

# Pleasanton Weekly

Real Estate  
Spring Preview

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**ValleyCare**

# VALLEY VIEWS



BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

## Pen pal connections

Are pen pals still a thing in this age of instant communication? I had a pen pal named Barbara when I was about 10. She lived in Britt, Iowa, where I had distant relatives who connected us. Barbara used many exclamation points, which to me indicated "a lot of personality." I am sure I responded with corresponding !!!

She wrote me about 4-H and entering the fair, and I told her about my baton lessons and marching in parades. But our communications petered out quickly, despite the lively punctuation.

I've written stories for the Weekly about pen pals who've managed to build and sustain long distance friendships for decades, even between continents, and finally meet in person.

Now, Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch is starting a pen pal program to help its residents practice letter writing and improve their social interaction skills.

Sunflower Hill is a residential community for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and it recently received a \$2,500 grant from the Pleasanton Rotary Club Foundation to use for program supplies. Some of this has been earmarked for the pen pal program.

"The main purpose is for residents to have a sense of community and to build a support network for themselves," residential programs manager Pratimajit Kaur told me last week.

The staff is working out the final details, she said, including highlighting residents who want to participate. They will be noted in the newsletter for supporters of Sunflower Hill to request as pen pals. Letters will go through the office.

"Staff will help our residents with writing or developing the letter, or some can do it on their own," Kaur said.

Everyone will follow guidelines, such as being respectful to the pen pal and using simple language.

"They will have a conversation, such as asking, 'How is your day going?'" Kaur said. "This continues to build upon the residents' communication and social skills."

"It will be an optional program," she added. "We want to give them a choice."

She was looking forward to carrying out this program in person after months of virtual activities. Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch only opened in

October, and its 31 apartments are all leased out.

"This is an independent living community," Kaur explained. "Some residents work, some go out with their families. They do their own things and are living their own lives. A few residents go to school. We have a mixture of all these wonderful talents."

Some have caregivers or support staff who come in to help with daily tasks. The facility also offers recreational activities for residents to feel a sense of community.

"The main purpose is coming together, enjoying that time together, creating a bond," Kaur said. "Sometimes residents join activities virtually and we end up just talking."

She hopes the new pen pal program will be ready to go by June or July and result in residents getting connected even more to Pleasanton.

"We have a few residents who go out for walks, and they like to go to the farmers' market," she said. "These are some of the bright and positive stories you hear every day here, and they can share these stories with their pen pals."

Kaur said she had a pen pal she found on a website when she was in high school in Long Island.

"We both liked anime, and we started talking about that," she recalled. "In college, we were still talking and now it is like a close, best friend bond we have."

"This person was in New York City, a totally different culture," she added. "It was a very positive experience for me."

Kaur is excited Sunflower Hill residents will be able to enjoy pen pals.

"We want to provide that experience that any other person would have," she said. "I can see it being like a fun event to sit together and say, 'My friend wrote this today,' or 'This is what my friend is doing.' It will be a very proud moment."

Kaur also appreciates the pleasure of using attractive notepaper and looks forward to sharing that.

"I am so thankful that the money is going to help us get beautiful stationery, envelopes and stamps so residents can have that full experience," she said. ■

*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 — and sometimes on the fifth.*

### About the Cover

Students arrive at Donlon Elementary School during morning drop-off Tuesday. Donlon is among the schools particularly impacted under the current enrollment boundaries. Photo by Ryan J. Degan. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

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# Streetwise

DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON

## What are you most looking forward to about the upcoming weekend closures of Main Street to car traffic?



**Kristina Griffin**  
*IT project management*

I am so looking forward to enjoying outdoor dining to its fullest extent and to bumping into and spending time with friends and neighbors I haven't seen in person, up closely and personally in more than a year.



**Josh Griffin**  
*Union laborer*

For me, it is largely about safety. I love the idea of being able to wander around downtown without having to worry about getting hit by a car. And to be able to congregate safely with people in our community. I love the unity of it all, and also, how we are finally able to leave behind us that horrible sense of fear that has controlled us and prevented us from engaging with one another for so long.



**Jake Weller**  
*Main Street business owner*

I am thrilled about this. Closing Main Street to cars over the weekend directly impacts my business in the most positive way. Increasing our "real estate" into the street in front of our business means that we won't ever have to turn people away because we are "at capacity."



**Chad Washam**  
*Estimator*

I think the absence of vehicular traffic is itself the greatest benefit. It facilitates a great sense of community when people can safely walk through the streets and come together. It will be reminiscent of the now-defunct First Wednesdays that appealed to all ages and stages, and brought people together in such a unique and special way. I am so looking forward to getting that back.



**Matt Dennis (with Max)**  
*Cloud-based document management*

I am most looking forward to the sense of community that the street closure to cars will bring. When Main Street is closed to cars, people — whether they are pedestrians, cyclists or dog walkers, from all different walks of life — have an increased ability to interact with one another, and meet and congregate and get to know one another in a way that would never otherwise be possible.

— Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

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

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## DIGEST

### Murder arrests

Dublin police announced Wednesday morning that two people were arrested and charged this week in connection with the murder of rising Bay Area rapper Lil Yase last November.

Angel Butler and Jovante Williams -- both 28 -- were taken into custody on arrest warrants Tuesday after being identified as the prime suspects in the homicide after a nearly five-month investigation, according to Dublin police Capt. Nate Schmidt.

Lil Yase, 26, of San Francisco, died at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley soon after being shot multiple times in the early-morning hours of Nov. 28 in the 5100 block of Iron Horse Parkway in Dublin near the Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station, according to police.

A motive for the shooting, as well as details about what led to the identification of Butler and Williams as the suspects, were not immediately available. Follow updates on this story at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) and in next week's paper.

### Body in arroyo

The California Highway Patrol is investigating the circumstances of a woman being found dead Monday in an arroyo area not far from a shopping center and freeway in Livermore.

Limited details are available at this early stage of the investigation, but "at this time, foul play does not seem to be a factor," Officer Tyler Hahn said.

It is unclear whether authorities have confirmed the woman's identity yet.

The call came in just before 2:30 p.m. Monday with a report of a woman possibly deceased in Arroyo Las Positas, south of Interstate 580 eastbound and north of North Livermore Avenue, according to Hahn. The area, which was not far from the parking lot near the Kohl's and Walmart stores, appeared to be a place where some transients were residing.

CHP and Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department units arrived on scene, and LPPD personnel confirmed that the woman was dead, according to Hahn. An autopsy report is pending.

### 'Backyard Brief'

Dublin City Manager Linda Smith recently debuted her new monthly newsletter for the Dublin community, "Backyard Brief."

The newsletter aims to offer anecdotes and updates on all of the happenings in the "New American Backyard" — a nickname embraced by Dublin. To view the April newsletter or to subscribe, visit [www.dublin.ca.gov](http://www.dublin.ca.gov) and click on the "Keep Me Informed" button. ■

## PUSD starting process to adjust elementary enrollment boundaries

Changes would take effect for new students in 2022-23 school year

By JULIA BAUM

The Pleasanton Unified School District is moving forward with plans to change its enrollment boundaries for elementary school sites after the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a strategy for the public review process last week.

With a 2021-22 enrollment project study predicting short- and long-term enrollment imbalances at all grade levels, PUSD has focused recently on alleviating overcrowding in both the eastern

and, particularly, northwest parts of the district, where the board canceled plans last year for a new school serving grades 4 and 5 on the Donlon Elementary site.

The so-called E-10 school was ultimately scrapped in November "as a result of the uncertain times of 2020, including the COVID-19 pandemic, revised demographic projections, and fiscal consideration" such as an additional \$13 million in costs for the project, according to a staff presentation at the April 22 board meeting.

The action also included setting aside \$35 million in Measure II bonds for a future 10th elementary school.

"We had to put a hold on our original plans due to financial circumstances and our declining enrollment, quite frankly," Board President Joan Laursen said during discussion. "As those numbers change, then future plans can change again, and we feel we've been very conservative by setting aside the promised \$35 million for a new school and saving that

money to take care of the enrollment that we are going to anticipate still needing in five years or so."

Trustee Mark Miller said the board "really did have a goal of trying to keep our schools a little bit smaller," but "it really became apparent that the plan to build a new school right now is just not a good decision."

"Our overarching goal in this community was to have

See **BOUNDARIES** on Page 8



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

Aerial view looking north from BART of a proposed 308-unit project near the West Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station. San Francisco developer BRIDGE Housing wants to develop 3.6 acres at 6501 Golden Gate Drive, across Interstate 580 from BART and across the street from the BART parking structure.

## Dublin commits \$10M to project

308-unit affordable complex would be near BART station

The Dublin City Council agreed last week to partner with non-profit developer BRIDGE Housing on a 308-unit project near the West Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station that will be 100% affordable housing.

The council unanimously agreed on April 20 to spend \$10 million on developing 3.6 acres at 6501 Golden Gate Drive, just across Interstate 580 from BART and across the street from the BART parking structure. The five-story building would have a parking garage and commercial space on its ground floor, below four stories of housing.

Council members voted unanimously to spend \$7.1 million from its affordable housing fund and another \$2.9 million from its share of Alameda County Measure A-1 Bond funds on the project.

"We sorely need affordable housing; this many units of affordable housing is fantastic," Councilmember Jean Josey said.

The first phase would consist of units for mixed-income levels, ranging from 20% to 60% of area median income.

A staff report for last week's meeting said BRIDGE anticipates 30 percent of the units in the 136-unit first phase would be reserved for special needs populations, including formerly homeless individuals/families and/or veterans. Those units would include appliances, furniture and basic kitchenware, including dishes.

BRIDGE would also construct a "warm shell of at least 2,200 square feet of a ground floor cafe or similar use in the project," and provide plaza enhancements to

improve pedestrian access to the BART connection over the freeway, according to the report.

The remaining 172 units would also be considered affordable, though an affordability matrix hasn't been determined.

Council members asked for more details about possible daycare facilities, parking, and numbers on how many students BRIDGE expects the project to bring to the city. They also said they'd like to see trees buffering the site from I-580 and air pollution monitors in any play areas for children.

The next step for the project is submitting applications for permitting and Planning Commission review. The project would then go back to the council for final approval. ■

—Tony Hicks, BCN Foundation

## Commissioner apologizes for 'ghetto' comments

Livermore council to decide Stein's fate next week

By CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore Planning Commissioner John Stein issued a public apology to the community during the City Council meeting Monday night for controversial comments he made about a proposed downtown affordable housing project during a city discussion one week earlier.

The Planning Commission on April 20 discussed Eden Housing's latest proposed community that would provide 130 new affordable homes ranging from one to three bedrooms for low-income families in downtown Livermore.

During that conversation, Stein — who has been on the commission since 2019, after previously serving on the City Council — referred to the project as a "ghetto."

"I really don't want to see the downtown become a ghetto of affordable housing, and I support inclusionary housing both on a macro and micro scale. I think it should be distributed throughout the city and if we see high-density housing downtown, it should be market rate with maybe 20% affordable rather than entire affordable," Stein said during the April 20 meeting.

He said he attributed his perspective to his past experience with failures in public housing in New York.

Stein's remarks sparked backlash in the community, prompting

See **COMMISSIONER** on Page 8

# Supervisors continue Sunwalker solar project debate to June

By CIERRA BAILEY

After starting the appeal hearing last week, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted to pause its discussion on the Sunwalker solar energy project planned for North Livermore until June 3 to allow for more research.

According to county planning director Albert Lopez, the reasoning behind the decision was to give the project proponent time to provide more information on its agricultural management plan as well as to grant the supervisors an opportunity to review the Williamson Act uniform rules provisions.

Supervisor David Haubert, who represents District 1 including the area of the project site, said that

there were questions raised during the meeting about the completeness of the draft agricultural management plan. "I, for one, am not satisfied with simply sheep-grazing as the sole agricultural use, as one example," Haubert told the Weekly.

Before deciding to push the matter out another six weeks, the supervisors heard comments April 22 on four appeals challenging the 59-acre, six-megawatt solar energy facility proposed by SunWalker Energy for property at 4871 N. Livermore Ave.

Appellants Save North Livermore Valley, Friends of Open Space and Vineyards, Friends of Livermore, and residents John and Jackie Bowles argue that the project would

destroy the natural environment and violate the county's Measure D, which aims to preserve agricultural land and open space in eastern Alameda County.

"We are grateful to the many community members that called on the supervisors to reject the Sunwalker project. The project would open the floodgates to the industrialization of North Livermore Valley and the east county," Chris O'Brien, chair of the Save North Livermore Valley steering committee, said in a statement.

The Bowles family's appeal also argues that the project is inconsistent with provisions of the Williamson Act — which "enables local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners for the purpose

of preserving land for agricultural use. In return, landowners receive reduced property tax assessments because the assessments are based on agricultural and open space uses instead of the full market value," according to the county website.

"This project does not belong in the scenic North Livermore Valley where voters decided to support cultivated agriculture, and preserve open space, species habitat and scenic beauty," said Robert Selna, counsel for Save North Livermore Valley. "On the related Williamson Act issue, the Board of Supervisors wisely demanded more proof from county staff that the project complies with the Williamson Act."

The appellants are urging the

county to develop a comprehensive solar policy for agricultural districts before considering any more large-scale solar projects.

Haubert said that while he has always supported having a solar policy in place before moving ahead with additional projects, he never made that a condition on the current projects that "have been in the pipeline for years" and were already approved by the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments.

Sunwalker is the smaller of two solar energy projects proposed for North Livermore that have been met with resistance from citizen groups over the past year, following the 410-acre Aramis project, proposed by Intersect Power. ■

## Stanford to absorb ValleyCare Charitable Foundation

By JEREMY WALSH

The ValleyCare Charitable Foundation Board of Trustees has announced that the nonprofit fundraising arm of the Tri-Valley hospital will dissolve and merge with Stanford, pending approval of the foundation's corporate members.

The move, which comes five years after the ValleyCare health system merger with Stanford Health, would see VCCF's mission and its current fund balance transition to the Stanford University Office of Medical Center Development, with a specific team to be dedicated to Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare hospital priorities, the board said in a statement last Friday.

"We are very proud of all that VCCF has accomplished over the years," VCCF president and

executive director Shaké Sulikyan told the Weekly on Monday.

"After careful consideration and deliberation, VCCF's board decided to move in this direction because this merger will help our community raise even more money to bring vital programs and services to our region. The merger is well-timed and aligns with the hospital's strategic vision," she added.

VCCF corporate members will vote on the proposed nonprofit merger later in this quarter, according to the board. The foundation is hiring a third-party firm to manage the balloting, and virtual town halls about the process are scheduled during the next two weeks.

The trustees said they were proud of all of the foundation's accomplishments over the years, particularly funding the effort for Stanford-ValleyCare to become

a primary stroke center in 2019 and providing ongoing support for modern equipment, technology and services.

They noted that the proposed merger will continue to encourage a direct focus on achieving Stanford-ValleyCare strategic priorities into the future, while under the Stanford brand and vision in line with the goals of the hospital's recently completed five-year strategic plan.

"SHC-VC will be defined as locally Stanford, regionally connected, and intentionally integrated with Stanford Health Care. The priorities of the strategic plan include Stanford brand alignment and transformation, as well as alignment of clinical, operational, development, and support services," the board said.

Another aspect of the timing of

the merger is that, as of the end of 2020, the foundation had fulfilled all obligations related to conditions imposed by the California Attorney General's Office as part of approving the Stanford-ValleyCare affiliation in 2015, which included requiring Stanford to consult with VCCF prior to certain decisions and reports for a period of time.

The nonprofit merger will allow the Tri-Valley hospital to benefit from Stanford's "highly trained team of experienced fundraising professionals and partner teams" to accomplish local fundraising goals, according to the board.

"As part of the merger, SHC-VC will receive the funds currently held by VCCF and VCCF will no longer exist as a separate entity," the board said. "Most importantly, all funds, endowed or expendable,

will be transferred and stewarded according to the donor's original intent. Future funds will be managed in compliance with Stanford University's current funds accounting policies."

With the merger, Stanford-ValleyCare would create a new Community Advisory and Relations Board composed of 10 to 20 community members to provide input and perspective, serve as local ambassadors and "participate when feasible in the planning, execution, and evaluation of SHC-VC's community strategy."

Sulikyan said she will be leaving the organization on June 26 and could not comment at this time on the status of other VCCF employees and volunteers.

For more information and updates on the process, visit [givevalleycare.org/merger](http://givevalleycare.org/merger). ■

## Community groups sue county over Aramis solar project

By CIERRA BAILEY

Save North Livermore Valley 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 Society, served the county with a petition for writ of mandate on April 20, 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.

"Twenty-one years ago, 63,000 Alameda County residents placed

Measure D on the ballot to safeguard and preserve the agricultural land and open space of East Alameda County, including North Livermore Valley. The voters overwhelmingly supported Measure D, despite an effort by the supervisors to defeat the measure. It constitutes the greatest environmental achievement in our county's history," said Chris O'Brien, chairperson of the Save North Livermore Valley steering committee, in a statement.

He added, "The Board of Supervisors is now attempting to overturn Measure D by authorizing the industrial development of North Livermore Valley. Instead, the Board of Supervisors should respect the will of the voters and follow county and state law."

Tamara Reus, board president for Friends of Open Space and Vineyards, shared similar sentiments in the statement, emphasizing North Livermore's heritage of grazing cattle,

scenic areas and serving as a habitat for vulnerable species. "While we support the need for renewable energy to combat climate change, we cannot justify allowing solar projects to destroy the environment in the name of protecting it," she said.

The Alameda County Counsel's Office did not reply to request for comment from the Weekly. Intersect Power declined to comment when contacted last week.

The Board of Supervisors initially approved the project on March 4 after nearly 10 hours of presentations, discussion and deliberations. Following the meeting, Save North Livermore Valley launched a GoFundMe campaign to raise money for litigation costs. Although the campaign has not yet reached its \$95,000 goal, the organization moved forward with filing the suit. ■

*Editor's note: A copy of the lawsuit can be viewed with the online version of this story at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com).*

### TAKE US ALONG



**One down:** Pleasanton Weekly staff reporter Ryan J. Degan received his first coronavirus vaccine dose on April 15 — the first day he was eligible to do so — and was lucky enough to have the shot administered by his aunt Chris Degan (pictured), who volunteers at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds' Grace Pavilion.

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.

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# Deputy charged with manslaughter for on-duty shooting in Danville

Complaint comes hours after videos released in Deputy Hall's second fatal shooting

By RYAN J. DEGAN

Contra Costa County Sheriff's Deputy Andrew Hall turned himself into the Martinez Detention Facility last week after being criminally charged for fatally shooting an unarmed driver during a police response in downtown Danville in November 2018.

Hall faces felony counts of voluntary manslaughter and assault with a semiautomatic weapon in connection with the death of Laudemer Arboleda.

This marked the first time in Contra Costa County history that the District Attorney's Office filed criminal charges against a police officer for their actions during an on-duty shooting.

"Officer Hall used unreasonable and unnecessary force when he responded to the in-progress traffic pursuit involving Laudemer Arboleda, endangering not only Mr. Arboleda's life but the lives of his fellow officers and citizens in the immediate area," Contra Costa County DA Diana Becton said during a press conference on April 21.

"We in law enforcement must conduct ourselves in a professional and lawful manner when interacting



RYAN J. DEGAN

Contra Costa County District Attorney Diana Becton on April 22 announced the filing of criminal charges against Sheriff's Deputy Andrew Hall for the fatal shooting of Laudemer Arboleda in Danville in 2018.

with the public. Officer Hall's actions underscore the need for a continued focus on de-escalation training and improved coordinated responses to individuals suffering from mental illness," Becton added.

Hall, a county sheriff's deputy assigned to the Danville Police Department beat, turned himself in on April 22 and was shortly after released on \$220,000 bail. DA officials say his arraignment is set for June 2

at 1:30 p.m. in Martinez.

Attorney Harry Stern, who represents Hall, claims that the charges are unfounded and politically motivated.

"It is my understanding that the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office originally deemed deputy Hall's use of force as justified given the fact that he was defending himself from a lethal threat. The timing of their sudden reversal in deciding to file charges seems suspect and overtly political," Stern said in a written statement.

If convicted, Hall faces up to 20-plus years in prison and would be barred from working in law enforcement.

Hall shot Arboleda nine times at close range while the 33-year-old Newark man tried to drive slowly around police vehicles attempting to block his path in downtown Danville on Nov. 3, 2018.

Arboleda's mother has since filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the town and sheriff's office, arguing the fatal shooting was unjustified given the circumstances of the incident, including that Arboleda was experiencing a mental health crisis.

"This is a prime example of poorly

trained and negligently supervised officers ignoring common sense and shooting at a moving car," Oakland civil rights attorney John Burris, who represents Arboleda's family, said in a statement. "Mr. Arboleda had committed no crime when the police began pursuing him, and from all appearances, it seems his only crime was being the wrong skin color in Danville."

## The second fatal shooting

Hall — who was cleared to return to duty at some point after the 2018 shooting — is the same Danville police officer who shot Tyrell Wilson at the Sycamore Valley Road-Camino Ramon intersection on March 11. Wilson, a 32-year-old homeless man, died at a local hospital days later.

The Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office released video footage mere hours before Becton's announcement of charges against Hall on April 21.

The videos, which are graphic in nature and included with the online version of this coverage, show Hall shoot Wilson one time after a brief verbal exchange with Wilson holding a knife while at the Danville intersection, as well as the moments before and after the shooting.

In a statement last week, Sheriff David Livingston said, "Tyrell Wilson did in fact threaten the lives of passing motorists by throwing objects, possibly rocks, from the overpass down onto Highway 680. He was found with numerous rocks

in his jacket pocket."

"He did pull a knife on officer Hall. He did threaten officer Hall. And he did start advancing toward officer Hall in the middle of a major intersection. Officers are forced to make split second decisions to protect themselves and the public and that's what happened here," Livingston added.

Running for 16 minutes and 56 seconds, the video footage from four camera sources, including Hall's bodycam, includes video and audio of the verbal exchange between the two men and shows an approximately 32-second interaction between Hall and Wilson before the lone shot was fired.

"The video and witness accounts show this was a cold murder. Wilson never had a chance," said attorney Burris, who is also representing the Wilson family in a suit against the town and police department.

"Hall initiated the contact. He made no effort to de-escalate; he seemed hell-bent on bringing Wilson under control as if he were roping an uncooperative steer," Burris added. "Equally disturbing with the shooting was the utter lack of urgency in providing medical care. Mr. Wilson laid mortally wounded in the street for 25 minutes before paramedics arrived."

The DA's office investigation into Wilson's death remains ongoing.

These mark the only two police shootings of any kind that have occurred in the town of Danville since 2001. ■

## COMMISSIONER

Continued from Page 5

the council to revise its meeting agenda Monday to include an additional item specifically addressing the issue. The public conversation kicked off with remarks from the embattled commissioner.

"First of all, I'd like to say that I do feel my comments were intemperate or unfortunate. And I have personally apologized to the people who have contacted me, with a few exceptions, and I have written a letter of public apology in the 'Letters to the Editor' of The Independent and I'm currently composing a letter to send to the East Bay Times," Stein said.

"I would also like to apologize to the city, I guess," he continued. "The comments were my own and nowhere reflect any other planning commissioners, City Council or staff opinions or positions. I believe that Livermore should have inclusionary housing — a broad range of housing types to serve all segments of the community. I also believe that as a planning commissioner it's my role to treat the public with respect, compassion and be willing to meet their expectations and again, I apologize if I have not done that."

Stein added that it was not his intent to disparage service workers

and low-income residents, recalling his own past service industry jobs in college as well as various service jobs his children have previously held.

He said that to some extent, he believes his comments were "misinterpreted" and that while he supports "inclusionary housing," he thinks it should be distributed throughout the community as opposed to concentrated in one area. He said that his reasoning for opposing the Eden Housing project planned for downtown was based on its parking plan, which he feels is inadequate.

"Intent matters but impact matters more," Councilmember Brittni Kiick said, following Stein's comments Monday.

"What I heard in an apology was 'I'm sorry that you misunderstood my comments,' and I don't think that was really taking account for the actions that were said," Kiick said. "The impact of those words are very strong, as someone who used to be an elected official, as someone who is now serving at the pleasure of the council should know better that those words have meaning."

Vice Mayor Trish Munro and Councilmember Bob Carling also addressed other contentious comments Stein made during the April 20 meeting, including that Livermore has become the center of homelessness in the valley and that he didn't want Livermore to become

the go-to city in the valley for affordable housing.

Carling argued Stein's comments on unhoused people in Livermore were erroneous.

"I've been to the encampment many times and one question I always ask is, 'Where are you from?' At least 75% of the time the answer is, 'I'm from Livermore,'" Carling said. "I think those who provide services to the homeless would agree, the majority of the homeless in Livermore are from Livermore. This is where they feel comfortable and this is their home."

In regards to Livermore becoming the "go-to" place in the Tri-Valley for affordable housing, Carling added that regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) standards are set by the state, and Livermore has not yet met its RHNA obligations, nor have its neighboring cities.

Although the council could not take any action during Monday night's meeting, Carling expressed that his opinion is that Stein should be taken off the Planning Commission.

After further discussion and deliberation, the council voted to bring the issue back this coming Monday (May 3) at which time they will decide whether there will be any disciplinary action from the council, including but not limited to removing Stein from the commission. ■

## BOUNDARIES

Continued from Page 5

neighborhood schools, that was the main thing, and I believe this approach we have here is the best way to ensure neighborhood schools," Miller said.

Miller added that "it's going to expand Lydiksen beyond our goal," but said "it's a great time to do it since we have the construction ongoing right now, it's a practical solution for that."

"Yes, it's going to be a bigger school, but it's going to keep it a neighborhood school because a lot of the growth in students is on that side of the freeway over there," Miller said.

Laursen said she appreciated staff's proposal to form three different committees for input — one comprising core district staff and consultants, another made up of parents, teachers and other community members, and a board facility subcommittee — and implored parents to consider volunteering on the stakeholder committee "because the work

we're going to do together over the next year on this issue, we want a quality product that meets the needs of our students and our families."

Trustee Kelly Mokashi said she "saw firsthand the potential of my children being transferred out because there is not space in our neighborhood school" when she first

"Our overarching goal in this community was to have neighborhood schools ..."

Mark Miller,  
PUSD Board Trustee

moved to Pleasanton. "I think that we just need to remember, as already stated, it's going to be an emotional process and that we need to be open for the options."

Mokashi said she also appreciated that "this is going to be a collaborative process with the city."

"We know that we don't have all the information of where the housing's going to be placed, so I like the time period for the plan," Mokashi added.

The committees are expected to be formed by fall and meet regularly, including hosting a series of town hall meetings during fall and winter. If things go according to schedule, the district would start phasing in the boundary adjustments for new students in fall 2022. ■



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# Camp Connection

PleasantonWeekly.com/  
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## Hacienda Campus, HeadsUp! Montessori Preschool

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Hacienda Campus: (925) 463-2885  
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www.headsup.org | writenow@headsup.org

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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

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!

### 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.

## Stratford School

<http://stratfordschools.com/summer>

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# Glazer targets wildfire safety, UC student representation

By JULIA BAUM

With a potentially dangerous fire season ahead this year, State Senator Steve Glazer's (D-Orinda) proposal to create a pilot program that would give former inmates the opportunity to clear vegetation and help mitigate wildfires throughout the state has recently gained traction.

Following an April 13 hearing, the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee unanimously approved Senate Bill 804, which would pave a pathway to employment for formerly incarcerated individuals, who would become eligible for an entry-level forestry position with the state after being trained in forestry management.

California already allows inmates to work on firefighting crews, who spend about 3 million hours fighting blazes along with performing 7 million hours of community work each year.

"We've had a string of devastating and deadly wildfires, and they are likely to continue for years to come," Glazer said in a statement. "We need to increase the number of qualified individuals who can help prevent these wildfires, and my bill would do that. It would also open the door to people trying to get a second chance in life with good, constructive work."

A proactive approach to forestry and vegetation management is needed to help reduce the threat and impact of wildfires, but one of the greatest obstacles to doing so "is a lack of a trained workforce," according to Glazer.

Orientation and basic training would make up the first month of the program, followed by another 11 months of field work and on the job training such as chain saw operation, wilderness first aid and CPR, and fire science and forestry health classes.


Another bill presented by Glazer earlier this month would add a second voting student member to the University of California Board of Regents.

Currently only one voting student member sits on the 26-member board. The student is selected by the board to represent other students for a one-year term; a second student regent also serves on the board but does not have voting privileges.

Glazer's Senate Constitutional Amendment 5 would "strengthen the influence of students" on the Board of Regents by adding a second voting student member to its ranks. The amendment, which is supported by the UC Student Association, would take effect if approved by the legislature and voters.

Noting that students "are the ones who are directly affected by decisions that the UC Board of Regents make," Glazer said a second voting student regent would strengthen and amplify "the important student perspective in Board of Regents' decisions."

"When budget decisions are made, student fee increases are discussed and other educational policies are established, it's critical that they are given a stronger voice to have an impact on what the Board decides," Glazer said. ■



HIGHLIGHTS

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

City Council

Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

- **Public Hearing:** Introduce an ordinance amending Title 3 of the Pleasanton Municipal Code to (1) add a new Chapter 3.44 establishing a Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone (JDEDZ) Transportation Fee, (2) adopt a resolution amending the master fee schedule to set the fee, and (3) allocate grant funds and other local funds to the JDEDZ Transportation Improvements project
- Adopt and waive second reading of Ordinance No. 2214 amending Municipal Code Chapter 1.22 to add a \$1,000 voluntary campaign contribution limit and decrease the existing voluntary campaign expenditure limit to \$24,000 for a council member candidate and to \$30,000 for a mayoral candidate **\*Councilmembers Balch and Narum voted "no"**
- Adoption of FY2021/22–FY2022/23 City Council Work Plan Priorities

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# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Police: Man shoots 100 bullets in his home; some hit neighbor condos

A Pleasanton man was taken into custody last Friday night after police allege he fired around 100 rifle rounds inside his home, with some of the bullets entering nearby condos.

No injuries resulted from the gunfire or police response, and no one else was inside the man's condo at the time, according to the Pleasanton Police Department.

Police identified the arrestee as 39-year-old Justin Michael McDaniels, saying he was charged with multiple counts including discharging a firearm with gross negligence. It was not immediately clear whether McDaniels had entered a plea to the charges in court.

The situation unfolded just after 10 p.m. Friday when police received reports about a man firing a gun from inside his condo on Arroyo Court — a neighborhood off Foothill Road on the west side of the city.

"Approximately 100 rifle rounds were fired with several entering nearby residences," police said in their initial public statement. Capt. Kurt Schlehber later confirmed that three neighboring homes were struck by bullets that night.

"The East County Tactical Team responded and assisted patrol officers with protecting the community

and safely taking the suspect into custody," police said, adding that no officers discharged their duty weapons during the response.

Pleasanton police Lt. Maria Munayer later confirmed to the Weekly, "The suspect voluntarily exited his home. Officers de-escalated a tense situation and safely took him into custody."

McDaniels underwent a mental health evaluation before being booked at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin with a no-bail hold. He has been charged with firing a gun at an inhabited dwelling and discharging a firearm in a grossly negligent manner that could result in injury or death, police said.

A motive for the gunfire remains unknown, according to Schlehber. He said officers recovered an unspecified number of handguns and rifles from the home.

Pleasanton PD asked anyone with information about this incident to contact the department at 925-931-5100.

#### In other news

- A passenger died soon after being airlifted to a local hospital following a crash down an embankment on Interstate 580 outside Livermore over the weekend, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The victim was Choung-Dinh Nguyen, 46, of San Jose, according to the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau.

Nguyen was the lone passenger in a minivan that crashed at approximately 8:35 a.m. Saturday on I-580 just west of Flynn Road North.

The driver of the westbound 2005 Honda Odyssey — identified only as a 46-year-old San Jose woman — lost control for unknown reasons and the minivan veered off the freeway, drove through a guardrail and traveled out-of-control down an approximately 100-foot embankment, overturning multiple times, according to the CHP and Alameda County Fire Department.

Nguyen was ejected from the minivan, potentially not wearing a seatbelt at the time, authorities said. He was airlifted to Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley with major trauma, where he succumbed to his injuries later Saturday morning.

The driver sustained minor injuries but was trapped inside the minivan after the crash, requiring emergency personnel help to be freed, according to authorities. She was transported by ambulance to Eden in stable condition.

The cause of the fatal crash remains under investigation. Any potential witnesses can contact the CHP Dublin office at 925-828-0466.

- A Pleasanton woman was arrested earlier this month after police allege she illegally charged purchases to credit cards stolen over the past five months, taking the wallets of unsuspecting victims after striking up conversations with them in local stores.

Detectives are under the impression the suspect intentionally targeted older residents as each of the victims were over 60 years old, according to Pleasanton police Sgt. Aaron Fountain.

Breonna Chanice Richard, 29, has

been charged by Alameda County prosecutors with multiple counts including theft and elder abuse, according to Fountain.

It was not immediately clear whether Richard was represented by an attorney or whether she had yet entered a plea to the charges.

According to Fountain, the Pleasanton investigation centered on five thefts that occurred between November and this spring, taking place at multiple locations in the city — convenient stores, markets and grocery stores.

Police allege Richard would approach a victim inside the store and start up a conversation, all the while discreetly stealing their wallet from their purse.

The investigation revealed at least \$5,000 worth of charges made on the stolen credit cards, according to Fountain.

"Our team of detectives devoted

hours to following up on a number of leads that helped identify the suspect," the sergeant said. "Working with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, detectives obtained an arrest warrant and gathered intelligence to pinpoint the suspect's location."

Richard was arrested in Pleasanton on the morning of April 8 and booked into the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin on felony counts of identity theft, elder abuse and theft by fraud, as well as misdemeanor theft by credit card, according to Fountain.

The department's investigation is still ongoing, the sergeant said. Anyone with information about Richard, these cases or similar thefts can contact detectives at 925-931-5100.

Fountain added, "The Pleasanton Police Department would like to remind our community to stay alert and secure your belongings." ■

—Jeremy Walsh

## Tom Drengacz

July 27, 1956 – March 10, 2021

Born in Chicago, IL to Florence and Frank Drengacz, the youngest of 3 children. At age 6, Tom's family moved to Baltimore, MD then to Pleasanton, CA. Tom spent his youth in rural Pleasanton in the 1960s, exploring creeks, riding bikes and going on adventures with his close friends. He stayed close to many of them for the rest of his life. In high school, hang gliding became Tom's passion.



He built his own gliders in the garage, eventually taking off from Glacier Point in Yosemite. Tom was a sportsman, playing soccer in high school, rugby with the Hayward Area Griffins, and then the famous Dirty Dozen rowing team, getting to the Olympic quarterfinals in 1984. He worked in the gem industry for several years. His passion for flight now focused on airplanes, Tom became a flight instructor then corporate pilot. Flying for the UN in Africa in the 1990s led to many years flying Learjets, Challenger 605s and Gulfstream 450s for FlexJet, till his recent medical retirement. He saw the Earth from above and toured almost all the land on the globe. Tom was born to fly, and born to be wild. He lived life his way.

Tom is survived by wife Blair LeGette, sister Nancy Drengacz Abramson (Curt) and brother Frank (Julia), sister in law Sandy Drengacz, nephews Sam Pumroy and Noah Abramson and niece Haley Wall, grand nieces and nephews Maya and Calvin Pumroy and Bob and Bruno Wall.

A memorial mass will be held at St. Augustine's in Pleasanton on June 26th at 11 a.m.

PAID OBITUARY

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### April 24

#### Assault/battery

■ 6:40 a.m. on the 3100 block of Boardwalk Street

#### Theft from auto

■ 6:42 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### DUI

■ 9:10 p.m. on the 4600 block of Jefferson Court

#### Warrant arrest

■ 10:37 p.m. on the 6600 block of Owens Drive

### April 23

#### Theft

■ 6:40 a.m., 3100 block of Boardwalk Street; auto theft

■ 9:46 a.m., 000 block of California Avenue; auto theft

■ 9:46 a.m., 5200 block of Caparelli Court; auto theft

■ 5:55 p.m. on the 1100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 8:57 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

#### Burglary

■ 8:35 a.m. on the 5900 block of Stoneridge Drive

#### Vandalism

■ 12:11 p.m. at Old Vineyard Avenue and Silver Oaks Lane

■ 4:24 p.m. on the 5800 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### April 22

#### Burglary

■ 2:33 a.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Robbery

■ 9:19 a.m. on the 000 block of Vintage Circle

#### Theft

■ 9:52 a.m. on the 300 block of Rose Avenue

■ 11:37 a.m., 7000 block of Commerce Circle; theft from auto

■ 2:09 p.m. on the 5500 block of Sunol Boulevard

■ 3:30 p.m., 6700 block of Bernal Avenue; theft from auto

■ 3:51 p.m. on the 6000 block of Sunol Boulevard

■ 4:49 p.m., 2200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 4:59 p.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

■ 8:20 p.m. on the 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Vandalism

■ 11:31 a.m. on the 4300 block of Foothill Road

#### Assault/battery

■ 8:16 p.m. on the 800 block of Main Street

#### Warrant arrest

■ 9:49 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Drug violation

■ 9:49 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

### April 21

#### Fraud

■ 10:46 a.m. on the 6600 block of Owens Drive

#### Theft

■ 1:20 p.m. at Foothill Road and Laurel Creek Way

### April 20

#### Warrant arrest

■ 8:50 a.m. on the 3000 block of Bernal Avenue

■ 4:29 a.m. on the 3000 block of Bernal Avenue

### April 19

#### Embezzlement

■ 1:02 p.m. on the 3900 block of Valley Avenue

#### Drug violation

■ 2:58 p.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Shoplifting

■ 8:07 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 9:08 p.m. on the 3000 block of Bernal Avenue

#### Vandalism

■ 10:49 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

## Visit Lasting Memories

An online directory of obituaries and remembrances. Search obituaries, submit a memorial, share a photo.

Go to: [PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries)



## To Tri-Valley with Love

Hello my wonderful Tri-Valley family!

This is the Tri-Valley here - home to Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and San Ramon!

Oh, how far we've come together over this past year. I am so proud of the strength and endurance of our communities, especially in the way you have shown so much love and support to our local businesses. **Thank you so much for doing your part.**

Now that we're heading down the home stretch, I have just one more favor to ask:

How about we **make a PROMISE**, not only to each other but to the businesses where we live. Can we make a PROMISE to **spend \$25 extra per week, outside what you would normally spend, at local businesses?** Maybe even try someplace new. It would go a long way toward helping your favorite business keep the lights on or a neighbor keep their job.

You can make your promise official at [ToTriValleyWithLove.com](http://ToTriValleyWithLove.com) and we'll even throw in some great deals to help that \$25 go further. It will be your own personal PROMISE Pass.



That's YOU, making a difference, by shopping, dining and using our hometown services. Let's do it together and pledge **#ToTriValleyWithLove.**

With Love,

*The Tri-Valley*



*To Danville  
with Love*

**ToDanvilleWithLove.com**



#ToDanvilleWithLove  
#DanvillePromise  
#ToTriValleyWithLove



*To Dublin  
with Love*

**ToDublinWithLove.com**



#ToDublinWithLove  
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#ToTriValleyWithLove



*To Tri-Valley  
with Love*

*To Livermore  
with Love*


**ToLivermoreWithLove.com**



#ToLivermoreWithLove  
#LivermorePromise  
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1. Visit the website or scan the QR code that can be found on this page for your hometown
2. Sign up for the PROMISE Pass
3. Start enjoying the savings and feeling good about supporting your local businesses



Scan this QR code to see all of the Tri-Valley's participating businesses

*To Pleasanton  
with Love*

**ToPleasantonWithLove.com**



#ToPleasantonWithLove  
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*To San Ramon  
with Love*

**ToSanRamonWithLove.com**



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#SanRamonPromise  
#ToTriValleyWithLove



### Understanding the Tri-Valley's water supply

May is Water Awareness Month. As we face the most significant spring drought since 2013, we want to share key information about the state of water in the Tri-Valley and how Zone 7 is working collaboratively with local partners to secure reliable sources of water for our future.



#### The current state of water in the Tri-Valley

As of March, the Tri-Valley received just 38% of the average rainfall for this time of year. That is just 5.44 inches of rainfall, compared to the average of more than 13 inches at this time. Comparatively, the driest year, 1977, had just 4.53 inches at this time, while the wettest year had 26.7 inches in 1983.

Regionally, Northern Sierra precipitation is also far below average. As of this March, only 22 inches of rain have fallen across Northern California, measured across eight weather stations that normally average 44 inches at this time of year.

We import 70% of our water

through the State Water Project's South Bay Aqueduct. The state announced that our annual allocation would be only 5% of our maximum amount, due to the drought conditions. We can use more of our local groundwater in times of drought, but we must manage the basin responsibly to ensure this valuable resource is available when we need it most.

We are actively asking our community to conserve by providing our residents with information on how to stop leaks, how to reduce outdoor water usage and how to save water inside as well. But those are short-term solutions. Let's be clear: Long-term, we cannot conserve our way out of this problem.

#### Tri-Valley's future water supply needs

Securing a long-term, reliable water supply for our region means ensuring we are not vulnerable to water shortages that may occur in a variety of scenarios, in addition to drought.

The State Water Project, the vast network of cooperative partners and infrastructure across California that supplies water to 29 areas is now over 60 years old. This aging

infrastructure delivers approximately 70% of the water needed to sustain the Tri-Valley.

Other impacts of climate change, such as severe weather patterns or natural disasters, can put this crucial infrastructure at risk. Knowing that our current water portfolio cannot sustain water demands of our region long-term, we know it is imperative that we diversify.

#### Exploring new water supply opportunities

Finding new sources of water for more than a quarter million people is no easy feat. We are looking at solutions to sustain the Tri-Valley community for generations to come.

Over the past two years, the Tri-Valley Water Roundtable has worked collaboratively to identify options, develop studies and provide information on how we can address this critical need for our community. The roundtable includes elected officials from Zone 7 and each of the water retailers in our area — California Water Service, the Dublin San Ramon Services District, and the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton.

Zone 7 has invested in several

projects for study and evaluation that may be future solutions to our water supply needs. These include Los Vaqueros Reservoir expansion for local storage, Delta Conveyance for better reliability, Sites Reservoir Project for new supply, regional desalination efforts and potable reuse for a local supply option.

As this process moves forward, we will have a robust community outreach effort that will provide plenty of opportunities for the people of the Tri-Valley to learn about the options we are exploring and to provide us with feedback about those options.

We are confident that by working together, we will secure a reliable future for our water and our region. It is an honor to serve you. ■

*Editor's note: Olivia Sanwong is the current president of the Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors. She is a Pleasanton resident who was elected to her first four-year term as board director in June 2018. The Zone 7 board regularly reviews all water supply reliability projects, along with other water quality, water reliability and flood protection projects, at its public meetings typically held at 7 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Visit [www.zone7water.com](http://www.zone7water.com).*

## LETTERS

### Active shooter in Pleasanton

Dear Editor,

I wish to write about the lack of support and credit for the Pleasanton Police Department and the work they did taking down an active shooter in Pleasanton last weekend.

No one was injured or killed. Where are the Maxine Waters supporters? The Maxine Waters supporters are quiet. Why are the Maxine Waters supporters quiet, not acknowledging and giving credit for the professional police work of our Pleasanton police force? Is it because they have no excuse to protest, to riot, to loot, to burn down the community?

—Michael Austin

### Arguing against solar? On Earth Day?!

The Friends of Livermore argued against solar energy on Earth Day. On April 22, during the Alameda County Board of Supervisors meeting, the Friends of Livermore appealed the Sunwalker solar project, which would provide clean energy to business along North Livermore Ave.

Among the appellants, none went as far as the Friends of Livermore, who claimed that the "public need for solar is overstated or doesn't exist."

On. Earth. Day.

I'll remember that when the skies turn orange during the next fire season. The infernos and ashen skies are likely to only worsen, unless we slow global warming with renewable energy. As I struggle to breathe in the smoke, I'll think back to what Friends of Livermore said on Earth Day.

The group has lost all credibility. They will say anything, no matter how false, no matter whom it harms, as long as it advances their goals. A top donor of the group is Joan Seppala, who also owns the Independent.

—Alan Marling

### Thank you for Holiday Fund donation

Thank you for your kind gift on \$14,702.64.

Your gift makes it possible for Hope to respond to the growing and diverse needs in our community and help families to safely care at home for their loved one who is at the end of life. Hope brings expert nursing care, home health aide services and

support by medical social workers, chaplains, volunteers and others to compassionately deliver the help families need.

One family recently wrote:

"I am so grateful for the support we received caring for our mom. Our hospice nurse, home health aide and chaplain were just amazing. They helped us in so many ways. We wanted the best situation for Mom, and she wanted to be at home. I know we could not have gone through it without Hope Hospice care."

Thank you for being part of our mission to bring hope, peace and care to those when they need it most. —Jennifer Hansen, CEO, Hope Hospice

### Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site

As spring emerges and the fruit trees blossom, we are welcoming people back to Tao House. In mid-March, we resumed tours and shuttle service to the site after Contra Costa County COVID cases markedly decreased — allowing family members to make reservations by phone or email, and visit the house Wednesdays through Sundays at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

Over the winter, we have been able to take advantage of the closure

by completing several routine maintenance projects at the site, including pruning in the orchards, repairing the courtyard door, and assessing the condition of brick walkways and tiles around the pool.

Meanwhile, our interpretation and education staff has been busy working on new programs, like our "Driving through Danville Bus Tour," interpretive videos, interacting with visitors through social media, helping the foundation with virtual programming, and spontaneous outdoor interpretive activities, such as our trail-side game show "Who Said It?"

During this time, museum staff digitized Herbert Freeman's oral histories. Freeman was the O'Neills' trusted handyman and chauffeur while they lived at Tao House.

We also recently hired David Kiger as our new museum technician — expanding our museum staff from two to three. David quickly jumped in on housekeeping duties to get Tao House ready for the public, and in the coming weeks he will be conducting research for exhibits and cataloging artifacts.

We hope that in the near future you will join us for a tour of Tao House.

—Tom Leatherman, superintendent, National Park Service

### PUBLISHER

Gina Channell Wilcox, Ext. 1171

### EDITORIAL

#### Editor

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 1172

#### Tri Valley Life Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli

#### Editor Emeritus

Jeb Bing

#### Staff Reporters

Cierra Bailey, Ext. 6528

Julia Baum, Ext. 1176

Ryan J. Degan, Ext. 1179

#### Contributors

Tim Hunt, Dennis Miller,

Mike Sedlak, Nancy Lewis

### ART & PRODUCTION

#### Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown

#### Designers

Linda Atilano, Amy Levine,

Paul Llewellyn, Doug Young

### ADVERTISING

#### Account Executive

Karen Klein, Ext. 1177

#### Real Estate Sales

Carol Cano, Ext. 1173

### BUSINESS

#### Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

#### Administrative Associate

Carolyn Chan, Ext. 1174

### HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

#### Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Circulation email: circulation@

PleasantonWeekly.com

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# Sports

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## PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

### Amador distance medley relay beats boys' school record

Also: Why not let Village athletes compete during this unprecedented season?

The Amador Valley High School boys track team came into a competition at Campolindo on April 17 with a plan.

The mission? Break the 20-year-old school record for the distance medley relay (DMR).

The DMR is a four-runner relay consisting of legs of 1,200 meters, 400 meters, 800 meters and 1,600 meters for the anchor leg.

Heading into the meet, the long-standing record for the event was 10 minutes, 29.12 seconds, a mark that was set in 2001 at the Stanford Invitational by a Dons quartet that included current Amador coach Jason Oswald.

There were 11 teams taking to the Campolindo track, including the Amador team of Euan Houston (1,200), Tim Lester (400), Robert Sitter (800) and John Lester (1,600).

In the first leg, Houston put in a solid closing run, handing off the baton to Tim Lester in third place behind Bellarmine and Jesuit, finishing his leg in 3:09.

Tim Lester held the third-place spot, getting through 400 meters in 51.8 seconds.

Sitter handled his 800 meter leg in 2:08, handing off to John Lester for the final leg with Amador in fifth.

John Lester was able to pass a pair of teams with a final split of 4:15, finishing behind the talented groups from Jesuit and Bellarmine.

While they didn't win the race, their time of 10:25.58 was good enough to surpass the previous mark at Amador.

Jesuit and Bellarmine finished with the top two times in the nation this year, with the Dons' time good enough for the eighth best mark.

#### Foothill girls lacrosse

With a new varsity lacrosse coach,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This year's Foothill girls lacrosse team finished 3-1.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left: The Amador Valley distance medley relay boys team of John Lester, Robert Sitter, Tim Lester and Euan Houston. John Lester and Houston are wearing training pants of Stanford and Cal Poly where they will be running for their respective college teams after the summer.

Nicole Lindke, this year's Foothill Falcons were eager to finally get back on the field this spring amid the seemingly endless pandemic.

The shortened season had the team playing only a four-game schedule this year. The Falcons sent out 13 returning players and three freshmen to round out their squad.

The team fought their way to a 3-1 mark, beating Livermore, Granada and Dublin before falling in their last game against Amador.

Under longtime coach Bill Lindke, the Falcons fielded a full junior varsity squad this season and focused on improving individual and team skills, all the while building a love for the game.

#### Let everyone play!

Should the kids at Village High in Pleasanton — the only alternative high school in the city — be allowed to compete in sports for Amador or Foothill?

It is a question I have been asked countless times over the years, and one where there is no easy answer. In normal times when school is in session and there is official East Bay

Athletic League play, as well as North Coast Section playoffs, it's an extremely complex answer as you are dealing not just with local school district rules, but section and state regulations as well.

The question was recently raised to me in the last week as high school sports are in never-before-seen times. There is no official EBAL season and there are no section playoffs this year. It has been all about getting the kids out and getting some semblance of a season.

Sure, scores are kept, there are officials and there is an outcome determined, but they are all unofficial contests. And with that being the case, all high school-aged kids in town should be able to compete this year.

This is probably coming too late as the final group of sports this school year will be completed by the end of May, but I figure it's worth a shot.

If a student is formerly attending Amador or Foothill and now currently a Village student, why not let them play for their former school if the coaches at the respective schools are interested?

I don't think it is a secret that the schools are being way more lenient on academic requirements during this run of unprecedented high school athletics. I have no issue with that as well.

Like I said before, this may be too late to make a difference, but if there is chance that we could get someone into basketball, wrestling or track and field for examples, where's the harm? ■

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



RYAN J. DEGAN

Leaders from The Club at Castlewood gathered to mark the ceremonial groundbreaking of the Pleasanton club's major renovation project.

### Castlewood breaks ground on renovation project

Estimated completion by summer 2022

By RYAN J. DEGAN

The Club at Castlewood in Pleasanton celebrated the groundbreaking of its multimillion-dollar renovation and modernization project on Friday, where members of the Board of Directors and Remodel Committee were on hand to mark the occasion.

The approximately \$16 million project, estimated to be completed by June 2022, includes major upgrades to the main clubhouse area, a new "Sports Center," a brand-new fitness and wellness center, and accessibility improvements in line with Americans with Disabilities Act standards,

among other aspects.

"It's exciting. It's a big day for Castlewood, long-awaited," club president Rick Barraza told the Weekly. "We're excited to launch the remodel and start the renovation of the clubhouse, a brand-new sports center, new facilities and new dining amenities. Membership is excited, and we think it's going to enhance the membership experience."

Barraza added that the club will continue to operate for the duration of the project, with golf, dining and club operations still available for members. ■

## 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.)

Asemblé 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  
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E-mail: gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com

## Home & Garden

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

## Performances

**LAS POSITAS COLLEGE ANNOUNCES DIGITAL AUDITIONS** The musical production of 'A Cabaret of Hope and Joy,' is accepting auditions for this live show at Las Positas College Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts Outdoor Amphitheater. Auditions are open to anyone over the age of 15. Submit by 12 p.m., May 2. Visit [laspositascollege.edu](http://laspositascollege.edu).

**LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA-TRIPLE TREAT** Featuring LVO favorites soprano Kristin Clayton and bass-baritone Bojan Knezevi, virtual selections will include Tchaikovsky's Don Juan Serenade and Dvorak's Songs my Mother Taught Me and more. 6 p.m., May 8. Visit [livermorevalleyopera.com](http://livermorevalleyopera.com).

## Talks

**LAS POSITAS COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S SPEAKER SERIES** Dr. Bryan Brown, associate professor at Stanford University, concludes this virtual series in May. Brown's recent work explores how classroom and school culture shapes access to higher education. May 4. Visit [laspositascollege.edu](http://laspositascollege.edu).

**VIRTUAL BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEETING** Presented by the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, business and political leaders discuss issues that impact business and quality of life in the area. Guest speakers are invited to tell the community

about their business and why they decided to do business in Livermore. 8-9:30 a.m., May 5. Visit [livermorechamber.org](http://livermorechamber.org).

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** Join Thomas MacEntee, a genealogy professional who is also a blogger, educator, author and social media connector at the next zoom meeting of the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society. 7-8:30 p.m., May 10. Visit [l-ags.org](http://l-ags.org).

**HARNESSING BRAIN ADAPTABILITY** The next Alan Hu Foundation webinar presents Dr. Victor Carrion who will address the impact of traumatic stress from a biological, social and psychological perspective. This free webinar will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m., May 11. Visit [alanhufoundation.org](http://alanhufoundation.org).

**THE ABCS OF BEEKEEPING** Peter Schumacher, beekeeper and member of the Mt. Diablo Beekeepers Association, is the featured speaker at the zoom meeting of the Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club. Topics include beekeeping and honey bees. Contact [president@lavgc.org](mailto:president@lavgc.org). 7 p.m., May 13.

**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, 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 Red Cross at 415-805-6826.

## Quilting

**AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS** Speaker Marjan Kluepfe will discuss Evolution Of An Art Quilter and Fabric Dyer. In this virtual information packed lecture, Marjan discusses her personal methods for finding inspiration and creating designs. 1:30 p.m., May 8. Visit [amadorvalleyquilters.org](http://amadorvalleyquilters.org).

## Fundraisers

**THE ERIC'S CORNER GOLF SCRAMBLE** The tournament, at The Club at Castlewood, 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).

## Blood Drive

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** Blood donations help others during the pandemic and all CDC guidelines will be followed. A reservation is required, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-733-2767. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., May 14. Church of Latter-day Saints, 3574 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton.

## PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

### Meet Benji

Sweet Benji is a lovable boy with a heart of gold. An affectionate snuggle bug, this 1-year-old Basenji/Corgi mix is quiet, house-trained and crate-trained. He is active and would be a nice companion for someone who enjoys going out for daily walks. Benji is neutered, microchipped and up-to-date on vaccines. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue.

## Family

**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).

**2021 DIESEL TRAIN RIDES** Ride through Niles Canyon in all of its spring splendor on select weekends. 10:30 a.m., 1 & 3:30 p.m., May 8 & 15. Visit [ncry.org](http://ncry.org).

## Exhibits

**FIREHOUSE ARTS CENTER REOPENING** The Firehouse Arts Center will reopen its doors to the public on May 1 with the Harrington Art Gallery "Fresh Works" exhibit. The exhibit features 59 works from local artists and runs through June 26. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

## Seniors

**AARP VIRTUAL SMART DRIVER COURSE** The AARP Smart Driver course is the nation's first refresher course specifically designed for drivers age 50 and older. Drivers may benefit from a discount on auto insurance premiums upon completing the course. Visit [aarpdriversafety.org](http://aarpdriversafety.org).

## Cooking

**A VIRTUAL COOKING & WINE EVENT** Join for a virtual cooking demo and wine pairing while preparing a decadent meal from the comfort of home with the guidance of a Michelin Star chef. Featuring a performance and Q&A with a cast member from SF Hamilton. 6 p.m., May 7. Visit [pleasanton.org](http://pleasanton.org).

## Recreation

**PLAYGROUNDS NOW OPEN** The City of Pleasanton Park Playgrounds are now open. Plan ahead to stay safe while at play. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

**SNAKES AT SYCAMORE GROVE** Join Ranger Seth and learn how to identify the different snakes of Sycamore Grove and how each one is unique in its own way. Pre-Registration is required by calling the

Ranger Office at 960-2400. 12 p.m., May 1. Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Rd., Livermore.

**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).

## Bingo

**DRIVE-IN BINGO** Play Drive-In Bingo from the comfort of a car, truck or SUV in the Pleasanton OTB Parking Lot. Get the live game call over an FM radio and watch the ball camera live on zoom with a smartphone or tablet. It's like a drive-in movie with big cash prizes. 12-1 p.m., May 1. Visit [alamedaountyfair.com](http://alamedaountyfair.com).

## Government

**PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL** The Pleasanton City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of the month, currently held virtually. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., May 4. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

**PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT** The Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees meets at 7 p.m., May 6, currently held virtually. Visit [pleasantonusd.net](http://pleasantonusd.net).

**LIVERMORE PLANNING COMMISSION** The next regular Livermore Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., May 4, held virtually using zoom. For questions contact The City of Livermore Planning Division 960-4450.

**LIVERMORE VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT** The Livermore School Board conducts business of the district. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., May 4, currently held virtually. Visit [livermoreschools.org](http://livermoreschools.org).

**LIVERMORE VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT** The School Board holds regular meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the month to conduct business of the district. 7 p.m., May 4. Visit [livermoreschools.org](http://livermoreschools.org).

**DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL** The Dublin City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month, currently held virtually. The next meeting is 7 p.m., May 4. Visit [dublin.ca.gov](http://dublin.ca.gov).

# Employment

### CA TEMP RPE AND/OR FULL LICENSED SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

CA Temp RPE and/or Full Licensed Speech Language Pathologists sought by BMR Health Service Inc in Pleasanton, CA to assess, treat speech language disorders. Masters Degree or foreign equivalent in Speech Language Pathology, Hearing, Audiology or related field required. Travel required to client sites throughout California. Mail resume to BMR Health Services, Inc. 7041 Koll Center Parkway, Pleasanton, CA 94566. REF: BMRSLP2021

### Software Engineer, Robotics

Omron Robotics and Safety Technologies, Inc. has opening for Software Engineer, Robotics in Pleasanton, CA. Design, implement and run software that will facilitate the future of robotic systems. May telecommute from home. To apply mail resume to Sally Nguyen, Omron Robotics and Safety Technologies, 4225 Hacienda Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference Job #2.

### Associate Chiropractor

Associate Chiropractor (Pleasanton, CA): Resp for evaltng & diagnosing health prblms by rvwing patients' health & med histories, questioning, obsrvng, & exming patients & intrprting x-rays & other imging procedures; performing a series of manual adjstmnts to the spine/other articulations of the body to correct the musculoskeletal system; obtaining & recording patients' med histories & maintain accurate case histories to prvde patients w/ prsnlized treatment plans; & consulting w/ or refring patients to approp health practitioners when necessary. DC degree & state chiropractic lic req'd. Mail resume to Intero Chiropractic, A Hsieh Corporation, 4847 Hopyard Rd, Ste 1, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

### Staff Software Engineer

Staff Software Engineer for Teletrac Navman US Ltd. in Pleasanton, CA to develop and design software for our customer-facing analytics platform to transform high-level business objectives into detailed and complex technical designs. Requires a Master's degree in Computer Science, Computer Engineering or related field plus three years of experience developing and performance tuning scalable database applications leveraging the Microsoft stack or, alternatively, a bachelor's degree and five years of experience as stated above. To apply, email resume to Stephanie.Tapia@TeletracNavman.com and Reference Position Number: RN000017.

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

# SPRING PREVIEW 2021 *Real Estate*



GETTY IMAGES

## Eager homebuyers heat up Pleasanton real estate market

Sales average over 10% above asking price last month

By DAVID STARK

Homes in Pleasanton are selling for significantly more than their list price and in record time.

Is this sustainable? One local real estate expert says yes.

“Every time I think there’s going to be a little bit of a break, you hear more stories of crazy multiple offers,” said Pleasanton

Realtor Jennifer Branchini, the 2021 treasurer for the California Association of Realtors. “Unless we get a ton of inventory, the fierce competition is going to persist



David Stark

for a while longer.”

The median sales price for a single-family detached home in Pleasanton has exceeded \$1 million each month since 2016. During March 2021, the median price was \$1.53 million.

Homes sold, on average, for more than 10% of their asking price. And during the first quarter of 2021, a home was on the

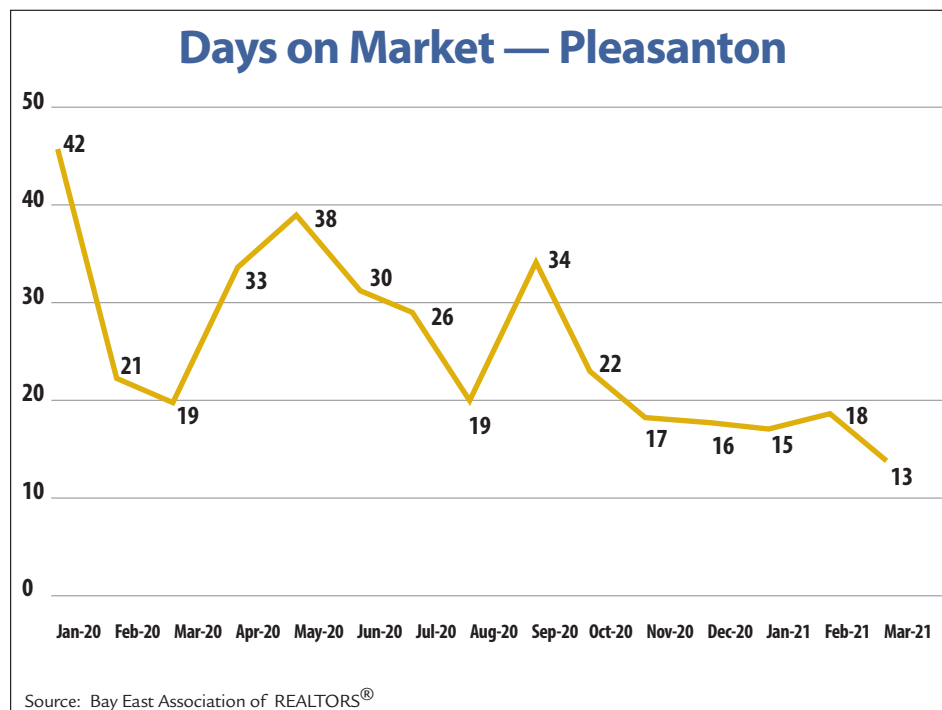
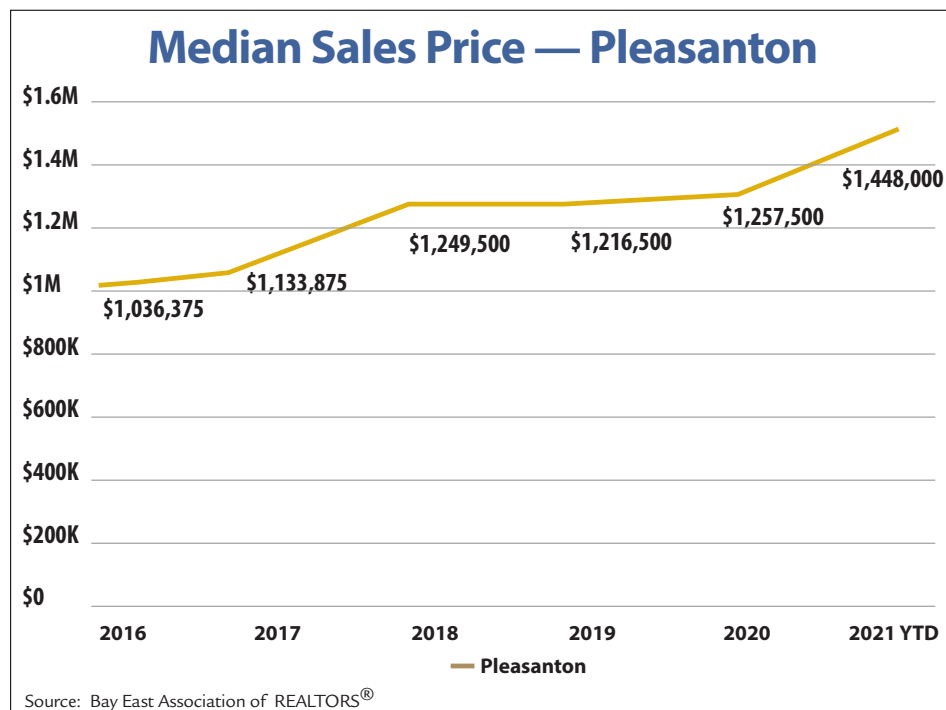
market in Pleasanton for an average of 13 days, compared to 27 days during the first quarter of 2020.

Home sales in Pleasanton increased 60% compared with last March 2020. Part of that increase is due to real estate activities being suspended in the weeks after the countywide shelter-in-place order issued on March 15, 2020.

Part of the rebound in sales is a result of real estate professionals and their clients being able to navigate the COVID-19 health restrictions on some activities, including home showings, and the strong demand for homeownership in Pleasanton.

The current market conditions

See **HOMEBUYERS** on Page 20





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## WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!

### COUNTRY FAIR II



NEW LISTING

#### 6474 CALLE ESPERANZA, PLEASANTON

Don't Miss this Remodeled & Upgraded Home! Built In 1992-This Ponderosa Country Fair 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.

**OFFERED AT \$1,788,888**

### 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**

### VINTAGE HILLS



PENDING

#### 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**

### 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**

### COUNTRY FAIR II



PENDING

#### 6415 CALLE ESPERANZA, PLEASANTON

Don't Miss this Remodeled & Upgraded Home! Built In 1991, This Ponderosa Country Fair 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**

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

## PLEASANTON | JUST LISTED

### 4686 Sutter Gate Avenue

4 BD | 2 BA | 1,963 Sq Ft

**P**ride of ownership is shown in this one story, corner lot home. Updated throughout, offering an office or 4th bedroom, vaulted ceilings in the living room and family room, crown molding throughout, solid oak flooring, with new carpets in the bedrooms. A Gas cooktop, built in refrigerator, solid wood maple cabinets and honed quartz floors are features of the kitchen. Paradise awaits in the rear yard with its outdoor kitchen complete with a gas BBQ, gas cooktop, polished concrete bar/ seats 9, a fridge & an ice maker. The gas firepit and hot tub also completes your private oasis.



Presented at \$1,585,000

## PLEASANTON | SOLD

### 4735 McHenry Gate Way

4 BD | 3.5 BA | 2,487 Sq Ft

**M**y sellers comments: "What's the most important thing to you when you go through the complex and emotional process of selling your home? For us, we are thrilled that we relied on Kris Moxley as our Realtor and guide through the nuances of home selling. There are two stages where we feel Kris excels - first, she helped us prep our house for sale with great insights, quality resources such as handymen and staging, and informative updates. Kris' years of experience and depth of market knowledge of Pleasanton's real estate market exceeded our expectations. Next, Kris kept us constantly in the loop as she marketed our home and placed it on the market. Kris easily handled negotiating offers,



juggling various parties (title company, lenders, other Realtors, buyers) involved in the sale, while driving us to a closing date with ease, professionalism, and integrity. Kris is absolutely the best and brought us top dollar for our home!"

Presented at \$1,510,000 **SOLD for \$1,750,000**

## WALNUT GROVE | SOLD

### 17396 Grand Island Road

3 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,728 Sq Ft

**P**aradise Found just about 1.5 hours outside the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento areas. Working from home while enjoying waterfront views is always a great place to be. Secluded on private island, where the busyness of life seems to melt away. Beautiful sunsets await along with salmon, sturgeon, striped & bass for your fishing pleasure. Imagine a place where boating, spectacular sunset views, and fishing become your new normal.

**A note from Kris:** "Thank you to my sellers and my buyers to represent all for this amazing home. Per a homeowner on the island "it's the Best location on the Delta."



**SOLD for \$1,000,000**

## PLEASANTON | AVAILABLE

### 4550 Gatetree Circle

4 BD | 2 BA | 1,808 Sq Ft

**N**othing left to do in this one story home, centrally located in the Pleasanton Valley neighborhood. Walk in to enjoy the home's updating throughout with a Pottery Barn style. The kitchen boasts an expansive Quartz island surrounded with top of the line appliances and opens to the home's family room with a stacked brick electric fireplace. I will let you imagine the rest of the home but let's not forget the back yard with a detached fireplace nestled in the yard's corner boundaries.

Price upon request



"Our decision to sell our family home and select Kris Moxley as our realtor was the best decision we made in this process. When we called her for help, little did we know how her calm demeanor, expertise and knowledge would guide us through the maze of preparing our property, finding contractors, and marketing during COVID. We listened to her advice regarding preparation of our property and upgraded our home with minimal expense. The house received multiple offers and sold within the first week. She communicated with us explaining each stage of the process and negotiated the multiple offers with professionalism and ease. Her knowledge of the current market and availability for questions helped us to be comfortable during the entire process. We were full of questions and concerns, having been in our home for 27 years, which she turned into promises and possibilities! Kris had our best interests in mind and we could trust her to act on our behalf. We strongly recommend Kris Moxley to represent you for all of your real estate needs.

– George and Grace, Sellers

**Kris Moxley**

925.519.9080  
moxleyrealestate.com  
DRE 00790463  
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**COMPASS**

# HOMEBUYERS

Continued from Page 17

are also a side effect of more than a year of pandemic shelter-in-place restrictions and the flexibility for some Pleasanton residents to work from home.

Pleasanton is located in a sweet spot that is close enough to Silicon Valley employers so that a commute into the office is still tolerable when employers require workers to return. Additionally, single-family detached homes with multiple bedrooms and backyards are commonplace in Pleasanton and desirable for those able to work from home.

However, reports of Californians fleeing the state do include some Pleasanton residents. "Some people are moving out of state, and some are moving within California," Branchini said. She explained that one of her clients is "downsizing" by moving full-time to their second home in the Sierra foothills.

Yet the promise of a lower cost of living in another state or the charm of an alpine location has not been enough to inspire flocks of current homeowners to leave Pleasanton.

"If you own a home in Pleasanton, you're super-grateful and a lot of folks are doing significant remodeling and adding on because they love the community and don't see the need to move away," Branchini said. "I've even seen a ton of clients redo their garages, put in a nice floor and new cabinetry so they can have a nice space to use."

The fact that most Pleasanton residents are staying here, along with limited new residential construction, is resulting in fewer homes for sale and higher sales prices for the foreseeable future.

Another factor is historically low mortgage interest rates, which help make monthly payments, even for a million-dollar home, relatively affordable for some buyers.

Asked how buyers can purchase in Pleasanton given the stratospheric sales prices, Branchini cited the significant assets many have available for a large down payment.

"Personally, I'm not seeing a lot of cash buyers, but many are well-qualified and have up to 20% down payment," she said. "The interesting thing is there are a lot of first-time buyers that are coming in that have been on the sidelines for a long time."

Branchini emphasized that a healthy bank balance is only part of being prepared for home ownership in Pleasanton. She said, "Buyers need to read their documents and understand what they are signing, as well as understand the inspection reports so that they go in with open eyes."

Buyers need to have "a lot of patience and don't give up because buying a home is a process that may not happen with the first house they make an offer on or even the fourth house, but they will eventually succeed and it will go in their direction." ■

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

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (Feb. 1-5)

**Total sales reported:** 7  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$615,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$3,195,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,251,000

### Livermore (Feb. 1-5)

**Total sales reported:** 11  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$650,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,100,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$905,000

### Dublin (Feb. 1-5)

**Total sales reported:** 13  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$480,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$1,385,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$975,000

### Sunol (Feb. 1-5)

**Total sales reported:** 1  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$735,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$735,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$735,000

### San Ramon (March 22-26)

**Total sales reported:** 19  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$355,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,715,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,411,000

Source: California REsource

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Feb. 1-5 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol, and March 22-26 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

**415 Abbie Street** V. Roesler to S. & W. Ruby for \$1,535,000  
**691 Concord Place** A. Eskarous to D. & S. Ambrose for \$615,000

**6016 Corte Calera** J. Xu to S. & S. Soma for \$1,498,000

**3925 Kern Court** Reich Living Trust to S. & M. Naem for \$1,251,000

**3763 Muirwood Drive** Montazeri Living Trust to D. & M. Mariscal for \$1,200,000

**1817 Spumante Place** Gupta Trust to Paruthi Family Trust for \$3,195,000

**1473 Trimmingham Drive** B. Dicarolo to M. & A. Narayan for \$927,000

### Livermore

**5450 Arrowhead Court** E. & J. Santana to M. & O. Zargarov for \$1,125,000

**307 Basswood Common** S. Lew to R. & N. Khadangale for \$810,000

**4757 Bel Roma Road** Ott 1999 Family Trust to J. Harris for \$2,100,000

**2320 Chateau Way** Civ 1995 Trust to E. & E. Kwan for \$968,000

**5537 Goldenrod Drive** M. & D. Coolbear to S. Zaheer for \$1,225,000

**1388 Hibiscus Way** Codiroli Family Trust to B. & H. Boehrer for \$650,000

**442 James Street** R. & A. Lim to C. Blansett for \$752,500

**318 South Livermore Avenue #104** Real Freedom LLC to M. & M. Poitras for \$905,000

**606 Salem Court** Redbridge Ent's LLC to C. & D. Olszewski for \$751,000

**1860 Sterling Place** Nieto-Jesswein Family Trust to Souder Trust for \$1,770,000

**5448 Wisteria Way** S. & J. Pedreiro to S. & P. Bhatia for \$690,000

### Dublin

**7532 Burnham Way** A. Karimzada to E. & A. Malekpour for \$975,000

**5876 Cadence Avenue** Brookfield Wilshire LLC to V. & S. Madala for \$886,000

**7246 Carneros Lane** B. & N. Vasquez to J. & M. Patel for \$590,000

**4063 Clare Street** Tam Family Trust to Su Family Trust for \$880,000

**3025 Delamar Drive** S. & S. Raj to Millennium Investments LLC for \$899,500

**11590 Fenwick Court** Sunshine Living Trust to S. & M. Agaoglu for \$1,385,000

**3914 Gorham Court** H. Darvish to A. & S. Jain for \$1,141,000

**8708 Longford Way** J. Biers to V. & J. Gahlot for \$935,000

**5886 Nugget Way** Brookfield Bay Area Hldgs LLC to N. & D. Gill for \$1,210,000

**8123 Peppertree Road** P. & A. D'Souza to J. & S. Bhagwath for \$1,245,000

**11453 Rampart Drive** Bonasch Survivors Trust to M. Vigil for \$1,075,000

**11705 Solana Drive** D. Marshall to A. & L. Sweeney for \$1,285,000

**7317 Starwood Drive #46** K. Lunty to K. Pari for \$480,000

### Sunol

**11847 Foothill Road** E. Zea to Y. & E. Rodriguez for \$735,000

### San Ramon

**3161 Ashbourne Circle** Soelkner Family Trust to Dalai Living Trust for \$2,350,000

**440 Bollinger Canyon Lane #397** M. Sabri to J. Ramos for \$425,000

**402 Constantine Court** Cabral-Dungca Trust to A. & S. Dawet for \$1,030,000

**9106 Craydon Circle** M. Ramirez to J. Evans for \$355,000

**23 Cree Court** D. & A. Besser to A. & A. Adekunle for \$1,656,000

**41 Haven Place** J. & E. Haslam to R. & E. Cimmet for \$1,411,000

**516 La Copita Court** S. & E. Weinapple to S. Kwan for \$635,000

**5032 Lakeview Drive #200** Lee Living Trust to K. & S. Ognjanovic for \$650,000

**6069 Laurelsur Loop** S. Kodavaluru to M. & P. Appineni for \$2,450,000

**207 Lyndhurst Place** 2019 Ramakrishnan Trust to R. & R. Westmoreland for \$2,715,000

**2612 Paige Way** M. & J. Stern to K. & H. Hansrai for \$1,829,000

**3078 Pine Valley Road** S. Frazier to P. & S. Ponnusamy for \$1,260,000

**83 Rainbow Bridge Place** Z. & A. Saeed to C. & D. Bhasin for \$1,610,000

**120 Reflections Drive #23** V. & R. Stanley to M. Tan for \$375,000

**2008 Trefoil Road** H. & A. Patel to R. & G. Swamy for \$1,655,000

**89 Tumbleweed Court** Mitchell Family Trust to J. Ensign for \$1,880,000

**1096 Vista Pointe Circle** Tripasuir Family Trust to W. Gu for \$1,088,000

**352 Winterwind Circle** Powada Trust to M. & V. Mannam for \$1,180,000

**122 Woodview Circle** Thomas Trust to N. & R. Bharal for \$1,450,000

*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.*

Source: California REsource

## MOVE BEYOND YOUR EXPECTATIONS

**SOLD FOR \$3,800,007 - \$850K OVER LIST PRICE!**



**789 DONATA COURT, RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON**  
**5 BED | 4.5 BATH | 5,000 SQ. FT.**

This 5,000 SF French Country estate garnered 8 offers and sold for a record breaking \$760 per SF. The previous record for a custom home in Ruby Hill was \$673 per SF earlier this year. With over 45 individual private showings in one perfect long weekend, we were able to capture the market and close this deal in 10 short days. Check out the link to the home at my website, FabulousProperties.net. If this is the year for you to make your move, please reach out. I'm ready to help you get the most for your home.

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2133 POMEZIA COURT, RUBY HILL  
JUST LISTED | INQUIRE FOR PRICING



SOLD \$2,241,200 | \$291K OVER ASKING  
683 WINDMILL LANE, PLEASANTON



COMING SOON - INQUIRE FOR PRICING  
773 BARLETA LANE, LIVERMORE



SOLD \$1,775,000 | \$326K OVER ASKING  
911 KOTTINGER DRIVE, PLEASANTON

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DeAnna Armario has been a licensed Realtor for how many years:    A) 16 Years    B) 19 Years    C) 17 Years

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**865 William Drive**

Livermore

Offered at \$868,000

Enjoy one story living in this nicely updated home with three bedrooms and two bathrooms, approx. 1404 sqft. living area. Located in desirable neighborhood.

### Fabulous house on large lot, in prime location!



*Pending*

**4055 Graham Street**

Pleasanton

Offered at \$1,198,000

Short walk to beautiful Downtown Pleasanton and award winning schools. Enjoy one story living in this lovingly maintained and updated home with four bedrooms and two bathrooms, approx. 1,702 sqft. living area. Located in desirable "Jensen" neighborhood.

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**JUST LISTED!**



**Laguna Oaks**

**3039 Briggs \$ 2,348,000**

RESORT STYLE LIVING AT ITS BEST! THIS IS IT! Must see this amazing 4 bed, 3.5 bath plus bonus room and office. Backyard outdoor kitchen with overhang and fans. Perfect for entertaining family and friends. Some UPDATED features and ready to move in. Granite, plantation shutters, solar, extended family room with big picture windows looking onto the backyard, quiet court, 3 fireplaces, 1 full bed/bath downstairs. Close to downtown! Community pool/spa, tennis, walking trails, basketball, parks and much more!

**SOLD**



**3331 Newport St., Pleasanton**

**\$1,698,000**

**SOLD**



**2873 Brezza Ct., Ruby Hill**

Represented Buyer

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 Reliance Partners  
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DRE# 01976928  
 925.872.1494



**Albert Cheng**

DRE# 01926570  
 925.699.9929



**Janet Cristiano**

DRE# 00448943  
 925.989.1200



**Fari Falaki**

DRE# 01879468  
 925.683.8122



**Bob Gee**

DRE# 01450382  
 925.963.5216



**Kellie Graham**

DRE# 01932030  
 925.400.3436



**Pilar Jacobo**

DRE# 01821721  
 925.218.1250



**Lillian Joseph**

DRE# 02062526  
 510.918.6812



**Ana Loo**

DRE# 02055150  
 925.268.0858



**Erika Navarro**

DRE# 02130700  
 510.529.6123



**Charo Rodriguez**

DRE# 01255201  
 510.552.7340



**Yasmeen Satar**

DRE# 01828117  
 650.814.5450



**Anamaria Stetco**

DRE# 02057795  
 510.338.2869



**Liz Sullivan**

DRE# 00674747  
 925.858.5890



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# VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE



EXCELLENCE



**NEW LISTING**

**1034 Germano Way, Ruby Hill**  
**Offered at \$4,195,000**



**SOLD**

**Record Setting \$1000+ Price Per Sq. Ft.**

**9472 Blessing Drive, The Preserve**  
**\$4,850,000**

## *Client Testimonial* Your Words. Our Work.

6 Our family has lived in Pleasanton for over 20 years and decided to sell our beautiful home. Even though I am a real estate broker myself and in the homebuilding business, I knew I needed a professional team of real estate agents to handle the sales process. Our family has known Liz and Alexis Venema personally for many years and I have always respected Liz as a top agent in the Pleasanton market. It has been exciting to watch Alexis advance in this profession and team up with her mom. The two of them were a great team supporting all aspects of the sales process including pricing, staging, marketing and photography and ultimately finding us the perfect buyer. I recommend the Venema team to anyone considering selling their home. 9



~ Layne Marceau



**PENDING**

**7759 Country Lane, Pleasanton**  
**Multiple Offers**  
**Offered at \$2,850,000**

We'd  your vote for  
**Best Real Estate Team**



**VENEMA HOMES TEAM**  
DRE # 09122957

*Liz Venema*  
Kw TRI-VALLEY  
KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY

**VOTE TODAY!**

**VOTE PLEASANTON WEEKLY**  
*Readers' Choice*



**PENDING**

**2234 Doccia Court, Ruby Hill**  
**Representing Seller and Buyer**  
**Off Market Sale**



# *Liz Venema* VENEMA HOMES TEAM

