx. 2,374 – 3,648 Sq. Ft.
From the Low \$1 Millions
925.200.4587 | **Coming Fall 2020**

PALM DESERT


SAGE

Single-Family Homes
Approx. 1,757 – 2,419 Sq. Ft.
From the \$400,000s
760.984.9026 | **Now Selling**



[PonderosaHomes.com](https://www.PonderosaHomes.com)

PONDEROSA
HOMES

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COMPASS CONCIERGE

JUST LISTED IN PLEASANTON



3657 MANCHESTER STREET

4 Bed – 2.5 Bath
2047 +/- Sq Ft
7,644 +/- Lot
Listed at \$1,245,000

NOW AVAILABLE IN PLEASANTON



1554 LEXINGTON LANE

4 Bed – 3 Bath
2,844 +/- Sq Ft
Former Model Home
\$1,400,000

CUSTOM SINGLE STORY IN PLEASANTON



301 DIAMOND COURT

4 Bed – 2.5 Bath
2,111 +/- Sq Ft
Custom Home
Listed at \$1,270,000

PENDING IN PLEASANTON



615 OROFINO COURT

3 Bed – 2 Bath
2,062 +/- Sq Ft
10,920 +/- Lot
Listed at \$1,165,000

JUST SOLD IN PLEASANTON



5214 CRESTLINE WAY

4 Bed – 2.5 Bath
2,047 +/- Sq Ft
Sold for \$1,250,000



A message from Kris

As we come together as a community, I am pleased to join with the Alameda County Fairgrounds and sponsor the Drive-In-Movie-Under-The-Stars. I hope you can join us as we present this week's classic, "Dirty Dancing".

See You at the Movies!



KRIS MOXLEY
REAL ESTATE

LICENSED SINCE 1980

925-519-9080

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PLEASANTON, CA 94566

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COMPASS