

Pleasanton Weekly

**Council passes
on mask talk**

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The cover features a green chalkboard background with various school-related icons like a pencil, ruler, and paper airplane. Five circular portraits of school board candidates are arranged around the central text. At the bottom, a red apple is shown with a blue surgical mask placed over its stem. The text 'PLEASANTON SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES DEBATE' is written in large, stylized letters, with 'PLEASANTON' and 'SCHOOL BOARD' in orange and 'CANDIDATES DEBATE' in blue.

PLEASANTON SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES DEBATE

Reopening campuses,
budget uncertainty, engaging
students among key topics
at Weekly forum

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VALLEY VIEWS



BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Hopes for global health

Two main fears pervaded my 1950s childhood: Nuclear bombs and catching polio. A younger boy at school caught the dreaded disease and returned a few months later with braces on his legs.

But the polio fear was put to rest on a lovely spring evening when my family walked a few blocks to the nearest grammar school to receive sugar cubes laced with polio vaccine. I don't remember my parents specifically voicing their fears but, looking back, I can well imagine their relief.

Now a press release from Livermore Rotary informs me that the World Health Organization announced Aug. 25 that polio has been eradicated in Africa. The story of fighting polio is inspiring because it is the tale of global cooperation, which one can only hope will take place against COVID-19.

Rotary International clubs have partnered for decades working to eradicate polio, and local chapters have done endless fundraising plus sent volunteers to countries around the world to help with the efforts.

Rotarian Rich Bennett, who lives in Livermore, has gone to Ghana five or six times, starting in 1998 on his club's first mission to give polio vaccine drops to children under 5. On that trip, he was accompanied by his wife and two sons, a seventh-grader and a high school freshman.

The Rotary district that includes the Tri-Valley had raised \$175,000, which was matched by the Rotary Foundation, to eradicate polio in Ghana, Bennett remembered. Ahead of the Rotarians' visit, an extensive advertising campaign took place to familiarize the population with the upcoming National Immunization Day.

"We flew into Amsterdam, then we flew into Ghana," Bennett recalled. "What's interesting is the Ghanaians were so happy to have us there. They treated us extremely well."

Shortly after arriving, the visiting Rotarians had an indoctrination that included local customs so they would know how not to offend. On the big day, the visitors spread throughout the country to participate in the vaccination effort.

"All four of us went into separate cars, which goes to show you how much we trust Rotarians," Bennett said. "We went into little villages, and they were all set up."

He said the experience was upbeat for most but one Rotarian recounted

a sad tale. A woman came in with a baby on her back and two children over 5. Although the vaccine was intended for younger ages, she insisted they be given the drops and was accommodated. When they also offered drops for the baby, she replied that the baby already had polio.

"When I went back the following year, three Interact students went with me," Bennett said. "They sent us to a pretty large village, and they had all the women bring their children to the church, and they all sat down in rows. I was put on the stage. The elders were all there. This was a big occasion."

Row by row the drops were given, and Bennett had also requested that the students who accompanied him had the chance to actually administer the vaccine.

One good memory he shared was when he had two hours to wait for his transportation and a woman welcomed him to wait inside her hut.

"She was so proud," he remembered. "This was her house, even though it was a straw hut. She was dressed in her Sunday best and preparing food for a party that night."

Bennett said the effects of polio were visible in the Ghanaian population out and about.

"Most of them are left crippled," he said. "They are called 'crawlers,' and you would see them on their way around."

There were an estimated 350,000 cases of polio in 125 countries when the Global Polio Eradication Initiative was created in 1988. This partnership between Rotary International, WHO, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Gavi, the vaccine alliance, eventually helped immunize more than 2.5 billion children against polio, which is now considered to be eradicated everywhere in the world except Afghanistan and Pakistan.

A global effort to rid the work of smallpox also worked, with its last case diagnosed in 1977; WHO certified it eradicated in 1980. Now polio is close.

Let's remember that we can conquer diseases by working together, as we continue the fight against COVID-19. ■

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

The five candidates for Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees (with three seats on the Nov. 3 ballot) shared their perspectives on a range of issues during the Weekly's online candidate forum on Monday night. Contributed photos. Cover design by Doug Young. Vol. XXI, Number 25



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Are you looking forward to someday getting back to your normal work environment?



Kevin McMillen
Sales manager

Of course. It has been great having to work from home as it has allowed me to spend more time with my family and good friends (at a safe social distance). But I truly miss the camaraderie of my team members, and being able to see my customers in person.



Rohit Gupta
Procurement analyst

I am very much looking forward to returning to my office when it is safe to do so. I miss the companionship of my colleagues, and our in-person hallway conversations. I always feel motivated when I'm surrounded by my co-workers in the same physical space.



Sonali Verma
Product designer

I definitely do look forward to getting back to my office because of the connections I have with my co-workers. Being together with them in the same room is so energizing, whereas having to Zoom with them instead is totally exhausting.



Miles Kelly
Marketing

Well, I work in San Francisco, so I'm not missing having to commute to work every day. However, I definitely look forward to being able to be back in my office at least a few days a week. I absolutely miss my co-workers.



Saloni Kalkat
After-school director

Oh yes, I think it will be very good to get back into the school setting and culture, and to be able to collaborate, in person, with my colleagues. I miss them.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Policing meeting set

The Pleasanton City Council is scheduled to host its next online community meeting on policing in Pleasanton next week.

Part of a series of city meetings on social justice reform and community policing in response to civil unrest after the George Floyd killing, the council session is set to focus on a revised implementation plan for key strategies from the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing — first created by former President Barack Obama in 2014.

The meeting is set to take place over Zoom next Thursday (Oct. 1) starting at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.cityofpleasantonca.gov.

LVJUSD forum

The five candidates for Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Education are set to participate in a live, in-person forum on Tuesday evening, hosted by the Parent Club Information Council.

With two seats on the Nov. 3 ballot, the candidates are incumbent Trustee Chuck Rogge and challengers Yanira Guzmán, Kandiss Hewing, Asa Strout and Kristie Wang. At least one LVJUSD seat is guaranteed to change hands since Trustee Chris Wenzel is not running.

The forum, scheduled for 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday in the LVJUSD board room at 685 E. Jack London Blvd., will be open to the public and held in-person with COVID-19 protocols in place such as a health screening, face mask requirement and social distancing, organizers said.

Climate survey

Pleasanton officials are in the process of updating the city's Climate Action Plan (CAP) from 2012, and they are looking for public input through an online survey on community visions and priorities to include in CAP 2.0.

"The CAP 2.0 will continue to focus on local actions to increase community resiliency, respond to the impacts of climate change, and meet current statewide GHG emission reduction targets established in California," officials said.

The survey, with a deadline of Oct. 16, is available at surveymonkey.com/r/Pleasanton-CAP. ■

Correction

The story "Sunflower Hill releases face mask awareness video," which ran in the Staying Healthy section on Sept. 11, incorrectly identified the host in the video. Rebecca Langstaff, programs manager for Sunflower Hill, stars in the video. The Weekly regrets the error.

Alameda County upgraded to red tier under state's COVID-19 blueprint

ACPHD says no changes to local health order yet; schools in holding pattern as well

By JEREMY WALSH AND JULIA BAUM

Alameda County advanced out of the purple tier and into the red tier in the state's COVID-19 blueprint on Tuesday — indicating some improving local metrics related to coronavirus cases — but county health officials said no new reopenings will occur yet.

The state's color-coded "Blueprint for a Safer Economy" sets criteria for business reopenings by assessing all counties' COVID-19 risk level on four tiers based on daily new cases and positivity rate.

A county in the red tier — the

second most serious level, one better than purple — is considered in the "Substantial" category that does allow some non-essential business operations to be open, but the Alameda County Public Health Department appears to be exercising discretion granted by the state to implement more stringent closures locally, for now.

"While movement to the red tier allows for additional sectors to open with restrictions, local health officers can proceed more cautiously than the state allows," ACPHD officials said in a statement.

"We are using the next two weeks (through Oct. 6) to ensure our metrics remain stable and we will release a phased plan that balances increased risk of spread of COVID-19 from newly permitted activities alongside appropriate mitigation strategies that can be implemented. At this time, there is no change to permitted or prohibited activities in Alameda County," they added.

The state's red tier also allows for the return of more in-person classroom instruction in that county (after two straight weeks in the red tier), but ACPHD said Tuesday that

"schools must continue distance learning until local conditions support in-person learning."

The county's elementary school waiver process remains active and is processing applications, and ACPHD officials urge all school districts to "prioritize preparing for reopening and engaging parents and staff in the planning so they can be ready."

"Bringing students back for in-person learning is a top priority for the next phase of reopening," ACPHD added.

See **RED TIER** on Page 6

DUSD board candidates debate future of Dublin schools at Weekly forum



Return to campus, Emerald High project, district discord among other key topics

By CIERRA BAILEY

Candidates in the running for the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) Board of Trustees participated in an online forum last week to share their views about issues impacting Dublin schools.

Trustee Area 1 candidate Kristin Pelham and incumbent Trustee Gabi Blackman and challenger Michael Utsumi of Area 4 took part in the hourlong Zoom debate, tackling a total of eight questions from Pleasanton Weekly publisher Gina Channell and editor Jeremy Walsh, who moderated the discussion. Area 1 candidate Dawn Nwamuo, a local parent and physician, was unable to participate due to a scheduling conflict.

The livestream forum on Sept. 17 was presented by the Weekly in partnership with the Dublin Chamber of Commerce and Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club.

The three candidates debated together during the forum, although Blackman and Utsumi will be one election race and Pelham will be in a separate contest with Nwamuo under DUSD's by-trustee-area election format.

To start, each candidate was asked to address what ideas they have for supporting distance learning amid the coronavirus crisis as well as what steps they would recommend toward safely reopening schools during or after the pandemic.

"Schools reopening needs to be a careful, thoughtful process in coordination with the county, the health department, the state and the district," said Pelham, a Dublin resident who works as a teacher in the San Ramon Valley. "I think we need to focus on getting our youngest students and special education students back first because those are the students that need to be on campus the most."

For remote learning, Pelham emphasized the importance of supporting teachers, parents and students with how to navigate the technology and digital tools being used throughout the district as well as making sure that all students have access to the devices they need and reliable internet.

Utsumi, a parent and longtime volunteer for Dublin schools and at the district level, echoed Pelham's sentiments, adding that the "guiding principle" for him on this issue is that "we have got to rely on science and trust the data," regarding the virus and health and safety guidelines.

Blackman, who is seeking a full four-year term after winning a special election for Area 4 in June 2019, touched on some of the steps the district has already taken in the process of shifting to distance learning like allocating more time at the start of school year to help train staff and teachers to become more familiar with the new

technology as well as equipping students and families with access to tech support experts.

Later, each candidate cited the completion and subsequent opening of Emerald High School — DUSD's second comprehensive high school — as a top priority to keep on track in terms of budget and construction.

"This is probably the most highly anticipated project that's come through the district in a long time," Utsumi said of the new high school, adding that if he is elected, he would "insist" on seeing more frequent reports from the facilities department shared with the board and the public as the project moves forward.

"Because we've got the community's support to pass these bonds, we owe it to them to be hyper communicative," Utsumi said.

Blackman highlighted how far the project has come despite running into some obstacles like the widely opposed proposal to build the school at the Zeiss light industrial site near Santa Rita Jail, which the board voted against in 2017. Since then, a new site located at an empty parcel of land between Central Parkway to the north and Dublin Boulevard to the south, where Grafton Street and Finnian Way intersect has been chosen as the home of the new school and construction is now underway.

"We have allocated in Measure J — something that nobody thought we could do, but I fought for

Pleasanton council passes on mask talk

Thorne, Testa unable to get third vote to place item on agenda

By JULIA BAUM

Another attempt to formally agendaize face mask enforcement amid the COVID-19 pandemic as a future council action item fell short at last week's Pleasanton City Council meeting.

Mayor Jerry Thorne and Councilwoman Julie Testa supported agendaizing the issue during matters initiated by council on Sept. 15, but no other council members joined to give them a necessary majority.

The subject had been brought forward by the two and failed to gain support during the Sept. 1 council meeting as well. That same evening, the Dublin City Council unanimously passed an emergency ordinance to issue fines for residents who fail to wear a face covering in public.

First-time violations for not wearing a mask in public within Dublin city limits are \$100, followed by \$200 for the second offense and \$500 for each subsequent violation thereafter in a year.

Dublin council and city staff said the idea of enforcement is meant to increase public awareness and encourage participation and support. Individuals will not be stopped in Dublin by law enforcement, but complaints and staff reports about

See **DUSD FORUM** on Page 10

See **MASKS** on Page 11

Pleasanton's regional housing allocation may double in next cycle

Staff: City could need to plan for 4,800 housing units through 2035

By JULIA BAUM

The numbers aren't finalized yet, but Pleasanton may need to plan for about 4,800 housing units over the next decade and a half — a 2.3-fold increase from its previous allocation — according to a staff update during the City Council's online meeting last week.

The city's housing obligations, including the "need to plan for approximately 4,848 units for the 2023-35 period," were reviewed in detail before council members engaged in a lengthy discussion and public hearing about planning and development considerations on the evening of Sept. 15.

Pleasanton is currently underway in the sixth regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) cycle and Housing Element update process, which takes place every eight years at the behest of the state government. As part of RHNA, the state Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) determines how many new homes the nine-county Bay Area region must build — and how affordable they must be — to meet local housing needs for all income levels.

Known also as the regional housing need determination (RHND), the HCD issued the number to the Association of Bay Area Governments

(ABAG)/Metropolitan Transportation Commission in June.

The city's final allocation will be determined by ABAG, in collaboration with the Housing Methodology Committee, a 35-member group of public officials and staff, labor groups, environmental organizations, housing advocates and other stakeholders from around the region. Pleasanton is participating on the committee as one of two staff representatives for Alameda County (the other from Oakland).

Once the RHNA obligation is announced, Pleasanton will update the Housing Element in its General Plan, as required by the state, and show where development can take place, and the strategies and policies needed to meet local housing demand.

Each jurisdiction's local draft RHNA will be published in spring 2021 and finalized that summer. After receiving the final RHNA, each local jurisdiction will have until no later than January 2023 to update the Housing Element.

According to community development director Ellen Clark, the most recent RHND for the Bay Area shows a "relatively substantial" increase of 441,176 housing units for the entire region — a 2.35 times proportionate increase from the prior cycle. The previous RHNA cycle from 2015 to

2023 called for 2,067 housing units in Pleasanton.

The "big question" is how that translates to local allocation, according to Clark.

"There's no exact correlation between the two but it does provide an indicator," Clark said. "It does seem likely we are likely to receive allocation ... of 4,800 to 5,200 units" with about 2,600 of those earmarked lower income.

So-called "jobs-rich" communities like Pleasanton have been initially targeted by the methodology committee for larger RHNA allocations. Councilman Jerry Pentin asked Clark about the designation and how the recent COVID-19 pandemic might affect planning.

"We may be seeing literally this shift in the employment world after COVID, that we don't have five-day-a-week people driving into town and five-day-a-week people driving out of town to go to jobs," Pentin said. "Wouldn't talking about that kind of methodology change the way Pleasanton is viewed as a job-rich community?"

Clark replied the question has come up before and said "ABAG staff is taking into account, in some form or fashion, the potential effects of COVID," but the regional number is "out the gate" and she did not foresee

an adjustment.

"The Housing Element is always, unfortunately, a step behind whatever is happening in the world, and it's reacting versus attempting to project, but it's projecting based on recent trends," Clark added. "We've seen that happen over and over and over again in cycles, and this may be one where we don't catch up with COVID until the next cycle, post-2030."

Under current law, Pleasanton is not required to build its RHNA-assigned housing units but must adopt a land-use program identifying "specific sites with available infrastructure and suitable physical conditions" to accommodate them. The city will need to "identify and ultimately rezone a number of parcels," according to staff.

Vice Mayor Kathy Narum asked, "Around zoning of the sites that are identified for the Housing Element to meet the RHNA, do they have to be zoned as part of a submission of the Housing Element to HCD, or can they be zoned at a later date? And if so, what are the advantages or disadvantages of that?"

Clark told Narum, "The sites do not need to be zoned at the time the Housing Element is adopted" and explained there is a three year period during which they must be rezoned.

If the city waits to rezone, Clark said, "We give up no more discretionary review than the state has already sort of taken away in various laws that have passed.

"What really is driving the city's

discretion is what the General Plan says, and under state law, the city has a pretty strict obligation to honor those densities and amounts of development that's anticipated in the Housing Element," she added.

Councilwoman Julie Testa inquired about Senate Bill 35, which streamlines housing development in California counties and cities not building enough units to meet their mandate, and any implications.

"RHNA is a process of zoning ... but it's not an expectation of production or building," Testa said. "I want to understand the consequences, the implications (of SB 35)."

Clark said the city is more susceptible to state intervention the more poorly it does, and that "very few cities have actually escaped it" since the bill's adoption in 2017.

She called state law "not a mandate to produce, but it's a stick. It's a repercussion for not producing."

"And like you said, really most cities have failed to meet those — and now with this increased RHNA number, it's going to make it much more difficult," Testa said. "I do know, have peers at a couple of cities that are dealing with their first SB 35 projects. So it is a concern, and it shouldn't be taken lightly."

Like in previous years, identifying higher-density sites for lower-income housing is the current challenge, and the city may also need to identify more sites to accommodate moderate and above-moderate units as well.

See **HOUSING** on Page 11



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RED TIER

Continued from Page 5

Pleasanton Unified School District told the Weekly, "For schools operations, the state's guidance has been that we need to remain in the red tier for 14 consecutive days before implementing any in-person learning."

The district added the requirements "are also subject to additional requirements from the county" and that officials expect to know more soon.

In a statement Tuesday, Alameda County Superintendent L. Karen Monroe said the status change "will undoubtedly raise questions and pose challenges for families, school employees and community members."

"While moving into the red tier is a positive development, the reopening of schools continues to require significant planning and preparation efforts for our schools and districts," Monroe said.

Each of the county's 18 school districts and its regional occupational programs, county-run schools and authorized charter programs are responsible for developing and implementing their own reopening plan, as required by state and local health officials.

When schools reopen, they will be subject to guidance and direction from both the state and ACPHD, and required to develop and post a publicly available "comprehensive reopening plan."

Other reopening plans include staff testing for COVID, training district staff in protocols related to contact tracing in the event of positive COVID cases, and ensuring adequate staffing of essential workers.

"Schools must open only when the required measures have been appropriately considered and implemented," officials said. "We encourage districts to communicate with their communities about the challenging realities of this process, and to continue to prepare for the eventuality of bringing students back to classrooms."

County school officials also acknowledged how the pandemic "has exacerbated the structural inequities and achievement gaps that cause many students and families to struggle in distance learning," and that students with the highest need "are best served by in-person learning, as soon as it is possible."

The Alameda County Office of Education's "COVID-19 School Guidance for Reopening" and other resources for school reopening can be found at www.acoe.org. ■

Wine trolleys to run again after 6-month shutdown

Livermore's wine trolleys will again hit the streets starting in early October after being parked for six months, the owner of Livermore Wine Trolley said last week.

Tours on one of Brian Luke's red and green trolleys will start Oct. 3 and be adjusted to keep people safe from COVID-19. The trolley will take visitors to Concannon Vineyard, Las Positas Vineyards and Garré Vineyard and Winery as

they have a lot of space for groups of people.

"We are determined to keep on going," Luke said in a statement.

Livermore Wine Trolley will reopen with a tour called Sip and Savor Wine Pairing Tour, which is a seated food and wine event.

Effective Aug. 28, wineries were able to open for just wine tastings. Before they had to provide food with wine.

Livermore Wine Trolley is just now reopening because it wanted to make sure it was feasible financially to do so.

Luke said the pandemic has devastated tourism worldwide.

"To stay afloat, we've relied on our awesome patrons who've been buying gift cards to support us, but that only goes so far," he said.

Tours will be with open windows, social distancing and

boarding will be in groups of six or less. Six is the maximum size for a group wanting to get the tastings together.

Hand sanitizer will be available when people board and masks are required.

Crews will clean the trolley each morning before the tour and wipe down frequently touched surfaces between stops.

The 36-passenger trolley will be

operated at half capacity. Only one of the three trolleys the company has will be running through the end of the year.

"It's been too long," Lisa Tolido, spokeswoman for Livermore Wine Trolley, said in a statement. "Customers have been calling for months asking when we would reopen." ■

—Bay City News Service

Tri-Valley educators named 2020 Teachers of the Year

Hill (Foothill), Meyer (Fallon) and Baez (Granada) among county's best

By JULIA BAUM

Three Tri-Valley educators were recently recognized by the Alameda County Office of Education as the 2020 Teachers of the Year in their respective school districts.

The winners for this year include biomedical science instructor Josh Hill from Foothill High School in Pleasanton, English and AVID teacher Nicole Meyer at Fallon Middle School in Dublin, and Miguel Baez for teaching computer arts and IT at Granada High in Livermore.

In total, 12 honorees were selected by 10 school districts in

Alameda County, including Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore Valley, for their "individual dedication and excellence in the classroom," according to ACOE officials.

"It is my honor and pleasure to uplift and celebrate our Teacher of the Year honorees for their dedication and efforts on behalf of students," said L. Karen Monroe, Alameda County superintendent. "This year it feels particularly important and healing to shine a spotlight on educators who perform such a critical service in our community."

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

the Teacher of the Year Awards ceremony will be held online for its first time in 31 years, and ACOE will not name any county-level Teacher of the Year honorees. ACOE also said they will "name two county-level honorees from the combined 2020 and 2021 cohorts to be considered for California Teacher of the Year in 2021."

The virtual Alameda County Teacher of the Year Awards ceremony will be streamed Dec. 9, starting 7 p.m. Videos featuring each teacher will be shown and honorees will receive an award during the event. ■

City recruiting for commission, committee volunteers

Pleasanton city officials are searching for residents interested in volunteering on one of handful of city commissions or advisory boards.

Vacancies are upcoming on six city groups, with applications due next week.

With the most openings is the Economic Vitality Committee, with one member sought for each of five categories: nonprofit community-based organization, commercial real estate developer, professional services firm, environmental industry and financial services.

The city is also recruiting for positions on the Civic Arts Commission (alternate member),

Housing Commission (alternate), Youth Commission (middle school members), Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee (alternate) and the Committee on Energy and the Environment (regular member).

Applicants must live within the Pleasanton city limits to be eligible — except for some Economic Vitality Committee positions, for which employment at a Pleasanton-based company would suffice.

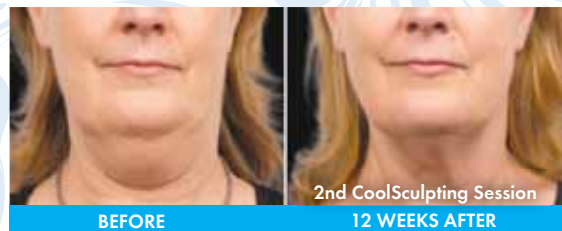
Applications are due to the City Clerk's Office by next Wednesday afternoon (Sept. 30). For more information, visit call 931-5027 or visit cityofpleasantonca.gov. ■

—Jeremy Walsh



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Photos Courtesy of A. Jay Burns, MD



Photos Courtesy of Dr. Craig Crippen, MD

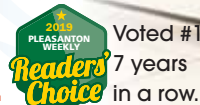


Photos Courtesy of A. Jay Burns, MD

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2020 Readers' Choice Hall of Fame

New honorees enter prestigious group despite contest hiatus

By GINA CHANNELL

Just as our staff was gearing up for the annual Readers' Choice voting, the global pandemic hit, forcing almost all of our Pleasanton businesses to shut down. And, let's face it, this spring we all had way too many things to worry about besides a contest — albeit a popular one.

So we'll forego this year's Readers' Choice contest, but we're going to recognize our 2020 Hall of Fame honorees. The Hall of Fame is comprised of Readers' Choice winners who have won their category five consecutive times. They stay in the HOF for two years.

Pleasanton Tutoring, Richard's Heating & Air Repair and Western Garden Nursery were the three businesses in the 2019 Hall of Fame, so they will return to competition in the next contest.

New Hall of Famers this year are: Blossom Vegan Restaurant (Best Vegetarian Cuisine); Fabulous Properties (Best Real Estate Team); Jue's Taekwon-Do (Best Martial Arts Studio); Nonni's Bistro (Best Sunday Brunch); Outer Visions Landscape Design (Best Landscaping Service); Pleasanton Family Dentist (Best Dental Office); Pleasanton Ridge (Best Kept Secret/Treasure of Pleasanton); Pleasanton Veterinary Hospital (Best Veterinarian); Primrose Bakery (Best



Bakery/Dessert); and Schlicher Orthodontics (Best Orthodontist).

Here is a little about each:

Blossom Vegan Restaurant — Best Vegetarian Cuisine. Blossom Vegan Restaurant boasted five consecutive victories for serving up piping hot and flavorful vegan Asian-style dishes for its customers. The upbeat kitchen draws in hungry eaters looking for a filling meal, vegans and non-vegans alike.

Fabulous Properties — Best Real Estate Team. Readers voted Fabulous Properties Team with Venture-Sotheby's International Realty on Main Street as Best Real Estate Team for its years of experience and knowledge of the market.

Jue's Taekwon-Do — Best Martial Arts Studio. Jue's Taekwon-Do is open to people of all ages, the

instructors place an emphasis on discipline and mental strength as the core of a healthy lifestyle and the key to becoming a martial arts champion.

Nonni's Bistro — Best Sunday Brunch. Brunchers are "part of the family" at Nonni's Bistro on Main Street. Nonni's food is made "from scratch" and "from the heart," and has stolen our readers' hearts for many years, starting in 2014 when it won Best Main Street Restaurant.

Outer Visions Landscape Design — Best Landscaping Service. New Hall of Fame inductee, Outer Visions Landscape Design continues to be a money- and eco-conscious landscape designer that aims to add beauty and value to people's homes.

Pleasanton Family Dentist — Best Dental Office. Pleasanton Family Dentist gives patients many reasons to smile, with its top-notch facility and advanced dental technology.

Pleasanton Ridge — Best Kept Secret/Treasure of Pleasanton. Our readers' pick for Best Kept Secret/Treasure of Pleasanton, Pleasanton Ridge has five straight Readers' Choice Awards under its belt. Pleasanton Ridge also won the category for Best Place to Take Your Dog in 2019.

See **HALL OF FAME** on Page 11

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Lynda Meikle



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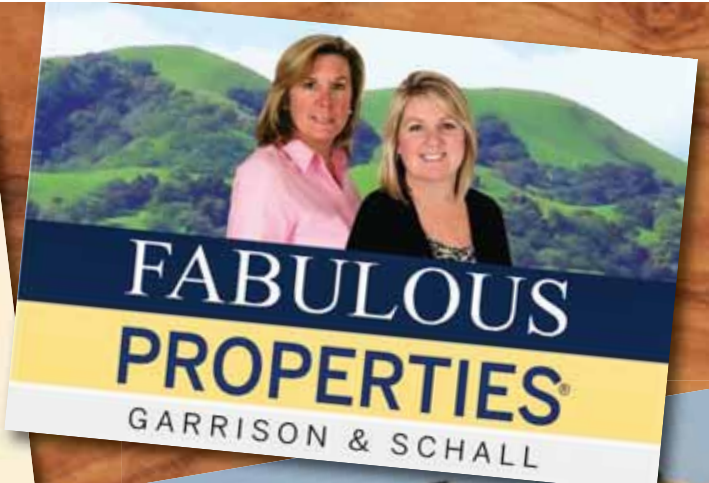
Delighted to receive this Hall of Fame Award as Pleasanton's Best Real Estate Team, Fabulous Properties, from the Pleasanton Weekly and the PW Readers. Donna would have been delighted as well and I wish she was here to celebrate with me. She loved this stuff! Fifteen years working alongside my sister has been a blessing and a blast. Together we sold over \$500M in Tri-valley real estate, won a variety of awards, sold some truly amazing homes, raised lots of money for local charities and met a lot of really great people. We were blessed to raise our kids side by side and spent endless hours beach front, with a glass of chardonnay, solving all the world's problems. I'll miss her forever.

Thank you to those who have been with us over the years. Your continued support is so appreciated.

— Susan

Donna Garrison 2/11/1962 - 2/26/2020

<https://fabulousproperties.net/one-week-ago-today/>
Please visit the memorial bench placed in her honor by a group of her girlfriends. It's just over the bridge in Sycamore Grove Park, right across from Wente vineyards, on Arroyo Rd. in Livermore.



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JUST LISTED



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Park district reopening Del Valle

Shadow Cliffs only open for walk-ins; Sunol Wilderness remains closed

By RYAN J. DEGAN

After closing a number of its locations and services due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the East Bay Regional Park District has announced that it will be reopening several parks to a limited number of visitors, including Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore.

Starting on Oct. 2, limited day use, camping and boating will return to Del Valle, as well as Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area in Fremont and Anthony Chabot Regional Park in Castro Valley, according to EBRPD officials.

"The Park District Board and staff have worked hard to keep parks and

trails open throughout the district as much as possible during COVID-19," General Manager Robert Doyle said in a statement. "Regional Parks have played an essential role in the community as a place for people to maintain their mental and physical health when most people have been in their homes the majority of the day."

With most residents being confined to their homes for extended periods of time due to the pandemic, keeping outdoor areas open in as safe a manner as possible has been a top priority for parks officials.

While some areas have been forced to close due to safety concerns,

parks officials say that 99% of the district's 130,000 acres of parklands, 55 miles of shoreline and 1,300 miles of recreational trails have been open and accessible to the public — with additional safety practices in place.

In an effort to stem the spread of COVID-19, reopened park areas and facilities operate on a limited capacity that for the most part welcomes visitors on a first-come, first-served basis — although camping spaces will be open by reservation only.

No swimming is allowed at any district swim site (with the exception of Crown Beach and Keller

Beach) and all picnic areas, barbecues and group campsites will remain closed, in accordance with state and local health orders.

The Del Valle campgrounds will be open to visitors at 50% capacity; however, campers are reminded that a Cal Fire burn ban is in effect due to extreme fire conditions. No open fires, campfires, wood-burning or charcoal barbecues are allowed, but gas or propane-fueled stoves are permitted.

There is also no shower service available at Del Valle due to renovation of the park's 60-year-old water system.

Camping reservations can be made online at www.ebparks.org/Register or by phone at 1-888-327-2757.

Pleasanton residents are also free to visit Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area, which is open for

walk-ins; however, boating and swimming is still prohibited due to local and state health orders related to the coronavirus.

Round Valley, Morgan Territory, Ohlone Wilderness and Sunol Regional Wilderness remain closed due to the impacts from recent wildfires. Ohlone Wilderness Trail at Del Valle likewise remains closed due to fire danger.

Additionally, like all public lands in the state, all visitors must continue to follow all social distancing guidelines from local health agencies, wear a mask or face covering in parks and wear it when within six feet of other park guests, officials said.

For up-to-date information on park status during COVID-19, residents can visit www.ebparks.org/COVID-19. ■

County caps food-delivery service fees

Alameda County supervisors on Tuesday unanimously passed a temporary ordinance that caps the fees charged to restaurants by food-delivery services such as Uber Eats and Grubhub.

The ordinance is effective immediately, covers unincorporated Alameda County and caps the fees at 15% of each order's price. Other jurisdictions in the county such as Berkeley and Oakland have similar ordinances.

The new law is meant to help county restaurants stay afloat during the pandemic. It will be lifted when the local health emergency is over or when the supervisors modify or rescind it.

Supervisor Scott Haggerty, who recommended the ordinance, wrote in a letter to the board that food-delivery services have increased their fees by an average of 12.4% since the pandemic began.

Research by his office showed that among 10 businesses in Castro Valley and San Lorenzo that restaurants are being charged fees of 15% to 25% per order by food-delivery businesses.

Indoor dining is still off-limits in Alameda County, according to the Alameda County Health Department. The county on Tuesday moved from the purple tier to the red tier in the state's blueprint for reopening, but county officials are not changing anything yet.

Officials said they are using the next two weeks to be sure it's safe to permit more activities. They said they will then release a phased plan for reopening.

That has people calling Haggerty's office, wondering why some other counties are allowing indoor dining — since it's allowed under the state's red tier guidelines — while Alameda

County isn't.

Uber and Grubhub are opposed to the cap on fees.

"Regulating the commissions that fund our marketplace forces us to radically alter the way we do business and ultimately hurt those that we're trying to help the most: customers, small businesses and delivery people," a spokesperson for Uber said.

A Grubhub spokesperson said, "Fee caps are counterproductive during a time when restaurants need more support, visibility and order volume than ever."

"Particularly problematic is that the ordinance would prevent us from making changes to the other parts of our marketplace to cover our real, substantial marketing and delivery costs." ■

—Bay City News Service

DUSD FORUM

Continued from Page 5

vehemently — that we would actually put the language to complete the second high school in the bond language, which guarantees beyond a shadow of a doubt that we are going to finish that school," Blackman said.

While Pelham agreed that the construction alone has sparked excitement in Dublin, she said that the planning for programming and hiring staff should be happening simultaneously with it.

"I think it's important that we have not just the building ready to go but that we have the infrastructure of staffing and programs ready to go for the opening in 2022," she said.

Blackman praised Interim Superintendent Daniel Moirao for bringing some cohesion within the district, which has seen high turnover in its leadership following back-to-back abrupt departures of superintendents Leslie Boozer (March 2019) and Dave Marken (this June).

Utsumi and Pelham both emphasized the importance of finding someone with experience to fill the post long-term and engaging the community in the process.

"In terms of how this board functions and operates, I'm hoping that we can foster an environment of collaboration and consensus and come to the table with honesty," Utsumi said.

When asked about the city's east-west social divide, Pelham said, "I think it's important to understand that even though we are elected for a specific area, we represent all of Dublin."

She continued, "We can agree to disagree on some things, but if we keep all the kids in the district at the heart of our decisions, I think we'll be able to move forward and help bridge that divide and become a more unified Dublin."

On the heels of recent discussions around social justice and police reform, the candidates were asked how they feel about resource officers in and around Dublin campuses.

Pelham said that she thinks it's important to collect feedback from students, administrators and the community and then assess what is and what isn't working to determine the best solution. "In the past there's been a strong, positive relationship between the Dublin police department and Dublin schools and a good partnership," she said. "I think we need to not throw everything out."

Utsumi said that "great things can happen when you bring stakeholders and community members to the table," adding that he would welcome "diversity of thought" on the topic, although he said he personally does not see an issue with resource officers at schools.

Blackman emphasized the importance of prioritizing campus safety while acknowledging the sensitivity of the topic. "We want (students) to learn in an environment where they feel safe, where they know they are protected, but at the same time we do not want students to feel like they are being cared for in a way that does not respect their rights," she said.

Other topics discussed during the forum included budget priorities, the current relationship between the district and the Dublin Teachers Association and ongoing redevelopment projects at local schools.

A complete video of the forum is accessible via PleasantonWeekly.com.

The Nov. 3 ballot for DUSD will feature Blackman and Utsumi for Blackman's Trustee Area 4 seat (parts of southeast Dublin), and Pelham and Nwamuo for the southwest Trustee Area 1 position — at-large Trustee Amy Miller, whose seat was effectively assigned to Area 1 after DUSD's election format switch, opted not to seek re-election this fall.

The Area 3 seat on the school board is also due up for election this year, but incumbent Trustee Catherine Kuo is unopposed — one year after earning her seat in a special election in November 2019. ■

UPDATED City of Pleasanton COVID-19 Business Support Fund

The Pleasanton Business Support Fund program provides zero-interest, short term loans for independently or locally-owned eligible Pleasanton businesses that have been adversely affected due to COVID-19:

\$10,000 Loan
(\$10,800 in downtown) for micro-enterprise businesses employing 2-10 employees

\$20,000 Loan
(\$21,600 in downtown) for businesses employing 11-25 employees

For more information on program eligibility requirements and to apply for the Pleasanton Business Support Fund, visit www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/eddsupportfund



HOUSING

Continued from Page 6

Testa said she was “confused that the RHNA cycle is now increasing the above-moderate numbers because it’s pretty well understood that across the state — and certainly Pleasanton is no exception — has overproduced above-moderate.”

“Can the council identify a priority to truly nonprofit developers, to try and increase that production (of low and very-low)?” she asked.

City Manager Nelson Fialho replied, “Could we create an environment that generates more nonprofit development in order to maximize affordability? The answer is yes, and we could prioritize that in our

Housing Element.”

Another staff suggestion to “dove-tail the key decision points” of the East Pleasanton Specific Plan with the Housing Element update and sites inventory process prompted Pentin to ask if the Housing Element could be planned without the east side plan.

Staff also recommended hiring an outside consultant for assistance, and plans to issue a request for proposals for both planning and California Environmental Quality Act purposes. A lead consultant will be selected to prepare the Housing Element update, and a professional services contract brought to the council for review and approval at a later date. ■

MASKS

Continued from Page 5

large unmasked gatherings will be addressed.

A “Mask Up for Livermore” social media campaign recently launched as well; Livermore was the first Tri-Valley community to adopt a mask ordinance and \$100 penalty for not publicly wearing a mask.

Instead of tickets, however, city employees in Livermore have been tasked with handing out masks to people without one, and mostly monitor around downtown and the San Francisco Premium Outlets. No fines for not wearing masks had been issued in Livermore as of Sept. 9, according to officials.

Vice Mayor Kathy Narum along with councilmembers Jerry Pentin and Karla Brown, who are both currently running in the mayoral seat this fall, appeared in a “Mask up, Pleasanton” video produced by the city in July promoting the wearing of face coverings, but said nothing during Thorne and Testa’s motion

earlier this month.

Nearly a dozen audience members expressed support for mask enforcement during the public comment portion on Sept. 15.

“I feel extremely uncomfortable knowing that our vice mayor and two mayoral candidates, all experienced politicians, do not support a motion that would literally save lives,” resident Emma Reddy said, concluding, “We can do more as a city, and more as a council.”

Later that evening, before the second agenda item request vote, Testa addressed the speakers and said, “I do want those speakers to know that they’re being heard.”

“I absolutely do believe all of those comments that they have made,” Testa said. “I am uncomfortable when I go out and people aren’t wearing masks. I hear so much from people in the community, so many people who have said they don’t want to go to our wonderful downtown dining right now because they feel that there’s too many people.” ■

HALL OF FAME

Continued from Page 8

Pleasanton Tutoring — Best Tutoring School. Having helped local students achieve their academic goals for over 10 years, Pleasanton Tutoring continues aiming to boost students’ confidence and enthusiasm for learning, with grade boosts following as a result.

Pleasanton Veterinary Hospital — Best Veterinarian. Pleasanton Veterinary Hospital continues to please readers with their preventative and wellness pet care. Their in-house laboratory and radiology unit, surgical suite and pharmacy allow them to provide exceptional medical care in an intimate environment.

Primrose Bakery — Best Bakery/Dessert. Primrose Bakery takes the cake again, earning a spot in the Hall of Fame. Offering a broad selection of customizable European-style wedding cakes, dessert bars and pastries, find an arrangement of delectable sweets to satisfy any cravings here.

Richard’s Heating & Air Repair — Best Heating/AC Service. Richard Westwood of Richard’s Heating & Air Repair serves fellow Tri-Valley residents by using his knowledge of heating and air conditioning systems to “repair, not replace.” Richard’s prides itself on providing customers with reliable equipment and services to help them save money.

Schlicher Orthodontics — Best Orthodontist. Straight teeth and five straight victories earned Schlicher Orthodontics a Hall of Fame honor. The office on Stoneridge Drive engages with patients of all ages to help them love their smiles.

Western Garden Nursery — Best Nursery/Garden Center. Western Garden Nursery is a well-known favorite in town. This one-stop-shop is popular among people looking for plants and garden accessories to add to their yards, as well as those seeking organic fertilizers or environmentally friendly pest controls. ■

PLEASANTON EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Are you struggling to pay rent due to financial hardship resulting from COVID-19?

You may be a candidate for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program!

¿Está luchando para pagar el alquiler debido a lo que resulta de COVID-19?

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The COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program will assist existing Pleasanton residents who are unable to pay rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing a maximum grant assistance up to \$2,500 per household to pay for up to one month of delinquent rent and late fees.



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I'M HERE! I'M 1! I'M 2!

New book series engages kiddies at every stage of growth

By **DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

Many years ago when Valerie Carlson Pressley read to her young children, Georgia and Logan, she noticed their excitement for books about babies and toddlers their own age.

"When my kids were in preschool, in Seattle, I could see the delight on the faces of all the children in the class as they were achieving developmental milestones," Pressley also observed.

She wanted to buy books for her children on their birthdays highlighting their milestones — from first steps to kicking a ball — but couldn't find any. So she began researching early childhood development and wrote six books herself, each planned to last one year, focusing on that stage of a child's development.

"I had enrolled at the Institute of Children's Literature many years ago, and received one-on-one instruction, writing and feedback," Pressley recalled. "Then my love for writing for kids certainly was renewed when I became a mother myself."

Eleven years ago, the family

moved to Danville. Pressley, who has a background in public relations and marketing, began working in corporate communications for a government software company based in San Ramon six years ago.

Pressley knew it was time to focus on her preschool book project when sheltering in place began in March.

"I said, 'I am absolutely doing this,'" she remembered. "I wanted to create something and bring some joy and happiness."

She signed up with Alive Book Publishing of Alamo, and began a search for an illustrator, finally settling on Kayla Lynn Olson-Surface, who is based in Minnesota.

"I really liked Kayla's style and her eagerness," Pressley said. "I was looking for more of a cartoony caricature, humorous and simple. I didn't want anything too complicated for this age group."

Pressley launched her business, Writing for Kids, earlier this month and released the first three of her six-book series.

The series kicks off with "I'm



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Danville resident Valerie Carlson Pressley recently launched her new business, Writing for Kids, and three titles in her series celebrating special moments and developmental milestones for young children.

Here, I'm Here," for newborns to 12 months about the special milestones of the first year. "I'm One, I'm One!" for ages 12 to 24 months celebrates

this busy year of growth; and "I'm Two, I'm Two!" is for ages 2-3.

The books are written in rhyme, and each one ends with "bye-bye," blowing a kiss, and looking forward to the year ahead.

"It's a way to connect," Pressley said, "and the flow of books takes you through the years."

Daughter Georgia, 18, is just entering the Rochester Institute of Technology to study photo journalism; son Logan, 15, attends San Ramon Valley High School. Although now well past the age of the intended audience, they were interested in the project, too.

"They have been very involved," Pressley said. "My son helped select Kayla from my choices of illustrator options, and my daughter was looking at designs and had input on that."

Pressley remembers the delight of reading to newborns and little ones as they are discovering their world, and knows her books fill an important need.

"These books provide a wonderful

way to read together, re-live individual milestones that are unique to your child, and delight in what's to come," she said.

Pressley pointed out research has shown that in addition to the benefits of one-on-one bonding time during reading, exposing little ones to a range of emotions, visuals, letters, numbers and developmentally appropriate activities can help them more easily transition from babyhood to toddlerhood.

She released the first three books on social media on Labor Day, explaining, "It's my labor of love."

Pressley said she has received inquiries from grandparents who want to buy the books to read to their grandchildren online since they can't be with them in person.

"It's a way to connect," she noted.

The books are available, for \$10.95 each, from the author's website at www.writingforkids.shop, on Amazon and at BarnesandNoble.com. More information can also be found on Instagram @writingforkids, on Facebook @Writing For Kids. ■

Garden club to host succulent expert

Learn what to grow, see creative arrangements

Succulent expert Debra Lee Baldwin will be the speaker at the monthly Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club being hosted for the second time on Zoom, from 7-8 p.m. on Oct. 8.

Baldwin will share tips, photos and insights on the best succulents for the local climate, as well as fall-winter projects and designs for gifts and container arrangements.

"My greatest pleasure is sharing how to use succulents beautifully in a wide range of creative applications," Baldwin said.

The first Zoom meeting, held in early September, was well attended, reported publicity chairwoman Dolores Bengtson.

"We were pleasantly surprised from the public response to the invitation to join us on Zoom," Bengtson said. "We hope it helped provide those watching with more gardening knowledge so they may enjoy their gardens more."

"We are excited about having this particular speaker on succulents," she added. "By using Zoom, we are able to move out of our geographic area and get speakers we could not have had

before."

The club is continuing to provide members to work on several outdoor projects it supports, including the Sensory Garden next to the Pleasanton Senior Center, which has three raised flower beds so even those in wheelchairs and walkers can touch and smell the flowers and leaves.

Members also work at Eden Garden in Livermore, which provides organic garden produce to the Alameda County Food Bank in Livermore and the South Hayward Outreach Center. The garden club also services the Hansen Park Rose Garden, at First Street and Holmes in Livermore, twice a month.

For the duration of the pandemic, the garden club will meet via Zoom, and members from last year are free to join the meetings. Those who wish to attend as a guest may contact Jeri Stark, president@lavgc.org.

For more information about the Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club, visit www.lavgc.org. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

First of three O'Neill plays premieres next weekend

Productions filmed at Tao House's Old Barn theater

By **DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

Bitter, haunted, meticulous, courageous, inscrutable, contrarian.

These words were used by cast members of Eugene O'Neill's early one-act plays when asked by Eugene O'Neill Foundation board member Teresa Morley to sum up their characters in a single word and explain how that word informs their performances.

The foundation is presenting the playwright's three "Lost Plays" starting next week at 5 p.m. on three Saturdays. "The Web" opens Oct. 3; "Recklessness," Oct. 10; and "Abortion," Oct. 17.

They will debut online at www.eugeneoneill.org, then also be available on the O'Neill Foundation YouTube Channel, after being filmed in the Old Barn theater at Tao House in Danville.

"I have not found Zoom theater offerings particularly compelling so I looked for and found another approach," artistic director Eric Fraisher Hayes said.

He edited the scripts so actors would not have to come into contact with each other, and put together an ensemble of nine actors to cover all the roles. They met three times to discuss the script, as well as costuming, and run through the play.

Shooting took place the third meeting, when the action was captured from various points of focus.

Hayes noted that approaching the plays in this manner did not impede the spirit of what O'Neill wrote.

"Web" finds a woman trapped in a brutal relationship with her "boyfriend," who forces her into street-walking in order to support his drug habit. "Recklessness" concerns a wife trapped in a loveless marriage and looking to escape with the family chauffeur. In "Abortion," O'Neill explores the dire decisions at the intersection of social class and women's reproductive rights.

"O'Neill may have been writing

these plays more than 100 years ago, but he chose challenging subjects that our society is still struggling with," Hayes said.

The cast includes Emily Keyishian, Ryan Hayes, Kyle Goldman, Cynthia Lagodzinski, John Tessmer, Will Long, John Hale, Charles Woodson Parker and Bonnie Dechant. Videos of the actors explaining how they connected to their characters can be found at www.eugeneoneill.org.

No tickets are necessary but viewers are asked to donate to the Eugene O'Neill Foundation to support production costs as well as work to enliven the playwright's legacy. ■



TERESA MORLEY

The actors for Eugene O'Neill's "Lost Plays" do script read-throughs in the courtyard of Tao House, where they could "feel the power" of the playwright who lived from 1937-44 in the home he built in the west Danville hills.

Meet 'Little Miss Everything'

Adventurous tale is valuable for children of all races

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Former San Ramon resident and entrepreneur Vona Hill recently launched "Little Miss Everything," the first installment of her new children's book series by the same name.

Written and illustrated by Hill, it's an adventurous story of an imaginative young girl named Rashada who needs to decide for career day what she wants to be when she grows up.

With the help of her family, Rashada meets 10 real-life Black role models who broke glass ceilings to achieve success — a world-class chef, an award-winning graphic designer, trail-blazing race car drivers, a CEO and executive directors. They inspire her to reach for greatness in whatever career path she chooses.

"There aren't nearly enough books about ambitious little Black girls, and because I was an ambitious little Black girl, myself, I saw the need for this book," Hill said. "I am self-assured, confident and have a 'can-do' way of looking at every obstacle, and I know my self-worth."

"And sadly, all of these empowering attributes are often frowned upon, just because I am a woman and just because I am Black. This book inspires that can-do spirit in every child," she added.

Her book is also valuable for white children, she has noted.

"When children of all races are given Black role models to look up to, Black success can be normalized — and when Black success is normalized, there's an erosion of systemic inequality," Hill said in a recent TALKRADIO. NYC interview.

Hill's list of achievements is long: a chemical engineer, business strategist, serial entrepreneur, youth football coach, instructor, graphic designer, journalist,

activist, wife and mother to three boys. In July, she launched Black Vanguard Alliance, a community of Black and non-Black member-allies to formulate systemic solutions to racism.

When everyone went into isolation, Hill said on the radio show, she put the book on her bucket list and went to work. A Kickstarter campaign to raise funds to self-publish the book exceeded her \$25,000 goal with more than 173 backers.

Hill said she remembered as a girl when her mother mentioned "jack of all trades, master of none."

"I really took issue with the 'master of none' because I was 100% certain I could at least master a couple of them, and it was likely that I was going to master many of them so why wouldn't I be able to master everything?" Hill recalled with a laugh. "In my heart of hearts, I am Little Miss Everything. She is my role model."

Hill and her family are now in greater Boston. They lived in San Ramon from 2009-11, where she was an active member of the San Ramon Chapter of the MOMS Club and also started a group called Black Parents of Tri-Valley. She has fond memories of playdates at Super Franks in Pleasanton, feeding ducks with her kids at Blackhawk Plaza, and fun family dinners at Campo di Bocce in Livermore.

"Little Miss Everything" is available for \$14.99 at Amazon and BarnesandNoble.com. For more information, visit littlemisseverything-books.com. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Author and entrepreneur Vona Hill wrote and illustrated "Little Miss Everything," an adventurous story of an ambitious and imaginative young girl named Rashada.

Cross finish line to fight domestic violence

Tri-Valley Haven holding Virtual Pace for Peace in October

Tri-Valley Haven is holding a Virtual Pace for Peace from Oct. 17-31, for supporters to walk or run 5K or 10K in support of local survivors of domestic violence.

"It was a tough decision, but due to COVID-19 forcing the cancellation of our physical event, we're offering you a virtual alternative," states the website.

Serious runners, novice runners, walkers and families are welcome, and participation medals and awards in various age groups will be given. Registration is \$20 for students 18

and under; and \$30 for others, ending Oct. 31.

Packets containing race gear and finisher tags will be given out with drive-by pickups, and racers will record their runs/walks to be added to the official results page. Participants can create their own course or use the scenic run through the vineyards provided by Tri-Valley Haven and are asked to share photos at www.facebook.com/trivalleyhaven.

Learn more and register at www.trivalleyhaven.org. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



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Mary Jo Carreon



Steve Maher



Kelly Mokashi

Pleasanton school board cand

Reopening campuses, budget uncertainty, engaging students amor

BY JULIA BAUM

The candidates vying for the Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees detailed their plans for leading local schools through the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, managing district finances and addressing other relevant issues during an online candidate forum on Monday night.

Presented by the Pleasanton Weekly in partnership with the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation, the 90-minute livestream event featured all five candidates on the Nov. 3 general election ballot. The forum was moderated by Weekly publisher Gina Channell and editor Jeremy Walsh.

The candidates, who are competing for three at-large seats on the Board of Trustees, opened by sharing their thoughts on reopening local schools for in-person learning amid the pandemic, and what policies and procedures they would recommend to support both in-person and remote learning models.

With Alameda County announcing its new red tier designation on the state's COVID-19 tracking blueprint, current Board President Steve Maher — an incumbent who is seeking a second four-year term — said “we’ll be able to move forward with the possibility of reopening,” but there’s much to consider.

“Once we move to in-person learning, then we’ll look at our TK to 2, and we’ll do a hybrid,” Maher said. “By that, I mean it could be a.m./p.m. for kindergarten with a

time slot in the middle for cleaning our different classrooms, or it could be alternating days — Monday/Tuesday, possibly Thursday/Friday with Wednesday being a cleaning day.”

Kelly Mokashi, an education specialist and adult member of the city’s Youth Commission who is running for trustee for the first time, served on the district’s steering committee in the summer and said she supports a hybrid model.

“It’s really important that we support our teachers, our students, our parents, to keep our children engaged with the learning process, to support them remotely in the time being,” Mokashi said. “That is paramount, because the No. 1 priority is having our children learn in the best, safest way possible.”

Chong Wang, an IT consultant and PUSD Bond Oversight Committee member also running for the first time, said of the remote learning experience, “As a parent, I think that the situation is better than we used to be last semester.”

“I will take the highest standard to protect the students and the teachers,” Wang said. “I also support a hybrid model as well ... but we do need to give the students and the teachers options” for pursuing distance learning.

Wang added he was “also trying to organize parents from the community to collect feedback for PUSD on remote learning quality.”

Incumbent Trustee Jamie Yee, who is seeking a fourth term, said “there needs to be a little bit more support around supporting our

students that have some mental health issues.”

In regard to supporting remote learning, Yee said, “It’s better than it was in the spring, but we really learned a lot and there definitely is some area for improvement.”

“I do want to say that we never really had a help desk before, and now we’ve got one,” Yee added. “The district quickly implemented that, and I think it’s been very helpful. But we need to do a little bit more, and we want to make sure that all of our teachers have the most up to date, good technology to be able to provide the instruction that they need to provide.”

Recently retired Alisal Elementary School teacher Mary Jo Carreon, also a first-time candidate, said the board’s job is to ensure policies are in place to support learning in any environment.

“For example, as a classroom teacher, I had the policy last year to make sure our doors were always locked and always kept closed because of intruders,” Carreon said. “Does that need to change? Well, they said we need to have proper ventilation due to COVID, so we need to make sure that our ventilation systems are up to par. And if not, is there a policy in place for keeping doors open, and can we teach outside of the classroom?”

The district’s budget during a period of uncertainty surrounding state finances, as well as how they would determine budget priorities and what areas of spending they would conserve, also drew different responses.

Mokashi said PUSD is “unique compared to some other districts” in parts of the U.S. where they might have more Title I and Title II federal funding.

“Our district does not have that benefit,” Mokashi said, adding “one singular category that stands out for me — how to increase revenue.”

“Currently the district is only slated \$310,000 in that category — I’d like to pose some questions on what else we can do differently to increase that revenue,” Mokashi added. “Perhaps it’s something we haven’t tried before — partnerships with new businesses or perhaps a district fundraiser — something special that has very targeted use for those funds.”

Mokashi also suggested realigning staff with enrollment and potentially an audit of the district’s curriculum programs. “This is the best time to renegotiate education services, not cut them. Renegotiate,” she added.

Wang said the district “has \$174 million in revenue and we’re spending \$180 million.”

“Our situation is 97% of the revenue is from the state budget allocation,” Wang said, adding that the state’s fiscal future will “create a financial challenge to our school district.”

“We don’t know what’s going to be the situation in the next year, but the next year could be even worse so we need to prepare for that,” he said.

Yee said she would avoid cuts in school health services: “I really think that we need all of our

people that are medically trained. We shouldn’t cut any of our counselors or any of our support services that we provide for students.”

“That’s the most important thing, because if our students are well-supported, it actually makes the teaching, learning a lot easier or more effective for our teachers,” Yee added.

Carreon said she would “always advocate for the cuts being farthest away from the classroom.”

“We have to make cuts, so I feel like we need to expand our budget advisory committee and expand it to more people in our community,” Carreon said. “We have a great community and people are smart, and we could work together to solve this problem. In 2008, when we had the budget crisis ... we all worked together and we made cuts. They were painful but we worked together, and I believe that our community can work together to make these cuts.”

The district needs a balanced and sustainable budget, Carreon said, but “I also agree that we do need to secure additional funding, so we do need to look at parcel taxes in the future or other ideas, and that’s why I think the community support is really important.”

Maier replied that among other categories, he’d also “stay as far away from students and athletics as possible.”

“Especially now, when we come back to school, athletics, camaraderie and togetherness for students is going to be very critical because of social interaction that (students)



Chong Wang



Jamie Yee

idates debate

ng key topics at Weekly forum

have lost,” Maher said.

Maher said he would consider offering early retirement to some teachers, increasing facility fees, and “possibly leasing or even selling” some district property.

“I know people say we’re saving that for a rainy day — well, today might be the rainy day,” he said.

He also proposed forming a committee “to really look at what can be shaved off the budget.”

The candidates later went into further detail about their plans concerning the district’s finances when asked how they would secure funding for deferred facilities projects while simultaneously avoiding recurrent underfunding, and whether they voted for or against the Measure M bond initiative that failed in the March primary election.

A staunch advocate of the proposed measure, Carreon said the district should “find out how our surrounding school districts were able to get their bond measures passed.”

“We need to work collaboratively with other districts to find out what was successful, and we need to have really good, open, honest discussions with our community to find out why it didn’t pass,” Carreon said. “I’m sure that if we have more open and transparent communication and more buy-in from the community, that’d we’d be able to get it passed.”

Mokashi said newer residents in higher tax brackets might have been resistant to the measure and that “transparency and clear communication on how those funds

will be allocated.”

Wang said he spoke to residents who were opposed to Measure M and declared the issue was it being “too much, too soon.”

“When I talked to those people who are against it, some said if it is specific and more programs than Measure 11, they will support it. In the future, we need to carefully lay out the plan,” Wang said.

Maher agreed there needed to be more public education about Measure M, which he supported, and said in the future, “We also need to be better prepared, to be clear about what it means to people when the bond is passed.”

Yee also campaigned for Measure M and called it “such a sad thing that it didn’t pass.”

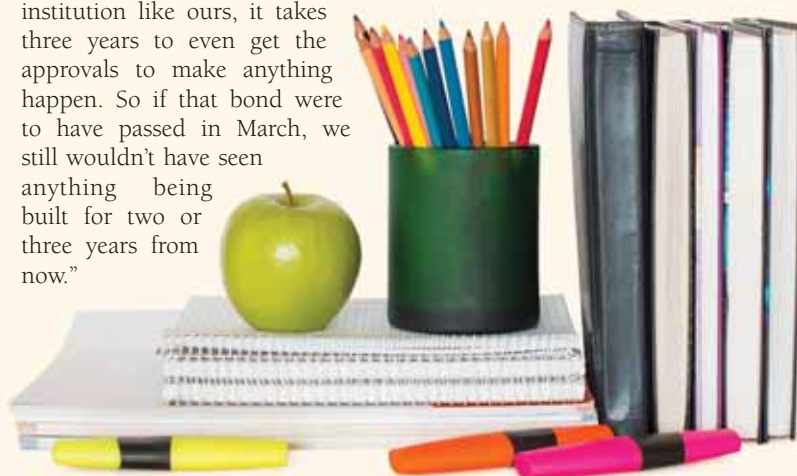
“One of the things that we really need to work on is better communication and education of how a bond works and how the finances work,” Yee said. “People were saying it’s too much, too soon — what does that really mean? In a public education institution like ours, it takes three years to even get the approvals to make anything happen. So if that bond were to have passed in March, we still wouldn’t have seen anything being built for two or three years from now.”

A question about having law enforcement officers assigned to local schools as school resources officers (SROs) prompted a number of responses from the candidates about managing the convergence of mental health of students and policing practices.

The quintet also discussed their perspectives on Superintendent David Haglund’s job performance, the 4th/5th grades campus proposed for the Donlon Elementary site (the “E-10” school), the district’s relationship with the teachers’ union and how they would look to engage students as a trustee.

To view the full forum video, visit PleasantonWeekly.com.

All five candidate will appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot, battling for three at-large board positions. At least one seat is guaranteed to change hands, as current Trustee Valerie Arkin opted to run for City Council instead of re-election to the school board. ■



Main Street Special



Enjoy dinner in downtown Pleasanton during one of the “A Weekend on Main” events sponsored by the Pleasanton Downtown Association.

Then enhance the experience by booking the Main Street Special at The Rose Hotel, a deluxe king room for two nights including an extensive continental breakfast and a souvenir bottle of French Cote des Roses wine for just \$399 (\$300 first night, \$99 second night) plus 8% tax, a \$590 value. Offer is limited, so gather your friends and take advantage of this unique offer. Details at pleasantondowntown.net.



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THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



UPCOMING MEETINGS

On March 3, 2020 Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency due to COVID-19 and subsequently issued Executive Order N-25-20 suspending provisions of the Brown Act allowing meetings via teleconferencing and members of the public to observe and offer comments telephonically or electronically. The virtual meeting will be broadcast live on Channel 29 and streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton> and <https://www.tri-valleytv.org>

City Council Special Meeting

Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

- Consider acceptance of implementation plan for key strategies from the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing

COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES RECRUITMENT

The City Council is accepting applications for the following vacancies:

Civic Arts Commission*
Alternate Member

Economic Vitality Committee
One Member from each of the following categories:
Non-Profit Community Based Organization
Commercial Real Estate Developer
Professional Services Firm
Green Economy/Environmental Industry
Financial Services

Housing Commission*
Alternate Member

Youth Commission*
Middle School Members

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee*
Alternate Member

Committee on Energy and the Environment*
Regular Member

APPLICATIONS DUE BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

For more information or to apply, please visit <https://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/clerk/boards/default.asp>
Applicants must reside within the Pleasanton city limits*

For additional information contact the Office of the City Clerk at 925-931-5027

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Ex-Athenian School teacher charged with sexual abuse of a minor

A former teacher and track coach at the Athenian School in Danville has been charged for allegedly sexually assaulting an unidentified girl nearly seven years ago, according to the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office.

Raymond Earl Engeszer, 54, of Oakland pleaded not guilty on Sept. 14 to charges of sexual penetration by a foreign object and oral copulation of a person under 18 for crimes prosecutors allege occurred in December 2013 — after he had already left the private school in eastern Danville, according to Athenian officials.

"What we can tell you is that Mr. Engeszer taught at our school from the fall of 2009 to 2012 as a science

teacher and a track coach. He left our school in 2012. It is important that you know he was no longer employed at our school during the 2013 time period that reportedly is the subject of the current criminal charges," Head of School Eric Niles said in an email to residents.

"Of course, we are taking this very seriously. We are reaching out to the authorities for additional information and will fully cooperate with the ongoing criminal case," Niles added.

The survivor was a minor at the time, but no other identifying details about her — including whether she was a student of Engeszer's or of the Athenian School — will be released due to the nature of the case, according to DA's office spokesman Scott Alonso.

DA officials added that Engeszer previously taught at Convent and Stuart Hall in San Francisco as a science teacher, but he has had his teaching credentials suspended by

the California Commission on Teaching Credentialing.

An Oakland resident, Engeszer is currently out of custody on \$150,000 bail, according to prosecutors.

Officials at Athenian, a private boarding and day school for students in sixth through 12th grades at the base of Mount Diablo in eastern Danville, say their institution has "very robust child protection policies" that are routinely reviewed in order to ensure the best practices are followed.

"These include criminal background checks as well as ongoing training for faculty and staff around boundaries and professional conduct, prevention of sexual harassment and mandatory reporting obligations related to suspected child abuse," Niles said. "In addition, students are regularly encouraged to seek out any trusted adult if they experience something that makes them feel uncomfortable or threatened." ■

—Ryan J. Degan

George Curtis Hawley

April 19, 1924 – September 2, 2020

On September 2, 2020 George Curtis Hawley of Livermore passed on to his eternal life in Heaven after 96 years filled with love, faith, and humor. Though his long battle with cancer and COVID precautions made his final months frustrating at times, his devotion to his family and his strong belief in God brought him comfort and peace.

George was born to the late Lydia and Joseph Hawley in Madera, CA. Before he was school age, his family had moved a few times and then settled in San Ramon, CA to manage a walnut and Pear Orchard. George loved to share stories of his childhood on the orchard, his pet duck, and all the mischief he got into over the years. On October 2, 1942 George joined the United States Coast Guard where he spent four years patrolling the California coast during World War II, he was honorably discharged on March 13, 1946. After the war, George went on to Bible school, married his first wife Mary Saponas, and had a variety of different jobs before his long-time career as an insurance adjuster that lasted until he retired in 1990. He went back to a variety of different jobs when retirement bored him, finally fully retiring at 80 years old.

Mary and George did not think they would be able to have children, but after some strange symptoms and a worry she may have gallstones or a tumor, they found that she was in fact pregnant. On January 1, 1964 Mary gave birth to their only son, Michael Earl. George was a strict, but patient and loving father. He enjoyed fishing, camping, and hunting with Michael and later with his grandchildren Michael, Curtis, and Brittany. Mary sadly passed away in 2004 after a long battle with liver disease.



George said he would never marry again, but when he reunited with his past love Charlotte Gleason, he quickly changed his mind. George and Charlotte were married in 2005 and had some great adventures before Charlotte fell ill with heart conditions and dementia. George was a devoted and loving husband until Charlotte's passing in 2018.

George was preceded in death by Mary and Charlotte, his son Michael Earl, and his grandson Michael Jeffrey. George is survived by his stepchildren, Doris Pruett (Steve), Alice Parker, James Zimmerman, his grandchildren Curtis and Brittany Hawley (Shawn) and Kari Hawley Dubois (John), Joscelyn Godwin, Millicent Mattaliano (John), his great grandchildren Joshua, Norah, Cedar, and Kaia Hawley, Nolan, Keriann, and Asher Dubois, Gracie Chesterman, Angelo and Marisa Mattaliano, and many more loving family and friends. George's greatest desire in life was to be able guide all of his loved ones toward a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, that he may be reunited with them for eternity.

A viewing will occur at Graham Hitch Mortuary Sunday, September 27, 2020 from 11:30am until 2:30pm; George will be buried at the Chapel of Chimes Cemetery in Hayward, CA on Monday, September 28, 2020. Due to the current COVID pandemic, a Celebration of Life service will be postponed until spring of 2021. The family would like to thank Faith Chapel of Pleasanton, CA as well as Hope Hospice of Dublin for their years of support and love for George and their family. If desired, memorial contributions can be made in George's name to Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Sept. 19

Fraud

■ 4:13 a.m. at Sunol Boulevard and I-680 northbound onramp

Drug violation

■ 10:36 a.m. on the 5300 block of Owens Court

■ 2:33 p.m. at Gyles Place and Stanley Boulevard

■ 11:20 p.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Theft

■ 7:08 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Sept. 18

Drug violation

■ 1:54 a.m. on the 4700 block of Hopyard Road

■ 12:56 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

■ 6:30 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Trespassing/prowl

■ 2:19 p.m. on the 2600 block of Stoneridge Drive

Theft

■ 2:35 p.m., 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 5:28 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 10:31 p.m., 3400 block of Cornerstone Court; theft from auto

Domestic battery

■ 10:53 p.m. on Ensenada Drive

Sept. 17

Theft

■ 8:26 a.m., 5100 block of Hopyard Road; theft from auto

■ 11:05 a.m. on the 4100 block of Hacienda Drive

■ 2:03 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 3:29 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 5:07 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 8:45 p.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

Vandalism

■ 9:14 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

■ 9:21 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Domestic battery

■ 7:36 p.m. on Corte Rivera

Sept. 16

Theft

■ 9:08 a.m., 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; theft from auto

■ 9:46 a.m., 6000 block of Stoneridge Drive; theft from auto

■ 11:51 a.m. on the 2400 block of Via Espada

■ 6:35 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Fraud

■ 10:49 a.m. on the 5700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Graffiti

■ 5:27 p.m. at Main Street and Del Valle Parkway

Bernadette Dantzig

December 8, 1940 – September 20, 2020

Bernadette was born in Queens, New York to Mary Feeney Flynn and Melville Flynn. Her brother Frank preceded her in death in 2009. After eight years at St. Barts Grammar School in Elmhurst, New York, Bernadette was awarded an academic scholarship to Bishop McDonald High School in Brooklyn. After graduation, she attended Grace Institute in Manhattan for a year, before joining the legal department of W.R. Grace.

Bernadette married Ed Dantzig on October 30, 1965 and later moved from Long Island to Pleasanton in 1973. Together she and Ed raised their three children, daughter Kerry, and sons Brian and Michael. She is also survived by her loving daughter-in-laws, Melissa and Carrie Dantzig. She cherished her grandchildren and loved seeing them often. She talked, listened, and doted on them. Grandsons Alex (Briegan), Dylan, Tanner, Connor, Liam and granddaughter Nicole, will cherish their memories and time spent together with Grandma.

Bernadette's friends from St. Augustine Catholic Church, her work and volunteer friends at Hope Hospice and her exercise, bookclub, & coffee girlfriends gave her great love, support and encouragement during her long battle with ALS.

Bernadette was an avid reader and loved to travel, especially to visit family in New York, Denis, Dorothy and Marian, and to her large and loving family in Ireland and England. Staying in close contact with extended family gave her hope and sustained her during her illness. Heartfelt gratitude to the Feeney, Lohan, and Molynoux families.

A funeral mass for Bernadette will be held at St. Augustine Catholic Church at 1 p.m. on Friday, September 25.



Vote Pentin for mayor, Allen and Balch for City Council

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Pleasanton is poised for a pivotal city election on Nov. 3, with the mayor's seat and two City Council positions on the ballot to reshape the dais as the city government continues to address monumental local issues such as the COVID-19 crisis, social justice reform and affordable housing.

City voters are fortunate to have a catalog of inspired candidates from which to choose. While looking through the list of five mayoral candidates and seven City Council contestants, we urge residents to recognize that depth of knowledge and depth of experience will be paramount to guide the city government during a difficult 2021 and beyond.

In our view, the candidates who best embody those vital characteristics and are the right community leaders for the terms ahead are Jerry Pentin for mayor, and Nancy Allen and Jack Balch for council.

Mayor of Pleasanton

The mayoral ballot features two sitting council members who are terming out after eight years — Pentin and Karla Brown — along with three political newcomers in Monith Ilavarasan, Tom Turpel and Druthi Ghanta.

A demonstrated leader in Pleasanton, Pentin has run an invigorated campaign prioritizing safety, housing, business support, traffic relief, the environment, education and local control. A former Marine who now runs a media production company downtown, Pentin previously served on the city's Planning, and Parks and Recreation commissions in addition to the Firehouse Arts Center and Callippe Preserve Golf Course task forces.

His work on the council's Legislative Subcommittee will be also invaluable as the city looks to maintain its reputation as the "City of Planned Progress" in the face of impacts from the state and federal governments. We also view Pentin as a natural successor to outgoing Mayor Jerry Thorne, keeping the city on its strong path with an effective leadership style and comparable priorities.

Karla Brown likewise has been a proven independent thinker on the City Council during her eight years in office. She's shown herself to actively engage a number of community views and at times willing to be a lone critical voice in dissent to a council majority or city staff. She has also been a standout advocate for Pleasanton on groups like the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority board (but so has Pentin).

Where we give one slight edge to Pentin is the experience category; though they both have eight years on the council, Pentin has extra layers of public service on his record. We also see Pentin as the more effective leader to guide Pleasanton as it evolves into the future — and yes, that evolution will have to include some growth because of local needs and state mandates. We see more feasibility in Pentin's responsible growth platform than Karla Brown's less-specific slow growth vision.

We'll be sad to see Karla Brown's voice leave the dais due to the city's term limit law, but we really hope she remains engaged in public service and even considers running for other local or regional offices to help ensure Pleasanton is well-represented at all levels.

Ilavarasan, an Amador alum and young tech professional, impressed at our online candidate forum Sept. 3 with inspired ideas to address key issues like community inclusivity, police reform, affordable housing and COVID-19. But knowing about government and knowing how to govern are two very different things. We encourage Ilavarasan to seek a seat on the Planning Commission or another city body to gain necessary experience.

Turpel, a Pleasanton native and first-time candidate, did not participate in our forum and responded inconsistently to our comment requests so far. His stated campaign priorities are muddled at best, but more noticeable is an apparent lack of public engagement.

The final candidate, Ghanta, told us she needed to bow out of the campaign after qualifying for the ballot in order to focus on more important personal priorities than trying to be elected as mayor.

Pleasanton voters are lucky to have three really engaged candidates, two with good governance experience and one with the leadership presence needed to continue the city's strong record of accomplishments into the future. Jerry Pentin will be that mayor for Pleasanton.

Pleasanton City Council

There are seven challengers for two at-large positions open on the City Council (Pentin's and Karla Brown's seats): Nancy Allen, Valerie Arkin, Jack Balch, Randy Brown, Jarod Buna, Zarina Kiziloglu and Chiman Lee.

To navigate a crowded ballot, we encourage residents to use the guiding light of city service experience. Allen and Balch, both members of the Planning Commission, stand above

the rest.

They have some similar campaign priorities and some in contrast, but we recognize it's important to have differing viewpoints on the dais — especially when they have the experience to back them.

Allen, in her seventh year on the Planning Commission with time on multiple other committees and task forces, points to her civic and business leadership record, finance background, independence, and support for preserving downtown's small-town character as well as responsible and thoughtful growth policies citywide. She's been an inquisitive voice who commands the room on the Planning Commission, and we look forward to her bringing those attributes to the council.

Balch, a sitting planning commissioner who earlier served on the Parks and Recreation Commission, also cites fiscal sustainability as a priority on the council, along with promoting economic recovery, keeping neighborhoods safe and strengthening the city-school district partnership. He's been a thoughtful commissioner, asking smart questions and providing informed input to help improve individual projects and city planning policies, and we expect to see much the same on the main dais.

Pleasanton's is perhaps the most effective planning commission in the Tri-Valley, and that's in part because of the perspectives and decision-making styles of Allen and Balch. They've always prioritized positive outcomes for the betterment of the community, even if they didn't see eye to eye on some specifics. That approach will be invaluable on the City Council.

Among the five other candidates, Arkin has 12 years of elected experience on the Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees. Arkin is well-versed in local education issues, but struggled in our candidate forum to show her expertise and creativity on city government topics — including an unfortunate misstep implying BART to Livermore was still on the table.

Randy Brown, a real estate professional who is serving as board chair for the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce this year, knows the issues but has never served on a city commission or committee. That sort of experience is vital to demonstrate independent decision-making, and the absence thereof can't be overlooked in this race.

Kiziloglu, a city housing commissioner, is running on almost a one-issue platform: affordable housing. She has important ideas on this top-priority topic, but her depth of ideas

on other important topics is lacking. That said, we think Kiziloglu would be a great addition to the Planning Commission and urge her to apply (and be appointed) to help shape the future of Pleasanton.

Lee, a former one-term Economic Vitality Committee member, presents interesting concepts on topics like pandemic relief, police reform and sustainable growth, but he has failed to convince how he'd accomplish those ambitious goals as a council member with no high-level civic leadership experience.

Buna, an Amador alum running for the second time in 24 years, appears an accomplished attorney with important campaign priorities, but we're not confident that, given his lack of city service time, he would be able to offer the effective type of bold leadership he promises.

Don't get distracted by the collection of endorsements and social chatter that make it appear like there are two "tickets" developing for City Council — Balch and Randy Brown as some sort of pro-developer duo, and Allen and Arkin as an apparent anti-growth tandem.

We see that as an over-simplification as it applies to all four of those candidates, but more importantly, Allen and Balch are nowhere near those extremes. And how do we know? They have individual voting records on the Planning Commission that prove their independent mindsets focused on what's best for the city.

The next four years for the Pleasanton City Council may well be defined by navigating conflicting priorities. Nancy Allen and Jack Balch are the leaders to help find that important balance. ■

Editor's note: The Pleasanton Weekly editorial board reached its decisions based on the candidates' performances at the Weekly's online forum, email interviews on endorsements, and our review of past reporting and research.

Election letters

The Pleasanton Weekly will accept letters to the editor of up to 250 words on election-related issues until 5 p.m. Oct. 25. Letters are published based on order of receipt and space availability, among other factors. We will publish only one letter per person per election topic this fall, and we reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted. Send via email to letters@pleasantonweekly.com.

LETTERS

Vote for Jack Balch this November

Dear Editor,

Given these unprecedented times we need city leaders who are mindful, fiscally responsible and serve on the Pleasanton City Council with an open mind and a desire to do their utmost for all residents.

City government impacts our day-to-day more than any other level of government so Jack Balch's financial expertise as a CPA when combined with his 11 years of commission experience helps him bring all necessary skills to the table.

I've had the privilege to serve alongside Jack on the Planning Commission for the past few years, and my personal opinion is that if you're seeking someone that can help our city recover economically, act and vote with integrity and also keep your best interests at the heart of his decisions, then you should join me in voting for Jack Balch this November!

—Justin Brown
Planning Commission vice chair

Pentin: The mayor Pleasanton needs

Jerry Pentin has my vote for Pleasanton's next mayor. As our councilman, Jerry has been a strong advocate for our city and has the essential experience to lead our community with strength, passion, fairness and truth.

Rare is the politician who says what he means and does what he says — Jerry is that guy. His ability to collaborate with members of our community with differing views and opinions has been something I have witnessed first-hand and admire. He will keep Pleasanton a safe, welcoming community that cares.

Please join me in voting for Jerry Pentin.

—Bill Spain

Monith for mayor

I will be voting for Monith Ilavarasan and would like to encourage others to do the same. His platform is aligned with democratic ideals and my priorities for our community.

I am a "most of my life" Pleasanton resident. My husband and I moved here 31 years ago in our search for a nice home. It turned out to be the best decision of our lives in so many ways. This was fertile ground to raise our three children with excellent schools, great sports programs and a wonderful community. One of my biggest disappointments is that our children, college graduates with wonderful careers, cannot afford to buy a home here.

I'm voting for Monith so my children can have the same opportunities that I was afforded.

—LuAnne Morin

Let's be candid about local candidates

While I applaud this year's robust and diverse slate of candidates, Pleasanton voters deserve to be fully informed.

Missing from City Council candidate Jack Balch's ballot statement is his affiliation with Balch Enterprises, Inc., his family-owned place of employment. Self-described on its own website, the company identifies itself as "one of the largest developers in the Bay Area." Balch lists himself as a chief financial officer on the ballot. True. He is the CFO of Balch Enterprises, Inc.

Perhaps not something he would want to promote to a voting populace known for supporting measured growth?

City Council candidate and local businessman Randy Brown has also omitted critical information from his ballot statement, by failing to mention that he is the current chairman of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce. It's roster includes several giants in the residential construction industry and a very well-funded political action committee that consistently backs pro-growth candidates.

My votes will go to candidates who are not related to builders and developers, refuse to take donations from them, and have consistently voted on behalf of the residents who live in Pleasanton — Karla Brown for mayor, and Valerie Arkin and Nancy Allen for City Council!

—Judy Fenton

Best for mayor

I first met Jerry Pentin when our Junipero Street neighbors enjoyed National Night Out. Jerry entered and won our first annual Chili Cook Off. (I must say he does make some pretty fine chili!)

I like that he shows integrity and gives straight answers when questioned about issues that matter to us, like the calming measures for Junipero Street. He supported our neighborhood through that process, and was a strong vote for getting the measures approved by the whole council.

I like that he served our country as a Marine, and is supportive of the city's men and women in the military.

I like that he is against defunding the Police Department, and instead supports improving their policies and working with them to make them even better than they already are.

He has worked up through the ranks, including Parks and Rec Commission and Planning Commission appointments. We need his experience and integrity to lead our city and its economy from COVID issues.

My vote for mayor goes to Jerry Pentin. I hope yours will, too.

—Paul Eden

Vote for Nancy Allen

I would like to express my support for Nancy Allen for Pleasanton City Council. I am a longtime neighbor of Nancy, and I've come to know her both professionally (by working directly with her on a nonprofit board) and personally. I have also had occasion to view her at work at Pleasanton Planning Commission meetings.

I have found that Nancy is a creative problem-solver. She comes prepared and carefully studies issues. More importantly, she always focuses on what is in the best interest of Pleasanton as a community. I am impressed that she has pledged not to take any developer donations to her campaign.

One important issue that I am sure Nancy will come through on is the thoughtful development of East Pleasanton. I am sure she will make the best decision on the development of that area that will be in the best interest of all neighborhoods in Pleasanton.

Please vote for Nancy Allen for Pleasanton City Council

—Robert Gonella

Karla, best choice for mayor

More than once when my husband has had occasion to contact the City Council on matters that needed to be addressed, Karla was the only member of the council that responded. We were both so very impressed with her involvement in getting the situation handled. She even went so far as to meet him for coffee to listen to his concerns.

When I told this to a neighbor, she said that she too had the same experience. Karla was the only City Council member that responded to her.

Karla is for slow growth. She will not accept donations from builders or developers. How refreshing is that? She lives and works in Pleasanton and cares about the city.

You could not ask for a better candidate for city mayor.

—Mary Mallory

Why am I voting for Jerry Pentin

1. He is honest and will tell you the truth, whether it is what you want to hear or not, it will be the truth. Unlike his opponent who will state things you want to hear but are impossible to follow through on.

2. His experience on the various committees and commissions in this city gives him the best well-rounded experience for being our mayor.

3. He is a strong leader who will stand up for Pleasanton when being faced with housing and other mandates from Sacramento. He knows how to work and negotiate with lawmakers from Sacramento.

4. His position on our schools and how the city can help the school district. I heard his plan first hand at a local neighborhood meeting; if you can attend one and learn about Jerry

and his vision for our city, it is well worth your time.

5. His track record! This is the most important reason. Seriously check out his opponents voting track record and then make your decision.

During these challenging times with so many unknowns, I personally want our city to be led by an experienced leader and one who will deliver planned progress for our future. This is what Jerry will deliver.

—Vicki LaBarge

Engaging young voters

This past Saturday, two political rallies occurred at the Stoneridge Shopping Center. Though only meters away from each other, the opinions each rally expressed couldn't be further apart. One rally was a Trump truck rally, and the other an anti-Trump counterprotest in memorial of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's passing. Such rallies are evidence of the high political fervor in Pleasanton.

One of these protests was led and organized by two recent Amador Valley High School graduates, Kevin Andrews and Rishabh Raj. As a fellow youth, I am inspired by their organizational initiative and civic participation.

The Student Public Interest Research Group, a non-partisan network of students and professional advocates who take on the issues important to young Americans, is hoping that other youth voters identify with Kevin's and Rishabh's political initiative. With the population of U.S. voters ages 18-29 being the largest and most diverse of any voting group in the country, the potential power of these votes is immeasurable.

To make sure that young voices are being heard and as many young people as possible cast ballots this fall, Student PIRGs partnered with Rock the Vote to launch studentvote.org, a one-stop-shop for voter registration, information about polling places, absentee ballots and voting safely in Pleasanton.

This Tuesday was National Voter Registration Day. I urge my peers to visit the site and bring their political fervor to the ballot box, regardless of party leanings. Wherever you stand, let's make our voices heard.

—Evan Yang

Go with experience

I am very excited about the list of candidates for mayor: diversity, educational backgrounds, connection to the city and the enthusiasm to serve.

It takes years to understand the issues, why they arose and the people affected by them. It is important to know how to find funding and use combined resources for the overall benefit of the community.

I encourage those candidates to keep their enthusiasm for a future election. Put in the hours necessary to gain the foundation to successfully lead the city. Serve on as many

commissions as possible before running for mayor.

I am voting for Jerry Pentin because he is the only candidate with 20 years of service: city committees, city commissions and City Council. He's spent countless hours in meetings with inches-thick agenda packets that need to be carefully studied to understand the issues. No other candidate has this level of experience.

It's easy to run, harder to serve. Gain the experience first. Then bring your enthusiasm back to the race for mayor.

—Mike Sedlak

Objective mayor criteria: Vote Karla Brown

During these unprecedented times, it is critical to have a mayor with the following qualities:

Knowledgeable: Carefully researches and studies each issue and asks tough questions.

Honest: Votes independently, is not influenced by city politics and pressure, and will not take campaign "donations" (aka bribes) from developers, builders, etc.

Open: Listens to opinions and suggestions from all residents and has demonstrated ability to collaborate and compromise.

Responsible: Always evaluates financial impacts, to ensure the city's future is secure.

Experienced: City Council member, vice mayor and represented city on numerous regional boards and committees.

Caring: Uses votes, voice, time and energy to help city residents and businesses.

Dedicated: Devoted to always doing what is best for the city and its residents.

After researching various candidates, I only found one that met these criteria — Karla Brown. She is the only Pleasanton mayoral candidate that exhibits all of these qualities, plus she has a record that demonstrates them.

Pleasanton needs and deserves the kind of leadership Karla will provide. Vote Karla Brown for mayor.

—Marilyn English

Mike Wallace for BART board

Vote Mike Wallace for BART board. He is a realist and public agency financial expert. Mike has been endorsed by the East Bay Times. Please elect Mike Wallace to improve BART service and bring some fiscal sanity to BART. He is running to represent Castro Valley and the Tri-Valley.

—Brad Hirst

Supporting Jack Balch

I was proud to serve with Jack Balch on the Parks and Recreation Commission for several years. During our time working together, I

found him to be thoughtful, prepared and committed to our community. I have seen him take the same approach as a member of the Planning Commission and his years of service and experience will make him an outstanding addition to the Pleasanton City Council.

I encourage everyone to join me in voting for Jack Balch.

—Joe Streng

Key endorsements for Woerner in Livermore mayor race

Bob Woerner, vice mayor of Livermore, has earned endorsements of Tri-Valley area elected leaders Rep. Eric Swalwell, Sen. Steve Glazer and Trustee Tim Sbranti in his campaign to be the next mayor in 2021, recognizing his support of Livermore on a regional level.

Vice Mayor Woerner's mayoral campaign has already been endorsed by Mayor Marchand, all City Council members and a diverse coalition of citizens and representatives in business, elected officials, and residents of Livermore.

Eric Swalwell the U.S. representative from District 15, said, "Vice Mayor Woerner has proven to be compassionate and collaborative in tackling regional, Tri-Valley and Livermore issues. His dedicated leadership and track record of accomplishments makes him uniquely qualified to be the next mayor of Livermore and he has earned my endorsement."

"Bob Woerner has been a thoughtful and collaborative city leader and will be an outstanding Livermore mayor. I strongly support his election!" Steve Glazer, California state senator, offered.

Tim Sbranti, a Chabot-Las Positas College trustee, reflected, "In my work for the Tri-Valley, I have seen Vice Mayor Woerner's innovative problem-solving on challenging regional issues. From his work on the fiscal health of the city to revitalizing the downtown, Woerner's leadership has positioned Livermore well to survive the pandemic and thrive in the future. That is why I am pleased to endorse Bob Woerner to be the next mayor of Livermore."

Please visit Woerner4Mayor.com.

—Lori Souza

Valerie Arkin for City Council

When I became aware that Valerie Arkin wished to run for City Council, my first thought was, Pleasanton is losing a hardworking and smart member of the school board... then it dawned on me that this is great.

Pleasanton is known for its great schools, always ranked at the top in the state. After 12 years, it's easy to draw a connection and give you credit for your work on PUSD and the consistency of the top-rated performance of our schools.

Your going to the City Council is perfect timing; schools are the

number one reason folks want to live and stay in Pleasanton. Everything begins and ultimately ends with parents raising their children.

For many (certainly myself and son's family), the success and happiness of our children is the No. 1 priority. The COVID-19 has changed everything about education. We absolutely need you on the council! Your history with PUSD is unique and you'll bring expertise not found in any other candidate.

I cannot think of any candidate that will be bringing more to the City Council. I'm pleased you are continuing to give to our city.

—Anne Richert

Jerry Pentin for mayor

I strongly support Jerry Pentin for mayor.

My No. 1 reason is Jerry's character and compassion, which he has shown during his many years of unmatched service to our community. We owe so many of Pleasanton's community amenities to his hard work: open space, safe bike lanes, trails, recreational facilities, our vibrant downtown, and the range of housing opportunities which Jerry has fought to make accessible to all our residents.

Jerry Pentin is the best person to lead the council as we undertake the biggest upcoming challenge of crafting our next Housing Element: providing affordable workforce housing that will support Pleasanton's small business and corporate enterprises, and reduce traffic and air pollution from our ever-growing commute.

Jerry's successful track record of working with both new and longtime residents to bring needed and beneficial change is truly unmatched. He is the only candidate who has consistently transformed unmet needs into community assets.

As an advocate for affordable workforce housing, environmental activist and former City Council member, I recommend Jerry Pentin for mayor.

—Becky Dennis,

Pleasanton City Council (1993-2002)

Kelly Mokashi: A natural leader for PUSD board

Kelly has the ability to take a vision and work with key district leaders, coaches and teachers to make positive changes that really make a difference for students.

As a former assistant superintendent, I have worked with many district personnel and educational professionals. I observed first hand how Kelly, as an educational consultant, guided our district leaders to work in a collaborative way that engaged all stakeholders through the process effectively.

During a time when our district was under-performing academically, Kelly was able to help our district improve curricular and

assessment practices by working with a district leadership team to overhaul the math and ELA elementary curriculum and implement several assessment practices, including a portfolio system and trimester assessments.

Kelly coached and trained our coaches, teachers, including classroom teachers, special education teachers and other specialists, on effective strategies to improve their instruction, including project-based learning in our elementary schools, a writing program (K-8), and specific strategies to work with our diverse student population, including differentiation strategies (K-8).

Most remarkably, she was instrumental in working directly with our elementary principals and with the staff to work more cohesively together than ever before through regular district meetings, PD, coaching, and regular communications.

As a natural leader for the PUSD school board, Kelly has the tenacity to work through difficult situations and keep a level head, while working with educators to make impactful, long-term changes in the best interest of students!

—Ray Hryczyk

Mary Jo is for our kids

Looking for a school board member to vote for? Ask the candidate when was the last time they had a conversation with a classroom teacher. How in touch is the candidate with the realities of teaching today? What is their knowledge of the complexity of funding decisions for public education?

I will be looking for a candidate with a clear, positive regard for teaching and teachers. I want someone who's special interest is every single child in PUSD.

Years ago teachers, admin and board worked in harmony. Pleasanton became a world class district during Mary Jo Carreon's years as a teacher, and I am confident that her influence on the board will help to restore that powerful, positive balance between teachers, administration and board.

Mary Jo has lived in Pleasanton for decades. Her kids went through our schools, and she spent her career helping to build PUSD into a destination school district. Now in her retirement years she wants to use her expertise to give even more to our community.

Mary Jo will help rebuild those bridges to get back to a strong, wise, mutually respectful relationship. In concert with the other four board members, their decisions will lead our district into a new period of accomplishment.

—Melinda Ballard

Allen + Balch = Council success

I will vote for Nancy Allen and Jack Balch for City Council. Here's why: Both Allen and Balch have the

leadership, financial acumen and proven public service credentials needed to guide our city through some tough times ahead.

Nancy Allen is a seasoned business professional who has served as a planning commissioner, an Economic Vitality Committee member and 20-year community volunteer. She is smart, energetic and will leave no stone unturned in her goal to do what's best for our city.

She has advocated for local control of government (not Sacramento), responsible growth policies to minimize the impact on schools, streets and water, and is against moving Civic Center to Bernal Park — a \$200 million pricetag we can ill afford right now.

Jack Balch is my neighbor and I can personally vouch for his character, integrity and willingness to listen. He has served as a planning commissioner, a parks and recreation commissioner and a baseball coach. Jack will put Pleasanton first.

He will preserve the local character of our city, keep our neighborhoods safe and safeguard the environment. Jack's business experience as a CPA at his family's commercial property business means he understands both developer operations and the bottom line. This two-fold knowledge will be a vital asset to the city during east side development negotiations, among others.

Please join me and cast your ballot for Allen and Balch on Nov. 3.

—Jill Miller

Which Karla is running?

Like another recent letter writer, I was struck by the number of letters written in support of Karla Brown that all made identical points: that is that Karla Brown has pledged not to take developer/special interest money. Except that she has!

Not only did she take money from a commercial company opposed to the East Pleasanton project, but I remember her literally standing with the anti-Costco crowd near the farmers' market after taking money from businesses opposed to Costco. Now she says she supports Costco.

Which Karla Brown is running for mayor? Will she change her mind on Costco once again?

—Larry Brumm

I've decided to vote for Jerry Pentin for mayor

After careful consideration, Jerry is the right person for our next mayor. I stopped by and talked with Jerry last weekend near the farmers' market. Visited his website on Facebook and pulled up his bio on the city of Pleasanton website. Here are just a few of the things I've learned.

- Jerry has been actively involved in local government since 1997 (go to Pleasanton website to see all).

- He doesn't accept donations from developers or special

interest groups.

- He is committed to protecting our open space, ridgeline and natural resources.

- He supports our business community and strives to maintain a strong revenue base for our city.

- He is a strong advocate for pension reform and a sustainable budget.

- He believes and fights to retain local control of our city government.

- He served our country as a United States Marine.

- He is effective in collaborating to ensure affordable housing for our residents, seniors and workforce.

This is only part of why I'm voting for Jerry Pentin for mayor of Pleasanton. I hope you will join me.

—Jay Hertogs

Vote for Nancy Allen

I am excited to endorse Nancy Allen for City Council and encourage you to vote for her as well.

I have known Nancy for nearly 30 years as a friend, neighbor, board member and volunteer in local community groups. During this time there has always been a constant in her life, service to her community. That's part of her values, her character, who she is.

Nancy is smart, energetic, and open minded. She is positive, thoughtful and kind. It's impressive that she will not accept any developer donations towards her campaign. She has made it clear that her positions will be based purely in the best interest of our city.

She stands for smart, responsible and slower growth and so much more. She values what makes Pleasanton so special. I know Nancy. I trust Nancy. She is exactly who we need on our City Council. Please join me and vote for Nancy Allen.

—Ellen Holt

Vote Karla Brown, Nancy Allen, Valerie Arkin

I am very concerned about Pleasanton's future. I have lived here since 1987 and have witnessed the city's expansion from a pleasant small community to a crowded commercially oriented city. We are still far better off than Dublin, which is expanding eastward like a virus into the Altamont hills area with what I call dense-pack housing.

I support Karla Brown for mayor and Valerie Arkin and Nancy Allen for City Council because they will not be beholden to developers since they are not accepting donations from them. Pleasanton needs controlled growth that considers quality of life, not quantity of taxpayers, to keep it this way.

I am retired now and hoping I won't be forced to move away due to congestion and the decline in the quality of life that follows ambitious expansion.

—Frank Hartley

Marketplace

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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Paige One Creations
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 572402

The following person doing business as: Paige One Creations, 6219 Gibson Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Lori P. Baker, 6219 Gibson Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Lori P. Baker, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Lori P. Baker, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 20, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, September 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 2020.)

CIRCLE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 572529

The following person doing business as: CIRCLE, 5976 West Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Mohammad Habib, 6885

Payne Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Mohammad Habib, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Mohammad Habib, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 31, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, September 25, October 2, 9, 16, 2020.)

Coastline Academy
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 572925

The following person doing business as: Coastline Academy, 235 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Coastline Automation, Inc., 371 Ridge Way, Carmel Valley, CA 93924, Delaware. This business is conducted by Coastline Automation, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein August 1, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Matthew Harvey, Secretary/CTO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 11, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, September 25, October 2, 9, 16, 2020.)

Call (925) 600-0840 for assistance with your legal advertising needs.
E-mail: gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com

Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Theater

EUGENE O'NEILL — OCTOBER SURPRISE The "Lost Plays," three one-acts of O'Neill's early career, will appear on their website as video performances. First up is "The Web," 5 p.m., Oct. 3. For more information, visit eugeneoneill.org.

KING LEAR San Francisco Shakespeare Festival presents a live, virtual performance of "King Lear" with audience engagement opportunities. 7 p.m., Sept. 26 and 4 p.m., Sept. 27. Visit sfshakes.org.

Concerts

VINEYARD VIBES FEATURING MIKE LICKISS AND CHRIS CARTER. Singer-Songwriter Duo — The LK Project. (The previously announced concert with David Victor has been postponed.) This event is free and registration is required. 6 p.m., Sept. 27. Visit livermorearts.org.

ILIZA SHLESINGER'S COMEDY TAILGATE TOUR With five specials currently streaming, Iliza Shlesinger is one of today's leading comedians with fans who create and wear their own Iliza inspired swag to her shows. Her nine-city trek brings her to the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Oct. 23. Tickets on sale now at iliza.com. The fairgrounds are located at 4501 Pleasanton Ave. in Pleasanton.

Talks

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT: UNDERSTANDING VOTING IN CALIFORNIA Join this free nonpartisan webinar to educate California voters on how to ensure their votes are counted, whether the ballots are submitted in person or by mail. 12-1 p.m., Sept. 30. Visit hogefenton.zoom.us.

Business

PLEASANTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOSTS THIRD VIRTUAL TRADESHOW The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce welcomes the third edition of an online vendor tradeshow promoting a select group of chamber members. This is an opportunity for these members to showcase their business in a visually appealing, user-friendly online setting. The Virtual Tradeshow will run until 5 p.m., Oct. 2. Visit pleasanton.org.

Fundraisers

TRI-VALLEY HAVEN'S VIRTUAL PACE FOR PEACE Join this year's virtual 5K/10K walk/run. All proceeds help local survivors of domestic violence served by Tri-Valley Haven. Teams, serious runners, novice runners, walkers, and families. Participant medals and age group awards will be given. Experience the fun & connect online. Oct. 17-31. Visit trivalleyhaven.org.

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Hi! I'm Daryl

And I have a personality as big as I am. At 2 years old, I'm a friendly giant with lots to talk to you about. I'm also a sleek handsome cat with a timeless style and class. I'd love a home with places to explore, cuddle, curl up and play. Even better if you have a lap ready and maybe can share a treat or two. Looking for a superhero partner? It could be me! Interested in me? Visit eastbayspca.org.

Fitness

VIRTUAL FITNESS CHALLENGE To support Pleasanton's nonprofit community hospital Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare, the challenge is to virtually walk, run, cycle, hike or swim from the Golden Gate Bridge to Yosemite National Park. Registration is open from Sept. 1-30. Register at givevalleycare.org/StayApartFitTogether.

Government

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month, currently held virtually. 7 p.m., Sept. 28. Visit cityoflivermore.net.

PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL POLICING MEETING The Pleasanton City Council is holding a special online meeting at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 1 to discuss community policing in Pleasanton, specifically the Pleasanton Police Department's implementation of 21st-century policing practices. For more information, visit www.cityofpleasantonca.gov.

SEPTEMBER BREAKFAST AT Vic's Vic's All Star Kitchen is supporting the Amador Valley High School senior class by hosting a fundraiser every Wednesday morning in September. Tell your server you're there for the fundraiser and leave your receipt in the bowl. 6-10 a.m., Sept. 30. Vic's Diner, 201 Main St. Suite A.

TRI-VALLEY JAIL N' BAIL Tri-Valley residents are invited to come and bail out some jailbirds to help local foster kids. This is a fun, lighthearted event and all funds raised go towards Agape Villages Foster Family Agency. 4-7 p.m., Oct. 7. Sidetrack Bar & Grill, 30 W. Angela St. Visit agapevillages.org.

Teens

'THIS IS CHANGE' — SUMMIT Youth political and social justice organizations are meeting to discuss racial justice, student mental health and climate advocacy. The summit features student leaders from across Northern California. 3 p.m., Sept. 27. The event is open to attend and participate via Zoom Webinar: tinyurl.com/ThisIsChangeSummit.



LIVJUSD

Livermore winegrowers donate \$85,000 for school meals

The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association and the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation presented a check last week worth \$85,000 to the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District to support the district's programs that offer meals to all youth in Livermore. The organizations raised the money through a virtual auction this summer for a range of items that included wine packages, vacation trips and more. "Moving the auction up to July from its usual September timing allowed this donation to reach the school district just as the new school year is beginning," organizers said.

Seniors have options to finance home improvements

'Reverse mortgage' loan provides funds without payments

By **DAVID STARK**

Seniors have a couple options to finance home improvements, such as remodeling to make a home safer and more comfortable to age in place.

Audrey Boissonou, president of the California Association of Mortgage Professionals (CAMP), said refinancing a home to access equity is an option some homeowners are exploring if they need cash but don't want to disturb their current investments.

A "reverse mortgage" is another option available exclusively for seniors. "It's a way of accessing part of the equity in your home



David Stark

in the form of a loan that you don't need to make payments on for the rest of your life as long as you live in the home," said Marge Bottari, who serves on the CAMP Board of Directors.

She explained borrowers still need to pay property taxes and insurance and maintain the home. Bottari said it may be easier to secure a reverse mortgage than a home equity line of credit, adding, "It gives you access to the equity in your home in a way that's not as strict as other loans."

"Reverse mortgages have become a hot topic these days because people's part-time jobs have gone away and people are worried about additional income," she said. Bottari indicated funds from a reverse mortgage can even be used to purchase another home.



GETTY IMAGES

The logistics of applying for a loan during COVID-19 is evolving to protect the health of all parties involved. Bottari said that loan officers are still able to meet face-to-face with clients while following social distancing protocols but much of the transaction can be conducted virtually.

"Usually it's one live meeting with the borrower and then at the closing with a notary; everything else can be handled online," Bottari said. A financing solution to either purchase or fix up a home or tap any equity in the home needs to fit the homeowner. Finding the right fit means doing

some homework.

To get the process started, "You just need to talk to a good loan officer and have a conversation," Bottari said. ■

Editor's note: David Stark is public affairs director for the Bay East Association of Realtors, headquartered in Pleasanton.



NEW HOME FOR SALE

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Pleasanton Hacienda is a wonderful choice for you if you are over 55 and are looking for a nice quiet, friendly community to call home.

2019 'Palm Harbor' Manufactured Home. Enjoy one-story living in this three bedroom and two bath, high energy efficient home with approximately 1620 sq. ft. of living space.

Space rent includes many Park amenities, such as tree lined walking trails, clubhouse with library, game room, chefs kitchen for parties. Community pool with patio & picnic area, hot tub & sauna. Planned activities and social programs. On site Park Manager.



Alameda County launches new age-friendly website for seniors

Online portal connects older residents to local services, info and updates

By JULIA BAUM

Seniors in Alameda County can find local services, resources and information to stay engaged and active in their communities through the newly launched "Age-Friendly County" website.

In a statement this week, county officials said improving "livability for people of all ages, while maintaining a specific focus on information that impacts older adults'

lives, was the driving force behind the site's creation."

"Connecting seniors with the services they may need is more critical than ever during the COVID-19 emergency," said Lori Cox, director of Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA). "What this site also does is connect seniors with information and opportunities to take action and contribute their talents, which

benefits the whole community."

The SSA developed the website with the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (HCSA), at the request of the Board of Supervisors, and in partnership with the Council for Age-Friendly Communities (Age Friendly Council).

The Age Friendly Council is comprised of community partners, advocates and county staff who collaborate on policies and system

changes that benefit elder residents in Alameda County. Their goal is "to engage consumers, leaders, policy makers, and service providers to develop and sustain a community framework that fosters healthy aging."

Users can find information about the Age Friendly Council, COVID-19 resources, city-specific services, countywide age-friendly efforts, and updates from the

World Health Organization/AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the Area Agency on Aging (AAA).

"Alameda County has proudly joined the World Health Organization's global network of age-friendly communities. This website helps to make that vision a reality," said Colleen Chawla, HCSA director.

Visit agefriendly.acgov.org to learn more. ■

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during July 13-24 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Aug. 11-21 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 4646 1st Street** B. Wolfenberger to F. Ulas for \$935,000
- 641 Abbie Street** Tieck Family Trust to Z. & M. Sendler for \$1,725,000
- 3940 Alma Court** R. Schmidt to B. & C. Arora for \$1,010,000
- 270 Birch Creek Drive** S. Gilmore to J. & T. Zhang for \$645,000
- 7580 Canyon Meadow Circle #F** B. Carlson-Sypek to M. & B. Lum for \$495,000
- 5214 Crestline Way** M. Rosefield to D. & P. Sahasrabudhe for \$1,250,000
- 1586 Foothill Road** R. Sandhu to K. & A. Siu for \$1,492,000
- 5139 Genovesio Drive** B. Tian to S. & P. Nallam for \$1,100,000
- 4181 Georgis Place** S. & L. Ahart to M. Chan for \$711,000

- 18 Golf Road S. & T.** McMahon to B. & J. Sharma for \$2,100,000
- 2361 Greenwood Road** Whealy Trust to Mederos Trust for \$850,000
- 3122 Gulfstream Street** Schott Trust to S. & A. Sharma for \$1,337,000
- 4634 Ithaca Way** S. & S. Sebastian to S. Jammalamadaka for \$710,000
- 4454 Linda Way** Van Wagenen Family Trust to R. & J. Redhalr for \$1,060,000
- 453 Los Rios Court** Harber Family Trust to D. Montes for \$1,765,000
- 720 Mockingbird Lane** Roth Trust to Nguyen Family Trust for \$1,550,000
- 7272 Moss Tree Way** Gamache Family Trust to Doctor Trust for \$2,180,000
- 5886 Northway Road** N. Palsena to A. & N. Upadhyay for \$930,000
- 3715 Oak Brook Court** K. Mills to A. & P. Ravindranathan for \$1,083,000
- 2415 Pomino Way** H. Wang to Mehlman Trust for \$3,005,000

- 1588 Poppybank Court** Z. Jin to S. & S. Ravindran for \$988,000
- 4228 School Street** M. Marquis to K. Champlin for \$1,080,000
- 3441 Stacey Way** Rooze Trust to V. & A. Singh for \$1,075,000
- 3790 Stanley Boulevard** Meritage Hms Of California Inc to A. & V. Sekar for \$1,175,000
- 72 Sunflower Hill Way** Meritage Hms Of California Inc to J. & J. Heo for \$1,240,000
- 6025 Via De Los Cerros** D. & T. Smith to N. & Q. Do for \$825,000
- 3948 Vierra Street** P. Jazayeri to O. Ponomarenko for \$2,470,000
- 3572 Whitehall Court** Janis Living Trust to M. & N. Patil for \$1,180,000
- 500 East Angela Street** S. & M. Schepers to M. Champlin for \$1,079,000
- 846 East Angela Street** H. & D. Choi to A. & Z. Cui for \$1,391,500
- 602 Blossom Court** Machi Family Trust to G. & I. Iannaccone for \$2,200,000

- 2862 Calle Reynoso** Richards Family Trust to Z. & J. Chen for \$1,100,000
- 4218 Chapman Way** J. Mang-Yee to C. & N. Mandava for \$950,000
- 4890 Cobbler Court** Boy2000 Separate Prop Trust to Kamath-Rao Trust for \$1,850,000
- 7717 Cottonwood Lane** S. & J. Cody to S. & V. Ozdemir for \$1,170,000
- 7825 Creekside Drive #12** K. Winer to N. & A. Todor for \$784,000
- 725 Crystal Lane** Woodruff Family Trust to C. & A. Fong for \$1,675,000
- 815 Division Street** Muzinich Living Trust to J. Balousek for \$390,000
- 7490 Flagstone Drive** A. Loomba to S. So for \$1,268,000
- 5650 Hansen Drive** M. & S. Brown to R. & S. Giri for \$1,155,000
- 304 Happy Valley Road** Lakhani Trust to H. & M. Ahmed for \$1,461,000

See HOME SALES on Page 25

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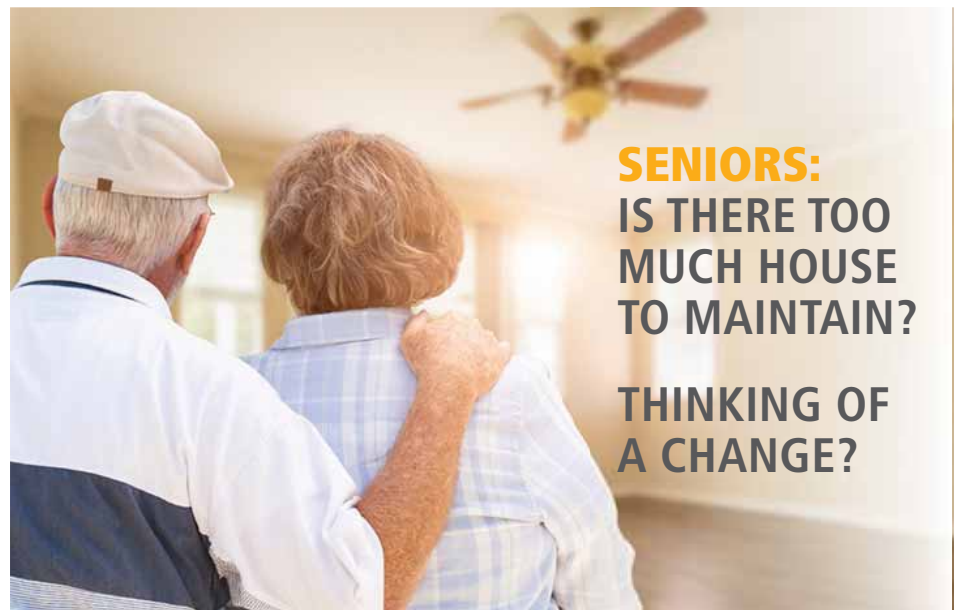
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- Should I consider a reverse mortgage?
- What do different senior communities offer? How much do they cost?
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- What are all my housing options?

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818 Kalthoff Common, Ruby Hill Vineyard Estates
5 BD | 5.5 BA | 4,500 sq.ft.
Pending in 6 Days with Multiple Offers
Representing Seller | \$3,448,888
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1151 Central Avenue, Livermore
4 BD | 3 BA | 3,424 sq.ft. | 2.08 acre lot
Coming Soon | \$3,448,888
Sub-dividable into a total of 5 lots | Call for details



3128 Hansen Road, Livermore
4 BD | 3.5 BA | 3,870 sq.ft.
New Listing | \$1,948,888



1505 Umbria Court, San Ramon
4 BD | 3 BA | 2,690 sq.ft.
Represented Buyers
Just Sold | \$1,345,000



817 Pinehurst Court, San Ramon
4 BD | 2 BA | 2,170 sq.ft.
Represented Buyer
Just Sold for \$1,268,000



115 Toyon Lane, Union City
4 BD | 3 BA | 1,914 sq.ft.
Pending Multiple Offers | Representing Seller | \$1,178,888
Virtual Tour - tinyurl.com/y6d4zjhr

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Sunset East Home, Livermore

Updated Single Story Home, Listed by Katie Moe
1,650 Sq Ft | 4 Bed | 2 Bath | 8,000 Sq Ft lot | Call For Price



3152 Castle Rock Loop, Discovery Bay

Former Lakeshore Model, Listed by Katie Moe
3,578 Sq Ft | 4 Bed + Bonus | 3 Bath | Call for Price



183 Summerside Circle, Danville

Greenbrook Townhome, Listed by Sandra Kozimor
1,542 Sq Ft | 3 Bed | 2.5 Bath | Garage | Call for Price



134 Pebble Place, San Ramon

Downstairs Bed/Bath, Listed by Elisa Beltran
2,280 Sq Ft | 4 Bed | 3 Bath | Pool | Call For Price



2641 Caballo Ranchero Drive, Diablo

Diablo Country Club, Listed by Sandra Kozimor
4,807 Sq Ft | 5 Bed | 4.5 Bath | 1.2 Acres | \$4,300,000



7336 Hansen Drive, Westside Dublin

Multiple Offers, Listed by Emily & Wendy
2,608 Sq Ft | 4 Bed | 3 Bath | Briar Hills | \$1,249,000



155 Sharene Ln #115, Walnut Creek

Pending Over Asking, Listed by Sandra Kozimor
1,005 Sq Ft | 2 Bed | 2 Bath | Downtown | \$429,000



2132 Alexander Way, Pleasanton

Only 7 Days on Market, Listed by Emily & Wendy
1,329 Sq Ft | 3 Bed | 2.5 Bath | Duet | \$900,000



262 Arcency Court, Danville

Only 6 Days on Market, Listed by Jennifer Larson
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HOME SALES

Continued from Page 22

1376 West Lagoon Road Pham Family Trust to J. & V. Palkonda for \$1,735,000
4869 Livingston Place Addiego Family Trust to Cavanaugh Trust for \$2,400,000
836 Madeira Drive Ultimate Trust to P. & K. Jiang for \$1,020,000
7441 Maywood Drive A. Miyamoto to T. & M. How for \$870,000
3502 Milleford Court N. & R. Crawford to J. & B. Dowling for \$2,150,000
3242 Novara Way C. & M. Pangia to G Family Trust for \$3,300,000
2341 Romano Circle G. Moore to Y. & Y. Guo for \$1,875,000
4129 School Street Lion Share Investments LLC to A. & D. Elmashni for \$1,110,000
2587 Skimmer Court Corsie Living Trust to R. & M. Wu for \$1,470,000
5854 Sterling Greens Circle Schulz Living Trust to D. & W. Amiri for \$1,370,000
968 Summit Creek Court C. & G. Cruz to Pierson Family Trust for \$2,035,000
2529 Tanager Drive L. Macy to B. & V. Arestad for \$1,360,000
2729 Trevor Parkway M. & M. Sandretti to Y. & W. An for \$1,040,000

Livermore

738 Alexander Street A. Koth to C. & D. Cardwell for \$720,000
142 Amber Way Barnes Family Trust to K. & E. Young for \$905,000
841 Barney Common National Residential to S. & T. Ying for \$970,000
539 Bell Avenue Springer Living Trust to E. Downey for \$925,000
2162 Broadmoor Street Coyne Family Trust to J. & M. Quraishi for \$850,000
1879 Calle Del Sueno K. & K. Boggs to N. & K. Seuis for \$790,000
289 Covellite Lane C. Ninekirk to B. & J. Williams for \$848,000.00
124 Daisyfield Drive J. & J. Terwilliger to D. Shulman for \$970,000
1070 Dana Circle A. & T. Hubner to Y. & K. Cho for \$985,000
2043 Del Monte Street V. Shastri to M. Kerner for \$715,000
807 Del Norte Drive S. Wan to 1031 Ep1 Inc for \$815,000
620 Egret Road King Family Trust to V. & A. Adhikari for \$870,000
850 El Rancho Drive K. & R. Ditto to K. & L. King for \$706,000
1188 Flurry Drive J. Tsui to A. & J. Bates for \$740,000
883 Geraldine Street Z. Hitti to T. & J. Crothers for \$940,000
6371 Half Dome Way K. & K. Nelson to L. Harder for \$815,000
772 Hattan Drive P. George to N. & J. Janardhanan for \$800,000
426 James Street S. Cortez to H. Wang for \$604,000
4860 Kimberley Common Brian Trust to H. Valdez for \$810,000
842 Las Flores Road S. & C. Thondikulam to C. & R. Frizzell for \$690,000
1491 Lexington Way W. Love to S. & D. Graham for \$940,000
344 Martin Avenue L. Luo to G. & R. Altamirano for \$755,000
931 Miranda Way Farris Living Trust to C. Tameru for \$860,000
1377 Murdell Lane A. & J. Demma to S. & S. Datta for \$1,295,000
1087 Murrieta Boulevard #331 J. Kalirai to Perez Trust for \$394,000
5314 Norma Way D. & D. Morris to E. & B. Torquemada for \$900,000
1357 Olivina Avenue J. & T. Crothers to F. & J. Qu for \$730,000
2792 Patcham Common L. Phirippidis to M. & M. Hernandez for \$785,000
2074 Rapallo Common Green Family Trust to Talegaonkar Family Trust for \$825,000
711 Sandpiper Common D. Ward to M. & K. Marshall for \$565,000
1823 Spruce Street L. & T. Carter to J. & M. Camilleri for \$705,000

336 Tanager Road Y. Paul to V. & V. Kumar for \$437,000
6849 Tiffany Common S. & Y. Astier to A. & P. Oskolkov for \$800,000
245 Tourmaline Avenue D. & C. Blomgren to M. & T. Layfield for \$1,354,500
703 Trinity Hills Lane Wang Family Trust to A. & I. Khan for \$1,400,000
971 Verona Avenue C. & R. Clark to A. & T. Quinlan for \$830,000
455 Wall Court G. & L. Teague to A. & L. Huynh for \$792,000
927 Waverly Common Frizzell Family Trust to S. & V. Sathe for \$770,000
1300 Windswept Common #4 P. Huang to G. & L. Espinoza for \$680,000
5480 Arlene Way C. & J. Thorngate to Henkelman Family Trust for \$775,000
1806 Bluebell Drive Ryder Family Trust to K. & D. Costin for \$849,000
3550 Caldeira Drive S. Gonzales to B. Babadi for \$1,375,000
3835 California Way Chloe Rae Properties LLC to L. & K. Lyall for \$680,000
1655 Calle Del Rey C. & K. Juhasz to H. & V. Rathod for \$748,000
352 Cambridge Way A. & K. Gray to W. & P. Ehret for \$810,000
2271 Chardonnay Way Seberger Family Trust to Swanson Family Trust for \$1,425,000
1423 Columbine Way J. Baxter to A. & W. Tonis for \$990,000
554 Dovecote Lane #2 B. & R. Scornaienchi to H. & V. Patil for \$660,000
672 Hazel Street S. & A. Fontes to A. & A. Ekhardt for \$790,000
25 Heligan Lane #4 M. Cesarano to V. & D. Yee for \$663,000
1411 Hollyhock Street S. Leetch to J. & M. Muniz for \$623,000
2777 Kennedy Street Petersen Living Trust to K. & T. Korycinski for \$650,000
2020 Larry Place Freeman Family Trust to Dasoar Living Trust for \$1,625,000
1102 Lucille Street Nagel Spouses Trust to R. Oelrich for \$500,000.00
3437 Madeira Way Scoma Family Trust to A. Leon for \$538,500.00
1223 Marguerite Street Finders Living Trust to J. & N. Soares for \$710,000.00
2257 Minerva Court L. & J. Mcguire to Giramaji Trust for \$1,810,000
582 Morgan Common B. & S. Gildea to C. Surrency for \$563,000
687 Mulqueeney Street Connolly Family Trust to A. & T. Anway for \$680,000
4818 Mulqueeney Common J. Martinez to K. Keeshen for \$730,000
890 North O Street M. Baughman to C. Boyer for \$615,000
324 Ontario Drive Primo Farms LLC to M. & T. Dyachok for \$915,000
3006 Picholine Drive M. & C. Tockman to A. & K. Bains for \$1,650,000
2406 Pyramid Street Eckard Trust to K. & N. Graham for \$1,510,000
1926 Railroad Avenue #118 Widmayer Trust to R. Lewis for \$537,000
2811 Salvia Common J. Micheletti to D. & D. Subramanian for \$740,000
689 Sandalwood Drive #2 Shea Homes Inc to R. & G. Henry for \$837,500
540 Shelley Street A. & M. Friedley to Kirk Trust for \$850,000
1475 Spring Valley Common K. & E. Fiebig to R. & H. Landrum for \$512,000
1323 Spring Valley Common K. & M. Phillips to K. & K. Chavez for \$572,500
345 Summertree Drive J. & R. Hill to C. & M. Rosenbrock for \$1,000,000
897 Tranquility Circle #9 H. Shea to S. Tariq for \$740,000
140 Trevarno Road B. Luke to M. & K. Zapata for \$920,000
987 Waverly Common Rice Family Trust to S. Sanders for \$675,000
1310 Windswept Common #1 M. & B. Reyes to A. Rojas for \$680,000
238 Wood Street #704 H. Elkihel to R. Holmes for \$685,000

Dublin

7593 Brighton Drive Rodrigues Trust to R. Scarano for \$725,000

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (July 13-24)

Total sales reported: 54
Lowest sale reported: \$390,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,300,000
Average sales reported: \$1,213,814

Livermore (July 13-24)

Total sales reported: 76
Lowest sale reported: \$394,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,810,000
Average sales reported: \$831,881

Dublin (July 13-24)

Total sales reported: 49
Lowest sale reported: \$500,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,810,000
Average sales reported: \$951,428

San Ramon (Aug. 11-21)

Total sales reported: 61
Lowest sale reported: 400,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,332,500
Average sales reported: \$1,138,303

Source: California REsource

6933 Cedar Lane D. Marley to J. & D. Reed for \$910,000
4732 Central Parkway #52 R. Miranda to G. & V. Sawant for \$794,000
3723 Central Parkway #26 J. Knop to K. & Y. Kim for \$875,000
4122 Clarinbridge Circle A. Harrison to S. Chu for \$680,000
8622 Davona Drive P. Le to R. & B. Phan for \$750,000
5501 De Marcus Boulevard #637 G. Mourgos to P. Vada for \$500,000
3245 Dublin Boulevard #230 Y. & Y. Huang to S. Liu for \$580,000
3465 Dublin Boulevard #146 N. & S. Rameja to A. Ramchandran for \$610,000
2468 Encanto Way L. Wang to S. & N. Agarwal for \$1,535,000
7601 Kilrush Avenue Sellars Trust to A. Chen for \$800,000
4530 La Vina Street S. Essanaa to S. & A. Banga for \$1,469,000
2815 Lochgreen Way Y. Kim to H. & K. Patel for \$1,810,000
5996 Lombard Street Calatlantic Group Inc to A. & G. Sane for \$1,131,000
3062 Maguire Way S. & M. Colombo to R. & R. Raju for \$902,000

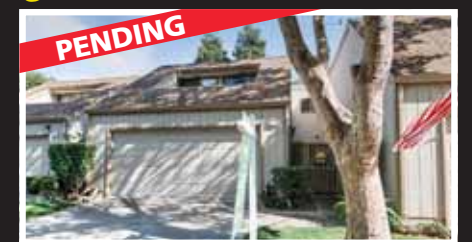
4270 Oak Knoll Drive K. & R. Gastineau to R. & A. Banerjee for \$1,435,000
4275 Oak Knoll Drive S. Ma to B. & E. Kamber for \$1,470,000
7994 Oxbow Court M. & L. Ojeda to A. & I. Caulkins for \$900,000
7944 Regional Common H. Eum to S. Fok for \$935,000
7616 Ridgeline Drive A. Hsueh to Y. & I. Liu for \$1,539,000
11713 Serra Court S. Park to S. & S. Kanagaraj for \$1,060,000
4910 Shelton Street Y. Lim to N. & P. Dabral for \$1,090,000
5626 Signal Hill Drive Medrano Living Trust to S. & G. Masaun for \$1,555,000
4711 North Spago Drive Tovar Living Trust to J. & W. Ou for \$1,280,000
7323 Thames Court Young Living Trust to T. & C. Chatman for \$810,000
4273 Trolan Lane M. & B. Tam to H. & V. Manian for \$1,250,000
8037 Via Zapata A. & J. Last to A. & S. Ashok for \$1,015,000
6864 York Drive T. & J. Brill to Srinivasan Living Trust for \$860,000

Source: California REsource

Thinking of buying or selling in 2020? CALL CINDY!



2281 DOCCIA CT. PLEASANTON
 Ruby hill resort-style golf community. Wonderful executive home, 5 bed 3 bath. 1 bed downstairs plus full bath. Great courtyard! Open floor plan, cozy backyard end of the court. Private, walk to parks/pool and country club.
 Price: \$1,928,000 **Call Cindy for private showing!**



7216 VALLEY VIEW CT. PLEASANTON
 Multiple offers over asking.
 Stoneridge Townhomes
 Price: \$888,000



6631 RIDDELL ST. CASTLEWOOD HTS.
 Asking \$2,148,000



3556 MILLEFORD CT. LAGUNA OAKS
 Price: \$2,250,000

SOLD
 3295 Monmouth Ct. Pleasanton \$1,325,000
 7259 Tina Place, Dublin \$1,218,000
 3020 Mars Ave, Livermore \$1,300,000

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2 KITCHENS & AMAZING VIEWS!

BRAND NEW LISTING!



451 DONNER WAY, SAN RAMON

Rare Canyon Lakes Country Club opportunity with gorgeous 180 degree lake & Mount Diablo views! Spacious 2,608 Sq Ft. 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath single family home with 2 kitchens. Yes! There is a full kitchen on each floor! Enjoy the peace of mind afforded within this secure, gated community including: walking trails, picnic areas, tennis courts, and a local community pool steps away! Private master retreat on the main floor includes expansive skylighted bathroom with jacuzzi tub & balcony access. The living room offers open architectural design, skylights and fireplace. Kitchen upstairs features oak cabinets, stainless steel appliances plus a stovetop grill. One of the 3 huge bedrooms adjacent to the family room on the lower floor, can be used as an amazing au-pair/nanny/in-law quarters which offers a full 2nd kitchen within!



BRIAN ALLEN WRIGHT

925-580-4524

DRE #00887067

LOCAL REALTOR SINCE 1985

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Click on the links below for photos & more information:

www.451Donner.com

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=ZcENBQbG3U8&mls=1>

<https://vimeo.com/455038418/2d337c80a!>

4827 Ganner Court, Pleasanton | Offered at: \$1,599,000



BIRDLAND AT ITS BEST!

This expanded Gallery model has it all, including 2 master suites (1 upstairs and 1 downstairs), large bonus/game room and entertaining backyard with pool and hot tub. The expanded gourmet style eat-in kitchen features: granite counters, custom cabinets, 2 stainless sinks, walk in pantry, electric range, wood flooring and large island. Cozy step-down family room is located off of the kitchen with wet bar, beautiful stone and wood fireplace and new carpet. This 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath beauty has: high ceilings, new carpet, Milgard windows, recessed lighting, ceiling fans, indoor laundry room with storage, fresh paint whole house fan and spacious 2 car garage with storage. The backyard is very inviting; it includes mature trees, hot tub and newly re-plastered pool, perfect for entertaining. Close to Downtown Pleasanton, top rated Pleasanton Schools, shopping, restaurants, BART, Ace-Train, freeways and so much more.

If you are thinking of buying or selling, let me know. I'd love to help.



Joyce Jones

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AVAILABLE AND COMING SOON

PLEASANTON – Acreage & Vineyard



1562 Foothill Road

4 BD – 5 BA – 4708+ SqFt plus an office, a detached Casita & 13 Car Garage or RV/Boat Storage

This show-stopping, single-story home is nestled in the foothills of West Pleasanton, quietly backing up to old-growth Oak trees on over 2 acres. Special care has been taken in the design of this custom home with its open floor plan, boasting vaulted ceilings, a central dual-sided fireplace, and a private bathroom for each bedroom. Enjoy the sunsets and open space from the privacy of your master retreat's spacious fireplace surround. The master bath envelopes you in luxury with a soaking tub, step-in-shower, fireplace and marble floors. Pocket glass doors welcome you into the office with serene views of the property.

The detached 800 SF Casita has its own bathroom and kitchenette. Take in the beauty of this property from the glass doors opening to a patio and the rear yard.

A private boutique of aged grape-vines are yours to harvest and perhaps even design your own label.

Additionally, this 2+ acre yard offers a sparkling, pebble tech swimming pool, lighted basketball court, and a vintage water tower, adding to the character and ambiance of this stunning property.

You will be amazed by the garage capacity which can store up to 13 cars, a boat or RV. This special home offers something for every discriminating buyer. Call today for your private showing.

Offered at \$4,000,000

WALNUT GROVE - California Waterfront



17396 Grand Island Road

**3 BD – 2 BA plus an office loft, 1728 +/- SqFt
Near the Delta town of Isleton offering
a small waterfront community**

This custom 2 story home brings paradise to your front door with its island setting.

Boating, fishing and spectacular sunsets can be your new normal as this beautiful home becomes your vacation at home, your oasis, your new work-from-home reality, and your favorite place to be. Offering 2 private docks, each resting on 50 feet of waterfront property, an attached private deck and private balcony, all overlooking the panoramic views to the Sacramento River.

If you've been thinking about making a change to a more serene day to day lifestyle, this special property and community might just offer the gentle nudge you've needed. The Delta town of Isleton offers a small waterfront community as well as a convenient location with close proximity to the San Francisco Bay Area as well as Sacramento. Come discover Paradise Found.

Shown By Appointment Only

Offered at \$1,140,000

JUST SOLD

- 3657 Manchester Street, Pleasanton - Sold for \$1,285,000
- 766 Forester Court, Livermore - Sold for \$1,280,000
- 455 Covellite Lane, Livermore - Sold for \$850,000

DANVILLE - Coming Soon



Near Danville's charming Downtown Area

**3 BD – 3 BA, 2,104 +/- SqFt, 25,850 SqFt lot
Available Sept 30**

Located in the highly sought after Sycamore area of Danville, this single-story, custom home rests on over a half-acre, and backs to a creek, offering a serene and private setting. This beautiful home offers a formal dining room, a custom corner fireplace in the living room and 3 private patios. The family room offers decorative ceiling beams and a wood burning fireplace. With its spacious private lot, this property offers countless possibilities to expand. Allow your imagination to run wild as you design your ideal home to shelter from the outside world.

Dreams really do come true...

Will be listed at \$1,315,000

PENDING

- 2642 Laramie Gate Circle, Pleasanton - Listed at \$1,420,000
- 301 Diamond Court, Pleasanton - Listed at \$1,270,000



Kris Moxley

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moxleyrealestate.com
DRE 00790463
900 Main Street,
Pleasanton, CA 94566

Our expectations as first time home buyers were perhaps a little unrealistic since we didn't exactly know what we were getting ourselves into. We wanted a house that we could grow into over the years, a good size yard, and a great neighborhood in our price range. And let us tell you, Kris not only met all of these criteria, but exceeded them! She has made such great relationships with people in the community that her network and match making skills found us a home to buy that was off market! The moment that we walked into the home, we couldn't stop smiling because we knew it was the one. We were amazed that Kris was able to find us exactly what we wanted, after just a few short weeks of looking. Kris is not only one of the best realtors out there, but also a lifetime friend to us. We can't thank her enough for making this experience so enjoyable and guiding us through every step of the process. Kris Moxley doesn't just sell homes, she changes lives.

—Brett & Sarah, Buyers



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