

Pleasanton Weekly

**Election
letters**

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SPIRITS COME ALIVE

**DOWNTOWN'S SPOOKY STORIES
ADAPT WELL FOR THIS YEAR'S
VIRTUAL GHOST WALKS**

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PLEASANTON WEEKLY

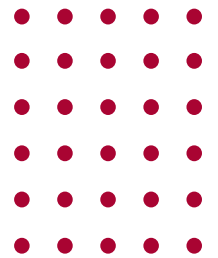
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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF
AWARD-WINNING JOURNALISM

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- 8 | **NEWS** Pleasanton candidates drum up campaign money
- 14 | **PULSE** Local woman killed in overnight Orinda crash



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—Tracey Lewis Taylor | *Chief Operating Officer, Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare*



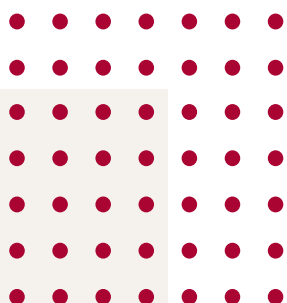
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VALLEY VIEWS



BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Quarantine: Time to get fit?

In March we sat around stunned, watching reports on the virus, and saying we couldn't wait for this soon to be over.

Then as normalcy remained out of reach, we got into gear and began creating masks for ourselves and others. We launched bonding activities for our families. We mastered Zoom. We cleaned out closets, used up our baking supplies and learned new ways to shop.

Now, seven months into sheltering, some of us are reassessing our activities. Are we making the most of this time? Should we be using it to take online classes? To exercise more and perfect our diet?

We've been warned about the Quarantine 15, named after the notorious Freshman 15 pounds added that first year in college. I was proud that my clothes still fit until I read about a man back East who spends evenings on an exercycle while watching TV and had lost 100 pounds since March.

Then I heard about Betsy Smith, 79, who lives at Stoneridge Creek right here in Pleasanton and has lost 25 pounds. I managed to reach her during a break in her exercise regimen.

Every morning Betsy walks her dog Billy, a mini poodle mix, around the one-mile loop in her neighborhood.

"But he has to stop and smell everything, so this takes 45 minutes," she said with a laugh, plus she's been doing this for years.

What has changed is her afternoons.

Betsy used to be busy with the University Section Club, which she joined after moving to Berkeley in 1994 for her husband Neville to work as a scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. She became involved in the club's many activities and took a role in its philanthropy, providing grants for students in financial need.

But after Neville died a few years ago, she decided their home in the Berkeley Hills might be too remote as she aged. After looking for senior-living communities, Betsy discovered and fell in love with Stoneridge Creek with its home terraces and swimming pools.

She moved on Halloween 2017, became more physically active, and gave up her membership in Weight Watchers.

"In the Berkeley Hills, they don't walk. Billy had a doggy door so he just went in and out," Betsy said. "Everybody is walking here, groups wearing masks. It is such a friendly place."

Now, with its exercise classes online and in the afternoon, she is able to join two each weekday plus one each on Saturday and Sunday.

"They have a variety of wonderful classes, a mixture of stretching, strength and aerobics," she said.

Betsy also swims laps three times a week and meets with a trainer each Tuesday and Thursday.

She eats two meals a day, one around 10 a.m. and the other about 4 p.m. Now, at Stoneridge Creek, meals normally served in the dining room are delivered or picked up to be eaten at home. Betsy also meets friends at the outdoor Koi Café.

But she still enjoys eating, she said. When shopping, she checks out packaging to choose items lower in calories.

Stoneridge Creek is starting to hold exercise classes in person but Betsy prefers to join online at home.

"I turned my spare bedroom into a fitness studio, with my 27-inch iMac, and it feels like it's just the teacher and me — with my dog watching me," she said.

She noted she still has more weight to lose, lamenting that her new muscles seem to add weight. But she is also pleased that the classes give her structure, making "my whole day go by really quickly."

I find it an incentive to exercise if I use my calendar to record each day's effort: walk, swim, yoga, Denise Austin workout. Filling in the little squares encourages me to work out each day, or at least six days a week. OK, sometimes five. I am a long way from being in Betsy's league.

When I downsized my household five years ago, I chucked my scale because I exercised at the YMCA often enough to weigh myself there. Since quarantine, I can only judge my weight by how my clothes fit, which entails putting on "real" clothing with zippers and buttons. And that can be nice for a change, too. ■

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

Gertrude Ellis (Cynthia Lagodzinski), the Rose Hotel ghost, tells of her life after she married into the prominent Ellis family, who built the large general merchandise store on Main and St. John streets. Photo courtesy of Museum on Main. Cover design by Doug Young.

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6715 PASEO CATALINA, PLEASANTON
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COMPASS

551 Main Street, Pleasanton

Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Are you concerned about a spike in COVID cases as businesses and other services in Alameda County begin to reopen?

Becky Altman

Retired

I'm not afraid of a surge in COVID cases because I have full confidence that the guidelines and protocols in place will keep us safe. As long as businesses and customers follow the recommendations, we will be fine.



Rick Altman

Communications consultant

Yes, I am, because this pandemic has been going on for such a long time now. I think people are so eager for life to get back to normal, that they will get lazy about, and not follow, all of the safety protocols.



Debbie Sanchez

Retired

Yes, I am concerned about a spike in COVID cases. I do feel though that places can reopen safely, so long as they implement and adhere to safety measures such as ensuring a reduced capacity, maintaining proper distancing, and most importantly, enforcing mask wearing.



Dick Lewis

Lawyer

Reopening is uncertain and scary because it is impossible to achieve a zero infection rate. But we need to tough it out, and do what we reasonably can in order to get back to normal.



Jane Edwards

Retired

Yes. I am most concerned about the opening of indoor operations at bars because when people are drinking they become increasingly less careful. I am also worried about any kind of indoor gathering that involves a lot of people in close proximity to one another.



—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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I'm Jerry Pentin and I cycled 64 miles IN ONE DAY to visit EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD in Pleasanton.

I'm a passionate cyclist and I was able to ride by, and talk to supporters, about our parks and recreational projects that I was part of:

Firehouse Performing Arts Center – Task Force Member, which preserved an historic fire station to become a theatre, classroom, and gallery for the community.

Patelco Sports Park – Advocated for the 40-acre Oak Woodlands, to preserve open space and create walking and biking trails and add trees on Marilyn Kane Trail during this effort.

Safety Bike Lanes (Green Lanes) – Fought for the green bike lanes and other safety measures on multiple commissions and roles that are now on many of our busiest roads.

Callippe Preserve and Golf Course – Founding Task Force member, creating an open space buffer with the golf course and added a public 4-mile hiking trail through the hills.

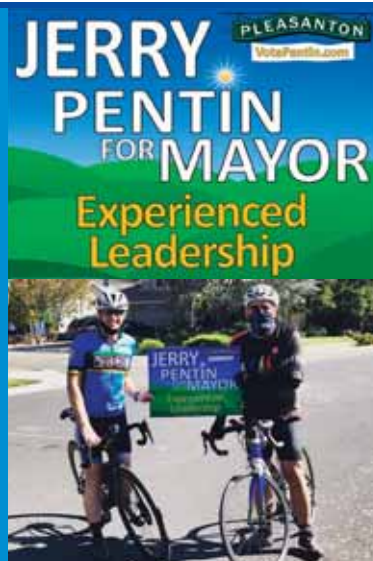
Veterans Memorial Building – Task force member, resulting in a renovated historic building as a meeting hall for veterans and public use for summer camps and events

Ken Mercer Sports Park, Future Site of All Abilities Playground – Brought concept to staff, and advocated for over 3 years; plan was recently approved by Council.

As Mayor, I will listen to what else residents need, and enhance our city for all to enjoy. I thank you for your vote.

VotePentin.com

Paid for by Jerry Pentin for Mayor 2020 | FPPC#1427132



Karla Brown for Mayor of Pleasanton

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www.Vote4Karla.com



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- Safe **DRINKING WATER** is key. The **only** candidate on 2 water committees.
- 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

DIGEST

New health order

The Alameda County Public Health Department on Wednesday afternoon issued a new health order that takes effect today after the county advanced into the less-restrictive orange tier under the state's color-coded COVID-19 reopening blueprint.

The order describes new activities that are allowed to resume indoors with limited capacity, including dining, worship services, movie theaters and family entertainment like bowling. Other indoor operations are given expanded capacity such as retail and malls, gyms, and wedding and funeral services.

"To make further progress through the tiers, we all must continue to take actions to limit the spread of COVID-19: wear face coverings when you leave home, limit mixing with people outside of your household and stay six feet away from each other when you do, wash hands frequently, and stay home when sick," ACPHD said. Read the full story at [PleasantonWeekly.com](https://www.pleasantonweekly.com).

In-person council

This week residents were permitted to once again attend Dublin City Council meetings in person, following more than six months of meetings held only online due to the pandemic.

The hybrid format allows limited seating at meetings for members of the public on a first-come, first-served basis. Seats are identified and physically distanced to maintain six feet between individuals, and a face mask or covering must be worn at all times including while speaking at the lectern. Council meetings will continue to be livestreamed.

Election Guide 2020

The Pleasanton Weekly has compiled an Election Guide on our website for voters with information about local candidates on the November ballot, including the Weekly's wealth of articles and our editorial board's endorsements.

The contests highlighted in the Election Guide are Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin city and school elections, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 1, BART Board of Directors District 5, Alameda County Superior Court, State Assembly, State Senate and Congress. ■

Correction

Due to an editing error, last week's article "DSRSD candidates running uncontested this year" incorrectly described incumbent Director Rich Halket's division under by-area voting. Halket's seat represents Division 3 on the western side of the district. We regret the error.

PUSD eyes reopening elementary schools on Jan. 4 for TK-5 students

APT president says she's concerned about lack of union involvement in planning process

BY JULIA BAUM

The Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees voted 3-2 to support reopening local elementary schools for students in transitional kindergarten through fifth grade starting Jan. 4, following a special meeting lasting more than three hours last Friday night.

Students would receive remote instruction every morning, and small cohorts of students would each be assigned one specific day of the week for 90 minutes of in-person instruction on campus,

according to the proposal.

Trustees Joan Laursen and Jamie Yee voted against the proposal, with Laursen stating she wanted students back sooner. Yee was also open to an earlier return date, but not until after Nov. 30.

Last Friday was also the first time most trustees — except Board President Steve Maher and Yee — and cabinet attended an in-person board meeting at the district headquarters since statewide sheltering and distance learning started in March. Everyone physically present wore face masks and maintained physical

distancing, and plastic partitions were installed between seats.

At a special virtual town hall meeting the night before the board vote, Superintendent David Haglund told PUSD families, "We're learning as we consult with experts, and so the encouragement to reopen schools at the elementary level in particular has been given by the public health department."

Officials said they will hold meetings with stakeholders for feedback in the near future while finalizing details, and are preparing to submit a detailed reopening plan to

the Alameda County Public Health Department and Alameda County Office of Education.

PUSD spokesman Patrick Gannon told the Weekly there are no plans currently for grades 6-12 to return until the district gets authorization from the county, adding they should have more information by or before next Monday.

Some staff who phoned in during the public hearing on Friday said district administrators did not reach out for their input regarding the draft

See **SCHOOLS** on Page 11



Rendering shows design concept for new Costco gas station proposed in San Ramon, directly across the street from the Costco store within the Danville town limits.

Danville Costco could get gas station, across the street in San Ramon

Unclear if any impact on store proposal in Pleasanton delayed by litigation

BY JEREMY WALSH

The Costco Wholesale store in Danville could be on track to getting a major upgrade — a Costco gas station, across the street within the San Ramon city limits.

The proposal calls for tearing down the Office Depot building in San Ramon and replacing it with a 32-pump Costco service station, which will be associated with the Costco store directly across Fostoria Way within the borders of the town of Danville.

The San Ramon Planning Commission discussed the gas station project for about an hour during its regular meeting Tuesday night, but continued the matter over to its next meeting due to time

constraints caused by a lengthy discussion on an earlier item.

Located at 3111 Fostoria Way in San Ramon, the 2.88-acre lot includes an approximately 30,000-square-foot building occupied by Office Depot that was built in 1996. The parcel is situated among the Extended Stay America hotel, the CMG Financial office complex and the Magnolia Square Shopping Center.

The site's parking lot also includes stalls being used by Costco employees for parking, according to city associate planner Shinei Tsukamoto.

In April, consultant firm Barghausen Consulting Engineers, Inc., filed applications to city planners in San Ramon on

behalf of Costco to build a service station at the 3111 Fostoria Way, according to Tsukamoto. The proposal went through an initial review by the Architectural Review Board one month later, resulting in modifications that were integrated as part of revised plans resubmitted by the consultants in July.

The Costco warehouse store and tire center at 3150 Fostoria Way in Danville does not currently have a gas station.

The proposal on the San Ramon side of the street calls for demolishing the Office Depot building and constructing a 32-pump Costco gas station with

Trustees recommend Cottonwood stay K-8

Board also OKs deals for two new interim cabinet members

BY JULIA BAUM

The Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees called for keeping Cottonwood Creek as a kindergarten through eighth grade (K-8) school at its regular meeting last week.

Since opening two years ago, the trustees as well as teachers, students and community members have debated whether the school should transition to a K-5 school or continue serving students up through eighth grade.

A district survey of both current and former Cottonwood Creek students found that both groups overwhelmingly supported keeping the school for K-8. Nearly 70% or more of respondents favored the current model, which many felt "develops stronger school connectedness and relationships among students, staff and overall community over an extended amount of time."

Other student feedback found some of the challenges facing the K-8 model include "being sure grades 6-8 and K-5 can have separate spaces to be themselves," and that "a gym would be beneficial."

Staff called the K-8 model "a benefit to see students mature" throughout the years, and approved of its "fluid transition of academics and social emotional learning" and "ease

See **COTTONWOOD** on Page 6

See **COSTCO** on Page 9

City Council increases down payment loans for first-time homebuyers

Prospective owners can receive up to \$100,000 toward their first house in Pleasanton

By JULIA BAUM

Prospective first-time buyers in Pleasanton may have a better shot at purchasing a home in town after the Pleasanton City Council unanimously increased maximum loan amounts and agreed to make other modifications to a little-used loan program offered by the city.

"We've struggled with this for quite some time on the council because nobody was using it, and I think this will increase the value of it to a lot of people," commented Mayor Jerry Thorne before voting during Tuesday night's meeting.

Launched in 2003, the city's down payment assistance (DPA) program — which supports below-market-rate homeownership through low and deferred-interest loans — will now receive \$300,000 in available funding annually. With the new fiscal boost, staff said three loans at the maximum funding

level can be processed each year.

A total of 50 low- and moderate-income residents have received help from the program with down payment loans of up to \$20,000 during that time — all but four reside in and own below-market housing units. The remaining four are unrestricted, market-rate homeowners.

However, only one DPA loan has been issued in the last five years. The main challenge with achieving more participation in the DPA program is "simply because of the high price homes in Pleasanton," city housing manager Steve Hernandez told the council.

City staff said the current maximum loan of \$20,000 is "insufficient" to contribute to the standard industry down payment requirement of at least 20%.

The median sale price for a single-family detached home in

Pleasanton was \$1.3 million as of July, according to the Bay East Association of Realtors, requiring a standard 20% down payment of approximately \$260,000.

"Even condominium or town-home units that have lower price points (\$755,000 median sale price in July 2020) would still require more than \$151,000 down payment to purchase one of these units," staff said.

Loans are currently issued at 3.5% — a "relatively competitive" interest rate compared to the program's original 4.25% prime rate, according to city staff — and amortized over 20 years. The city contracts with nonprofit Hello Housing to administer the program.

Under the modified program, loans will be restructured to deferred 30-year, 0% interest loans for a \$100,000 maximum, increasing a homebuyer's purchasing

power. Monthly payments would not be needed as long as the buyer occupies the home.

Participants must still contribute at least 3% toward their down payment, and the 50 people already on the program will not be included under the new modifications.

Along with increasing the loan maximum by five times its original amount, the council also adopted a shared appreciation loan policy for the DPA program.

"When the homeowner pays the money back, there is a prorated share of appreciation that they also have to pay back," Hernandez explained.

Livermore already has a shared appreciation loan program while Alameda County's AC Boost program provides up to \$150,000 to first-time homebuyers who live in, work in or have been displaced from the county. The AC Boost

program is funded by Measure A1 and also administered by Hello Housing.

The loan's "principal balance amount plus a prorated share of appreciation is repaid when the homeowner sells, or at the end of 30-year period, whichever comes first," according to the new policy.

Staff also recommended the proposed DPA loan terms match the AC Boost Program to ensure the county allows the AC Boost loan to be "layered" with the city's DPA loan, noting "if the loan terms match, that's much easier for the borrowers."

There are currently 42 lenders who have agreed to allow the city "to subordinate their loan to the AC Boost Program," Hernandez said.

"And really, because of the high prices of homes in Pleasanton,

See **COUNCIL** on Page 10

Livermore promotes Young as new police chief

'Brings a wealth of knowledge and experience' to LPD, city manager says

By JULIA BAUM

Livermore Acting Police Chief Jeremy Young has had his interim tag removed, having been appointed to the permanent position following a nationwide recruitment process that lasted several months, city officials announced last week.

"I'm excited to step into this new role and look forward to serving the community as their police chief," Young said in a statement Oct. 14. "I have enjoyed working in Livermore

and am eager to build on the great successes already achieved. The men and women of the Livermore Police Department are dedicated professionals, and I am honored to work with them."

City Manager Marc Roberts, who made the appointment, said Young



Jeremy Young

"brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the organization. Chief Young is dedicated to social justice, continuous improvement and transparency, and has a passion for serving our community."

Young — who stepped in to temporarily lead the force after former police chief Michael Harris retired in August — has achieved "many notable accomplishments" during his six years with the department, according to city staff.

Starting with the LPD as a captain in 2014, Young was credited for implementing the Area Command Policing Model, improving community relationships, and creating a real-time crime center that aids in responding to crimes more effectively and efficiently, among other endeavors.

He has also been "actively engaged" with the Livermore City Council's Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee to advise on law enforcement issues such as racial justice, mental health response and recruitment diversity.

Young's responsibilities entail upholding the city's standards for policing, developing and maintaining relationships with the community and outside law enforcement agencies, as well as "providing an important perspective on the city's management

team," according to city officials.

The recruitment effort included a community survey for public feedback about the community's desired traits in their next police chief, multiple interview panels with involvement from members of the city's Equity and Inclusion working group, community stakeholders and law enforcement representatives.

Before joining the LPD, Young spent 12 years in various roles with the Modesto Police Department. Prior to then, he was an officer with the city of Seaside and a sergeant with CSU Monterey Bay.

Young graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., and has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice management and an MBA in finance. He is married and enjoys golfing and camping with his family including three children. ■

COTTONWOOD

Continued from Page 5

of vertical articulation."

On the downside, staff cited concerns and obstacles such as enrollment caps, ensuring adequate resources, and "the perception that Cottonwood Creek is an "afterthought" and needs to be positively regarded at every level."

In other business at their Oct. 13 meeting, the board approved the contracts for two new members to join the DUSD executive cabinet on an interim basis.

Chris Hobbs is taking on the position of interim assistant superintendent of business services,

following the recent retirement of Joe Sorra, former associate superintendent of business services. The board also finalized a contract with Heather Duncan, who will serve as the new interim assistant of human resources — a role previously held by Diane Manske.

According to district personnel documents, Hobbs' annual salary is \$177,023 and Duncan will earn \$157,739 annually. Both Hobbs and Duncan will also receive reimbursement for "for all actual and necessary expenses that have been incurred within the scope of employment."

The contracts for Hobbs and Duncan are both effective Sept. 1 through June 30, 2021. ■




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Family: Missing Pleasanton chef ID'd as person found dead near trail

Man had been out of contact since Memorial Day

By JEREMY WALSH

Family members of Robert Hilker, a chef hired at a downtown Pleasanton restaurant several months before disappearing in late spring, have confirmed that his was the previously unidentified body found yards off the Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail in early September.

The Pleasanton Police Department declined to confirm the identity this week, with Lt. Erik Silacci saying investigators are still waiting on final positive confirmation from the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau, with DNA analysis pending due to the level of decomposition of the remains. But Silacci did say the coroner provided a family with a preliminary notification in the case.

Multiple family members of Hilker, in social media posts widely distributed among Pleasanton community groups starting last

weekend, publicly confirmed that they've been told it was the 39-year-old whose body was discovered on the evening of Sept. 3 in a brush area a number of yards away from the trail path.

The remains belonged to a male decedent, but they had experienced significant decomposition out in the open over the summer, rendering identification difficult, police said at the time.

Hilker, who was working as a chef for Pairings Wine-Bar Restaurant on Main Street, was last seen on Memorial Day. PPD put out a missing-person alert about Hilker via social media on June 17.

"His loved ones and I kept up our



Robert Hilker

hope, and searched for him until September 4 when an unidentified body was found and our worst fears were confirmed; Robert was gone," Hilker's aunt, Cathie Hilker Deal, wrote on Facebook. Her fundraising campaign, which is trying to generate support for Hilker's girlfriend and toddler son, has taken in \$13,568 toward its \$15,000 goal since starting four days ago.

Hilker's longtime girlfriend Lindsay Potter also confirmed the news on social media.

"His friends, family and I never stopped trying to find Rob, but I knew deep down he'd never have just left us and those that knew him would say the same. He was compassionate, protective and outgoing with a side of sarcasm lol. He was a proud father, loved his family and his profession," Potter wrote.

"It's been hard to wrap my mind

around everything and I know a part of me is still in denial as I type this," she added. "While this isn't the outcome anyone had hoped for, his family and I are grateful to the woman who found his body, very sorry for what she experienced, but we are able to have some closure because of her and not spend our days and nights wondering where he is. We can finally lay him to rest, down with his mother (who died in September) in Southern California."

The owners of Pairings shared about Hilker when contacted by the Weekly on Tuesday, saying he had joined their team the first week of March not long before the restaurant shut down at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic. But Hilker had remained on board working on new menu items and ingredient sourcing for their eventual reopening.

"Unfortunately, the week after Memorial Day weekend, Lindsay contacted us saying he had gone missing. We too had stopped hearing from him," Dana and John Campanella said in an email. "We all hoped he would eventually show back up and the Pleasanton community had seemed to come together to look for him. But we also knew how much he loved his son and Lindsay. It just didn't make sense."

"It's all so tragic and sad for everyone," the Campanellas added.

The police investigation, meanwhile, remains open until the coroner confirms the identification via DNA, according to Silacci. A cause of death is still not known.

"The coroner sent the DNA to their lab for analysis. This process can take several weeks or even longer depending on what their backlog is," Silacci said. ■

No challengers for local CLPCCD incumbents

Trustees Maduli, Sbranti unopposed for Tri-Valley seats

By JULIA BAUM

There were four seats on the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees due up for election this fall, but no challengers came forward to contest the two trustees seats in the Tri-Valley held by incumbents Tim Sbranti (Area 5) and Ed Maduli (Area 7).

Trustee Maria Heredia is the sole candidate for Area 4, but two candidates filed for Hayward-based Area 1, which has been open since the COVID-19 related death of trustee Marshall Mitzman this spring.

Maduli was elected to the board in 2016 and represents Livermore and parts of Pleasanton. He also currently serves as board president.

Calling this year a "consequential election," Maduli said his continuing priorities as trustee are maintaining fiscal accountability, supporting teaching during the pandemic, and preparing students for college transfers and to acquire in-demand job skills during the economic recovery.

"I champion affordable education and job training opportunities for Tri-Valley students. Attending a UC now costs ten times what our colleges do," Maduli said.

"During the recession, it is more important than ever Tri-Valley students have access to college credits, certifications, and job skills at a reasonable price," he added. "Our colleges serve hundreds of veterans -- many facing post-traumatic stress disorder and permanent disability. As an Air Force veteran, I understand these unique challenges and



Ed Maduli



Tim Sbranti

the educational programs our veterans need to re-enter the civilian workforce."

A former Air Force lieutenant colonel, Maduli most recently retired from West Valley Mission Community College District in Santa Clara, where he was vice chancellor of administrative services. He also served as vice president of business services at Las Positas College.

Maduli has several degrees including a masters in aeronautical engineering from the University of Oklahoma and an MBA from Golden Gate University, and is currently working towards his education doctorate from the University of Southern California.

Appointed to the trustee role last year, former Dublin mayor Sbranti told the Weekly he plans to "increase the number of students earning certificates and degrees connected to the regional economy and employment opportunities in their fields of study" by managing and prioritizing district finances.

"To achieve these student outcomes, we must embrace a growth mindset and culture of continuous improvement that emphasizes communication, collaboration, and alignment with industry, UC/CSU, K-12, and nonprofit leaders

throughout our region and state," Sbranti said.

Sbranti said the partnerships would "bolster our ability to offer innovative educational opportunities, holistic wrap-around support services, guided pathways, and modernized facilities," as well as create local jobs and prepare students for their careers.

With the COVID-19 pandemic restricting classes in the district to online learning for both fall

and spring semesters, district enrollment has dropped, according to Sbranti, and there is "a greater need for CLPCCD to expand our services to students relative to mental health, food insecurity, financial distress, and many other challenges."

On the upside, Sbranti added, "We are also looking at opportunities to build affordable student housing at both Las Positas and Chabot as a means to address the

challenges our students are dealing with from the lack of other housing options for our students."

An educator for 22 years, Sbranti also served six years as mayor of Dublin before terming out in 2014. Sbranti is vice chair of the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence, co-chair of the Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group's Education and Workforce Development Committee, and athletic director at Dublin High School. ■

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CHP

Teen airlifted after crash on rural trail

The California Highway Patrol H-30 medevac unit responded to Del Valle Regional Park on the outskirts of Livermore on Sunday morning to assist local fire departments in airlifting a 14-year-old mountain biker who was found unconscious after crashing on a remote trail. The boy sustained major injuries and was transported to UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland; "fortunately the rider was wearing a helmet, which prevented him from sustaining more serious injuries," the CHP said on social media. An update on the rider's health status was not available as of Tuesday.

Pleasanton candidates drum up donations during unique election season

By JULIA BAUM

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic hindering traditional in-person campaigning, Pleasanton candidates seeking office for several local elections in next month's general election mostly fared well in their fundraising efforts, according to campaign finance disclosure forms most recently filed with the city clerk's office.

In what is primarily a three-candidate campaign, the Pleasanton mayoral race among current council members Jerry Pentin and Karla Brown and newcomer Monith Ilavarasan saw significant donation margins between the two incumbents and Ilavarasan during the most recently reported period from July 1 to Sept. 19.

Mayor Jerry Thorne, who terms out this year, gave \$1,000 to Pentin's campaign earlier this year, but Pentin pulled in the majority of contributions — \$23,586 — more recently. In total, Pentin has raised \$38,287 in year to date donations. More than \$4,200 came from "Kathy Narum for Mayor 2020," which was accumulated for Narum's campaign. (When Narum pulled out of the race, Pentin assumed contracted expenses from her campaign.)

Karla Brown also raised a considerable amount, comparatively, in the most recent reporting period — \$19,243 — for a year to date totaling \$26,999. According to earlier Form 460 records, Karla Brown also received a \$1,000 contribution in June from Carl Cox, owner of local gas stations.

Other notable donors to Karla Brown's campaign include \$500 from the Glazer for Senate PAC and \$100 from Planning Commissioner Nancy Allen, who is running for Pleasanton City Council this fall.

Ilavarasan, an Amador Valley High School alumnus and technology product manager, trailed far behind Karla Brown and Pentin,

raising just \$1,050 for the entire year from a handful of residents.

Tom Turpel, who is also on the mayoral ballot, does not have any contribution information on the city website.

In the race among seven candidates in the Nov. 3 general election for two seats on the Pleasanton City Council, Planning Commissioner Jack Balch eclipsed most of the field, raising a year-to-date total of \$35,275. Balch generated most of his donations earlier this year, but raised another \$9,024 more recently.

Most of Balch's contributions came from a variety of professionals in the Tri-Valley in amounts largely ranging from \$100 to \$400, quickly adding to a considerable pool of funds. Sizable donations include \$750 from the Quarry Lane School and \$500 from the Jerry Thorne for Mayor Committee, both received earlier this year.

Donations for Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Board Chair Randy Brown also yielded a comparatively high sum of \$20,318 to date, with \$15,193 raised since July 1. The California Apartment Association and California Real Estate PACs each recently gave \$1,000, while the Jerry Thorne for Mayor Committee gave \$500 to Randy Brown's coffers earlier this year.

Allen, who said back in May she would "set a model by not accepting donations from local developers or political action committees," raised the third highest amount of donations, with \$13,760 total recently reported. Her campaign brought in \$4,320 during the most recent reporting period, including \$100 from Karla Brown and \$50 from Pleasanton school board candidate Kelly Mokashi.

Chiman Lee raised \$6,350 in local donations, while current school board trustee and council candidate Valerie Arkin raised \$4,068 since

joining the race this summer, including \$100 each from her fellow board colleague Mark Miller as well as Karla Brown and Mokashi.

Housing Commissioner Zarina Kiziloglu did not have any Form 460s on file with the city's website, but did list mandatory disclosure documents pertaining to personal investments such as retirement accounts and real estate properties.

Attorney Jarod Buna's finance forms did not list any donors or received contributions from anyone, but did include \$2,500 in expenditures — \$2,000 was used to purchase a car wrap while \$500 was spent on Facebook ads.

Donations for the Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees election, which has three seats open, were more modest comparatively, but first-time candidate Chong Wang raised \$15,269 this year. Since July, Wang raised \$1,025, according to campaign finance documents, including \$200 from Allen.

Recently retired teacher Mary Jo Carreon raised about half compared to Wang — \$7,520 — in private donations from residents, including district teachers and staff, since joining the race just two months ago.

Incumbent Jamie Yee reported \$6,367 raised this year, including \$500 from the Local 342 PAC Fund, while educator Mokashi, who is running for the first time, received \$2,765 this year.

Board members Miller and Arkin donated \$100 each to Mokashi, as did Karla Brown. Most of Mokashi's funds — \$2,245 — were reported during the most recent period.

Board President Steve Maher did not have financial disclosure forms readily available on the city's website.

The next campaign contribution reporting information is due out after the Oct. 22 deadline. Election Day is Nov. 3. ■

Walk for Vets virtual challenge

LPC, PMF event aims to raise awareness about veteran suicide

By JULIA BAUM

To bring attention to the problem of veterans dying by suicide and raise funds for supporting mental health services, the Las Positas College First Program and Pleasanton Military Families will host the third annual 2.2 For 22 Walk for Vets Virtual Challenge from this week to Nov. 11.

The virtual event aims to "raise awareness for the 22 veterans who lose their lives to suicide daily" and "give those who have experienced the loss of a fellow veteran an opportunity to share their story," LPC officials said in a statement. "Join us in remembering those we lost to

suicide and to unite as a community to remind others they are not alone."

Ending on Veterans Day, the multi-week event was brought online this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the new format has no specific location requirement. There are multiple virtual challenges, and each one is "focused around completing a physical act for the purpose of honoring veterans and their relatives, or on connection and practicing mindfulness as a way to foster community and improve mental health in our society."

Signups are available as an individual participant or team member; donations can also be made

to sponsor one or more student veterans.

Funds will go toward supporting mental health resources and support for LPC's student veterans, as well as services by Pleasanton Military Families, a Tri-Valley support group for those with a loved one enlisted in the military. For more information, visit www.pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org.

The LPC Veterans First Program also offers services and resources for student veterans to accomplish their academic goals, including priority registration, veterans scholarships, and a virtual Veterans Resources Center. Learn more at laspositascal.edu/veterans. ■

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Z-Cares raising awareness with Stand UP campaign

Month-long event to culminate with Virtual Coping Carnival on Nov. 14

By JULIA BAUM

Pleasanton-based nonprofit Z-Cares Foundation has launched its annual Stand UP campaign, which wraps up next month with a Virtual Coping Carnival.

Creating awareness about youth mental health with a particular focus on helping young people “stand up” to anxiety, Stand UP Month also celebrates what would have been the 17th birthday of the

foundation’s late namesake, Zachary Nimmo, on Oct. 1.

“Anxiety disorders are the most common mental health challenge in the U.S., but there is hope because the condition is highly treatable,” Z-Cares said in a statement. “Often, those who experience extreme anxiety feel ashamed and suffer in silence, and Z-Cares Foundation is committed to jump-starting the conversation

about anxiety.”

The Virtual Coping Carnival is “day of hope, fun and meaningful conversation” featuring local and national personalities, educational and informational segments, and “fun carnival entertainment.”

Local comedian and storyteller Regina Stoops will host both the month-long campaign and one-day virtual event, which also features Karin Gornick, producer of

the documentary “Angst,” local mental health experts, and teens and young adults sharing their stories of living with anxiety and depression.

Zachary Nimmo’s family will also take part in the campaign and virtual carnival, including a live event with his sister called “Sit Down With Sam,” as well as discussions with Steve and Man-nie Nimmo, Zachary’s parents and

co-founders of Z-Cares.

The event and campaign are free, but Z-Cares said they hope to raise funding that is needed to continue supporting youth mental health programming and keep events and activities free for everyone.

The Stand UP campaign is ongoing through the end of October. The Virtual Coping Carnival is set to take place Nov. 14, starting 10 a.m. To learn more, visit zcares.org. ■

Tri-Valley Beer Trail returns this fall

17 local spots open their doors for popular program amended for pandemic

By RYAN J. DEGAN

The Tri-Valley Beer trail has officially reopened for participants to explore the best brews the region has to offer, with this year’s trail offering a touchless beer passport system to help prevent possible COVID-19 exposure.

Launched by local tourism group Visit Tri-Valley, the Tri-Valley Beer Trail features 17 breweries, alehouses, taprooms and restaurants where beer enthusiasts can visit to collect stamps and earn prizes while

exploring the best ales the Tri-Valley has to offer.

“The goal of the trail is to make our growing craft beer scene more accessible to our residents and visitors,” Amber Birdwell, digital marketing manager at Visit Tri-Valley, told the Weekly. “Several of our participating taprooms also offer exclusive Beer Trail discounts and deals that can be redeemed on visitors’ phones after signing up.”

“COVID-19 has severely impacted craft breweries, taprooms, and

alehouses whose revenue streams rely more on taproom sales than wide-spread distribution. That’s why we think it’s more important now than ever to foster our beer-loving community by incentivizing their patronage,” Birdwell added.

In an effort to help keep residents safe during the coronavirus pandemic, new to this year is the digital passport that allows participants to track where they have visited and redeem available discounts at each stop.

“Our new digital passport provides a way for residents and visitors to discover new taprooms and easily track their progress on the trail. Several of our participating taprooms also offer exclusive Beer Trail discounts and deals that can be redeemed on visitors’ phones after signing up,” Birdwell added.

Participating locations also enforce federal and local social distancing and safety guidelines, according to Birdwell.

If exploring all of the region’s best beers isn’t enough of a motivation, participants who check into 10 locations using the digital passport will be awarded a free T-shirt, dad hat or pint glass.

Visit Tri-Valley is also giving away a “Year of Beer” to one lucky person who signs up for the trail between now and Nov. 22.

Residents 21 years or older can sign up, locate the 17 participating venues and learn more details online at www.visittrivalley.com. ■

COSTCO

Continued from Page 5

a 12,663-square-foot canopy and signage, a 200-square-foot control facility, and associated site and landscape improvements. The proposed operating hours would be 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week.

A majority of the existing

parking lot at the site will remain intact, to be used primarily as Costco employee parking or customer overflow parking if needed.

The project plans also include adding a traffic signal for vehicles and pedestrians on Fostoria Way between the store and gas station in the future under a separate permit.

A gas station is allowed with a

minor use permit at the site, which is located within the commercial mixed-use of the North Camino Ramon Specific Plan, according to Tsukamoto.

San Ramon city planning staff is recommending approval of the architectural review, development plan, minor use permit and master sign program applications for the Costco gas station. The

commission is expected to continue its hearing on the matter on Nov. 17.

For San Ramon Valley members, the nearest Costco gas stations are at the warehouse stores in Livermore or Concord. The retailer has pursued building a new store with a gas station in Pleasanton on Johnson Drive adjacent to Interstate 680, but that project has been

caught up in litigation.

As for the status of the proposed Pleasanton Costco, “The gas station is part of what has been approved. We have not been informed of any changes by Costco regarding the gas station at this time,” city spokeswoman Cindy Chin said last Friday. “There is a court hearing on the litigation scheduled for the end of the month.” ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sign display in downtown Livermore

Local advocacy group Tri-Valley for Black Lives is hosting a “Sign Garden for Justice” in downtown Livermore, a collection of signs prominently displayed at Livermorium Plaza at the corner of First Street and South Livermore Avenue. First put up during a community event Sunday afternoon, the hand-drawn signs primarily feature messages in favor of equality, social justice reform and Black Lives Matter and against police brutality — but one sign with the words “Blue Lives Matter” with a line through them (seen in shadows at top right) became a source of criticism among some on local social media as overtly anti-police. The controversial sign, which TV4BL reps said was not drawn by an official group member, was not outwardly visible at the display on Wednesday morning.

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Wedding Announcement

Shotwell – Silva

Joe and Sue Silva are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter, Brooke, to Tyler Shotwell, son of Dean and Debbie Shotwell, all of Pleasanton. On the sixth of September 2020 at Ainsworth House & Gardens in Oregon City, Oregon, Brooke and Tyler said their vows in an intimate ceremony with their immediate families present. The happy couple was determined not to let the global pandemic stop them from celebrating their love for each other with those they love most. To complete the joyous occasion, a reception is planned for their one-year anniversary and will also be held at the Ainsworth House. Brooke and Tyler honeymooned in Hood River, before returning to their home in Milwaukie, Oregon.



Eulailah “Laila” Zinke

January 27, 1929 – August 16, 2020

Eulailah Zinke passed unexpectedly from natural causes on August 16th having lived a complete and blessed life. She was the foundation of a large extended family and valued as a true friend by many. Laila was preceded in death by her husband William “Bill” Zinke. She was the cherished mother of three daughters, with six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Eulailah and Bill were foster parents to her cousin, who went on to foster many children of her own. Eulailah was also an adored “exchange” mother and bonus grandmother.



Eulailah was born and raised in Marshall County, Minnesota on a Red River Valley farm in the small town of Oslo sixty miles south of the Canadian border. Laila and Bill married in 1950 at a military chapel in Fort Lewis, Washington and moved to Pleasanton in the late 1950’s. Eulailah worked as a maternity/delivery nurse at Valley Memorial Livermore and Bill worked at Sandia National Laboratories. Bill and Eulailah were founding members of the Resurrection Lutheran Church in Dublin. They were both very active in the church and enjoyed many life-long friendships with fellow members.

Her devotion to family was always truly remarkable. Eulailah raised two grandsons as her own into her 80’s. An endearing quality was the frequent recounting of life stories with incredible detail. Subjects ranged from her youth on the farm, visits and family reunions with her many relatives, raising her own family, annual trips to Minnesota and pretty much every adventure she experienced over more than ninety years. Her ability to knit you into her life through a thoughtful story, inevitably with many of her adorable giggles, was a loving way she connected with everyone. She loved cooking and crafting and making handmade gifts for family and friends at Christmas.

Eulailah lived every day to the fullest until her last day with us. She was fiercely independent and notoriously stubborn, still driving and maintaining the family home of 50 plus years. Laila will join her beloved Billy in Pleasanton’s Pioneer Cemetery on November 14, 2020 which would have been their 70 th wedding anniversary. Eulailah’s family looks forward to a time when all of her friends will be able to join us in a remembrance at the family home in Pleasanton.

PAID OBITUARY

National Drug Takeback Day

Dublin, Livermore having special events for safe medication disposal Saturday

Law enforcement agencies in the Tri-Valley are hosting community events from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday (Oct. 24) to allow residents to safely dispose of unwanted, unused or expired medications for free with no questions asked as part of National Drug Takeback Day.

Events in Livermore and Dublin aim to help keep pills and other pharmaceutical drugs out of landfills, sewer systems or the wrong hands by encouraging proper disposal. Pleasanton, which is not holding a Drug Takeback Day event, does offer a medical disposal bin at the police department year-round.

“Please look through your cabinets and drawers for expired or unused medications or vaping products,” Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O’Malley said in a statement. “The safe disposal of these drugs serves an important public safety and public health need. Safe disposal reduces the chance that the medications will be misused or abused and ensures that they won’t be disposed of in a way that is harmful to the environment.”

The DA’s office is coordinating Drug Takeback Day dropoff locations at local courthouses on Saturday, including the East County Hall of Justice at 5151 Gleason Drive in Dublin.

Dublin Police Services is also



CITY OF PLEASANTON

Dropbox in the Pleasanton Police Department lobby accepts unwanted medications for safe disposal year-round.

holding at dropoff event, at the Dublin Civic Center at 100 Civic Plaza.

In Livermore, police are hosting a dropoff event in front of the police department headquarters at 1110 S. Livermore Ave.

Across the board, the events are free and anonymous, and they target solid-form medications only. Participants are asked to place the items in a sealed bag for dropoff.

Officials will not be accepting intravenous solutions, injectables or syringes. The National Drug Takeback Day collection events are in partnership with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

The year-round pill disposal bin in Pleasanton is located at the Pleasanton Police Department headquarters at 4833 Bernal Ave. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 6

we’re really anticipating that our potential homebuyers will have to secure both an AC Boost loan from the county and a (DPA) loan from the city,” he added.

Councilman Jerry Pentin said, “Having this layered with AC Boost and then the shared equity loans really will give some first-time homebuyers a chance at buying a home in Pleasanton.”

Later, Hernandez also mentioned “other programs homeowners could potentially tap into” besides AC Boost and combine with a DPA loan, though he added “funding for those are typically small and they’re highly competitive.” Homebuyers may combine the DPA program with a below-market unit as well.

The current preference system for applicants may also be revamped at the urging of the city’s Housing Commission and staff to include Pleasanton residents — preferably those residing in the city no less than five years — and giving additional preference points to school district employees, firefighters, police, city or county employees, and employees of nonprofit social service providers.

An alternative policy choice to serve only low-income (80% area median income) buyers was rejected as not being “effective,” with Hernandez stating very few homes in Pleasanton will be affordable to 80% AMI buyers, who usually have difficulty meeting the industry standard of 40% debt-to-income ratio.

Pentin asked if \$300,000 was enough for the program, to which assistant city manager Brian Dolan replied, “\$100,000 is a lot more than the \$20,000 we were giving out ... I think we wanted to just test drive the proposed changes and see how it worked before we got more aggressive on the funding.”

Councilwoman Julie Testa said “there will be demand” for the program and asked if the city is limited to three loans per year “or what kind of flexibility might we be able to look at.”

“We would be limited to how much we budgeted for the program, and we gave the council a range to consider because we thought that was a reasonable range to start,” Dolan said. “We’d love to have the chance to do three in the first year, but it’s definitely a council policy and budgeting question.”

Vice Mayor Kathy Narum

wondered if the council could add more funds “if we have more qualified applicants than whatever money is set aside.”

Dolan said, “We could commit to coming back if we ran out and there are more eligible applicants, and then you could consider adding to it.”

Narum called the program “one more way to get housing for people and private homeownership,” while other council members expressed interest in eventually expanding the program.

“For \$100,000, it seems somewhat economical compared to what it costs to subsidize a below-market unit in an apartment complex” Narum said. “I would hope that if there is a groundswell of interest in it, that we would at least have a conversation about possibly allocating more than the \$300,000 midterm to this program.”

The changes will require the city to allocate more funding to support the program, according to staff. The city’s Lower Income Housing Fund (LIHF) funds the bulk of the DPA program, and will see more funds expended annually as a result of the modifications. The current balance of the LIHF is approximately \$10 million. ■

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 5

reopening plan.

Though “glad to see many things” in the plan for personal protective equipment (PPE) and protocol in the event of a campus outbreak, Association of Pleasanton Teachers (APT) President Michelle VerKuilen said she is “concerned about how decisions to reopen are being made.”

“Many of you may be asking right now, ‘Why are you glad to see this? Haven’t the teachers seen this plan?’” VerKuilen said. “No, this is the first time any of us are seeing this plan and, yes, that makes me concerned, because I know a majority of this community would think teachers were involved in this plan, but ... this is all being discussed without us.”

VerKuilen continued, “I am concerned when I see training listed that all employees supposedly had, which we did not. I am concerned when it says we have negotiated in-person returns to campus — we have not. No plan has been presented to our bargaining team to negotiate.”

Amanda Brown, mother of three PUSD students, said, “When we force schools to reopen and create an exodus of our primary teachers who request leave, this leaves us with short-term substitutes instead. How is this a good solution?”

“We are giving parents the choice

between remote learning with our primary teacher or in person learning with a substitute. We shouldn’t push out our primary teachers to gain an hour and a half of in person instruction a week with a substitute,” Brown said.

Fairlands Elementary teacher Cheryl Atkins, who “spent a lot of time on the (reopening) task force this summer,” said the group “never discussed concurrent teaching” with the district. At the moment, Atkins starts her Zoom groups at 8 in the morning, going until just after one o’clock in the afternoon.

“If we go to this afternoon time, there’s no more hours in the day to give, so if we go to small groups at school, from 1:30 to 4, well, then the morning time has to give,” Atkins said. “Because the time that I’m using right now, from 1:30 to 3, with all the planning and preparing, I’m going to need time during the day to do that. One thing has to give for something else, we can’t do it all.”

Atkins also wanted to know “how can we do this feasibly, safely, and how can we take things off of our plate, not add to what we’re already doing.”

“We need more discussion — I would’ve liked to have been able to have that discussion with the K-2 and Dr. Haglund before coming to the board tonight, so that we could’ve talked and had solutions together,” Atkins said.

Amador Valley teacher Sam

Weaver said the board was “downplaying” the risk of reopening, while Valley View Elementary instructor Leah Perez stated she was “afraid that a vote for us to return to our classrooms will be a decision to put the health of students, teachers and families in our community at risk.”

Perez pointed to another current nationwide spike in COVID-19 cases and said, “This should be alarming to all of us as should the idea of having students return to classes during the flu seasons when we have been warned of the surge we are currently seeing.”

“We’d be careless to ignore the scientific evidence that our best

doctors and universities are putting forward,” she added.

Later during discussion, Laursen responded to recent public criticism and said voting to reopen was “probably the hardest decision” she’s made as a trustee.

“I understand emotions run high but, for some of the emails we’ve gotten, to assume that we don’t care about the health and safety of staff — when we have described to you all the steps that we’re taking to ensure safety of our staff and our students — is insulting,” Laursen said.

“We’re relying on the health department for their guidance, they’ve given us guidance, we’re going

beyond the guidance,” Laursen added. “We’re doing more safety steps than is required. The easiest thing for me to say is, ‘sure, let’s do the whole year remote ... that’s the easiest thing to vote.’”

Laursen finished, “This isn’t my favorite plan, this is a compromise plan ... but this is a start.”

Small cohorts of select students with identified high needs returned to some PUSD campuses Oct. 14 to partake in a newly launched pilot supervised learning program. Students in the cohorts meet onsite, where they are supervised by a classified employee while their instructor teaches remotely. ■

Gordon Ross Rasmussen

January 13, 1935 – October 9, 2020

Gordon Ross Rasmussen, 85, passed away of natural causes on October 9, 2020. He was a lifelong rancher in Tassajara. Born in Livermore, Ca. on January 13, 1935, his parents, Edward and Selma Rasmussen brought him home to Tassajara to meet his sisters, Joann and Claudia, a year later his sister, Nancy was born. As a young boy, he loved the ranch and learned to ride his horse so he could gather cattle with his Father and Grandfather, John C. Rasmussen.

Gordon attended school at the Tassajara Schoolhouse until the 6th grade when the students were sent to Danville School District. Gordon graduated from San Ramon High School in 1952 and earned his college degree in Animal Husbandry at University of California, Davis. He enlisted in the United States Navy, Naval Air Division in 1956-58, and the Naval Air Reserve 1958-59.

Anxious to begin his Beef Cattle career, he returned to Tassajara and worked with his Father, and rented available ranches in the area. He became involved in the Beef organizations and served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Contra Costa - Alameda County Cattlemens Association, later as Vice President and President, receiving Cattleman of the year award in 1964. He also worked on committees with the California Cattlemens Association and served a term as Vice President and then Treasurer for six years. He was a member of the California Beef Council and was President. In 1991, Gordon received the honor of “California Livestock Man of the Year” award presented by the California Chamber of Commerce.

In 1961, Gordon married Karen Kramer, and they had three children, Kari, Ross and John. They made their home on the ranch and when development began in Tassajara, Gordon purchased land in Dixon, to expand the cattle operation into the future. Gordon continued his interest in the Beef organizations and served on the Cattle Fax board, (marketing arm of National Cattlemens Association), later as President. The National Cattlemens Executive Board, The Cattlemens Beef Board was established and he served on the board for several terms. Locally, Gordon was a founder, organizer and director of the Livermore

National Bank until it was sold in 1968. He was Director of Community First National Bank, Pleasanton until it merged with US Bank in 1991. He was also a Director of Livermore Production Credit Association 1969-1987 and Chairman from 1975-1987. Gordon was on the board of directors of the Dublin Cemetery Corporation for many years and served as President in 1993.

He was a founder and organizer of the Tassajara Volunteer Fire District. He served as a commissioner for twelve years, and chairman for eight, while serving as Assistant Chief. He also was a board member and president of the Contra Costa County Fire Commissioners. He was a member of the Pleasanton Mens Club, the Alameda and Contra Costa County Farm Bureaus, Livermore Study Group, Solano County Cattlemens Association and Rancheros Visitadores.

Gordon and Karen loved to travel and toured many states with Agricultural tour groups. They also toured Ireland and Scotland with fellow Cattlemen as well as Argentina, Australia and New Zealand. He enjoyed visiting Denmark and relatives, and they ventured to China and Egypt.

In later years, as the family increased, he enjoyed the grandchildren and now the great grandchildren. Gordon had a wonderful life, enjoying his family, loving his cattle business, and friends and helping to make the world a better place.

He is survived by His wife, Karen, His daughter Kari Wheeler, (Doug), His son Ross, (Kim), His son John, (Carrie) and “like son” Bruce Lillis, (Cat). His Grandchildren: Kelsi Wheeler Peiffer, (Julian), Jake Wheeler, (Alicia), Kayla Wheeler Dunlap, (Jacob), Kassi Rasmussen Dunlap, (Blake), Garrett Rasmussen, (fiancé Paige Gillooley), Tom Rasmussen, Callie Rasmussen. Great Grandchildren: Audree Peiffer, Emmett Wheeler, and soon to be, Riley Dunlap. Sisters: Claudia Juhl, Nancy Ramsey. Sister in-law: Doris Kramer and many loving nieces and nephews.

Private family services were held at the Dublin Pioneer Cemetery on October 15, 2020 (due to Covid-19).



Lisa Marie Galvin

June 5, 1966 – September 12, 2020

Lisa Marie Galvin of Pleasanton, California, entered into the rest of her Savior Jesus Christ on September 12, 2020 at 54 years old. She was a loving wife, mother, sister, aunt, and friend.

Lisa was born to Johnny and Lola Harrell on June 5, 1966 in Oakland, California, and grew up in Livermore, California. Lisa married Thomas Warren Galvin of Pleasanton, California, on August 27, 1995 and moved to Pleasanton the same year. On June 17, 1999, Lisa and Thomas had their twin children—Matthew and April.

Lisa was the happiest, kindest woman. She truly loved being a blessing to everyone around her and taking every opportunity to share her faith with others. Everyone who knew Lisa knows that she loved Jesus Christ and her family more than anything else. Lisa also enjoyed making things look beautiful, which is one quality that all her life occupations had in common. The thing Lisa considered most beautiful—and something that she had an abundance of—was love. She deeply loved the people in her life, and she will continue to be deeply loved and missed.

Lisa is survived by her husband, Thomas Galvin; children, Matthew Galvin and April Galvin; sisters, Tamara Harrell and Linda (Rob) Tidmarsh; nephews, David (Anjana), John Van DeVooren, James, Phillip and Daniel, David (Tiffany) and Daniel, James, Casey (Clorinda), Brandon (Kryisia), and Tyler; nieces, Jasmyne, Hannah, Angela (Dillon), Jasmine, Kylie, and Megan; and many other family and friends who will mourn her passing.

Lisa is preceded by her parents, Johnny and Lola Harrell.

Graveside services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at Rose Lawn Cemetery in Livermore, California, with Pastor Bill Bryson of Lighthouse Baptist Church as the officiator.



PAID OBITUARY

PAID OBITUARY

SPIRITS COME ALIVE AT MUSEUM'S VIRTUAL GHOST WALK

Downtown's spooky stories adapt well to this year's online offering

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The group of ghost seekers gathered promptly at 7 p.m. via Zoom last Friday at Museum on Main for the launch of this year's annual Ghost Walk.

The popular guided downtown tour has been held for more than 13 years during Halloween season, but this time, due to social distancing, the format was adapted for an online presentation.

Museum director of education Sarah Schaefer and board member Rebecca Bruner, decked out in dress of yesteryear, sat at a candle-laden table surrounded by black walls with eerie lighting to present the Virtual Ghost Walk.

"We are live, broadcasting from Museum on Main, a historic and haunted building, built in 1914," Schaefer said.

The ghost hosts agreed strange things happen in the museum, usually having to do with lights, and they both avoid going alone to the building's basement.

The introduction included why Pleasanton attracts ghosts — it was built over water, and some periods of its history have included a lot of chaos. They also discussed how research was done — years of consulting psychics and paranormal investigators.

Downtown shop owners often come to the museum to report ghost activity while undergoing renovations to their buildings, Bruner noted.

"I don't think ghosts like renovations," Schaefer commented with a laugh.

Next the logistics for the evening were laid out: Four "ghosts" would speak from haunted spots downtown; there would be a five-minute intermission; then more ghost guests would appear. Questions could be submitted to be answered at the end.

The first ghost on the tour was founder John Kottinger (portrayed by actor David Ghilardi)

at his adobe barn on Ray Street, built in 1852 and used for some years as the jail when Kottinger was justice of the peace. Psychics have said 22 ghosts remain at the location, including one prisoner who paces back and forth.

Other locations visited were the Train Station, Blue Agave, Pleasanton Hotel, Towne Center Books, Old Mortuary, Gay Nineties and the Rose Hotel, mostly presented by spirits in residence, portrayed by professional Bay Area actors. The Gay Nineties pizza parlor is known for so much spectral activity that two ghosts told their stories at that location.

As the eight downtown spots were visited, a map highlighted the route and each location, for the feeling that the group was truly tromping along Main Street.

After the tour, Bruner and Schaefer answered questions submitted by the 40 households in attendance. They also told of their experiences and made suggestions:

- There is no special time of year to look for ghosts, and they do not sleep so may be active at any time of day. When people pay attention to them, they are more active.

- If you feel ghostly activity, take a photo. Cameras often pick up things the naked eye may not see.

- Most interactions are not "sightings" but other types of communication.

The Virtual Ghost Walk was an effective way for Museum on Main to hold the fun and informative event this year and keep the downtown spirits alive, so to speak, for a different, eye-opening perspective on Main Street.

Virtual Ghost Walks continue today, tomorrow and Oct. 31 at \$15 per screen, which includes a companion e-book with recipes for spooky snacks, Halloween-themed cocktails and fun trivia. Visit www.museumonmain.org to learn more. ■

Paranormal investigations

The Museum on Main is hosting a "Virtual Paranormal Investigation Experience" at 7 p.m. Nov. 7 with Cara and George Schopplein, who have recently looked into five haunted locations downtown. The program will bring their findings and techniques to participants live on Zoom.

"This program is perfect for those who want to learn more about how to conduct paranormal investigations and who want to learn how we get some of our Ghost Walk ghost stories," museum education director Sarah Schaefer said.

Tickets are \$10 per screen; go to www.museumonmain.org.



MUSEUM ON MAIN

Above: Rachael Campbell appears as Lily, who was murdered in the old Pleasanton Hotel and stays on as a guest. Top: Charles Graham (Russell Nauman) has joined those he prepared for the afterlife and appears at the Old Mortuary on Main Street.

Local artworks chosen for 'The de Young Open'

Exhibit celebrates depth and breadth of artists in the Bay Area

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Six Tri-Valley artists have been accepted into this year's juried community art show at the de Young museum in San Francisco.

Some 6,188 artists from the nine Bay Area counties submitted their works in June, with a total of 11,514 individual works of art. Of those, 762 artists were selected for "The de Young Open," which includes 877 pieces.

The following local artists are in the exhibit:

- Youngmin Lee of Pleasanton, "Remnants of Memory," fiber.

- Alex Lee of Pleasanton, "A Broken Bike," painting.

- Angela Johal of Livermore, "The Stars Collide No. 2," painting.

- Carolyn Lord of Livermore, "Golden Afternoon," painting.

- Phyllis Laschè of Livermore, "Anthem Triptych," painting.

- Peggy Magovern of Danville, "Carol with Blue Sweater," drawing.

This year's exhibit theme, "On the Edge," is derived from the Bay Area's location on the Pacific Rim but also from the region's historical reputation for cutting-edge culture and creativity.

"As the de Young celebrates its distinguished 125-year history in 2020, we are proud to announce 'The de Young Open,' creating a platform for the visionary artists who enrich the Bay Area's cultural landscape," said Thomas P. Campbell, director of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

"Amid these uncertain times, this new initiative expands the Fine Arts Museums' ongoing commitment to the Bay Area community and serves as a celebratory sign of our community's strength and resilience," he continued.

"From local artists to art lovers, we look forward to welcoming our visitors back to the de Young museum ... with this epochal exhibition."

The exhibit is hung "salon-style," installed



GARY SEXTON

Curator Tim Burgard installs "The de Young Open" exhibit, which includes works by Tri-Valley artists.

edge to edge and floor to ceiling, in all nine of the de Young's Herbst Exhibition Galleries, grouped according to theme: Black Lives Matter and other political and social movements, COVID-19, the city of San Francisco, abstraction, nature and the human figure.

The exhibit opened Oct. 10 and runs

through Jan. 3. The museum recently reopened to visitors, with newly installed sanitizing stations and signs to facilitate physical distancing. Facial coverings are required.

For tickets, visit deyoung.famsf.org/de-young-open or telephone 415-750-3600. ■

Livermore Valley Opera presents 'Arias at Home'

Wineries choose vintages to be paired with virtual performances

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Livermore Valley Opera is delivering a "Triple Treat" of free online concerts beginning in October.

The performances featuring professional opera singers will premiere this Saturday (Oct. 24), Nov. 14 and Dec. 5 on the LVOpera Channel on YouTube. After each premiere, the concerts will remain on the channel for patrons to watch again and share with friends and family.

Each concert begins at 6 p.m. with English subtitles, and will be accompanied by Livermore Valley Opera music director Alexander Katsman. Also Livermore wineries are offering special wine pairings to complement each concert being watched at home.

This Saturday night will feature Donizetti's "The Elixir of Love," paired with Las Positas Vineyards Barbera.

The music will include arias from well-known operas, including those of Donizetti's operatic comedy, and feature the

singers who would have appeared in the fall production of the opera at the Bankhead Theater: Elena Galván, Christopher Bozek, Rafael Porto, Andrew W. Potter and Alba Franco-Cancel.

On Nov. 14, the program will be classic operas of European locales, paired with Wood Family Vineyards' VIVA Cabernet Sauvignon.

The music will transport viewers to Paris, Seville and Florence among other places with featured performers Nikola Printz, Elena Galván, Alex Boyer and Philip Skinner.

Dec. 5 will feature Bizet's "Carmen," Mozart's "The Magic Flute" and more, paired with Cuda Ridge's Winery Merlot.

This final concert of the series features several of the company's favorite singers: Eugene Brancoveanu, Shawnette Sulker, Christopher Bozeka and Kirk Eichelberger.

When ordering from the three wineries, mention "Livermore Valley Opera" for special pricing through the end of 2020.



Clockwise from top left: Livermore Valley Opera music director Alexander Katsman, Shawnette Sulker, Eugene Brancoveanu and Nikola Printz.

COURTESY LVO

Though the "Triple Treat" virtual opera concerts are free, donations are always welcome. Visit www.livermorevalleyopera.com/donate. ■

Harmony Fusion Chorus holding open rehearsal night

Women's a cappella barbershop group welcomes singers with experience

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Harmony Fusion Chorus, a women's a cappella barbershop show chorus, will host a special virtual open house rehearsal night via Zoom to welcome new singers, from 7-9 p.m. this Monday (Oct. 26).

Chorus board president Joanne Morrison noted that an a cappella chorus can do plenty, even with the pandemic.

"Although we can't meet in person right now, we are fully engaged in learning new music and honing our skills," she said.

Members are meeting every Monday evening using Zoom, doing physical and vocal warmups, plus practicing in breakout rooms. They also have guest coaches and educators visiting from all over the world.

The singers are also working on a virtual chorus video to share with family and friends for the holidays. And now they are planning their open rehearsal night for potential new members.

"We're looking for women who love to sing and are interested in performing, competing and improving their vocal skills," Morrison said. "If you have a good ear for music, we want you. The ability to read



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Harmony Fusion Chorus is holding an open rehearsal night Monday for potential members to learn more about this women's a cappella barbershop show group.

music is not required."

Harmony Fusion Chorus, a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, is open to female singers as young as high school age.

Guests are welcome to join any of the regular Monday night sessions. Email the organization to get the Zoom link and information.

But this Monday's virtual open house will present information about singing in the barbershop style, and those who attend will learn to sing a song or a "tag" — the close-harmony ending of a song — and find out what Harmony Fusion Chorus can offer its members.

The mission of Sweet Adelines is music education in barbershop singing, and the chorus' director, Barb Vander Putten, takes that to heart.

"We perform at events throughout the East Bay (in non-COVID times), as well as competing annually in our Sweet Adelines International region, which includes choruses from Hawaii, Northern California, Southern Oregon and Nevada," Vander Putten said. "In addition to the joy of singing in our sisterhood, members have multiple opportunities to learn from other directors and coaches, as well as leadership skills and chorus management."

Harmony Fusion has been recognized for its high member retention rate, and is a three-time winner of the SAI Region 12 BRAVO Award (Best Retention And Value to the Organization).

"We believe it is due to our welcoming and supportive culture," board president Morrison said.

For more information about the virtual open rehearsal night, email info@harmonyfusion.org or visit the chorus website at www.harmonyfusion.org. ■

Eagle Scout Maxwell Jones

Project was helping with Veterans History Project

Maxwell Jones of Dublin and Livermore recently completed the requirements for Eagle Scout and passed the Board of Review.



Maxwell Jones

Jones, who just graduated from Granada High School, began Scouting in 2017 and ranked up to first class after attending Boy Scouts of America summer camp. He most recently served as senior patrol leader with Troop 905, sponsored by St. Raymond's Catholic Parish.

From 2018-19, he completed National Advanced Youth Leadership training, National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience at the BSA Philmont Ranch, N.M., and represented the USA West while attending the World Scouting Jamboree in Bechtel Summit Reserve, W.V. In 2019, Max was appointed to the Order of the Arrow, BSA's National Honor Society.

Jones has volunteered in numerous community service activities such as Dublin's St. Patrick's Day and Splatter festivals, Tri-Valley's Scouting for Food, and the annual Scout's Christmas tree pickup program.

For his Eagle service project, Jones completed a Veterans History Project that archived the service records and accomplishment of a dozen U.S. veterans who served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf War. He led a team of Scouts and adults who interviewed and recorded the veterans' accomplishments during their service years. The results were memorialized into the Veterans History Project records at the Library of Congress and National Archive.

Jones' other activities included varsity football, his senior class homecoming skit,

saxophone, representing his class at Boys State, restoring his award-winning 1970 Chevy Blazer, and serving as lead petty officer in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps. He now attends Cal State University, Cal Maritime, studying mechanical engineering.

He is the son of Paul Jones and Tracy Jones. His official Eagle Court of Honor will be scheduled when his friends and family can celebrate together.

Anyone interested in Scouting can contact Twin Valley District executive Matt Lindberg at matt.lindberg@scouting.org. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Pleasanton woman killed in overnight crash in Orinda

A Pleasanton woman died in a solo-vehicle crash along San Pablo Dam Road in Orinda overnight, the California Highway Patrol reported on Monday.

The Contra Costa County Coroner's Office identified the victim as 33-year-old Domenica Maurice.

The investigation unfolded at about 12:20 a.m. Monday when Contra Costa CHP received a report about a crash down an embankment on San Pablo Dam Road, just north of Bear Creek Road.

Upon arrival, emergency responders determined that the 2013 Kia Optima went off San Pablo Dam Road to the right side, crashed into and through a metal guardrail, and then careened down a steep embankment hitting several trees along the way, according to the CHP.

The driver — later identified as Maurice — appeared to have not been wearing a seatbelt and was ejected from the Optima as a result, according to the CHP. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

No other vehicles or parties were

involved, according to the CHP. Investigators are still trying to determine whether alcohol or drugs were a factor. Anyone who witnessed the crash or the events leading up to it can contact Contra Costa CHP in Martinez at 925-646-4980.

In other news

- Family and friends were set to join together for a vigil in downtown yesterday evening in a show of support for Pleasanton native Sydney "Syd" West and to continue momentum toward finding the 19-year-old woman who has been missing for three weeks.

Syd West, a former Foothill High School student who returned to the Bay Area for college after her family moved from Pleasanton to North Carolina several years ago, was last seen in San Francisco near the Golden Gate Bridge during the early-morning hours on Sept. 30. She is considered at-risk, according to authorities.

There were no new updates on her disappearance as of Monday afternoon, according to Sgt. Michael Andraychak of the San Francisco

Police Department, the lead agency on the case.

"We are asking anyone who may have information about Sydney to please contact investigators. We love Sydney, we miss Sydney, and we want more than anything to have her found safe and brought back to our home," her father, Jay West, said in a video released in North Carolina earlier this month.

The West family held a vigil in their neighborhood in Chapel Hill, N.C., last week as part of their effort to keep attention on the case.

They then organized a similar gathering in their former hometown of Pleasanton on Thursday evening in Lions Wayside Park on First Street. The event — which was set to be held after the Weekly's press deadline — was to be in person, with health and safety protocols in place, as well as broadcast in real time on Facebook Live.

"This vigil is intended to bring together the family's California-based community, celebrate their love for Sydney, and talk about the help needed to keep up the momentum to find Sydney. The family feels blessed with so many friends and family who share their desperation to find Syd," supporters said.

Syd West is described as white, standing 5-foot-10 and weighing 130-135 pounds, with blue eyes and light-brown hair (worn in a bun on the top of her head that morning). She was last seen on Sept. 30 wearing black leggings, a teal hoodie and her favorite old slip on Vans (dark green and black print). She may have been carrying a black backpack, according to investigators.

She last made contact with family and friends on Sept. 29, and was spotted near Crissy Field and the Golden Gate Bridge during the

early-morning hours of Sept. 30, according to the Orange County (N.C.) Sheriff's Office which has been in contact with the SFPD.

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

She grew up in Pleasanton and attended Foothill High during her freshman and sophomore years before the family moved to North Carolina. 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.

"Sydney, or Syd as she likes to be called, is a kind, caring young woman who has a way with younger children, especially her 10-year-old sister who she's adored since the day she was born and who misses her desperately," mother Kimberly West said in the video released Oct. 8.

The parents were sitting together in the living room holding a framed senior class portrait of Syd West during the 90-second video.

Jay West described his daughter Syd as a talented musician, athlete, artist and student who is very much missed.

"This is every parent's nightmare, and all we want is for our daughter Sydney to be found safe and brought home to our family," he said.

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. Those with connections to Syd West in North Carolina can also contact her hometown sheriff's office at 919-245-2909.

To follow updates on the case on social media, visit the Find Sydney West Facebook page, follow on Instagram at find_sydney_west or use the hashtag #FindSydneyWest.

- A person was arrested after allegedly trying to elude Livermore police during an incident Monday that included a neighborhood sheltering in place after a report of a man with a gun roaming along Pine Street.

The arrestee — a 36-year-old Livermore man whose name was not released — was taken into custody on suspicion of resisting arrest and drug charges, according to the Livermore Police Department.

The situation unfolded around 2:20 p.m. Monday when police received a call about a man with a gun in the 1600 block of Pine Street. Responding officers soon began to search the surrounding area, according to police.

"Officers diligently searched for the subject, while also warning surrounding residents to shelter in place for their safety," police said.

Police eventually located their suspect, but he allegedly ignored commands to surrender and led officers on a foot chase. He was ultimately taken into custody in the 600 block of Andrews Street, police said.

Officers then continued to scour the neighborhood and soon found a replica firearm discarded in the area, police said.

Livermore police K-9 units, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office drone team and the East Bay Regional Park District Police Department's air unit all assisted in the search operation. ■

—Jeremy Walsh



Syd West

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

UPCOMING MEETING

Planning Commission

Wednesday, October 28, 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 21, when the agenda is posted on the City's website at: cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning_agenda.asp

- P19-0128 and P19-0129, Public Storage, 3716 Stanley Boulevard**
Applications for Design Review approval and a Conditional Use Permit to modify an existing self-storage facility (Public Storage) as follows: (1) demolish seven existing storage buildings and office; (2) construct a 900-square-foot office; (3) construct a 9,750-square-foot one-story storage building; (4) construct a 197,410-square-foot three-story storage building; and (5) construct related site improvements. Zoning for the property is C-S (Service-Commercial) District.
- Amendment to Title 18 of the Pleasanton Municipal Code**
Consider amendments to Chapters 18.08, 18.28, 18.32, 18.36, 18.44, 18.46, 18.84, 18.88, and 18.106 of the Pleasanton Municipal Code to comply with state legislation for accessory dwelling units. The draft amendments include modifying owner-occupancy requirements for accessory dwelling units. The Planning Commission will review the proposed code amendment and make a recommendation to the City Council.

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

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Oct. 17

Assault/battery

■ 1:38 a.m. on the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue

Theft from auto

■ 11:27 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Vandalism

■ 1:47 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Oct. 16

Drug violation

■ 7:15 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Theft

■ 2:20 p.m., 3600 block of Vine Street; theft from auto

■ 7:26 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 8:25 p.m., 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting

Vandalism

■ 3:33 p.m. at Hopyard Road and Valley Avenue

Oct. 15

Theft

■ 1:22 a.m. on the 7200 block of Johnson Drive

■ 8:18 a.m. on the 500 block of St. Thomas Way

■ 11:59 a.m. on the 4800 block of Wingate Drive

■ 1:51 p.m., 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue; theft from auto

■ 3:27 p.m. on the 2300 block of Woodthrus Way

■ 5:44 p.m. on the 3400 block of Andrews Drive

Weapons violation

■ 5:04 a.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Vandalism

■ 1:33 p.m. on the 000 block of West Angela Street

Oct. 14

Theft

■ 10:49 a.m., 3400 block of West Ruby Hill Drive; theft from auto

■ 7:58 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 8:37 p.m. on the 5700 block of Owens Drive; auto theft

Domestic battery

■ 1:34 p.m. on Riverdale Court

■ 5:47 p.m. on Vineyard Avenue

Oct. 13

Theft

■ 7:59 a.m., 2500 block of Stanley Boulevard; auto theft

■ 8:42 a.m. on the 4800 block of Hillcrest Way

Vandalism

■ 10:20 a.m. on the 4800 block of Hopyard Road

Drug violation

■ 2:07 p.m. on the 5200 block of Hopyard Road

■ 6:33 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

■ 10:14 p.m. on the 500 block of Boulder Court

DUI

■ 3:19 p.m. at Stoneridge Drive and Stoneridge Creek Way

Domestic battery

■ 8:31 p.m. on Santel Court

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LETTERS

Pleasanton needs people like Valerie Arkin

Dear Editor,

Valerie Arkin is running for City Council of Pleasanton in the upcoming November election, and I would like to endorse Valerie wholeheartedly and highlight some of her many achievements.

Valerie was first elected to the Pleasanton school board in 2008, is still serving for the 2016-20 term, and she is currently on several committees representing the school board on the city and school district liaison committee.

The City Council will benefit greatly from having Valerie, as she brings genuine community concern, support for diversity and personal integrity to the table. Valerie does not and has never accepted donations from developers; in addition, the Sierra Club and the National Organization for Women (NOW) endorse her.

The City Council of Pleasanton needs people like Valerie who are respectful, engaged, fair and honest, especially in these challenging days when the city must balance demands for increasing development with maintaining our small town traditions and feel.

Most importantly, I have known Valerie for 20-plus years and worked with her on various PTA projects. She is one of my best and trustworthy friends.

My family is proud to endorse Valerie, and know that when she is elected to the City Council, Pleasanton's people and interests will be her No. 1 priority.

—Gina Carter

Haubert for supervisor

Please join us in voting for David Haubert for supervisor for Alameda County. We first met Dave in 2010 when he joined a delegation of Dublin citizens to the All-America Cities competition in Kansas City. We found Dave to be a great listener and observer then.

More recently, we attended his presentation on progress Dublin has made as it has grown into a thriving city and desirable place to live, due in great part to his leadership. When we contacted Dave several months ago for help with a neighborhood issue, he responded promptly, considered our position, and provided invaluable advice.

We see Dave at local events, such as the Heritage Museum Fall and Spring Fairs and Dublin Pride Volunteer Day. His ethic of service and hard work has served us well in Dublin and will now extend to Alameda County should he be elected to supervisor.

—Jean and Dale Olds

Nancy Allen: Best choice for Pleasanton council

I have been a planning commissioner for over 14 years, serving alongside Nancy for seven of those years; her tenure on the Planning Commission has certainly prepared her for the difficult decisions that council members will need to decide.

Council items are often complex and require a person like Nancy to study the issues. She always asks the difficult questions and strives for balanced decisions that consider our residents and small businesses first; she reaches out to all parties to listen and understand every perspective in order to reach the optimal solution for the entire community.

She will consider all compromises on an issue, when appropriate, but occasionally a compromise is not the answer, such as when a proposal is inconsistent with the General Plan, Housing Element or hillside ordinances.

Nancy is a leader who knows when to say "no", and has the courage to do so. In the tough economic times ahead, we need a leader who will always put community interests first; we can no longer say "yes" to everything, but must be prepared to say "no" or "let's wait" when a proposal does not fit or is ill timed. Nancy is that leader.

Join me in voting for Nancy Allen, Pleasanton City Council.

—Greg O'Connor,
Planning Commission member

Misleading messaging

We have been doing our own independent research relating to the city of Pleasanton mayor and City Council race and incorporated information from PleasantonVoters.com outlining the campaign contributions each of the candidates received as part of our analysis.

We initially found this helpful until research from other sources revealed it was heavily slanted to one side. What this information from PleasantonVoters.com doesn't show is that Karla Brown took \$1,000 from Carl Cox, who owns local gas stations in the area and is a strong opponent of Costco. Further research shows that Karla was against Costco and has taken money from Carl Cox in the past.

Why would the PleasantonVoters.com not have shown a more accurate picture of Karla's contributions? This is a contribution that should have been included in their reporting and appears disingenuous to have omitted such a large contribution.

—Kathleen and Bronco Hinek

Why Randy Brown should be your choice for council

Randy Brown loves and cares about Pleasanton. He has made it his priority to reach out to our citizens to understand their concerns and interests.

As a successful small-businessman, Randy recognizes the need for thoughtful growth and development that will keep our economy strong while maintaining the "friendly small town" environment so valued by our city.

He has a good understanding of the critical issues facing Pleasanton particularly in areas of affordable housing and traffic and has the experience and knowledge to offer realistic solutions.

He is a strong supporter of our Police Department and has voiced that support in recent community forums. Additionally, he recognizes opportunities for improvement such as adding more resources to address complex issues like mental health.

I have known Randy for 10 years and worked with him on many Rotary and nonprofit activities. Randy has been involved and active in our community since the day he arrived and is a high energy "get it done" guy.

Randy has strong critical thinking skills. When working on a project he takes time to listen, research, and consider all points of view before he acts. All good traits for a city councilor.

Please cast your vote for Randy Brown.

—Dick Stafford

Dunbar for BART director, District 5

District 5 needs a new BART director, but I disagree with the Weekly's choice. Steven Dunbar, a systems engineer in transit vehicle (bus) manufacturing with experience in energy and transportation policy, is the superior candidate.

Having used public transportation himself for years, Dunbar is well aware of commuters' needs and the issues BART and other regional transportation providers face. This young man has the judgment and financial acumen to help BART weather the current storm and the vision and creativity needed to lead BART into the future.

—Cathy Martin

Carreon has my vote for Pleasanton school board

Mary Jo Carreon was an elementary teacher for 34 years, 24 of those years in Pleasanton. She has dedicated her life to making a difference in the lives of students and their families. Now, in retirement, Mary Jo wants to continue making a difference for

Pleasanton students and their families as a school board member.

In this very difficult time in education, Mary Jo has the recent classroom experience and knowledge needed to help our district continue to provide the highest academic standards for our children.

Mary Jo is open to listen to students, parents and teachers in our community. She has a phone line you can call and talk to her personally about your concerns, 925-750-8225.

Please join me in voting for Mary Jo Carreon for Pleasanton school board.

—Mary Hart Reding

Supporting Valerie Arkin for Pleasanton City Council

We are 20-year Pleasanton residents who met Valerie Arkin and her husband within our first week in our new neighborhood. Valerie's warmth and genuine interest in listening and getting to know others made a strong impression, and our appreciation for her community-building skills has only increased since then.

Valerie has a gift for bringing people together, listening and learning from diverse viewpoints, and building consensus. She is dedicated to this community and to serving others, as evidenced by her service to the library board, the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, volunteering with the Amador marching band, working with the Tri-Valley YMCA, her many years on the Pleasanton school board, and her current project manager position at nonprofit Hively.

Valerie's educational background in healthcare and business, along with her lengthy and varied experience in local public service, will be an huge asset in helping Pleasanton reopen

See **LETTERS** on Page 16

Election letters

This is the final weekend that the Pleasanton Weekly will accept letters to the editor (maximum 250 words) on election-related issues this fall. The final submission deadline is 5 p.m. this Sunday (Oct. 25). Our goal will be to publish each letter that arrives ahead of the deadline, as long as it adheres to our policies.

We will publish only one letter per person per election topic this fall — which means an author could write one letter on the Pleasanton mayor race and a second letter on City Council, but not two letters on City Council. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us, and anonymous letters will generally not be accepted. Send via email to letters@pleasantonweekly.com.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 15

and rebuild post-COVID.

Valerie does her homework, advocates for the underserved in our community and listens respectfully to all views. Her integrity and commitment to serving this city are beyond question.

We have total confidence that Valerie will always have an open door and open mind and will strive to be “A Voice for You!” for all members of our community. Please support us in supporting Valerie Arkin for City Council.

—Greg Gum and Laura Keller

Goel for Dublin mayor

Throughout these past couple months, I have been campaigning for Arun Goel who is running for mayor in Dublin. By giving the youth a platform to voice their ideas, it is clear to me that he is the best candidate for the job.

Arun is a clean money, “people-centric” candidate who will strive to create unity and allow for robust discussion. Seeing him in action, I can personally attest to his values of trust, transparency and truth that I can constantly rely on.

When I first approached Arun, I wanted to discuss potential community solutions to mitigate COVID-19 impacts on small businesses, health codes and public safety. As a young bystander within my community, I had always been interested in civic engagement, but was simply a spectator. Arun gave me a platform to advocate for these issues and now I help lead the youth team on his campaign.

His humility and ability to teach and guide youth is the greatest community service he can offer. I wholeheartedly support Arun Goel for mayor, and you should too!

—Kunal Khaware

Arkin and Allen for City Council

I support Valerie and Nancy for City Council because they bring a lot of shared experience working with the city and the Pleasanton school district. Like Karla Brown they will make smart balanced growth decisions because growth affects traffic, schools and our scenic hills.

Moreover, they are not accepting donations from builders/developers. Thousands of dollars of donations from Ponderosa home builder is going into the Chamber of Commerce BAC PAC, a builder/developer dominated political action group. This is then funneled to many pro-development candidates who are endorsed by the Chamber BACPAC group.

Vote for Karla Brown for mayor, Valerie Arkin and Nancy Allen for City Council.

—Sandy Yamaoda

No on Prop 16

Prop 16 has been introduced by members of the California Legislature in an attempt to overturn Prop 209, which was passed overwhelmingly by California voters in the 1990s in order to ensure that everyone, regardless of their race or gender, would be treated equally under the law.

Proponents of Prop 16 would overturn the ban on affirmative action, which is codified into our State Constitution, which would negatively impact the Asian American community in particular.

After the racist college admissions scandals at Harvard and Yale, where Asian Americans were labeled as “socially inept” by admissions officers even before interviewing them in person, Asian Americans including myself are sick and tired of being used as scapegoats to engineer social equity in our society.

While I fully acknowledge our nation’s racist past and the horrible treatment of Black and brown communities by law enforcement, that does not warrant a cruel attempt to limit the number of Asian American students in our prestigious university campuses simply out of a desire to help other minority communities.

Here in America, we believe in equality of opportunity, not equality of outcome. Just as MLK famously implored Americans to judge one another by the content of our character rather than the color of our skin, so should college admissions officials do the same.

Let’s keep it that way on Nov. 3 by voting No on Prop 16.

—Andy Li

A civil choice for Karla, Nancy and Valerie

My dad was a WWII Marine veteran who raised me to be respectful, honest and civil. He’s gone now but the lessons remain. I’ll apply those lessons in this letter. All comments are my opinion, and facts are accurate to the best of my knowledge.

I’ve often disagreed with Mayor Thorne on land use. But Jerry came to my Marine son’s deployment homecoming. I will always be grateful to Jerry for that.

Our council and mayoral candidates differ dramatically on their views for the development of East Pleasanton. Major landowners have for years planned to get the city to allow them to build what would be the largest residential development in our history.

One plan being pursued right now is for 1,900 homes to be built, with 500 affordable by design. What would the impact be on you given our precarious clean water supply, traffic and overcrowded schools?

I respect the work of our

Chamber of Commerce for local businesses. But it is also the face of influence for developers and others making money on development in town. The chamber strongly supports east side development, and Jerry Pentin, Jack Balch and Randy Brown.

Karla Brown, Nancy Allen and Valerie Arkin are not accepting developer donations. I see them fully committed to seeking out and supporting what is important to you, the resident and small business owner. They are for growth only if infrastructure supports it.

These women have won my vote.

—George Bowen

Support for Nancy Allen

We strongly support Nancy Allen for Pleasanton City Council.

She has been a tireless worker for the people of Pleasanton, serving in many capacities over the years, currently as a second-term planning commissioner. She listens and makes sound decisions that are carefully considered, and she is not beholden to any special interest group, which means she would work for us, not them.

We encourage you to support her as well.

—Michael and Darlene Miller

CityWalk San Ramon

Change is hard, growth is scary; that’s why in the present moment leaders need to look to the future while not forgetting the past. This is why I support the CityWalk Master Plan.

The plan strikes that balance over the next 27 years, while helping to keep us in compliance with regional housing needs allocation mandates.

San Ramon is an amazing city, among the top places to live in California. It’s safe, beautiful, has amazing schools, 58 parks, and is prospering. This is not by accident. The city staff is top notch, the appointed commissioners and committee members are engaged, and the elected officials truly care about their city.

Bishop Ranch held a number of workshops, the city conducted the required hearings, and the staff has done their due diligence ensuring all requirements are met. CityWalk will differentiate downtown San Ramon and contribute to making this city a desirable place to live. Incomplete information has been circulated from those who oppose this project.

State RNHA mandates and our county return to source taxes require cities to create affordable housing opportunities, so the question is not whether we should build, but how to do it wisely. CityWalk will be built in undeveloped spaces in Bishop Ranch, near employers, rather than in existing neighborhoods.

I invite you to enter CityWalk into your favorite search engine and see the wealth of information available from both the city of San Ramon and Bishop Ranch.

—Billy Hurley

Prop 15 closes loopholes to invest in our schools

We all know that, with unprecedented budget shortfalls for our local governments and schools, there’s a long tough road ahead.

We’re going to need bold solutions that protect everyday Californians — solutions like “Schools and Communities First” Proposition 15 on the November ballot.

With the election just weeks away, and a fog of disinformation flowing from the big business opposition, it’s crucial for voters to understand Prop 15 will close corporate tax loopholes to reclaim \$12 billion every year for schools and critical local services like first responders and public hospitals.

While closing these loopholes, which siphon billions to corporate profits instead of our schools and local communities, Prop 15 will protect homeowners and renters, small businesses, and agriculture from any changes.

Research shows that just 10% of the biggest commercial and industrial properties would generate 92% of the new revenue. A fraction of rich corporations would finally pay their fair share.

Simply put, we can’t afford tax loopholes and corporate greed at the expense of our schools and local services anymore.

—Jonathan Varela

Support David Haubert for Alameda County supervisor

We encourage everyone to join us in voting for David Haubert to be our next elected supervisor for Alameda County.

David is an experienced businessman, previously elected school board member, and currently the mayor of Dublin. The city of Dublin is similar to Fremont, in that it is ethnically diverse and growing quickly and has many constituents with varied and different backgrounds and concerns. David has shown his leadership in Dublin by reaching across the aisle and including all parties in his decision making.

David is a family man, having raised two daughters here, and is a man of conviction and faith. He will vote with his conscience and support what is right, regardless of who has financially supported his campaign. With an MBA from UCLA in finance, David will be fiscally careful in the spending decisions that he makes.

Please join me, current Supervisor Scott Haggerty, the Alameda County sheriff’s and firefighter’s (unions), all of the Tri-Valley mayors, and many, many others in

their support of David Haubert for Alameda County supervisor.

—Mark Triska

Support for Karla Brown for mayor

I’m a 30-year city employee, now retired. I’ve observed Karla Brown’s service to the community and don’t want to see her leave public service to Pleasanton.

Many others have written great letters describing her value to the city, and I don’t want to duplicate those endorsements. She’s an experienced asset to the council and has always had the best interests of the city and its future in her decisions.

She’s also been accessible to the citizens and their concerns. Please join me in voting for Karla Brown for mayor. A voice for the voiceless!

—Howard Merrill

Maheer for school board

Why Mr. Steve Maheer ...?

Teacher, administrator, school trustee of Pleasanton for the past 45 years ... and still providing guidance, direction for our children’s future.

Over 30 years ago, when Mr. Maheer was the Donlon Elementary School principal, my son Brian was sent to the office for standing on his chair in class, raising two fingers in the air, as a Cub Scout might do to quiet the disruptive class. Brian loved to learn.

Mr. Maheer shared to Brian that distractions in life are a learning tool. How best to be tolerant, write a question down to later ask teacher and his way of thinking had leadership qualities. Brian’s love of learning continued to flourish under Mr. Maheer’s understanding guidance—never missing a day of school.

Mr. Maheer works for our children’s future successes and contributions in life. Join Sue and I ... vote Steve Maheer, school board.

—Pete Miller

Arkin for City Council

Here is something new. An endorsement Haiku to Inspire you to choose...

Valerie Arkin!
Top pick for City Council!
Let me tell you why.

Her history of caring for community is foundational!

Thoughtful and researched, Valerie listens with care. Responds honestly.

Who will you vote for? Here’s my endorsement. (I rarely give one!)

Valerie Arkin!

—Marilyn Palowitch

Halloween

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. 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 to Sunday until Oct. 31. Visit joansfarm.com. 4351 Mines Rd., Livermore.

NILES CANYON RAILWAY Celebrate October with special railway train rides through the canyon. Oct. 24-25. Visit ncry.org.

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. 22-24, 29-31. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Concerts

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.

VINEYARD VIBES WITH DAVID VICTOR Former vocalist/guitarist of the band Boston, David Victor will offer his own original songs in an acoustic set. This virtual concert will be recorded live outdoors at Retzlaff Vineyards. 6 p.m., Oct. 25. Visit livermorearts.org.

TRIPLE THREAT - ARIAS AT HOME Livermore Valley Opera presents a Triple Treat of three online concerts. The concerts are free and will premiere on LVO YouTube channel. After each premiere, the concerts will remain on the YouTube Channel for repeat viewing. 6 p.m., Oct. 24. Visit livermorevalleyopera.com. Fundraisers

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, 10.23. Visit sunflowerhill.org.

TRI-VALLEY HAVEN'S HOLIDAY PROGRAM Tri-Valley Haven has transformed its program to safely provide holiday items and food to the thousands of residents in economic need by providing pre-bagged food and gift cards while practicing social distancing and CDC guidelines. November 23rd is designated for a turkey pickup and Dec. 12 for holiday gift giving. For more information visit trivalleyhaven.org.

WALK FOR VET VIRTUAL CHALLENGE 2.2 For 22 Walk for Vets strives to raise awareness that 22 veterans are lost to suicide each day. Funds raised will help bring mental health professionals to Las Positas College in an effort to support mental health services and to stop suicide among veterans. Funds will also support services provided by the Pleasanton Military Families. Oct. 21-Nov. 11. Visit runsignup.com.

Festivals

HARVEST MARKET-ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS The Harvest Market has secured additional buildings in order to allow for space between booths and all staff, vendors and customers will be required to wear masks or acceptable face coverings. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Oct. 23-25. Visit harvestfestival.com/pleasanton.

Talks & Lectures

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.

Seniors

EATING FOR WELLNESS The secret to lifelong wellness is to form a healthy daily eating pattern and exercise plan. This presentation will provide an explanation of key nutrients and tips on making smart food choices. 10-11:30 a.m., Oct. 29. Visit HopeHospice.com.

Charity

NATIONAL CHARITY LEAGUE - PLEASANTON CHAPTER The Pleasanton Chapter of the National Charity League, Inc. has started its annual membership drive. Membership is open to women with daughters currently in the sixth grade who reside in Pleasanton. Applications for membership are only accepted during the annual membership drive from October through Jan. 15 each year. Contact membershippleasanton@nclonline.org.

Food & Drink

LIVERMORE DOWNTOWN FUNDRAISER Livermore Downtown Inc. has partnered with Sauced BBQ and Spirits and The Last Word to host an evening of dining and live music. Food and beverages will be available to order with a contribution of \$40 per person and can seat up to 4 people at a table. Wear a Halloween costume and decorate your table. 5:30-7:30, Oct. 29. Visit www.eventbrite.com.

Teens

PLEASANTON VFW 2020 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION The Pleasanton Veterans of Foreign Wars has announced two scholarship programs this fall. High school and middle school students are invited to participate in a themed essay. The deadline is Oct. 31. For more information visit vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships.

Cooking

NOW YOU'RE COOKING Join this virtual culinary event as three Tri-Valley restaurant chefs and Culinary Angel chef Claudia battle it out during an exciting regional cooking competition. 6:30-8 p.m., Oct. 24. Visit culinaryangels.org.

CUISINE FOR THE CAUSE Chair the Love and Wheelchair Foundation presents "Cuisine for the Cause" a very special virtual presentation and participation dining experience. Cook along (ingredient list will be sent to you upon participation) with award-winning chef, Norman

PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Sweet Stevie

Stevie is a 9-month-old Doberman Pinscher puppy. He is very sweet and likes to cuddle when he isn't playing and running. He is house-trained, crate-trained and knows basic commands. He currently weighs 65 pounds and is a high-energy pup who will need regular exercise, activities and training. An adopter experienced with large breeds is recommended. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue at LisaC@tvar.org.

Van Aken, widely hailed as one of the founders of New American Cuisine and winner of the James Beard Award for Best Chef in the South/Southeast. 4-5 p.m., Oct. 29. Visit <https://e.givesmart.com/events/iF8/>.

Government

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, currently held virtually. 7 p.m., Oct. 28. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month, currently held virtually. 7 p.m., Oct. 26. Visit cityoflivermore.net.

DUBLIN PLANNING COMMISSION The Dublin Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Currently held virtually. 7 p.m., Oct. 27. Visit www.dublin.ca.gov.

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. 27. Visit <https://www.dublin.k12.ca.us>

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

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

Perry Automotive
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
573549
The following person doing business as: Perry Automotive, 3282 Shawn Way, Hayward, CA 94541, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Jack L. Perry, 3282 Shawn Way, Hayward, CA 94541. This business is conducted by Jack L. Perry, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein January 1, 1999. Signature of Registrant: Jack L. Perry, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 6, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, October 16, 23, 30, November 6.)

Pleasanton Weekly; PleasantonWeekly.com; TriValleyViews.com; DanvilleSanRamon.com
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 573665
The following person doing business as: Pleasanton Weekly; PleasantonWeekly.com; TriValleyViews.com; DanvilleSanRamon.com, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Embarcadero Media, 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306, California. This business is conducted by a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein February 15, 2009. Signature of Registrant: William S. Johnson, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 8, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, Oct. 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 2020.)

Anderson Plumbing
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 573637
The following person doing business as: Anderson Plumbing, 4300 Black Ave., #614, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Sam Anderson, 5752 Twin Creek Court, Antioch, CA 94531. This business is conducted by Sam Anderson, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein March 18, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Sam Anderson, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 8, 2020. (Pleasanton Weekly, October 23, 30, November 6, 13, 2020.)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County. Deadline is Monday at noon.

Call Gina Channell at 925-600-0840 for assistance with your legal advertising needs.

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@pawebly.com.

Real Estate

FALL 2020

Local market stays red hot

Pleasanton homebuying competition: Ready? Set? Make an offer!

BY DAVID STARK

Even in the middle of a global pandemic, homes are still selling quickly in Pleasanton. Why? Supply and demand. The homebuyers and sellers who understand the special nature of the current real estate market will be successful.

During last month, there were 40 single-family detached homes for sale in Pleasanton compared with 103 for sale during September 2019. The 61% drop in choices for homebuyers has increased competition and pushed prices higher.

The median sales price for a single-family detached home increased \$115,000 from \$1.15 million during September 2019 to more than \$1.26 million during September 2020.

The buyer response to higher prices was to make offers more quickly. As sales prices increased, the time a home was on the market dropped from an average of 35 days during last September to 34 days during this September.

The lack of choices, higher prices and brisk pace of sales isn't scaring buyers away.

The number of pending home sales in Pleasanton increased from 50 during September 2019 to 66 during September 2020. Pending sales also increased from August to September this year. This is notable because buyers typically leave the market during the late summer and real estate activity cools during the fall.

This year, buyers are staying in the market later in the year.

"Low inventory, multiple offers and homes selling for more than the asking price," is how Tina Hand, 2020 president of the Bay East Association of Realtors, describes the current Pleasanton real estate market.

Hand said sellers are receiving up

to 10 purchase offers from potential homebuyers.

Asked how a homebuyer can compete in the current low-inventory and high-priced environment, Hand said, "It's not always the highest offer that gets accepted. The terms of the offer can be just as important."

She explained that homebuyers should understand what sellers are looking for, including when they want or need to move. These insights can help a buyer craft a successful purchase offer.

Hand said knowing if "the seller needs to get a certain amount of money or are they selling as-is, do they need a rent-back?" should all be factored into the purchase offer terms.

Sellers also need to understand the current market dynamics and set their expectations accordingly. Hand said that sometimes, sellers can ask for whatever they want, but may not always get it.

"There is some negotiation going on, definitely," she said. She cited examples of sellers accepting requests to fix pest damage and other issues.

Both sides of a real estate transaction have something in common in this hot market: playing by the same, Alameda County Public Health Department rule.

Hand explained, "The way we show homes is completely different and buyers have to sign certain forms and make an appointment with an agent. They understand it's not quite business-as-usual."

Buyers are willing to play by the county rules regarding touring properties because they want to see what they are purchasing. Hand said, "I know we all have to work in a virtual environment, but I don't know of any agent or client who have purchased a home sight-unseen."

Sellers also know the process has changed to keep all parties safe. Hand said, "Everyone has learned to figure out how to work within the rules." ■

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

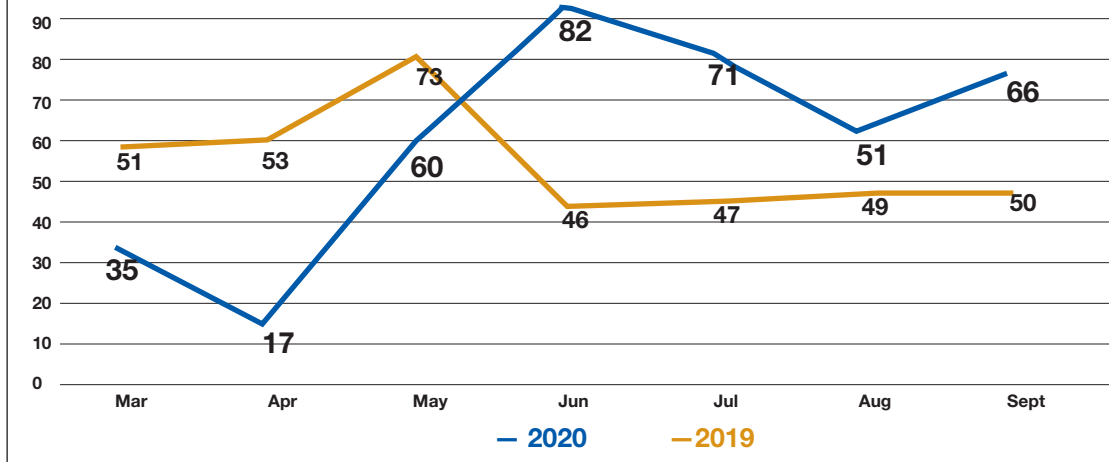


David Stark



GETTY IMAGES

Pleasanton Pending Sales - March to September



Courtesy of Bay East Association of Realtors.

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Aug. 10-21)

Total sales reported: 39
Lowest sale reported: \$350,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,525,000
Average sales reported: \$1,207,692

Livermore (Aug. 10-21)

Total sales reported: 75
Lowest sale reported: \$350,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,100,000
Average sales reported: \$810,000

Dublin (Aug. 10-21)

Total sales reported: 48
Lowest sale reported: \$255,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,760,000
Average sales reported: \$941,052

Sunol (Aug. 10-21)

Total sales reported: 1
Lowest sale reported: \$1,180,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,180,000
Average sales reported: \$1,180,000

San Ramon (Sept. 8-18)

Total sales reported: 53
Lowest sale reported: \$390,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,480,000
Average sales reported: \$1,287,547

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Aug. 10-21 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Sunol.

Pleasanton

3586 Ballantyne Drive Shaw Living Trust to M. & E. Hojnacki for \$1,230,000

7285 Beaumont Court Mccann Family Trust to J. & A. Cyriac for \$2,525,000

4190 Casterson Court Pietro Living Trust to X. & T. Lu for \$2,350,000

2392 Corte De La Jara M. & J. Bechwati to A. & S. Yoo for \$1,365,000

4605 Del Valle Parkway A. Nainani to B. & K. Shankarnarayanan for \$1,255,000

2357 Fairfield Court Z. & M. Sendler to H. & C. Zhang for \$1,314,000

2626 Laramie Gate Circle Somayajula Living Trust to S. & P. Gupta for \$1,117,000

638 Marsala Court Khandan Family Trust to P. & A. Ghangurde for \$1,328,000

924 East Mockingbird Lane D. & R. Spencer to R. & S. Paul for \$1,885,000

3010 Paseo Granada Reisfelt Family Trust to Nair Family Trust for \$1,520,000

3420 Pickens Lane R. & H. Jaouni to R. & F. Tonello for \$995,000

583 Saint John Street Lawrence Living Trust to L. & C. Bailey for \$865,000

4581 Shearwater Road C. & J. Lasala to Mathew Trust for \$1,260,000

3476 Smoketree Commons Drive #D Maple Living Trust to V. & K. Mayol for \$540,000

5221 Springdale Avenue J. Liggins to A. & H. Agrawal for \$835,000

4222 Bevilacqua Court Toman Family Trust to G. & S. Tonkin for \$1,450,000

750 Bonita Avenue Hundley Living Trust to Janah Investments Inc for \$1,000,000

3508 Carlsbad Court Buettner Trust to G. & T. Zaionz for \$650,000

304 Christina Court D. Macdonough to J. & L. Haas for \$1,007,000

2050 Cotterell Court Reimer Family Trust to S. & J. Hamlin for \$1,225,000

435 Del Sol Avenue M. Zha to D. & J. Barrett for \$1,060,000

569 Gyles Place N. Do to S. & M. Yanamandra for \$1,350,000

3802 Kamp Drive Y. Xu to S. & S. Kotha for \$1,150,000

3281 Monmouth Court Pozzi Family Trust to A. & S. Pillai for \$1,360,000

655 Neal Street Arron Living Trust to L. & D. Farmer for \$1,100,000

3710 Oak Brook Court N. Louie to N. & V. Soni for \$1,150,000

7705 Oak Creek Court Anderson Living Trust to H. & C. Wang for \$1,265,000

4763 Orangewood Court J. Martinez to E. & L. Zazzeron for \$1,225,000

615 Orofino Court Ash Family Trust to J. & A. George for \$1,100,000

2103 Raven Road J. Chaudry to D. & L. Ferreira for \$1,500,000

129 Ray Street S. Arvig to C. & T. Icard for \$571,500

3666 Reflections Drive C. & T. Yerondopoulos to S. Habtezion for \$910,000

2267 Segundo Court Mccartney Living Trust to Topline Property Solutions LLC for \$350,000

4233 Sharab Court Muentz Trust to E. Sonsino for \$1,215,000

5170 Springdale Avenue J. & E. Suen to C. & C. Kempaiah for \$1,250,000

4091 Stanley Boulevard R. & H. Doshi to B. & L. Chhetri for \$815,000

1211 Summer Court Muise Family Trust to Blackman Trust for \$1,378,000

2290 Via Espada Toombs Trust to J. & S. Sepah for \$1,200,000

2890 Victoria Ridge Court P. Young to A. & M. Glassman for \$1,505,000

Livermore

1217 Aaron Street Lee Trust to C. & C. Beck for \$705,000

1500 Arroyo Road D. & S. Davis to Lyons Family Trust for \$1,312,500

1191 Bannock Street R. Wei to S. & T. Viseu for \$778,000

1835 Barcelona Street N. & R. Turley to M. Amini for \$792,500.00

2516 Bess Avenue A. & D. Barney to L. & D. Franco for \$1,600,000

789 Cardinal Drive Burton Family Trust to J. & L. White for \$692,000

1316 Carlton Place L. & J. Wojewski to E. & J. Gribben for \$1,260,000

3074 Chateau Way Branecki Family Trust to M. & R. Bisaha for \$1,370,000

2664 Cooper Circle S. & M. Clark to Ottoboni Trust for \$1,440,000

2435 Del Monte Street C. Payton to S. & N. Nye for \$670,000

131 Ganesha Common V. Kot to N. Yee for \$672,000

386 Garden Common S. & R. Wenning to D. Mittelberger for \$565,000

4236 Grove Court R. & F. Cordeiro to L. & R. Santos for \$1,260,000

3835 Harvard Way Petersen Living Trust to Corral Mh LLC for \$599,000

3938 Harvard Court H. Michelsen to R. & R. Morton for \$829,000

1193 Hillcrest Court Loewe Living Trust to N. & D. Olsen for \$695,000

503 Holmes Street Shawver Family Trust to M. & G. Murrieta for \$643,000

216 Junco Avenue Spilman Living Trust to H. & S. Barari for \$870,000

4101 Milton Way Brobst Family Trust to M. & R. Cruz for \$1,400,000

562 Morgan Common P. & D. Trogdon to L. Sena for \$570,000

5563 Oakmont Circle T. & A. Mccarrell to N. & V. Vazquez for \$830,000

1566 Olivina Avenue M. Betancur to P. & M. Lang for \$827,000

3045 Rivers Bend Circle R. Fiore to M. & P. Ibal for \$1,215,000

1574 Roselli Drive Wilson-Schrot Trust to R. & B. Williams for \$751,000

2891 Rutherford Court L. & W. Spence to A. & C. Just for \$1,585,000

2790 San Minete Drive L. & B. Groebner to J. & K. Lyster for \$1,300,000

2127 Shetland Road M. Toscano to Z. & T. Saifee for \$756,000

4996 Shirley Way K. & N. Sheranian to C. & K. Wada for \$1,030,000

730 William Drive Coleman Living Trust to G. & E. Roussos for \$760,000

2985 1st Street #1203 A. Syed to S. & J. Meza for \$600,000

See **HOME SALES** on Page 20



J. ROCKCLIFF LEADERSHIP IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL SOON BECOME SERENO GROUP.

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FALL IS THE NEW SPRING



PENDING

1808 Zenato Place, Ruby Hill
5 BD + loft, 5.5 BA, 5,643 SF on .46 acre
Main level office and guest suite
Offered at \$2,999,000



CONTINGENT

2329 Silver Oaks Lane, Pleasanton
4 BD, 4.5 BA, 4,106 SF on .46 acre
Stacking glass wall for indoor/outdoor living.
Offered at \$2,825,000



JUST LISTED

238 Wood Street, #704, Livermore
3 BD, 2.5 BA, 1,744 SF 3 story Townhome
2 car garage attached, Walk to downtown
Offered at \$700,000



COMING SOON

40901 Cruz Court, Fremont
4 BD, 2.5 BA, 1,904 SF on .15 acre
FULLY renovated in 2020
Offered at \$1,475,000



GLOBAL REAL ESTATE ADVISOR

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



HOME SALES

Continued from Page 19

6318 Almaden Way M. Gates to A. & M. Plowman for \$765,000

4233 Bellmawr Drive K. & J. Serrano to W. & R. Lopez for \$1,255,000

512 Bernal Avenue Navarro Trust to J. & M. Buffi for \$620,000

2969 Cabrillo Avenue Mangan Living Trust to C. & D. Osborne for \$735,000

837 Camden Common H. Haridas to K. & D. Mayer for \$681,000

630 Cedar Drive S. Stewart to M. Medaglia for \$808,000

465 Cedar Drive D. & H. Woodruff to S. & C. Cheney for \$897,000

5164 Charlotte Way C. Hall to L. & A. Elliot for \$976,500

2055 Charmont Court Green Leaf Properties LLC to S. & M. Kamal for \$2,100,000

3177 Chateau Way #207 P. Ram to R. Payne for \$355,000

457 Coleen Street Christine Trust to A. & A. Ashley for \$915,000

5721 Crestmont Avenue Gms Liberty LLC to V. & D. Craig for \$765,000

5536 Crestmont Avenue T. Patrone to A. & S. Afaneh for \$780,000

548 Curlew Road W. & J. Wiest to R. & A. Heminez for \$856,000

1235 De Paul Way S. & W. Sloboda to V. & J. Moth for \$960,000

5327 Desiree Avenue K. Watkins to M. & C. Satizabal for \$860,000

1005 Dublin Avenue M. & T. Burgdorf to R. & T. Nahapetian for \$965,000

1170 Farmington Way L. & N. Doko to R. & E. Nanna for \$1,230,000

244 Fennel Way Mikatarian Family Trust to T. & D. Buckner for \$798,000

5825 Flora Common Lucas Trust to N. Dyal for \$885,000

5877 Flora Common A. & G. Nair to J. & C. Hurd for \$912,000

314 Garden Common Kiescewski Trust to K. Pettis for \$585,000

1270 Gusty Loop #6 C. Chana to S. & D. Mithbavkar for \$700,000

1556 Hollyhock Street Rubay Trust to B. Urs for \$685,000

2265 Jeffrey Street L. & A. Nguyen to Bekele Living Trust for \$1,450,000

5421 Keeler Court Inderbitzen Family Trust to G. & J. Woodyard for \$1,500,500

735 Lido Drive B. Fields to M. McGill for \$980,000

5937 Linwood Common T. Matteri to A. & R. Hawkins for \$800,000

101 Misty Circle Appraisal Makers LLC to T. & J. Reid for \$800,000

589 Mulqueeney Street M. Rice to K. & J. Bernardez for \$680,000

1085 Murrieta Boulevard #324 L. Erickson to B. Gomez for \$350,000

1133 Nielsen Lane Bersie Trust to A. & T. Grenier for \$975,000

5622 Oakmont Circle P. & W. Olmo to K. & M. Garcia for \$478,000

736 North P Street P & J Builders LLC to C. & N. Carey for \$1,100,000

2157 Palomino Road B. Fraser to Preston Family Trust for \$839,000

454 Persimmon Common #5 A. & B. Lima to S. Fulmer for \$725,000

3385 Pestana Way R. & R. Compeau to K. & N. Hinson for \$711,000

6344 Pheasant Way M. Chan to P. & P. Aggarwal for \$950,000

757 Pine Street S. & J. Mcconnell to K. Goff for \$525,000

6179 Saint Andrews Way L. Price to S. & V. Malladi for \$726,500

897 Tranquility Circle #4 K. & E. Kotas to P. Gray for \$759,000

700 Tranquility Circle #3 J. Vongarvisch to G. & T. La for \$799,000

1110 Vienna Street Vargas Family Trust to X. & V. Wang for \$1,235,000

95 Windward Common #3 M. Mckinney to W. Smith for \$630,000

162 Zephyr Place #114 T. Whitaker to S. & S. Thakur for \$610,000

Sunol

1313 Kilkare Road Lipman Living Trust to N. & R. Singh for \$1,180,000

Source: California REsource



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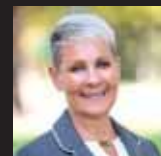
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806 SYCAMORE CREEK WAY, PLEASANTON



5 BD | 5 BA | 4,455 SF
Bridle Creek Neighborhood

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 Square Feet, Three Car Garage, Premium .35 Acre Lot, Private Rear Grounds with Solar Heated In-Ground Pool & Spa, New Interior & Exterior Paint, New Carpeting, Newer Perimeter Fencing, Premium Location-Enjoy Sycamore Creek Walking Trail. Walk To: Nearby Mission Hills Park, Main Street and Enjoy Downtown Amenities. Five Minutes to Castlewood Country Club, Commuter Friendly South Pleasanton Location. Attendance Area for Award Winning Schools! Don't Miss This One!

OFFERED AT \$2,395,000

6322 CORTE ESPERANZA, PLEASANTON



5 BD | 3 BA | 3,091 SF
Ponderosa-Country Fair II

Highly Upgraded Ponderosa Home in Quiet Court Location! Premium Lot with Professionally Landscaped Grounds, Private Rear Yard that Includes Pebble Tech Pool & Spa. Five Bedrooms, Downstairs Suite. Bonus Room (5th Bedroom Option), Approximately 3091 Square Feet, Three Fully Remodeled Bathrooms, Large Remodeled Gourmet Kitchen with Custom Cabinets, Wolfe & Subzero Stainless Steel Appliances, Center Island, Stone Countertops. Many Recent Upgrades Including Wood Flooring, Crown Moldings, 3 Car-Garage, Tile Roof. Great Central Location for Access to: BART, Stoneridge Mall, Downtown, Commute & Livermore Wineries!

OFFERED AT \$1,799,888

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1562 Foothill Road

4 BD - 5 BA - 4,708 + 800 Sq Ft Casita - 2+ Acres with Private Vineyard - 13 Car Garage/RV or Boat Storage

Nestled in West Pleasanton, this 4700+ Sq Ft single-story home quietly backs to old-growth Oak trees on over 2 acres. This custom estate is luxuriously appointed with designer glass walls, vaulted ceilings, walls of windows overlooking the stunning property, 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 grapevines are yours to harvest and perhaps even design your own label.

Additionally, this 2+ acre property 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



WALNUT GROVE Waterfront Property



17396 Grand Island Road 3 BD - 2 BA, 1,708 +/- 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

Real Estate, the 2020 Election, and You

In this year of surprises coming one after the other, and now as we prepare for election time, you may be wondering how the upcoming election could impact real estate activity. As you'll see below, there are several market variables and data indicating that **homebuying is still on the rise and will remain positive**.

For example:

- **Less people changing their plans** – In a recent survey, less than 22% of buyers and sellers said the upcoming election is impacting their plans to buy or sell. That number is actually *less than this time last year*, when it sat at 32%.

Changes in housing and location preferences as a result of the pandemic seem to be outweighing anything to do with

the election, which brings us to the next point.

- **Demand for space** – More people than ever are learning and working from home, facilitating the demand for more space.
- **Low rates make upgrading even more appealing** – The Fed still has rates at unprecedented lows, making buying and refinancing a hard bargain to pass up.
- **Historically, elections have minimal impact on activity** – Market analyses have looked at home sales in past presidential election years over the last 40 years. Sales typically dip 1.5% in December and bounce back by 1.5% in January.

5834 Corte Margarita - PENDING

3 BD - 2 BA, 1,882 +/- SqFt - 11,039 +/- SqFt Lot

This gorgeous Del Prado home received 20 offers within the first couple of days being on the market, and is about to make someone's dreams come true. This spacious lot boasts its own custom pizza oven, and is great for relaxing with family, as well as the perfect setting to entertain outdoors. With its quiet court location, desirable neighborhood, and proximity to neighborhood parks, award-winning schools, and all-things-Pleasanton, we can certainly see why this didn't last long.

Listed at \$1,300,000

PLEASANTON PENDING - 20 Offers Over Asking



DANVILLE

PENDING - Multiple Offers Over Asking



391 Glen Arms Drive - PENDING

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

This property, located near the heart of Danville near downtown, backs to a creek, mature trees, and a setting of utter tranquility. The spacious lot offers many options to expand or build a separate unit, creating your own dream home. A classic breezeway entry welcomes you with a lovely shade tree, a brick courtyard, and colorful landscaping. Hardwood floors grace the homes' bedrooms and formal dining area, and the living room has a private patio opening to the rear yard. The home offers dual pane, large picture windows, and well as central air, as well as a generous side yard access, detached garage, and premium lot.

Listed at \$1,315,000



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"Kris Moxley was amazing. ... We selected her as our listing agent and could not be more pleased with the result."

— Steve R. (Seller)

"Thank you Kris Moxley! Kris knows her business, and her experience and reputation give her a big home field advantage."

— Matt W. (Seller)

"Kris Moxley is the consummate Real Estate professional. ... She attended to all of the details and exceeded all of my expectations."

— Nancy B. (Seller)

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