

Pleasanton Weekly

Election letters

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VOL. XXI, NUMBER 27 • OCTOBER 9, 2020

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BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Books: An essential business

Main Street is getting back its vibe as restaurants serve outdoors and more people venture downtown, trusting masks and their newly developed instincts to keep a distance. But action behind the scenes never ceased, as merchants worked feverishly to do what they could to keep their businesses open.

Take the case of Judy Wheeler, owner since 1998 of Towne Center Books near the Pleasanton Arch. When we all went into quarantine in March, she never quavered in her belief that books are essential — and she would continue to provide them.

The doors were locked and employees were told to stay home, but Wheeler continued to work long and hard, transitioning from having an online presence to being an online-only store, complete with increased orders and arranging timely deliveries and pickups.

“Actually it’s pretty exhausting because there are so many more steps in doing things,” Wheeler said. “Fortunately our customers are fabulous. They’ve been supporting us from the get-go.”

She also noted that some folks right here in town finally discovered the bookstore who’d never noticed it before — and they continue with their support.

Deliveries have always been free for orders \$20 or higher, but Wheeler started pickups outside. For a while, paper bags containing books lined the back entrance waiting for their respective customers — all on the honor system.

One large order did disappear after bags began to be left in front, on Main Street. Someone took the books and left a box of tea, which made Wheeler shake her head, wondering if the book-snatcher considered this a fair trade. Now customers who have preordered can knock on the door and get handed their books if they prefer not to enter.

Wheeler said she reopened a little later than the nearby restaurants, because she had to install Plexiglas and make the store easier to browse without too much touching. Plus the space had to recover from its sudden input of boxes to fill online orders and the maze of wires quickly installed to facilitate increased Internet usage.

“There was probably more danger in tripping over something than

getting the virus,” Wheeler said. “It’s much better now. We had to reconfigure displays and still have an area to process books.”

Now there is hand sanitizer “everywhere” and signs remind everyone to be respectful of each other. But people are good about keeping their distance, Wheeler said, and she oversees the operation, knowing it is OK for a family to convene in the back and still let others in the front. She will make appointments for those hesitant about mingling.

Wheeler said she has loved the shop’s location at 555 Main St. near the Arch since she moved in. She has been in the book industry for 35-40 years, first working as a publisher’s rep and for a book distributor, so she knew when she bought the book store that it was a tough business.

“When I started thinking I wanted a store, I knew I wanted it downtown because nowhere else really made sense,” she recalled. “Now my location is actually even better because Pleasanton has become more vibrant each year. Inklings has helped a lot, and Starbucks has brought more people, too.”

And the Arch is a draw.

“Everybody who comes to town has to take a picture under the Arch, and for graduations and weddings and special occasions,” Wheeler said. “My daughter had a wedding picture taken under the Arch.”

She bought Towne Center Books with its name, which has resulted in some strange calls as people confuse the shop with the city and telephone for all kinds of help.

“We’ve had calls from someone who wanted a dog license, and not long ago someone called to say they’d locked their keys in their car,” she said with a laugh.

Now business is picking up and Wheeler is optimistic about the holiday season. She pointed out that most people prefer browsing in person rather than online, plus the staff can offer suggestions. Jigsaw puzzles — especially those with 1,000 pieces — are selling well, too, and other games.

“We’re good for sheltering in place — we can keep you busy,” she said. And that’s essential. ■

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

Dublin Unified School District officials, community leaders and select students gathered on Sept. 30 for a socially distanced groundbreaking ceremony for Emerald High School, the district’s second comprehensive high school. Images courtesy of DUSD. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn. Vol. XXI, Number 27



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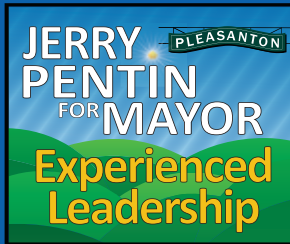
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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Do you ever consider moving away from California because of the fires and the smoke?



Justin Swiers

Plumbing foreman

Never. Not in a million. I am a born and bred Bay Area guy. My work is here, my family is here, and so are all of my friends. I would never leave.



Monique Frias

Business manager

Absolutely. All the time. Between the fires and the smoke, the politics and the high cost of living, I am absolutely open to leaving California, and experiencing a new life somewhere else.



Johanna Swiers

Dental hygienist

No way. My whole life is here, including my mother who lives right around the corner from me. My son goes to the same elementary school that I went to. My roots are so solidly in California that I can't even imagine living anywhere else — fires, smoke and all.



Shawna Jarnagin *Hairstylist/makeup artist*

I'm originally from Seattle, but have been living in the Bay Area for so many years now, and am so happy with my life here, that I can't imagine ever leaving. Even though my business has been impacted by COVID and the wildfires and smoke, which have resulted in the cancellation of so many weddings and other functions, I'm not prepared to, and don't want to, leave California.



Brett Jarnagin

Sales

No. I figure the fires and the smoke are temporary conditions that will abate. I love it here in California, especially the Bay Area. It's where I was born and raised.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ©2020 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

DIGEST

Profiles online

With ballots now delivered by mail to Tri-Valley voters, residents are encouraged to visit PleasantonWeekly.com to review the wealth of local election coverage available there, including individual candidate profiles that were published online only.

Weekly reporters spotlighted all candidates in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville elections for mayor, council and school board over the course of the summer and fall. That's in addition to the coverage of candidate forums, group articles on special district contests and a roundup of regional representatives on local ballots.

Voters can also watch candidate forum videos via PleasantonWeekly.com, including all eight forums moderated by the Weekly.

Mayoral forum

The four candidates actively campaigning for mayor of Pleasanton are scheduled to take part in an online forum from 1-2:30 p.m. this Saturday (Oct. 10) organized by the Pleasanton Action Network and Genesis of the Tri-Valley.

Dubbed "Your City, Your Vote," the forum will feature sitting council members Karla Brown and Jerry Pentin and political newcomers Monith Ilavarasan and Tom Turpel sharing their views and policy positions on a range of topics.

The event will be moderated by Rev. Ron Culmer of the Genesis group and Aayush Singh of the action network. Registration is required, via www.tinyurl.com/pleasantonmayoralforum.

'Election Specials'

Tri-Valley Community Television has released the broadcast schedule and video on demand information for its series of recorded "Election Specials" highlighting key local elections in the Tri-Valley.

The nine non-partisan programs were produced independently by TCTV and hosted by TV30 personality Ian Bartholomew and TV30 Foundation president Dr. Marshall Kamena.

The separate programs, which can be viewed on local access TV or online, cover the mayor, City Council and school board races in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin. Visit tv30.org.

Climate debate

Tri-Valley Citizens' Climate Education is hosting a candidate forum on Tuesday (Oct. 13) from 7-8:30 p.m. featuring select candidates in various local elections sharing their plans "for advancing protection of the environment and climate crisis solutions that can be implemented on the local level." Visit trivalleyce.org. ■

Pleasanton council approves forming new Police Chief's Advisory Board

PPD Chief Swing would select stakeholder members to provide input twice per year

By JULIA BAUM

An advisory board made up of community members will be formed to advise and give input to the chief of police, following a 4-1 vote at a special virtual meeting of the Pleasanton City Council last week.

The council and Pleasanton Police Department held the three-hour online event Oct. 1 to facilitate their fourth and most recent public conversation about policing reform, including hearing feedback from residents on police-related matters such as school resource officers, mental health

crisis training, and use of force.

Chief's Advisory Board (CAB) members will be selected by Pleasanton Police Chief David Swing; the group would be implemented by Swing, and consult on matters of public safety and provide community policing and department updates to the council twice a year, though the frequency could be increased.

"The key here is it's an opportunity for input from the community, and it's comprised of a diverse cross-section of community members," Swing told the council. "Diversity doesn't have to just mean racial or

ethnic diversity — it could be diversity of age, diversity of backgrounds, diversity of socioeconomic status in the community. It could be business members as well."

According to a staff report, several Bay Area cities have successfully implemented CABs including Lafayette, San Leandro, Santa Clara and Walnut Creek, "which are all similar in size and activity to Pleasanton."

Though the group would be "proactive" and act as a resource for developing community policing concepts and identifying best practices for PPD, it would not have any

authority to "investigate, review, or otherwise participate in matters involving specific police personnel or specific police-related incidents."

CAB members would also not receive or review complaints initiated against personnel, or play a role in any civil or criminal litigation.

"In its capacity as an advisory committee, a CAB is intended to be an expression of the community's perspective to the police department through their direct interactions with the chief of police," staff wrote.

See **POLICE** on Page 9



Dublin officials, shovels in hand, turn the dirt during the groundbreaking ceremony Sept. 30 at the site of the future Emerald High School.

A new gem coming to Dublin

Construction underway on Emerald High School

By JEREMY WALSH

Dublin school and community leaders celebrated the groundbreaking of the new Emerald High School with a subdued closed ceremony that was livestreamed last week.

A \$258.2 million project funded primarily through voter-approved bond measures, the long-awaited second full high school on Dublin's east side will be built in two stages, with Phase 1 estimated to open in the fall of 2022 and accommodate approximately 1,300 students. Phase 2 would follow in the years afterward to bring the full 2,500-student capacity.

"Today is truly a momentous day in the history and the lives of the Dublin community," Dublin Unified School District Interim Superintendent Daniel Moirao said during the evening groundbreaking on Sept. 30.

"Today we are here ... to address one of the greatest needs of our community. The last major growing pain — a second comprehensive high school. It's something that many in Dublin have wanted, and we truly need," he added.

Moirao credited the support of Dublin voters and families for helping bring Emerald High closer to reality.

"This level of support from

the community must be highlighted. It's something that makes Dublin special. I can't think of another school district that is continually backed by its community in such a way as this particular community has supported our schools," he said.

Emerald High will sit on a nearly 24-acre parcel on the north side of the Dublin Boulevard-Grafton Street intersection. The new campus aims to alleviate overcrowding issues at Dublin High School — which has 3,300 students enrolled this year — while also better serving students and families on Dublin's fast-growing east side. ■

County authorizes elementary reopenings

Local school districts likely looking later than Tuesday

By JULIA BAUM

Alameda County public health officials announced last week that elementary schools with a COVID-19 health and safety plan in place would be able to reopen next Tuesday (Oct. 13), but it may be longer until Tri-Valley schools decide to do so.

Pleasanton Unified School District spokesman Patrick Gannon told the Weekly, "We're still focused on the work in meeting the requirements" but there are no plans at this time to reopen Pleasanton schools for general education.

"We want to focus on ensuring the health and well-being of our community rather than a specific date, which seems unreasonable given the requirements set forth by the state and county," Gannon said.

In addition to schools, the Alameda County Public Health Department announcement confirmed reopening timelines for other indoor operations, including more personal care services, libraries, museums and fitness centers effective today (Oct. 9) — with protocols in place, including reduced capacity.

School districts in the county

See **REOPENING** on Page 11

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LVJUSD assistant superintendent dies in Nevada after going missing

‘He is gone from us, but never forgotten’

By RYAN J. DEGAN

Mike Biondi, an assistant superintendent in the Livermore school district who also worked as a principal in San Ramon earlier in his career, has been found dead near a lake in western Nevada after being reported missing for more than a week.

Biondi, a San Ramon resident and married father of three, was 52 years old.

The cause of his death and circumstances about his disappearance were not immediately clear; however, Mineral County Undersheriff Bill Ferguson told the Weekly that foul play is not suspected.

Ferguson said that Biondi’s body was found on the beach at Walker Lake on Sept. 30 and that the cause of death should be known when the autopsy is completed in six to eight weeks.

The Tri-Valley educator was last seen in Livermore at 2 p.m. on Sept. 22, according to a missing person poster posted on social media. The case is currently being investigated by the Mineral County Sheriff’s Office and District Attorney’s Office — the latter of whom could not be reached for comment.

His death was confirmed on Oct. 1 by his hometown San Ramon Police Department.

Biondi was employed as the assistant superintendent of educational services with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District.

“He is gone from us, but never forgotten,” LVJUSD Superintendent Kelly Bowers said in an email to

district staff on Oct. 1 reflecting on Biondi’s sudden death.

“I, like so many of you, am struggling to focus and cope today, and trying my brave best to support others even while processing my own intense range of feelings and emotions over the unexpected and devastating loss of our close friend and colleague, Mike Biondi,” Bowers wrote.

The superintendent said an impromptu memorial display had been put up on the lawn outside the district office honoring Biondi and “his many, lasting contributions to our students, staff and community.”

LVJUSD staff held a virtual gathering last Friday afternoon with a moment of silence, reflection and remembrance for their late colleague “to share and take comfort in our cherished memories of working, and laughing, and learning with Mike, that will always remain in our hearts and minds,” Bowers said.

Among his long career in education, Biondi previously served as the principal at Country Club and Coyote Creek elementary schools in San Ramon before leaving for the San Mateo-Foster City School District in 2015. According to his LinkedIn profile, Biondi served as the director of curriculum and instruction at San Mateo-Foster City for two years before joining the LVJUSD in 2017.



Mike Biondi

“I worked with him both in my role as a board member and as a volunteer tutor at Country Club Elementary School when he was principal there,” Denise Jennison, communications specialist for the San Ramon Valley Unified School District and a former school board member, told the Weekly.

“He was a valued member of the SRVUSD community for many years and I was deeply saddened to hear about his passing. My sympathy goes out to his family during this difficult time. He will be missed,” Jennison added.

According to his biography on the LVJUSD website, Biondi’s 23-year career in education included serving students and families as university instructor, director of curriculum and instruction, principal, assistant principal, department chair and teacher.

“Throughout his career, Mr. Biondi has held significant leadership roles at both school and district levels in the areas of data, technology, literacy, special education, California Standards implementation, and staff and leadership development. He is an advocate for school and community partnerships,” his online profile read.

His profile also stated that when he is not volunteering in the community, he enjoyed swimming, outdoor activities and travel. Biondi is survived by his wife and three children. ■

Editor’s note: Editor Jeremy Walsh contributed to this story.

SCU Lightning fires contained

By JEREMY WALSH

The SCU Lightning Complex fires that raged for weeks south of the Tri-Valley were declared to be 100% contained last week after charring 396,624 acres across six counties,

according to Cal Fire.

Starting as 20 different wildland fires sparked by dry lightning strikes on Aug. 16, the SCU Lightning Complex eventually merged into one main major fire that forced evacuation

orders and warnings, destroyed dozens of structures and caused smoke that blanketed surrounding areas.

Ranking as the third-largest wildfire in California history, the complex remained active for 46 days until full containment was confirmed on Oct. 1 — though Cal Fire had reported containment at 98% each day since Sept. 11 while crews continued to patrol fire lines, watch for hot spots and devise a suppression repair plan.

The set of lightning fires burned in mainly rural vegetative land in parts of Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced counties, and threatened San Benito County.

The evacuation areas and warnings included parts of the rural unincorporated Tri-Valley to the south and east of the Livermore and Pleasanton city limits.

In total, 222 structures were destroyed, 26 others damaged and tens of thousands more were threatened, according to Cal Fire. There were six injuries and no fatalities reported.



COURTESY OF SWALWELL’S OFFICE

U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (left) and State Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (center) toured rancher Russ Piazza’s fire-damaged property south of Lake Del Valle last month.

See FIRE on Page 9



Priorities

1. Increase Health & Safety
2. Accountability at all Levels
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Key Endorsements

- Congressman Eric Swalwell
- CA State Senator Steve Glazer
- Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
- PUSD School Board Members, Steve Maher, Joan Laursen, Mark Miller, Valerie Arkin
- Jim Hansen, PUSD Administrator, Interim Superintendent, Retired
- The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Business Community Political Action Committee (BACPAC)

For full list, go to JamieYee.com

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Paid for by Jamie Yee for School Board FPPC# 1429032

Livermore school board candidates discuss priorities at in-person forum

By CIERRA BAILEY

The five candidates for Livermore school board debated key issues during an in-person forum last week — a rare occurrence in the Tri-Valley where most campaigning events and candidate forums this fall have been virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Held in the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District boardroom on Sept. 29, the event was organized by the Parent Club Information Council (PCIC) and open to the public, with guests required to wear a face covering and comply with social distancing of six feet apart, according to a press release beforehand.

PCIC chair Dave Vonheeder said there were about a dozen people in the boardroom to watch the debate live and in person, not including the five candidates and three PCIC members who were present. The forum was video-recorded for public viewing afterward as well.

Two at-large seats are up for election on the five-member Board of Education, one of which is currently held by incumbent Charles “Chuck” Rogge. His challengers are former Tri-Valley teacher and parent volunteer Yanira Guzmán, human resources specialist Kandiss Hewing, information technology business analyst Asa Strout and public policy advocate Kristie Wang.

At least one board seat is certain to change hands in the general election as incumbent Chris Wenzel chose not to seek re-election on Nov. 3.

Early in the forum, each candidate was asked their top three objectives if elected to the board.

Rogge, who answered first, said that his first and second top

objectives are helping guide the district through COVID-19 and resuming in-person learning.

“Getting the kids back into the schools has been the biggest issue since March, and I think we all know why,” the three-term incumbent said. “How we’re going to do it is the big question. There are many things kicking around, but we are at the mercy of the health department and several regulations. But if it was up to me, I’d bring all the kids back tomorrow.”

Hewing, Strout and Guzmán all echoed one another in citing safety as their No. 1 objective.

“I think anyone running for elected office this year, if safety is not their No. 1 issue right now, they shouldn’t be running,” Strout said.

While safety as it relates to COVID-19 was at the forefront of the discussion, other issues like bullying and sexual harassment were also addressed.

“We can’t teach our kids in an environment that’s not safe,” Hewing said. “We’re currently doing the best we can with distance learning and staying home with our kids and things like that, but as far as safety, that’s not the only safety issue we have. It’s keeping them safe from online things now that they’re spending so much time online, keeping them safe from bullying and feeling like they have a safe space to go to while we’re kind of in this lockdown still.”

Looking ahead to when campuses are back open, Strout acknowledged concerns about keeping students safe on school grounds. “Within Livermore, there are examples of racism and sexual harassment and abuse on campus, and we need to address

those safety concerns because any time our students have anxiety or feel unsafe going to campus, they’re not going to perform as well,” he said.

Guzmán and Wang both addressed budgeting in their top objectives. Guzmán said that she wants to draw upon her professional experience to find ways to leverage partnerships to build and fund programs when the district is “strapped for cash.”

“We have a lot of wealth and knowledge within Livermore, so how do we leverage that so that we can better the entire ecosystem that our students and families are a part of?” Guzmán said.

Wang, who has been a leader in the local anti-vaping movement in the city over the past two years, said that she would focus on “preparing for the budget shortfalls” resulting from the pandemic.

“That’s where my policy experience and my relationships with people in Sacramento would be very helpful and my knowledge of the process,” she said. “Also, having spent my career in nonprofits, I know about corporate partnerships and grants and creative ways to get money.”

All five candidates cited COVID-19 as the biggest challenge facing public education in California with navigating distance learning,

developing a reopening plan, budget impacts and the education gap that is widening between students who are thriving in distance learning and those who are struggling.

“I would say there’s some amount of learning gap for everyone,” Wang said. “It’s impossible to get in the amount of teaching you would do in person for six or seven hours a day, and now to do it for just a few hours, teachers aren’t able to get all of that teaching in. So, how are we going to make that up? And then you have kids coming back with social-emotional issues and their parents and teachers have social-emotional issues. These are big challenges.”

Inequity was also mentioned as a pre-existing issue that has been exacerbated by COVID-19.

Hewing said that the way to tackle equity is “by elevating our students who are struggling” and “bringing in extra communication strategies with our parents.” She added that tutoring via Zoom is an option she’s interested in exploring further to help students who are falling behind.

On the same topic of inequity, Strout provided the example of students who live in the rural parts of Livermore that don’t have access to internet service in their homes and can’t use the cellular hotspots provided by the district. Guzmán mentioned the students whose parents have to work outside the home and can’t be present to ensure their children are logging

in to class every day or help them navigate technical issues they may face.

“I’m really concerned about the long-term effects of COVID-19 and long-distance learning because this gap is widening between those that can navigate and work from home and can stay home with their children versus those that can not because of the reality of having to pay their bills by leaving the home,” Guzmán said.

Rogge shifted the conversation to some of the broader economic challenges, including job loss and companies moving and closing. He also addressed mental health, saying, “25% of kids under the age of 25 are considering or have contemplated suicide” — referring to a statistic reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in August.

“How do we bring our kids back? What are we doing about mental illness? What are we doing about the social-emotional needs of our teachers and our staff? The pressures are huge,” Rogge said.

Other issues the candidates discussed included community engagement, transparency, improving communication and promoting a healthy learning environment for students from traditionally marginalized groups.

A complete video-recording of the forum is available via Pleasanton Weekly.com. ■

Main Street Special



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

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- HISTORIC DOWNTOWN** the **only** candidate to vote against multi story housing that could replace two existing businesses.
- SAFETY** is critical to our quality of life. I support retaining our outstanding police officers and adding mental health professions when needed.
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH** Rage soccer/coach, PUSD site council & volunteer, Tri-Valley Conservancy, Hively, cancer recovery, Sister City and much more.

Paid for by Karla Brown for Mayor 2020 FPPC#1427228

Quest Science Center teams up with Miss America

By JULIA BAUM

After wowing crowds almost a year ago with an explosive science demonstration — and ultimately clinching the country's top pageant title — Miss America 2020 Camille Schrier continues to share her excitement for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through a new partnership with Quest Science Center in Livermore.

Through virtual events and educational videos, Schrier told the Weekly, “the mission and goal is to make science relevant to every single person” with a particular focus on sparking interest in students.

“I’m an accidental STEM advocate because I performed it as my talent,” Schrier said, referring to when she performed a chemical demonstration on stage during the Miss America pageant in December 2019.

The catalytic decomposition of hydrogen peroxide with potassium iodide resulted in a volcano-like eruption of foam known as “elephant’s toothpaste” — and caught the eye of Quest.

“Our team started to research who this woman was, and we wanted to understand what her passions were for science,” said Amy Aines, Quest advisory board member. “She had already been doing a lot of work in the community in and around Virginia reaching the type of groups that we want to reach, and we thought this could work really well.”

Many people “have a preconceived notion about who participates in science,” Aines said, and Schrier — who holds bachelor’s degrees in biochemistry and systems biology from Virginia Tech University — helps break that stereotype.

“We want to make everybody know

that the opportunity to be involved in science and STEM is for everybody,” she added.

For Schrier, “the thing that I always say going to schools is that science is all around us.”

“That’s something Quest really focuses on, is making students understand the value of science, even if they don’t want to be a scientist,” Schrier said.

She continued, “You might not be a student who will pursue STEM; it doesn’t mean it’s not relevant to you. Bridging that is really important and I think that’s something this more informal, supplemental learning can achieve for these students.”

Before the pandemic, Schrier had been slated for an appearance at Quest Science Center’s temporary locale later this month. Schrier hopes to eventually visit in person, but for now she will



COURTESY OF QUEST

Miss America 2020 Camille Schrier and Quest Science Center have teamed up to spark interest in kids for learning about STEM subjects.

cover a variety of topics virtually, including talks about plants as medicine.

From there, Schrier will link those discussions to other issues like medicine safety, one of her primary campaigns.

“I talk a lot about simple things family members and others can do to keep safe with medicine,” she said, from using pill organizers to track

medication to keeping medicines locked up and away from children.

“There’s all kinds of connections,” Aines said. “We really wanted her to bring her passion for science to life in a lot of ways.”

Quest is also unveiling its updated website Monday, where visitors can find virtual learning opportunities and more: quest-science.org. ■

Candidates urge a pause on Livermore solar projects

Election foes issue rare joint statement calling for moratorium

By RYAN J. DEGAN

The two candidates running for Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 1 have found common ground on the North Livermore Valley solar projects, issuing a joint statement this week calling on the county to stop review of individual proposals in favor of comprehensive planning.

While falling short of calling for the projects’ outright denial, election opponents Dublin Mayor David Haubert and Fremont City Councilman Vinnie Bacon urged the county to hit the pause button as part of a shared quote released late Monday through the resident group Save

North Livermore Valley.

“We call on Alameda County Board of Supervisors to place a moratorium on the review of new solar power plants on agricultural land until the county completes a comprehensive study and mapping project on the appropriate siting, scale and operation of solar power plants, if any, on agricultural land, and incorporates this work in a solar ordinance and General Plan Amendment,” Bacon and Haubert said in a joint statement.

“The East County Board of Zoning Adjustments for Alameda County should likewise defer review of any individual proposed utility-scale

solar facilities on agricultural land until the solar ordinance and General Plan Amendment are adopted,” they added.

Dubbed the Aramis and SunWalker projects, the two proposed solar plant developments are located near each other, along Livermore Avenue between Manning and May School roads in the unincorporated Livermore Valley. The Aramis project is 410 acres of developed land and is being planned by Intersect Power while the smaller SunWalker project will consist of about 70 acres.

Certain residential groups such as Save North Livermore Valley have

come out in opposition to the projects in part citing Alameda County lacking a comprehensive plan for how to expand renewable energy in rural areas.

“The residents of North Livermore Valley deeply appreciate and thank Councilmember Bacon and Mayor Haubert for listening to our concerns. We are all committed to addressing climate change through the development of more solar power, but insist the county proceed in a thoughtful, environmentally sound manner,” stated Chris O’Brien of Save North Livermore Valley.

“The first location in rural Alameda

County for new utility-scale solar power plants should not be the location that poses the greatest conflict with agriculture, natural habitat, open space and visual and scenic resources,” he added.

Save North Livermore Valley group says it was told that the first project is anticipated to be presented by staff to the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments during the board’s meeting on Oct 22.

Bacon and Haubert face each other on the Nov. 3 ballot to represent Alameda County Supervisorial District 1, which includes the north Livermore Valley among other areas. ■

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POLICE

Continued from Page 5

When asked by Councilman Jerry Pentin what he considered the most important part of the board's formation, Swing replied, "It's the input that would be exceptionally helpful for us."

"The critical component is being able to hear from communities who we aren't hearing from today, and to hear their impressions of Pleasanton, to help them understand policing as well," Swing said.

Staff looked at other oversight models but concluded those such as a police commission "would have the most financial impact because it would require more dedicated staff time to cover meetings and prepare meeting materials."

Vice Mayor Kathy Narum said she had "not heard a justification for a police commission," adding, "I'm not ready to also have a police auditor either."

"We need to be looking at cities that are similar to Pleasanton such as Lafayette, Walnut Creek," Narum said. "I'm not ready to politicize our police department, which is what would happen if we were to have a commission, because guess who's appointing it? Politicians."

"It's just politicizing it and I think our police department at this point deserves better," Narum added.

More than two dozen audience members phoned in for open comment, during which resident Mike Ferrari said a police commission is unnecessary.

"Other than large cities, very few cities have police commissions or independent auditors," Ferrari said, adding the council "is that direct accountability."

Having lived in a city with a police commission before, Jocelyn Combs said, "They can take a life of their own, and I don't think that's the right move for Pleasanton."

However, Combs supported having an independent police auditor, which she said "gives some oversight and gives the city manager, frankly, some backup when he's the one making the decision with the police chief."

Rishabh Raj argued it made "no sense to have an oversight commission that is involved and is potentially biased in favor of the police."

"Our current model of civilian oversight completely ignores the plain definition of the phrase. It neither represents ordinary citizens nor does it adequately oversee the police," Raj said.

Councilwoman Julie Testa agreed the selection of members by the police chief "is not in any way oversight" and said, "The best model to avoid the political maneuvering and maliciousness that has been going on is the independent auditor, because it is a law enforcement background agency that looks at things with a law enforcement perspective. Nowhere in the (CAB) is any opportunity to look at citizen complaints."

Sgt. Nicholas Albert, president of the Pleasanton Police Officers Association, said it is the group's position "that overseeing the police department is the shared responsibility of the City Council, the city manager, the police chief and his administrative staff," and they are "confident in the existing city structure."

"What problem are we trying to solve? What has a single member of my organization done to draw your concern?" Albert said. "Or

are we simply making changes at the demands of those who have never taken an oath nor put on the uniform?"

Testa later stated she has "great respect and trust in our department," and said "no one on this council has ever made any indication of supporting defunding the police."

"There is a lot of fear mongering and misinformation that is being promoted in our community," she added. "This issue is not about an incident that happened somewhere else in the country. We have outstanding officers and a really great new chief, but we've had three critical incidents in four years, in Pleasanton. We are not immune to the concerns."

Councilwoman Karla Brown, who is currently running for mayor along with Pentin, said she supports having a CAB but said "most residents have been very surprised" when told no oversight projects have come to the council in the past eight years.

Brown then asked Pentin if he had ever seen any, adding, "I just want to make clear that your motion involves having a more involved City Council."

Pentin replied, "That's exactly what I said. It says in the recommendation that as well as twice-per-year community policing department updates to the City Council, and the City Council has the opportunity to increase that, if the city council feels it's necessary." "And we have had updates," he added, noting past annual reports delivered by the former police chief.

"You've been receiving the same thing that all the public has received, and we have not weighed into one single item in eight years on City Council oversight, so that's

what I want to make really clear," Brown said.

Brown continued, "If we're going to be held accountable as the oversight to the police department, we actually need to be the oversight, not sit here in our chairs and be City Council members and say we are when we've actually had zero events ever come to this council."

Though "completely" supportive of the PPD, "with all government, you have a check and a balance system," she added. "We have a check-and-balance system, and it's called the citizens. They fire us if we don't do our jobs and they hire us again if we do. But in this case we have not, and I want to make sure the public understands: I 100% support this council being the advisory for the police department, but we have to start doing it."

Associated costs for implementing the CAB are "anticipated to be negligible and easily absorbed in the police department budget using existing staff," and "keeping the department's current accountability model in place will have no financial impact."

Staff said any budget adjustments will be included in the city's (fiscal year) 2020-21 midyear budget review or next year's budget, "depending on the pace of implementation of the council's policy direction."

A status update was also given on the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, including recommendations, highlights of the six pillars, and the next implementation steps either being taken or planned by PPD.

The motion passed 4-1; Testa cast the sole dissenting vote and stated she would have supported accepting the 21st Century Policing report on its own. ■

FIRE

Continued from Page 6

Thousands of fire personnel took part in the response.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency issued a disaster declaration in California due to wildfires on Aug. 22, but Alameda County and other areas impacted by the SCU Lightning Complex (other than Santa Clara County) were not included in the resolution (DR-4558-CA).

U.S. Reps. Eric Swalwell and Ro Khanna issued a letter on Sept. 11 to President Donald Trump and FEMA on Sept. 11 asking Alameda County and the SCU fire area be included in the declaration area — a request that has been unanswered as of Tuesday, according to Swalwell's office.

"Though Alameda County mostly was spared, some people suffered millions of dollars in losses," Swalwell wrote on social media after touring a damaged ranch property in rural Livermore south of Lake Del Valle. "Our neighbors deserve federal aid to carry them through these trying times." ■



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County officials talk safety measures for voting this election

Vote-by-mail ballots sent out to all registered voters starting Monday

By RYAN J. DEGAN

For the first time in California history, every single registered voter in the state is set to have a ballot delivered to their home, enabling every Tri-Valley voter to cast their ballot remotely during the pandemic.

While some locally and nationally have publicly cast doubts on the security and validity of voting absentee, local county officials maintain that in California voting by mail is safe, secure and, according to some, superior to voting in person.

“Voting by mail is absolutely more secure and safer than voting in person in California,” said Scott O. Konopasek, assistant registrar of voters in Contra Costa County. “Californians need to remember that we’ve been doing this for a long time and every elected official in California right now, and in the past 20 years, was elected primarily by votes cast through the mail.”

“There’s a lot of messages about voting by mail on the national level, but in California we’ve had voting by mail for many years. So it’s not new to us,” added Alameda County Registrar of Voters Tim Dupuis. “We are definitely equipped.”

Initiated in response to the health dangers posed by the coronavirus pandemic, Gov. Gavin Newsom on May 8 signed an executive order requiring that each county elections official send vote-by-mail ballots to all registered voters for the Nov. 3 general election.

“Elections and the right to vote are foundational to our democracy,” Newsom said in a statement. “No Californian should be forced to risk their health in order to exercise their right to vote.”

Some critics of the order have claimed that the move would result in widespread cases of fraudulent voting; however, historically, cases

of alleged fraudulent ballots are low in California — which has had more than half of its voters use vote-by-mail for over a decade — and county officials have safety procedures in place to ensure an accurate and legitimate election count.

One of the first things local election officials check when tallying a mailed-in ballot is if the person sending it has already voted. If there are two ballots for the same voter — voters may ask the county for a second ballot if their first was lost or destroyed — or someone sends in a ballot and then attempts to vote in-person, officials said they are equipped with systems to detect the incident.

So long as the first ballot received was validated, the second one received would be disqualified.

“Once we receive that ballot and validate it, we mark the database saying a vote has been received for that voter. And so if the voter were to try and vote a second time, the system will know that we already received a ballot from that voter,” Dupuis said.

Voting twice is a felony prohibited in all 50 states, and under California law may result between 16 months and three years imprisonment, according to the Poynter Institute.

Elections officials are also equipped with systems and policies to ensure that the person sending the ballot is the correct registered voter.

According to Konopasek, when a ballot is returned to election officials, it is scanned with the signature on the envelope and compared to the signature from the voter’s registration on file.

“Believe it or not, signatures are just as identifying as a thumb print; they really don’t change. A match is an obvious match 99.99% of the time,” Konopasek added. “If the (elections staffer) is uncertain or has any questions or hesitations, the ballot is set aside to be reviewed by a supervisor.”

If a signature is not a match or the voter forgot to provide their signature (one of the leading reasons why votes are not counted, according to Konopasek), they will be sent a notice from the county, giving the voter the opportunity to rectify the situation before Election Day.

Enacting these policies are old hat for Tri-Valley election officials, who point out that the majority of California voters have been voting by mail for years.

According to Dupuis, 565,000 of Alameda County’s 888,000 voters were already registered as permanent vote-by-mail voters in 2016. As of Sept. 25, Alameda County had 936,000 registered voters, with 760,000 registered as permanent vote-by-mail voters — Dupuis added that Alameda County may have 1 million registered voters by Nov. 3.

While every registered voter will receive a ballot, traditional in-person voting on Election Day will still remain an option.

In past elections voters, have been assigned to a specific voting location where they had to go if they wanted to vote in-person; new to this year, however, voters seeking to vote in-person can do so at any location in their county — so long as they wear face masks and follow social-distancing protocols.

“Four days before the election is when in-person voting opportunities start. Rather than having ‘polling locations,’ we’re going to be having ‘accessible vote locations,’” Dupuis said. “In this election you can go to any accessible vote locations, we are going to have 100 locations that people can use the Saturday before the election.”

“We also want people to vote safely and feel that they have safe options, and the way that the November election is laid out, they have a lot of options to get those votes in safely to us,” he added.

Also a part of the governor’s May order and in response to concerns

over the U.S. Postal Service’s ability to handle an influx in vote-by-mail ballots, election officials will be receiving ballots up to 17 days after the election — so long as they are postmarked on or before Nov. 3.

And while both Tri-Valley county elections leaders have expressed confidence in their department’s ability to handle an influx in ballots, they have also issued pleas for residents to vote as early as possible.

Ballots officially began to be sent to every California voter this Monday. Voters can track their ballots online via the “Where’s My Ballot” function on www.sos.ca.gov/elections.

In Pleasanton, one secure ballot drop-off location can be found at City Hall, 123 Main St., with two pending boxes to be installed at the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Station at 3560 Nevada St., or the Behavioral Health Center at 3730 Hopyard Road.

As a part of Alameda County’s efforts to make voting easy and accessible, the county is also hosting early drive-thru ballot drop-off locations for voters to hand their ballots directly to elections officials.

Dubbed the “Ballot Drop Stop Tour,” starting this week voters can drop off their ballots from the safety of their cars at locations including the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza today and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Oct. 19 and Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The last day to register to vote in order to receive a mail-in ballot is Oct. 19, although residents can register to vote in-person online at registertovote.ca.gov as late as Nov. 3.

For a full list of ballot drop-off spots, in-person voting locations and other efforts being made by the county to ensure a safe election, Alameda County voters can visit www.acvote.org and Contra Costa voters can do the same at www.cocovote.us. ■

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685

1. Publication Title: Pleasanton Weekly
2. Publication Number: 020-407
3. Filing Date: October 1, 2020
4. Issue Frequency: Weekly
5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 52
6. Annual Subscription Price: \$120/year; \$60 for seniors
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: 5506 Sunol Blvd Ste 203, Pleasanton, Alameda County, CA 94566-7779
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: 5506 Sunol Blvd Ste 203, Pleasanton, Alameda County, CA 94566-7779
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher: Gina Channell, 5506 Sunol Blvd Ste 203, Pleasanton, Alameda County, CA 94566-7779; Editor: Jeremy Walsh, 5506 Sunol Blvd Ste 203, Pleasanton, Alameda County, CA 94566-7779; Managing Editor: Jeremy Walsh, 5506 Sunol Blvd Ste 203, Pleasanton, Alameda County, CA 94566-7779
10. Stockholders Owning 1% or more of the Total Amount of Stock: William Johnson & Teresa Lobdell, Trustees, Palo Alto, CA; Jean & Dexter Dawes, Palo Alto, CA; Shirley Ely, Trustee, Palo Alto, CA; Jerome Elkind, Palo Alto, CA; Franklin Johnson Jr., Palo Alto, CA; Marion Lewenstein, Trustee, Palo Alto CA; Mike & Diane Naar, Trustees, Palo Alto, CA; Joe Pickering, Trustee, Palo Alto, CA; Catherine Spitters Keyani, Palo Alto, CA; Jeanne Ware, Palo Alto, CA; Margaret Haneberg, San Luis Obispo, CA; Anthony Sloss, Trustee, Santa Cruz, CA; Derek van Bronkhorst, Corvallis, OR; Mary Spitters Casey, Campbell, CA; Peter Spitters, Campbell, CA; Estate of Laurence Spitters, San Jose, CA; Jon van Bronkhorst, Redwood City, CA; Kort van Bronkhorst, Napa, CA; Nancy Eaton, Sausalito, CA; Thomas Spitters, Los Altos, CA; Karen Sloss, Bellingham, WA; Christopher Spitters, Seattle, WA; Elizabeth Sloss, Seattle, WA.
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1% or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None
13. Publication Title: Pleasanton Weekly
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: September 25, 2020
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

	Average No. of Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. of Copies of Single Issue Nearest to Filing Date
A. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	11,271	9,500
B. Legitimate Paid and/or Requested Distribution		
B1. Outside County Paid/Requested Mail Subscriptions	50	30
B2. In-County Paid/Requested Mail Subscriptions	8,469	8,219
B3. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid or Requested Distribution Outside USPS	469	137
B4. Requested Copies Distributed by Other Mail Classes Through the USPS	0	0
C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation	8,988	8,386
D1. Outside County Nonrequested Copies	0	0
D2. In-County Nonrequested Copies	487	0
D3. Nonrequested Copies Distributed Through the USPS by Other Classes of Mail	0	0
D4. Nonrequested Copies Distributed Outside the Mail	1,102	726
E. Total Nonrequested Distribution	1,589	726
F. Total Distribution	10,576	9,112
G. Copies not Distributed	695	388
H. Total	11,271	9,500
I. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	84.98%	92.03%

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership for a Requester Publication is required and will be printed in the October 9, 2020 issue of this publication.
18. I Certify that the information furnished on this form is true and complete. Peter Beller, Chief Financial Officer, Embarcadero Media

Livermore native takes command of Navy unit

Cmdr. Marrs will lead strike fighter squadron

By JULIA BAUM

Livermore native and U.S. Navy Cmdr. Robert Marrs recently took lead of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 87, marking the event with an aerial change of command ceremony over Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, Va., on Sept. 17.

The ceremony signaled the transfer of responsibilities of command from Cmdr. Jason Dalby to Marrs, with the two commanders

joining their Flying F/A-18E Super Hornets in formation.

“I am honored and humbled to lead this squadron,” Marrs said in a statement. “Cmdr. Dalby made a lasting impact and set us up for continued success.”

Dalby and Marrs took turns reading their orders over the radio, with the event concluding when Marrs flew his aircraft abeam to Dalby and stated, “I have the lead.”

In a statement, Dalby said of his successor, “I know VFA-87 will continue to maintain the highest standards of excellence as Cmdr. Marrs takes over as the Golden Warriors newest commanding officer.”

Marrs and the Golden Warriors of VFA-87 said they “look to continue the progress made by Dalby as well as to carry on the high reputation for excellence in the strike fighter community.” ■

REOPENING

Continued from Page 5

would need to meet certain requirements to reopen classrooms for students in transitional kindergarten through sixth grade, including staff testing and maintaining physical distance, and also submit their plan to the Alameda County Office of Education.

"We know it is hardest for younger children to spend all day learning online," ACPHD officials said in a statement. "Returning elementary students to classrooms balances the potential risk of increased COVID-19 transmission with the impact of distance learning on both students' mental health and their ability to learn."

The county also "will consider permitting middle and high school students to return to in-person education in four to twelve-week phases as local disease conditions allow," ACPHD said, adding, "This phased approach will allow us to gauge the impact of elementary school reopening on transmission."

The county moved to the red tier of the state's COVID-19 case monitoring list nearly two weeks ago, but "the decision and timing of when to open rests with each school and school district, and schools are not required to open if not ready," officials said.

Gannon said, "We spoke about some obstacles we're facing in meeting the requirements for reopening in our last board meeting. We're focused on finding solutions for those until we receive additional guidance from the county or state."

The school board had a regular meeting yesterday evening, after the Weekly's press deadline.

A pilot program for supervised learning has been in the works by PUSD staff but will be limited to small cohorts, including English learners and special education students. Some challenges to reopening mentioned at the PUSD Board of Trustees meeting on

Sept. 24 concerned the classroom ventilation systems and having adequate air intake and filters, as well as staff testing and health screenings, among others.

Dublin Unified School District Interim Superintendent Daniel Moirao said students will not return to classrooms on Tuesday.

"We must be confident we have met all state and county regulations (which change on a regular basis) and as a result, are providing the safest possible environment for students and staff before we open our doors to Phase II — The Hybrid Model of our Road to Reopening plan," Moirao said.

"There are items on our task list that must be completed before we can announce our official dates or timeframes," he added. "While we negotiated many of them during the summer for this period of time, many new requirements have been identified that must be implemented before we are certified to open."

Livermore Valley Jointed Unified School District said Monday, "Our Reopening Task Force is actively working on the logistics of phasing in the return of in-person learning in a hybrid format, with the dual goal of safeguarding the health of our students and staff while ensuring excellent education."

Officials said they will continue providing weekly updates on LVJUSD's reopening progress and planning status.

Schools planning to reopen must also notify ACPHD and provide a website link to their reopening plan. ACPHD will also continue supporting school districts with guidance on reopening plans, testing strategies, finding qualified testing supplies, labs and vendors, and more.

County health officials also announced that these additional activities will be permitted again in Alameda County, starting Oct. 9:

- Hotels and lodging for tourism (fitness centers and indoor pools restricted).

- Museums, zoos and aquariums (indoors with 25% capacity or less).

- Personal care services (indoor business with modifications; services requiring removal of face covering prohibited).

- Libraries (25% capacity or less).


- Gyms and fitness centers (indoors with 10% capacity or less; restrictions on aerobic exercise and classes).

- Outdoor film production (per local guidance).

Expanded indoor retail and shopping centers, and indoor worship services, outdoor card rooms and satellite wagering, and limited indoor dining and movie theaters in Alameda County are also under consideration in the next four to six weeks, as data trends permit, according to ACPHD.

A full list of activities that are currently open and not open in Alameda County is available at covid-19.acgov.org. ■

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Planning Commission

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Consistent with State and County Orders regarding the COVID-19 pandemic this will be a virtual meeting. Instructions on how to participate and offer comments will be available October 7, when the agenda is posted on the City's website at: cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning_agenda.asp

P20-0740 and P20-0741, Crosspoint Chinese Church of Silicon Valley, 5627 Gibraltar Drive

Applications for conditional use permit approval for the operation of a 49-student preschool at Crosspoint Church.

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

Gloria Sagan Green

August 25, 1935 – September 25, 2020

My grandmother died on the 25th of September, 2020, at the age of 85. Her death was thankfully a peaceful one. Yet it created a void of what is essential: Wisdom. A quintessential portrait would be her sitting in her townhouse, laying back in her 'evil chair' (because it was so comfy you could not get up), and reading a book. One example of her wanting to share her love of books was when teaching a class of adult men to read. She engaged them with Mark Twain and comic books. She would finish any books she read, even if she personally did not like what they had to offer (she recently finished reading Nietzsche). To her right would be a couch where her family and friends would sit. Going counter clockwise was the entrance to the yard where the sun would come beaming in. To her front was the TV, where she would always put on classical music. Next to it, a small painting of men debating in an animated manner, which reminded her of the Polish family she was raised with; this was given to her by her son Marvin III. And to her left, is her library. It took up her entire wall, with every classic book she had read, her favorite spy novels, poetry, and more. Recently, she was rereading the Fall of the Roman Empire, a murder mystery, and Jim Morrison's book of poetry. Her love of reading was how she maintained her wisdom. Personally, I feel she would encourage us to fill said void, with the wisdom of our own experiences and kindness.

Gloria Sagan Green was born August 25th, 1935 in Hamtramck, Michigan, but was raised by her grandparents Leontine and Adam Sagan as a Roman Catholic. A graduate of the University of Michigan and a teacher of children, she later worked on her MS at San Francisco State University becoming an Adult

Educator. She travelled the world with her husband Major Marvin Green Jr. and children, ultimately teaching people of a variety of ages and cultures. She was a fabulous cook, a great sounding board, and most beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and neighbor. In the early 2000s she retired from Bates Technical College in Tacoma, Washington, and moved to Pleasanton, California. Her associations include the American Association of University Women (especially the local AAUW's Tech Trek Scholarship Fund), the ACLU, the Girl Scouts of America for whom she sat as President of the Pacific Peaks Council in Washington, and the Tri-Valley

Women's Action Group. She was a Red Wings fan, and a fan of the 49ers, regularly attending their games with her sons. She is survived by her 7 children, Charlene, Laurene, Julene, Marvin III, Adam, Eilene, and Christine, as well as her 7 grandchildren, Genevieve, Marvin IV, Bradley, Sagan, Terrence Jr, Anna, and Alexander, and her 3 great-grandchildren, Grant, Zephyr, and Graham, and Robert and William Salowitz (cousins raised as younger brothers). Finally, she was an active participant in our democracy, as an election assistant, by supporting causes, by canvassing for candidates, by regularly discussing any political ideas, and always encouraged others to vote. This is the legacy she passes on to us.

Memorial Donations may be made to:
Livermore - Pleasanton AAUW's Tech Trek Scholarship Fund

Send checks to: LPD Branch PO BOX 661, Livermore CA 94551

Write checks to: LPD Branch AAUW, and in the Note line write For Tech Trek Scholarships or The Girl Scouts:

<https://www.gsnorcal.org/>



Remembering Dave

Shoppers and colleagues at Raley's in Pleasanton have been paying tribute to longtime bagger/courtesy clerk David "Dave" Mintkenbaugh, who died unexpectedly from natural causes on Sept. 29 at the age of 54. A memorial table has been set up prominently at the front of the store with a poster filled with notes of remembrance, as well as flowers, coconut water (Mintkenbaugh's favorite drink) and a recognizable wide-brim hat like he used to wear while working outdoors.



NANCY LEWIS

Boutique offers live online shopping experience

Customers can ask questions and see clothes modeled

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

A Main Street store recently demonstrated the potential of virtual shopping by holding a special online event that was live. It was co-hosted by Brandbass, which provided the technology and sent an “ambassador” to interact with viewers and even model the clothes.

“COVID-19 has changed the way we shop, which is why alternatives to in-person browsing need to become available to brands and shoppers around the world,” Brandbass spokeswoman Cassie Moorhead said.

Michelle Maldonado, owner of Girlfriends Boutique, held the 30-minute happening Sept. 14, and she said it resulted in a dramatic uptick in sales during the next 24 hours.

Maldonado and her sister bought Girlfriends Boutique six years ago but she took it over completely when her sister left Pleasanton to move to Idaho.

“We have a great customer following,” Maldonado said.

“We have fashionable clothes but try to keep it at a good price point. I am 50 but we cater to those younger — and we have a customer base in their 70s.”

She purposely does not create a website or normally sell online.

“There are reasons I purchased the store, and it was not to go online and see how much I could sell, sell, sell,” Maldonado said. “I’m from high-tech, and I am trying to wind down being in high-tech. I bought it for fashion, and to talk to customers.”

“We were doing really well — then got hit with shutting down,” she added.

When sheltering-in-place began in March, Maldonado began to do some selling on Instagram.

“Instagram worked OK,” she said. “I did it daily trying to flush out my inventory. I would take pictures of, like, 15 items and say they are all \$20.”

Instagram also has a feature to

talk to followers, but Maldonado said she wasn’t comfortable doing that.

“So when Brandbass came to me, I was intrigued with its model,” she said.

Brandbass sent ambassador

‘Regular online shopping can seem flat and uninteresting. Live virtual shopping, however, is fun, engaging and personalized.’

Cassie Moorhead,
Brandbass spokeswoman

Gheed Saeed, a Bay Area fashion influencer, to Girlfriends Boutique for its shopping event. She was on camera presenting deals and discounts, trying on clothes and pointing out details.

Maldonado said the event resulted in more than 50 sales, but she noted that her main goal was to reach new customers.

“That night I offered 20% off if they came in and said they’d attended the online event,” she said. “To me, that was more important. If I get them to my store, I know I have captured a customer for life.”

Girlfriends Boutique, located at 549 Main St., reopened along with the other downtown shops recently, which was important since the store thrives on foot traffic, Maldonado said. A table outside holds hand sanitizer and everyone wears a mask.

“The sales have been better than I thought,” she said. “People are tired of being home. And they want to see clothes.”

Girlfriends Boutique was voted Best Clothing Store in last year’s Readers’ Choice competition held by the Pleasanton Weekly, with fans touting the unique clothes, the variety of

merchandise and the staffers’ advice.

Maldonado said eight other women also work at the boutique, one day each, which results in a lot of personal service.

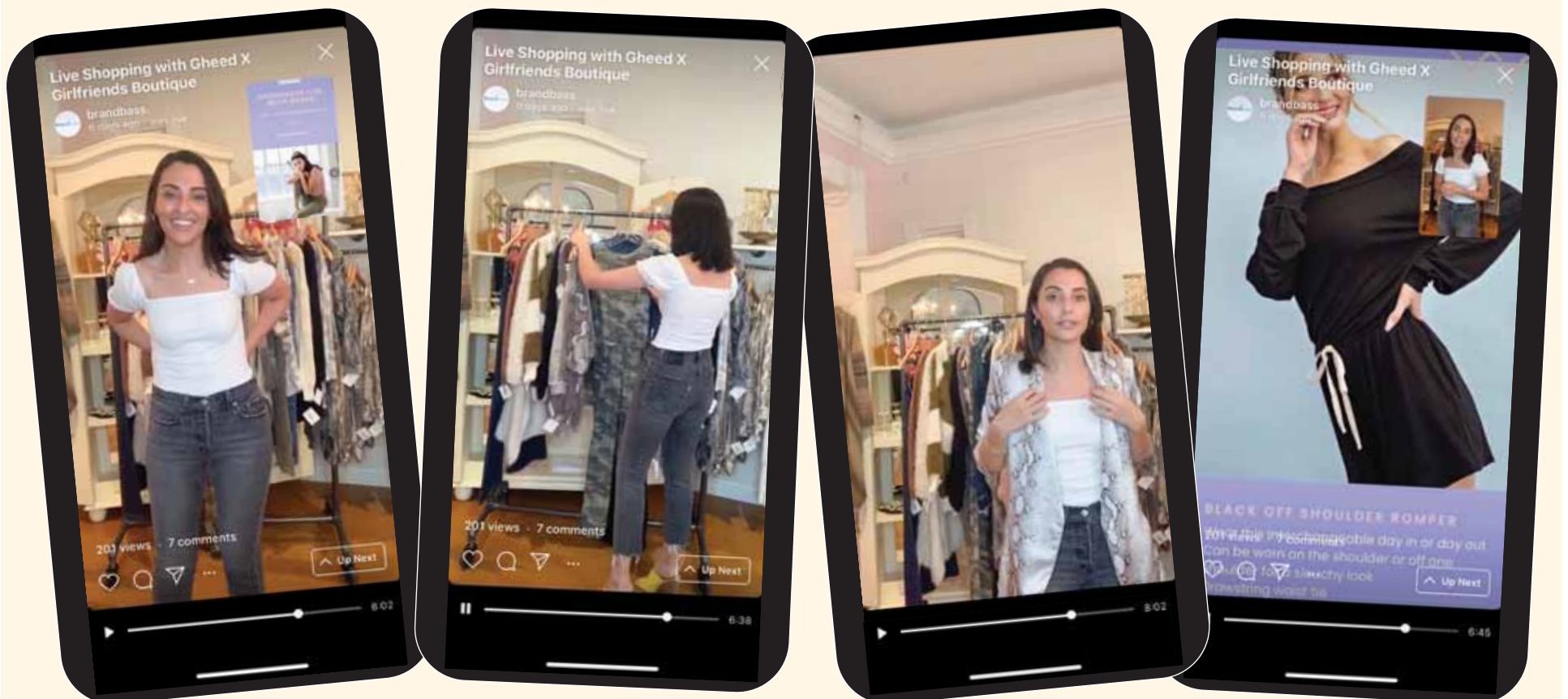
“I have the most amazing staff,” she said.

Maldonado also hosts parties, closing the boutique to allow a small group of friends to have the shop to themselves, sometimes for community fundraisers. If people are reluctant to shop with others right now, she said she will close the store for private shopping.

“I want it to become a sanctuary place for folks to come and have fun,” she said.

Brandbass spokeswoman Moorhead said she believes live virtual shopping is the future.

“Regular online shopping can seem flat and uninteresting,” she said. “Live virtual shopping, however, is fun, engaging and personalized.” ■



Brandbass ambassador Gheed Saeed, a Bay Area fashion influencer, tries on clothes for customers at a recent live virtual shopping event at Girlfriends Boutique in Pleasanton.

BRANDBASS

Review: 'The Web' opens online

Eugene O'Neill Foundation rolling out three early plays



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Emily Keyishian as Rose talks to police about her situation in the Eugene O'Neill Foundation's new production of "The Web."

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

"The Web," the first of three one-act plays being presented by the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, premiered last Saturday to an audience enjoying the production from home.

At promptly 5 p.m., the session opened to theater-goers at 87 different locations via Zoom, and director Eric Fraisher Hayes made opening remarks.

"Perhaps this is the largest group of O'Neillians that has gathered this year," he said. "I encourage you to have a good time."

He said he'd found a way to present and record these plays at Tao House — while practicing social distancing — because he didn't want its performances "to come to a screeching halt." At this time, visitors are not allowed at Tao House due to COVID-19.

Normally each year plays are given at Eugene O'Neill's 1937-44 residence in Danville in the Old Barn, which has been converted into a theater. These three

one-act plays were recorded there recently using the set from last year's production of "Long Day's Journey into Night," which was still in place.

"The Web," written in 1913 when O'Neill was recovering from tuberculosis, is the painful story of a young woman, Rose, who is trapped in a brutal relationship with her boyfriend, who forces her into street-walking to provide for her baby.

It stars Emily Keyishian as Rose; Charles Woodson Parker as Steve; Ryan Hayes as Tim; and Will Long, John Hale and John Tessmer as the three policemen. Sound design is by Rob Evans.

The play is 23 minutes long and performed "script in hand," meaning scripts rest on stands for the actors to read from or refer to. After the premiere Saturday, the actors appeared in their Zoom squares to discuss the play with director Hayes, who noted that the dialog was very "hard-boiled."

"I felt that made it easier — it

shaped the character before we knew where she was from," said Keyishian.

"The language is baked in, it creates a feeling," agreed Ryan Hayes. "Eugene O'Neill was trying to demonstrate the slang of the day. We were trying to capture that, to make it sound authentic."

For these plays, director Hayes tweaked the action to keep social distancing.

"Keeping the intention of violence is hard to do when you are not able to interact with the person you are supposed to be hurting," said actor Ryan Hayes.

He also mentioned that the original script called for kissing.

"We had to figure out a way from 8 feet apart to show their affection for each other," he said. "As an actor, it stinks not be able to be close to another actor."

The director noted that although some lines were eliminated, nothing was added.

These three early plays of O'Neill's, all written more than 100 years ago, delve into the heroics of women trying to change their lives for the better despite the odds stacked against them. "Recklessness" is about a wife trapped in a loveless marriage and looking to escape with the family chauffeur, premiering on Oct. 10; "Abortion," which explores the dire decisions at the intersection of social class and women's reproductive rights, will debut Oct. 17.

To sign up to see the next two premieres, visit www.eugeneoneill.org. Each of the plays also will be available for viewing 48 hours after its initial showing.

Watching this video of "The Web" brings fans on a welcome visit to the inside of the Old Barn again. The production was intensely O'Neill, and viewing it on a personal computer screen gives it an intimacy that the playwright might have embraced. ■

Eagle Scout Ved Wadmark

Project was building helmet racks at Sports Park

Ved Wadmark of Pleasanton recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award in the Boy Scouts of America. Due to COVID-19, his Court of Honor will be scheduled later.

Wadmark is a member of Troop 908, which is chartered by St. Clare's Episcopal Church. He served as assistant patrol leader, patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader and troop



Ved Wadmark

instructor, fulfilling his leadership requirements in his troop.

He graduated from Amador Valley High School last year and is now attending Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (RHIT) in Indiana, majoring in mechanical engineering.

At Amador, Wadmark was on the track-and-field team as well as cross-country. He was head of online design for the Amador Valley VEX Robotics and vice president of Head of Build, was involved with Sheer Force Robotics, the Investment Club and the Engineering Club. He was on the Del Prado Swim Team, and

his interests also include video games and volunteering.

For his Eagle Project, Wadmark planned, developed and provided leadership in an undertaking to build helmet racks for Pleasanton Little League baseball at Ken Mercer Sports Park.

Wadmark is the son of Per and Nidhi Wadmark of Pleasanton. His father, Per, was an assistant Scout master for his troop.

Anyone interested in Scouting can contact Matt Lindberg, matt.lindberg@scouting.org. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"Alviso Adobe" by Lorraine Wells Watercolor, painted in 2020.

Check out 'Paint Pleasanton 2020'

Exhibit is on website through end of October

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Pleasanton Art League's first online exhibit, "Paint Pleasanton 2020," is on its website, with 51 artworks created by 23 artists.

"It was PAL's first foray into an online event and I am happy with the result," PAL spokeswoman Lorraine Wells said.

For the last two years, the "Paint Pleasanton" events have drawn artists to paint and photograph its sites during a long weekend, culminating in an exhibit on the lawn in front of Museum on Main where the artworks were judged and also for sale.

This year the rules were tweaked to allow works done in the past and in the Pleasanton area to be sent in digitally. There was no entry fee and no judging, and each artist was limited to

three entries.

"I added the 'Old' aspect to the exhibit because most artists are prohibited from showing art that was created/shown more than two years ago," Wells explained. "That leaves most of us with art work collecting dust that we cannot show. It was good to get some of it out there."

The exhibit is on display at www.pal-art.com through the month of October. The online show provides information about contacting artists directly to purchase their works.

"PAL's next scheduled event would be the annual member show at the Firehouse," Wells said. "We had hoped we would be able to hang that show but we are now planning on it being online."

Details are still being worked out, she added. ■

Writers to learn about effective websites

Group continues online for October meeting

Author Pauline Wiles will teach writers how to create an effective website at the October meeting of the Tri-Valley Writers being held at 2 p.m. next Saturday (Oct. 17) on Zoom.



Pauline Wiles

The presentation, "Websites That Wow Readers — how to create or update your online home," will show how to create a website or, for those who would rather not do it themselves, Wiles will pass along insider tips for working with a professional. She also will explain how to simplify the project and avoid common design pitfalls.

The talk is hosted by the Tri-Valley Branch of the California

Writers Club; cost for members is \$5; for non-members, \$7; students ages 14-22, \$3. To reserve a spot, email president@trivalleywriters.org and pay at www.trivalleywriters.org. The session is open to all who reserve a place and pay by Oct. 15.

Wiles, a website designer who teaches computing, is also an author, currently writing romantic comedies

For more information about the Tri-Valley Branch of the California Writers Club, contact Deborah "Jordan" Bernal at president@trivalleywriters.org or visit www.trivalleywriters.org. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Former Foothill student reported missing in San Francisco

A former Foothill High School student who returned to the Bay Area for college after her family moved from Pleasanton to North Carolina has been reported missing in San Francisco and is considered at-risk, according to authorities.

Sydney "Syd" West, 19, has not made contact with family or friends since Sept. 29, and her last known location is believed to be San Francisco near Crissy Field on Sept. 30, according to the Orange County (N.C.) Sheriff's Office which has been in contact with the San Francisco Police Department.

"We are asking anyone who has any information about our daughter Sydney to please contact the investigators. We are anxious to have our daughter found safe and brought

home," West's parents said in a statement released through the sheriff's office on Monday.

The Pleasanton Unified School District confirmed West attended Foothill during her freshman and sophomore years before her family moved to North Carolina. She is listed now as a resident of Chapel Hill, N.C.



Sydney West

Orange County Sheriff's officials said West had been living in the Bay Area since late August, stating that she was "until recently" a student at University of California at Berkeley and since had been residing with friends in San Francisco.

West is considered to be at-risk due to depression, according to SFPD. A family member reported her missing on Oct. 2 after she had not been heard from for nearly three days.

West is described as white, standing 5-foot-10 and weighing 130-135 pounds, with blue eyes and light-brown hair usually worn in a ponytail. She was likely wearing dark shorts, slip-on Vans shoes and carrying a black backpack, according to investigators.

The case is being investigated by the missing persons section of the SFPD special victims unit.

Anyone with information on West's disappearance can contact

SFPD at 415-575-4444, or text a tip to TIP411 (847411) with "SFPD" at the start of the text message.

In other news

• An unidentified suspect allegedly tried unsuccessfully to rob a US Bank in central Danville last Friday afternoon, and town police are asking residents to keep their eyes out for the would-be bank robber who remains at large.

At approximately noon on Friday, the man entered the US Bank branch located at 720 San Ramon Valley Blvd. and handed the teller a note demanding money, according to Danville police.

The suspect had his hand in his pocket as if he were in possession of a weapon — although town officials did not confirm if he actually had a weapon or not. When the teller told the man they had no money in their drawer, the unidentified suspect left the bank and fled the area, according to police.

Police described the man as being African American, standing between 5-foot-5 and 5-foot-8, weighing approximately 200 pounds. He was last seen fleeing the bank wearing dark pants, white t-shirt, sunglasses and a black hat.

Residents who were at the bank branch during that time and may have seen anything or know the identity of the suspect can contact Danville PD Detective Dan Lynch at 314-3711 or dlynch@danville.ca.gov.

• Dublin Police Services has received a \$50,000 state grant that aims to help the department streamline processes to collect and report traffic data.

The grant funds will be used to develop an electronic citation system, and to develop a new program or update an existing electronic crash reporting system with software that can submit data straight to the California Highway Patrol's Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System.

"Accurate and timely data is critical to the safety of our roads," Dublin police Capt. Nate Schmidt said in a statement. "This funding will help paint a clearer picture of our biggest traffic safety issues."

The grant program started Oct. 1 and runs through September 2021. The funding was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"This program is new for 2021 and is an effort to improve how quickly crash data is collected and reported," OTS director Barbara Rooney said. "High-quality safety data is critical. It's used to determine the nature of our road safety problems and it informs our actions in how best to address them. We are happy to provide local agencies with the necessary tools to develop or enhance their electronic traffic reporting systems." ■

—Pleasanton Weekly staff

Jacquelyn "Jacque" Marilyn Caudle Holder

October 31, 1935 – June 16, 2020

A memorial service celebrating the life of long-time Pleasanton resident Jacque Holder will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16 at GraceWay Church, 1183 Quarry Lane, Pleasanton. Capacity will be limited by COVID-19 regulations so reservations are required. People interested in attending can reserve seats at www.gracewaylife.org. It also will be live streamed on GraceWay's Youtube channel.



Jacque loved serving her Lord in church and in her community. Jacque went home to be with her Savior on June 16 after battling dementia. She was 84.

She and her late husband of 58 years, Carl Holder, lived in Pleasanton from the early 1960s until her death except for five years spent living abroad. They were active members of the Presbyterian church throughout their time in Pleasanton. Jacque led Challenge, the youth group at church, for several years. She also participated in Bible studies throughout her life.

She was born in Oklahoma City, OK to Odessa Myrl Beard Caudle and Leo Hardin Caudle. She graduated from Capitol Hill High School and married fellow Capitol graduate Carl Holder on April 26, 1958.

They had three daughters that she raised in Pleasanton. She loved entertaining people in her home and was known for her homemade hot fudge sauce. Her friends and family knew very well that she was not a morning person. NO calls before 10 am.

Later in Carl's career as an airline pilot, Carl transferred his flying base to Berlin where he and Jacque lived for five years. He captained jets for Pan Am and they were there when the Berlin Wall came down in 1989. All three daughters visited them while they were based in Berlin.

Her daughters have favorite memories of the times spent at the family's mountain vacation home in Blue Lake Springs near Arnold that Carl built. Another favorite memory was the full family of 15 people traveling to Kenya for a safari.

After Carl retired, they traveled the country in their fifth-wheel trailer. They took advantage of Carl's job to travel widely and the family enjoyed annual trips to Hawaii for vacation.

She is survived by her daughters: Karen (Brooke) Burton of Highlands Ranch CO, Carla (Jeff) Land of Diablo CA, Kelly (David) Elkins of Portland OR; Grandchildren: Kelby (Kurt) Ewert of Liberty MO, Marley (Alex) Dagner of Portland OR, Thatcher Burton of Fort Collins CO, Jennifer (Mike) Anderson of Fenton MO, Jessica Land of Portland OR, Emily Elkins of Portland OR and Paige Elkins of Portland OR; and her great-grandchild Karson Carl Ewert of Liberty MO.

The family prefers donations in her memory to GraceWay Church, 1183 Quarry Lane, Pleasanton, 94566. www.gracewaylife.org

PAID OBITUARY

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Oct. 4

Warrant arrest

- 2:25 a.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive
- 10:59 a.m. on the 5200 block of Hopyard Road

Domestic battery

- 12:21 p.m. on Magnolia Circle

Assault/battery

- 1:40 p.m. on the 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Theft

- 2:02 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 6:18 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Drug violation

- 5:57 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Oct. 3

Theft

- 12:21 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road
- 1:09 a.m., 5000 block of Hopyard Road; theft from auto
- 8:14 a.m., 4300 block of Fairlands Drive; auto theft

Stolen property

- 2:12 a.m. on Nevada and Wyoming streets

Vehicle tampering

- 10:09 a.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road

Warrant arrest

- 11:16 a.m. on the 2800 block of Tudor Court

- 8:14 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Drug violation

- 11:46 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road
- 3:19 p.m. at Foothill Road and Dorothea Court

Oct. 2

Drug violation

- 10:23 a.m. on the 5300 block of Owens Court

- 7:32 p.m. on Owens and Chabot drives

Shoplifting

- 5:00 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

Oct. 1

Graffiti

- 10:20 a.m. on the 4100 block of First Street

Theft

- 1:13 p.m. on the 3600 block of Nevada Street; auto theft
- 2:39 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 6:55 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Fraud

- 2:59 p.m. on the 000 block of Golf Road

DUI

- 4:27 p.m. on Sycamore Road and Sycamore Creek Way

Warrant arrest

- 6:45 p.m. on Stoneridge Mall Road and Canyon Way

Sept. 30

Vandalism

- 5:43 a.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

Theft from auto

- 7:52 a.m. on the 3600 block of Santa Rita Road

Domestic battery

- 10:00 a.m. on Owens Drive

Drug violation

- 10:39 a.m. on the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road

Burglary

- 4:32 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive
- 5:00 p.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Sept. 29

Drug violation

- 12:13 a.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

- 10:46 p.m. on Hopyard Road/Owens Drive

Theft

- 2:08 p.m., 4200 block of Dorman Road; bicycle theft
- 6:27 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Criminal threats

- 5:19 p.m. on the 1500 block of Harvest Road

Fraud

- 9:44 p.m. on the 4000 block of Sutherland Court

PUBLISHER

Gina Channell, Ext. 1171

EDITORIAL

Editor

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 1172

Tri Valley Life Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Editor Emeritus

Jeb Bing

Staff Reporters

Julia Baum, Ext. 1176

Ryan J. Degan, Ext. 1179

Contributors

Cierra Bailey, Tim Hunt,
Dennis Miller, Mike Sedlak,
Nancy Lewis

ART & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown

Designers

Linda Atilano, Amy Levine,
Paul Llewellyn, Doug Young

ADVERTISING

Account Executive

Karen Klein, Ext. 1177

Real Estate Sales

Carol Cano, Ext. 1173

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

Administrative Associate

Carolyn Chan, Ext. 1174

HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation email: circulation@

PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840.

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Community support of the Pleasanton Weekly is welcomed and encouraged through memberships at levels of \$5, \$8 or \$10 per month through automatic credit card charges. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to www.PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

Tri-Valley local election recommendations

This is another pivotal local election season throughout the Tri-Valley.

Accordingly, the Pleasanton Weekly editorial board is offering the following recommendations for Livermore and Dublin city and school board elections as well as the runoff for Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 1.

We reached our decisions based on the performances at candidate forums, email interviews on endorsements, and our review of past reporting and research.

City of Livermore

Voters in Livermore will be choosing a new mayor and one new council member this November.

We believe Bob Woerner for mayor and Britni Kiick for City Council District 3 are the right candidates to lead the city through the immediate crises of the pandemic and economic downturn, and beyond.

With nearly nine years on the City Council and earlier service on the Planning Commission, Woerner has the knowledge of policy, experience on the council dais and proven ability to lead a meeting we feel is necessary for Livermore's next mayor. His service on many committees both local and regional where his decisions impacted Livermore and the greater Tri-Valley region and a background in finance will be key as the council and staff navigate uncertain times.

Kiick will bring a fresh perspective and energy to the council. Being a small business owner, she will offer new ideas on how to help other small businesses survive through what will be a difficult few years as the health crisis and its economic impacts continue. We were impressed with her knowledge of the issues facing the city and the region and her ability to communicate her ideas.

We would also like to acknowledge support for incumbent Bob Carling, who is running unopposed on the District 4 ballot. A committed, thoughtful councilman, Carling has earned a second term so he can continue leading the city through the financial

challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Livermore school board

With two at-large seats on the ballot for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, Nov. 3 offers the opportunity for voters to bring a necessary change in elected leadership and an influx of inspired new ideas to the school board.

Attributes embodied by newcomers Yanira Guzmán and Asa Strout.

Motivated to run to address education inequalities exacerbated by the pandemic and remote learning, Guzmán will provide important perspective on the LVJUSD board as a former Spanish language teacher whose two children are in the dual immersion program at Junction. When combined with her time on the Measure M Citizens' Oversight Committee, that experience will contribute to her achieving campaign goals of communication, access, collaboration and representation.

Strout has impressed with a campaign focusing on safety, equity, technology and transparency to help students and schools thrive not only amid at-home learning but upon the return to campus as well. He also has a track record of collaborative advocacy through his efforts with Unify Livermore and co-chairing the winning Yes on P campaign in favor of the city's downtown hotel development plan.

City of Dublin

The Dublin City Council will experience a sea change after November with a new mayor and two regular council seats changing. Melissa Hernandez is the best choice to fill the mayor's chair, and Samir Qureshi and Michael McCorriston for the council.

There are few differences between Hernandez and one of her opponents, fellow council member Arun Goel. We looked to Hernandez's position on development as the deciding factor. She realizes that with such a huge need for housing in the Tri-Valley, pushing a pause button on market-rate housing, as Goel proposes, is not a viable solution. Hernandez has

also built relationships with Tri-Valley, regional and state representatives — leadership engagement that will serve her well in the role of mayor.

Qureshi is familiar with how representative government works having served on several boards and commissions, most recently the Dublin Planning Commission. Before moving to the Bay Area, Qureshi was selected in other states as a school board, zoning board and environmental commission member. His background in finance and accounting will be useful as the council is forced to review and revise the city's budget as the pandemic and economic downturn continue to affect revenue.

To prepare for his candidacy, McCorriston — a 26-year Dublin resident — made himself knowledgeable of the city's issues by attending all council meetings for the past two years and completing city-sponsored educational programs. He is well-versed on the need for and challenges surrounding housing as an alternate on the city's Human Services Commission, a member of the affordable housing committee and a volunteer for a nonprofit anti-poverty organization.

Dublin school board

This election offers Dublin Unified School District voters — at least those in Trustee Areas 1 and 4, anyway — the chance to return true leadership stability and a unifying spirit to the Board of Trustees.

Those candidates are Kristin Pelham in Area 1 and Michael Utsumi in Area 4.

Pelham's experience with the district and in the classroom are unmatched in the Area 1 campaign. She works as a special education teacher in the San Ramon Valley, and as a parent with two daughters in Dublin schools, she has served DUSD directly on the LCAP, Boundary and High School Naming committees. We see Pelham as a stabilizing force with vital experience needed to effectively support students and the entire district from the Area 1 seat.

With years of school volunteering experience on campuses and

district-wide, including as a leader within the Dublin Partners in Education Foundation, Utsumi has been prioritizing unity among his goals, especially in the wake of the discord that led to Dave Marken's abrupt resignation as superintendent. Not only do we see Utsumi as "a champion for all students" (as his campaign slogan states), but as a true advocate for the betterment of the entire district as well.

District 1 Supervisor

Dublin Mayor David Haubert and Fremont City Councilman Vinnie Bacon are on the November ballot vying for the Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 1 seat in a runoff election. The two finished in the top two places in March, but well short of the 50%-plus-one required to win the board seat outright in the primary.

Haubert is the best candidate to replace retiring Supervisor Scott Haggerty because he brings more governance experience and proven ability to lead. Through his years of service to Dublin on the school board, council and now as mayor, along with roles on regional boards and associations, Haubert has shown he can work collaboratively with people who at times have competing interests.

In Dublin, Haubert has led the effort to create affordable housing while maintaining open space. This experience will be important when the new regional housing needs allocations (RHNA) obligations are announced.

We also took into consideration Bacon's questionable judgment in, essentially, threatening a member of Fremont's Sikh-American community in a since-publicized voicemail for "working against the party" by supporting Haubert's campaign, and a new investigation into alleged ethics violation opened by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) in September. The investigation includes 35 possible misdemeanor charges and is in addition to the nine ethics charges Bacon was found guilty of in 2019.

Haubert has the experience, knowledge and temperament to represent Alameda County's District 1. ■

that building goes up? There aren't always easy answers. Compromise is required. One person's expanding business is a neighbor's traffic.

These hard choices the City Council must decide are similar to what Jack has faced on the Planning Commission. Difficult decisions that impact our community require people like Jack. Jack listens, takes time to learn, balancing what people want and the implications

to our entire community.

Jack has demonstrated capabilities to carefully consider all sides of a decision. This is desperately needed now for the greater good of our community. Jack's professional experience in addition to his experience in serving our city makes him particularly adept at helping our city find the right balance with changes it

LETTERS

Balch: A demonstrated leader in a time of change

Dear Editor,

As a city, a community, we are facing historic challenges. As change is being forced upon us, we need leaders like Jack Balch.

I have served with Jack on the

Pleasanton Planning Commission for years. The commission is tasked to consider and weigh the costs and benefits to changes in our city to find the best balance for all of us. For example, is the home proposed with two stories OK? What happens to the look and feel of downtown if

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will face in the coming years.

Jack works hard to get to the best solution for our community, not for one set of special interests, or against one set of interests. Jack knows how to help all of Pleasanton.

—*Brandon Pace,*
Planning Commission alternate

We need Jamie Yee

I applaud the Pleasanton Weekly for thinking outside the box in recommending candidates for PUSD board in the upcoming election, but I think you made a mistake in leaving Jamie Yee off the list. An “underwhelming performance” in a forum should not overshadow the important attributes Jamie brings to our board and, more importantly, our students.

I’ve served on this board with Jamie for the past six years, and, in that time, I’ve come to appreciate the valuable perspectives and critical-thinking she brings, and we will need those qualities now more than ever. No one advocates more strongly for students at risk or underserved. Jamie’s long history working for Alameda County Health Care Services Agency has provided her with profoundly unique empathy that empowers our most challenged students.

As a critical thinker, Jamie is passionate about accountability. She has incredibly high standards, especially around instructional quality, and she insists on not only great planning but in proven execution. During this remote learning scenario Jamie’s voice is loudest when it comes to ensuring all our students are being taught at the highest level.

Jamie’s mantra is that “education should be irresistible,” and she passionately strives to ensure that is the case in Pleasanton. I urge voters to mark their ballots for Jamie Yee in November. We need her!

—*Mark Miller,*
PUSD trustee

Why I support Karla Brown

The Pleasanton Gravel Company has been in operation in the unincorporated area of Alameda County, east of the Pleasanton City limits since the 1920s. We have a permit with the county to mine gravel in the area for at least another 20 more years.

I first got to know Karla Brown as a member of the East Pleasanton Task Force in 2012 and later as an elected member of the City Council. Ms. Brown was the only council member who took our company’s concerns seriously when addressing the safety issues of building a large residential development on Pleasanton’s east side near our operating quarry. There have been deaths due to drowning and several rescues of children who got through the security measures and fell into the quarry lakes that are a part of our mining process.

Our company does not have a financial relationship with the city of

Pleasanton. We gave money to Karla Brown’s campaign in 2016 without expectation of zoning changes to benefit our bottom line nor to enhance our future business arrangement with the city of Pleasanton. We agreed with Karla Brown’s concerns for the well-being and safety of the community and its children and her commitment to supporting businesses that have the right to operate in the region.

Karla Brown has not voted on any action that would increase our company’s profit because we are not in the jurisdiction of the city of Pleasanton. I support Karla Brown for the next mayor of Pleasanton.

—*Donald Kahler*

Vote Jerry Pentin mayor

Having served on Pleasanton’s City Council with both of the top candidates for mayor, the clear choice in my view is Jerry Pentin as our next mayor, for several reasons.

First, Pentin has over 20 years of varied service to our community including our Planning Commission where I also served with him. I’ve watched Pentin “care about Pleasanton” as witnessed by the votes he cast as a planning commissioner and city councilmember.

Second, Costco has been a big issue in Pleasanton. Pentin was in favor of Costco from day one, understanding the financial benefit for our community. His opponent was not, playing initially to a base of no-growth voters, she opposed Costco. She later switched her position when it became clear a majority of Pleasanton voters favored Costco. Strictly politics!

Third, Pentin has the most experience tracking and analyzing legislative moves in Sacramento. As the legislature has increasingly challenged our ability to exercise local control it is vital our next mayor be able to continue a collaborative approach with other cities in negotiating with Sacramento. Pentin’s leadership position with the League of California Cities places him in an excellent position to accomplish this.

Finally, contention by Pentin’s opponent that she is the only candidate to favor “slow, smart growth” is untrue. Under the current city administration, Pleasanton has practiced slow smart growth for years. Jerry Pentin has contributed to this, keep him on the council as mayor.

—*Arne Olson*
City Council member (2014-18)

Carreon: A champion for students

Mary Jo Carreon has my vote for the Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees.

I have known Mary Jo for over 20 years, as a dedicated, intelligent, creative and hard-working teacher and valued colleague. Our younger son (now 30) was fortunate to have been in Mary Jo’s third-grade class. Students really do come first with Mary Jo.

She understands their needs from multiple perspectives — as an experienced educator and as a parent of grown children who attended PUSD schools K-12. Her skill at differentiating the curriculum for each learner, coupled with her compassionate listening and effective communication with parents were keys to her students’ success.

Mary Jo, an educator with over 30 years in the classroom, is in tune with what students, teachers and staff experience each day. Her insight into the challenges of remote learning and teaching will be valuable as trustees and cabinet consider the return to school in person. She will be an asset to the PUSD Board of Trustees.

I urge you to vote for Mary Jo Carreon, a champion for our students.

—*Lynn Gatehouse*

Vote for Randy Brown

I urge you to vote for Randy Brown for Pleasanton City Council. I have had the pleasure of working with Randy as a board member of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, and most recently as the chair, since I arrived at the chamber as president and CEO over two years ago.

Randy Brown is passionate about Pleasanton which is evident through his leadership experience with Rotary, Sunflower Hill, Agape Villages, Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare, Pleasanton Military Families and other organizations.

Being a small business owner and understanding the challenges in running your own business, will give Randy an excellent perspective as a City Council member. His “can do” attitude, positivity and ability to collaborate with others will be critical as the City Council works toward bringing our city back from the pandemic.

It is also important to note, that once Randy is elected as a Pleasanton City Council member, he will step down from the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Please join me in voting for Randy Brown for City Council on Nov. 3!

—*Steve Van Dorn*

Mike Wallace for BART director

I worked closely with Mike Wallace, candidate for the Bay Area Rapid Transit Board of Directors, when I was an employee at the Zone 7 Water Agency. Mike is very professional with the highest degree of integrity. His business and public agency experience will serve him well as a BART director.

Mike knows that Livermore got the short end of the stick when BART was not extended to Livermore. He will be a great team player in working for what is best for the residents of the Livermore-Amador Valley.

Please join me in voting for Mike Wallace as BART director for District 5, which includes Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore.

—*Dennis Gambs,*
Zone 7 director

Rethinking Swalwell

I voted for him twice. But, that was back when he was a bipartisan moderate with instincts to cross the aisle. That all changed when Speaker Pelosi gave Swalwell a party leadership position.

Everyone knows how far overboard Eric went as spokesperson for the Trump-Russia conspiracy theory — embarrassing. And, few have forgotten that Eric publicly relinquished his House seat during his campaign for president, then reneged.

I saw him on cable news a few days ago, and he’s still clinging to the Trump-Russia conspiracy to steal the 2016 election. Meanwhile, it’s now clear it was his party’s campaign that covertly sought help from a Russian spy to dig up dirt on their opponent. Do I expect a person so consumed with political tribalism to be objective? ... No.

I am questioning whether hyper-partisanship fits the 15th. Most of us would prefer a Congress where good ideas prevail, and the big votes are not strictly party-line.

Alison Hayden reminds me of Eric Swalwell in 2012 — someone who is independent and objective enough to work across the aisle. She doesn’t mention the Republican Party anywhere on her website. She has smart positions, such as a carbon-pollution tax which is redistributed to the taxpayers as a rebate. Take a look at her positions.

I’m ready to move forward — with Alison Hayden.

—*Pierre Bierre*

Vote No on Prop 15

It is time to correct the purposeful misstatements and myths of Proposition 15 tax advocates.

1. “Schools and Communities First Act CA” purposeful misleading title by the state of California. It is step 1 to destroy the voter approved Proposition 13 passed in 1978 to protect property ownership and provide certainty of future tax burdens. Every California property owner benefits by Proposition 13. The tax advocates are open and clear that if Prop 15 passes they will come after all the residential property.

2. Only 5.28% of your property taxes in Pleasanton go to the local school district.

3. Only 3.47% of your Pleasanton taxes go to the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District.

4. 91.25% of your property taxes go to other governmental agencies. If you want to increase revenue to local schools as I certainly do, the best methods are bonds and parcel taxes with specified uses.

5. The myth-sayers talk at raising \$12 billion annually. Where does that number come from Who and how was that calculated? I submit that is another misleading statement.

6. The high tax advocates claim 10% of the California properties will pay over 90% of the huge tax

increase. They ignore the burden to hundreds of thousands of small businesses in shopping centers that pay all of the property taxes or office tenants that pay the tax increases.

This pandemic is devastating most small businesses. Please do not tax them out of existence. Vote No on Prop 15.

—*Brad Hirst*

Woerner for Livermore mayor

For years, I’m embarrassed to say, I wasn’t a very informed voter. A few years ago, I became more intentional about researching the issues and candidates. I’ve found that getting to know the candidates, their character, beliefs and background is very important.

If they’ve held a public position, looking at what they’ve accomplished and how they have handled their responsibilities is paramount. With this in mind, I am voting for Bob Woerner for Livermore mayor.

Bob’s record on the City Council is impressive. Not only did he creatively come up with a plan to avoid blocks of housing downtown, but brokered an impressive compromise bringing us a beautiful park to honor our veterans and stockmen. This will add to the historical value and beauty of downtown Livermore.

Another area where I believe Bob excels is his attention to our finances. Bob received an MBA in finance from UC Berkeley (along with his Ph.D. in physics from MIT). He has worked in the private sector in business development and financial planning and has brought this expertise to the city of Livermore. Because of Bob, we’ve avoided many of the layoffs and budget cuts other Tri-Valley cities have endured through our current pandemic.

Bob has worked on several committees as a representative of Livermore. I notice that he has been highly endorsed by not only our current council members, but most every other government official in the Tri-Valley.

Bob Woerner’s accomplishments and character are why he is my choice for Livermore mayor.

—*Cindy Anderson*

Arkin represents dedicated service

I have known Valerie Arkin for over 15 years while we raised our children in Pleasanton schools.

Valerie brings 12 years of dedicated service on the Pleasanton school board where she was instrumental in working through the management and budgetary issues impacting our schools during the last recession.

Valerie has always been diligent in gathering relevant information and meeting with people before reaching a decision. She is passionate about serving and would be an excellent advocate of the Pleasanton community.

Please join me in voting for Valerie Arkin for City Council.

—*Rita Galvin*

Pleasanton Voters support Karla Brown for mayor

PleasantonVoters.com is an information-based group working on important issues of concern for Pleasanton residents, with a focus on preserving ridgelines and open space, supporting our schools, and securing safe drinking water.

We seek to promote a culture of mutual respect and security for all residents and to maintain Pleasanton's high quality of life for future generations. To this end, we endorse Karla Brown for mayor.

Karla has worked tirelessly over the past eight years as a city councilmember to support our excellent schools, preserve our scenic hillsides and open space, and protect the historic downtown district from over-development. Check her voting record and you will find that she has consistently voted for smart growth policies that ease overcrowded schools and reduce traffic.

As a City Council member, she always researches the issues, thoroughly vets staff reports, and asks the hard questions for the greater good of Pleasanton residents. She sits on the Tri-Valley Water Roundtable and serves as the city liaison to Zone 7, making her a powerful voice for safe drinking water in Pleasanton. Karla also advocates for our children and led the way for a citywide ban on vaping products and flavored tobacco in Pleasanton.

Karla supports our outstanding police and supports periodical policy reviews to keep us all safe. She advocated for greater financial support to Pleasanton's small businesses struggling from the impacts of COVID-19. She has the best interest of Pleasanton residents when it comes to health, safety, education and fiscal efficiency.

—*Kelly Cousins*

Pentin has leadership and experience

I have had the privilege of knowing, working and serving with Jerry Pentin on various Pleasanton civic committees and community service projects for over 28 years.

Jerry is a true, steadfast leader who diligently researches every topic and gathers community input before making decisions as to what he feels is best for Pleasanton. He is a selfless leader and visionary who always encourages family, friends and residents to be involved in civic or community service organizations.

Jerry has the utmost integrity in his professional, civic and personal life. Jerry is an awesome dad and husband of 36 years. Rotary's "service above self" motto is reflected in everything Jerry does. He is more a civil servant than he is a politician.

Unlike others, Jerry does not allow those with special interests to influence his decisions, but rather, he does the research and promotes what he feels is best for the community at large, even if it may be unpopular with the small, loud minority. He understands the balance between

attracting businesses to our community with the need to provide the infrastructure needed to support those businesses.

Jerry's vast experience of community service, civic responsibilities, plus the code of honor that is an intrinsic part of who he is as a person, make him the far and above the best candidate for mayor of Pleasanton. Jerry knows best how to navigate the current and future economic, social and environmental challenges in the years ahead. (www.votePentin.com)

—*Herb Ritter, Planning Commission member*

Kelly Mokashi: Best qualified candidate

Pleasanton, we have another opportunity to take advantage of a highly skilled local talent that is a perfect fit for our times; her name is Kelly Mokashi and she's a candidate for the PUSD board.

She has broad and deep experience in education as a parent, educator, and leader. Kelly has a double MS in education: curriculum and technology/administration, and has worked with districts nationwide. She is a former teacher, a professional-development trainer, and currently an eLearning designer and instructor, as well as a parent to three school-aged children in the district.

Having previous leadership experience as an executive director/president of the board for two nonprofits, Kelly believes in a "shared leadership" approach, which is transparent and inclusive of students, parents, and educators. This approach is also needed to maintain checks and balances especially for financial decisions, which will be a significant upcoming challenge.

Her experience with eLearning is especially relevant as we work our way through and beyond a COVID-19 world. She understands the proper balance between online and in-person learning, and what we will need to do to ensure all students are on track intra- and post-pandemic. Kelly is a good listener, approachable, non-patronizing and an advocate for kids — the ultimate customer.

Don't miss the opportunity to install this local asset on our PUSD board. As an admiring resident, I wholeheartedly endorse Kelly Mokashi, and encourage everyone to vote for her.

—*Laurene Green, Zone 7 director*

Steve Maher for school board

Hello Pleasanton Voters; re-elect Steve Maher to the Pleasanton USD school board!

With his diverse background as educator, administrator, advocate and trustee, we know he is highly qualified to continue on the board. We saw this first-hand when he was principal Maher for our three children at Alisal Elementary School, through my teaching days at Thomas Hart Middle School where Steve served as

its first principal for 10 years, and in his past four years on the board.

Steve knows our students, knows our teachers, knows our families and knows our neighborhoods.

Without a doubt his integrity and leadership will continue to serve our schools well. Cast your vote for Steve Maher for Pleasanton USD school board.

—*Anne and Mel Everton*

Vote Monith for mayor

Pleasanton, whether we choose to acknowledge it or not, is a rapidly changing environment. Our community is not the same as it was 20 years ago, and thus should not be governed so.

Pleasanton deserves a mayor who both loves our town and acknowledges the importance of positive change to a well-governed city. If we, as citizens of Pleasanton, desire a better future for our children and a safer city for the general public, Monith Ilavarasan is the best candidate for mayor.

Pleasanton has become a diverse city, with Asian Americans making up a third of our total population. Despite the change in our community, the values of Asian Americans have been cast aside as our city's government continues to have no representation of the Asian American community.

As a young Asian American, this lack of inclusion is disturbing to me as it should be for the rest of my fellow citizens. By electing Monith to Pleasanton's mayoral position, we would establish that our city government cares about its diversity.

Beyond that, the length at which Monith has planned to address issues in Pleasanton is unmatched by any other candidate. He will not be a figurehead for our community, but a powerful enactor of positive growth and change.

I implore the people of the city that I love to please vote for Monith for mayor of Pleasanton.

—*Max Guerra*

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month — a time established to draw attention to this unspeakable crime and continue efforts to raise awareness and stop the violence.

Domestic violence is an unfortunate reality that occurs within every class, age group, race and religion. It happens in families, friendships, and intimate relationships. Intimate partner violence happens within same and different sex partnerships; it happens whether people are married, living together or dating.

On a typical day, there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide. On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more

than 10 million women and men.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October, 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect battered women's advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children.

In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year the first national toll-free hotline was begun. In 1989 the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month commemorative legislation was passed by the U.S. Congress.

The Tri-Valley Haven will be contributing by hosting a virtual 5K/10K walk/run known as our annual Pace for Peace. All proceeds will help local survivors of domestic violence served by Tri-Valley Haven. The race will commence from Oct. 17-31. Register at www.trivalleyhaven.org.

—*Samantha J. Valdez, Tri-Valley Haven*

Goel for Dublin mayor

As a senior at Dublin High School and a young person planning to vote for the first time this November, I am supporting Arun Goel for Dublin mayor.

I have seen him consistently rally and act on the sides of residents, refuse to take funding from special interests and developers, and support diversity in our city. At council meetings, rather than simply voting with the majority, Arun continues to speak with eloquence and intelligence for issues that matter to Dublin citizens.

For example, Arun wants to pause Dublin's bursts of market rate housing to provide affordable and senior housing, showing me and fellow residents that he truly cares about our city.

When I founded the Dublin Political Coalition at Dublin High School, Arun was also the first to respond, offering help, advice, and his time because he wanted to support youth political involvement and voter empowerment. His actions, not just his words, have shown that our voice matters.

Truly, he presents a balance between ideas and action. Vote for Dublin. Vote for Arun Goel.

—*Ananya Varshneya*

Voting for Nancy Allen

Nancy Allen is my choice for Pleasanton City Council, and here's why.

In 2006, Nancy and I met at a city Planning Commission meeting, both expressing concerns over the proposed second Home Depot at Stanley/Bernal intersection and the increased traffic and safety issues it would cause in surrounding Valley/Santa Rita neighborhoods.

Within days of that meeting, we and a handful of other neighbors formed the grass-roots group stoppleasantongridlock.com to halt the development. Nancy was the brains

of the team and I led the public relations and media campaign. Nancy spent many hours after work each day reading city staff reports, traffic studies and environmental impact reports, identifying the hard data that helped support our claims and eventually demonstrated to the City Council that the Home Depot project was not in best interest of the east side of Pleasanton.

That effort was the beginning of Nancy's many years of civic service for the city: seven years on the Pleasanton Planning Commission, served on the Economic Vitality Committee, the Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee, and multiple city task force groups.

I witnessed first-hand her thorough and thoughtful approach to making decisions effecting our city and neighborhoods that I know she has continued to do during her many years as planning commissioner. I am certain she is the most qualified candidate and the right choice for the City Council.

—*Heidi Massie*

My endorsement: Karla Brown

I was shocked to see the Pleasanton Weekly's Sept. 25 editorial saying "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" as if the mayoral election is over and their endorsed candidate has already won.

This is very disturbing and an insult to Ms. Brown who has dedicated eight years as a City Council member, two years as vice mayor, served on 12 local boards and committees and is working endless hours on her campaign so she can be mayor of the city she has dedicated much of her adult life serving.

It is also an insult to me and her many supporters who are spending endless hours on her mayoral campaign because we are passionate about how we need her leadership to keep Pleasanton from being overrun by overzealous developers.

PW did get one thing right in saying she "has been a proven independent thinker during her eight years in office" and "willing to be a lone critical voice in dissent to a council majority or city staff."

Bravo Karla, to stand up for what you and your constituents believe is best for our city. That's the kind of mayor we need in Pleasanton. That's why she's the best candidate for the job and has my endorsement and the endorsement of thousands of Pleasanton's residents who care about our city's future.

—*Nancy Krakauer*

Mokashi is a leader

Kelly Mokashi is fully qualified to become a trustee for the PUSD school board.

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I am a former supervisor for the federal programs department for an inner-city school district. Kelly led our district during a time of influx and change, much like we are faced with these days due to the effects of the pandemic.

Ms. Mokashi conducted district leadership meetings to identify key goals and determine professional development. She conducted leadership meetings with school coaches and district-level personnel to provide the leadership guidance for the district.

Ms. Mokashi developed and provided PD services for K-8 teachers and specialist teachers, covering a variety of topics related to educational reform and in compliance with No Child Left Behind, including technology integration, project-based learning, performance tasks, student portfolios, data-driven assessments, differentiated instruction, Writer's Workshop and SIOP (sheltered instruction).

She led a coaching program, in which she worked together with teachers to model best practices and to follow up and discuss classroom application ideas during grade level meetings. Ms. Mokashi took our school district of independent-working elementary schools and pulled them together into a cohesive district team, working together to achieve common goals. With this strategy Ms. Mokashi guided our district, so eventually, our K-8 schools were prepared to achieve high-level student success under NCLB.

Ms. Mokashi is always the consummate professional and a pleasure with whom to work. I am confident she would be a leader as a trustee for the PUSD school board!

—Geri Ledford

Balch for City Council

Please vote for Jack Balch for Pleasanton City Council. Jack is very well qualified to be an effective City Council member on day one. He has served Pleasanton on commissions for 11 years, currently serving on Planning Commission.

Jack is a CPA. His expertise and depth of understanding of finance will be sorely needed as the city of Pleasanton recovers from the pandemic we now face. He is approachable, and a good listener. Jack is enthusiastic, full of energy and eager to serve on the Pleasanton City Council.

Jack and his campaign committee have volunteered for Kids Against Hunger packing approximately 10,000 meals over two weekends to feed hungry children. Jack enjoys volunteering; in fact it is a family tradition. I served with Jack's grandfather on a foundation board many years ago.

I have been involved in many local elections over the years. Jack is the hardest working, most-organized candidate with whom I have worked. Jack deserves your vote. Check out

his credentials and endorsements at www.jackforpleasanton.com.

—Jan Batcheller

Karla, Nancy and Valerie for our quality of life

The Pleasanton election is simple this year. If you want Pleasanton to keep Pleasanton's wonderful small-town character, vote for Karla Brown for mayor and Nancy Allen and Valerie Arkin for City Council. If you want to build, build, build Pleasanton into a Dublin, Milpitas or San Jose, then vote for another group of candidates.

We moved to Pleasanton 18 years ago from Oakland because it was, well, very pleasant. Karla, Nancy and Valerie are the best candidates to resist those who would change Pleasanton into a big city.

I have known Karla for 16 years as a neighbor, neighborhood leader and City Council member. She is thoughtful, caring, and has worked respectfully and constructively with those having different opinions.

Nancy has been an effective planning commissioner for 7 years and Valerie has been an energetic PUSD board member for 12 years working to keep our schools excellent.

The most important thing about these very experienced candidates is that their priority is residents and our quality of life.

A different group of candidates favor aggressive building, development and growth, such as high-rises in downtown, developments on our ridges and advancing a huge housing development on the east side. Developers, real estate groups and commercial interests expect they will profit more with these candidates in office and have funded generously their campaigns and supporting PACs.

Let's prioritize residents over developers. Let's not turn Pleasanton into a big city. Elect Karla, Nancy and Valerie.

—David Camp

We need Valerie Arkin

Pleasanton is at a crossroads. Shift to the dense urbanized style of Walnut Creek or try to keep the small-town feel of Pleasanton? That is the choice we have this election between candidates supported by the developer/chamber forces and those not accepting money from developers.

Vote carefully, you might regret getting Walnut Creek (advocated by some on the downtown task force). We need Valerie Arkin on the City Council. She did a great job on the school board and now she can represent Pleasanton residents on the City Council.

—David Pascualy

Pleasanton Voters email

I'm a supporter of Jerry Pentin for mayor of Pleasanton. I was very offended by an email that I received from the Pleasanton Voters Board of Directors. I never considered voting

for any of these candidates. None met the criteria to guide Pleasanton through the coming months of chaos and crisis. Any future emails from this group will end up in my spam file.

—Pat Alvarado

Independence and integrity

Looking ahead to our upcoming election for Pleasanton City Council, I realize that the leaders we select will have serious impacts on the issues that matter to our city. Since the council will make crucial decisions about our future and use, we must select members who will favor the priorities of local residents over those of developers and outside interests.

Campaign positions released by the candidates demonstrate our challenge to select leaders who will not have personal interests that conflict with those of local Pleasanton residents. With that in mind, one candidate clearly represents a "complete package" of local Pleasanton values.

Nancy Allen's support for responsible land-use, preserving the small-town character of our downtown, our scenic open spaces and a strong partnership with the local school board are values that will serve Pleasanton well.

However, one issue makes Nancy Allen stand out among most of the others — she has steadfastly avoided any business connections that could create a conflict of interest in her decision-making on the council. She will not accept campaign contributions from developers or others who may bring projects before the council. If you study the campaign position of all the candidates, this characteristic sets Nancy apart from many of them.

In her long history of service to Pleasanton, including seven years on the Planning Commission, she has demonstrated independence and integrity. Pleasanton voters need not look farther than Nancy Allen for a candidate who will serve their interests without conflict on the City Council.

—Dan Sapone

Kelly Mokashi: Advocating for education

My path crossed with Kelly's, coincidentally, while I was amidst a pivotal career change into the field of education. As a working parent striving for a teaching credential and obtaining a Master in Education, simultaneously, Kelly related to my undertaking.

Kelly immediately was supportive of my journey to become an innovative educator. Over many golden lattes and toastinis, she took an interest in the progress of my courses, as they were 100% virtual and she was currently a virtual teacher herself.

Through our conversations, I've received invaluable coaching from Kelly on creating a classroom that fosters learning through differentiation, which ensures that students are met with teaching strategies that cater to diverse needs. She was enthusiastic

when sharing her experience with developing various forms of authentic assessment of her own invention and sharing with me her personal teaching resources to use in my studies and classroom implementation.

To assist with an assignment, Kelly invited me to observe her lead an Art in Action session (a program that relies mainly on volunteers) as a guest teacher for her daughter's class. I was able to see her integrate her knowledge and passion for art with her undeniable talent for teaching.

The PUSD school board deserves a trustee who emanates dedication and advocates for education on multiple fronts. Kelly is advocating for education in many respects, whether it's volunteering her time, sharing skills and resources with current and aspiring teachers or being involved in and ensuring the success of her own children's education.

—Jamie Mongoso

Are these guys generous ... or what?

Mayoral candidate Karla Brown recently changed her tune when it comes to the long awaited and tortuously analyzed Costco project that hopefully will be built at the intersection of I-680 & I-580.

Candidate Brown says she doesn't take contributions from special interests because "they may be attempting to buy influence with her." I don't know whether to laugh or cry! Candidate Brown conveniently got onboard with the rest of the City Council after the community spoke loud and clear on Measure MM ratifying council approval of the Costco.

The vote wasn't even close. The community overwhelmingly wants a Costco.

My question is did \$5,000 in campaign contributions to Karla Brown by opponents of Costco influence her tardiness to approve of this project? The \$5000 in donations did not come in \$10 and \$20 increments from citizens of Pleasanton, but instead were made by special interests in \$1,000 and \$2,000 amounts. So, I ask again, are these guys generous ... or what?

—Justin Hawbaker

To the voters of PUSD

Kelly Mokashi came into my life path soon after the birth of my first grandchild, who has Down syndrome. This life-changing event opened the door for our family to learn the meaning of "the lucky few."

Aside from our beautiful granddaughter's love, we then became involved with the nonprofit organization RODS (Racers for Orphans with Down Syndrome) because we wanted other people to experience this same blessing. RODS was a nice fit with its mission to help to raise funds for other orphans with Down syndrome, to find their forever home.

This is where we had the pleasure of meeting Kelly Mokashi who served as the executive director of this fine

organization. I learned quickly that Kelly is very easy to talk to and is a go-getter. She works hard and is always open to new ideas and willing to help others. She truly has a servant's heart.

Being a board member throws a person into the world of politics. I should know because I am a past school board member. But with Kelly Mokashi, you will get a public servant and not a politician who is out for personal gain. Her agenda will be making the system the best it can be for the students. I wish I could be there to vote for this wonderful educator, mother and passionate soul who will serve you greatly.

A vote for Kelly Mokashi will be an amazing addition to your PUSD school board!

—Jo Beth James

Jerry Pentin: A leader for our future

Experience and proven leadership are key to Pleasanton's future, and that is why I am supporting Jerry Pentin for mayor.

Councilmember Jerry Pentin brings a history of sound decisions as a City Council member for the past eight years, and previously with his tenure on the Parks and Recreation and Planning commissions.

His experience and wealth of knowledge as a council member is unequalled. His analysis is sharp and he is decisive. As your mayor, he will use that history to ensure that future decisions made will benefit the city of Pleasanton and you, as residents.

As a City Council member and prior, Jerry Pentin has helped create the Pleasanton we know and enjoy — a city with a beautiful downtown, abundant parks and trails, a strong economic base; a great place to raise a family! As your mayor, he will continue to be that strong leader who is accessible to you, his constituents, and who will deliver on priorities that strengthen and improve our quality of life.

Please join me in voting for Jerry Pentin for mayor on Nov. 3.

—Sharrell Michelotti
City Council member (1994-02)

Randy for council

I have lived in Pleasanton for 28 years and love this city. I am writing to show my support for Randy Brown for Pleasanton City Council. Randy is a kind, compassionate, smart and community-oriented family man.

One of the many things I respect most about Randy is that he is a man of service, to his country and to his city. You would be hard pressed to find a local nonprofit that Randy hasn't supported, either by volunteering or sponsoring and attending fundraising events. He is also a Rotarian, which is even another level of service to his community!

Randy is a small business owner, so he understands the needs and priorities of our small businesses in town, and he knows and understands the

value they bring to our community. He will no doubt look at all sides of every issue, listen to community members, and make sound decisions for Pleasanton. He will bring a needed new and dynamic presence to our City Council.

I hope you will join me in voting for Randy Brown for Pleasanton City Council on Nov. 3rd.

—Janeen Rubino-Brumm

Vote Valerie Arkin for City Council

Valerie served our city as a committed member of the Library Commission for eight years and as an active, dedicated school board member for 12 years. Her knowledge and experience with our schools will make her a valuable asset to the council.

Valerie is clearly ready for this job. She will be in a unique position to provide a different viewpoint to the council. The school board and the council are each facing the challenges of dealing with COVID-19.

Valerie will be an important link to help each body share information and make the best decisions moving forward. There are currently several ways the city and the school district share buildings, parks and sports fields. Valerie has many other ideas about how both entities can save money by working together.

Valerie's interest in our city goes far beyond her commitment to our library and schools. She listens to the community and knows that residents love eating and shopping in our historic downtown, but don't want housing placed there. She knows we want safe, clean drinking water, safe streets and parks. She believes that responsible growth that pays for itself is the way to go. Valerie is concerned about the amount of traffic we already have.

I trust Valerie to safeguard our quality of life.

—Christine Bourg

We need Karla's bold leadership

I am writing to discuss Karla Brown's compassion to help Pleasanton residents. Throughout these past months, it came to light that a new parking is being considered to replace the lush grass at Bicentennial Park. This park is often used for T-Ball, soccer, picnicking and more by local residents.

The proposed parking lot would also require the removal of numerous heritage trees including a stately redwood tree — all to construct a parking lot!

As a Sierra Club member and local activist, I contacted Karla Brown directly to inform her of this situation and the growing grassroots mobilization of the neighboring residents to the park. She immediately responded and established a dialogue with the Parks and Recreation Department and the city manager to raise awareness, arriving at a conclusion to delay the project. This would allow for

robust community engagement.

Karla is endorsed by the Sierra Club, and her environmentalist values are seen in her actions. Within Pleasanton, she exemplifies true leadership without partisan politics and she is running a clean money campaign. I fully endorse Karla and her bold leadership which is needed here in the Tri-Valley.

—Kunal Khaware

A good combination

A viable City Council requires five qualified, willing and able persons to oversee the myriad workings of our diverse community of some 80,000-plus residents. The four council members, and the mayor must read and understand reams of paper, and make critical decisions about the direction of our community.

Nov. 3 will see two new faces on the dais. Pleasanton has met and will continue to face challenges ranging from General Plan revisions and affordable housing to helping our business and residential communities weather a global pandemic and tanked economy, and addressing questions of community police policies.

Continuity must mesh with fresh ideas for solving those challenges and maintaining Pleasanton's top-10 status as a place to live and educate our families, enjoy the varied social and arts experiences we all enjoy, and swell our chests ... just a bit ... with pride when telling new acquaintances we call Pleasanton our home.

Randy Brown brings to our community an innovative, forward-thinking optimism coupled with a willingness to work hard at ensuring all those things we love about this place are preserved.

Jack Balch is a lifelong area resident of our town, having served on the Planning and other commissions, giving him the self-assurance and expertise to continue moving our community in fiscally sound policies to further enhance our stature as one of the greatest places to live.

Fresh ideas and experienced approaches make these two a winning pair to serve us as our councilmembers come November.

—Linda Kelly

Elect Pentin as mayor

I have lived in Pleasanton for the past 42 years and have watched this city grow into a major business center, while still maintaining the look and feel of a small suburban community that prominently features its historical roots and an incredible network of neighborhood parks.

The past eight to 10 years has shown how well Pleasanton's growth can be managed. As examples, in that time, a new Costco has been (initially) approved, Workday has completed a major employment facility next door to BART, and Ponderosa Homes has completed a superb example of a mixed housing development that includes large and small homes, condos, low-income housing and an over-55

community for our seniors.

Jerry Pentin has been the most significant voice in this planning effort and deserves to be elected as the next mayor of Pleasanton.

—Ken McDonald

No out-of-towners for me

I went online and reviewed the endorsement lists of mayoral candidates Jerry Pentin and Karla Brown. On Pentin's list, I was struck by the number of out-of-town politicians endorsing him as well as Realtors and attorneys.

Brown's list just seemed to be primarily of ordinary Pleasanton residents. I don't like the idea of out-of-towners trying to influence our local elections. That is why I will be voting for Karla Brown.

—Dennis Mulhall

In support of Jerry Pentin

Many local Pleasanton businesses are struggling to survive. How they recover from the economic devastation caused by COVID will determine much of what Pleasanton will look like in the future.

Electing smart innovative local leaders has never been more important to our city. That's why I have no hesitation in asking you to join me in voting for Jerry Pentin for mayor.

As a small business owner himself, Jerry knows the pressures that our local business owners are currently experiencing, and he understands the heavy responsibility of keeping people employed.

Jerry Pentin is a confident humble leader with a positive vision for the future our city. He has the skills, experience and compassion to lead our city through this crisis. We need Jerry's leadership, now, more than ever.

Jerry Pentin is the right leader at the right time.

—Matt DePretis

Supporting Jack Balch

I am writing to support the candidacy of Jack Balch in the upcoming election to the Pleasanton City Council.

It is not often that one has the opportunity to endorse an individual with solid professional skills and a demonstrated commitment to the community through years of civic service.

In addition to my respect for Jack's qualifications for the council, I have had the privilege of a 40-year relationship with his family, both in business and in community service.

In my 12 years on the board of the Alameda County Fair, I first served with Jack's grandfather, Sherman, and then was joined on the board by Jack's father, Jack W.

Both of them combined an acute business sense with a solid commitment to doing what was best for the fair and by extension the patrons of the Alameda County Fair.

I am very honored to support Jack

Balch's bid for the Pleasanton City Council and to see three generations of community service from this family.

—Pat O'Brien

Randy Brown for Pleasanton City Council

I am writing in support of Randy Brown for City Council. I have known Randy for six years. Randy is an exceptionally caring and giving person. He is charitable with his time, and can be found volunteering at many events where people are there to serve others in need. Randy is a great listener and a thoughtful decision-maker. Randy has the ethical backbone to do what is right, even when nobody is looking.

One of the many reasons I support Randy is because the state of California requires Pleasanton to zone for more high-density housing. Randy wants to do it smart, so that it gives Pleasanton more control, and less legal battles. As a 25-year Pleasanton resident, I ask you to join me in voting for Randy Brown for City Council.

—Bill Evans

Support for Randy Brown

I am a 33-year resident of Pleasanton and have known Randy Brown for nine years, serving on the Rotary board with him for much of that time. His effective leadership, honesty, fairness, and enthusiasm for rolling up his sleeves to get things done are qualities we need in community leaders. That's why I'm voting for Randy for City Council.

His vast experience in our community has given him keen insight into critical issues we face and what it takes to solve them. His understanding of the complexities of affordable housing projects will benefit our workforce, veterans and the disabled. As a strong advocate for public safety, he will strive to maintain and improve our high-quality agencies without needless experimenting that wastes time and money.

During this time of uncertainty and hardship, Randy understands what our community needs and how to fill those needs. For Pleasanton to remain the vibrant, prosperous city we love, please join me in voting for Randy Brown.

—Nancy Pennell

Monith has the people's best interest at heart

I'm a student at Amador Valley High School, and I advocate for Monith Ilavarasan for mayor because he has the people of Pleasanton's best interest at heart.

I have seen numerous businesses close down, not just due to the pandemic, but also because of raising rent prices. People in our communities are forced out of their jobs and homes because of high commercial rent and greedy developers. Monith sees these struggles and plans on dedicating his

time and efforts into making sure that citizens will no longer be damaged by these institutions.

However, it's not only the business managers that Monith supports; his benevolence for our community extends to everyone, more specifically, the students and teachers. In Pleasanton, we are lucky enough to have great, award winning, school and teachers, thanks to our city's endorsement.

Schools, education, teachers and learning environments are what make our community so prosperous and strong. Monith understands the importance of these institutions and will make sure our schools are better funded, more focused and supported, and that teachers are paid more.

In addition to all of this, Monith hears citizens voices. There have been multiple different viewpoints on how to address recent police issues. Monith listened to the people, and while he plans on supporting the PPD, he also plans on partnering them with social workers.

This way, everyone's voice is heard by aiding the police and making sure there are necessary additions that will make our community stronger.

—Julia Smith

I choose Randy Brown for City Council

I am greatly dismayed to see candidates for mayor and City Council vilify our local Chamber of Commerce, and insinuate that affiliation with the chamber is a negative quality in a candidate for a council position.

My nonprofit organization is a member of the chamber as are Open Heart Kitchen, Valley Humane Society, Agape Villages and many more. My plumber, my hair stylist and the hospital are also active members of the chamber. All of my favorite restaurants — Eddie Papa's, SideTrack, Experience Burma, Sultan's Kebab and the Hopyard — are chamber members. Some of the biggest supporters of PPIE are chamber members, as well.

Randy Brown is the chair of the chamber board, and the road to that position is paved with self-sacrifice, dedication of countless volunteer hours and a laser-focus on helping local businesses that provide jobs, services, and a vital tax base for our city.

Randy has worked diligently throughout the pandemic on initiatives to save as many small businesses as possible. Each of those small businesses represent the hopes and dreams of the Pleasanton residents who run them, and Randy Brown cares about each one as if we were his family.

There are a lot of self-employed people in Pleasanton who help make this city great. The chamber is the champion of those entrepreneurs, and we chose Randy Brown as our chair for 2020. I also choose Randy Brown for City Council in 2020, and I hope you will too.

—Jill Buck

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Golf keeps kids active during shelter order

First Tee Tri-Valley holds popular camps, classes to grow the game

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused stress at multiple levels for families.

As it has extended over seven months, the dynamic of families has changed and put more pressure on home life. Kids get cabin fever, causing a level of irritation previously not experienced by both parents and their children.

It used to be a few rainy days in a row were the extent of kids being kept in the house. Now with no in-person school and youth sports for the most part being put on the shelf, it has taken away outlets for the kids.

Except for golf. Golf was the first sport to come back at the professional level in America, as well as one of the outdoor activities allowed to resume before most others.

The First Tee Tri-Valley has seen business stay strong while many others have suffered.

"COVID has changed golf in that it's brought more people to the game," said Jill Womble, the program director for First Tee Tri-Valley.

Womble and the team at the First Tee saw the growth during the summer with their camps filling up. The two-hour mini camps that were held three times a day brought out 279 junior golfers through over nine weeks.

Following all pandemic protocols, each time slot was limited to eight golfers, as the local group was extremely diligent in their preparation and execution.

"We did temperature checks on all staff and campers each day," Womble explained. "The biggest challenge was we had to find games more focused on the individual and keep the campers properly spaced."

Working with any First Tee chapter is always a rewarding experience, but this might have taken it to the next level for Womble and the staff.

One reason is much of the staff were former First Tee members from their ACE-level — the highest level of participation — and those former players volunteered their time.

The other reason? The interaction with the campers.

"It was nice to get out and do things with kids that haven't had anything to do," Womble said. "The camps were just amazing."

The camps also grew the game, as Womble estimated that 20%-25% of the campers were new to golf, with most of those being brought out by friends who have been previous First Tee participants. While the kids were certainly appreciative so were the parents.

"There were some anxious parents at first," Womble said. "But after they saw what we were doing and following all the protocols they were like, 'OK, see you later,' and they left to go shopping or run errands."

The success has continued as the fall classes currently underway are full of 190 participants spaced out in the afternoons after school.

Next up for the First Tee is the Fall Camp, which will take place Nov. 23-25 — the three days before Thanksgiving. There are 24 spots open in each time slot for the camp, which will cost \$150 and is for kids 5 to 17 years of age.

There will be a new slate of classes starting in January.

One other program the Tri-Valley group has up and running is the PGA Hope, something they work with the Northern California PGA. PGA Hope introduces golf to veterans with disabilities to enhance their physical, mental, social and emotional well-being.

"We have worked with 15 nonprofits in the past, but there hasn't been a big push to get any up and running with COVID," Womble said regarding the outreach branch of the group. "The Hope program we were able to get back up which is very exciting."



JILL WOMBLE

First Tee Tri-Valley kept health and distancing protocols in place during their popular summer camps.

We run it on Friday mornings."

Because of the uncertainty of any event taking place when the initial shelter-in-place orders first happened, the group was forced to cancel their First Tee Tri-Valley Annual Golf Tournament at Castlewood Country Club.

The event has been a major fundraiser for First Tee Tri-Valley, leaving the group to go to an online fundraising effort to make up for the loss.

To see the donation levels, please go to www.thefirstteetri-valley.ejoinme.org/2020. For more information on programs offered by the First Tee Tri-Valley, visit www.firstteetri-valley.org. ■

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



LLF

ALS research partnership

The Livermore Lab Foundation recently received \$300,000 from the ALS CURE Project, a nonprofit founded by Pleasanton resident Mike Piscotty and his sons Stephen, Nick and Austin. The new funds will support physics-based modeling at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory designed to identify the causal factors and biomarkers of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), according to LLF officials. Mike Piscotty (shown at left), who works at LLNL, is spearheading the nonprofit in honor of his late wife, Gretchen, who died from ALS in 2018. The donation check presentation, which was held last month at the Amador Valley High School baseball field under the retired Dons jersey of Stephen Piscotty, who now plays for the Oakland A's, also featured LLF board chair Dona Crawford and LLF Executive Director Sandy Allen.

October 23, 2020
6:00PM - 7:30PM



A special evening to celebrate Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch - the first affordable, residential community for adults with developmental disabilities in the Tri-Valley.

Virtual Evening Will Include:

- ★ Irby Ranch Virtual Tour
- ★ Performance by **Kodi Lee**, *America's Got Talent* winner
- ★ Optional Meal from Fraiche Catering
- ★ Celebrity Emcee & Comedian, **Regina Stoops**
- ★ Auction, Raffles & Contests

sunflowerhill.org/moonlight



Marketplace

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

If you wish to learn more about these advertising options, please call **650.223.6582** or email **digitalads@pawekly.com**.

Government

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, currently held virtually. Next meeting is 7 p.m., Oct. 14. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL

The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month, currently held virtually. Next meeting is 7 p.m., Oct. 12. Visit cityoflivermore.net.

DUBLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Dublin Unified School District meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noted. Open session begins at 5:30. Oct. 13. Visit www.dublin.k12.ca.us.

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. "Recklessness" on Oct. 10 and "Abortion" on Oct. 17. 5 p.m. For more information, visit eugeneoneill.org.

Concerts

VINEYARD VIBES WITH LAURYN MARIE

An emerging talent, singer/songwriter Lauryn Marie's evocative music won the recent StarDays Dreamcatcher competition. A recent graduate of Amador Valley High School, Lauryn will be leaving this fall for Nashville to study songwriting at Belmont University. 6 p.m., Oct. 11. 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.

DRIVE-IN CONCERT EXPERIENCE

Virtual Events announces a new electronic music drive-in concert featuring Boombox Cartel with support from Stuca RemK. 8 p.m., Oct. 24. Visit driveins@vitalmanagement.com.

Festivals & Fairs

DOWNTOWN LIVERMORE ARTWALK LIGHT

ArtWalk Light, in Downtown Livermore, celebrates the joy of the arts with one-of-a-kind homemade treasures, original works, jewelry and gifts by dozens of artists. The booths will be spread out and all mask and social distancing rules will be strictly followed. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Oct. 10.

Talks

HOPE HOSPICE PRESENTS FREE GRIEF WORKSHOP

Hope Hospice

annually offers a special Handling the Holidays workshop to teach healthy coping strategies to help the bereaved during this difficult time. Space is limited and currently held virtually. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 12 and Dec. 7. Contact 829-8770.

PLEASANTON STUDENTS CO-HOST

MAYORAL CANDIDATE FORUM In preparation for the upcoming election, student organizers and Genesis of the Tri-Valley are hosting an online mayoral forum to inform residents about the policy positions of Pleasanton's four mayoral candidates. 1-2:30 p.m., Oct. 10. More information and registration can be found at eventbrite.com.

AXIS PRESENTS FREE ONLINE

SCREENING OF "LIKE" What are the hidden costs of social media? "Like" is a documentary about the impact of social media on our lives that explores these questions. Registration is free. Oct. 21. Visit <https://bit.ly/32vU5cr>.

Seniors

HICAP HEALTH INSURANCE

COUNSELING & ADVOCACY FOR SENIORS Join virtually from your computer and learn how to create a secure future with an Advance Health Care Directive. 10-11 a.m., Oct. 14. Visit pleasantonseniorcenter.org.

VIRTUAL ESTATE PLANNING

PRESENTATION This virtual presentation will be led by Shirley M. White, an attorney who focuses her law practice on estate planning. Topics include trusts, wills, durable powers of attorney and more. 1 p.m., Oct. 22. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov or call 931.5340.

Spirituality

VIRTUAL RELIGION CHAT The discussion will be "How does your

congregation help to bridge the different political or social justice views within it?". The event is free. 5-6 p.m., Oct. 14. Contact ruthgastens@sbcbglobal.net.

Family

VIRTUAL GHOST WALK 2020 Meet the ghosts of Pleasanton's past in this uniquely spooky annual event held by Museum on Main. This year the event is moving to Zoom as two ghosts guide a virtual tour of downtown Pleasanton's most haunted locations. 7 p.m., Oct. 16, 17, 23, 24, 31. Visit museumonmain.org.

JOAN'S FARM AND PUMPKIN PATCH

Old west town, farm equipment museum and picnic tables. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday until Oct. 31. Visit joansfarm.com. 4351 Mines Rd., Livermore.

PIRATES OF EMERSON — DRIVE-THRU

HAUNTED HOUSE Batten down the hatches, the Pirates of Emerson brings a new adventure for 2020, the drive thru experience at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Oct. 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, 29-31. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

NILES CANYON RAILWAY

Celebrate October with special railway train rides through the canyon. Oct. 10-11, 17-18, 24-25. Visit ncry.org.

Writers

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS OCTOBER

MEETING Pauline Wiles will present "Websites that Wow Readers-How to Create or Update Your Online Home" at the Tri-Valley Writers October meeting. Wiles will explain how to simplify the project and avoid common pitfalls. 2 p.m., Oct. 17. Visit www.trivalleywriters.org.

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY/C. DEROSA

Meet Camper

Camper is a senior dog with a bum ticker, but he is going to make the most of the time he has left! Camper is an active and enthusiastic guy who wants to share his happiness with a family. He does well with cats and dogs. He loves adventure and is ready to jump in the car whenever you are. While Valley Humane Society remains closed during shelter-in-place, they are coordinating adoptions by appointment with approved adopters. Email info@valleyhumane.org to learn more.

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.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY EAST BAY

GALA Volunteers of the American Cancer Society are applying their creative energies to address health inequalities during the pandemic with a novel and engaging online gala experience via YouTube. 7 p.m., Oct. 17. The event website is open for registration and donations at eastbaygala.org.

MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST

CANCER This year the annual walk is shifting gears as a celebration involving vehicles parading to the American Cancer Society Alameda offices. Local teams are

encouraged to deck out their cars for this event. 10 a.m., Oct. 17. Visit makingstrideswalk.org/bayareaca.

PLEASANTON FIGURE SKATING CLUB

Pleasanton Figure Skating Club is the first high school figure skating club in the West Coast. The club, a combination of both Amador Valley and Foothill High School students, is hosting a raffle to support their competitions. For more information visit ml6194.wixsite.com/pleasantonfsc. The raffle is 3 p.m., Oct. 19.

MOONLIGHT AT HOME Dress up in your favorite party attire and join via Zoom to toast, tour, dine and enjoy a night together to raise funds to support the mission and vision of Sunflower Hill. The virtual event will feature a tour of the newly completed Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch in Pleasanton, a special pre-recorded performance by America's Got Talent winner, Kodi Lee, meal options and much more. 6-7:30 p.m., Oct. 23. Visit sunflowerhill.org.

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

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: Lori P. Baker, 6219 Gibson Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by the following owner: 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.)

Confidentingz
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 573194
The following person doing business as: Confidentingz, 5654 Owens Dr., #103, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Davina S. Svay, 5654 Owens Dr., #103, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Davina S. Svay, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein August 14, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Davina S. Svay, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 23, 2020 (Pleasanton Weekly, October 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020.)

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

Employment

TECHNOLOGY

Micro Focus LLC is accepting resumes for the position of Software Designer in Pleasanton, CA (Ref. #4352205). Analyze, design, program, debug, and modify software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs, primarily for end users. Mail resume to Micro Focus LLC, Attn: Cheryl Edwards, 5340 Legacy Drive, Suite 115, Plano, TX 75024. Resume must include Ref. #, full name, email address & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.



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FALL IS THE NEW SPRING

1808 Zenato Place, Ruby Hill

PRICE IMPROVEMENT



5 BD + loft, 5.5 BA, 5,643 SF on .46 acre resort-styled yard and stunning views. Main level office and guest suite. Offered at \$2,999,000

2329 Silver Oaks Lane, Pleasanton

JUST LISTED



4 BD, 4.5 BA, 4,106 SF on .46 acres. Stacking glass wall for indoor/outdoor living. 180 view from Mt. Diablo to Altamont Pass. Over \$450k in upgrades. Offered at \$2,825,000

Coming Soon in Ruby Hill



Fabulous French Country Estate. 5300 SF on .49 acre. Main level office and guest suite. 5 BD, 5.5 BA. We are busy prepping. More info soon!



GLOBAL REAL ESTATE ADVISOR

925.519.8226 | susan@fabprop.net
FabulousProperties.net CalDRE#01713497



Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during July 27 to Aug. 7 for in Pleasanton.

Pleasanton

- 3574 Ballantyne Drive** Lafrank Living Trust to A. & U. Scheiner for \$1,230,000
- 3105 Chardonnay Drive** Binsale Family Trust to D. & S. Ramakrishnan for \$1,370,000
- 2141 Corte Ricardo** R. & C. Moreno to K. & D. Placido for \$1,178,000
- 2623 Corte Vida** P. & D. Budnick to Muise Family Trust for \$1,525,000
- 7651 Fair Oaks Drive** Petrusich Living Trust to X. & H. Tsai for \$1,000,000
- 1005 Laguna Creek Lane** Morse Family Trust to K. & B. Walker for \$2,350,000
- 1630 Laguna Hills Lane** M. & P. Todgham to Brown Living Trust for \$2,200,000
- 1620 Loganberry Way** Monahan Family Trust to S. & B. Sambandam for \$1,180,000
- 2754 Longspur Way** Braaten Family Trust to N. & N. Jin for \$1,238,000
- 5709 Melinda Way** Ponderosa Homes to G. & S. Birla for \$2,175,000
- 4625 Mirador Drive** Mudge Family Trust to M. & N. Shah for \$1,415,000
- 938 Montevino Drive** K. & G. Kuse to A. & L. Ittoop for \$1,680,000
- 3325 Newport Street** L. & F. Newman to Lakhani Trust for \$1,367,000
- 3710 Oak Brook Court** N. Louie to Flyhomes Investments Ca LLC for \$1,150,000
- 4055 Peregrine Way** C. & V. Huppe to S. & R. Wan for \$860,000
- 1033 Riesling Drive** Y. & H. Chol to R. & S. Rauniar for \$1,305,000
- 4604 Ross Gate Way** A. Saberi to Liu-Sun Trust for \$1,100,000
- 2792 Spotorno Court** C. & R. Blair to R. & P. Mavi for \$2,465,000

- 2524 Tapestry Way** T. & M. Hall to P. & V. Bhat for \$1,119,000
- 3737 Treney Drive** Wiemken Family Trust to H. Javed for \$1,650,000
- 2782 Turnstone Drive** R. & S. Keenan to S. & I. Zaitsev for \$1,318,000
- 1363 Vailwood Court** P. Dunlap to K. & D. Jensen for \$1,200,000
- 1331 Valley Avenue** N. & G. Singh to M. & P. Sharma for \$1,410,000
- 6149 Via De Los Cerros** B. & V. Tripp to S. & S. Upadhyay for \$1,410,000
- 2839 Victoria Ridge Court** M. & J. Jelincic to Y. & H. Choi for \$1,605,000
- 2528 Willowren Way** K. & L. Devries to S. & Y. Kim for \$1,390,000
- 3689 Woodbine Way** M. & A. Deshpande to M. & R. Saha for \$745,000
- 2167 Alexander Way** C. & P. Faed to D. Morales for \$890,000
- 1772 Baywood Court** Gillman Trust to A. & M. Thao for \$1,241,000
- 1639 Bivar Court** Peck Family Trust to M. & A. Deshpande for \$934,000
- 9426 Blessing Drive** Floyd Living Trust to W. Li for \$2,330,000
- 3298 Burgundy Drive** Phillips Living Trust to R. & S. Gilmore for \$1,350,000
- 1664 Calle Santiago** Nolan Family Trust to T. & S. Short for \$690,000
- 4796 Corwin Court** S. & R. McWilliams to S. & O. Ocon for \$1,025,000
- 7756 Country Lane** S. Fenley to S. & A. Damiredy for \$2,040,000
- 7706 Creekside Drive** D. & W. Hardy to N. & M. Agrawal for \$788,000

Source: California REsource

Linda Futral
925.980.3561
linda.futral@compass.com
lindafulral.com
DRE 01257605

Kat Gaskins
925.963.7940
kat@katgaskins.com
katgaskins.com
DRE 01137199

Marti Gilbert
925.216.4063
marti@homesbymarti.com
compass.com
DRE 01520061

Janice Habluetzel
925.699.3122
janice.habluetzel@compass.com
janicether Realtor.com
DRE 01385523

Jessica Johnson
408.455.1697
jessica.johnson@compass.com
realtybyjessica.com
DRE 01723385

Jo Ann Luisi
925.321.6104
joann.luisi@compass.com
joannluisi.com
DRE 01399250

Lily McClanahan
925.209.9328
lily.mcclanahan@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 01975835

Kris Moxley
925.519.9080
kris.moxley@compass.com
moxleyrealestate.com
DRE 00790463

Maureen Nokes
925.577.2700
maureen.nokes@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 00589126

Linda Traurig
925.382.9746
linda.traurig@compass.com
lindatraurig.com
DRE 01078773

Susie Steele
925.413.9306
susie.steele@compass.com
compass.com
DRE 01290566

Don Faught
Vice President/Managing Broker
925.251.1111
dfaught@apr.com
DRE 00971395

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Pleasanton/Livermore Valley
900 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566 | 925.251.1111

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BLAISE LOFLAND
REAL ESTATE GROUP
CONNECTING PEOPLE & PROPERTY



Blaise Lofland



Kelly McKaig



Amanda Bowen



Jacinda Lofland

925.846.6500

DRE 00882113

blaiselofland.com

blaise@blaiselofland.com

Equal Housing Opportunity



WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!

806 SYCAMORE CREEK WAY, PLEASANTON

COMING SOON



5 BD | 5 BA | 4,455 SF

Popular "Hillstar" Model in Desirable "Bridle Creek" Neighborhood! Five Bedrooms (Downstairs Spacious Guest Suite), Plus Office (6th Bedroom), Large Upstairs Master Suite, Large Bonus/Media Room, Five Bathrooms, Spacious Gourmet Kitchen, Approximately 4455 Sq. Ft, Three Car Garage, Premium .35 Acre Lot, Private Rear Grounds with Solar Heated In-Ground Pool & Spa, New Interior & Exterior Paint. Don't Miss this one!

CALL FOR PRICING

6849 AMADOR VALLEY BOULEVARD, DUBLIN

COMING SOON



4 BD | 2 BA | 1,689 SF

Remodeled and tastefully updated turn-key single level home in the heart of Dublin! Work from home or distance learn in an accommodating 4 Bedrooms 2 Baths house with 1689 Sq. Ft on a 6500 Sq. Ft lot. Attractive remodeled kitchen that opens up to a light and airy great room, stainless steel appliances, new dishwasher, gorgeous custom backsplash, large granite slab island w/ custom cabinetry, remodeled bathrooms, formal dining room.

OFFERED AT \$899,888

1844 MARTIN AVENUE, PLEASANTON

PENDING



4 BD | 3 BA | 3,303 SF

Custom Home Builders Own Home with Many Upgrades & Custom Features, Including Millwork & Window Casings! One Half Acre Premium Lot with Lake Views to the Front and Park-Like Grounds in the Back. Four Bedrooms, Three Bathrooms Includes Remodeled Master (Heated Floor) and Downstairs Bathrooms. Approximately 3303 Sq. Ft, Expanded Downstairs Office with Private Entrance (Originally and can be 4th Bedroom).

OFFERED AT \$2,079,000

174 SUMMERTREE DRIVE, LIVERMORE

JUST SOLD



5 BD | 3 BA | 2,752 SF

Highly Upgraded & Expanded Murrieta Meadows Home! Premium Lot with Professionally Landscaped Private Rear Yard that Includes Solar Heated In-Ground Pebble Tech Pool, Spa, Waterfall, Built-In BBQ with Entertainment Bar & Fire Pit Area. Five Bedrooms, Three Remodeled Bathrooms, Approximately 2752 Sq. Ft, Expanded Large Gourmet Kitchen with Custom Cabinets, Thermador Stainless Steel Appliances & Operable Skylights.

SOLD FOR \$1,400,000

4123 PAYNE ROAD, PLEASANTON

JUST SOLD



4 BD | 2 BA | 1,603 SF

Upgraded and Remodeled "Rio Vista" Model in Desirable Val Vista. Property is in Excellent Condition! Large Great Room, Remodeled Kitchen with Granite & SS Appliances, 4th Bedroom Currently Office/Den, Master Bedroom with Walk-In Closet, Two Recently Remodeled Bathrooms, Wood Flooring, Newer Windows, Newer Large Baseboards, Brick Faced Fireplace with Custom Mantel, Upgraded Landscaping with Custom Brickwork.

SOLD FOR \$1,160,000

6654 CALLE ALTAMIRA WAY, PLEASANTON

JUST SOLD



5 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,415 SF

Beautiful Solar Powered* Updated Home in the Heart of Desirable, Centrally Located Del Prado Neighborhood! This Upgraded 5 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bathroom is Approximately 2415 Sq. Ft, Remodeled Kitchen & Master Bathroom, Updated 2nd Bathroom & Powder Room, New Interior Carpet and Paint, New Electrical Outlets & Switches. Premium 8,000 Sq. Ft Lot Includes: Private Gate Access and Backyard that Backs to Arroyo Mocho Stream & Trail.

SOLD FOR \$1,414,000

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

PLEASANTON
Just Listed



5834 Corte Margarita
3 BD - 2 BA, 1,882 SqFt, 11,039 SqFt Lot

Did someone say Home Pizza Party? Count us in! This gorgeous Del Prado home is about to make someone's dreams come true. This spacious lot boasts its own custom pizza oven. The home is great for your growing family and the perfect setting to entertain outdoors. With its spacious lot on a quiet court, desirable neighborhood, and proximity to neighborhood parks, award-winning schools, and all-things-Pleasanton, this is one you won't want to miss. **Available as of today.**

Listed at \$1,300,000

1562 Foothill Road

5 BD - 5 BA, 4,708 SqFt, 2+ acres, private vineyard

This show-stopping, single-story home is nestled in the foothills of West Pleasanton, quietly backing to old-growth oak trees on over 2 acres. Special care has been taken in this custom home, with its spacious and open floor plan, boasting vaulted ceilings, a central dual-sided fireplace, and a private bathroom for each bedroom. The detached 800 SF Casita has its own bathroom and kitchenette.

A private boutique of aged Cabernet grape-vines are yours to harvest and perhaps even design your own label. Additionally, this 2+ acre yard offers a sparkling, heated pebble tech swimming pool, lighted basketball court, and a decorative 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.**

New Price - \$3,800,000



PLEASANTON
Acreage, Private Casita, 13 Car Garage

DANVILLE
Near Downtown



391 Glen Arms Drive

3 BD - 3 BA, 2,104 +/- SqFt, 25,850 SqFt lot

One of a kind opportunity for this Fraiser built home in a highly sought after neighborhood. This property is located near the heart of Danville with the farmers market, shopping, easy freeway access, and the Iron Horse Trail; Backing to a creek offers privacy and mature trees. The spacious lot offers many options to expand or build a separate unit, creating your own dream home; Check with the city planning department for additional information. A patio sits off the living room and invites you to the private rear yard. A classic breezeway entry welcomes you with a lovely shade tree, a

brick courtyard, and colorful landscaping. Hardwood floors grace the home's bedrooms and formal dining area. Additionally, you will find dual pane windows, large picture windows in the living room, and central air. Finally, note the generous side yard access, detached garage, and premium lot.

Listed at \$1,315,000

17396 Grand Island Road

3 BD - 2 BA plus an office loft, 1708 +/- SqFt

Paradise Found just outside the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento areas. As you cross the small bridge, you are welcomed onto the private island, where the busy-ness of life seems to melt away. Imagine a place where boating, spectacular sunset views, and fishing become your new normal. This custom home is raised and overlooks the Sacramento River with 50 feet of waterfront property, complete with owned-solar, private well, and septic. This home will become your shelter, your oasis, your home-office, and your favorite place to be. If you've been thinking about making a change to a simpler way of being, this just might be the nudge you've been waiting for. Paradise Found!

Listed at \$1,140,000



WALNUT GROVE
Waterfront Property

JUST SOLD IN PLEASANTON



2642 Laramie Gate Circle
Sold over asking with multiple offers for \$1,426,000



615 Orofino Court
Sold for \$1,100,000



301 Diamond Court
Sold for \$1,250,000



Kris Moxley

925.519.9080
moxleyrealestate.com
DRE 00790463
900 Main Street,
Pleasanton, CA 94566

"We worked with Kris in both purchasing and selling our home. ... Kris always helped us achieve our goals."

~ Mike & Lindsey (Buyer/Seller)

"She is an amazingly hard worker and definitely the realtor you want on your side!"

~ Heath & Marla (Buyer/Seller)

"Thank you so much for helping us find our dream home!"

~ Matthew & Ashley (Buyers)

"Kris Moxley doesn't just sell homes, she changes lives."

~ Brett & Sarah (Buyers)

"Kris far exceeded our expectations of the role a good real estate agent should play. ... We will recommend you to whoever we know that may be looking to sell or buy a home."

~ Bob & Patty (Buyer/Seller)



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