

# Pleasanton Weekly

**'Willow' has lessons  
for Earth Day  
and every day**

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VOL. XXII, NUMBER 13 • APRIL 23, 2021

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# VALLEY VIEWS



BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

## Big boxes of books

A question is making social media rounds: If you could keep only three of the following, which would it be — art, beer, books, cats, chocolate, cinema, coffee, dogs, Facebook, music, tea or wine?

I chose books, cats, coffee, music and chocolate. I know, I know, that's more than three. But my first hour each morning is spent reading my current book, cat on lap, coffee in hand, while listening to KDFC. And give up chocolate? No way!

Anika Aeka, a freshman at Amador Valley High School, has taken her respect for books to another level. She is committed to donating them to the East Bay Children's Book Project, which puts them into the hands of kids who have little or no access to them. So far she has provided 6,449.

"In the fifth grade at Vintage Hills Elementary, for extra credit I created a community service project," Anika recalled. "I worked with the librarian and would take old books from the school library and kept asking if there was any place I could donate them."

She located the San Francisco Children's Book Project but later switched to the more convenient one in Oakland, as she continues contacting elementary schools to ask for surplus volumes.

"Also lots of people donate to me directly," Anika said. "Sometimes people go out and buy books, or give old books from their family. I have put out donation bins in places like Raley's."

She said she is delighted when she is delivering the books to sometimes meet the children receiving them.

"I love the look on their faces," she said.

Anika said reading is a big part of who she is, and she has read from an early age.

"And when my younger brother was born, I used to read to him," she remembered.

Her favorite book as a child was "The Rainbow Fish" by Marcus Pfister, which is illustrated with glittery foil stamping.

"It's about a fish who was different from all his friends," Anika said. "I remember reading that one to my brother and showing him the shiny scales."

Her brother, Ritwik Aeka, is 13 now, and he helps with the sorting and packaging of the books. Her



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Anika Aeka delivers books she has collected to the East Bay Children's Book Project.

mom Rajani Suryanarayan and dad Satabhish Aeka also help, plus they drive her and the big boxes of books to Oakland.

Although Anika hopes to pursue a career in medicine, perhaps becoming a pediatrician, she plans to always help children find books to read.

"Reading is important for cognitive development, to develop critical-thinking skills, which is another reason why I kept doing this project," she said.

Anika is in the biotech club at school and in Model UN plus she does taekwondo. She also performs Indian classical dance, which she began at age 3, appearing in venues through the Bay Area.

Friends have helped with her book collection but the last year it has been mostly her family, Anika said, and she has upped her efforts. During the pandemic, she has collected 4,207 books. That effort has undoubtedly helped launch a lot of youngsters along the path to a lifetime of reading.

I can't stop thinking about those lifestyle choices. Maybe I could let chocolate go. And perhaps coffee could be replaced by another beverage. And I guess I could read without music in the background.

So I'm down to cats and books. Possibly I could adjust to a world without cats, although it would be hard. Which leaves books. I am keeping books. ■

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

### About the Cover

The Dublin Arts Collective has members from every type of creative endeavor, including sculptor Sarah Lee, a master eggshell manipulator who created "Yin and Yang," which measures 28 by 29 by 36 inches, from clay, resin, fiberglass, plastic and quail eggshells. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

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## Las Positas College Summer Camps

www.laspositascollege.edu/summercamps

### Welding Technology

June 14 – 24, 2021 | 8am to 2pm | On Campus Learning!  
For Credit Tuition and Fees Apply | Age Group: 15-18

The Welding Technology summer camp gives high school students an opportunity to earn college credit while igniting their interest in the field of welding. The two week camp introduces the basics of shop safety, hand tools, and fabrication of simple metal projects. There is an emphasis on practical uses and applications. This is a one unit for credit course that is CSU transferrable. Note: A lab section will be held on campus for students to gain hands-on experience.

### Automotive Technology

July 5-8, 2021 | 8am to 2pm | On Campus Learning!  
Non-Credit Tuition and Fees Apply | Age Group: 16-18

Have you ever wanted to know more about your car but do not have time to take an 18-week course? Have you ever wanted to change your own oil? Learn what the cryptic code on the tire means? Learn general knowledge about cars? If so, then this is the summer camp for you! Note: A lab section will be held on campus for students to gain hands-on experience on your personal vehicle.

### Commercial Music

July 5-9, 2021 | 9am to 2pm | Via Zoom  
\$100 per student | Age Group: 14-18

Making Music for Film and Games: The Commercial Music summer camp will be action filled with creating short pieces for film scenes and game projects. It will cover the basics of the topics covered in the Scoring for Film and Multimedia course including an intro to Logic Pro X and using MIDI to create music digitally. This camp is for people with at least some musical experience (familiar with notes, scales, and rhythms), and a willingness to dedicate time to creating. We will be using Logic Pro X, a Mac based program, but will be accessible for PC users, or those who do not have their own license, through a remote access application.

## Graphic Design & Digital Media for High School Students

July 12-15, 2021 | 9am to 2pm | Via Zoom  
\$100 per student | Age Group: 15-18

Have you ever wanted to create your own character and bring it to life? Throughout the Graphic Design & Digital Media summer camp, you will learn how to sketch and draw your own character in Photoshop, and then model it 3D using Maya. At the end of the camp, you will receive a 3D printed figure of your own design!

### BioSciences

July 12-15, 2021 | 10am to 3pm | Via Zoom  
\$100 per student | Age Group: 15-17

Information: commed@laspositascollege.edu

Molecular biologists have been some of the unsung heroes of the current pandemic, working non-stop developing

Covid tests and vaccines. In this camp you will get a chance to utilize some basic molecular biology tools used to observe and measure cells, viruses, proteins and DNA. We will provide a laboratory kit with safe supplies to run experiments in your home and will collaborate over Zoom.

## Graphic Design & Digital Media for Middle School Students

July 19-23, 2021 | 9am to 2pm | Via Zoom  
\$100 per student | Age Group: 12-14

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### Interior Design

July 19-22, 2021 | 10am to 12:30pm | Via Zoom  
\$100 per student

The Interior Design summer camp teaches students about interior design through practical application of hands-on creative spaces as well as digital means. Students will develop an understanding of measuring, designing human centered spaces, while investigating relationships of human behavior and the space they occupy. Students will engage in design elements and principles including use of color and textures within the design space. Design kits will be available for pick up on campus the week before the camp. Students will have access to model home tours, construction site tours, and showroom tours.

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## What advice do you give someone who is undergoing a major life change?



### Emanuel Gill

Truck driver

I tell them to not panic and to stay calm. And to take one step at a time and believe that everything is going to be OK.



### Christopher Brecheisen (with baby David)

Civil engineer

I offer them a quote from the Dave Matthews Band. It is, "Turns out, not where, but who you're with that really matters." So when change happens in life, make sure you're surrounded by the people who matter to you most. They'll see you through.



### Annette Brecheisen

Administrative assistant

I give them the advice my father has always given to me when I'm going through a crazy, hectic time, which is to think of change as something to be excited about. Because there'll come a time in your life when you're actually hoping for a change, but it never happens.



### Corey Zane

College student

Well, unless it's a change like a death to adjust to, I tell people that change is good and they just have to embrace it. A positive attitude is very important.



### Karen Lee

College student

I tell people to not be afraid of being outside of their safe, familiar comfort zone, and that just because something is new and different, that doesn't necessarily mean it's bad. I encourage them to keep an open mind when it comes to major life changes, and accept that nothing ever stays the same forever.

— Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto: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](http://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.

## DIGEST

### Lawsuit filed

Save North Livermore Valley has followed through on its promise to file a lawsuit against Alameda County after the Board of Supervisors' decision to approve Intersect Power's 410-acre Aramis solar energy project planned for North Livermore.

The group, along with Friends of Open Space and Vineyards and the Ohlone Audubon served the county with a petition for writ of mandate this week, challenging the Board of Supervisors' approval of the project on the grounds that the development violates Measure D, which protects agricultural land and open space in eastern Alameda County.

The lawsuit also argues that by approving the project, the Board of Supervisors violated a number of other provisions, including the California Environmental Quality Act and the Alameda County General Plan. The supervisors initially approved the project on March 4 after nearly 10 hours of presentations, discussion and deliberations.

See full coverage online.

### Deputy charged

The Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office has charged county sheriff's deputy Andrew Hall with felony counts of voluntary manslaughter and assault with a semiautomatic weapon for fatally shooting Laudemer Arboleda in Danville in 2018.

District Attorney Diana Becton announced the charges during a press conference Wednesday afternoon after her office completed its nearly 2-1/2-year investigation into the fatal officer-involved shooting.

Hall, a Contra Costa County Sheriff's deputy assigned to the Danville PD beat, fatally shot 33-year-old Arboleda multiple times at close range while the Newark man tried to drive slowly around police vehicles trying to block his path in downtown Danville on Nov. 3, 2018.

Hall, who was cleared to return to duty at some point after the 2018 shooting, is the same Danville police officer who fatally shot Tyrell Wilson at the Sycamore Valley Road-Camino Ramon intersection on March 11.

The sheriff's office released video footage of the Wilson shooting on Wednesday, hours before Becton's press conference in the Arboleda case.

### Council priorities

The Pleasanton City Council is hosting its biennial work plan workshop to receive public input next Wednesday (April 28) at 5:30 p.m. remotely via livestream. Pleasanton officials are working to solidify the city's newest two-year work plan that will guide the council's and city administrators' decision-making during 2021 and 2022. ■

## Pleasanton council capping contribution amount for city election candidates

Members agree on voluntary donor limit but are split on campaign expenditure max

By JULIA BAUM

Following extensive discussion and public input about the role of money in local elections, Pleasanton City Council members unanimously agreed to set a voluntary \$1,000 per individual contribution maximum for city office candidates but were split when it came to limits for campaign expenditures Tuesday evening.

Pleasanton is poised to be the second Tri-Valley city to adopt such an ordinance; the city of Dublin has a \$500 limit per

individual donor per election for a local candidate set in place since 2009.

Newly enacted state campaign finance legislation restricts an individual's donations to a candidate running for a county or city elected office at no more than \$4,900, but local jurisdictions may adopt their own higher or lower contribution limits.

The definition of person also includes political action committees, which could make a donation to a candidate of up to \$1,000, according to assistant city

attorney Larissa Seto.

"But there's also a situation, if you have a political action committee that's independent of a candidate, then it can also make its own expenditures independently," Seto told the council.

Seto explained that it would be permissible for someone to donate \$1,000 to a candidate, then another \$1,000 to a PAC that in turn donated \$1,000 toward the same campaign, "as long as that PAC isn't being controlled by that same candidate."

Though united on voluntary

contribution limit, the council voted 3-2 to adopt the first reading of the ordinance as amended that evening to reflect new voluntary spending limits of \$24,000 for council and \$30,000 for mayoral campaigns. Councilmembers Jack Balch and Kathy Narum cast the dissenting votes.

After Narum, Balch and several public commenters argued against the original proposed limits of \$15,000 for a council member candidate and \$25,000 for a

See **CAMPAIGN** on Page 11



RYAN J. DEGAN

This was the scene in downtown Pleasanton on the first weekend closure of Main Street in 2020. The "Weekend on Main" program is scheduled to return next Friday (April 30).

## Main St. closures back April 30

Businesses can expand into street Fridays to Sundays

By JEREMY WALSH

The closure of Pleasanton's Main Street on weekends, which was introduced last summer and fall amid the COVID-19 pandemic, is returning in 2021 to give downtown restaurants and shops more space to expand operations outdoors.

A concept developed by the Pleasanton Downtown Association and approved by the city government, the "Weekend on Main" program is scheduled to begin next weekend (April 30 to May 2) and run each Friday afternoon through Sunday evening until Labor Day.

Terri Terry, president of the

PDA Board of Directors, told the Weekly the association is excited at the chance to build upon the success of last year's program and hopes "that Weekend on Main becomes the new 'norm' for years to come."

"The Pleasanton community embraced Weekend on Main last year with open arms. The Main Street closure brought not only the downtown businesses together but the community as a whole during a time of need," Terry said.

"Doing something out of the norm can be difficult to orchestrate and take years to accomplish. I commend our city and

county officials for making this achievement last year in a very short time," Terry added. "This year, we are growing the Event with more music and street vendors that will be fun for the whole family."

Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho told the Weekly, "Just as it did last year, the Weekend on Main provides businesses in the downtown corridor to expand their outdoor service capacity while indoor service remains limited due to the pandemic. The extra service space allows the community to safely

See **MAIN STREET** on Page 10

## Trucker charged in fatal collision

DA cites negligence for illegal left turn, trailer blocking roadway

By JEREMY WALSH

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office charged a Florida truck driver last week with three felony counts of gross vehicular manslaughter in connection with the crash in Livermore that killed three teenagers days before Christmas.

Prosecutors allege that Ivenet Frederic's decisions to make an illegal left-hand turn and then park his semi-truck with trailer in a business driveway while perpendicularly blocking two lanes of Las Positas Road on the night of Dec. 21 were criminally negligent and made him at fault for the deadly collision.

Rahul Brar, 18; Shej Kumar, 16; and Ian Ericksen, 16 — all Livermore residents — were killed after the Mercedes-Benz they were riding in crashed into the passenger side of the trailer. Ericksen was a junior at Livermore High School, Kumar attended Del Valle Continuation High School, and Brar was an alumnus of Vineyard Alternative High School.

The DA's office filed formal charges in the case on April 13 after reviewing the police investigation that was completed in late February.

See **COLLISION** on Page 6

# Alameda County Fair returning this year, shifting to October

Rescheduled to fall with COVID-19 vaccine efforts at fairgrounds due to end June 30

By JEREMY WALSH

After canceling in 2020 due to the health pandemic, the Alameda County Fair is coming back in 2021 but has been rescheduled for the fall instead of the usual summer dates due to COVID-19 vaccine and food distribution efforts currently operating at the Pleasanton fairgrounds, officials announced late last week.

The large-scale vaccination site, a public-private partnership at the expansive fairgrounds that serves up to 4,000 patients per day depending on supply, is expected to run through the end of June, according to fair officials. The county's free food distribution program for those in need in eastern Alameda County during the pandemic is also set to wrap up June 30.

That means that the fair, which is typically held for multiple weeks around Independence Day, is shifting to a 10-day/night event leading up to Halloween.

"We are excited to welcome fair



FILE PHOTO

Carnival rides like this one are set to return to Pleasanton in October for the 2021 Alameda County Fall Fair.

guests back in October and our team is working diligently to ensure we continue to put on a 'safety first' event for the community. The fair may look a little different in 2021, but we assure you it's the same good time where you can build memories that last a lifetime,"

CEO Jerome Hoban said in a statement on April 15.

The traditional fair horse racing, youth livestock auction and competitive exhibitions are still scheduled to occur this summer, as opposed to autumn.

But the carnival rides, fair food,

shopping and other live entertainment are shifting to Oct. 22-31 for what is being branded as the 2021 Alameda County Fall Fair. Attendees would likely have to pre-purchase dates for specific dates, and crowd levels would be limited — with final details to be confirmed.

The event will comply with all state and local health requirements in effect during that time, and fair officials said they believe guests will be required to wear face coverings while on the fairgrounds as well as have their temperature checked before entering the fair.

In addition to enhanced cleaning and sanitizing procedures, fair officials said they will "utilize touchless, cashless systems for ticketing, parking, carnival, food and beverage purchases whenever feasible per the recommendations of the state reopening guidelines."

Details about tickets for the 2021 Alameda County Fall Fair are due out later this year, including information on how to redeem valid

tickets from the canceled 2020 fair or those received by people who attended a drive-in movie at the fairgrounds last year or this year.

Meanwhile, live horse racing is scheduled to return for its traditional summer run at the Pleasanton fairgrounds track — on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from June 18 to July 11, including the Fourth of July.

The competitive exhibits and contests, among the most popular activities at the in-person fair, will continue virtually this year over the summer. Most entries are due by May 14. Best of Show winners may be displayed publicly at the fall fair in October, officials said.

The Youth Livestock and Small Animal Shows will be held July 7-11 with limited spectators, and the Junior Livestock Auction will be conducted in-person and virtually on July 11 officials said.

For more information, visit [www.alamedacountyfair.com](http://www.alamedacountyfair.com). ■

## Firehouse Arts Center reopening May 1

Camps, classes, outdoor performances to be held this summer

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Firehouse Arts Center has announced that it will reopen its doors to the public on next Saturday (May 1), along with the facility's Harrington Art Gallery and its 10th "Fresh Works" exhibit.

This reopening marks a major return of the creative and performing arts to Pleasanton since the venue's closure in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We're excited to once again provide a place where friends and neighbors can gather safely and celebrate the joy of art, music and theater," said Tamara Whitney, recreation manager for the city of Pleasanton.

"The arts provide more than just entertainment," she continued.

"They are also essential to our mental and emotional well-being.

"We're hopeful that by reopening our doors we can bring excitement and social connection to the many who have struggled during this difficult time."

The Firehouse Arts Center, at 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton, is doing something new this summer, offering outdoor performances, both ticketed and complimentary, featuring a variety of local artists. The live, in-person shows will be announced in the coming weeks at [www.FirehouseArts.org](http://www.FirehouseArts.org).

This summer will also see the return of Pleasanton's popular summer drama camps and youth art classes at the Firehouse Arts

Center, beginning in June. They will include Teen Intensives, Improv for High School and Middle School, Lil' Sparks program, and a new High School Cabaret program. Information will be posted online on Monday and registration will open May 5 at [www.Pleasanton-Fun.com](http://www.Pleasanton-Fun.com).

The Harrington Gallery will reopen May 1 with its annual Fresh Works juried exhibit, which will run through June 26 and feature 59 works from 49 local Bay Area artists who work in various media. This exhibit, the 10th Fresh Works, will highlight works submitted for the 2020 show, which was put on hold due to the shelter in place order.

Patrons will be allowed into the



FILE PHOTO

The Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton is set to reopen on May 1 after being closed for nearly 14 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

gallery at a limited capacity from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursdays; 3-5 p.m. Fridays; and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, with additional times by appointment.

"This is just the beginning of the phased reopening process ahead of us," Whitney said. "We are eager to bring back additional programs

and events when we are confident that they can be done safely."

"Providing a safe environment for Firehouse patrons and staff has been — and will continue to be — our No. 1 priority throughout this phased reopening," she added. "This will guide every decision we make in the coming months." ■

## COLLISION

Continued from Page 5

Frederic, 31, of Orlando, Fla., is scheduled for his first court appearance next month to enter a plea to the charges. It is not immediately clear whether he is represented by an attorney.

The violent crash, killing three local teenagers during the winter holiday season, rocked the Livermore community.

According to Livermore police, Frederic was driving a white 2015 Kenworth T680 pulling a 53-foot

CIMC container chassis trailer westbound on Las Positas Road when he approached a no-left-turn/no-U-turn sign at the intersection of the business driveway at 5699 Las Positas Road just before 10:30 p.m. on Dec. 21.

The trucker made the left turn in disregard of the sign and pulled the semi-truck partly into the driveway, leaving the trailer perpendicular in the roadway blocking the first and second eastbound lanes while he got out of the cab to tell the business to open its gate, Livermore police Officer Keith Pini wrote in a

probable cause statement.

In that time, a white Mercedes-Benz passenger vehicle carrying the three teenagers was traveling eastbound in the No. 2 lane at an unknown speed toward the big-rig, according to Pini.

Bar's family said on social media that the 18-year-old was driving his cousin Kumar and friend Ericksen home after picking up the pair after their shift ended at a local Baskin-Robbins ice cream store that night.

The car struck the passenger side of the trailer, a violent crash that "caused the top of the Mercedes to

be sheared off and peeled back to the trunk lid," according to Pini. Two of the teens died at the scene while the third succumbed to his injuries at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley just before 11:30 p.m. Frederic remained at the scene, was interviewed by police and found not to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, so he was released from the scene, according to Pini. But subsequent investigation led police to recommend vehicular manslaughter charges in the case.

"Frederic committed two infractions by failure to obey a sign

and was negligent in blocking the roadway, causing the death of three victims by his actions," the officer wrote.

Police forwarded the case in late February to the DA's office, which in turn filed a criminal complaint on April 13 charging Frederic with three felony counts of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence.

The Florida man is scheduled to appear in Alameda County Superior Court on May 21 for arraignment and entry of plea, according to the DA's office. ■

# Dublin High's new science building opens for learning

Moirao calls \$31.5M facility 'a building of the future'

By JULIA BAUM

Dublin High School ceremonially opened the doors to its new engineering and science building last week, marking completion on one of Dublin Unified School District's marquee construction projects in recent years.

The new \$31.5 million building — which broke ground in August 2019 — adds approximately 47,000 square feet of learning space to the campus, and includes 15 new engineering and science classrooms, HUB/academic support space, break-out spaces, a weight room, and shop space for maintenance and operations.

Funding came from Measures C and E, two major bond measures approved by Dublin voters in 2004 and 2012, respectively.

"This has truly been a community project," said Interim Superintendent Daniel Moirao, who wore a face mask while standing outside of the building at the socially distanced event on Thursday, which was also live streamed that morning. "This is a building of the future — a future our students get to live on a daily basis here in our school district."



Dublin High School's new engineering and science building adds an extra 47,000 sq. ft. of learning space to the campus.

Included among those in attendance were Board of Trustees Vice President and event emcee Megan Rouse, trustees Kristin Pelham and Gabrielle Blackman, DHS principal Maureen Byrne, DHS Engineering and Design Academy director Eugene Chou, Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez, Dublin City Councilmember Jean Josey and DHS alum Austin Escobar.

The absence of late trustee Catherine Kuo, who died after being hit by an SUV while volunteering at Fallon Middle

School last month, did not go unacknowledged at the ceremony. Moirao recalled how at the groundbreaking for the future Emerald High School last summer, Kuo "suddenly had fans and face masks" for all the attendees.

"I know that if Trustee Kuo had been here today ... she'd probably be walking through here celebrating with us and we want to acknowledge her, for her help in making us better as well," Moirao said.

The building officially opened to students on March 29, soon

after DUSD resumed in-person learning for those enrolled in hybrid classes.

Hernandez congratulated "the generations of students who will benefit from the opportunities of Dublin High's new engineering and science building" in her address, and said she was "thrilled to be here and to celebrate this occasion in person."

"If the past year has taught us anything, it is that even as we approach this digital age, we cannot take the on-campus learning experience for granted," Hernandez said. "How lucky are we that as school begins to reopen, our kids and our educators get to return in-person learning with the state-of-the-art facility like this."

Byrne said she's "been around long enough to see this space go

through many iterations — auto shop class and maintenance shop, counseling department, leadership room, athletic department, and, of course, a fenced-in lot of dirt that was here for a long time."

"This building represents so much — the growth of an engineering program from a few random classes to a state-renowned academy, the advocacy of students and staff for facilities to help them thrive," Byrne said. "Most of all, it represents a community's belief in its youth, our future, and their commitment to help them flourish."

Byrne concluded, "Most of all, thank you to the voters of Dublin. Thank you for passing Measure C and E to make this day a reality.

We are ever so grateful and will work to do you proud." ■

## Dublin Unified to reopen five days a week this fall

District announces 2021 graduation plans

By JULIA BAUM

Dublin Unified School District will reopen schools full-time, five days a week, starting in the new academic year this August, Interim Superintendent Daniel Moirao announced at a Board of Trustees meeting last week.

"The governor has said by June we're going to be fully open, and we as a school system are planning that for the fall, to be fully open," Moirao said.

In a report last week, the California Department of Public Health said, "If current trends and best practices continue, the next school year can begin with offering full in-person instruction to all students."

DUSD spokesperson Chip Dehnert told the Weekly after the April 13 board meeting, "The plan is to return to full-time, five days a week classes starting in the fall. We are talking about normal school, no cohorts, but possibly with masks."

Families who wish to stay in distance learning next year may do so, as Moirao acknowledged, "There may still be some families who want to be cautious, and we're exploring options for those families, but it's our plan right

now to fully open our schools in the fall."

State officials said "health regulations and guidance will remain operative, but will be revised to reflect changing conditions — including any adjustments to respond to variants — and in consultation with federal, state and local partners."

Schools can also make use of a "historic level of state and federal funds, including \$4.6 billion to expand learning opportunities" made available last month.

Officials said summer programming, planning for full time in-person instruction, maximizing the amount or value of instructional time through measures such as extending the school year and expanding academic intervention and mental health services, and "communicating with and educating families who may be reluctant to return to in-person instruction" should be treated as priorities.

DUSD also shared plans to hold graduation and promotion ceremonies later next month. Dehnert confirmed the district is "looking at how to host some sort of in-person event."

"This would not be graduation

ceremonies as normal, but maybe breaking the graduating class down into smaller groups and having multiple ceremonies with gaps that allow for time to sanitize the facilities/equipment being used," Dehnert said.

Last week, Moirao said the district is trying "to get to a different level of graduation rather than the drive-bys" done last year, and will need to follow mandatory guidelines including capacity caps, pre-registration and health screenings.

"Our principals at our middle schools and high schools are working with ed services right now to determine what is feasible and what can be done," Moirao said, and added that the district is anticipating additional guidance from the health department.

Valley High School will hold its graduation ceremony on May 26, and Dublin High's commencement ceremony is on May 28. Both ceremonies will be live streamed and recorded for viewing later.

Middle schools will notify families about the specific day and time for 8th-grade promotion ceremonies, which will be held May 26-28. ■

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# Chabad Center's 'attractive' redesign draws city praise

Planning Commission also reviews plans for new Greek Orthodox Church

By JULIA BAUM

A local synagogue's much-awaited remodel plans were praised by worshippers, neighbors and city officials alike before being unanimously approved at the Pleasanton Planning Commission's regular meeting last week.

Before voting during the April 14 meeting, Vice Chair Nancy Allen praised the Chabad Center for Jewish Life's "attractive and contemporary" new design of the center located at 3370 Hopyard Road, and called it a "significant upgrade" over the building's fire-damaged state of the past two years.

"I'm really excited about this attractive and contemporary building," Allen said. "Thank you for taking it this far; you didn't have to, and it's really appreciated."

Commissioner Brandon Pace also commended "the work and the vision" of the final design, and said it was "thrilling to see these reflections of representative pieces of our community be upgraded."

In a statement to the Weekly, Rabbi Raleigh Resnick thanked city officials, neighbors and "our team of architects for coming together to bring this new center to life," and said the congregation will "anxiously look forward to the grand opening."

A major remodel will incorporate contemporary and modern design elements and features to the building's facade, as well as two building towers on the south elevation. Along with enhanced landscaping such as trees, shrubs and vines, a new playground, outdoor terraces, and trash enclosure will also be added.

The playground area will have play equipment and shade covers, and an 8-foot-tall fence erected around the perimeter to lessen noise impacts from children attending on-site programs at the Gan Chabad Early Childhood Education Center. A "defined access



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

Rendering of the Chabad Center for Jewish Life's newly approved final design; a fire damaged the building in 2019.

route" from the daycare center to the playground will be marked by a new walkway and fence along the building's north side.

Though it's still unclear when construction will start exactly, Rabbi Resnick told the Weekly that it should be within a few months.

"Our plan is as soon as we get approval, to break ground ... but that's between the architects and building department," Resnick said.

The preschool is also tentatively set to open September 2022 — "that's the hope," he said.

Besides worship services and the preschool and daycare programs, there will also be a Holocaust education center, library, teen center and kosher kitchen on site.

"We hope this to be a center that will be a dynamic, vibrant and welcoming center" that will add to Pleasanton's "cultural tapestry," Resnick said. "We really do hope it has an impact beyond the Jewish community."

## In other business

An initial review of an East Bay congregation's application to build a new church and multipurpose building in west Pleasanton received positive feedback last week.

The workshop gave commissioners the opportunity to review the

proposal from Resurrection Green Orthodox Church, as well as hear public comment and give their own feedback to the applicant prior to the formal application process. No formal action was taken that evening.

With more than half of their parishioners living in the Tri-Valley, as well as Danville and San Ramon, "We feel that God has led us here," Father Niko Bekris of Resurrection Greek Orthodox Church told commissioners.

Located in Castro Valley since 1972, the congregation's current site is a repurposed Seventh Day Adventist church that has served them well, but Bekris said, "Still, we have always had a dream to one day build a traditional Byzantine temple."

The church has proposed subdividing the 16-acre site at Pleasant View Church of Christ, located at 11300 Dublin Canyon Road, into two parcels — one for the Church of Christ, and a separate 4.3-acre portion for the proposed 9,792-square-foot Greek Orthodox Church, which would also include a 24,791-square-foot multipurpose building with a gymnasium.

Special consideration has been given to a number of details in the church's design such as specific shapes, materials, art work, and a



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

A new Greek Orthodox church is proposed for construction along Dublin Canyon Road, as shown in this rendering.

dome extending over 53 feet high. "Everything in our architecture is meant to enhance the experience of the worshipper," Bekris said, from the icon of Christ inside the dome to "high ceilings covered with a rich tradition of Greco-Roman frescoes and mosaics with carved wood, which lead the viewer upward."

Bekris said "worship is very deliberately experiential" in the Orthodox Christian tradition, including iconography that is meant to be seen and touched, and Byzantine chant that "provides sensation for the ears and taste."

"Even the shape of the building and the use of marble contributes to a reverberation of acoustics to amplify the chanting in our services," Bekris added. "All of this is meant to assist the worshipper in feeling uplifted and otherworldly, heavenly experience."

About 138 people attend the church's largest service every Sunday, according to city staff, with overall membership anticipated to grow to about 350 people over the next 20 years. In addition to worship services, youth groups such as sports teams and the Girl and Boy Scouts are expected to make use of the facilities.

Commissioner Justin Brown said it was "a better proposal than the three homes" presented to them

at one point, and that he looked forward to seeing a final version in the future, while a parishioner said during public comment that the church's relocation "will allow for expanded Greek and Mediterranean cultural expression to flourish in the Tri-Valley."

That expression is likely to take form through special events like the annual Greek Festival, which could potentially have more than 500 attendees. Construction of 121 parking spaces and a commercial kitchen would allow the site to accommodate the popular cultural event.

Based on the proposed site plan, staff said in a report that the site "will have adequate parking to support all users of the site at the church's maximum growth potential" and "be capable to meet the growing demand and anticipated congregation growth within the coming years."

City officials will also include a condition of approval "to ensure the operation of the church, including gymnasium use and special events, do not have any parking impacts on the surrounding area in the future, by requiring city approval prior to any changes in the operation or number of worship services, activities, events, or changes to the schedule or number of church group meetings." ■

# Livermore selected as finalist for All-America City Award

Program recognizes 'inclusive, innovative and effective civic engagement'

By CIERRA BAILEY

The city of Livermore is the only California municipality chosen as one of 20 finalists nationwide to compete for an All-America City Award.

Presented by the National Civic League, the All-America City Award is a community recognition program that "celebrates the work of communities in using inclusive, innovative and effective civic engagement to address critical issues and create stronger connections among residents, businesses, and nonprofit and government leaders," according to a statement announcing

Livermore's participation.

"It is a great honor to be named a finalist for the All-America City award," Mayor Bob Woerner told the Weekly. "Our community has demonstrated time and time again that we are resilient and care for each other, especially in times of need."

This year marks the 72nd anniversary of the award, which has been given to 10 communities each year since 1949. The theme for this year's contest is "Building Equitable and Resilient Communities."

Livermore's competitors include Spokane, Wash.; Richmond, Va.;

Englewood, Colo.; Kansas City, Mo.; and Dallas, Texas, among others.

Staff and representatives from the city, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and Las Positas College worked collaboratively to apply for the award, drawing from three community-driven projects.

City officials said the application underscored the community's anti-vaping efforts and addressing the youth mental health crisis, efforts to address racial equity and justice — including the work of the city's Equity and Inclusion working group

— as well as the establishment of a wellness center and new diverse clubs at Livermore schools. The application also called attention to the community's response to housing inequity and homelessness.

"We are continually collaborating with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District and our other partner agencies to be a welcoming and inclusive community," Woerner said. "We will be building on the wonderful foundation of community-led efforts like those highlighted in our application to create a bright future for Livermore."

The next step in the competition

is a virtual presentation at the 72nd All-America City Awards Event set to take place June 7-9. Each community will be given 10 minutes to share a presentation before the awards jury explaining why it should be named an All-America City.

Following the presentation, the jury will have 10 minutes to question the presenters. The jury will then consider the presentation, answers to their questions and the written application to determine which 10 communities will be named All-America Cities. ■

# Livermore council poised to adopt Asian solidarity resolution

Members also discuss historic preservation program

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore City Council directed staff last week to draft a resolution expressing the city's solidarity with the Asian community amid the uptick in anti-Asian violence and discrimination in the Bay Area, nationally and abroad.

The resolution will focus on "denouncing xenophobia and anti-Asian racism arising due to fears of the COVID-19 pandemic and affirming the city council's commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian/Pacific Islander communities and reaffirming its support of a culture of welcome, inclusion and respect," according to the city staff report.

Mayor Bob Woerner initially requested the resolution after attending last month's Alameda County Mayors Conference, where they adopted a similar resolution and extended a call to all counties, cities and local city governments across the country to make a similar commitment to "reaffirm their solidarity with Asian/Pacific Islander communities and commit to combating hate and improving health equity."

"I'm pleased that we're able to bring this forth and join all of our other cities in Alameda County and other parts of the Bay Area and the country," Woerner said before the council voted unanimously April 12 to move

forward with drafting the resolution.

The move follows a series of rallies held in support of the Asian community throughout the Tri-Valley, the greater Bay Area and throughout the U.S. In Livermore, community groups Livermore Indivisible and Tri-Valley for Black Lives co-hosted a rally on March 28 at the new Stockmen's Park downtown where residents, educators, students and city leaders — including all five City Council members — gathered to denounce hate against people of Asian descent.

## In other business

Earlier in the April 12 meeting, the council discussed modernizing the city's historic preservation program.

The Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission and city staff are developing a project that would "adopt a new citywide historic context statement and historic resources inventory, and would authorize changes to the Development Code, Zoning Map, and Downtown Specific Plan in order to better preserve Livermore's rich heritage and unique character, consistent with the General Plan," according to the staff report.

The city wants to develop a more streamlined process for identifying and documenting historical properties throughout the city. The

most recent historic resources inventory identified 70 historic properties in the city and 220 potentially historic properties, which in total represents about 1% of all the city's parcels. Some of those properties include Ravenswood and Hagemann Ranch, among others.

The project focuses only on physical buildings and does not include historical artifacts or documents.

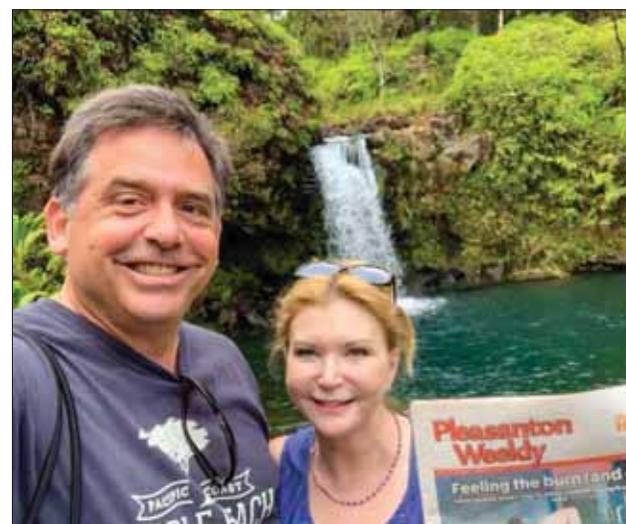
Livermore currently maintains a preservation ordinance that requires historic review of any activity, including paint or landscaping work to any property that is

over 50 years of age.

According to city staff, one of the goals of updating the standard, is to narrow down the properties with significance to Livermore's past and alleviate the burden for residents with homes that are more than 50 years old to seek additional permits to make changes on their property.

The council unanimously voted to move ahead with staff's recommendations in an effort to develop a more efficient framework and process and better protect the city's historic resources. ■

## TAKE US ALONG



**Honeymoon in Hawaii:** Gina Channell Wilcox, publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly, and her new husband Steve Wilcox took the Weekly on their honeymoon to Maui. One of their stops on the Road to Hana was the Seven Sacred Pools, which has several beautiful waterfalls.

To submit your "Take Us Along" entry, email your photograph to [editor@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:editor@pleasantonweekly.com). Be sure to identify who is in the photo (names listed from left to right), the location, the date and any relevant details about where you took your Weekly.

## Visit Tri-Valley prepares to launch 'Promise Pass'

San Ramon participating in new program after previously cutting ties with organization

By RYAN J. DEGAN

To help promote regional businesses and encourage residents to shop local, tourism advocacy group Visit Tri-Valley is getting ready to launch a free savings passport program that will function similar to a free coupon book.

Businesses can apply through April 30 to be a part of the "Tri-Valley Promise Pass" program, which will seek to support businesses in each of the Tri-Valley communities — including the city of San Ramon, which chose to collaborate with Visit Tri-Valley after previously divorcing from the group several years ago.

"The pass is titled the Tri-Valley Promise Pass and our focus is to support local businesses by having customers take the 'promise to spend locally' by signing up for the experience," organizers said in a statement. "The pass will be available on a mobile-exclusive platform and will be a key component of marketing campaigns moving forward."

Designed to act as a virtual coupon book, businesses that sign up for the program will offer discounts, promotional events and other deals that residents who promise to support local can take advantage of.

According to organizers, the major difference between this program and traditional coupon books is that through the passport program participants will receive deals and discounts virtually through text and email.

There is no cost for businesses seeking to participate in the program; however, they are being asked to offer coupons or discounts that pass holders can use at their establishments.

"Remember, there is no cost to participate in the Tri-Valley Promise Pass. We just ask that you offer an exciting coupon or discount as an incentive for locals to visit your business and spend money with you. The pass categories include retail, dining, lodging, services and activities," organizers added for businesses interested in participating.

A former member of Visit Tri-Valley, San Ramon has decided to participate in the program despite having officially cut ties with the tourism group in 2015 — doing so while citing a desire to focus resources more directly on San Ramon as opposed to the regional community.

City officials said that the decision to collaborate with Visit Tri-Valley for the Promise Pass does not necessarily mean that San Ramon is coming back into the fold and that the city's own tourism board will be making its own campaign in the future.

"San Ramon is happy to participate in the Promise Pass Program. We are looking for any opportunity that promotes shopping local to help our businesses recover while operating under the State COVID restrictions. The promotional campaign for the Promise Pass will run until early summer which is great timing," deputy city manager Steven Spedowski said.

"We expect a new marketing campaign from Discover San Ramon to launch as the Promise Pass campaign winds down," he added.

Visit Tri-Valley hasn't set a date on when residents can sign up for a passport, but have said that the goal is to have the program begin in early May. ■

Sponsored by Emerson Montessori Schools / Early Learning Institute



## Good writing is key to a classical education

The Hacienda campus of Emerson Montessori School is a different kind of school. It shapes strong, competent, self-confident individuals, not students who would rather "follow the crowd."

Emerson Montessori takes an innovative approach to classical education. Students progress at their own pace through skill subjects and learners are never pushed beyond their capabilities or held back to wait for others.

Larger, flexible classrooms provide students with their own cubicles and computers, as well as small-group and large-group work spaces.

The curriculum—built on a Montessori foundation—is designed to develop a complete human being. It includes art, music, Chinese, Spanish, economics and business, physical education, school tasks, and personal development.



During the summer, the school is an ideal camp environment to improve student writing, an activity requiring both specific skills and the motivation to improve them. Rather than focus on the errors in student writing, the Write Now! program fosters pride in student work by emphasizing what is valuable about it and how each draft represents an improvement over the previous one. Teachers guide students to understand that good writing requires the time to re-read, edit, and re-write their work, in contrast to the "on-demand," one-draft-only writing that is taught in most schools.

For more information about the Write Now! program and Emerson School, call 925-485-5750.

# Stanford-ValleyCare shutteres LifeStyleRx gym

New medical services expected to enter facility in Livermore

By CIERRA BAILEY

Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare permanently shut down its LifeStyleRx fitness center in Livermore earlier this month after 17 years, citing financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The doors of the fitness center located at 1119 E. Stanley Blvd. officially closed on April 10, but the health care provider said in a statement that it plans to use the space to expand other services.

“We intend to repurpose this space to continue to bring high-value medical services to our community and support growing patient

volumes in a number of clinical service lines, such as orthopedics, spine, and GI services,” they said.

The rehabilitation and physical therapy services housed in the LifeStyleRx building will continue, including occupation and speech therapy, cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation.

Employees affected by the closure were notified five days in advance and were provided 30-days paid working notice as well as the option to continue pay and for benefit eligible employees the option to continue medical, and vision benefits, according to the statement.

Some LifeStyleRx employees were relocated to different departments of Stanford-ValleyCare, others were provided a list of open positions within the Stanford Health Care system that they could potentially apply for.

More changes could be in store for the entire Livermore campus in the future as the facility aims to develop a broader strategic plan to assess how all of its resources can be best utilized.

The Livermore campus currently offers diagnostic imaging, a laboratory, an outpatient surgery — ambulatory surgery center,

a gastroenterology lab, an urgent care, pharmacy, cardiac rehabilitation, sports medicine, pulmonary rehabilitation, a sleep center, medical offices, food and nutrition services, staff development and education center, digital solutions, telecommunications, health information management, government and community relations and space provided to Open Heart Kitchen and Spectrum/Meals on Wheels, among other services.

The LifeStyleRx gym had already been closed for the past year in accordance with statewide orders, but before the pandemic

finally took its toll financially, the 70,000-square-foot wellness center had been transformed into a COVID-19 testing site, a weigh station for personal protective equipment and a free day care center for employees.

“While we will deeply miss the community bonds and friendships that were fostered at LifeStyleRx, we look forward to continuing to partner with the Livermore community as we seek to deliver safe, high-quality and excellent care to our communities now and into the future,” Stanford-ValleyCare officials said. ■

## Z-Cares Challenge encourages more dialogue on mental health

By JULIA BAUM

A little more than a year into the COVID-19 pandemic, local non-profit Z-Cares is presenting a new challenge for the Tri-Valley community to take up during Mental Health Awareness Month in May.

“We’ve probably yet to see the mental health crisis that COVID caused,” co-founder Steve Nimmo told the Weekly. “The post-pandemic prediction is that there will be a large spike in mental health issues.

We want to get out ahead of that.”

When sheltering in place started in March 2020, the organization was fielding questions about how to help youths manage with anxiety and depression caused by isolation while much of the world was shut down.

While Z-Cares noticed an uptick in requests for help with mental health during sheltering, “I do think people found a rhythm during COVID,” Nimmo said. “Speaking for myself, we spoke with my family way

more during the year of COVID than before. I heard that from so many other people as well, that they found a new way to stay connected with family.”

But as the world reopens, Nimmo said it’s “definitely a mixed bag about things opening up.”

Even taking kids out of the equation, Nimmo said there’s been anxiety from adults about reopening, “then anxiety that COVID is still out there, people are still getting

put in the hospital.” Recent re-analysis of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is also “causing some angst in people.”

“The prevailing sentiment is, ‘I just want to get back to normal as quick as I can,’ and I think a lot of us feel that way,” Nimmo added. “It’s been a strange, hard 14 months, but there does seem to be light at the end of the tunnel.”

Though the pandemic also brought mental health to the forefront of public discussion, Z-Cares is looking to continue the conversation long after.

“COVID put a giant spotlight on mental health but we also want to look beyond COVID,” Nimmo said. “We need to make sure that we continue our openness about mental

health and continue to support these kids. A lagging mental health crisis may show up when we think life is normal again.”

To that end, the organization partnered with the city of Pleasanton to offer special talks with both parent and youth groups, and will be offering several virtual mental health first aid training courses for youths during May, as well as encouraging the entire community to take up the “Z-Cares Challenge” to talk about depression and anxiety with family and friends.

“There’s no better time than during Mental Health Awareness Month in May to just be vigilant about it,” Nimmo said.

To learn more about the Z-Cares Challenge, visit [www.zcares.org](http://www.zcares.org). ■

Annual Mother's Day Lookalike Contest

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**Pleasanton Weekly**

### MAIN STREET

Continued from Page 5

enjoy and support local Pleasanton businesses.”

“Additionally, we continue to require businesses and patrons to practice COVID-19 safety protocols by wearing a mask and social distancing while visiting the downtown and other public places throughout the community,” he added.

This year’s program is expected to look similar to the 2020 version, which began on June 19 when outdoor dining was allowed to resume in Alameda County and continued through Nov. 1.

Many restaurants, and some retail shops, expanded their business operations on weekends into the street parking stalls and driving lanes, with a path left down the center of Main Street for pedestrians and bicyclists — and emergency services, if needed.

A number of restaurants continue to have outdoor dining canopies in parking spots on Main Street, though the roadway and sidewalks have remained clear seven days a week since November.

Beginning around 3 p.m. on Fridays, city crews will start closing Main Street to vehicular traffic through about 9 p.m. Sundays, with businesses allowed to operate in the roadway from 5 p.m. Fridays and 8 p.m. Sundays. The closure will extend into holiday Mondays for Memorial Day and Labor Day — the latter of which will be the final day of the program under the current schedule.

Business and patrons will be required to follow all safety protocols put in place by the county and state, according to the PDA. Face coverings must be worn at all times except when seated for dining and a 6-foot distance must be maintained between patron groups.

“Please remember that you are also required to abide by all rules and regulations implemented by businesses prior to entering their establishments. Our downtown businesses have been working hard to implement best practices that will keep you and their employees safe throughout your shopping and dining experience,” PDA officials said. ■

# Proposed Niles Canyon Trail would link Sunol and Fremont

Aims to create bike, pedestrian access while preserving historic water, rail infrastructure

By JULIA BAUM

Tri-Valley residents may one day be able to travel on foot or bike through Niles Canyon on a nearly six-mile proposed trail that would link the eastern end of Fremont and the unincorporated community of Sunol — which Alameda County officials also said would “preserve the historic water and rail infrastructure within Niles Canyon.”

In a public update on the project last month, officials said, “Improving access in the canyon is a gateway to open space for Alameda County residents.”

Rick Yeung of the Alameda County Public Works Agency, which has also partnered with the Public Utilities Commission and the East Bay Regional Park District for the project, told the Weekly

that development of the 5.8-mile bicycle and pedestrian connection will use a combination of new trail sections, portions of the former Sunol Aqueduct, and existing railways for a route running from the Niles District in Fremont to Sunol.

“Much of Phase 1 from Niles to Palomares Road uses existing roadways for the trail,” Yeung said. “Phase 2, which is from Palomares Road to the Niles Canyon Railway Yard near Brightside, re-purposes the aqueduct as a trail for about 25% of the route. About 70% of Phase 3 from the Niles Canyon Railway Yard to Sunol requires the construction of new trail.”

Yeung said planners may need to secure an easement to cross private property, “which would require payment for the full market value of the land,” though a

private landowner is not required to grant an easement.

The area in question is small, but Yeung said, “If this becomes an issue, the project will need to adjust the trail’s location, which may increase construction cost and complexity.”

With some parts of the proposed trail adjacent to the Niles Canyon Railway or Highway 84, or near steep slopes, features like retaining walls and a pedestrian bridge at Palomares Road will need to be built. Parts of the aqueduct will also get a layer of asphalt on the top surface, as well as a second concrete exterior wall and handrail for pedestrians.

Visitor parking at the existing Niles Plaza parking facility and the Alameda Creek Staging Area would be linked to the trail, along with

a new parking area at Palomares Road and the future EBRPD Tyler Staging Area.

Because of “a significant increase in people experiencing homelessness within Niles Canyon over the last decade,” Yeung said “unfortunately, this has led to illicit activity including the disposal of waste and toxic substances such as spray paint,” and will require cleaning the canyon.

However, Yeung said officials believe the trail’s development “will create ‘eyes on the canyon’ that will help to prevent encampments and illegal waste disposal.”

“It is difficult to predict the number of trail users,” Yeung said. “However, when looking at other regional trails in the Bay Area, we anticipate a peak of about 400 people on a nice weekend day.”

According to Yeung, the entire trail “exceeds \$100 million to complete,” with the first phase at a total development cost of about \$29 million. The Alameda County Transportation Commission, Alameda County, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and city of Fremont have all provided funding for the project.

A source of construction funds has not been identified yet, but Yeung said “a project of this scale will likely receive a combination of funds from local, state, and federal sources.”

The county is currently developing an environmental impact report; a scope session will be held in the early summer and open for public comment. To learn more about the project, visit [www.niles.canyontrail.org](http://www.niles.canyontrail.org). ■

## New Clipper card mobile app, Apple Wallet compatibility

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission launched a mobile Clipper card app last week and made the transit-fare payment system available on iPhone and Apple Watch via Apple Pay.

Bay Area transit riders can add their Clipper card to their Apple Wallet and load cash value directly to it with Apple Pay, according to

Apple and the MTC, which oversees the transit agencies in the Bay Area.

An iPhone or Apple Watch with a Clipper card saved can then be held near a Clipper reader as riders board a bus, train or ferry. Apple Wallet functionality is also available to those enrolled in the Clipper START program and those

who use cash to load their card.

Clipper compatibility with Android phones is expected to launch next month, according to the MTC.

“The last year has taught us the importance of contactless fare payment, and this is one more way Clipper is delivering on that promise,” MTC Chair and Napa County Supervisor Alfredo

Pedroza said in a statement.

The Clipper mobile app will also offer transit users a streamlined way to manage their Clipper account rather than having to use Clipper’s website.

Clipper cards can be added to Apple Wallet on iPhone 8 or later with the latest version of iOS or an Apple Watch Series 3 or later

that has the latest version of the watch’s operating system. Once added, riders will not be able to use their physical Clipper card to pay for transit fares, according to the MTC.

Transit riders can find more information at [www.clippercard.com/ClipperWeb](http://www.clippercard.com/ClipperWeb). ■

—Bay City News Service

## CAMPAIGN

Continued from Page 5

mayoral candidate, Councilmember Valerie Arkin, who originally brought the matter to the council, suggested increasing the expenditure amounts.

During last year’s general election, all City Council candidates pledged to abide by and did not exceed the city’s voluntary campaign expenditure limit of \$55,325. Established in 2008, that limit breaks down to \$1 per registered Pleasanton voter, plus inflation.

‘I don’t think you need to raise that kind of money to win a seat, and I’m an obvious example of that.’

Valerie Arkin,  
City Council member

Seto said, “As the ordinance in our current municipal code exists, it’s for an election period,” so expenditures such as prepaid advertising made during an off-year wouldn’t count toward the expenditure limit.

Narum asked about the limits that could be independently spent by an individual on a candidate or candidate’s committee, to which Seto replied there’s “not so much limits as reporting requirements.”

“Not to pick on Councilmember Balch, but since he’s not up for re-election until 2024 ... in the four-year period, he could only accept \$1,000 from an individual as long as he’s signing that voluntary pledge, is that correct?” Narum said, which Seto affirmed.

Mayor Karla Brown asked who enforces the voluntary pledges now, and Seto said they’re not subject to enforcement.

“Voluntary expenditure limits do have some concerns that have been challenged in court before, and so when the council adopted that in 2008, there was a very specific interest in making sure that was voluntary and not subject to any fines or penalties, so that’s what we’re proposing here going forward,” Seto said.

Though not enforced or monitored by the city, “I imagine that is something the court of public opinion might be tracking,” Seto added.

During public comment, former city planning commissioner and 2016 council candidate Herb Ritter said he supported “taking big money, special interests out of elections” and the \$1,000 per donor limit, but not “capping new

candidates from raising funds to help get out their message.”

“What I would encourage you to do is stop making more rules and start enforcing the ones you have or change them,” Ritter said.

Ritter added, “I also think you could cap incumbents and not new candidates as an option. I think incumbents have a huge, huge advantage as history shows. I encourage you to follow the state law and not try to over-regulate local campaigns.”

Bryan Gillette, who co-chaired the Yes on Measure M campaign and former councilmember Jerry Pentin’s bid for mayor last year, said his experience showed him “how difficult it is to raise money and how expensive voter outreach really is.”

“Mailers, lawn signs and advertisements are expensive, and with a growing community, outreach is vital,” Gillette said. “The limits being proposed are so low as to only benefit those currently in office and stifle challengers.”

“These arbitrary low limits will reduce transparency, as money will be funneled into political action committees and independent expenditures by individuals, making it harder to know who is behind the candidate,” Gillette added. “When money is funneled through PACs, it becomes harder for me to know whose interest is being represented.”

Brown said she didn’t want “any of the five of us or any future council members to have a reputation that they bought a seat on this council,” and that “when I ran last time, I said I’m not taking PAC money.”

However, Narum noted the Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters PAC “did give some money there in 2020” to Brown’s campaign, in the form of \$1,000, “so let’s be honest about that.”

Arkin called campaign finance reform “a big issue countrywide, but even locally here in Pleasanton I would say it filters down to

the local level.”

“This was not meant to be about my campaign, but I was a newbie running for school board with \$2,400, and I won and I came in second place, in first (place) was the incumbent,” Arkin said. “I ran for City Council not being an incumbent and spent about \$6,200, raised just a little more than that. I don’t think you need to raise that kind of money to win a seat, and I’m an obvious example of that.”

The second reading and final adoption of the ordinance are expected to take place at the next regular council meeting. ■

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



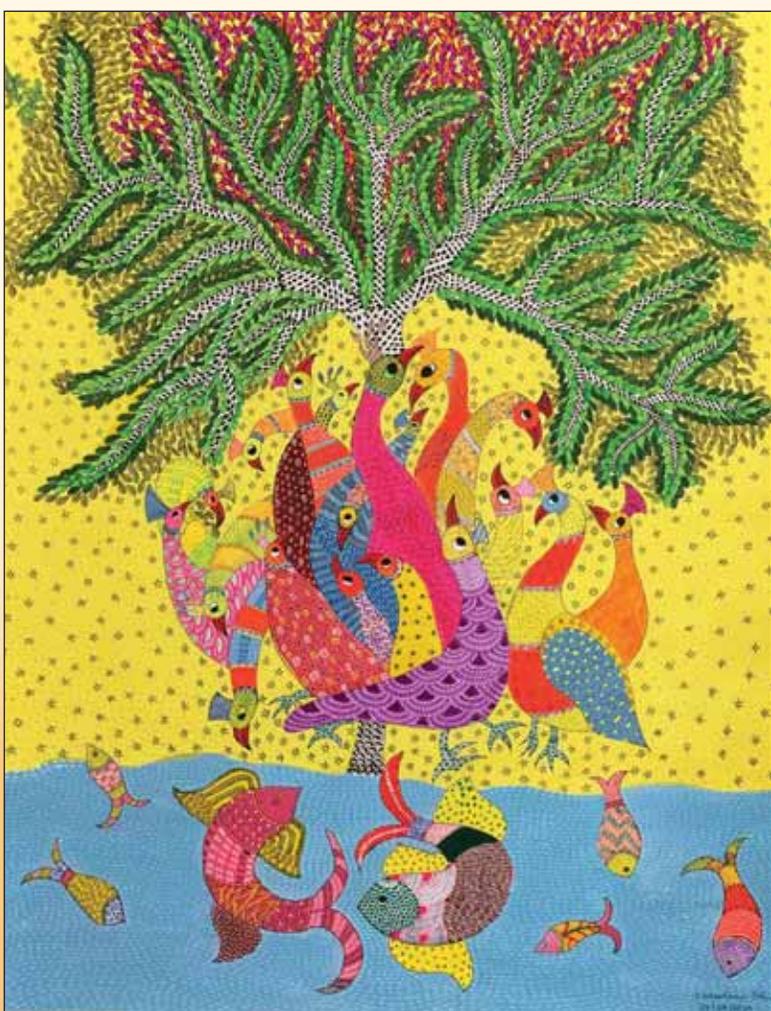
HIGHLIGHTS

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

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.  
• Draft FY2021/22 – FY2022/23 City Council Work Plan

To explore more about Pleasanton,  
visit us at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov)



Dublin Arts Collective draws members from all types of creative pursuits. Top: "Self Portrait in Meditation" by Dennis Baker, oil painter. Above: "Prasanta," folk art in acrylic by Chandana Srinath. Right: "Celebrating the Arts" by Sawsan Wolski.

# Artistic en

## Dublin Arts Collective enhances cult



By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Painters. Sculptors. Photographers. Musicians, dancers and actors.

Dublin, a city of 61,000, has more than its share of creative residents, and the Dublin Arts Collective is giving them a presence in the community.

"My idea was to start an information hub, some way we could aggregate and say, 'This is the arts community, this is what they do,'" said floral photographer Vanessa Thomas, co-founder of the nonprofit organization.

"The city did a needs assessment survey in 2016 and discovered it needed more partnerships with the cultural arts community," Thomas said, "to engage people in programs."

Thomas, originally from South Africa and who lived in the United Kingdom before her family moved here, was new to Dublin but she soon made the acquaintance of Sawsan Wolski, owner of the Frame Company on Village Parkway.

"Her walls gave us the opportunity to display our work," Thomas said.

The two artists discussed the potential of working with the city for gallery space as well as promoting arts in the community, and Thomas said they were pleased to be joined by Claudia McCormick, an artist who also had been a City Council member.

Thomas, Wolski and McCormick began talks with the city, and the artists signed up for a booth as the Dublin Arts Collective at the Splatter Festival, Dublin's end-of-summer celebration.

"I met a few artists at Splatter, and it took off from there," Thomas recalled.

They also attended a Youth Expo, where they did the first artists' public display.

"We filled a gap," Thomas said. "Whenever an arts need come up, the Dublin Arts Collective came into play. Then we decided maybe we needed to look into forming a nonprofit so if we needed to apply for funds, we would be more formalized."

A TEDxEmeraldGlenPark speakers event March 9, 2019, at the Shannon Community Center featured Thomas in her role as co-founder of the Dublin Arts Collective, and its new logo was unveiled.

One of the biggest challenges for Dublin artists, Thomas said, has been finding display space. Then in February 2020, Dublin's police services moved into the new Public Safety Complex that houses police and fire, freeing up the former police headquarters at Dublin Civic Center.

"Part of what we were advocating was that this become a center for the arts," Thomas said. "We got the community together, did workshops and joined in all the focus group discussions."

Members of collective attended the City Council meeting Oct. 15, 2019, to cheer as the city allocated funds for design work on a cultural arts center in the building, with gallery space downstairs and the Parks and Community Services Department on the upper level. The estimated cost was nearly \$5.8 million, and the expected completion date is early 2022.

"We are super excited about that project. It gives us the space not only for local artists to give programs but to come to do some really cool stuff and to bring cool exhibits into the city," Thomas said.

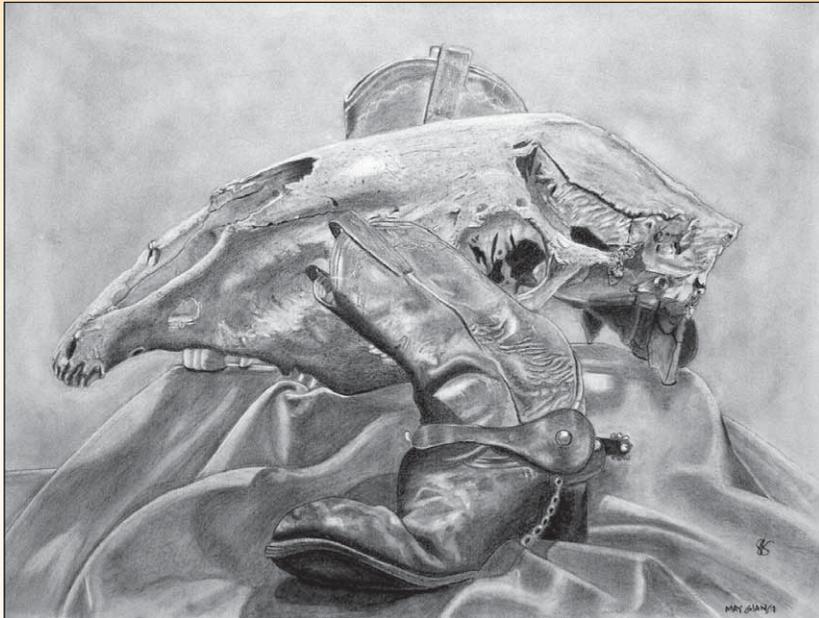
"We had discussed rotation of artwork through the library and setting up a gallery in City Hall but all of that discussion went into a quiet corner once the lockdown started," she added. "We're hoping to reignite those discussions."

Now the Dublin Arts Collective considers itself a mobilization group, supportive of endeavors such as the U.S. Congressional Art Competition this month, Thomas said, and it has just under 55 members. Two of them, Wolski and Usha Shukla, are also on the Alameda County Arts Commission.

During the last year, the Tri-Valley's three arts

# ndeavor

## tural efforts in the community



organizations found new ways to connect and serve their memberships.

"We've partnered with Pleasanton Art League and Livermore Art Association — the pandemic has brought us all together," Thomas said. "We all had the same need: How do we engage with people who love our work?"

The three groups have held public meetings jointly.

"We choose topics, whatever we think is relevant," Thomas explained. "Such as framing your artwork and what you can do to make your art look good."

During the last year, artists needed to know how to present their work virtually.

"We got Mike's Camera in Dublin to do a video on how to photograph your work," Thomas said. "Now all of our speakers

are online, which makes it easier to share content.

"It has become a very collaborative environment, working across the Tri-Valley. What we've realized is it's a small pool of resources but there's a huge need," she continued. "People want to sell their work, and the more we work together to keep that happening, it is in everyone's interest.

"I've been trying to get different perspectives of art. It has been interesting to see the diversity that's come out of this as well."

A Tri-Valley Artists' Studio Tour (TVAST), is in the works for Nov. 12-14, which will be a local version of the East Bay Open Studios held in years past.

"Fifty, almost 60, artists are participating, and people can still sign up. We are

hoping by then there is going to be more freedom of movement. There will be all sorts of artists," Thomas said.

The Dublin Arts Collective brought out its first newsletter earlier this year, "Art Matters: Supporting Artistic and Creative Endeavors in the East Bay."

"You might be asking, 'Why Dublin Arts Collective?'" President Wolski said in her message on page 1. "Our name points both to our roots and our vision.

"Even though we're an East Bay organization, 'Dublin' represents our birthplace.

"Arts' represents the range of media we intend to explore — everything from 2D to 3D to electronic and performing arts.

"Collective' expresses our vision to be inclusive, to appeal to all lovers of the arts, no matter who you are or where you are in life."

The newsletter highlights member news as well as art exhibits in the Tri-Valley and Dublin's Utility Box Art Project. It includes

a column by artist and board member Dennis Baker, "The Art of Creativity and Meeting the Moment We Are Given."

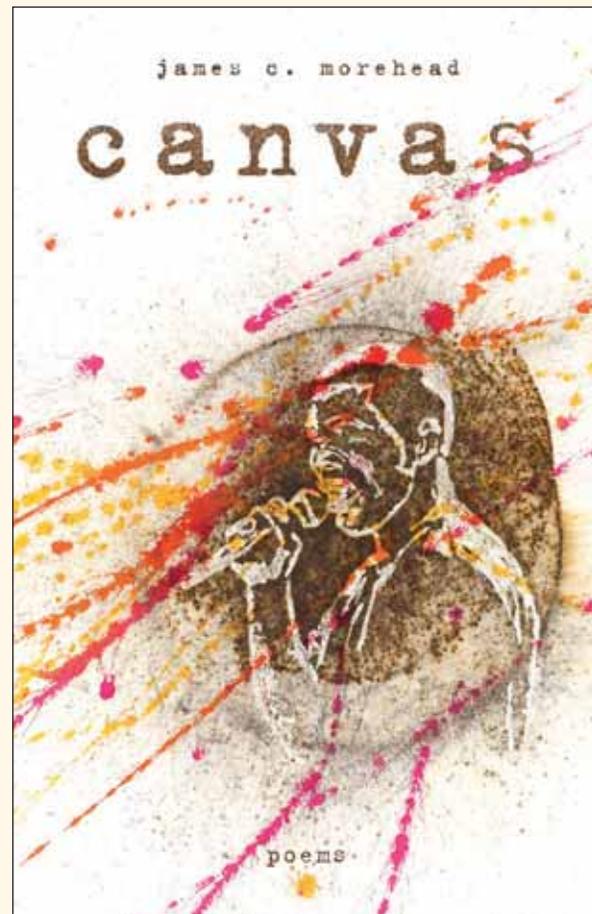
"Also, we are supporting the Pleasanton-based teenagers art club called Lapis Lazuli," Thomas said. "They are such an energetic bunch."

Thomas says her own floral photography is a meditative practice as she heads out early each morning with her mixed terrier, Archie, to discover how dawn is revealing each bloom in the area. With a degree in medical microbiology, she sees the science as well as the art in each bloom.

"There is always something interesting — yesterday I found a double-headed gazania-type daisy," she said. "I look out for anomalies."

To learn more about Dublin Arts Collective, visit [dacarts.org](http://dacarts.org), which was created by collective board member Jennifer Huber. Yinghua Wang, owner of Happy Valley Art School, has taken over recently as webmaster.

And now that celebrations are being held in-person again, keep an eye out at city festivals for the creative members of the Dublin Arts Collective. ■



Above left: "Horse Skull and Cowboy Boots," a charcoal still life drawing by May Yin Giang. Above right: "Chrysanthemum" by photographer Vanessa Thomas. Far left: "Yin and Yang" by sculptor Sarah Lee, master eggshell manipulator. Left: Cover for "canvas" by Dublin poet James Morehead (art copyright 2021 Kari Byron, design Zoe Norvell).



## 'WILLOW' HAS LESSONS FOR EARTH DAY AND EVERY DAY

### Teacher's book grew from story loved by her own young children

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

"Once there was a tree named Willow that had a lot of branches and leaves."

So begin the adventures of Willow the weeping willow tree in a book by C.K. Adas that teaches how essential trees are in this world of ours.

"Willow helps young children learn the importance trees have in our lives and the resources that they provide," said the author, Clarissa Adas, a second-grade teacher at Junction Avenue K-8 School in Livermore. "The tale is easy for young readers to understand and provides a lesson at the same time."

Adas began developing the plot about 15 years ago, she said, when the two oldest of her three sons were toddlers and she wanted to entertain them. The little boys were enthralled by the life of Willow as the tree witnessed lumberjacks cutting down nearby friends.

The plot stayed on the back burner through the ensuing years as Adas raised her boys — now 18, 15 and 12 — and pursued her career, 23 years of teaching pre-kindergarten to the fifth grade.

"My life was pretty hectic but I would always think of things I could use in the classroom," Adas recalled. "When my boys were young, I would try to keep the story simple and the pictures simple."

Over the years, she added ideas to the story that older children would enjoy and understand, and another theme became the importance of being yourself.

"The main story is taking care of nature and trees, and how we can plant seeds to grow more trees if we are chopping down too many," Adas explained. "But the other part is to be happy with who you are and make the most of who you are."

This ties in with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's focus on mental health using the Choose Love program, which was founded by the mother of a Sandy Hook shooting victim.

Then when COVID hit, schools went online and people stayed home, including the Adas family.

"I had some empty time at spring break," Adas recalled. "Usually our family goes on road trips during spring break but we couldn't do any of that."

She finalized the story and drawings, searched online for publishing possibilities, and discovered direct publishing at KDP.amazon.com.

"It has all the tools you need so I could put my book online, and they help you a little bit," Adas said. "You really don't have to pay anything unless you want more services. You just put in the labor and that's it."

She published the book and also developed comprehensive lesson plans for kindergarten, first- and second-grade teachers to use with it.

"I wanted teachers to have a tool since I don't know if they see what I see in the story," Adas said.

Now the book is available on Amazon, in English and Spanish. Adas teaches dual immersion and wanted her students to hear the story in Spanish.

"I have grandparents from Mexico, my dad is half Mexican from San Antonio," she said. "My grandfather spoke Spanish with me as I grew up, which is how I have my job now."

She donated books to local schools and sent the lesson plan to teachers in Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon, where she lives.

And, of course, Adas included "Willow" in her own Earth Day activities.

"I asked my kids, 'What comes from trees?'" she said.

She teaches mornings in the classroom, where the students noticed the pencils in their hands, cabinets, desks and walls. The afternoon session is done online, and the children at home pointed out their furniture and hardwood floors, and also looked outside their windows at fences.

"One pulled out a drawer," Adas said. "They got really excited about this."

"They seem to really like it,"

she added. "The young ones sit and listen and want to know, 'Is he going to be OK? Why is he sad?' Little kids have a natural empathy for others."

Adas has an idea for another book

and will somehow have to find time to develop it, she said. She doesn't expect the world to stop again to accommodate her, she noted with a laugh.

But for now, "Willow" has been given a life to help children understand the importance of trees — and themselves. ■



Clarissa Adas poses with her book, "Willow," in the schoolroom setting she set up in her home for online teaching during the pandemic.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

# Dublin Pride Week kicks off this weekend

Annual events celebrate the city and inspire residents to give back

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Dublin Pride Week — which promotes volunteerism and environmental awareness — begins on Saturday morning when groups of volunteers will clear litter from Dublin parks and schools. Creek and trail cleanups will take place at the same time.

Volunteers also will join city beautification projects, helping with planting raised beds and trees, as well spreading decomposed granite on pathways, mulch around planted areas, and sand in playgrounds. Others will remove weeds and leaves from plots at Dublin Pioneer Cemetery, and sweep outside of the historic buildings at Dublin Heritage Park and Museums.

Yet other volunteers will help spruce up the schools, removing weeds and touching up paint.

The Volunteer Day will start at Emerald Glen Park basketball courts with a light breakfast, where volunteers will receive their assignments. They will return at noon after their duties for a light lunch.

Another activity next week will be a Virtual Food Drive, with contributions going to the Alameda County Food Bank, Children's Emergency Food Bank, Open Heart Kitchen and Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley to be distributed to residents.

Dublin Police Services is taking part in the 20th National Prescription Drug Take-Back Event, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at 100 Civic Plaza. Residents can drop off unwanted pharmaceuticals such as prescription pills, tablets, capsules, and other solid forms of prescription drugs, no questions asked. Intravenous solutions, injectables and syringes will not be accepted.

The third annual Nature in Our Backyard Photography Contest is part of this year's Dublin Pride Week. The contest invites photographers to show their love of Dublin by submitting their creek, wildlife and natural park photographs taken in Dublin during the last year. Photos with people will not be accepted. The deadline to submit pictures is 11:59 p.m. Monday (April 26). Photographers do not need to be Dublin residents. Learn more at [Dublin.ca.gov/niob](http://Dublin.ca.gov/niob).

Two events next Saturday (May 1) already have all the appointments booked: a Free Compost Pickup and a Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off. However, [www.dublinprideweek.com](http://www.dublinprideweek.com) lists facilities in the area for turning in eligible waste including motor oil, paint, cleaners, batteries, light bulbs, herbicides and pesticides.

Dublin Pride Week will also offer Virtual Bike Workshops to learn about biking for



Photographer Dianne Mao won the grand prize for her photograph, "Red 'n' Green Hill," in last year's Nature in Our Backyard Photography Contest.

transportation or recreation; and Make Soup Not Waste, a virtual workshop presenting strategies to prevent food waste. Learn more at [www.dublinprideweek.com](http://www.dublinprideweek.com). ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The sixth annual PLAY Youth Fundraising Concert, held virtually, raised \$10,000 to benefit education and support services.

## PLAY Foundation raises funds with concert

Young musicians' efforts benefit school district programs

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Promote Leadership in Aspiring Youth Foundation held its sixth annual PLAY Youth Fundraising Concert virtually on April 10, raising \$10,000 for Pleasanton Partnership in Education (PPIE), San Ramon Foster Youth & Homeless Services, and Pleasanton Foster and Kinship Support.

The PLAY Foundation, a non-profit organization, has encouraged students to continue using their passion and skills to support the school district and the community during the pandemic.

"What PLAY are really doing is creating the leaders for tomorrow, taking youth and giving them opportunities to lead," PPIE Executive Director Steve McCoy-Thompson said. "It's so critical at

this time for our young people to lead and create the kind of community that we want."

The music showcase included classical and pop, as well as a composition written by a PLAY orchestra member, Julian Xiao. Performances were by soloists as well as a variety of ensembles including orchestra, band and chamber ensembles, with diverse musical training in wind, strings, jazz and classical piano and vocal.

"We partnered with PLAY three years ago, and can't tell you what a success it has been for the Foster and Kinship Program having PLAY as one of the great compassionate partners," said Brenda Montgomery, from the Pleasanton school district's Foster and Kinship Support Program. ■

## Stanford professor to speak on building resilience

Doctor to address traumatic stress from biological, social perspective

The Alan Hu Foundation is presenting a webinar with Stanford professor Dr. Victor G. Carrión next month to address the impact of traumatic stress from a biological, social and psychological perspective.

He will share approaches to building resilience, which has proved important during the last year of pandemic, political and social stressors for individuals as well as communities and society.

Carrión is a professor of child and adolescent psychiatry at Stanford University School of Medicine and vice-chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. He directs the Stanford Early Life Stress and Resilience Program.

Since joining the Stanford faculty 25 years ago, Carrión's research has concentrated on understanding how early life stress, such as traumatic experiences,

alter behavior and emotions, and the role of brain structure and function in these findings. He has also developed new treatment modalities that are focused and targeted.

The webinar will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m. May 11 and will include 15 minutes for questions after Carrión's talk. RSVP at [alanhufoundation.org](http://alanhufoundation.org) to receive the Zoom meeting link.

The Alan Hu Foundation was created by Xiaofang Chen and Chih-Ching Hu of Pleasanton in memory of their son, Alan, who died by suicide in 2018 at the age of 15. Their mission is to promote mental health, raise awareness and remove stigma surrounding psychiatric disorders, and to support research for cures. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

## County seeks applicants to become first youth poet laureate

Deadline to apply is April 30

Alameda County is looking for residents between the ages of 13-18 to serve as the county's first-ever youth poet laureate.

The laureate program celebrates poetry and helps connect young writers to opportunities such as performances, community collaborations and representing youth voices from the county.

Some duties for the program include performing at private and public events, developing community projects and sharing their creative process on online platforms.

The winner will receive a variety of prizes including: a grant of \$500 to use at a community organization of their choice, a MacBook and computer accessories, poetry featured in a chapbook, support from

the Alameda County Library and the REACH Ashland Youth Center and an opportunity to compete in the Regional Youth Poet Laureate Competition.

Applications for the youth poet program will be accepted now through April 30, with finalists being announced at the end of July. Applicants need to include three original poems, an artist statement depicting who they are and what poetry means to them, a resume, contact information for a reference and contact information for a parent/guardian if the applicant is underage.

More information for the program can be found on the Alameda County Library's website at <https://aclibrary.org/youth-poet/>. ■

—Victoria Franco, BCN Foundation

# POLICE BULLETIN

## Grocery store admits to price-gouging early in pandemic

Pleasanton grocery market Apna Bazar pleaded guilty on Monday to two misdemeanor counts of price-gouging for significant markups of dry goods and produce last year during the early days of the state's COVID-19 emergency declaration, prosecutors said.

Under the plea agreement, Apna Bazar's parent company — Apna Bazaar LLC — will serve one year

of misdemeanor probation and pay \$20,000 to the Alameda County Community Food Bank in exchange for the remaining seven counts being dropped as well as the dismissal of all charges against store owner Rajvinder Pal Singh, a Dublin resident.

At the time charges were announced in May 2020, prosecutors said it was the first price-gouging case during a declared state of emergency on record in Alameda County. State law prohibits charging a price that exceeds the price of the item before the emergency declaration, by more than 10%.

Investigators allege receipts

showed price increases between 60% and 400% for several grocery items sold at the Pimlico Drive market within the first month of Gov. Gavin Newsom's COVID-19 emergency declaration on March 4, 2020.

"The law prevents businesses from profiteering during a declared state of emergency. This case marks the first successful prosecution in Alameda County for price gouging in the time of the pandemic," District Attorney Nancy O'Malley said in a statement. "My office is committed to ensuring that businesses adhere to the law and do not exploit consumers."

Attorney Daniel Vaswani, who represented the company and Singh, did not respond to a request for comment this week.

The case was the result of a joint investigation by the DA's office and the California Department of Justice after authorities received "a chorus of complaints" against the Pleasanton store, according to O'Malley.

A DA's investigator scouring social media for reports of local price-gouging early in the pandemic found allegations on March 18, 2020 against Apna Bazar, a grocery market specializing in Indian products in the small shopping center at 4040 Pimlico Drive, near the Interstate 580-Santa Rita Road interchange.

In the ensuing probe, customer receipts and interviews found evidence of certain items marked up between 60% and 400% compared to their prices before the emergency declaration, according to prosecutors.

The lead investigator interviewed Singh on March 19, 2020, with the store owner reportedly saying suppliers had driven up the prices of certain items and he was merely passing through the costs to customers. But the owner failed to provide requested documentation justifying

the significant price increases, prosecutors said.

As a result, county and state prosecutors charged the store and its owner on May 7, 2020 with misdemeanor counts of price-gouging on nine specific food items: yellow onions, ginger, green beans, loose black tea, small Thai chili hot peppers, pomegranates, red yams and two brands of quick-cook noodles.

The defense and prosecutors reached an agreement to resolve the criminal case earlier this month, with the terms confirmed in court on Monday.

The plea deal saw Apna Bazaar LLC plead guilty to two misdemeanor counts of price-gouging of non-specific "dry goods" and "produce." In exchange, the other seven counts against the company were dismissed, as were all nine counts against Singh.

The company was ordered to serve 12 months of misdemeanor court probation, though that term could be reduced once the company donates \$20,000 to the county food bank — another term of the plea deal.

"This year has been difficult for all of us, and many neighbors have needed a helping hand to ensure that their family members were nourished and remained healthy," Suzan Bateson, executive director of Alameda County Community Food Bank, said in a statement. "This donation will help us provide thousands of meals to children, adults and seniors."

### In other news

- Federal authorities filed a criminal complaint last week against a San Francisco daycare worker for possession of child pornography.

Jace Wong, 26, who previously worked at a child care facility in Livermore, posted a series of videos

and still photos in a private chat group on the social media platform Kik, according to an affidavit submitted April 13 to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California by FBI Special Agent Benjamin Burnheimer.

The chat group was called "Younger love (heart emoji) (heart emoji)," and according to an undercover officer working with the FBI, was used to share "child sexual abuse material."

The affidavit alleges that Wong posted three videos and two still photos on April 9. The undercover officer then engaged Wong in chat on Kik about the images. Wong allegedly asked if the officer was interested in trading "content," then sent a 36-second video of a young girl.

Wong was arrested on April 13 and then interviewed by authorities. According to the affidavit, at that time Wong admitted that he had sent and received sexually explicit photos of minors on Kik, including at least three videos taken at the San Francisco daycare facility.

During the interview, Wong allegedly showed agents a hidden file on his phone with 428 media files, "many of which contained videos and images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct."

Wong has previously worked in other daycare facilities, including one in Livermore that has not been publicly identified. According to the affidavit, agents are working to identify those facilities.

Wong is charged with possession of child pornography, which carries a maximum penalty of imprisonment for 20 years and a fine of up to \$250,000. ■

—Jeremy Walsh and Bay City News Service

## Pamela Lynn Chestnut

November 19, 1951 – April 7, 2021

Pamela Lynn Chestnut died peacefully in Astoria, OR, surrounded by friends, family, love, and light, in the early morning of April 7, just as a light rain began to fall. After a few years challenged by ovarian cancer, she is finally at rest and at ease, and surely enjoying a regained freedom and wholeness that she lacked in her final time on Earth.



Pam is survived by her daughter, Erin, of Astoria; two brothers, Ron and Vince, of Petaluma and Magalia, CA, respectively; four nieces and nephews, Robin, Ryan, Shane, and Sarah; two cats, Punkin and Mimi; one exceptional dog, Lady; and multitudes of lovely friends and relations.

Pam grew up in San Diego, graduated high school in Lodi, and settled in Pleasanton, where she met her handsome, kind husband of a few years, Bart, with whom she created their beloved daughter. She spent many years as a well-respected escrow officer, living in her dear home on Second St., before leaving her career to go to college in 2000, her heart's desire. She chose Humboldt State University, because of her love of the area from the many vacations she and her daughter had enjoyed camping in the redwoods. After receiving her BA, Pam earned her AA in Historic Preservation and Restoration from the College of the Redwoods. The skills she learned there were well-used and appreciated in Astoria, OR, where she then settled near Erin.

Pam had a smile and a hello or brief conversation or silly encounter for everyone she happened upon, as she truly loved people. She loved traveling near and far, was an avid reader, and an even more avid chocolate and ice cream lover. She adored children and would get right down on the ground with them, entering their world happily and readily. She was an excellent seamstress, a natural in the garden, a lover of architecture and house plans, a natural born yogi, a skilled artist.

Pam was "so full of life and fun to be around", "such a beautiful and sweet person", "so very special", and had a "beauty, calm spirit, and silliness" that will be so missed. She was a "truly remarkable woman and friend", "a gem", and had a "warm smile and optimistic spirit." She was the best mom a girl could wish for, best friend a person could make, and best example a human could have in kindness, generosity, lightness, and fun.

Pam's ashes will be spread at a gathering in the redwoods of Northern California not-yet-planned for the coming months. If you want details as they come, please email Erin at emmastoria@yahoo.com.

Donations can be sent in her name to Lower Columbia Preservation Society, P.O. Box 1334, Astoria, OR 97103. Memories can be relived and renewed every day by smiling, laughing, and being just plain silly at every opportunity.

PAID OBITUARY

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### April 18

#### Vandalism

- 2:59 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road
- 4:50 a.m. on the 5000 block of Hopyard Road
- 11:28 a.m. on the 4700 block of Willow Road

#### Burglary

- 8:19 a.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue

#### Theft

- 8:21 a.m., 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; shoplifting
- 1:04 p.m. on the 1500 block of Calle Enrique

### April 17

#### Burglary

- 12:55 p.m. on the 3900 block of Valley Avenue

#### Vandalism

- 3:38 p.m. on the 5000 block of Golden Road

#### Graffiti

- 6:25 p.m. at Main and St John streets

### April 16

#### Warrant arrest

- 9:10 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

#### Theft

- 10:41 a.m. on the 5600 block of Hansen Drive
- 7:38 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### DUI

- 6:04 p.m. at Fallon Road and I-580

### April 15

#### Vandalism

- 12:41 a.m. on the 600 block of Main Street

- 3:49 a.m. on the 5200 block of Hopyard Road

#### Theft

- 9:34 a.m. on the 3200 block of Vineyard Avenue

#### Robbery

- 11:36 a.m. on the 4700 block of Hopyard Road

#### Warrant arrest

- 3:53 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Drug violation

- 8:13 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

### April 14

#### Theft

- 4:57 p.m., 3000 block of Calle De La Mesa; auto theft

- 5:37 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 8:15 p.m., 3100 block of Santa Rita Road; auto theft

#### Fraud

- 7:49 p.m. on the 5900 block of Corte Espanda

#### Drug violation

- 8:07 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Vandalism

- 10:24 p.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

### April 13

#### Warrant arrest

- 1:07 a.m. on the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

#### Theft

- 6:31 a.m., 2100 block of Rheem Drive; theft from auto
- 12:43 p.m., 000 block of Vintage Circle; auto theft

#### Fraud

- 11:06 a.m. on the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Drug violation

- 5:05 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 6:37 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

### April 12

#### Trespassing/prowling

- 2:45 a.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

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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](http://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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## GUEST OPINION

### My first 125 days in office

Pleasanton's future looks bright, and our best days are ahead. After nearly four months as your mayor, I am proud to report that our economy is growing, we have a vibrant downtown, residents 16 and older are eligible for COVID vaccines, and local schools now offer in-classroom learning.

These milestones will help us to recover and thrive.

When I was elected to office, COVID vaccines were not available. Police officers, firefighters, doctors, nurses and those in the healthcare field joined daycare providers, food service, grocery clerks, farmworkers and others in putting themselves and their families at severe health risk for the greater good.

Although my words of appreciation may seem small, the feeling in my heart is enormous. I truly appreciate those who took these

enormous risks, and for the courage and support of our residents during this challenging period. Thank you all!

I also applaud the immense support from our nonprofit organizations and our own city staff to aid those with food insecurity within our community. I had a glimpse of their critical work while serving as a volunteer for both Meals on Wheels and Culinary Angels, which provide healthy meals to seniors and those facing major medical challenges.

Even during normal times, mental health is a struggle for many. After working with Axis Community Health over the past few months, short-term mental health support is now available to the public, through funding from Alameda County, Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin.

As your mayor, I attended hundreds of meetings in the past months, mostly by Zoom. I had never heard of Zoom before COVID, but now I use it almost daily. Your City Council has focused on supporting this community during the

pandemic with zero-interest business loans and rental grants for those at risk of losing their homes.

Earlier this year, I interviewed some of our downtown business owners through "Spotlight" talks with shop owners, giving them an opportunity to describe how they started their business, and why Pleasanton's Main Street is an excellent location. They are fun to watch and posted on the PDA website.

Recently, I was proud to attend the ribbon-cutting of a new restaurant, tour the newly remodeled Lucky California grocery store (opening in early May) and stand with the founders of 10x Genomics as they plan for a major expansion in Pleasanton. Confidence and businesses are growing.

I also approved 30 letters to our state legislators AGAINST drastic changes to our future housing mandates, and in favor of reasonable housing goals with less density.

Over the last four months, I have met hundreds of residents during safety and educational events, small business owners, business developers, homebuilders, youth

and many of our local Scouts.

During both 2020 and 2021, we reiterated that racial hate has NO place in Pleasanton. We are proud of our "Community of Character" motto, and we stand side-by-side against all forms of hate.

Recently Police Chief David Swing and I spoke to a large crowd on Zoom to offer suggestions for increasing personal safety, tools on how to carefully respond as a bystander and how to engage the help of the Pleasanton Police Department (the video is on social media). We know to call 9-1-1 for help, but have you added the non-emergency police number 925-931-5100 to your contact list?

As mayor, I see a brighter and healthier future ahead. Safety protocols are still required, so please wear a mask, wash your hands and maintain proper social distancing. Join me as we safely return to shopping, dining, school, working and playing in Pleasanton! ■

*Editor's note: Karla Brown is the mayor of Pleasanton. She was sworn into office on Dec. 15, winning election on the mayoral ballot in November after serving two full terms on the City Council.*



## LETTERS

### Derek Chauvin verdict

Accountability. We can't bring back George Floyd, but today we got accountability for his murder and accountability is the first step toward justice. Today's verdict shows the power of bystander intervention and worldwide protest, but it shouldn't have taken all that to finally bring about accountability.

We have a lot of work to do to bring justice to America. This is but one small step. Black lives should not be endangered by the very people whose duty is to protect and serve. We embrace this moment today, but the work continues tomorrow to make police accountability the norm, not the exception.

—Isaiah Campbell, member, Tri-Valley for Black Lives

### 'Investing in Cures Before Missiles Act'

Rep. Ro Khanna (Calif.) and Sen. Ed Markey (Mass.) recently introduced the "Investing in Cures Before Missiles Act" to Congress. The act would stop funding the ground-based strategic deterrent (GBSD) missile, and end spending on a linked Livermore Lab nuclear warhead modification program, the W87-1, redirecting monies to life extension of the Minuteman III and

to an implementation study.

The bill transfers \$1 billion in GBSD funding to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for development of a universal coronavirus vaccine. It would also divert money from the Lab's W87-1 nuclear warhead, intended to fit the GBSD, to combating future bio-threats.

Sen. Markey states, "The United States should invest in a vaccine of mass prevention before another new land-based weapon of mass destruction." The ICBM Act is a measure many can, and hopefully will, support. For more information, visit [www.trivalleycares.org](http://www.trivalleycares.org).

—Mary Perner

### For political interests, not 'the people'

The HR 1 election bill violates states' rights to manage their elections, and voids state voter ID laws. IDs are required for almost everything, so why is voter ID any different? It isn't. It is being used as a cancel culture tool.

This bill allows anyone to walk into any polling place and register under any name and vote, then repeat at other polling places. It allows candidates, campaign staffers, party activists and political operatives to handle or deliver absentee ballots, and require states to give access to absentee ballots to third-party strangers who may

have a stake in the outcome.

This "For the People Act" severely restricts states to maintain the accuracy of their voter rolls, such as comparing their lists with those of other states to find individuals who have moved. It requires states to automatically register individuals who interact with state agencies such as the DMV and welfare offices. This bill imposes new restrictions on political speech and activity, including online and policy-related speech, by candidates, citizens, civic groups, unions, corporations, and nonprofit organizations — basically taking away everyone's freedom of choices.

HR 1 forces taxpayers to subsidize the political campaigns of individuals running for Congress; to support candidates that they may disagree with and wouldn't vote for; a violation of individual rights and their privacy. Voter authority in each state on how their elections should be run will be taken away and placed in the hands of the presiding political party at the time.

—Phyllis Couper

### 'THRIVE Resolution'

The COVID-19 pandemic has left an unemployment and health care crisis in its wake and magnified the existing crises of racial injustice and climate change. These problems require bold action like the "THRIVE" agenda put forth

by the Green New Deal Network, a coalition of 15 progressive organizations dedicated to addressing our country's issues in a fair and equitable fashion.

While the Biden administration has begun to repair the damage caused by the pandemic with the American Rescue Package, much more needs to be done to keep Biden's commitment to rebuild our economy better than before. To accomplish this we must ground our recovery in climate, jobs, and justice.

The "THRIVE Resolution" outlines eight key pillars that any COVID recovery package must work towards to finally address the overlapping crises of mass unemployment, health care, racial injustice, and climate change.

It calls on our lawmakers to build upon the vision set forth in the Green New Deal by creating millions of good paying jobs. It invests in black, brown, and indigenous communities in its mission to combat environmental injustice. This resolution also builds worker power by strengthening unions, creating apprenticeship programs, and ensuring a just transition for workers and communities.

Any recovery package must include all eight pillars of THRIVE in order for us to heal from the past and to restructure our society to truly value the dignity of all people.

—Ward Kanowsky

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# Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

## Home & Garden

### BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES

**GARDEN TOUR** This virtual tour takes viewers to 25 homes in Alameda and Contra Costa counties with gardens designed with plants native to California that thrive without amendments, fertilizers or pesticides. April 25, May 2, 16, 23. The tours are free but registration is required. Visit [bringingbackthenatives.net](http://bringingbackthenatives.net).

## Film

### THE KANOPY FILM CLUB PRESENTS

The April Kanopy Film Club celebrates National Poetry Month with "A Quiet Passion" a film on the life of poet Emily Dickinson. Watch the film before the discussion. 3 p.m., April 24. For more information, contact 931-5340.

### BANKHEAD REOPENING WITH FILM SERIES

The Bankhead Theater will reopen in May screening films with a restricted size audience. Only 100 tickets will be sold for each event. The first film will be "Fiddler on the Roof," 7 p.m., May 19. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

## Business

**WEEKEND ON MAIN STREET** Weekend on Main begins April 30 through Labor Day weekend and the street will be closed to vehicle traffic each weekend. Stroll, shop and dine beginning at 5 p.m. Fridays and ending 8 p.m. Sundays. Visit [pleasantondowntown.net](http://pleasantondowntown.net).

## Concerts

### COURTYARD CONCERTS AT THE BANKHEAD

A new series of intimate concerts will be held in the Bankhead Theater Courtyard beginning on April 23. The events will feature a comedy opener followed by live music. Masks are required and capacity will initially be capped at 44 attendees. The first event is Bay Area comedian Brian Maggi and features guitarist James Robinson. Tickets \$20. 5:30, April 23. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

## Bike Safety

**URBAN CYCLING 101** Riding a bike on the roadway takes skill. The City of Pleasanton in partnership with Bike East Bay and the cities of Dublin and Livermore are hosting a free virtual bicycle safety workshop to teach basic rules of the road, how to equip your bicycle, helmet fit and much more. No bike required. 6 p.m., April 25. Register at [bikeeastbay.org](http://bikeeastbay.org).

## Talks

### A COMMUNITY DISCUSSION ON RACISM AND PREJUDICE

Join The Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center on Zoom for the first event in their new bi-monthly series of community discussion forums, Dialogue to Action. The goal of the Dialogue to Action series is to identify critical issues impacting the community

## PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

### Meet Okami

Okami's pleading yellow eyes will draw you in and his undiluted love for tennis balls will make you smile. This gorgeous German Shepherd/Siberian Husky mix would love someone with an active lifestyle since he has the energy to be a great running or hiking buddy. Okami is an 80-pound confident fellow and would prefer a home with middle or high school-aged children and no small pets. Visit [eastbayspca.org](http://eastbayspca.org).

and work with one another. 7 p.m., April 27. To register visit [tinyurl.com/peacecenterevent427](http://tinyurl.com/peacecenterevent427).

### LIVERMORE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL PRESENTS LIFE SPARC

This livestream series event with Q&A begins with Shakespeare and the Alchemy of Gender with Lisa Wolpe. The series explores the human spirit and how it has triumphed in the most difficult of circumstances. 7 p.m., April 29. Visit [livermoreshakes.org](http://livermoreshakes.org).

### BALANCE YOUR ENVIRONMENT & LIFE: WORK, TEACH & PARENT

In this virtual workshop learn strategies to avoid power struggles and create routines. Parents will adopt a new mindset around prioritizing while also teaching kids to be independent and setting up environments for success. 7-8:30 p.m., April 29. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

## Outdoor Recreation

### RANGER PROGRAM-BADGERS

Join Ranger Doug to discuss Badgers and their amazing kin, habits, hunting techniques and elusive nature. The program goes rain or shine. 2 p.m., April 25. Visit [larpd.org](http://larpd.org). Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road, Livermore.

## Expo

### 2021 VIRTUAL HOMEOWNER'S EXPO

Join Assessor Phong La and members of the community to learn about programs that lower property taxes, how to keep the family home without being reassessed, resources for first-time homebuyers and loans available for home updates. 12 p.m., April 28. Visit [livermorechamber.org](http://livermorechamber.org).

## Fundraisers

### THE ERIC'S CORNER GOLF SCRAMBLE

The tournament, at Castlewood Country Club, benefits Eric's Corner whose mission is to raise awareness of epilepsy and to connect the community with resources to effectively manage an epilepsy diagnosis. Dinner and ceremonies will take place afterward at SideTrack Bar + Grill. 10:30 a.m., May 10. Visit [ec.golfreg.com](http://ec.golfreg.com).

## Bingo

### DRIVE-IN BINGO AT THE ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Play Drive-In Bingo from the comfort of a car, truck or SUV. Get the live game call over the radio and watch the ball camera live on Zoom with a smartphone or tablet. 1 p.m., April 24. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

## Students

### FIRST DAY OF SUMMER REGISTRATION

The City of Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department online registration for Summer 2021 camps and programs starts on Wednesday, May 5 at 8 a.m. at [www.PleasantonFun.com](http://www.PleasantonFun.com).

### PLEASANTON SEEKS TEEN POET LAUREATE

Pleasanton is accepting applications for a 2021-22 teen poet laureate. Eligible applicants include incoming Pleasanton high school juniors and seniors. Applications accepted through April 30. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

### CONTEST

The East Bay Holocaust Education Center (EBHEC) contest, "Why is it important to remember the Holocaust?" is open to students 13-18 enrolled in an East Bay high school. \$500 first-place prize per category. All winning entries will be displayed at an exhibit and reception sponsored at the Bothwell Arts Center. Submission due by April 30. Visit [ebhec.org/highschoolcontest](http://ebhec.org/highschoolcontest).

## Health

### COVID-19 WEBINAR

Join Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Moss as he discusses reopening plans, our tier status, COVID-19 status and answers questions. 9:30-11 a.m., April 23, registration required. Visit [livermorechamber.org](http://livermorechamber.org).

### RED CROSS VIRTUAL EDUCATION SESSION

The American Red Cross is taking appointments for a virtual Home Fire Safety Education Session. Learn about home fire prevention, creating an escape plan and go-bag and other actionable steps to prepare for an emergency. Each virtual home visit lasts approximately 30 minutes and can be done via phone call or video conference. Request an appointment by going to [tinyurl.com/VirtualSoundtheAlarm](http://tinyurl.com/VirtualSoundtheAlarm) or calling the Red Cross at 415-805-6826.

# Marketplace

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

If you wish to learn more about these advertising options, please call 650.223.6582 or email [digitalads@pawekly.com](mailto:digitalads@pawekly.com).

## Employment

### Senior Developer Java & back-end tech

Safeway Inc. hiring Sr Developer (Java & back-end tech) in Pleasanton, CA. Subject to pre-emp. bckgrnd check. Mail resume to Safeway Inc., 5918 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Pleasanton, CA 94588, Attn: K. Reed & Ref. Code: 20210208MK

### Machine Learning Eng.

Workday, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Build Machine Learning model for labor demand forecast. Design & dev. sw systems for machine learning products. To apply, please mail resume to ATTN: Jessica Thurston, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Please refer to Job #20637.597.

To place an ad call 650.223.6597 or email [digitalads@pawekly.com](mailto:digitalads@pawekly.com).

## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

Elite Dumpling  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 577990  
The following person doing business as: Elite Dumpling, 24036 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward, CA 94545, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Elite Dumpling, LLC, 24036 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward, CA, 94545, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Elite Dumpling, LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein September, 1, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Yao Li, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 7, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2021.)

Asemble Designs  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 578078  
The following person doing business as: Asemblé Designs, 5538 Corte Sonora, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Stephen Schmidt, 5538 Corte Sonora, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Stephen Schmidt, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Stephen Schmidt, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 12, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, April 23, 30, May 7, 14 2021.)

### 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.: HG21095020 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Deborah Chang Murayama filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DEBORAH CHANG MURAYAMA to DEBORAH CHANG YAHSIANG MURAYAMA; DEBORAH YAHSIANG CHANG MURAYAMA to DEBORAH CHANG YAHSIANG MURAYAMA; YAHSIANG CHANG to DEBORAH CHANG YAHSIANG MURAYAMA; YAHSIANG CHANG MURAYAMA to DEBORAH CHANG YAHSIANG MURAYAMA. 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: June 11, 2021, 11 a.m., Dept. 17 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: PLEASANTON WEEKLY. Date: April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2021. Tara M. Desautels JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

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

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Jan. 25-29 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol, and March 15-19 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

- 6640 Amber Lane** Von Pein Trust to M. & S. Reddy for \$1,150,000
- 213 East Angela Street** Silver Trust to M. & Y. Liu for \$1,680,000
- 856 Aramon Court** T. Venkataramani to A. & D. Sunkara for \$1,350,000
- 118 Barias Place** Kontech Usa Inc to X. Wang for \$1,149,000
- 512 Bunker Lane** A. & S. Vaziri to R. & K. Nalamalapu for \$2,025,000
- 7580 Canyon Meadow Circle #B** D. Icardi to C. & B. Wong for \$580,000
- 3541 Churchill Court** R. Rice to R. & D. Nagel for \$532,500
- 4250 Echo Court** A. & Z. Bent to J. & W. Deng for \$1,150,000
- 2353 Foothill Road #1** L. Torres to K. Riechers for \$515,000
- 819 Genevieve Place** A. & B. Mikolaitis to Litvinoff-Koo Living Trust for \$2,100,000
- 8001 Jorgensen Lane** K. Shaheen to R. & H. Gill for \$2,445,000
- 2330 Meadowlark Drive** R. Cooper to D. & V. Mopuri for \$1,435,000
- 480 Pine Hill Lane** Slosek Trust to Thompson Family Trust for \$1,575,000
- 3303 Rosada Court** F. Ling to K. & N. Raghavan for \$740,000
- 4017 Stanley Boulevard** B. Westfall to Mtm-Solution LLC for \$941,000
- 3583 Touriga Drive** Badilla Living Trust to Blue Fire Investments LLC for \$1,050,000
- 3907 Vine Street** J. Beery to D. & A. Ariyaratne for \$646,000

### Livermore

- 1417 3rd Street** B. Erickson to J. Conte for \$850,000
- 319 Basswood Common #4** C. Higgins to D. & M. Lloren for \$701,000
- 1080 Central Avenue** Kelly Trust to 1080 Central LLC for \$1,200,000
- 4249 Findlay Way** D. Henry to A. & R. Muyskens for \$1,100,000
- 662 Grace Street** Varosh Family Trust to R. & B. Butler for \$736,000
- 842 Highland Street** Graber Family Trust to J. Wenger for \$1,412,000
- 70 Jami Street** Helfrich Family Trust to B. & P. Panda for \$1,105,000
- 333 Nottingham Circle** Cassidy Trust to S. & C. Senapati for \$1,300,000
- 2447 Marbury Road** Partridge Trust to C. & K. Holliday for \$1,400,000
- 7605 Mines Road** Cortez Living Trust to A. & M. Baltazar for \$1,460,000
- 1001 Murrieta Boulevard #64** J. Declue to D. Meller for \$283,000
- 975 Murrieta Boulevard #16** Zaat Living Trust to C. & F. Flores for \$366,500
- 3445 Pestana Way** C. & J. McDonald to J. & N. Gibson for \$675,000
- 590 Regulus Road** Jochim-Perry Family Trust to B. & T. Gorman for \$1,825,000
- 849 Tranquility Circle #10** J. & C. Romanelli to T. Zwiwer for \$685,000
- 2489 Wood Hollow Drive** Hewitt Family Trust to D. & K. Saikali for \$2,050,000

### Dublin

- 8233 Brittany Drive** K. Walia to T. & T. Norbye for \$1,900,000
- 2268 Carbondale Way** H. & R. Levin to T. Kamin

- for \$845,000
- 4138 Clarinbridge Circle** G. Richards to S. & H. Lo for \$700,000
- 3245 Dublin Boulevard #406** Ann Apartments Inc to A. & S. Shawriya for \$660,000
- 4171 Goodyears Road** X. Kuang to Kwong Family Trust for \$510,000
- 5751 Idlewood Street** Rana Family Trust to S. & S. Sundarajan for \$1,360,000
- 5283 Iron Horse Parkway** L. Fan to M. & R. Kaur for \$930,000
- 7881 Landale Avenue** Cantrell Trust to E. Garcia for \$930,000
- 6351 Monterey Way #219** J. Verenzuela to Y. & G. Wing for \$885,000
- 3060 Threecastles Way** P. & N. Patel to R. & V. Kudikilla for \$961,000
- 8453 Wicklow Lane** Yesnosky Trust to L. & C. Chhun for \$1,300,000

### Sunol

- 5353 Sheridan Road** S. & H. Chu to G. & I. Arora for \$2,050,000

### San Ramon

- 311 Andora Lane** Fogelman Family Trust to Caitlin Trust for \$1,400,000
- 3498 Ashbourne Circle** F. Yassini to S. & K. Ghiassi for \$2,670,000
- 9688 Ashby Way** D. Bingham to J. & A. Singh for \$1,120,000
- 1393 Bayberry View Lane** Kaushal Family Trust to N. Su for \$1,430,000

Editor's note: The full list of Home Sales reported in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Sunol and San Ramon during this period can be found with the online version of this story at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com).

Source: California REsource

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (Jan. 25-29)

Total sales reported: 17  
 Lowest sale reported: \$515,000  
 Highest sale reported: \$2,445,000  
 Average sales reported: \$1,150,000

### Livermore (Jan. 25-29)

Total sales reported: 16  
 Lowest sale reported: \$283,000  
 Highest sale reported: \$2,050,000  
 Average sales reported: \$1,102,500

### Dublin (Jan. 25-29)

Total sales reported: 11  
 Lowest sale reported: \$510,000

Highest sale reported: \$1,900,000  
 Average sales reported: \$930,000

### Sunol (Jan. 25-29)

Total sales reported: 1  
 Lowest sale reported: \$2,050,000  
 Highest sale reported: \$2,050,000  
 Average sales reported: \$2,050,000

### San Ramon (March 15-19)

Total sales reported: 34  
 Lowest sale reported: \$342,000  
 Highest sale reported: \$2,670,000  
 Average sales reported: \$1,362,500

Source: California REsource



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# THE Murtagh TEAM

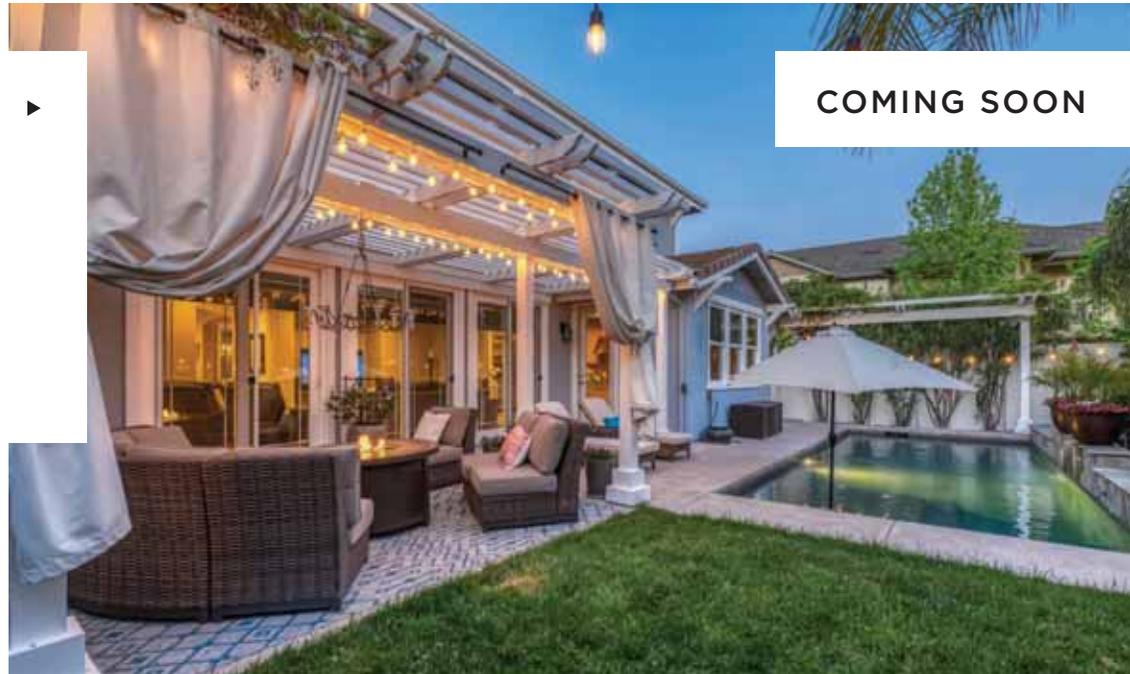
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5 Bedrooms, Office + Bonus Room  
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Julia Murtagh | 925.997.2411  
Amy Mayerson | 925.200.5022  
Kristy Heyne | 925.321.1253  
Veronica Peter | 510.304.8710  
MURTAGHREALESTATE.COM  
JULIA.MURTAGH@COMPASS.COM  
DRE # 01751854



### THE MURTAGH TEAM RECENT ACTIVITY 2021

	PROPERTY ADDRESS	BUYER/SELLER
SOLD	819 GENEVIEVE PL, PLEASANTON	BUYER/SELLER
SOLD	6016 CORTE CALERA, PLEASANTON	BUYER
SOLD	5226 MUIRWOOD DR, PLEASANTON	SELLER
SOLD	606 SALEM CT, LIVERMORE	BUYER
SOLD	820 OAK MANOR CT, PLEASANTON	SELLER
SOLD	2595 SHADOW MOUNTAIN DR, SAN RAMON	BUYER
SOLD	4444 SANDALWOOD DR, PLEASANTON	SELLER
SOLD	2800 4TH ST, LIVERMORE	SELLER
SOLD	4529 SANDYFORD CT, DUBLIN	SELLER
SOLD	6036 VIA DE LOS CERROS, PLEASANTON	SELLER
SOLD	1175 ROXANNE ST, LIVERMORE	BUYER
PENDING	1622 KNOLL WY, LIVERMORE	BUYER
PENDING	2776 ELLINGSON WY, SAN RAMON	BUYER
PENDING	7428 MUIRWOOD CT, PLEASANTON	BUYER
PENDING	9770 DAVONA DR, SAN RAMON	BUYER
PENDING	1111 TIFFANY LN, PLEASANTON	SELLER
PENDING	4463 PLEASANTON AVE, PLEASANTON	SELLER

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### VINTAGE HILLS



NEW LISTING

#### 802 CRELLIN ROAD, PLEASANTON

Upgraded Home on Large, Private Corner 8016 Square Foot Lot in Desirable Vintage Hills Neighborhood! Pride of Ownership is Apparent in this Home. Four Bedrooms, Three Bathrooms (Downstairs Guest Suite), Approximately 1942 Square Feet, Remodeled Kitchen, Remodeled Master Bath, Remodeled Downstairs Bathroom, Dual Pane Windows, Upgraded Copper Plumbing, Newer Furnace & Air Conditioner, Newer Doors & Hardware, Newer Interior Paint-2018, New Carpet-2021, Engineered Wood Flooring, Newer Hot Water Heater-2015, Metal Lifetime Roof, Re-Stuccoed Exterior with Custom Molding, Cemented Side Yard Access, Newer Exterior Facia Boards-2020, New Rear Fence, Beautifully Landscaped, Private Rear Yard, Vintage Hills & Tawny Parks Nearby, Walk to Award Winning Vintage Hills Elementary! Minutes to BART, Downtown, Stoneridge Mall, the new Outlet Center & Livermore Wineries!

**OFFERED AT \$1,499,888**

### LITTLE VALLEY



COMING SOON

#### 3501 LITTLE VALLEY ROAD, SUNOL

Take Advantage of the Rare Opportunity to Still Own an Estate in the Mainly Transitioned, Prestigious, "Little Valley" Gated Community. This Once Undiscovered Area Just South & Adjacent to Pleasanton, is one of Alameda County's Hidden, Secluded Serene Treasures. Quick Access to Pleasanton, Livermore, 680 and Silicon Valley Makes this Location Ideal. Amongst Beautiful Rolling Hills, Experience Panoramic Breathtaking Views, Privacy & Security all in a Gorgeous Serene Country Setting! Enjoy this Immaculate Existing Residence on 3.55 Acre, with an Option to Oversee & Build Your Dream Home Right on the Same Property! Existing House has Three Bedrooms, Office, Great Room, 2 1/2 Bathrooms with Approximately 2020 Square Feet. Additional Downstairs 1200 Square Foot Bonus/Game Room with Fireplace

**CALL FOR PRICING**

### STONERIDGE



COMING SOON

#### 7498 HILLVIEW COURT, PLEASANTON

Location, Location, Location! Extensively Upgraded and Expanded Large Single Level in Desirable Westside "Stoneridge" Neighborhood! Well-Maintained Spacious-Four Bedroom, Two Bathroom, Home on Quiet Court. Private .24 Acre Lot. Remodeled Kitchen with Granite and SS Appliances, Dual Pane Windows, Expanded Main Bedroom with Remodeled Bathroom, Remodeled Hall Bathroom, Large Secondary Bedrooms, Wainscoting, Crown Molding, Wood Burning Fireplace with Gas Option, New Exterior Paint, Private Backyard with Patio & Generous Lawn Area, Beautifully Landscaped, Cemented Side Yard Access, Convenient Location is Near Two Parks, BART Station, Commute Access to Both 580 & 680, Elementary School, Stoneridge Regional Mall, and Just Minutes to Golf Courses, Livermore Wineries and Downtown Pleasanton!

**CALL FOR PRICING**

### COUNTRYFAIR II



COMING SOON

#### 6474 CALLE ESPERANZA PLEASANTON

Don't Miss this Remodeled & Upgraded Home! Built In 1992-This Ponderosa Country Faire II Home Shows Pride of Ownership! This Four Bedroom (Office/4th), Three Bathroom Home Has 3027 Square Feet and is Situated on a 6500 Square Foot Lot. Tastefully Landscaped Front & Back! Remodeled Gourmet Kitchen with Stainless-Steel Appliances, Upgraded Family Room, Remodeled Bathrooms, New Carpet, New Door Hardware, Upgraded Lighting and Electrical Switches & Outlets, Newer Interior & Exterior Paint, Two Fireplaces, Tile Roof, New Garage Doors, Newer Perimeter Fencing, and More! Three Car Garage. The Central Location is Unmatched and Convenient to Everything, Including Parks, Shopping, BART, 680/580 Access, Downtown & Award-Winning Schools! Minutes to Downtown & Livermore Wineries.

**CALL FOR PRICING**

### STONERIDGE



PENDING

#### 4825 DRYWOOD STREET, PLEASANTON

Location, Location, Location! Extensively Upgraded and Impeccably Maintained Largest Single Level "14L" Model in Desirable Westside "Stoneridge" Neighborhood! Pride of Ownership is Evident in this Tasteful-Four Bedroom, Two Bathroom, 2217 Square Feet Home. Remodeled Kitchen with Granite and SS Appliances, Expanded Remodeled Master Bathroom, Crown Molding Throughout, Milgard Windows Throughout, Extensive Real 3/4" Oak Flooring, Added Recessed Lighting, Wood Shutters, Wood Burning Fireplace with Gas Option, 50-Year Roof, Private Backyard with Deck & Generous Lawn Area, Beautifully Landscaped, Newer Driveway, Convenient Location is Near Commute Access to Both 580 & 680, Two Parks, Elementary School, Stoneridge Regional Mall, and Just Minutes to Golf Courses, Livermore Wineries and Downtown Pleasanton!

**OFFERED AT \$1,629,000**

### COUNTRYFAIR II



PENDING

#### 6415 CALLE ESPERANZA, PLEASANTON

Don't Miss this Remodeled & Upgraded Home! Built In 1991, This Ponderosa Country Faire II Home Shows Pride of Ownership! This Four Bedroom (Office 4th), Three Bathroom Home Has 3027 Square Feet and is Situated on a Generous 7579 Square Foot Lot. The Front & Private Backyard are Both Professionally & Beautifully Landscaped! Remodeled Gourmet Kitchen with Custom Cabinets & Stainless-Steel Appliances, Upgraded Bathrooms, Hardwood Floors, New Carpet, Newer Windows, 4" Wood Shutters, Sub Zero Full-Sized Built-In Wine Refrigerator, New Door Hardware, Upgraded Lighting and Electrical Switches & Outlets, Newer Interior & Exterior Paint, New Heat & Air, Two Fireplaces, Tile Roof, Newer Garage Doors, Newer Perimeter Fencing, and More! Three Car Garage. The Central Location is Unmatched and Convenient to Everything, Including Parks, Shopping, BART, 680/580 Access, Downtown & Award Winning Schools!

**OFFERED AT \$1,795,888**

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4340 West Ruby Hill Drive, Ruby Hill  
5 BD | 3 BA | 3,660 sq. ft. | 0.65 acres

**\$2,150,000**



**Pending**  
3602 Whitworth Drive, Dublin  
3 BD | 2BA | 2,158 sq. ft.

**\$998,888**



**Coming Soon**  
3969 Twain Harte Road, Dublin  
3 BD | 3.5 BA | 2,002 sq. ft.

**\$928,888**



**Sold**  
3803 Newton Way, Pleasanton  
3 BD | 2 BA | 1,293 sq. ft.  
Represented Buyer & Seller

**\$1,145,000**



**Pending**  
470 Tiller Lane, Redwood Shores  
5 BD | 4 BA | 3,566 sq. ft.

**\$2,999,000**

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