

Pleasanton Weekly

‘But the poets still write...’

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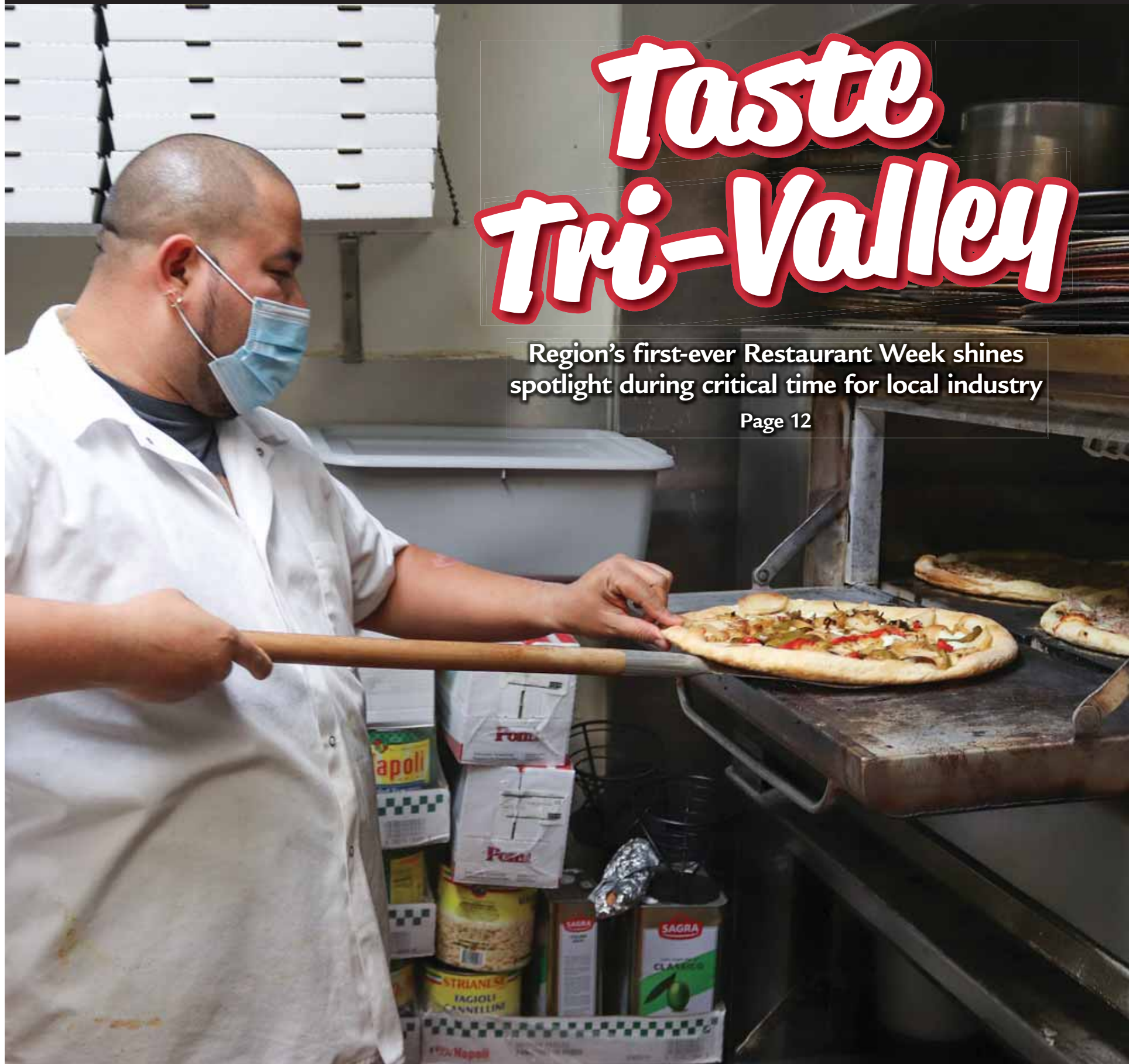
VOL. XXII, NUMBER 5 • FEBRUARY 26, 2021

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Taste Tri-Valley

Region’s first-ever Restaurant Week shines spotlight during critical time for local industry

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During a Heart Attack, Every Minute Counts



Know the warning signs:

- Chest discomfort, pain, or pressure that lasts for more than a few minutes, or that goes away and returns
- Upper body discomfort or pain, including in the arms, back, neck, jaw, or stomach
- Shortness of breath
- Lightheadedness, nausea, or vomiting
- Extreme fatigue
- Cold sweat

Chest pain is the most common symptom of a heart attack in men and women. Women are more likely to report some of the other common symptoms listed above. The hospital is still the safest place you can be in an emergency. Don't hesitate. Call 911.

Caring for your heart is essential, even during the pandemic. Make cardiovascular health a priority starting this Heart Month by exercising, eating a balanced diet, keeping up routine medical visits, and promptly addressing signs of illness. We are prepared to safely care for you.

Learn more about cardiovascular health at stanfordhealthcare.org/heartmonth



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VALLEY VIEWS



By **DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

Gotta be ghosts at O'Neill home

If you have never been to playwright Eugene O'Neill's home in the west hills of Danville, it should be at the top of your list of things to do after the pandemic. In my humble opinion.

O'Neill and his wife Carlotta Monterey built Tao House with money he received in 1936 for the Nobel Prize for Literature and they lived there from 1937-44. Those years proved extremely productive, resulting in "Long Day's Journey into Night" and four other significant works.

The house and its 14 remaining acres now comprise the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, and in normal times, visitors are shuttled for tours and plays from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley.

But for now, while the site is closed, poke around www.eugeneoneill.org, with its historical write-ups, links to plays, old photos and more. Its newest offering is "The Ghosts of Tao House," a video series being created by Eric Fraisher Hayes, artistic director for the Eugene O'Neill Foundation.

"A lot of people like ghosts, or the idea of ghosts," Hayes said. "I was intrigued by the notion that a ghost might lead someone down the path to the seriousness of what O'Neill says in his plays. I was looking for ways to get people interested in him."

Hayes' premise is that O'Neill's characters sprang from his imagination and lived with him at Tao House — those from past plays as well as those from works in progress — and their spirits well may linger.

"Eugene O'Neill was a haunted man, and perhaps Tao House is a haunted house," Hayes said.

He has been rehearsing and shooting the actors/ghosts onsite, one by one, at outside spots that highlight each particular storyline.

"I try to pick their brains and figure out where they're going with the character and what would be a good background," Hayes said.

I was tickled to learn that Hayes grew up in Danville and went to San Ramon Valley High, but at that point he was not familiar with O'Neill or Tao House. However, he was on the cross-country team, which took regular runs on the Las Trampas ridge.

"I knew there was a playwright's

home up there with a dead dog that had a grave," Hayes recalled.

Said "dead dog" was the O'Neills' beloved Blemie, a Dalmatian who has a tombstone on the site. In 2018, Hayes presented O'Neill's short play, "Hughie," in the Old Barn theater and, to fill out the program, dramatized "The Last Will and Testament of an Extremely Distinguished Dog," which O'Neill penned during the Dalmatian's last days.

Hayes earned an MFA in acting in Chicago, where he stayed for another eight years before moving back to Danville in 2004. He was artistic director for Role Players Ensemble from 2010-19, and in 2008 joined the board of directors of the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House.

Before joining the board, Hayes recalled, he read all 51 of O'Neill's plays, in order. During the pandemic he has re-read them, this time taking notes, and is currently working on a presentation called, "Eugene O'Neill: 51 Plays in 51 Minutes."

"I want to cover the whole canon from a director's perspective but it would be light and playful, too," Hayes said. "I love the seriousness of his plays but I also personally think he's very ironic."

Hayes drives to Tao House each day to his office in the Old Barn while the park rangers only appear periodically since the house is locked up and the site is closed to visitors.

"It's been a godsend during the pandemic, having this beautiful outdoor place to go," Hayes said.

The views of Mount Diablo to the east and the Las Trampas hills to the west are not only inspiring in themselves but add to his connection with the playwright, he noted, who enjoyed the same timeless panoramas.

The first in the series of "The Ghosts of Tao House" as well as an introductory video by Hayes are on the website now, and more of the five-minute ghost videos will follow.

And, when the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site reopens, be sure to go tour the home, enjoy the views — and perhaps visit with the ghosts in person. ■

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

About the Cover

Francisco Arana prepares a pizza at De La Torre's Trattoria in Pleasanton during the first weekend of Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week. Organized by Visit Tri-Valley, more than 40 Tri-Valley restaurants are participating in the promotional event that runs through this Sunday. Photo by Ryan J. Degan. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XXII, Number 5



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SALE PENDING ~ NEIGHBORHOOD RECORD HIGH SALE!



826 GRAY FOX CIRCLE, PLEASANTON

Modern Farmhouse tucked away in the hills of Pleasanton. Situated on a sprawling ¾ acre parcel with new shimmering pool. New \$150,000 Quartz kitchen with SubZero, Cove and Thermador appliances. See this amazing home at 826GrayFoxCircle.com. You won't believe what we sold this home for! **Offered at \$2,389,000**

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Wonderful single story home with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths and over 1,600 sq ft. Gourmet kitchen, beautiful wood floors and more. Covered cabana with radiant heat, travertine patio and liner stacked stone fireplace. We had over 100 showings and 13 offers. **Offered at \$1,200,000 but the sellers accepted an offer far above their expectations.**

COMING SOON IN PLEASANTON!



Beautiful executive home in Vineyard Hills, 4 bedrooms plus a den. Beautiful granite kitchen, expansive family room. Bonus room off garage. Rare ¾ acre parcel with covered arbor, sparkling pool, garden and so much more. Stunning views. Walk to regional park trails.

JUST SOLD ~ \$1,560,000 ~ \$210,000 OVER ASKING



4212 CABERNET COURT, PLEASANTON

Enchanting home near historic downtown Pleasanton. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Stunning granite kitchen with rich custom cabinetry. Open concept great room and kitchen. Beautifully remodeled throughout. Backyard with firepit & bocce ball court.

SALE PENDING ~ MULTIPLE OFFERS



2115 Tanager Court, Pleasanton

A very special home on almost a ¼ acre parcel. The main home is 5 bedrooms and 2 baths. There also a 1,200 sq ft. in-law unit with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths. Fabulous backyard with a pool, patio, garden and lawn area. **\$1,778,000**

JUST SOLD! MULTIPLE OFFERS



3745 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton

Nostalgic charm throughout this beautiful Victorian farmhouse style home. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and over 2,100 sq ft. **Sold for \$1,315,000**

JUST SOLD ~ \$1,330,000



6275 Roslin Court, Pleasanton

Beautiful Val Vista home. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths and over 2,200 sq ft.

COMING SOON IN PLEASANTON VALLEY!



Pretty one level home with a charming front porch. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, granite kitchen and lovely backyard. **Priced in the low \$1,300,000's**

How do you communicate friendliness and approachability when your smile is covered by a mask?



Christina Rice
Realtor

When I pass people, I usually wave and will often comment on something about them — their cute dogs or stylish clothes, or even just how fortunate we all are to be walking comfortably outdoors in February.



David Rice
Compensation manager

When I smile, my whole face smiles, so even behind the mask, people can usually tell that I'm friendly and approachable. Plus, I talk to everyone I see, which makes it pretty apparent, pretty quickly, that I'm friendly and approachable.



Jake Weden
General manager

I tend to nod my head a lot and use other forms of body language to communicate that I'm friendly and not a threat. I also wave my hands and make eye contact more than usual, just to eliminate any possibility that someone might think I'm unapproachable and/or unfriendly.



Dara Hogue
Pediatrician

Well, I try to smile with my eyes a lot, which of course my "laugh lines" regret. Also, since I work with children, the tone of my voice is very important. I try to communicate with my voice that I'm a friend, and here to help.



Sherrie Rager and Rita Lonergan
Addiction specialist. Grandma

We're pretty good at communicating friendliness and approachability with our eyes and voices. And also with exaggerated body language.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. Print subscriptions for businesses or residents of other communities are \$60 per year or \$100 for two years. Go to PleasantonWeekly.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ©2021 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

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Some of the reasons we're the best-read news source in the Tri-Valley.



Coverage of Youth and Education

Series on Amador Valley High School transcript probe and fallout by Jeremy Walsh and Julia Baum

Breaking News

"PUSD transcripts: Investigator finds two improper alterations, no systemic problem" by Jeremy Walsh

Editorial Comments

"Livermore downtown referendum raises serious questions" by Gina Channell

"Did a bunny book really lead to superintendent's ouster?" by Gina Channell

"District-based elections do not make sense here" by Gina Channell

Profile Story

"Amazing Voyage" by Jeb Bing

Feature Story

"The gentle giants of Mount Diablo" by Ryan J. Degan



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DIGEST

Touchdown on Isabel

An airplane with engine trouble landed on Isabel Avenue and collided with a vehicle, resulting in no injuries but causing a significant road closure early Tuesday evening, according to Livermore police.

The collision occurred when the plane touched down on Isabel Avenue/Highway 84, blocks away from the Livermore Municipal Airport, at 5:10 p.m. Tuesday.

The roadway was closed for 3-1/2 hours between East Airway Boulevard and Portola Avenue for the federal investigation — the results of which are still pending.

State of the City

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce is hosting the annual State of the City address via a virtual event at noon March 9 featuring first-year Mayor Karla Brown.

This will be the first time for Brown, who earned election as mayor in November after two terms on the City Council, to deliver the annual speech from the mayor that typically updates on the city's fiscal situation, public safety, and key public and private projects from the past year, as well as a look at initiatives for the year ahead.

The virtual event is a collaboration between the city government and the chamber, along with Tri-Valley TV as production partner. Online registration in advance is required at www.pleasanton.org; \$25 per attendee through this Sunday (Feb. 28) and then \$35 beginning on Monday.

A Zoom link will be sent to registrants prior to the event.

Golden Sneaker Contest

Nearly 100 schools in Alameda County are set to participate next Monday through Friday in the 2021 Virtual Golden Sneaker Contest, an Alameda County Transportation Commission Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) event.

Students, parents, teachers and school administrators are encouraged to join in from their own homes and neighborhoods by digitally tracking their travel activity throughout the weeklong contest.

Typically held in person, this year's program will take place in areas accessible to each student to ensure safe participation while maintaining social distancing best practices amid the pandemic and school closures.

Acceptable modes of transport include walking, rolling, bikes, scooters, skateboarding, transit use and use of supportive mobility devices. Indoor physical activity like yoga or jumping jacks will also count this year.

To learn more, visit alamedacountysr2s.org. ■

PUSD board votes to reopen schools for youngest students next Thursday

Families can continue with remote learning, if desired amid pandemic

By JULIA BAUM

Nearly one year after the COVID-19 pandemic forced its closure, the Board of Trustees unanimously voted to have students return to Pleasanton Unified School District for in-person instruction starting next week.

Following an extensive discussion and public hearing at a special meeting on Feb. 18, the trustees approved reopening for students in pre-K to grade 2 next Thursday (March 4), followed by grades 3 through 5 on March 8. Families will still have the option to continue in remote

learning, as required by state law.

"We're almost approaching a year for all of our students being remote," Trustee Kelly Mokashi said shortly before voting. "I'm a person that holds onto dates and I was really hoping we would not make the one-year anniversary of our children being remote. If we accept this motion, it's going to be a huge celebration for our children."

Assuming that Alameda County has been in the red tier of the state COVID-19 case monitoring system for five days, middle and high school students would return on March 11.

Superintendent David Haglund said, "I don't anticipate changing those dates unless we're forced to push it further out because we haven't got to (the red tier)."

New state guidance allows elementary schools to reopen while the county is in the purple tier, as long as the case rate is less than 25 per 100,000 people, but secondary schools must remain closed to in-person instruction while in the purple.

As of Wednesday morning, the average adjusted case rate was 9.5 per 100,000, according to the Alameda

County Public Health Department website. The county was still in the purple tier but case data has been recently trending downward.

In a statement last Friday, Haglund said the district is "encouraged by the continued downward trend in COVID-19 cases in our county."

"Our ability to welcome back more students to our schools and classrooms continues to depend on our collective efforts to remain vigilant in mask wearing, washing of hands and physical distancing," Haglund said.

See **SCHOOLS** on Page 9



JULIA BAUM

Parents, teachers and students rallied on Tuesday for Dublin Unified School District to protest the lack of funds (estimated at \$184 million) to complete several major facilities projects.

Families, teachers rally to continue upgrades on elementary schools

DUSD plans audit to investigate \$184M budget shortfall

By JULIA BAUM

Dublin Unified School District parents, teachers and students rallied this week, holding up handmade signs while remaining socially distanced to urge the Board of Trustees to continue with facilities upgrades on two elementary schools, in the face of a \$184 million budget shortfall.

The district's revelation at the Feb. 9 board meeting that it was short \$184 million needed to overhaul Murray and Dublin elementary schools, as well as the new Emerald High School currently under construction, compelled more than 30 people to gather

in front of Murray on Tuesday to draw attention to the matter.

Carrying signs saying "No more roof leaks," "We deserve more," and "Trustees: keep your promises," parents like Kristin Speck told the Weekly that while a new high school is needed, they want to ensure the district equally prioritizes repairing its aging campuses.

Dublin Elementary needs another \$10 million from Measure J revenue to continue design work on overhauling its existing buildings and add new structures, while Murray Elementary has prefabricated classrooms waiting to be erected as part of the first phase

of renovations. The \$290 million bond Measure J was approved by voters last March.

At the Feb. 9 board meeting, which lasted nine hours, the board tied 2-2 — with Trustee Catherine Kuo abstaining — on allocating an additional \$10 million for Dublin Elementary and \$15 million for Murray Elementary to continue the projects. For now, currently approved and funded work will proceed including the first phases of Murray and Emerald, and for Dublin Elementary, but without any additional

See **UPGRADES** on Page 10

Pedestrian killed in Johnson collision

Unclear why Dublin man was in roadway; driver cooperating

By JEREMY WALSH

A man died after being struck by a car while walking on Johnson Drive last Friday evening, according to Pleasanton police.

The pedestrian was identified as Michael B. Watson, 53, of Dublin, according to the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau.

The situation unfolded around 7:40 p.m. Friday when a sedan traveling southbound on Johnson Drive, near the traffic light intersection at Owens Drive, collided with a pedestrian who was walking in the roadway, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Robert Shuffield.

The driver immediately called 9-1-1 to report the collision, remained at the scene and fully cooperated with investigators, according to police.

The pedestrian — later identified as Watson — was treated by paramedics and then transported to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley, where he died from his injuries, according to the sergeant.

Shuffield said the Pleasanton Police Department's traffic unit continues to investigate the case. Officers have not yet determined whether alcohol or drugs were a factor in the collision.

See **COLLISION** on Page 10

Company unveils habitat conservation plan for solar project

Proposal in Livermore includes pursuit of incidental take permits, conservation easement offsite

By JEREMY WALSH

The developer behind the proposed Aramis solar energy plant currently under appeal with the county government has announced plans to seek voluntary state and federal permits as part of a new conservation strategy to address potential wildlife impacts of the project in northern Livermore.

Unveiled on Tuesday, Intersect Power's habitat conservation plan includes pursuing voluntary incidental take permit coverage from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife as well as establishing a conservation easement in an offsite location to make up for possible short-term loss of marginal habitat during construction.

"We're pleased to be able to offer this solution to concerned members of the community and the resource agencies," Marisa Mitchell, principal and head of environmental and permitting for Intersect Power, told the Weekly. "We hope it will encourage those in critique of the project to change their positions."

While the company stands behind the veracity of the environmental impact report and associated mitigation measures prepared for project, the new move aims to serve as an additional step in line with its "very conservative approach" toward protecting biodiversity long-term at the project site, according to Mitchell.

Potential environmental impacts

have been among the public criticisms lodged by certain citizen and conservation groups over the 410-acre solar plant and energy storage facility proposed in unincorporated Livermore about two miles north of the city limits.

After receiving approval from East County Board of Zoning Adjustments in November, the Aramis project generated four appeals — separate challenges from advocacy groups Save North Livermore Valley, Friends of Livermore and Friends of Open Space & Vineyards, in addition to an appeal from Intersect Power over multiple zoning board-imposed conditions of approval.

Representatives from Save North Livermore Valley, a coalition of farmers, ranchers and environmentalists, told the Weekly on Wednesday that they view the new conservation plan as a concession by Intersect Power that demonstrates the project's potential harm to threatened species and habitat loss.

"Intersect's admission that it will respect the law does not change the conclusion of the company's own environmental impact report, which states that the project will impose significant and unavoidable environmental impacts on North Livermore," said Robert Selna an attorney representing the coalition.

The appeal hearings, which have twice been pushed out, are currently on the docket for the Alameda County Board of

Supervisors meeting next Thursday (March 4).

But in that time, Intersect Power was hit with a comment letter from the USFWS concluding that the solar project would be "likely to result in a take of the federally listed California red-legged frog, Central California tiger salamander and San Joaquin kit fox."

Though Intersect Power contends "no protected species were detected" during already completed biological surveys of the project site while also arguing their renewable energy project could have the potential to actually improve habitat quality for many species, the company will pursue voluntary incidental take permit coverage "out of an abundance of caution," Mitchell wrote in a letter to Alameda County Community Development Agency on Monday.

"In accordance with the East Alameda County Conservation Strategy, we propose to permanently protect high-quality frog and salamander habitat under a conservation easement in an off-site location to compensate for the temporary loss of marginal habitat at the Aramis site during project construction," Mitchell told the county.

"We hope that our efforts to create and implement a habitat conservation plan in collaboration with the trustee agencies will further serve to ensure a broad range of public support for the

Aramis Renewable Energy Project," she added.

The project location, and its potential impact on biological resources including wildlife, are among the reasons the three outside appellants have publicly opposed the project along with environmental groups such as Save Mount Diablo, the Alameda Creek Alliance and Ohlone Audubon Society.

"Intersect has made a reluctant and long overdue admission that, if their project goes forward, the company must follow the law and compensate for harming threatened species and removing their habitat. It is unfortunate that it took Intersect so long to concede that the company would simply follow the law," said Karen Swaim, a local biologist and Save North Livermore Valley supporter who has studied the Aramis project proposal.

"Intersect's turnaround shows the important role that wildlife agencies — and local volunteer experts like myself — play in keeping companies honest," Swaim added on Wednesday. "Had watchdogs not sounded the alarm about the proposed project's serious environmental damage, the company would not have compensated for the loss of important, threatened native Californian species and their habitats."

Intersect Power officials, as well as supporters such as the local Sierra Club chapter, argue that the location and positioning

were carefully chosen with habitat protection in mind.

"The Aramis project site was selected on its particular plot of land because of its low potential for harm to sensitive species and its high potential for local benefits," Mitchell said.

"There is no potential breeding habitat for California red-legged frog or California tiger salamander on the Aramis project site, and the comprehensive surveys did not detect any frog or salamander individuals. San Joaquin kit foxes also are not present at the site, and haven't been seen in Alameda County for decades," she added.

The new permits and conservation measures would not result in higher customer rates once the solar facility is online, according to Mitchell.

She added that the permit processes — six to nine months for the state, 12 to 18 months for the federal — are not expected to delay the start of construction, which was estimated for 18 to 19 months after final county approval.

That timeline could become clearer after the March 4 hearing before the Alameda County supervisors.

"We're looking forward to a robust discussion with members of the Board of Supervisors, and we're expecting spirited participation from members of the community," Mitchell said looking ahead to next week's hearing. ■

Ace Hardware coming to vacant storefront in Livermore

Remodeling underway at old Orchard Supply site; soft-opening planned for April

By CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore will again have a midsize hardware store in town as a new Ace Hardware location is set to open this spring, replacing the Orchard Supply that closed in 2018 and has remained empty until now.

Renovation of the building located at 1450 First St. is currently underway with a soft-opening set for April 16, according to the store's general manager Eric Evensen, who also managed the store when it was Orchard Supply.

Kansas-based company Westlake Ace Hardware has been expanding throughout California since 2019, opening 12 stores in the state formerly occupied by Orchard Supply in Chico, Fresno, La Crescenta, Mountain View, Pinole, South Pasadena, Thousand Oaks, Turlock, Van Nuys, West Los Angeles, Woodland and now Livermore.

Evensen, who has been running the Pinole Ace location since Orchard Supply closed, said that

returning to Livermore feels like a full circle moment.

"When I closed this building down, I knew there were some things going on behind the scenes — some spinoff companies and so on — and I was kind of like General (Douglas) MacArthur saying, 'I shall return!' But it was tough closing this building down with a great crew, great community, great town, very well received, very well liked by the town, so it hurt — especially after 32 years with the company — but it hurt this being my last store," he said.

The company is planning to hire about 50 employees from the local area to join their team, according to Evensen.

"We've been an essential business through the pandemic and I know Livermore has been lacking a midsize hardware store where we put service in front of everything," he said. "It's going to be great to be able to service the public for essential needs during the pandemic and also put some

people to work."

In addition to traditional hardware products like fasteners, tools, plumbing and electrical supplies, the 31,961-square-foot Livermore Ace Hardware will feature "store-in-a-store" departments, including garden center, backyard barbecue, outdoor power equipment, tool shop, paint studio, pet supply and kitchen essentials.

The inside of the building may be reminiscent of its former occupant as the main layout will be similar but with a brand-new color scheme and decor. "(Customers) will feel at home again and they will like what they see," Evensen said, adding that he is looking forward to servicing the Livermore community again and giving people an alternative to Lowe's and Home Depot for their hardware needs.

A larger grand-opening event is being planned for mid-May where shoppers can expect sales, raffle prizes and other offerings.

"We are excited to continue our



CIERRA BAILEY

Exterior and interior work continues at the empty storefront on First Street in Livermore that will soon be home to a new Ace Hardware.

expansion in California and look forward to becoming a supportive, active and helpful part of the Livermore community," Westlake Ace Hardware President and CEO Joe Jeffries said in a statement announcing the new store. "Most

of all, we are excited to show our new neighbors how we live the 'Ace Helpful Promise' every day by delivering reliable service, helpful advice and products to help them get their projects done right." ■

Pleasanton council confirms ban on new two-story ADUs

Also: Scheduled discussion on state housing legislation gets postponed

By JULIA BAUM

In a repeat of an initial decision last month, the Pleasanton City Council voted 4-1 on Feb. 16 to support a citywide prohibition on the construction of new two-story accessory dwelling units (ADUs) along with amending the city's master fee application process.

The city will no longer collect impact fees for ADUs up to 749 square feet, though reduced impact fees for larger ADUs will still be received, as required by state law. Existing ADUs will be grandfathered and are not subject to the amendment, according to staff.

New state law that went into effect on Jan. 1 requires California cities to approve new detached ADUs with only a building permit that does not impose any standards other than a maximum 800 square feet, 16-foot height limit and 4-foot setbacks.

The new legislation also allows

local municipalities to decide whether to allow two-story units, which the council voted against in an effort to retain more local control over increasing housing density, with Councilmember Jack Balch as the sole dissenter as the proposed ordinance was brought back for council review on Feb. 16.

The ordinance approaches the ban based on height, so it applies to ADUs that are two stories on their own as well as those on the second story of an existing home.

As he did the month before, Balch objected citing the Walnut Hills neighborhood as an example of how the units were previously allowed and wondered why the city now "will not allow them to build an ADU."

Reminiscent of last month's council discussion, Mayor Karla Brown said, "I've seen many good units over a garage, and I've seen some

really bad ones," and countered that allowing second-story ADUs would unfairly impact neighbors.

"If I buy a house, and it's next to a home that does not have a unit over the garage, and with minimum ministerial approval, all of a sudden, I have something that blocks my view of the mountains, and I have no say about it," Brown said. "It changes my property values and my enjoyment of my home, so I just can't support that."

Balch replied that curtailing a homeowner's ability to build an ADU on a home with preapproval to build the unit would lower its value. He also took exception with reducing previously allowed units up to 1,200 square feet, based on the number of bedrooms.

The city has allowed one-bedroom ADUs up to 850 square feet and a maximum of 1,200 for two-bedroom ADUs for several decades,

but the council reduced that limit to 1,000 square feet.

"For 20 years we've had it, and now we're choosing to dial back," Balch said, and attempted unsuccessfully that evening to "recommend an unfriendly amendment to include the 1,200 square feet instead of the 850 and 1,000 (square feet)" limit.

Councilmember Valerie Arkin opposed the idea, which would have restricted any design review on the 1,200-square-foot allowance, as well as the height of the unit.

"That's a reason why I'm against that. 1,200 square feet is quite a bit more," Arkin said.

While "affordable housing is what we really want to see happen in town," Arkin said "we start losing some of the affordability piece of it, the bigger we go."

"There's a likelihood that we're not going to have affordability with an ADU that's 1,200 square feet,"

Arkin said. "That's an additional reason I would not want to support that."

The council also voted to require owner-occupancy of ADU property after the state-mandated five-year period expires, though Balch said "it's unknown for sure" what will happen after.

"At this time, it would revert back to what the city's standard is without legislative action by the state ... we don't know," Balch said.

A related hearing scheduled for Feb. 16 concerning local density and development was continued to next month. The council was originally set to discuss and possibly vote on a resolution expressing city support for several state legislative frameworks that seek to strengthen local control over local zoning and housing issues, as well as the California Cities for Local Control Coalition's (CCLC) state-level lobbying efforts. ■

Bill aims to better address mental emergency calls

Dial 9-8-8: Legislation 'takes a monumental step forward' in crisis response, Bauer-Kahan says

By JULIA BAUM

Californians reporting a mental health crisis would be connected with trained counselors instead of police dispatch through a new phone hotline under proposed legislation introduced last week by Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda).

Known also as the "Miles Hall Lifeline Act," Assembly Bill 988 would require 9-1-1 calls reporting a mental health crisis to be transferred to 9-8-8, the new national 988 Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Hotline that was created last

year by the federal government and which must be launched in all states by July 2022. Operators for both lines must also have the capacity for coordinating if emergency services are needed.

In a statement on Feb. 18, Bauer-Kahan said the bill "takes a monumental step forward in addressing these systemic inequities in our mental health system by decriminalizing our response to mental health, dismantling a major source of systemic injustice and addressing a major driver of homelessness."

According to the Tri-Valley

legislator, calls to suicide prevention hotlines are "skyrocketing" during the pandemic — as much as 8,000% at one Los Angeles-based call center. Bauer-Kahan stated that AB 988 "will ensure the state is prepared to answer the calls of all Californians in need."

"The current system relies on law enforcement and confinement and puts people suffering from mental illness through an expensive and traumatizing revolving-door as they shuttle between jails, emergency rooms, and the street," Bauer-Kahan said. "A comprehensive crisis

response system can help prevent these tragedies, save money, and increase access to the right kind of care."

Bauer-Kahan introduced AB 988 in partnership with Contra Costa County, NAMI of Contra Costa County, the Kennedy Forum, Miles Hall Foundation and the Steinberg Institute, a mental health organization founded by bill supporter and Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg, who called it "time to provide a consistent public health response to a public health crisis."

"Police officers are not mental health experts," Steinberg said. "My city and other cities in California are appropriately working to deploy social workers and trained crisis intervention experts for the thousands of calls that don't require a police officer. This change is good for the community and good for the police officers themselves."

Jointly authored by Marc Berman

(D-Menlo Park), David Chiu (D-San Francisco), Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton), and Philip Ting (D-San Francisco); and co-authored by more than a dozen other legislators, the bill is named for Miles Hall, a 23-year-old Black man who was shot and killed by officers while experiencing a mental health crisis in Walnut Creek two years ago.

"There are too many stories like that of Miles. We must make significant changes in how we respond to those suffering from a mental health crisis," Bauer-Kahan said.

Hall's mother, Taun, has publicly supported the bill, stating "nothing's going to bring Miles back" and that "he had a life and he had a future and that was all taken away in a minute."

"But it gives us comfort to know that a bill like this might help save other children and spare other families this anguish," Taun Hall said. ■

Dog dies in residential fire

Apartment unit severely damaged in Dublin

By JEREMY WALSH

An apartment unit was seriously damaged after catching fire in Dublin on Monday morning, displacing a family and killing their pet dog, according to the Alameda County Fire Department.

The blaze broke out around 10:30 a.m. in a second-story unit in the Amador Lakes apartment complex on South Lake Drive, off Stagecoach Road in northern Dublin, according to ACFD.

"Upon arrival, flames were visible from the front window. Crews were able to knock down the fire and prevent extension to neighboring units," ACFD officials said on social media.

No residents or firefighters were injured during the fire, but the family's dog died as a result of smoke inhalation, according to

ACFD. The unit sustained serious interior damage, displacing the two residents, and a Dublin city building official was called out to

determine the status of the home going forward.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation. ■



Firefighters stage after gaining control of the apartment fire in Dublin on Monday morning.

PUBLIC NOTICE

AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to construct a new telecommunications tower facility located near 8651 Camino Tassajara, Pleasanton, Contra Costa County, CA 94588. The new facility will consist of an 85-foot (overall height) mono-eucalyptus telecommunications tower. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project 6121000628 - MPH EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, mhouston@ebiconsulting.com or via telephone at (504) 458-4444.

East Bay Holocaust Education Center aims to honor and enlighten

Virtual exhibits, creative programs teach Tri-Valley residents important history lessons

By JULIA BAUM

With an upcoming art exhibition, multimedia contest for students and plans for a virtual play this summer, the newly formed East Bay Holocaust Education Center (EBHEC) in Pleasanton is using creative programs and outlets to teach Tri-Valley residents about the history and lessons from the Holocaust, as well as honor its victims.

"It's meant to share the lessons of the Holocaust, and there are a lot of lessons to be learned with regard to not just genocide of the Jewish people but also other genocides," EBHEC founder and president Larry Lagin told the Weekly.

A retired scientist turned recreational painter residing in Livermore, Lagin took up art at UC Berkeley about seven years ago. As part of the program, Lagin had to assemble a portfolio and based his on the Holocaust. Starting with two paintings, the series eventually grew to around 20 pieces, which he subsequently showed at Berkeley, followed by a Holocaust survivor event at the Chabad Center of the Tri-Valley in 2018.

Simultaneously, Lagin also founded the EBHEC with Chabad Center's Rabbi Raleigh Resnick after "we decided the East Bay needs a Holocaust center," Lagin said.

In a statement, Resnick said, "We are committed to preserving the memory of this horrific event by providing educational programs



East Bay Holocaust Education Center president and founder Larry Lagin painted this portrait as part of the Holocaust Memorial Exhibit, which is now online.

for the region. We view EBHEC as a vehicle to educate people of all backgrounds about the Holocaust and speak for the six million who cannot speak for themselves."

Wanting to enhance his exhibit with multimedia, Lagin reached out to the USC Shoah Foundation in Southern California and received seven video clips to use. With support from Resnick, Lagin began taking the exhibit to local high schools including Amador Valley and Granada, as well as the California School for the Deaf in Fremont.

There were originally plans to also visit Foothill, Dublin,

Livermore and Dougherty Valley high schools. "Basically we were trying to cover a lot of the high schools in the Tri-Valley, but then the pandemic struck," Lagin said.

The pandemic forced EBHEC to shift gears but the center has adjusted and has been preparing for an online training session this week, in advance of EBHEC's Holocaust Memorial Exhibit debuting online next month. The exhibit features artwork by Lagin and video recorded survivor testimonies provided by the Shoah Foundation.

"One of the things that I learned developing this art series, and it

was very difficult to do emotionally, was that out of the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, 1.5 million were children," Lagin said.

Headquartered for now at the Chabad Center in Pleasanton, Lagin said EBHEC's current space is a squeeze but that he has a vision for how the center might grow over time.

"We'll be establishing the beginning of next year, a library there and a resource center, and we will also try to have a training center for some of the programs that we're going to be doing," Lagin said. "We had talked about possibly having another room that was devoted to an exhibit there but we're still talking about that."

The center wants to develop its programs during the next four to five years, as well as partner with Holocaust centers around the world to bring some of their programs to the East Bay. Eventually they plan on developing a five-year campaign to build a home of their own, but "the most important thing right now is getting the programs up and running," Lagin added.

At the moment, EBHEC is sticking to its online format with the Holocaust Memorial Exhibit, as well as streaming two "student-friendly" films in partnership with the East Bay International Jewish Film Festival in April.

They are also partnering with

Livermore Shakespeare Festival to present a Holocaust-based play this summer, and plan to eventually produce live shows each year.

In an effort to "really get this off the ground," the Holocaust Art, Writing and Video Contest, which includes \$3,000 in prizes, will open for entries next week. From Monday through April 1, all high school students in the East Bay can submit entries in any of the three categories (art, writing, and video) that addresses the question: "Why is it important to remember the Holocaust?"

Lagin had his own answer: "By learning the lessons of the Holocaust, you can impress upon people that genocide can happen at any time, at any place and to anyone, and so we want to teach the lessons so that other events like this can be prevented."

"Also, I would say that it's very important now ... the Holocaust survivors, they're dwindling, they're dying off. And I would think that within the next 10, 15 years, there might not be any left," Lagin said. "Now is a very important time to get their voices out, to allow them to tell their stories."

To learn more about the East Bay Holocaust Education Center, including the exhibit and contest, visit www.ebhec.org. For more information about the East Bay Jewish Film Festival, visit www.eastbayjewishfilm.org. ■

State allows more outdoor sports to resume

Alameda County qualifies based on COVID-19 case rate

More outdoor youth sports will soon be allowed to resume in California counties that meet a threshold for coronavirus cases, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced last week.

Outdoor team sports like football and baseball will be allowed to resume as early as today in some areas, Newsom said during a briefing in Hayward on the pandemic. Schedules for high schools in Pleasanton and the East Bay Athletic League are still pending.

While indoor team sports competitions are still prohibited, outdoor youth sports will be permitted in counties that have an average of fewer than 14 new cases per day per 100,000 residents.

"We've been happy to see more of our student-athletes active as our programs are able to start back up according to guidance from the California Interscholastic Federation," Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent David Haglund told the

Weekly on Tuesday.

"Parents have expressed joy and excitement of dropping students off for practice, as we expand our sports camps in collaboration with the EBAL and our coaches to provide more opportunities," he added. "As the CIF guidance is tied to our state and county's color-tiered system, we encourage our community to continue to help drive our COVID-19 numbers down by wearing masks and practicing safe social distancing."

As of last week, 27 counties across the state met that threshold, including Alameda, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Sonoma counties.

"The fact that kids are not even in school and don't even have the ability to organize around sports, it's impacting them in profound and significant and, in many cases, deleterious ways," Newsom said.

While coronavirus cases are trending down statewide,

Newsom noted that the state's test positivity rate, now at 3.1%, was at 9.9% just 30 days ago.

Given the potential for another outbreak before the state can achieve vaccination-induced herd immunity, Newsom said student-athletes in some contact sports like football will be subject to regular testing, which will be subsidized by the state.

"We are confident that if we can resume, it will only help enliven the capacity of these kids to feel more engaged, feel more alive," Newsom said.

Let Them Play CA, a group of youth sports coaches and student athletes across the state that have advocated for sports to resume, lauded Newsom and state health officials for lifting the ban.

"From the moment the governor called us to say he would work with us to help get sports back for kids, it has been a methodical march to get to this wonderful place," Let Them Play CA said in a joint statement with

the Golden State High School Football Coaches Community.

"It has not been easy; there were many bumps along the way, but good people kept working together to create a positive outcome for our most 'essential business' — our kids."

One member of the coaches' group, De La Salle head football coach Justin Alumbaugh, said his involvement grew out of the despair he and Serra High School football coach Patrick Walsh felt in December when their players were only able to participate in practices and workouts.

"We were trying to do as much as we possibly could to keep them busy, frankly, not necessarily preparing them for a football season," Alumbaugh said during a virtual news conference. "We felt hopeless."

Alumbaugh, also a teacher at De La Salle, said when his students heard last Friday morning that sports would be resuming, he hadn't seen "that many smiles

in 11-1/2 months."

The resumption of games is not expected to be hampered by potential rises in new cases, according to Walsh, who said it will operate similar to the way schools that have opened for in-person classes were allowed to remain open despite the state's winter surge.

Assuming their schedules are not interrupted, prep football teams are expected to play roughly a half-dozen games depending on the high school sports section in which they play.

Despite criticism of high school sports resuming before the state has a concrete plan to reopen schools, Alumbaugh argued that kids shouldn't continue being penalized for something that's out of their control.

"We've punished kids enough," he said. "And today, a lot of that punishment stopped." ■

—Story by Bay City News Service.
Weekly editor Jeremy Walsh contributed localized information.

Sunflower Hill advances on new Lafayette housing project

Slated to be nonprofit's second community for adults with developmental disabilities

By JEREMY WALSH

Building on the success of its recent residential community in Pleasanton, Tri-Valley nonprofit Sunflower Hill this week announced that its second affordable housing complex for adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities has been approved for construction in downtown Lafayette.

Following the model established with Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch near downtown Pleasanton, the new, 38-unit Sunflower Hill at Lafayette Lane is being built as part of a larger residential development that also includes 128 market-rate, for-sale homes.

"We've seen with the number of applications received for Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch, that the need for affordable, independent living housing options for people with developmental disabilities is great," Edie Nehls, executive director at Sunflower Hill, told the



WARD-YOUNG ARCHITECTS

Rendering shows design concept for Sunflower Hill at Lafayette Lane housing project for adults with special needs.

Weekly on Tuesday.

"Unfortunately, there are just not enough affordable housing options available. That's why we're very excited to be co-developing Sunflower Hill at Lafayette Lane to be able to offer a new, affordable independent living community for people with developmental

disabilities," she said.

Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch, a first-of-its-kind affordable housing community for adults with developmental disabilities, opened last year and received nearly 300 applications for its 30 available housing units, demonstrating the need for such residential options

throughout the region, Nehls said.

For its next project, Sunflower Hill is partnering with Pacific West Communities, Inc., Miramar Capital, and Novin Development Corporation as part of the redevelopment of the Corporate Terraces mixed-use property at Mt. Diablo Boulevard and First Street in Lafayette.

Sunflower Hill at Lafayette Lane, which earned approval from the Lafayette City Council late last month, will include 38 affordable rental units along with person-centered programs and activities for its residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities as well as the greater community, according to Nehls.

The property is situated near the library and grocery stores, as well as a half mile from the BART station and walking distance to Plaza Park and the entire downtown area.

"I really appreciate the thought

and consideration that's gone into making this a very usable space for the community," Councilmember Gina Dawson said in a statement.

"I am thrilled that Sunflower Hill has chosen Lafayette as the site for its next community," added City Manager Niroop Srivatsa. "We welcome you and look forward to working together to build homes for our neighbors, family members and friends with developmental disabilities."

Construction is expected to begin in 2023, with a tentative completion date of 2026. Details on the application process and resident eligibility are not yet available. To track the status, visit sunflowerhill.org.

"We know that residential communities for individuals with developmental disabilities are critical for so many Californians, and are excited to move forward on this project," Nehls said. ■

SCHOOLS

Continued from Page 5

"There will undoubtedly be bumps in the road and room for improvement, as we continue to align our campuses to state and county health department guidelines," Haglund added.

The public hearing on Feb. 18 yielded an assortment of opinions from community members, with several asking the board to consider certain timelines, particularly for teachers receiving COVID-19 vaccines.

'I believe that staff's recommendation is a measured recommendation, and I wholeheartedly support it.'

Joan Laursen,
PUSD board president

Cora De Costa, who teaches biology at Amador Valley High School, said she was "fortunate enough to receive my first vaccination against COVID-19" last week, and asked the board to delay reopening, noting that reported side effects from the vaccine such as fever conflict with the district's current COVID-19 guidelines.

"Being that we cannot return to campus if we have a fever and our bodies require the time to build up immunity, I respectfully request that we return after March 29," De Costa said.

Hart Middle School teacher Emily

Longnecker was also concerned about "teachers starting their vaccine and not going to be done with their vaccines before school starts," and then using their sick days "just to make sure that they get their second dose before going back to school."

"I can understand and respect that decision," Longnecker said, adding she was "thinking with both hats" as a parent and educator, but also wondered about "the disruption that will cause to have so many subs."

"I definitely don't want my daughter to have to endure transition, and a transition with a sub," Longnecker said. "I would ask you to consider the timeline, what's the most efficient way to open up. A smooth transition not just for the teachers, but for the students as well."

One parent of a fifth- and seventh-grader also echoed Longnecker's sentiments about giving teachers "just a little bit more time to get the vaccinations that they deserve."

"With teachers just eligible now, this timeline allows for greater vaccination coverage and greater safety for all," she said. "At a time when variants that may be more transmissible to children and women are becoming more prevalent, it seems like a pretty reasonable compromise."

Marilyn Weinstein said, "The majority of teachers who have been speaking in the previous meetings have been pretty vocal with their desire to either keep the plan as it was or not open for an even longer period of time."

Weinstein also stated there are "countless teachers" who have privately reached out "to tell me that they stand with me in my effort to get our kids back in the classrooms."

"I am sorry that you're not as comfortable coming forward for fear of how you may be treated," Weinstein said. "I'm not good at politics in any sense, so I'm not sure what politics are involved there that make you reach out to parents instead of being able to speak, but again, that's what I'm here for tonight."

Association of Pleasanton Teachers President Michelle VerKuillen drew the board's attention to another timeline: "Elementary schools are at the end of their second trimester; many assessments occur during this time so teachers can communicate student progress with their families," VerKuillen said. "It is important to not disrupt this process, so that families can receive this information in a timely manner."

VerKuillen also stated that returning to in-person learning "will be like the beginning of school," and advised parents to "talk with and prepare your children to understand this, to help them prepare for this shift."

As for secondary students, "there are many concerns around a lot of stable cohorts in the hybrid model," she added.

"When we read county guidelines for cohorting, it allows for one educational cohort and one extracurricular. Our educators seek clarity in how movement between classes supports this guideline," VerKuillen finished.

Toward the end of the night, Board President Joan Laursen said, "I believe that staff's recommendation

is a measured recommendation, and I wholeheartedly support it."

"We don't believe what we are asking our staff to do is impossible," Laursen said, then adding "it's just a really challenging time for many of us."

Laursen then shared she had "just spent multiple days in the hospital" with a family member.

"I spent the night on a COVID ward in a hospital because they had moved my sister from the skilled nursing facility ... and then when she was moved into the palliative care area, I was allowed to spend the night," Laursen said.

Laursen continued, "I'm sharing this only to tell you that we are all afraid, we are all concerned ... but we're following the science." ■



CITY OF DUBLIN

Flags lowered to honor COVID-19 victims

In response to President Joe Biden's proclamation on Monday, public agencies' flagpoles across the Tri-Valley (including here outside the Dublin Civic Center) have their flags lowered to half-staff through this evening in memory of the 500,000-plus Americans who have died from COVID-19 to date in the country.



HIGHLIGHTS

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

City Council

Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

- Adopt a resolution accepting the Midyear Fiscal Year 2020/21 operating budget and amending the Fiscal Year 2020/21 operating budget accordingly
- Overview of Tri-Valley mental health resources and presentation of the Axis Community Health - Mental Health Urgent Care Pilot Program and approve Memorandum of Understanding between the Cities of Pleasanton, Dublin, and Livermore for Mental Health Urgent Care pilot program funding
- State Initiatives Update and Advocacy
 - A. Review and consider the City's Legislative Framework with the 2021 Focus Areas and establish positions on selected bills, and request City staff to monitor remaining legislation throughout the 2021 legislative cycle to determine whether the City Council should take a formal position on additional legislation
 - B. Adopt a resolution expressing the City's position as it relates to housing and protecting local control
 - C. Review information regarding the California State Governor's budget measure to add a Housing Accountability Unit to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and authorize the Mayor to send a letter of response to this measure
- Adopt and waive second reading of Ordinance No. 2213 approving 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

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

Kimberley Rathjen Traversi

July 25, 1966 – February 9, 2021

Kim Traversi was a force of goodness who truly resonated with everyone who had the pleasure of knowing her. It didn't matter if you grew up with her, looked up to her, barely knew her, or saw her every day; she made you feel important, loved, and deeply cared for. This was her nature, and she made it look effortless. Her loss is a deep and impactful one to so many, and a true heartbreak to her family and friends who loved her most.



There is great solace in knowing that she has shed her pain and can run freely and joyfully again. She loved to cook, run, travel, and learn something new at any opportunity; but most of all, she loved her family and was loved by them.

Kim was born in Livermore, CA to Ann & Don Rathjen. She graduated from Amador HS in 1984 and UC Davis in 1988, where she received her teaching credential the following year. She is survived by her husband David, her two children Steven and Olivia, her parents Ann and Don Rathjen, her brothers Mark (Liz) and David (Jill), nieces and nephews Connor, Julia, Emma, and Luke Rathjen, and her beloved cousin Paige Schreiner. Kimberley was a teacher in Sacramento and Elk Grove, and she utilized her endless capacity to help those in her community by volunteering her time and resources wherever she thought they would be needed most. She especially loved being a docent at the California Museum in Sacramento after she retired from teaching. Her relentless positivity and kindness inspires those who knew her to carry on as better people.

For those wishing to make a donation in Kim's memory, please consider the California Museum (californiamuseum.org), ARCHIVES PLAZA, 1020 O St., Sacramento, CA 95814.

PAID OBITUARY

UPGRADES

Continued from Page 5

funding as staff recommended.

"The concern is that they seem to only be focused on the new high school, so they want to just hold the money and make sure the new high school has every cent it needs," Speck said. "Our concern is there are multiple problems in the district and the money needs to be spent on more than just the high school."

"There's a feeling that the trustees are more concerned about schools on the east side of town and not the rundown schools on the west side of town," Speck added.

Speck's son, who attends fourth grade at Dublin Elementary, had his class displaced from their classroom due to a leaking roof at one point, but "a week later the new classroom started leaking, and so I directly saw the impact of this old building and what it was having on my child," Speck said.

The parents are supportive of the second high school but Speck said

"we also want our kids to go to schools that don't leak, don't have holes in the ceiling," and that revenue from Measure J used on what was promised.

Jaime Morales, who has two children enrolled at Murray, said when Measure J passed that he and his wife were looking forward to finally seeing the school updated.

However, "at this point I feel some of that is being taken away because there is a big inequality going on here in regards to schools," Morales said.

In particular, Morales recalled taking his son to Amador Elementary one time, where the boy was noticeably struck by the difference between the site and his own school.

"My son was like, 'Wow, dad, this is a nice school, a big school.' He thought it was a high school; he saw the disparity back then as a fifth-grader," Morales said.

In the meantime, construction on Emerald High has been postponed since the funding gap was

discovered, pushing back its opening to fall 2023. Morales, however, is worried what will happen when students return to Murray.

"The back-end has been completely demolished, there are big, giant construction vehicles back there, machines — what's going to happen to that?" Morales said. "Kids are going to go back and they're going to go back to what?"

While some trustees called the \$184 million shortfall a clear case of under-budgeting, the board unanimously called for an independent audit to get to the bottom of what happened at their next meeting in February.

"I don't want an audit to take away from moving ahead but at the same time it does appear there is a lot of public outcry for such," Trustee Dan Cherrier said during board discussion.

"We're asking for a forensic audit," Cherrier said, and explained that "a forensic audit looks into a whole range of things."

"It's looking at what it is that we stated we were going to do and what decision led to what, what money was accrued and allocated, and was it spent in accordance with that," Cherrier said. "It's a whole look at the entire operation. It goes beyond the financial audit we just had."

The board also unanimously approved creating a new facilities master plan to replace the one developed five years ago. DUSD spokesperson Chip Dehnert said, "This document would be the driving force of some of the remaining facilities budget decisions."

The timeline for the investigation has not been determined yet. ■

Arlene Marie Novacek

December 14, 1937 – January 19, 2021

Pleasanton – Arlene Marie Novacek (née Czarny), beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, passed away on Jan 19, 2021 at the age of 83. Born in the Chicago suburb of Summit, Illinois on Dec 14, 1937, Arlene was raised in the family neighborhood in houses built by her grandfather. She graduated from the Nazareth Academy in 1955 and was hired as a teller at the Bank of



Lyons. There she captured the heart of Anthony Novacek and on Nov 28, 1957, they were married in Berwyn, IL and soon started a family. In 1961, to the shock and sadness of the family, they moved to Southern California where Tony could pursue more career opportunities in banking. Busy raising four children, Arlene and Tony enjoyed the fun and the sun of Southern California. More career changes came in 1971 and the family moved north to Pleasanton California, where Arlene lived for the next fifty years. Arlene volunteered at the hospital, led campfire girls, and in 1973 went back into banking. Hired by Bank of America in their purchasing department, Arlene was a hardworking employee and deeply appreciated by the bank. She held several important positions, made many friends and truly loved her work which she did for 25 years.

She will be deeply missed by family and friends who knew her as decisive, direct, sensible, reliable, a puzzle solver, mystery reader and cheerleader. A great cook and hostess, an intelligent sense of humor, highly moral and most of all strong.

Arlene's greatest joy came from her loving family. Arlene is preceded in death by her parents Rose and Dick Horn, and her sister Dorothy Meger. She is survived by her four children Laura Young (Chris), Gregory Novacek (Joanie), Catherine Denham, Julia Hill (Stu), seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren and her sister Bonnie Horn.

Arlene now rests next to her beloved Anthony at St. Augustine Cemetery in Pleasanton. For anyone who would like to remember Arlene, we invite donations to the Dominican Sisters of San Jose, www.msjdominicans.org, 43326 Mission Circle, Fremont, CA 94539.

PAID OBITUARY

COLLISION

Continued from Page 5

In a follow-up Tuesday, Sgt. Chris Niederhaus said it was also unclear whether speed was a factor, but that will be part of the investigation. The collision occurred in nighttime visibility, with streetlights functional in the area.

It remains unclear why Watson was in the roadway and in which direction he was walking, according to Niederhaus. No third-party witnesses have come forward, which is extending the length of the investigation.

The identity of the driver has not been publicly released to date, which is common in Pleasanton police traffic collision investigations unless and until any criminal charges are filed. Niederhaus did confirm the driver was an adult.

Portions of Johnson Drive were closed for about five hours during the onsite investigation last Friday, according to Shuffield.

Any potential witnesses or anyone with information related to the investigation can contact Pleasanton police at 925-931-5100. ■

POLICE BULLETIN

Vaccinations of local law enforcement start at ACSO in Dublin

Employees with the Alameda County Sheriff's Office and the county's local law enforcement agencies received their first of two coronavirus vaccines last week during the first of several clinics intended to vaccinate law enforcement countywide.

More than 800 sheriff's office and local law enforcement employees, including Alameda County Sheriff Gregory Ahern, received vaccines at the sheriff's Regional Training Center in Dublin on Feb. 18.

The sheriff's office has some 1,650 employees, but chose to stagger when those employees get vaccinated to ensure the agency is not shorthanded.

Law enforcement employees from local agencies across the county as well as the sheriff's office's state and federal partners were also invited to the vaccination clinic, operated by the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency.

"We waited until it was our turn, we didn't want to jump the chain," Ahern said. "The vaccines are under great scrutiny, so we didn't want to, in any way, go outside of the recommendations from (the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) or the governor's request."

"This is a great set-up for us," said Dr. Kathleen Clanon, the medical director for the Health Care Services Agency. "The sheriff's office has been so welcoming and really great partners and it's just been a really great day."

The sheriff's office and county



Alameda County Sheriff-Coroner Gregory Ahern prepares to receive his first dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

health officials are also collaborating to vaccinate the county's corrections officers and inmates at facilities like the Santa Rita Jail.

To date, 189 sheriff's office employees have tested positive for the virus, including the deaths of a deputy and sheriff's technician last July.

According to Ahern, 10 of those cases remain active and are symptomatic, but none are hospitalized.

James Taylor, a 54-year-old dispatcher with the Livermore Police Department, praised the clinic's efficiency, noting it took fewer than five minutes to sign in and receive his vaccination.

"This is very exciting," Taylor said. "Getting here not knowing what to expect, it's smooth as silk here."

Taylor said his wife, an employee with Marin General Hospital, has already received her two vaccine doses.

"Our house feels comfortable now," he said.

Ahern expressed optimism that vaccinating law enforcement officials countywide will help them keep the public safe and reinforce public trust in the vaccine.

"We want to make sure that those people who are dealing with the public are vaccinated," Ahern said. "So the public knows they're safe when they're contacting law enforcement entities and our people are safe from obtaining COVID-19 from somebody in the community."

In other news

• Fremont police last week revealed details about the recent arrest of a man accused of committing a slew of burglaries, vandalism incidents, thefts, police evasions and more over four months across the Bay Area, including in Pleasanton and potentially Dublin.

The press release on Friday about Abed Saeidah's Jan. 22 arrest also described a police pursuit — previously unreported publicly — in which the 28-year-old Hayward man allegedly tried to run over a Pleasanton police detective with his car and later taunted officers before ultimately eluding them earlier this year.

Saeidah, who faces a variety of charges in multiple East Bay cities, has been charged in connection with more than 10 property crimes in Pleasanton, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Chris Niederhaus.

The Fremont Police Department alleged Saeidah's crimes included a series of burglaries targeting car wash facilities in Hayward, Dublin, Newark, Milpitas, Campbell, Redwood City, Rohnert Park, South San Francisco and Burlingame, as well as other places Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Dublin police Lt. Matt Farruggia told the Weekly the department's detectives are working to identify the suspect in a few recent burglaries at car washes, but "at this time, I don't know if the suspect in the Fremont Police Department investigation is tied to the burglaries in our city."

Fremont police say Saeidah, who was placed under arrest multiple times in the past four months but released from custody, remains in Santa Rita Jail in Dublin at this time while his criminal cases proceed. They also cited an extensive past arrest record for the suspect.

It is unclear whether Saeidah has entered a plea to any charges, or whether he is represented by an attorney.

Detectives in Fremont began investigating Saeidah in October after a robbery at a business on Fremont Boulevard in which he allegedly brandished a knife and made threats at an employee who tried to wrestle him to the ground, police said. They also allege Saeidah was caught on video on Christmas Eve stealing money from water dispenser machines at Fremont businesses.

Fremont police allege Saeidah took part in "numerous burglaries and thefts" across the Bay Area during the several months before his most recent arrest, including over a dozen car break-ins in Pleasanton.

The situation escalated more on Jan. 15 when Pleasanton PD detectives attempted to arrest Saeidah in Fremont on outstanding warrants. Police alleged he ran and then got into his vehicle as detectives chased him.

"Saeidah then drove directly at several detectives and rammed an unmarked Pleasanton detective vehicle," Fremont police said. "One

detective was forced to quickly jump out of the way in order to avoid being struck by Saeidah's vehicle. At one point, Saeidah exited his vehicle and began taunting the detectives."

Fremont PD patrol units took over the pursuit but they lost sight of him on northbound Interstate 880, according to investigators.

Fremont special operations detectives allegedly caught up to Saeidah in a vehicle in Hayward on Jan. 22 before he tried to ram an unmarked police vehicle and then attempted to run but was apprehended by detectives. The arrestee allegedly fought with detectives before being handcuffed and subdued, and then he tried to run away again unsuccessfully.

Police said Saeidah was taken to a hospital for medical clearance, and allegedly "while detectives were escorting Saeidah out of the hospital, Saeidah attempted to flee once again despite already being handcuffed. Detectives were able to restrain Saeidah until additional officers arrived on scene to secure him in a patrol vehicle."

Saeidah was ultimately transported to the jail in Dublin and booked on charges in Fremont incidents. He has since been charged for incidents in other jurisdictions, and more investigations are pending, police said. ■

—Jeremy Walsh and Bay City News Service

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Feb. 19

Theft

- 6:35 a.m. on the 5700 block of Sonoma Drive
- 4:44 p.m. on the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive
- 6:24 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Graffiti offense

- 8:25 a.m. at Main Street and Del Valle Parkway

Feb. 18

Graffiti offense

- 9:41 a.m. on the 1300 block of Benedict Court

Theft

- 12:43 p.m., 1300 block of Hopyard Road; theft from auto
- 3:54 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 7:46 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Burglary

- 4:23 p.m. on the 3900 block of Fairlands Drive

Warrant arrest

- 5:48 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

Feb. 17

Arson

- 12:52 a.m. on the 6800 block of Santa Rita Road

Weapons violation

- 2:22 a.m. on the 3200 block of Westbridge Lane

Graffiti offense

- 8:27 a.m. on the 4400 block of Railroad Avenue
- 2:16 p.m. on the 4400 block of Railroad Avenue

Burglary

- 12:05 p.m. on the 1400 block of Brookline Place

Theft

- 3:30 p.m., 5400 block of Hopkins Court; theft from auto
- 3:48 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 5:07 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 5:48 p.m., 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Drug violation

- 4:44 p.m. at Owens and Chabot drives

- 10:15 p.m. on the 5500 block of Johnson Drive

Assault/battery

- 6:10 p.m. on the 1800 block of Valley Avenue

Feb. 16

Theft

- 6:42 a.m., 5000 block of Hopyard Road; theft from auto
- 4:01 p.m., 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 4:53 p.m., 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 10:06 p.m., 5300 block of Mallard Road; theft from auto

Rape

- 1:11 p.m. on Dublin Canyon Road

Fraud

- 3:23 p.m. on the 6600 block of Owens Drive

- 5:16 p.m. on the 6400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Drug violation

- 5:32 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive
- 10:22 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

DUI

- 6:47 p.m. at Hopyard Road and Dudley Court

Feb. 15

Theft

- 5:18 a.m., 2600 block of Calle Morelia; theft from auto
- 11:11 a.m., 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road; theft from auto

Eleanor Anna Wilson

August 8, 1923 – February 15, 2021

Eleanor was born in Oakland, CA to John and Jennie Laplagne. She graduated from Oakland High School. After high school, Eleanor got her cosmetology license and then worked as a hairdresser. She would often talk about taking the streetcar to the USO dances, where she had so much fun meeting the servicemen.

Eleanor married Frank D. Yunker on June 1, 1947. They had 2 children, Mike and Nancy. Frank died January 23, 1975. Eleanor then went to school to become a nurse's aide. She did not think she would marry again.

However, through a mutual friend, she met Bill Wilson. After only 3 months they were engaged and married on April 17, 1977.

Eleanor and Bill belonged to a retired firemen's group and enjoyed traveling with their friends to Graceland, Alaska, Canada, the Panama Canal, the Mississippi, and many other places.

Bill passed away from Alzheimer's on July 15, 2003.

Eleanor is survived by her devoted children; son, Michael Yunker of Livermore, daughter, Nancy Marks (Gary) of Pleasanton, son, Greg Wilson (Sean) of Oakland, daughter, Patti (deceased) (Michael) of Brentwood, granddaughters Juliet Grossman (Joel) of San Ramon and Jeanine Anderson (Ryan) of Livermore, and 4 great-grandchildren whom she adored; Gavin and Brynlie Grossman, and Natalie and Aubrie Anderson.

Our mom, grandma, great-grandma, and friend will be missed by so many!

Mom was, as we were, so very blessed that she was able to see both granddaughters get married, and to be able to enjoy her 4 great grandchildren who brought her such happiness.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Eleanor's name to your local Veteran's or Alzheimer's organization.



PAID OBITUARY

Taste Tri-Valley



REGION'S FIRST-EVER RESTAURANT WEEK SHINES SPOTLIGHT DURING CRITICAL

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RYAN J. DEGAN

After months of severely reduced business or even closures due to the coronavirus pandemic, dozens of local Tri-Valley restaurants have come together to encourage residents to

support local and participate in the region's first-ever "Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week."

Created by local tourism bureau Visit Tri-Valley, Restaurant Week kicked off last weekend and continues all the way through this Sunday (Feb. 28), offering special menus, deals and promotional events at more than 40 local restaurants and wineries in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Danville.

"Business pointing in the right direction," said Francis Hogan, executive chef and partner of Pleasanton's Sabio on Main. "It's nowhere near the level it was at before but it feels better now than it has in the last 11 months ... Part of the reason

we are doing Restaurant Week is to help people get excited about dining out again."

"We're still here, and that's the best thing that we can say you know; it's been catastrophic for the restaurant industry. I don't want to beat that dead horse, but it's just been terrible. I mean this industry has never seen something this bad," he added. "So just the fact that we're still here is something to be happy about and celebrate."

Residents came out in force for the first weekend of Restaurant Week (which actually runs for 10 days), with restaurants throughout the Tri-Valley being visited by patrons seeking to dine out or take meals home.

Mill Valley's Cinthia Cantero visited Strizzi's in downtown Livermore with her two siblings and said she was happy to be out in the world again,

but couldn't shake how surreal it felt to be among people again.

"I was just telling my sister: We were just dining out and I feel like I'm in a movie, like I'm out of place. It's been so long since we've been out. Right now, it feels different because of the masks but it's really cool to be out again," Cantero said.

Restaurants have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent shelter-in-place orders that called on residents to stay in their homes and scale back time spent at local restaurants and businesses.

While some have been able to pivot to offering curbside pickup and delivery options, many have struggled to remain operational in the face of on-again, off-again outdoor dining and even more sporadic indoor dining allowed under



Alona Lohman (far left) prepares a "Zephyr-tini" at Zephyr Grill and Bar in Livermore, while locals Tami Kavanagh and Laura Aguiar (near left) enjoy a meal at the restaurant's outdoor patio area last weekend.

RESTAURANT
WEEK
PARTICIPANTS**Pleasanton**

Amaravati House
Faz Restaurants & Catering
Pleasanton
Strizzi's Restaurant Pleasanton
BottleTaps
De La Torre's Trattoria
Eddie Papa's American
Hangout
Sabio on Main
SideTrack Bar + Grill

Livermore

3 Steves Winery
Caraway Indian Cuisine
Las Positas Vineyards
McGrail Vineyards
Nella Terra Cellars
Rosa Fierro Cellars
Strizzi's Restaurant Livermore
Wente Vineyards
Wood Family Vineyards
Yafa Hummus
Zephyr Grill & Bar

Dublin

110 Shabu Shabu
Amici's East Coast Pizzeria
Dublin
Bangkok 101 Thai Cuisine
BEREVINO Italian Pub
Burma! Burma!
Chaat Bhavan
Coco Cabana
Frankie, Johnnie & Luigi Too!
Koja Kitchen
Mountain Mike's Pizza
Pacific Catch
Simply Pizza
Sourdough & Co.
The Banana Garden
Yafa Hummus

Danville

Amici's East Coast Pizzeria
Bridges Restaurant & Bar
Cocina Hermanas
Crumbs Breakfast, Lunch & Bar
Danville Brewing Co.
Danville Harvest
Incontro Ristorante
The Vine and Spirits
Thai House Restaurant



Left: Restaurant industry workers like Eian Cathcart, manager at Sabio on Main in Pleasanton, have been working hard to adapt during the coronavirus pandemic, offering a variety of new take-out and outside dining options. **Above:** Chefs at Strizzi's in downtown Livermore prepare a meal for outdoor diners during Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week last Saturday.

TIME FOR LOCAL INDUSTRY

health orders during the past year.

"We pivoted pretty well. We did a lot of to-go business before the pandemic so we understood that model pretty well. I think for us the food holds up really well, and we have a really loyal clientele," said Leigh De La Torre, owner of De La Torre's Trattoria of Pleasanton. "It hasn't been easy. Our sales have been down 50% ... but we've been here for 29 years. We're able to sustain a little more easily than say a new person who is just trying to build up their clientele."

While restaurants have recently been allowed to resume outdoor dining by the state of California and county health officials, for owners like De La Torre, action has not been swift enough and restaurants still need additional support in order to survive.

"I would like to see it move a lot faster. I think getting us open indoors has been a very slow process. I mean, I think we're more sanitized than other places like grocery stores and places like that, with

what we do for sanitization. Even 50% (indoor capacity) would make a huge difference for us," De La Torre said.

In all, 43 restaurants are participating in the event, offering deals and specials on take-out, delivery and outdoor dining.

Interested residents can sign up for the free Taste Tri-Valley mobile pass to track where they have visited, access exclusive menu specials and check in at restaurants to win gift cards and prizes from local restaurants. Whoever checks in at the most locations will also win a grand prize for a Tri-Valley weekend getaway.

Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week is created and hosted by the Tri-Valley Business Improvement District — better known as Visit Tri-Valley — comprised of the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin and the town of Danville. San Ramon restaurants are not participating because that city has its own tourism district and is not a member of Visit Tri-Valley.

"The first weekend of Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant

Week went deliciously well," said Robin Fahr, director of marketing and communications for Visit Tri-Valley. "We garnered 2,169 signups for the Taste Tri-Valley Pass, the restaurants are remembering their check-in codes and offering great meal deals, and the al fresco dining scene looked as robust as I've ever seen it. We really lucked out with perfect Tri-Valley weather too."

Looking ahead to the final days of the event, Fahr said on Tuesday, "I can't wait for Sabio on Main and De La Torre's later this week, as I've been hearing rave reviews from both. I'm also really excited to get the final numbers of how many signed up for the pass and how many checked in to the participating restaurants, and of course choosing our winners."

"I think we're going to learn that our first annual Taste Tri-Valley was a huge success and just what our restaurants needed during a very difficult time," she added.

To learn more about the Restaurant Week festivities, go to www.visittrivalley.com. ■



Sabio on Main chef Francis Hogan (left) says he has never seen the restaurant industry face a larger challenge than attempting to weather the COVID-19 pandemic. Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week was created in an effort to spark residents' interest in visiting local restaurants such as Strizzi's in Livermore, whose meals (center) and outdoor dining area (right) are on display here.

Holiday Fund raises \$88,215 for safety-net providers

The past holiday season was unlike any we have ever experienced in our lifetimes. So many of our neighbors are experiencing food insecurity, homelessness, health concerns and loss, and it is heartbreaking.

Facing an overwhelming demand for services spurred by the coronavirus pandemic combined with operation limitations due to the health crisis, the organizations who serve these people in need are desperate for help.

While Weekly readers have given generously and raised well over \$1 million in the past 19 years, our staff was admittedly concerned how a global pandemic and its economic and social impacts would affect this year's Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

The pandemic has left many residents seeking assistance from local nonprofits, and we wanted the money raised through the annual giving campaign to offer these organizations that provide safety-net services a boost at a time when the need is paramount. We also acknowledged that many people who would normally contribute were facing financial hardships of

their own.

We are, however, grateful beyond words to report that readers stepped up to the challenge and raised \$88,215.84 for the 2020-21 Holiday Fund campaign — surpassing last year's total by more than \$12,000.

Each Tri-Valley organization benefiting from the 2020-21 Holiday Fund will receive \$14,702.64. This year's beneficiaries are Axis Community Health, CityServe of the Tri-Valley, Hope Hospice, Open Heart Kitchen, Valley Humane Society and ValleyCare Charitable Foundation.

Axis Community Health is the Tri-Valley's sole provider of medical and mental health services for individuals and families who have a low income or who are uninsured. It serves more than 15,000 members of our community.

CityServe of the Tri-Valley supports the community by caring for people in crisis, coordinating resources between the faith-based community, nonprofits, schools, businesses and government agencies, and connecting volunteers in the community to nonprofits.

Hope Hospice provides ethical hospice

care, transition services for those not eligible for hospice, bereavement support for adults and children and end-of-life education to Tri-Valley families, regardless of insurance or income status.

Open Heart Kitchen is the largest hot meal program of its kind in the Tri-Valley, feeding the hungry every weekday at multiple locations.

Valley Humane Society rescues and rehabilitates companion animals, champions responsible caretaking, shares pets' soothing affections with people in need of comfort, and supports and preserves existing pet guardian relationships.

ValleyCare Charitable Foundation plans to use its contribution from the annual campaign to help fund state-of-the-art healthcare technology, facilities, various clinical programs and services at Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare.

The number of beneficiaries is fewer than in past years, and we are hopeful that the pandemic and its impacts are behind us soon and we can return to a more robust list of recipients next campaign season. Look for information about the 2021-22 Holiday Fund around Thanksgiving. ■

LETTERS

Opinion on potable water

Dear Editor,

Water is life. Rome was the envy of the ancient world, with innovative aquifers. Solid infrastructure around essentials like water allows for happiness and prosperity. This is why I was disappointed that our new City Council reneged on our partnership with neighbors Livermore, San Ramon and Dublin, to research recycling water, in response to California's impending water crisis.

Any layperson can find evidence of efficacy in the current use of recycled water, so why can't our leaders?

Singapore's "NEWater," according to Columbia University "has passed more than 65,000 scientific tests and surpasses (WHO) drinking water standards, is clean enough to be used for the electronics industry and to be bottled as drinking water."

In California, both San Diego and Orange County recycle water. Indirect potable reuse (IPR) is water purified by "advanced membrane techniques, including micro-filtration, reverse osmosis and UV disinfection."

It's embarrassing and dangerous

that Mayor Brown says using IPR is "getting water that isn't as good as our neighbors." Such comments show willful ignorance that hurts us all.

If, as Brown says, "(residents) want quality drinking water and, frankly, they deserve it" then do this research and give it to them.

Cleaning up PFAS is critical, as is water. So, moving funding from one study to another is shortsighted. I believed we were part of the Bay Area's technology corridor, but if our city leaders behave like flat-earthers, then we will thirstily watch, as our neighbors innovate for the "well"-being of their people.

—Jeanmarie Dollard

AVHS tennis courts

I'm a Pleasanton resident and have been looking to play tennis at the Amador Valley High School tennis courts. I was able to play on the courts w/ my wife in the late summer, and now it seems they are closed? I have found mixed info online.

I thought there was an agreement between the school district and the city to have public hours on them, but now they have a third-party site which I was directed to by PUSD

where you can rent them for quite a high fee and need insurance?

Anyway, thought I might try to enlist your help to figure out exactly what the status of the courts are regarding public access, especially at a time when people might be seeking outdoor recreation more than they usually would.

—Rodman Martin

Reopening local schools

No one wants to be back in the classroom more than educators. I want to welcome every one of my students back to my classrooms in a way that keeps everyone safe: students, their families and staff.

As California continues to struggle to control the pandemic, which is still impacting many communities disproportionately, a phased-in approach that responds to local conditions and transmission rates has to be part of a responsible return to in-person instruction.

Any path to bringing students back to campuses will require implementing multi-layered mitigation strategies that consider community conditions and include robust cleaning and updated ventilation systems, asymptomatic testing of students and school employees,

six-foot social distancing and enforcement.

To reopen schools for in-person instruction, the state must ensure all employees required to report in person have been provided the opportunity to be vaccinated before students return to campus. The vaccine distribution should prioritize educators in schools already open and schools in communities with high transmission rates.

We must take a comprehensive and data-driven approach to reopening schools that includes addressing community spread. After all, no matter how safe of a bubble we put around our schools, the students and staff inside go home at the end of the day. If mitigation efforts are inadequate in the community, the risk of it being brought back to school increases significantly.

—Joshua Holbak

What's your opinion?

Send a Letter to the Editor to Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com or put your opinion on Town Square at www.PleasantonWeekly.com. Letters must be 250 words or less.

PUBLISHER

Gina Channell, Ext. 1171

EDITORIAL

Editor

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 1172

Tri Valley Life Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Editor Emeritus

Jeb Bing

Staff Reporters

Julia Baum, Ext. 1176

Ryan J. Degan, Ext. 1179

Contributors

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

ART & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown

Designers

Linda Atilano, Amy Levine, Paul Llewellyn, Doug Young

ADVERTISING

Account Executive

Karen Klein, Ext. 1177

Real Estate Sales

Carol Cano, Ext. 1173

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

Administrative Associate

Carolyn Chan, Ext. 1174

HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation email: circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

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

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

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

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

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'But the poets still write...'

Poetry provides cathartic expression at all stages of pandemic

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Much has been lost this last year, although some things have continued. As nationally renowned Tri-Valley poet Connie Post puts it in "COVID 19 Shelter in Place":

*Baseball games and concerts are cancelled
but the poets still write*

"These kinds of times are famous for writers — poets or not — producing poetry from a deep place," Post said. "I wrote a lot in the beginning, general observations of the tragedy."

She said much of her pandemic writing centers on her 34-year-old son, who has profound disabilities and is in a group home.

"Because of community care licensing, we can't see him," Post said. "He doesn't understand why he can't come home."

Post was Livermore's first poet laureate, from 2005-09, and she is sheltering in place with her husband Kevin Gunn, who was Livermore poet laureate from 2013-17, her daughter and two grandsons, ages 6 and almost 2.

"Usually I write after the kids go to bed, but I have typically always written at night, mostly after 8 or 9, since I worked during the day," Post said.

"I always knew I was a poet. If I had a poem coming out, I couldn't ignore it," she recalled.

Post headed up a popular poetry reading series for years at a deli in Crockett and still misses it.

"I'm extroverted, and the pandemic is isolating,"

she said. "Sometimes it is hard for others to reach out or go on Zoom. I made an effort to get out there."

On the positive side, Post said, she hates traveling so is happy to go online to meet poetry lovers and to promote her book, "Prime Meridian," which came out in January 2020.

"Everyone misses in-person readings but people have come who I never would have met," she said of the online sessions.

Deborah Grossman, a food, drink and travel journalist who was also Pleasanton poet laureate from 2009-11, noted that several writing groups have sponsored open mic events with the pandemic as a theme. Grossman's poems have been published by Mary Sue Gast, poet laureate of Benicia, in a feature called "Going the Distance," which runs several times a month in the Benicia Herald.

"I didn't take poetry writing seriously until the '90s when my dad passed away," Hanstedt said.

In 2014 she joined Tri-Valley Writers, serving as vice president and treasurer before starting the poetry group.

"Now we meet two times a month on Zoom," Hanstedt said. "Without these people, I would be a little lost."

She said at the beginning of the pandemic, she did little writing.

"There were so many distractions, like the news — debilitating distractions," she recalled. "Then I found that I was taking out my old poems. I thought to work on these and see if I can dig deeper. I have a whole new take on some of them."

One such poem she wrote when her 12-year-old was ice skating and, while practicing a double axel, broke her back. Hanstedt recorded her feelings at the time, including picking up her daughter's science project for her, a dissected frog.

"While revisiting this poem, I thought, 'This is

See **POETS** on Page 16

Waiting

By Deborah Grossman

The pandemic
is endemic
I sit with
pen in hand
my ink runs dry

I stand
and sanitize
list-make
wash hands again
scrub every room

I search for signs
in the sky
see holes
in the ozone
the clouds
layered
with potholes

I swerve to avoid
the ER
physically distant faces
reeking of fear
On the next corner
arms raised high
angry eyes glaring
above bandanas

My hands are bound
keyboard silenced
waiting for vaccine
waiting for peace
waiting to breathe

*Originally printed in the Benicia Herald as part of
its "Going the Distance" feature.*



Deborah
Grossman



Connie Post

#FlattenTheCurve: Guidelines in a Pandemic

By Connie Post

Don't touch anything
nor the doorknob
nor elevator button
or the jagged space
between
your cleaved lungs

wear a mask
to protect others
wear a mask
to hide your cyanotic self
the blue of your lips
the exact hue
of the ocean
we've smothered

don't let the
dead whale's carcass
float too close
to your bed

the small bits of plastic
inside the remains
will remind you
of dying
with plastic in your body

as if they
were trying to tell
their own story

and the body bags
washing up to shore
were not our own

*Ran April 15, 2020, in califragile.org, a Literary
Journal of Climate and Social Justice.*

Shelter in Place — A Pandemic Pantoum

By Cynthia J. Patton

Fear blankets life, its tendrils creep in dreams.
We huddle indoors, knobs and switches clean.
Numb out with wine, stare at computer screens.
Hoard food and supplies — whatever we can glean.

We huddle indoors, knobs and switches clean.
Black swan arrives: our solace is the source.
Hoard food and supplies — whatever we can glean.
News grows bad. Our wordless screams become coarse.

Black swan arrives: our solace is the source.
Days blur; can't focus on things that matter.
News grows worse. Our wordless screams become hoarse.
Skies weep; we wonder when things get better.

Days blur; can't focus on things that matter.
Numbers soar. Mutual dread expands.
Skies weep; we wonder if things get better.
Pink petals scattered across wet pavement.

Numbers soar. Mutual dread expands.
Numb without wine, stare at computer screens.
Pink petals scattered across wet pavement.
Fear blankets, yet life's tendrils creep in dreams.



Cynthia J.
Patton

Written in April 2020 for National Poetry Month.

DAR holds annual awards ceremony on Zoom

Students recognized for citizenship, essays, posters

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Pleasanton-based José Maria Amador chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution held its annual student awards ceremony Feb. 13 via Zoom to recognize 13 students who took part in its 2020 programs.

Shreya Balasubramanian, a senior at Dougherty Valley High School in San Ramon, won the DAR Good Citizen Award for demonstrating qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. Jacqueline Martin of Dublin High and Mia Rodriguez of California High in San Ramon were awarded honorable mention.

Four students from different grade levels were presented American History Essay Awards for their description of the “Boston Massacre,” which had its 250th anniversary on March 5, 2020. Students were asked to imagine living in Boston and describing their family’s discussion about the event.

Nikhil Gundimedda of Donlon Elementary was the fifth-grade winner; Anya Kulshreshtha from Gale Ranch Middle in San Ramon was the sixth-grade winner; Aditi Nair from Fallon Middle in Dublin was the seventh-grade winner; and Olivia Kang from Laurel Springs Online School in Pleasanton was the eighth-grade winner.

In the Constitution Week Poster Contest winners, first place went to Kaushmit Bhowmik of Hart Middle in Pleasanton;



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pleasanton and San Ramon students received recognition at the local and state DAR level for their Constitution Week posters.

second place to Serena Hobbs of Hart; third place was a tie between Rohan Tyaagi of Hart and Ahdia Mohammed of Valley View Elementary in Pleasanton; and honorable mention was a tie between Elliot Lim of Hart and Ada Nazneen of Valley View.

All poster entries were sent to the state level, where the four top winners were entries from the José Maria Amador chapter, including first place to Aarav Gupta; second place to Bhowmik; third place to Kangana Khamitkar of Hart; and Honorable Mention to Elliot Lim of Hart. Many younger students also received awards.

José Maria Amador DAR chapter held a drive-thru event Feb.

6 to present certificates, pins and scholarship awards to these and other winners. The students were able to get a professional picture taken by Bella Luna Photography Studios and pick up their prize packets, which included certificates from local and state officials, to be opened at the Zoom event a week later.

The opening for the Feb. 13 event included the Star Spangled Banner performed by the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps, then local DAR Regent Cindi Newbold led the awards ceremony.

For information about joining the local DAR chapter, contact Newbold at jmadar.regent@gmail.com. ■

POETS

Continued from Page 15

what the devotion of a parent is all about,” she said.

Since retiring almost three years ago after 30 years as co-owner of the general contracting company GH Group Inc. in Pleasanton, Hanstedt has transitioned from a late-night writer into working during the day.

“I redecorated my office and got a new desk chair,” she said.

She hangs a sign on the door, “Writer at work, do not disturb,” and closes herself in with her shih tzu, Cody, who also loves to be included with online meetings.

“I say, ‘We’re going to Zoom now,’ and Cody comes running into the room,” Hanstedt said with a laugh.

The current Livermore poet laureate is Cynthia J. Patton, an attorney, activist and founder of the nonprofit organization, Autism A to Z.

She is transitioning the quarterly Ravenswood Poetry Series into Verse and Vine: Poetry in Livermore Wine Country, to be held downtown, and she also hosts the Whistlestop Writers Open Mic, now virtual, the fourth Wednesday of each month. She helped start an open mic called Pints and Poetry at McKay’s Taphouse & Beer Garden in Pleasanton, which is on hiatus.

“We’re hoping to relaunch that once it’s OK to meet again,” Patton said.

Patton was fully engaged with Livermore literary events last March when the city librarian who does the adult programming, Paul Sevilla, informed her everything was canceled.

“Paul called when I was sitting in a coffee shop, and I almost started crying,” Patton recalled. “It seemed like the city was being so extreme — little did we know.”

Sevilla suggested she write a poem about what was happening, to be sent out before the end of March 2020. Patton had recently finished



Constance Hanstedt

one called “Birds at Night,” and as she heard stories about people singing from their balconies in Italy she saw the connection.

“It is forever in my mind tied with the people in Italy — that was my March poem,” she said.

“In April everything seemed to be boring and repetitive,” Patton remembered, so she decided to explore writing a “pantoum,” a type of poetry that repeats stanzas in a certain format.

“I entertained myself by learning a new poetry form,” she said. “That kind of broke the ice, so to speak, and since then I have tried to write a poem every month.”

“Early in the pandemic, they were about freaking out, the knobs and the switches being clean, going to the store and feeling like I was taking my life into my hands,” Patton continued. “And being stressed out about the numbers — watching them clicking up and clicking up. It was a lot about stress and anxiety.”

“This morphed into sorrow as more and more people I knew started dying.”

Patton, who is sheltering in place with her teenage daughter, a dog and two rowdy cats named Jack and Elwood, next wrote about dating during COVID-19, her response to married friends who complained about being with one person 24/7.

“Then in August I wrote about a weird thunderstorm and all the fires,” she said.

In September, Patton did a reading of her Pandemic Poetry on YouTube, and other poets asked to share their works so in October she hosted a pandemic poetry open mic event.

This month Patton is presenting an online social justice poetry reading as part of Livermore Reads Together, focusing on “March,” the autobiography of late U.S. Rep. John Lewis, with guest poet laureates Indigo Moor of Sacramento, Tama Brisbane of Stockton and Rafael Jesús González of Berkeley.

“All the arts organizations have had to take this big pivot,” Patton said. “I am really hoping by the end of the summer that things will be relatively open again.” ■

League continues food donations, birthday cheer

Virtual fundraiser being planned to support good works

Assistance League of Amador Valley has kept up some of its programs while putting others on hold during the pandemic, it reports.

One continuing effort is donations of milk, eggs, flour, sugar and oil to the Food Pantry in Livermore on Junction Avenue, which serves more than 1,200 families each month. These deliveries are made weekly, thanks to donations and grants.

The league has also provided birthday bags to 22 children in local shelters to help them celebrate. The gifts go to two shelters for victims of domestic abuse

and one shelter for homeless people.

“This is one way for these children to feel special during a very challenging time in their lives,” league officials stated in a press release. “Birthday bags let the children know we care.”

The league’s annual fundraising activities — the Poinsettia Sale, Crab Feast and Mad Hatter’s Tea — are on hold due to COVID-19, but members are planning a virtual fundraiser for the spring to help them continue their programs.

For more information, visit www.AssistanceLeague.org/amador-valley. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Assistance League of Amador Valley member Marti Vattuone delivers birthday goodies to a child in a shelter to help make a special celebration.

San Ramon Film Club welcomes new members

February movie for online discussion is ‘John Doe’

The San Ramon Arts Foundation invites everyone to join its Film Club, a virtual series with everyone watching the movies on their own and then joining co-hosts Dave Owens and Patrick Gutierrez for a discussion.

This month’s movie is “John Doe,” starring Gary Cooper and Barbara Stanwyck in Frank Capra’s timeless film about media sensationalism and the dark side of populism. The online one-hour Q&A discussion will be held at 7 p.m. this Sunday (Feb. 28), and will include

internationally renowned film historian Joseph McBride.

To join the San Ramon Film Club, sign up for a full-service Contra Costa County library card at cclib.org, then watch the movie on the free streaming service, Kanopy, at cclib.kanopy.com/product/meet-john-doe. Some movies may also be available through other streaming services.

Email questions to SanRamon-Filmclub@gmail.com or call 786-0471. Learn more or make donations at sanramonarts.org. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

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Public Notices

997 All Other Legals

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No: RG21087811 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Brijesh Yadav and Rucha Vijay Chatter filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: RUDRA YADAV to RUDRA CHATTUR YADAV. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause

why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: March 26, 2021, 11:00 a.m., Dept.: 17 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: THE PLEASANTON WEEKLY. Date: February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2021. Judge Tara M. Desautels, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

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Employment

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DevOps Engineer needed by Revance Therapeutics, Inc. in Pleasanton, CA: Help DevOps Infrastructure such as Code, deployment automation, and infrastructure scaling initiatives. Maintain, improve, and optimize software offerings and development processes. Design and deliver next gen application using Micro service architecture. Req. Master's in Computer Science; 18 months experience as DevOps Engineer; skills in AWS, Docker, Jenkins, Chef, Git, Database, ELK Stack, and Bash/Python. Send resume to 7555 Gateway Blvd, Newark, CA 94560.

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TECHNOLOGY

Philips Healthcare Informatics, Inc. is accepting resumes for the position of Principal Software Engineer in Pleasanton, CA (Ref. #BARM). Responsible for providing technical leadership and defining, developing, and evolving software in a fast paced and agile development environment using the latest software development technologies and infrastructure. Leverage existing services and APIs for our product. Mail resume to Philips North America LLC, Legal Department, Barbara Bickford, 222 Jacobs Street, Third Floor, Cambridge, MA 02141. Resume must include Ref. #BARM, full name, email address & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

Multiple Positions at Workday Inc.

Workday Inc. is accepting resumes for the following positions at various levels in Pleasanton, CA: **Software Engineer / Software Development Engineer (SESDE-001/002-J01-05)** - Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Exp incl: OO design & dev; Algorithms and data structures; Programming langs; & DB & querying langs. **Software Application Engineer (SAE-003/004-J01-05)** - Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Exp incl: OO design & dev in OO lang; design/dev biz apps using syst visualization tools; & XML & integration concepts. **Quality Assurance / Automation Engineer (QAAE-005/006-J01-05)** - Debugs software products through the use of systematic tests to develop, apply, and maintain quality standards for company products. **Product Manager (PM-007/008-J01-05)** - Designs, develops and manages activities for a specific product or group of products from product definition and planning through production, release, and end of life. Exp incl: Req gathering & write functional design docs; OO program, design, or dev; & Prod mgmt. **Technical Product Manager (TPM-009/010-J01-05)** - Designs, develops and manages activities for a specific product or group of products from product definition and planning through production, release, and end of life. Exp incl: Scrum &/or other agile SW dev methods; General purpose programming langs; Data driven analysis for problem solving; & Prod mgmt. Submit resume by mail to: Workday, Inc., Attn: Human Resources/Immigration, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference job title and job code.

Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Theater

DIABLO BALLET VIRTUAL

PERFORMANCE Diablo Ballet is thrilled to present virtual performances of Balanchine & Beyond featuring the wedding scene from The Sleeping Beauty and George Balanchine's Who Cares? Feb. 26-28. Visit diabloballet.org/balanchine-and-beyond.

Concerts

RHYTHM OF THE DANCE Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center presents Rhythm of the Dance, a performance recorded in front of a live audience that features award-winning dancers, excellent musicians and foot-tapping passion. This event can be streamed online March 1-21. Visit livermorearts.org.

Opera

LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA TRIPLE THREAT 2021 Livermore Valley Opera is offering a series of free online concerts on LVOpera Channel on YouTube. "Triple Treat 2021" features professional opera singers performing in three concerts. The first is "Arias from Tosca Plus", 6 p.m., March 13. Visit livermorevalleyopera.com.

Talks & Lectures

SCIENCE ON SATURDAY This presentation, "Keeping up with COVID: Staying in touch and staying safe" will explore the use of wireless communication technologies to help with alerting and reducing the transmission of diseases. Communication technologies such as smart phones can be re-tooled to monitor the transmissivity of disease based upon real time signaling. Visit st.lnl.gov/sci-ed/science-on-saturday. Feb. 27.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Susan Goss Johnston, a member of Yale University's first undergraduate class for women, will discuss The Records Behind the WWI Draft Registration. The 1973 fire in the National Personnel Records Center destroyed about 80 percent of World War I Army personnel records. Fill in the gaps in your WWI soldier's military life. 7-8:30 p.m., March 8. Visit <http://www.l-ags.org>.

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE PRESENTS "UNSTOPPABLE WOMEN VETERANS" Las Positas College announces the ninth annual Honoring Women Veterans event, "UnstoppableWomenVeterans". Highlights include a presentation by the Honor Guard, singing of the National Anthem, LPC student women Veterans' panel and scholarship awards. This virtual event via Zoom conference is free and open to the public. 1 p.m., March 10. Visit laspositascollege.edu/veterans.

PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Meet Twitch

Twitch is a very sweet and loving, 9-month-old domestic short-hair male. He was a special-needs kitten who recovered from seizures after treatment with antibiotics. He is a wonderful companion to his foster family, and a big brother to younger, foster kittens in his household. Twitch will do best in a calm, quiet home without young children. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue at www.tvvar.org.

Film

VIRTUAL FILM CLUB The San Ramon Arts Foundation is hosting a free virtual series to watch a film on streaming service Kanopy followed by a 1 hour Q&A with a guest speaker. The film is Meet John Doe, director Frank Capra's timeless film about media sensation and the dark side of populism. 7 p.m., Feb. 28. For more information visit sanramonarts.org.

THE UPSTANDERS FREE DOCUMENTARY SCREENING A documentary about resilience and the power of connection to end bullying, sponsored by Axis Community Health. The film highlights new laws and programs already reducing bullying in schools. 4-5:30 p.m., March 17. Contact axishealth.org.

Books

LIVERMORE READS TOGETHER The number one New York Times and Washington Post bestselling graphic novel trilogy, "March", will be the featured books for the 15th Livermore Reads Together, the library's annual community reading program. Throughout the month of February the library will host a series of events for youth and adults that celebrate Black History Month and explore the themes in "March". Visit cityoflivermore.net.

Family

PPIE VIRTUAL RUN FOR EDUCATION The Pleasanton Partnership in Education Foundation (PPIE) Virtual Run for Education is April 11-18. Run, walk, bike and more with friends, family, school and the entire community. \$20 w/shirt or \$15 w/out until early registration of March 15. Teachers 50% off. Register at ppierun.com.

NILES CANYON RAILWAY Back for 2021 and offering a new set of special limited capacity rides, discover Niles Canyon in all of its spring splendor behind steam or diesel power. 10:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m., March 13-14. Visit ncry.org/ride/rides-2021.

SHAMROCK 5K FUN RUN & WALK Join the city of Dublin for the 22nd annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run and

Walk - Virtual edition. This fun and safe community event encourages physical activity while celebrating everything Irish. March 13-20. For more information call 556-4500 or visit dublinca.gov/funrun.

Food & Drink

TASTE TRI-VALLEY VIRTUAL COOKING CLASS Join winemaker Steven K. Mirassou and Chef Katrina Stocker of @thehomesteadtraveler for two virtual Italian cooking classes on Zoom. Friday, Feb. 26, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Ragu Bolognese and Feb. 27, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Spinach Ricotta Ravioli with Marinara. More information at visittrivalley.com/events.

TASTE TRI-VALLEY WEEK Restaurant week is February 19-28. Taste your way through the Tri-Valley during this 10-day culinary celebration highlighting the passionate people who make up the valley's deliciously diverse food scene. For more information visit visittrivalley.com/restaurant.

Writers

HIGH SCHOOL WRITING CONTEST Tri-Valley Writers presents "My Story, My Vision," the tenth annual writing contest for local area students. The contest is open to students grades 9-12 in the Tri-Valley. Cash awards for first, second and third place winners. Submissions accepted until April 4. Visit trivalleywriters.org.

Blood Donation

BLOOD DONATION IN PLEASANTON During February's observance of Black History Month, the American Red Cross salutes the accomplishments of Dr. Charles Drew and Dr. Jerome Holland, two African American Red Cross leaders who made a lasting contribution to the Red Cross. Donors who give in February will receive a \$5 Amazon.com gift card. Eligible donors, especially those who have recovered from COVID-19, can give at Pleasanton Blood Donation Center, 5880 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 34, 1:45 a.m.-7 p.m. now until Feb. 28.

Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Nov. 23-25 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Jan. 19-22 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 351 Amador Court** J. & C. Winter to J. & M. Salameh-Punch for \$1,335,000.00
- 8110 Arroyo Drive #3** R. & M. Fossen to B. Jenkins for \$495,000
- 3441 Brandy Court** Smith Trust to K. & A. Darapaneni for \$1,800,000
- 6258 Camino Del Lago** Penciu Trust to Y. & B. Liu for \$1,300,000
- 829 Clara Lane** Fineberg Family Trust to H. & M. Zhang for \$2,350,000
- 3105 Cochise Way** Liu Family Trust to L. & A. Borja for \$560,000
- 654 Concord Place** Foroutani Trust to M. Sansom for \$570,000
- 4393 Krause Street** Lozares Living Trust to S. & A. Karimiposhtari for \$950,000
- 573 Malbec Court** Campbell Trust to Y. & H. Wang for \$1,710,000
- 5413 Montalvo Court** B. Laffer to D. & S. Rathod for \$785,000
- 1530 Ridgewood Road** E. & J. Brown to S. & S. Kim for \$1,350,000
- 5622 San Jose Drive** Barsanti Family Trust to S. & U. Boddapati for \$1,202,500
- 3338 Santa Rita Road** D. Lecount to Q. & S. Wang for \$570,000
- 806 Sycamore Creek Way** Ofarrell Family Trust to K. & J. Koo for \$2,600,000
- 2320 Via Espada** Fernandez Trust to N. & R. Prabhakar for \$1,300,000
- 1429 Whispering Oaks Way** J. Yang to R. & P. Govenji for \$1,405,000

Livermore

- 2815 7th Street** Isaacs Trust to Payne Family Trust for \$595,000
- 5468 Arrowhead Court** J. & S. Peterson to L. & R. Marin for \$1,025,000
- 361 Basswood Common #10** S. Whipple to S. & S. Mohanty for \$770,000
- 1088 Batavia Avenue** Graham Family Trust to J. & L. Tran for \$875,000
- 2179 Bluebell Drive** P. & P. Colon to V. Chabanenko for \$740,000
- 247 Burgess Street** D. Perry to D. & W. Loughborough for \$795,000
- 6294 Carson Pass Way** B. Sousa to C. & A. Kemsley for \$870,000
- 651 Catalina Drive** B. Bammer to M. & C. Ajmani for \$860,000
- 348 Charlotte Common** Johnson Trust to D. Dalton for \$615,000
- 5799 Cherry Way** R. & M. Herron to J. & S. Tumu for \$1,000,000
- 689 Colusa Way** Hall Trust to Hj Home Investments Inc for \$680,000
- 787 Debra Street** Kurtzer Living Trust to A. & K. Farmer for \$782,000
- 4347 East Avenue** Loggins Trust to K. Taguchi for \$800,000
- 764 El Rancho Drive** Brixey Living Trust to S. & J. Mcgrady for \$720,000
- 972 Flurry Drive** Y. & Y. Chen to M. & B. Degracia for \$845,000
- 205 Garnet Drive** V. Choong to R. & G. Montella for \$998,000
- 1712 Hansen Road** Ward Family Trust to R. & R. Singh for \$1,825,000
- 1169 Heather Lane** A. Rose to L. Dinh for \$640,000

Source: California REsource



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JUST LISTED



2795 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon

4 BD | 4 BA | 3,389 SF | 2.42 Acre Sun-lit home with year-round stream, space for horses and pigs, 5 garage spaces, 720 SF unfinished apartment. Country living minutes to the city.

OFFERED AT \$2,400,000

JUST SOLD



3278 Omega Circle Pleasanton

4 BD, 3 BA, 2,317 SF + added loft, on .02 acre resort styled lot with pool. Much sought after Parkside location. Sellers are taking advantage of Prop 19.

SOLD FOR \$1,540,000

JUST LISTED



LIVERMORE WINE COUNTRY

3267 Derby Court, Livermore

5 BD, 5.5 BA, Office & bonus
4,451 SF home w/ 732 SF apt over garage on .38 Acre. Detached 3 car garage & wine shed.

OFFERED AT \$2,399,000

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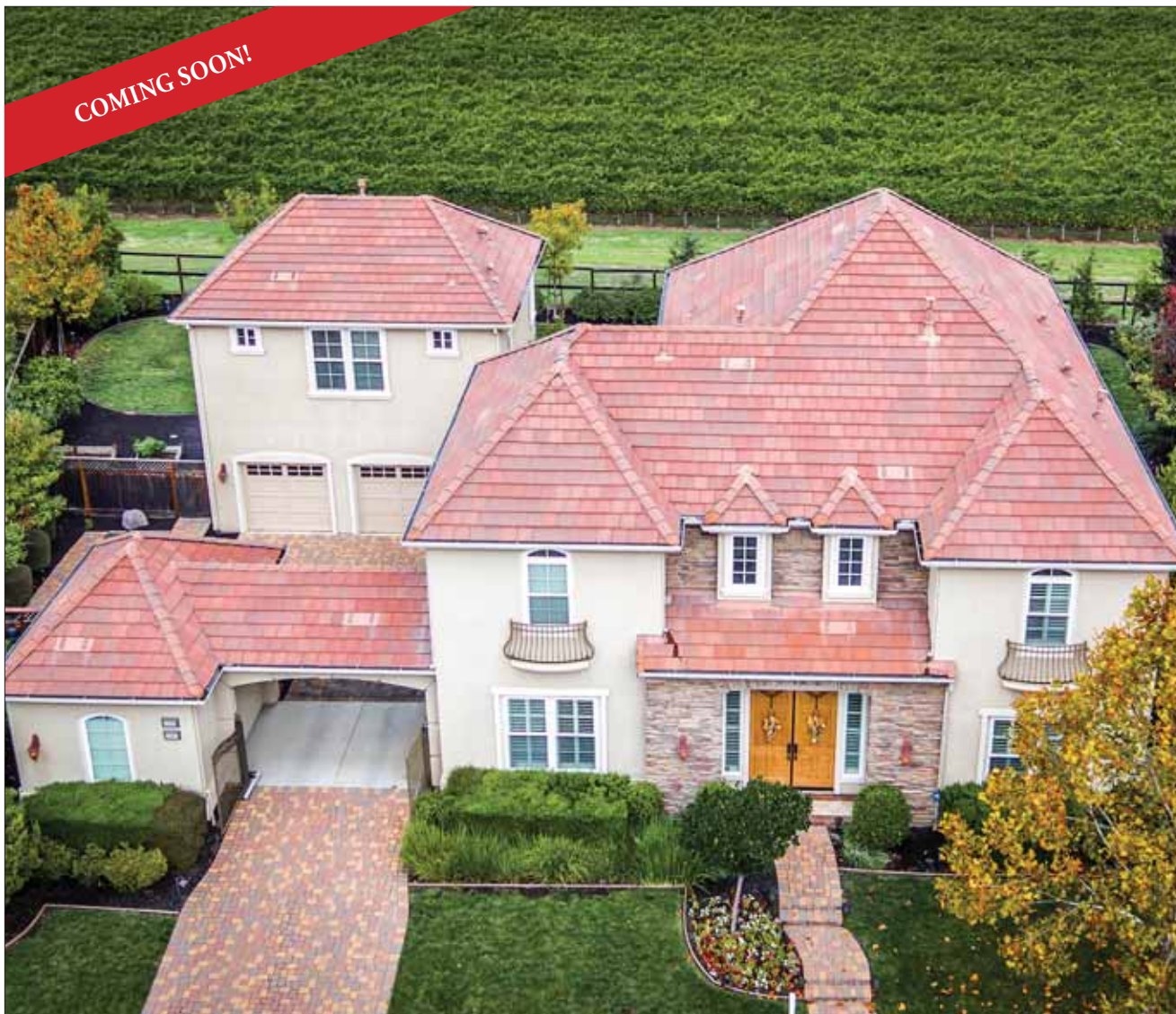
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5 BD | 4 BA | 4,737 SF

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COUNTRYFAIR II

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SOLD



6407 CALLE ESPERANZA, PLEASANTON

4 BD | 3 BA | 2,575 SF

**JUST SOLD FOR \$1,775,000
(REPRESENTED SELLER & BUYER)**

SOLD

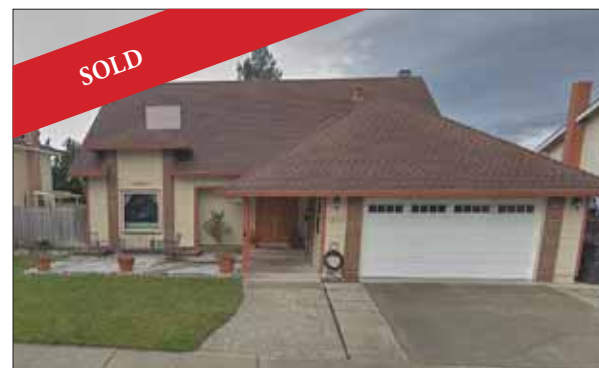


6322 CORTE ESPERANZA, PLEASANTON

5 BD | 3 BA | 3,091 SF

SOLD FOR \$1,950,000

SOLD



1972 PASEO DEL CAJON, PLEASANTON

5 BD | 3 BA | 2,358 SF

**SOLD FOR \$1,530,000
(REPRESENTED BUYER)**

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



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4181 Creekwood Court, Pleasanton
4bd/2.5ba | 2,768 sq.ft | 22,215 sq.ft lot
\$1,989,000

COMING SOON



1866 Corte Cava, Livermore
4bd/2.5ba | 1,752 sq.ft | 2,628 sq.ft lot
OFFERED AT \$815,000

COMING SOON



4759 Sutter Gate Ave, Pleasanton
4bd/2ba | 1,766 sq.ft | 7,668 sq.ft lot
SOLD FOR \$1,400,000

16 OFFERS
\$175K OVER ASKING



8233 Brittany Drive
4bd/3ba | 2,932 sq.ft | 12,350 sq.ft lot
SOLD FOR \$1,900,000

JUST SOLD

30 OFFERS
\$351K OVER ASKING IN 7 DAYS



2793 Calle Alegre, Pleasanton
4bd/2.5ba | 2,651 sq.ft | 11,325 sq.ft lot
OFFERED AT \$1,795,000

PENDING IN 7 DAYS WITH 5 OFFERS



1832 Railroad Avenue, Livermore
3bd/3.5ba | 1,780 sq.ft
SOLD FOR \$775,000

\$50K OVER ASKING



7635 Canyon Meadows Circle Unit B, Pleasanton
3bd/2ba | 1,257 sq.ft
OFFERED AT \$659,000

PENDING WITH 3 OFFERS



8075 Canyon Creek Circle, Pleasanton
4bd/2.5ba | 2,279 sq.ft | 3,943 sq.ft lot
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-Todd Owen
Pleasanton



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JUST LISTED!



4129 Churchill Drive, Pleasanton
Updated Pleasanton Meadows Home, Listed by Katie Moe
2,682 Sq Ft | 5 Bed | 2.5 Bath | Move-In Ready! | \$1,525,000

NOW PENDING!




260 Chalmette Road, Livermore
Received 9 Offers in 4 Days, Listed by Katie Moe
1,561 Sq Ft | 4 Bed | 2 Bath | Summerset Single Story | \$985,000

NOW PENDING!



3973 Kern Court, Pleasanton
Received 10 Offers in 5 Days, Listed by Katie Moe
1,372 Sq Ft | 3 Bed | 2 Bath | Val Vista Single Story | \$1,005,000

NOW PENDING!



370 Golden Grass Drive, Alamo
Pre-Emptive Offer Accepted, Buyer Represented by Jen Larson
4,525 Sq Ft | 4 Bed | 4.5 Bath | Pool & Spa | Alamo Crest | \$2,995,000

JUST SOLD!



236 Chalmette Road, Livermore
Received 24 Offers, 20% Over Asking in 5 Days, Listed by Katie Moe
1,561 Sq Ft | 4 Bed | 2 Bath | Summerset Single Story | \$1,080,000

JUST SOLD!



164 Haven Hill Court, Danville
Sold For \$315,000 OVER Asking With 12 Offers, Listed by Jen Larson
2,649 Sq Ft | 5 Bed | 2.5 Bath | Sycamore Creek | \$1,880,000

INTRODUCING ARRIVE CONCIERGE

Arrive Concierge unlocks the true potential of your home by attracting more buyers, selling your home faster and maximizing your profit with no out-of-pocket expenses.

- CUSTOM RENOVATION PLAN**
An expert will help determine the scope and budget that will yield the highest return on your investment.
- MATCH YOU WITH THE RIGHT VENDORS**
Multiple bids ensure you are matched with pre-vetted, licensed, and insured service providers.
- NO UPFRONT COSTS**
Capital will be provided to cover the up-front costs of pre-sale renovations. No interest, fees, or financing.
- TRANSFORM IN WEEKS**
Having a turn-key home makes the most impact and appeals to the most buyers, making it highly competitive and desirable.



**RENOVATED HOMES SELL
10% - 20%
HIGHER**

AT ARRIVE REAL ESTATE GROUP, WE HELP OUR CLIENTS SELL THEIR HOMES QUICKER AND ACHIEVE HIGHER RESULTS THAN THE LOCAL MARKET AVERAGE. CONTACT US TODAY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE STRATEGIC SYSTEMS WE OFFER OUR CLIENTS!



KATIE MOE
Founder | Realtor®
DRE #01507863
925.216.9083



JENNIFER LARSON
Founder | Realtor®
DRE #01897334
925.858.0398



JENNY SHIBLAQ
Realtor®
DRE #0204956
925.202.9026



LAUREN SOMMER
Realtor®
DRE #01930371
925.548.5963



ELISA BELTRAN
Realtor®
DRE #01809611
925.864.3239



SANDRA KOZIMOR
Realtor®
DRE #01943317
925.588.6787



WENDY HARMON
Realtor®
DRE #01983264
415.235.0692



EMILY BARRACLOUGH
Realtor®
DRE #01479356
925.895.7253

arriveREgroup.com





The team that speaks your language.



A new year is a powerful occasion: It's a time when we reflect on our gratitude for the past and our hopes for the future. And it's a chance to welcome a fresh start to reinvigorate our enthusiasm for chasing goals and dreams.

Cheers to the New Year!
May 2021 be an extraordinary one!

Top 1%	650M+	650+	106%	45+ Years
Nationwide	Successful real estate closings	Properties listed/sold	Sale price vs. list price	Real estate experience



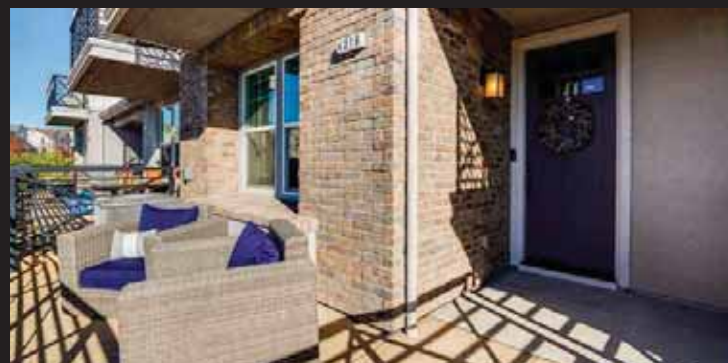
Just Listed **\$4,299,000**
831 Bricco Court, Ruby Hill
6 BD | 7 BA | 10,091 sq. ft.



Price Reduced **\$2,999,999**
1151 Central Ave, Livermore
4 BD | 3 BA | 3,424 sq. ft.



Sold - Represented Buyer **\$1,900,000**
223 Nottingham Place, Danville
4 BD | 3 BA | 3,488 sq. ft.



Sold - Represented Buyer **\$1,088,888**
4219 Sunset View Drive, Dublin
3 BD | 3.5 BA | 2,002 sq. ft.

Uwe Maercz
Broker Associate
925.360.8758
uwe.maercz@compass.com
DRE 01390383

Sonali Sethna
Broker Associate
925.525.2569
sonali.sethna@compass.com
DRE 01194792

usfineliving.com

COMPASS

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