

Pleasanton Weekly

What's cooking?

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VOL. XXII, NUMBER 22 • JUNE 25, 2021

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Meet the winners!



★
2021
PLEASANTON
WEEKLY
**Readers'
Choice**

Readers' Choice recipients
and Hall of Fame honorees

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VALLEY VIEWS



BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

What's cooking?

Cooking, like music, is infinite. I've been experimenting with the humble scrambled egg after reading that an egg beater is mandatory for proper mixing. To think I've been scrambling eggs for six decades using a fork. Years ago, I began snipping fresh parsley on top. More recently my son introduced me to the verrrrry low heat method, which takes forever but gives the bread time to toast.



Cookbook author Carmen Delgado

When I heard a new cookbook, "Traditionally Rustic Food," is launching tomorrow at Towne Center Books, I called author Carmen Delgado to learn more about her cooking.

Delgado is from Cordoba, Spain, and a couple of decades back lived for a year in Boston, where she learned to speak English.

"I lived by myself and cooked for myself, and I always loved watching cooking shows," she remembered. "I became a huge cookbook collector."

She moved to Australia where she met her husband, Cristian Aiuto, who is also from Cordoba, but in Argentina. To improve their health she went to a nutritionist who advocated organic foods, which is all she ate while pregnant with her daughter, Gabriela Aiuto, now 14.

They moved to the Bay Area in 2016 for her husband's job, choosing Pleasanton after reading it's a great place for families. Gabriela is just starting at Amador Valley High.

"I was a busy working mother in Australia but when we moved to the Bay Area, I become a 100% mom," Delgado said. "I'd started a food business in Australia and thought I was going to pursue this."

First she set out to find where to buy the best ingredients.

"Once I discovered the farmers markets, I was in heaven," Delgado said. "That's my favorite place to shop — in Pleasanton, Livermore, Walnut Creek. I will go to a farmers market even if I only need to buy a lettuce; I like the freshness of the food."

She also keeps her cooking seasonal.

"I think nature is so smart," she

said. "In the summer, fruits freshen you up. In the winter, we need citrus for vitamin C."

Soon she began to offer her classes, and the pandemic offered new opportunities as companies hired her to bring employees some fun — including her paella and sangria class — and parents wanted something new for their kids online.

"I love to see little kids cooking and listening," Delgado said. "I want to get children as young as 5 into the kitchen, to start taking ownership."

At birthday parties she will lead the children in cooking whatever they choose — often Chinese or Italian cuisine — plus always a birthday cake or cupcakes.

"Adults will choose a class because they are interested in some recipe or type of food; children just come to have fun," Delgado said.

She began to write down differences in cooking cultures and favorite recipes as she experimented. Then when she sought a cookbook as a gift for friend — with simple recipes and dishes her family would enjoy — Delgado found nothing appropriate.

"I have to write my own book," she remembered thinking. "Then I got serious about writing."

The endeavor has been international, with her niece Rosa Marmol in Spain designing the book, and a company in Australia helping her publish.

"Traditionally Rustic Food" includes Spanish and Argentinian recipes from her family among others. She said she learned from teaching how to give clear instructions and to use ingredients that are easy to find.

"Rustic' means it's simple food — the recipes are easy to follow," Delgado said. "It is a cookbook for everyday cooking."

I'll bet Carmen Delgado knows how to make a mean scrambled egg. ■

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

About the Cover

After a hiatus last year, the Pleasanton Weekly Readers' Choice contest returns in 2021. See all the winners inside, starting on Page 12. Here: Violet Stilwell, Kadance Wagner and Natalie Wagner enjoy treats at Meadowlark Dairy, our readers' pick for the Best Ice Cream/Frozen Yogurt. Photo by Ryan J. Degan. Cover design by Doug Young

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Do you like to keep in touch with former co-workers from your previous jobs?



Michael Steele
Busser/student

Yes. I've become lifelong friends with many of my former co-workers. I love seeing and hearing about what they're up to once we're no longer working together anymore.



Margaret Sandoval
Business owner

No, not really. Because when I leave a job it's usually because I don't like the people or the work. So once I've gone on to a new job, I make a pretty clean break and never really look back. Only forward.



Fatih Ulas
Restaurant owner

Many of them, but not all. I keep in touch with those who earned my respect, trust and friendship. Largely because I hope to work with them again someday.



Kim Powell
Consultant

Some of them. The ones who share my same mindset. I like to know how they are doing, both employment-wise and personally.



Kendrick Powell
Business owner

I do. Partially because I've almost always been the youngest person at any job I've had, so my co-workers would take me under their wing to help me learn. I credit many of them with helping me build the skills I needed to grow and develop and eventually own my own business. So I definitely do enjoy keeping up with them.

— Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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

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DIGEST

Blood drive

Pleasanton's Bernal Community Park is hosting a blood drive next Friday organized by the Stanford Blood Center.

Donors with all blood types are always welcomed, but there's always a special need for type O blood.

"The need for blood is constant. Even during a pandemic. Currently, there are more than 200 surgeries per day at our partner hospitals, and blood donations are used to save about 12,000 lives a day," said Clayton Toller, account manager for the Stanford Blood Center. "It's the blood that we have readily available that allows us to save a life at a moment's notice."

The Pleasanton community blood drive will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday (July 2) at Bernal Community Park, 7001 Pleasanton Ave. Walk-in availability is limited, so appointments are encouraged — via <https://stanford.io/2Sr1tVz> or 888-723-7831. Each donor will receive one Cinemark movie ticket.

Honoring Lindskog

The U.S. Army is hosting a ceremony next week to formally dedicate the SPC. Jameson L. Lindskog Army Reserve Center at Camp Parks Reserve Forces Training Area in Dublin.

The facility is being named in honor of the late Lindskog, a Pleasanton native and combat medic who was killed in action on March 29, 2011 while deployed in Afghanistan. He was 23 years old. Among his military honors, Lindskog was posthumously awarded the Silver Star Medal for acts of heroism after being mortally wounded in combat.

The new Lindskog Reserve Center, which will be dedicated next Tuesday morning, will be utilized to train current and future military medical professionals.

Library catalog

The Livermore Public Library this week launched its "new and improved" online catalog, aiming to make it easier than ever to search the library's collections with support for natural language, auto-complete suggestions and "did you mean" functionality.

"Featuring a modern design, simple navigation, and the ability to create and share content, the new catalog is designed to help users search, discover, borrow and connect," library officials said. "The new catalog also allows patrons to interact with library staff, create themed lists, review books and share recommendations with the library community."

Visit <https://livermorelibrary.bibliocommons.com>. ■

Debate on future of city water erupts as council reviews plan for treating PFAS problems

With \$46M proposal to fix contaminated wells, council weighs purchasing water from Zone 7

By JULIA BAUM

A presentation on the next steps to clean up Pleasanton's contaminated groundwater wells to the tune of \$46 million morphed into a broader discussion about finding regional alternatives and maintaining local control over water resources at the City Council meeting last week.

"I thought we were going to have a conversation about contract design, but it almost appears that right there with it is a question about Pleasanton's future as a water provider directly," Councilmember Jack Balch said before voting at the

June 15 meeting.

In addition to proceeding with the final design phase for per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) treatment in the city's Wells 5, 6 and 8, the council unanimously adopted a draft "basis of design report" recently completed by a hired consulting firm.

After discovering PFAS in the city's groundwater supply facilities in recent years, officials have been working to address the problem. PFAS are synthetic chemicals found in common household items like paint and are "of emerging concern in drinking water due to their

health impacts," according to staff.

Last September the council started the PFAS treatment process and backed a work plan that also includes the proposed project, as well as hired Carollo Engineering to complete the draft basis of design report.

A centralized treatment facility at the Operations Services Center has been recommended along with rehabilitating Wells 6 and Well 8, and replacing Well 5 with a new facility. Staff said the facility would provide PFAS treatment, disinfection, and fluoridation of groundwater from all three wells, as well

as room for expansion.

While granular activated carbon is the preferred form of PFAS treatment, staff said the treatment system should be designed to accommodate either GAC media or ion-exchange media (IX) "due to the uncertainty of regulations, volatility of media pricing, and rapidly progressing field of research."

A new 18-inch pipeline to pump groundwater from Wells 5 and 6 to the Operations Services Center is also recommended, along with rehabilitating the on-site Well 8

See **WATER** on Page 8

Fireworks sales back in Dublin

'Safe and Sane' fireworks can be used only at single-family residences and four city parks

By CIERRA BAILEY

The city of Dublin is again allowing select nonprofits to sell "Safe and Sane" fireworks for fundraising purposes around the Independence Day holiday starting next week.

Dublin, which allows the Safe and Sane fireworks to be used in four specific city parks as well as single-family homes in town on the Fourth of July, remains the only Tri-Valley city to authorize individual fireworks — Pleasanton, Livermore, San Ramon and Danville each ban them to reduce the risk of accidental fires or injuries resulting from independently set off fireworks.

Safe and Sane is the term used to describe fireworks that do not go up in the air or explode. Sparklers, fountains and snaps are among some of the fireworks classified as Safe and Sane.

These legal fireworks in this category are labeled so they can be easily identified, officials said.

With respect to safety and fire prevention, city officials offer a number of tips for best practices while using fireworks. They advise that children should not be permitted to play with fireworks as temperatures can reach 1,800 degrees. They warn that fireworks should be used outdoors only and that a bucket of water or hose should be kept nearby in case of an accident.

Fireworks should be lit one at a time and should always be pointed away from flammable substances. The city also suggests



CIERRA BAILEY

The city of Dublin allows the sale of "Safe and Sane" fireworks around the Fourth of July to benefit local nonprofit organizations. Booths like this one being set up in the Fallon Gateway shopping center will begin opening next week.

that fireworks be soaked in water before throwing them in the trash. The city circulates a video featuring these tips and others on social media, Nextdoor and in local news flashes.

City officials said there will be 15 fireworks booths this year sponsored by local organizations, including Briarhill Swim Team, Dublin Fighting Irish Football, Dance & Cheer, Dublin Rotary Club and Dublin San Ramon Women's Club, among others. Permitted sales can occur from noon on Monday (June 28) through noon on July 5.

The use of Safe and Sane fireworks is permitted at single-family residences in Dublin and at four local parks: Shannon Community Park, Dublin Sports Grounds, Alamo Creek Park and Emerald Glen Park on July 4 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., city

officials told the Weekly, adding that no fireworks of any type are ever allowed at Dublin multi-housing units or at any undesignated park, other city facility or school.

Dublin will be increasing enforcement efforts on July 4 and there will be dedicated law enforcement and firefighters overseeing the parks, as well as other officers patrolling elsewhere throughout the city. Anyone caught selling or using illegal fireworks could be subject to a fine or jail time, city officials said.

Residents who witness the use of illegal fireworks are encouraged to call Dublin Police Services at 925-462-1212. Reports can be made anonymously.

More information and a full list of booth locations and sponsor organizations can be found at www.dublin.ca.gov. ■

Two new principals hired at PUSD

Board also promotes Alisal principal, appoints next VP at Amador

By JULIA BAUM

Pleasanton Unified School District will start the 2021-22 school year with new leadership in its ranks, after the Board of Trustees unanimously appointed two new principals during its regular meeting earlier this month.

PUSD cabinet members welcomed Gerardo Guzman-Rico to lead Valley View Elementary School and Russell Campisi as new principal of Harvest Park Middle School. Each appeared via Zoom during the board's June 10 meeting.

Guzman-Rico most recently served as vice principal at Valley View and will replace former principal Soraya Villaseñor, who held the position from 2017 until being promoted last month to district coordinator of equity and access.



Gerardo Guzman-Rico



Russell Campisi

See **PRINCIPALS** on Page 6

City names new teen poet laureate

Jayaprakash plans to reach out to young and old

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Pleasanton has named Amador Valley High School senior Nikita Jayaprakash to be the city's 2021-22 teen poet laureate after a selection process in which four candidates submitted writing samples and references, and interviewed with city staff.

The Civic Arts and Library commissions appointed Jayaprakash to the position in May, which was confirmed by City Council last week.

Jayaprakash said she has aspired to the position since she was 12, when the teen poet laureate collected poems from middle school students to publish in an anthology.

"That was the first time I got published, and it was nice to see there was a community of writers," Jayaprakash said.

She began writing poetry at the age of 7.

"I used to take a bunch of art and drawing classes but I was never very good at it, and my second-grade teacher, Melinda Ballard, suggested, 'Maybe you should try writing,'" Jayaprakash recalled with a laugh.

"She was a very important figure and supporter in my life," she added.

Jayaprakash said poetry can be stigmatized as needing a specific

structure, but she likes its flexibility. She feels poetry is an outlet to talk about anything, not just deep emotions, and she would like to teach this to young children.

"My term starts in August, and I want to bring it to kids in elementary school because that's when I started," she said.

She also wants to work at the other end of the age spectrum, Jayaprakash said, which she enjoyed as a volunteer at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

"They had so many great stories to tell, and it's a very different perspective," she said.

The role of the teen poet laureate is to bring creativity to the city's public events throughout the year



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Teen poet laureate Nikita Jayaprakash.

and to help foster an appreciation for composing, reading, reciting and listening to poetry in and around the city.

Jayaprakash noted she is comfortable with public speaking and enjoyed giving dance performances from an early age.

"When we give speeches in class,

A Lost Art, A Forgotten Secret

The loudest voices are often heard,
But that doesn't make them the majority,
For all the prestige in the world,
I still wouldn't give up this liberty:

To take the thoughts I ponder,
And immortalize those ideas so fickle,
Because the black of written ink lasts longer
Than the ideas we bother to scream or whisper.

—Nikita Jayaprakash

I look forward to that," she said.

Jayaprakash has worked at the Pleasanton Public Library as a Kid Power volunteer and at the Senior Center as a leader in training. ■



LLNL

LLNL helps develop new photos from space

More than 4,500 recent photographs have been taken from space by a compact space imaging payload, dubbed GEOStare2, developed by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory researchers and collaborators at Tyvak Nano-Satellite Systems, capturing images for space domain awareness, astronomy and Earth observation. Here: A composite false-color image of the Andromeda galaxy was created by stacking five wide-field-of-view channel images for an exposure of eight seconds. During this series of exposures, two satellites moved through the field of view. Both are represented as two aligned streaks, with the bright set near the middle and the fainter and shorter streaks near the lower left, according to LLNL officials.

PRINCIPALS

Continued from Page 5

Guzman-Rico thanked the board that evening for the "wonderful, wonderful opportunity."

"I'm excited to begin this new adventure in my life at Valley View and look forward to forging relationships with all stakeholders," Guzman-Rico said.

A newcomer to PUSD with a 13-year education career, Campisi comes to Harvest Park from Oakland Technical High School where he's been assistant principal since 2018, according to his LinkedIn profile. Campisi will replace former principal Terry Brenner who announced her resignation in March, after serving three years in the role.

"I look forward to collaborating with all of you in this amazing

community, and I will work to ensure that our students are safe and joyful when they come to school," Campisi said.

Just after finalizing their appointments, Board President Joan Laursen told the new principals, "As we embark on a new school year with some new folks, new energy and new hope for the future, it's really nice to have you join our team."

The board also promoted two other district members that evening during the meeting's consent agenda portion including Karen Johnson, principal at Alisal Elementary for nearly seven years.

Johnson, who originally came from San Ramon Valley Unified School District in 2012, will become the district's new language acquisition coordinator effective July 1, according to public documents.

In addition to previously teaching elementary and middle school, Johnson has also been an elementary school literacy coordinator, intervention specialist, and held various administrative roles.

The appointment of Amador Valley High School's new vice principal was also approved. Michael Jaramillo previously served as the site's coordinator of high school operations, where he oversaw all athletics, school-wide testing, and coordinating campus events and scheduling.

District officials said in a statement that they "are excited to celebrate the promotion of these valuable administrators."

"They will bring extraordinary leadership and value in their new roles moving forward to serve our schools and community," officials said. ■



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Zone 7 revamps website with focus on user experience

Redesigned site aims to 'provide a more user-friendly, transparent and accessible space'

By JULIA BAUM

Zone 7 Water Agency unveiled its revamped website last week, showcasing a streamlined and more user-friendly platform with updated content, enhanced cybersecurity and a fresh new look.

Agency officials said in a statement that the site "aims to be easier and more user-friendly to navigate, increase district transparency, and ensure accessibility to all users (including users with disabilities) across all platforms."

"The website will provide a more user-friendly, transparent and accessible space for the whole community," Board of Directors President Olivia Sanwong said.

Part of the agency's five-year strategic plan, the complete digital makeover process started with an evaluation of how community members had interacted with the

website over the past few years and determining which content they accessed the most frequently.

Using that information, the new site was then developed with quick and easy navigation in mind, whether users are looking for application forms or news and updates from Zone 7.

Accessibility enhancements to accommodate users with motor, visual, auditory or cognitive disabilities were given specific attention, and to make sure the website would function properly on a variety of devices, particularly with assistive technology such as screen readers.

Designed to meet "the gold standard for accessible websites," the enhancements also boost the site's search engine optimization (SEO) by ranking the district's more popular website pages higher in

search results for the terms most frequently searched by users. This will help users quickly find information from the district, according to officials.

"Given the increasing demands of cybersecurity on critical infrastructure," officials said the site has been redesigned with an upgraded hosting platform, content management systems, and encrypted and secure connections "to reflect best practices," and "to protect the integrity and availability of information as well as the privacy and security of Zone 7's community members when using the site."

Zone 7 spokeswoman Alexandra Bradley told the Weekly that the agency is "very excited to unveil" the new website, which can be accessed from a desktop computer, smartphone or tablet.

In a previous statement, Bradley

stated Zone 7 "will continue to evolve based on what we're hearing and seeing from our community," and that the site "will always be, and should always be, a work in progress."

"We feel that this new site will be a big step forward in providing the community with the resources they need," Bradley said.

A number of "water wise" resources are now available on the site, including educational resources for teachers. A virtual Kid Zone Schools Program offers fully remote lessons for free, which teachers can assign to students on their own schedule.

Staff will be able to "quickly adjust the site's architecture if needed to respond to the changing needs of the community," and a "Website Feedback" link in the site's footer encourages user feedback, which

can also be submitted at zone7water.com/feedback.

In total, the agency paid Digital Deployment \$66,513 to design and build the entire website. According to Bradley, a 10% contingency "was not utilized and came in at budget." A communications firm was also contracted to assist with content creation and copywriting for \$29,500.

Formally known as the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7 is a public agency that acts as a water wholesaler for water service providers in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore and San Ramon's Dougherty Valley, as well as provides flood protection in the Livermore and Amador valleys.

The redesigned Zone 7 website can be visited at www.zone7water.com. ■

DUSD appoints Hobbs as assistant superintendent of business services

Board removes interim tag, makes promotion permanent

By ANNA HSU

The Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees unanimously approved the appointment of Chris Hobbs as the assistant superintendent of business services at a board meeting earlier this month.

Hobbs, who had served in the role on an interim basis since September, said he and district leaders have worked diligently to improve financial practices over that time, even with increased funding difficulties.

"This past year, even during the pandemic, as a leadership team we began learning about a budgeting methodology called 'priority-based budgeting.' It focuses on identifying the programs and services that the district offers, scoring those against our vision and goals, and assigning real costs to each," Hobbs said.

"As an interim assistant superintendent, and in the midst of the pandemic, I opted not to fully implement that program this year. This next school year, as we budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year, we will be using priority-based budgeting to develop our budget. I'm really excited about that," he added.

Hobbs joined DUSD in 2018 as the director of fiscal services, working closely with the department of business services ever since. He was promoted to interim

assistant superintendent of business services in September 2020 after the retirement of previous assistant superintendent of business services Joe Sorra.

Having more than 24 years of experience in the education field, Hobbs previously served as the director of technology services in other school districts, including Pleasanton Unified. He holds a Master of Business Administration from Arizona State University, chief business official certification from California Association of School Business Officials and certification from ITIL Certification Management Board.

Hobbs has also been actively engaged in the community by volunteering to campaign for facility bond Measures E and J, supporting the increased funding for new schools and modernizing current schools in the district.

Interim Superintendent Daniel Moirao recommended Hobbs for the permanent position, and the school board agreed, affirming his appointment on June 8.

"It's critical that we have the right person in this executive-level role to guide us and ensure we are incorporating the best financial practices in our day to day operations for our district," Moirao said. "Mr. Hobbs has been a key leader on our team and we look forward to continuing to work with him to ensure our long-term financial sustainability."

Regarding the upcoming fiscal year, Hobbs expressed his excitement with providing students with

the best resources as students return to full-time, in-person learning and millions of dollars of state and federal funding rolls in to support that.

"My objective is to work closely with our instructional leaders to implement the plans they have developed and to use the funding being made available to us in the most effective way possible. The goal is to ensure that all students have access to the support they need to accelerate their learning in 2021-22," Hobbs added.

With the district's continuous growth, along with planned new addition of Emerald High School and other renovations, the appointment of Hobbs to continue to lead the business services division comes at a critical time as the district has encountered issues with funding in the past year.

"I work closely with Thomas Moore — our assistant superintendent of facilities, planning and construction — to find solutions to the budget shortfalls identified in our facilities projects," Hobbs said. "This is a team effort, and we work together weekly to identify cost-savings options and opportunities, as well as ensuring that we provide the best data possible to our Board and community about the needs of the district. It's a tough challenge."

Hobbs' new contract is effective July 1 and runs until June 30, 2023, with an initial salary of \$223,011 annually. The DUSD board affirmed the summary of the terms of his contract and voted 5-0, approving and passing the recommended contract unanimously. ■



Chris Hobbs

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New Cal/OSHA rules allow fully vaccinated workers to forego masks

Gov. Newsom signs executive order that made rules effective

Fully vaccinated workers are no longer required to wear a mask regardless of whether their co-workers are unvaccinated following new guidance last week from the state's workplace safety agency.

The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health's Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board voted on June 17 to adopt new workplace masking and safety rules for the second time in two weeks, allowing fully vaccinated workers to forego wearing a mask if they document their vaccination status.

All employees will also not be

required to wear a mask when working outdoors regardless of their vaccination status.

After the board's vote, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an executive order that made the new rules effective at 12:01 a.m. Friday rather than after 10 days as normally required for workplace safety changes.

"We're turning the page," Newsom said during a briefing June 17 about both Cal/OSHA's guidelines and the state's reopening in general. "No more capacity limits, no more modifications, no more issues around physical and social distancing and

now we are aligning with (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines."

The new rules will require unvaccinated workers to continue wearing a mask indoors as they've been required to do throughout the pandemic.

Fully vaccinated employees will also not be required by the state to get tested for COVID-19 or quarantine if they are asymptomatic.

Employers must continue documenting their virus prevention standards, provide unvaccinated workers with N95 respirators upon request

and evaluate their business' ventilation system to maximize proper air flow.

Until two weeks ago, workers had been required to wear a mask or other face covering regardless of their vaccination status or whether they worked indoors or outside.

At the Cal/OSHA board's June 3 meeting, the agency considered an updated set of rules that would have allowed fully vaccinated workers to remove their masks only in rooms in which all workers were also fully vaccinated.

Those rules — which the board

unanimously voted to rescind one week later after backlash from some business groups and consultation with state health officials — would have gone into effect weeks after the state lifted its mask mandate in most situations for fully vaccinated people.

According to state vaccination data, more than 70% of adults across the state have received at least one vaccine dose.

More information on the state's new workplace safety rules for vaccinated people can be found at dir.ca.gov. ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

WATER

Continued from Page 5

facility, originally built in 1992. The report also recommended upsizing a 14-inch treated water distribution main on Santa Rita Road between Valley and Black avenues to 20 inches "to mitigate the impacts of Wells 5 and 6 groundwater being introduced into the treated water distribution system at a new location."

Due to its advanced age, the existing Well 5 facility is not recommended for rehabilitation. Instead, a new facility at Amador Park called Well 9 was suggested to replace the

aging Well 5. Well 6 would have its well casing, equipment and systems that have reached the end of their useful life replaced, and then be renamed to Well 10.

The approximately \$46 million price tag including design, construction and supporting services — with estimated final design services at about \$2.8 million and construction at \$34.6 million — raised questions from the council about water rates, alternative water sources, benefits for the community, and more.

"There's going to be a rate conversation that will have to occur in the future," Balch said. "A

conversation about what the rates are for water in our community, to be able to facilitate some method for this, enterprise fund rates or some type of financing element, if we go forward."

Councilmember Kathy Narum asked about comparing the project cost with purchasing additional water from Zone 7, and was told there would be an annual debt service of about \$3 million.

"The tradeoff is if we don't do it, we've got to go purchase that water, and that water would likely have a higher cost than doing this project," Narum said.

Mayor Karla Brown asked about the "actual cost per dollar, per acre-foot for this water."

"Because I'm looking at our operations cost and it looks like in 2019-20 we bought \$17 million worth of water from Zone 7, plus we expect here in the future to buy \$17.5 million," Brown said. "Then we're looking at a \$35 million plus a total of \$46 million project, and I think it deserves a little bit more math to figure out."

Brown added that the project started as "an inexpensive water supply that we could supplement Zone 7 water," which makes up approximately 80% of the city's total water portfolio.

"Now it's becoming an extremely expensive water supply to supplement Zone 7... I think it deserves some more discussion," Brown said.

Utilities planning manager Todd Yamello told the council, "This is a two-part project for us; this is PFAS treatment and that is the \$20 million you're seeing in construction costs. We have wells, facilities that are aging, they've been built in 1960, so the other remaining portion of this is the rehab of these facilities."

During the public hearing, Zone 7 Board President Olivia Sanwong said, "In regards to the alternative plan about purchasing extra water from Zone 7 instead of the city facilities, I think that's something to be explored."

"The \$4.5 million is an estimate to just keep that in mind... I think

it's good to have an estimate to compare options but it is just that," Sanwong said.

After Sanwong finished her comments, Vice Mayor Julie Testa said, "You suggested that the \$4 million was just an estimate. Are you implying it would be much higher than that?"

"I'm not implying higher or lower, just should there be that continued exploration," Sanwong replied. "Maybe that's something that could be explored, is to get a better idea of what that number might be."

Sanwong also suggested looking into an Alameda County study from 2010 "that the utility operators of the Tri-Valley consider forming and consolidating a municipal utility district to provide all of the water and sewer utilities for the Tri-Valley." The item came up briefly during a meeting last year but "none of the other board members agreed with me so it was not a favorable item to explore," Sanwong said.

"That's something else to consider when Pleasanton is thinking about the possibility of purchasing that 20% of water from Zone 7," she added.

Go Green Initiative CEO and co-founder Jill Buck phoned in to advocate for local control and warned the council to not be too reliant on getting more water from Zone 7.

"Though what we are talking about is 20% of our water, that's assuming that we can get as much water as we have been able to in the past from Zone 7," Buck said. "20% of their water is also groundwater that is mostly within the city limits of Pleasanton, and 80% of their water comes from the State Water Project, which is fragile in many ways, to say the least."

According to Buck, Zone 7 recently discussed a water transfer they needed "because they're only getting a small percentage of their allotment from the State Water Project this year."

Around this time last year, water was approximately \$250 an acre-foot, but Buck said, "This year it's \$850 an acre-foot, and that's

because supply is low, so the idea that we can just indiscriminately purchase more water from Zone 7 may not be able to pan out."

Narum called the \$46 million project cost "a hard number to swallow," but said that "at the end of the day, with debt financing and grants ... it's cheaper for residents to pay for the debt service versus to pay Zone 7, even at the current rates."

"They're going to have to raise their rates to cover their costs of the PFAS treatment plants as it is," Narum said. "But I think there's a bigger issue here. We've been talking about diversification since the drought and to walk away from our wells is one less source of water we have. And to be totally dependent on Zone 7, we're giving up some local control of our water and I don't think that's the way we want to go."

Testa said the project cost "sounds overwhelming, but I think we all recognize the importance of having the control over a source of our own water, and I think we all recognize that none of us would want to lose that."

Councilmember Valerie Arkin said, "It's a high price tag, but I think with what the debt service would cost us versus buying from Zone 7 ... the cost is going to be even greater with Zone 7, and we do need to repair the wells, that's essential."

A design consultant will be selected, followed by council authorization to execute an agreement at a future meeting. Staff will continue monitoring developments in PFAS regulations and regional activity during the final design phase and update the council, as well as draft a financial plan for council approval.

Commissioning for the rehabbed Well 8, new Well 9, new pipeline and new filtration should happen by May 2024. After then, Well 5 will be permanently decommissioned and Well 6 shut down for rehabilitation, with an expected commissioning date of December 2024.

The project costs are to be funded by the city's capital improvement project budget. ■

Join our team!

Seeking passionate, experienced journalist

The Pleasanton Weekly is seeking an enthusiastic and talented staff reporter with previous journalism experience working in print and digital news environments. The reporter will cover and edit stories ranging from meetings to breaking news to features for our award-winning print and digital publications.

Beyond excellent reporting and writing skills, a bachelor's degree in journalism or a related field, previous experience covering government agencies, demonstrated news judgment and the ability to prioritize tasks and handle stress of daily deadlines and multiple priorities are required. The ability to deliver clean, vibrant copy while working to very tight deadlines is crucial. Photography skills, social media and copy editing experience are a plus. The candidate must also be able to work the required hours, which include some night assignments and occasional weekend hours. Bay Area candidates only; preference given to those with knowledge of the Tri-Valley.

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Send resume and clips that show a variety of work to Jeremy Walsh, Editor, jwalsh@pleasantonweekly.com, by 8 a.m. July 11. No calls please. EOE.

**Pleasanton
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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Local officers support Special Olympics with torch run

Law enforcement officials in the Tri-Valley jogged through their cities with the "Flame of Hope" in support of the Special Olympics Northern California this week.

The annual Law Enforcement Torch Run began its Tri-Valley leg on Monday in Livermore with the California Highway Patrol and Livermore Police Department before making its way west and north with the Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville police departments until reaching Walnut Creek on Tuesday.

Capt. Christopher Sherry, commander of the CHP-Dublin office, said his division was especially proud to take part in this year's event.

"The Special Olympics athletes have been working hard during the pandemic and we strive to support them. This is another way we build trust in our community and ensure diversity, equity and inclusion is promoted," Sherry added.

Pleasanton police Capt. Larry Cox echoed those sentiments.

"Joined by other law enforcement agencies and community members, we are proud to support the Torch Run," Cox said. "It is a valuable opportunity for participants to volunteer their own time in order to raise awareness and funds for the Special Olympics. We thank the Pleasanton Police Officers Association for their efforts in



Pleasanton Police Department personnel carry the "Flame of Hope" through the city on Monday as part of the torch run supporting the Special Olympics Northern California.

ensuring we continue the tradition of carrying the Flame of Hope."

The torch run aims to raise awareness and financial support for the Special Olympics Northern California, part of a year-round fundraising campaign that benefits the program and its athletes. More than 97,000 law enforcement officers carry the "Flame of Hope" each year.

In other news

- A portion of Interstate 580 through the Tri-Valley was closed for about an hour on Monday afternoon when a young woman in distress climbed to the outer edge of a freeway overpass, according to Dublin police.

The 18-year-old woman, whose name was not identified, came down from the dangerous area after speaking with a police crisis team, according to Capt. Nate Schmidt.

"This was a great team effort by all involved to ensure this subject received the assistance she

needed," Schmidt told the Weekly.

The situation unfolded just after 1 p.m. Monday when police received a call about a young woman experiencing a medical emergency on the I-580 overpass at Fallon Road and El Charro Road, according to Schmidt.

"The subject had climbed outside the fenced barricade on the overpass, and it was feared she may jump or fall onto I-580 freeway below," the captain said.

The overpass was closed to traffic, as was a portion of westbound I-580 during the multi-agency response, which included support from Pleasanton police, Alameda County sheriff and fire officials, and the California Highway Patrol, according to Schmidt.

A crisis intervention team spoke with the teenager, and after about 45 minutes she agreed to come down from the overpass on her own, according to Schmidt. She was later taken to a local hospital for treatment. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

60th Anniversary

Thomas and Joann Tucker Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage

Thomas and Joann Tucker, residents of Pleasanton since 1974 are happily celebrating 60 years of marriage with family and friends. Married on June 17th, 1961, in Detroit Michigan, the couple moved to Sacramento in 1972 and settled, finally, in Pleasanton in June of 1974 with their four sons.



Both Tom and Joann were very active in the community. Tom a Coast Guard Veteran, served in the Pleasanton Jaycees for several years and Joann is well known around Pleasanton as the vocalist of "The Illusions" - later renamed "The Chuck Eras Illusions Band," who was among the very first bands to perform at Pleasanton's "Concert in the Park Series."

Evelyn Bulotti Rossi

April 9, 1921 – June 6, 2021 – 100 Years!

This lovely, loving lady, cherished mom to Bob (Heather) and Dianne, adored wife to Bob Rossi, died peacefully at Eden Villa home in Pleasanton on June 6th. She was a wonderful example of a kind person, who always had a smile on her face, and a positive and supportive word for everyone. Her favorite lines were "Everything will be just fine" and "It doesn't cost anything to Smile."



Her four grandchildren Robert Benjamin (Jacque), Freddie Linn, Adrian (Kari), and Jessica (Joe Penrod) will miss her dearly. She was also graced with 4 great grandchildren, Jaela, Avery, and Kendall (RB and Jacque's) and Oliver(3 Months) (Jessica and Joe's) and a new one on the way for Adrian and Kari. All of them brought pure joy and a smile to her face when they visited her.

Some of the most memorable and fun parts of her life were the cherished summer holidays at the family home in Asti with their college friends and their children: the Herning's, the Campbell's, the Schwinger's, the McCarthy's, and the Dick's. Her best friend from grammar school at Star of the Sea, Sister Frannie Horan always enjoyed lunch and laughs whenever they got together at the family home in San Francisco.

She is now reunited with the pre-deceased love of her life, good looking Bob Rossi (4/16/2014) and her friends and relatives: Anita, (Dick's sister) and Charlie and Jean Bulotti (great times at Tahoe and playing bridge). We will always miss both Mom and Dad as we enjoy eating the famous Asti Beans and salami sandwiches along with the marinated leg of lamb on the BBQ. The trips to the river and later on at the Pool were always the highlights of the Asti experience. You savored your final days enjoying delicious Asti orange juice' Mana from Heaven! Thank you for showing us all the true Camelot Love Story of 72 years of kindness and respect in your married life to your loving husband, Bob Rossi.

The services and burial will be at Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma on Monday June 28th at 11AM and followed by a reception at 1 PM at the Par 3 Poplar Creek Restaurant at Coyote Point.

PAID OBITUARY

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

June 16

Theft

- 6:34 a.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive
- 4:18 p.m. on the 2300 block of Santa Rita Road
- 8:47 p.m. on the 2100 block of Arroyo Court
- 10:05 p.m. on the 7000 block of Johnson Drive

Drug violation

- 9:03 a.m. on the 6600 block of Johnson Drive

Warrant arrest

- 11:05 a.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive
- 10:27 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Vandalism

- 11:41 a.m. on the 4600 block of Bernal Avenue

June 15

Theft

- 10:38 a.m. on the 1600 block of Paseo Del Cajon
- 3:45 p.m. on the 3300 block of Santa Rita Road

Warrant arrest

- 11:25 a.m. at Hacienda Drive and Dublin Boulevard
- 12:40 p.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road
- 8:43 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive
- 9:26 p.m. on the 3000 block of Hopyard Road

June 14

Graffiti

- 6:59 a.m. on the 4600 block of Bernal Avenue

Fraud

- 8:29 a.m. on the 1800 block of Crestline Road

Trespassing/prowling

- 9:14 a.m. on the 3900 block of Mt. McKinley Court

Vandalism

- 9:58 a.m. on the 2800 block of Maria Street

Drug violation

- 11:38 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Theft

- 6:27 a.m. on the 1300 block of Brookline Loop

June 13

Drug violation

- 1:52 a.m. on the 6800 block of Heath Court

Assault/battery

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

Warrant arrest

- 3:32 a.m. on the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

Trespassing/prowling

- 11:49 a.m. on the 3900 block of Mt. McKinley Court

Theft

- 12:53 p.m., 6000 block of Johnson Drive; shoplifting
- 9:47 p.m., 5700 block of Owens Drive; auto theft

Domestic battery

- 7:24 p.m. on East Gate Way

June 12

Drug violation

- 12:16 a.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

Theft

- 12:17 p.m., 4800 block of Willow Road; auto theft
- 6:20 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

BY VICE MAYOR JULIE TESTA

State Legislature may soon destroy California as we know it

State lawmakers have decided that they know better than the rest of us how we should live.

That is the message Sacramento is sending with dozens of legislative bills that, if passed, will all but destroy local control over housing and development. Your community's future will no longer be determined by you and your local elected representatives, but by developers and speculators armed with money and state laws that empower them to control local land use.



The state-mandated housing requirements are unrealistic. Under state law, Pleasanton will be required to add 5,965 new units of housing, or enough to house 16,702 new residents within eight years from 2023-31. That would be

a 20% jump in population.

Without the \$1.5 billion needed to subsidize the required affordable housing units, we're being set up to fail. The new laws will allow the state to penalize us with a loss of local authority to review projects — towering five-story projects could be built in currently protected areas like our downtown. The City Council's hands are tied and the neighborhood and community voice is silenced.

When lawmakers refuse to allocate funding to cover the costs of increased services for those thousands of new residents, it leaves us to figure out how to pay for essential services: leading to overcrowded schools, water shortages and gridlocked roads.

Senate Bills 9 and 10 are two of the worst. The bills trample the environment. Several streamlining bills will dismantle 40 years of CEQA protection, increase fire danger and drought.

SB 9 is of immediate concern because it has passed the State Senate and is scheduled for a vote of the Assembly in coming weeks. The bill does not require or provide for any affordable housing and allows for single-family lots to be split in two and four-plus homes to replace one existing home.

When your neighbor's house goes on the market, SB 9 will incentivize speculators with all-cash offers to outbid the hopeful young families. Soon there are four-plus — market rate — homes crowded where one single-family home once stood. The yards and trees will have been ripped out because lawmakers have restricted setback requirements. Our neighborhoods will be changed forever.

We need to work toward creating affordable housing but increasing density does not magically create affordable housing. In fact, up-zoning makes land more valuable — making

affordable housing more expensive.

The state is scapegoating cities; they blame us for not building sufficient affordable housing, knowing it cannot be done without subsidy which cities don't have. Until Sacramento provides the tools and funding the affordable housing crisis will not be relieved.

We need solutions that assure homes, health, safety and opportunity for all. The housing bills fast-tracking through to becoming law fall short of sound policy.

Please join me at a Zoom town hall on Tuesday (June 29) 7 p.m. to learn about how you can take action. Presentations by Maria and Jeff Kalban of United Neighbors, also Gab Layton of the Embarcadero Institute. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/29TownHall>. ■

Editor's note: Julie Testa is serving her first term on the Pleasanton City Council, having been elected in November 2018.

She has been appointed as the city's vice mayor for this year.

LETTERS

Swalwell shouldn't let Congress ban FaceTime and Amazon Prime

Dear Editor,

Imagine a world in which Amazon isn't allowed to offer Prime free shipping. Or Google can't show you a map of the top-ranked pizza places in your neighborhood. Or FaceTime and iMessage aren't preinstalled on your iPhone. Is this a world in which you'd be better off?

That may soon be a reality for folks living in the East Bay, but Rep. Eric Swalwell can do something to stop it.

Two bills recently introduced in the House of Representatives by

Reps. David Cicilline and Pramila Jayapal would make that world a reality, raising prices on everyday services, making it more difficult to find information and removing options for consumers.

Rather than find ways to encourage more choice and more innovations, these bills would be a step back and make our lives worse. They would force the removal of many of the helpful features that Amazon, Apple, Facebook, Google and Microsoft built to make our lives easier.

Congress should focus on improving our lives, not banning low- or no-cost digital services relied upon by millions of Americans. Our leaders should use their positions of power to improve the lives of everyday Americans, especially as we all try to

recover from a pandemic where these products and services were a lifeline or a comfort to millions.

There are real problems facing the East Bay, and real problems facing this country. Rep. Swalwell should

focus on finding ways to create solutions to these issues instead of banning things that make our lives easier.

—Adam Kovacevich
CEO, Chamber of Progress

YOUR TURN

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words and guest opinion pieces up to 500 words with a short bio to editor@PleasantonWeekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Pleasanton Weekly and Embarcadero Media to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information contact Editor Jeremy Walsh at (925) 600-0840.

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SUMMER 2021

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

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

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

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

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER



FILE PHOTO

Live horse racing is back at the Alameda County Fairgrounds through July 18.

Triumphant return of horse racing at the fairgrounds

Also: Saying goodbye to another old Amador friend, Mike Chandler

Last weekend brought live horse racing back to the Alameda County Fairgrounds, and it brought back live racing fans as well.

With no summer fair (postponed until Oct. 22-31), the problem facing organizers is getting the fans back to the track, without the lure of what the fair brings.

By the signs seen during the first three days, they are back, and they are coming in droves. Racing will continue Fridays through Sundays, with the last day set for Sunday, July 18.

And you have to give credit where credit is due in regard to the fans coming back.

The Alameda County Fair team is busting their humps in these unprecedented times. Faced with obstacles at every turn they have fought through, getting the biggest break when the mandated mask-wearing was lifted three days before the first weekend.

What I saw each of the first three days, despite two days of 100-plus temperatures, were people just happy to be able to attend an event. And it was not just men and women — it was families as well.

With the ever-growing vibrant downtown area closed to cars on the weekend, in conjunction with the races, Pleasanton is the place to be on weekends!

With the weather for this weekend being far more comfortable, expect the crowds to grow. There are some restrictions. You need a

ticket for a seat to get into the fairgrounds — check the fair website — making it not a free-for-all like when the fair runs concurrently.

Sure, there were some stumbles during the first weekend, but these are times people have never had to deal with before so the learning curve is high for everyone.

But adapting on the fly has always been a strength of the Pleasanton fair staff, and they did just that throughout the weekend.

Congratulations to the entire Alameda County Fair staff for a job well done opening weekend, and I am looking to what the next four weekends hold for horse racing fans!

Adios Chan

The term “life of the party” gets thrown around too easily when describing people.

For 1979 Amador Valley High graduate Mike Chandler, it was the textbook definition of his life. “Chan” (as we all knew our classmate by) loved life, loved his friends, loved basketball and loved the party.

Make no mistake about it: When Chan was around, you always knew he was there and the energy level was enhanced.

But shockingly to all of us, the party ended Friday, June 18, when Chan passed away.

As the details are still being discovered and investigated into Chan's passing, the only detail that

truly matters is that our friend is no longer with us.

In speaking with other classmates and friends over last weekend, the reaction was pretty much the same — sorrow mixed with a sense of relief that finally Chan is at peace.

Of all the ways to describe Chan, extremely loyal to his friends probably is the most definitive.

He loved his buddies and he was never afraid to let you know that. When I turned 60 in January, I heard from Chan twice that day with the one constant was, “I love you brother and thank you for being in my life.”

While Chan could certainly flirt the obnoxious line, sometimes crossing it, there was one thing for certain, he made you laugh — and laugh hard.

No matter where you ran into Chan, he made sure you knew he appreciated you and your friendship in his own, unique way.

Chan, you were one of a kind and there will be a void in the old-school Pleasanton community that will not be replaced. RIP old friend.

Friends will be coming together this Saturday (June 26) at 5 p.m. at the Sunshine Saloon in Pleasanton to raise one final glass to Chan. All are welcome and all we ask to bring your favorite Chan story! ■

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.

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Lynn T. Gunney Strategic Communications
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 579743

The following person doing business as:
Lynn T. Gunney Strategic Communications,
2727 Calle de la Loma, Pleasanton, CA
94566, County of Alameda, is hereby
registered by the following owner: Lynn T.
Gunney, 2727 Calle de la Loma, Pleasanton,
CA 94566. This business is conducted by
Lynn T. Gunney, an Individual. Registrant
has not yet begun to transact business
under the fictitious business name listed
herein. Signature of Registrant: Lynn T.
Gunney, Principal. This statement was filed
with the County Clerk of Alameda on June
4, 2021 (Pleasanton Weekly, June 18, 25,
July 2, 9, 2021.)

NSN Inc. DBA The UPS Store #3145
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 579654

The following person doing business as:
NSN Inc. DBA The UPS Store #3145, 32108
Alvarado Blvd., Union City, CA 94587,
County of Alameda, is hereby registered
by the following owner: NSN Inc., 1671

Porcellano Way, Dublin, CA 94568,
CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by
NSN Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began
transacting business under the fictitious
business name listed herein December
1, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Neeraj
Tandon, Treasurer. This statement was filed
with the County Clerk of Alameda on June
3, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, June 25, July
2, 9, 16, 2021.)

NSN Inc. DBA The UPS Store #6291
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 579652

The following person doing business as:
NSN Inc. DBA The UPS Store #6291, 6754
Bernal Ave., #740, Pleasanton, CA 94566,
County of Alameda, is hereby registered
by the following owner: NSN Inc., 1671
Porcellano Way, Dublin, CA 94568,
CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted
by NSN Inc. a Corporation. Registrant has
not yet begun to transact business under
the fictitious business name listed herein.
Signature of Registrant: Neeraj Tandon,
Treasurer. This statement was filed with
the County Clerk of Alameda on June 3,
2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, June 25, July 2,
9, 16, 2021.)

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Civil Engineer - Field

Civil Engineer - Field with California Engineering Contractors, Inc. in Pleasanton, CA: Provide engineering support to assist the field construction team. Prepare work plans for all the activities related to structural engineering projects. Prepare shop drawings, RFIs and assist in change orders based on project needs. Establish and maintain project records and documents. Perform various drafting and CADD assignments. Req: Master's Degree in Civil Eng. 12 months of experience in Civil Eng. or other Structural Eng. related position. 12 months of experience in each of the following skills: (1) AutoCAD; (2) STAAD.Pro; (3) SAP 2000; and (4) Mathematical skills. Travel and/or relocation to various unanticipated locations throughout the US is required. Mail resumes: California Engineering Contractors, Inc., 20 Happy Valley Road, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Attn: Shelley Bugler



Announcing Readers' Choice recipients and Hall of Fame honorees for 2021

EDITED BY JEREMY WALSH | WRITTEN BY ANNA HSU | PHOTOS BY RYAN J. DEGAN

As another marker on the Tri-Valley's continued path toward normalcy, the Pleasanton Weekly is proud to unveil this year's Readers' Choice winners, welcoming the popular community contest back after taking a one-year hiatus due to pandemic impacts in 2020.

Honoring the best of the best that Pleasanton has to offer, the 2021 Readers' Choice competition received thousands of votes from people across the Tri-Valley — and even a few former residents as far away as New York and Canada — in online balloting this spring as Weekly readers revealed which local businesses, professionals and places were their favorites in commercial and lifestyles categories that run the gamut.

"We didn't feel it was appropriate to have the contest last year with the onset of the pandemic," said Gina Channell Wilcox, Pleasanton Weekly publisher and Readers' Choice coordinator. "I can tell by the number of votes and voters this year that our readers missed the competition."

"We had to put a couple categories on hiatus in the year's contest," Wilcox said. "Best Place for Live Music, Best Place to People Watch and Best Public Event just weren't going to work this year. However, since families have been stay-cationing in their backyard, and updating and upgrading their homes and yards, we added a few categories for home improvement, like Best Pool Maintenance and Best Home Improvement Contractor. Those new categories received quite a few votes."

"We hope to keep the new categories and bring back others in next year's contest," she added.

The 2021 winners are located all over the city (and a few just beyond). Many are open on Main Street or around downtown, while others are sprinkled across shopping centers or commercial areas across Pleasanton. Some are well-recognized names with long ties to the Tri-Valley, but still some others managed to build burgeoning brands in spite of the coronavirus pandemic.

This year's group of Readers' Choice Hall of Fame members are Primrose Bakery (Best Bakery/Dessert), Pleasanton Family Dentist (Best Dental Office), Pleasanton Ridge (Best Kept Secret Treasure of Pleasanton), Outer Visions Landscape Design (Best Landscaping Service), Western Garden Nursery (Best Nursery/Garden Center), Jue's Taekwon-Do (Best Martial Arts Studio), Schlicher Orthodontics (Best Orthodontist), Fabulous Properties (Best Real Estate Team), Nomni's Bistro (Best Sunday Brunch), Blossom Vegan Restaurant (Best Vegetarian Cuisine) and Pleasanton Veterinary Hospital (Best Veterinarian).

They were honored for their previous record of five consecutive victories, and of course we didn't count the 2020 hiatus against their streaks. As new Hall of Famers, they were ineligible to compete in their categories this year.

Four businesses earned their fifth straight win in this year's contest. So the 2022-23 Hall of Fame elite will be Bob's Giant Burgers (Best Burger), Cosmo's Barbershop (Best Barbershop), Lokanta (Best Mediterranean Restaurant) and Savior Plumbing (Best Plumber).

Other intriguing highlights from the 2021 results included a rare tie, with Forest Chiropractic Office and Spinal Health Chiropractic receiving the exact same number of votes for Best Chiropractic Office.

The most votes cast were in the Food and Drink categories of Best Pizza, Best American Food, Best Ice Cream/Frozen Yogurt and Best Burger. Best Local Winery also garnered a significant number of votes.

The full list of new categories introduced this year consisted of Best Granite & Tile Supplier, Best Home Improvement Contractor, Best House Painter, Best Pool Construction & Remodeling, Best Pool Maintenance, Best Preschool/Daycare, Best Private School and Best Residential Concrete Contractor.

To learn more about those new awards, and all of our winners and Hall of Famers, sit back and enjoy our 2021 Readers' Choice section. ■



Pleasanton Ridge, seen here in a file photo taken by Chuck Deckert, earned a spot in the Readers' Choice Hall of Fame as the Best Kept Secret Treasure of Pleasanton.



Bob's Giant Burgers won two awards this year: Best Burger and Best French Fries.

2021 Hall of Fame

Primrose Bakery BEST BAKERY/DESSERT

This downtown Pleasanton favorite is being inducted into the Readers' Choice Hall of Fame after winning its fifth consecutive award in this category in 2019. Primrose Bakery's tasty treats continue to be the toast of the town, from their wedding cakes, pastries, cookies and more.

Pleasanton Family Dentist BEST DENTAL OFFICE

Led by Dr. Sara Soleimani, the team at Pleasanton Family Dentist always works hard to ensure "your smile is our top priority." Located on Cedarwood Lane, this dental office offers high-quality services that run the gamut, including regular cleanings, restorative treatments, teeth emergencies and cosmetic procedures.

Pleasanton Ridge BEST KEPT SECRET TREASURE OF PLEASANTON

Everybody knows and loves the Pleasanton Ridge, right? This local park with public trails for hiking, biking and leisurely strolls is a recreational treasure for the whole region plus its scenic beauty in

many ways defines Pleasanton. In addition to its Hall of Fame status, the Ridge also won another regular category below.

Outer Visions Landscape Design BEST LANDSCAPING SERVICE

Our readers' top choice for landscaping services in Pleasanton for the past five contests, Outer Visions Landscape Design strives to be the smart-money and eco-conscious landscaper to add beauty and value to properties across Pleasanton.

Western Garden Nursery BEST NURSERY/GARDEN CENTER

A carryover from the 2019 Hall of Fame class, Western Garden Nursery on Vineyard Avenue continues to be a popular destination for people looking for plants, garden accessories, eco-friendly garden materials and more.

Jue's Taekwon-Do BEST MARTIAL ARTS STUDIO

With classes for all ages and experience levels in their studio in the Oak Hills Shopping Center on Sunol Boulevard, Jue's Taekwon-Do instructors emphasize discipline and mental strength



Nonni's Bistro is inducted in the Hall of Fame as Best Sunday Brunch, as well as a 2021 winner for Best Vegetarian Cuisine.

as they help students grow their martial arts skills.

Schlicher Orthodontics BEST ORTHODONTIST

A go-to for children and adults in need of orthodontic services, the team at Schlicher Orthodontics is led by Dr. William Schlicher out of their state-of-the-art facility on Stoneridge Drive and inspired each and every day by "how happy our patients are with their new smiles."

Fabulous Properties BEST REAL ESTATE TEAM

2019 marked the fifth consecutive win for Fabulous Properties, but sadly it was also the last year awarding a key member of the team, as Donna Garrison passed away from cancer in early 2020. Her sister and longtime professional partner Susan Schall continues to lead the Fabulous Properties Team at Venture Sotheby's International Realty with great success.

Nonni's Bistro BEST SUNDAY BRUNCH

Downtown staple Nonni's Bistro is adding a Hall of Fame award to their Readers' Choice collection (which this year also includes an honor in a "Food & Drink" category below). Those looking for a tasty and fulfilling brunch in a great atmosphere know to turn to Nonni's every Sunday morning.

Blossom Vegan BEST VEGETARIAN CUISINE

Always a favorite of local residents looking for a delicious plant-based meal, Blossom Vegan on Pimlico Drive enters the Hall of Fame on the strength of their flavorful Asian-style dishes pleasing to vegan and non-vegan diners alike.

Pleasanton Veterinary Hospital BEST VETERINARIAN

Pleasanton Veterinary Hospital on Hopyard Road has been the top choice for years for readers in need of preventative or wellness care for their beloved pets, providing exceptional medical treatment in an intimate and state-of-the-art environment.

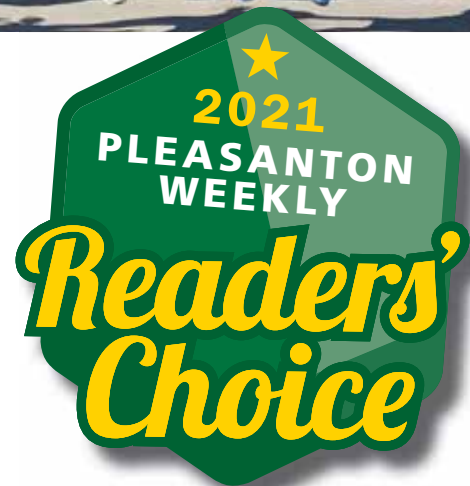
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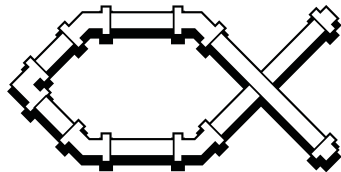


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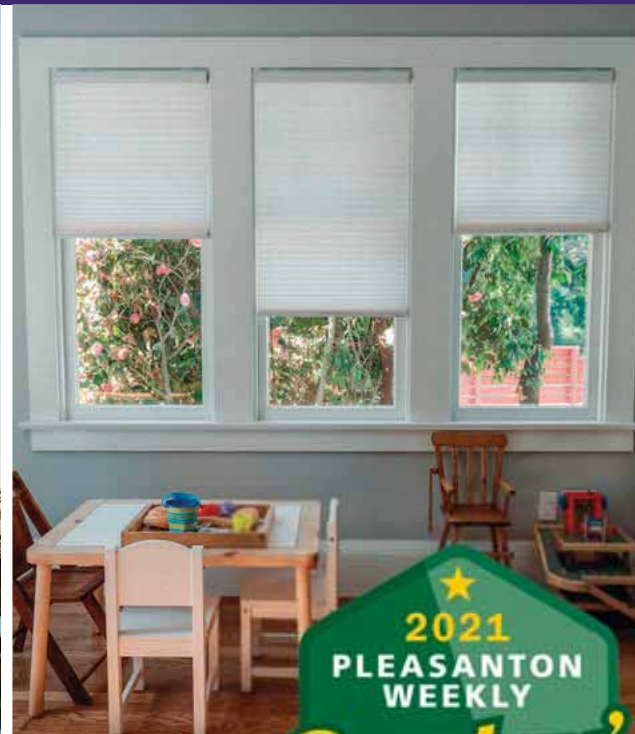


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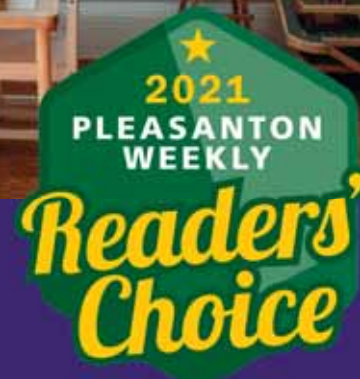
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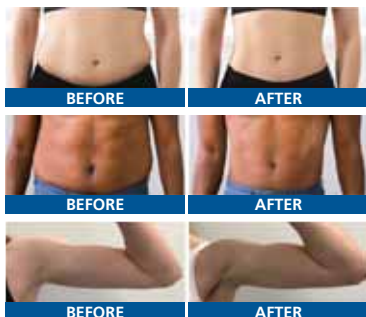
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Food & Drink

SideTrack Bar + Grill

BEST AMERICAN FOOD RESTAURANT

New on the list in 2021 is SideTrack Bar + Grill, a burgeoning favorite in downtown Pleasanton on West Angela Street, located next to the weekly farmers market. SideTrack is known for their handcrafted burgers with certified American Wagyu beef as well as a selection of local craft beers and fine wines.

The Jelly Donut

BEST BAKERY/DESSERT

The local neighborhood favorite for children and adults alike, The Jelly Donut on Hopyard Road takes the win this year for Best Bakery/Dessert for their wide selection of fresh and delicious donuts that melt in your mouth.

Buckhorn Grill

BEST BBQ

Back on the list is Buckhorn Grill with readers lauding their quality Californian barbecue. A great place to stop by when visiting the Stoneridge Shopping Center, Buckhorn Grill provides a unique dining experience with their signature tri-tip platters among other barbecue favorites.



Enjoying a slice at Gay 90's Pizza & Pasta are Janette Nelson, Patricia Byrne, Dwayne Froistad (who was celebrating his 89th birthday), Ruth Dennis-Collins and John Collins.

Bob's Giant Burgers

BEST BURGER

Bob's Giant Burgers wins yet again for the fifth year in a row as the Best Burger in town. The family-owned business continues to be committed to making customers happy with their impressive burgers and milkshakes made with fresh ingredients.

Pleasanton Catering Company

BEST CATERER

Pleasanton Catering Company goes above and beyond to bring the utmost quality of one of the most important aspects of any event: the food. Their professional service and well-executed presentation ensures the best experience for guests, whether it is a simple luncheon or a large wedding.

Andy & Yu's

BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT

Winning Best Chinese Restaurant for a third time is Andy & Yu's, serving fine Chinese cuisine and award-winning wine selection in downtown Pleasanton. Owner and executive chief Andy Tsang, who has been cooking since the age of 12, said he is dedicated to serving the community with an exceptional range of delicious dishes.

The Press

BEST DELI/SANDWICH

An artisan cafe that specializes in handcrafted paninis, toastinis and other baked goods, The Press wins for a consecutive third year as the Best Deli/Sandwich. Their commitment to using fresh and local ingredients continues to uphold their dedication to "nourish your body and mind."

Bob's Giant Burgers

BEST FRENCH FRIES

Not only is Bob's Giant Burgers recognized for their burgers, but also for their french fries as they win their second title of 2021 — Best French Fries. Their tasty selection of fries, including chili cheese fries, garlic fries and sweet potato fries, has caught the attention of many readers.

Meadowlark Dairy

BEST ICE CREAM/FROZEN YOGURT

A previous Hall of Fame inductee and consistent winner of the Best Ice Cream/Frozen Yogurt category, the iconic drive-thru Meadowlark Dairy

in downtown Pleasanton has won the hearts of the readers once again with their flavorful soft serve swirls.

India Garden

BEST INDIAN RESTAURANT

Winning the title of the Best Indian Restaurant continuously since the introduction of the category in the Readers' Choice contest, India Garden is dedicated to serving a contemporary yet traditional taste of Indian cuisine. Readers enjoy their welcoming atmosphere that encourages anyone to try their different flavors, aromas and textures.

De La Torre's Trattoria

BEST ITALIAN RESTAURANT

With their trattoria classics, De La Torre's Trattoria is recognized for the fourth year as the Best Italian Restaurant. The neighborhood hidden gem serves classic Italian dishes, including various pastas, lasagnas, salads and pizzas, all made with locally produced ingredients.

Lokanta

BEST MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT

Taking the title of Best Mediterranean Restaurant for the fifth year in a row, Lokanta continues to be a downtown favorite with their California-style Mediterranean cuisine. Their combination of Turkish, Greek and Mediterranean dishes made with local organic produce aims to ensure a new and refreshing dining experience.

Rancho Grande Taqueria

BEST MEXICAN RESTAURANT

Known for serving traditional Mexican favorites of tortas, enchiladas and burritos, Rancho Grande Taqueria is the newest winner of Best Mexican Restaurant. The family-owned restaurant focuses on bringing authentic Mexican food to the community and also caters for events.

Gay 90's Pizza & Pasta

BEST PIZZA

Established in 1959, Gay 90's Pizza & Pasta was the first pizza parlor in Pleasanton. Today, they are known for their sourdough pizzas made from scratch and also serve other Italian dishes such as spaghetti and soup. The restaurant decorations with historical memorabilia and knickknacks create a cozy atmosphere and a rustic vibe.

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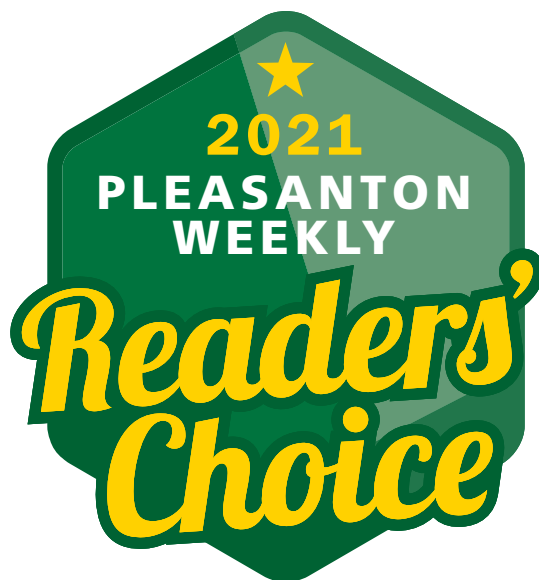
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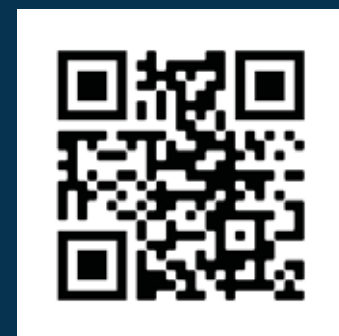


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2021 PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Readers' Choice



Wente Vineyards in the Livermore Valley won Best Local Winery.
(Photo by Cierra Bailey)

Strizzi's

BEST SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

The old-style Italian restaurant, highlighting its wood-fired grilled fresh fish fillets, has captured the tastes of readers again, as the past Hall of Fame member has taken the title of Best Seafood Restaurant once again. Strizzi's in downtown invites diners to a classy dining experience with their weekly seafood specials and fine wine.

Gene's Fine Foods

BEST SPECIALTY FOOD STORE

For the fourth consecutive year, Gene's Fine Foods has won Readers' Choice as the Best Specialty Food Store. Founded in 1952, the family-owned grocery store is committed to delivering the highest quality selection of products to its customers.

Bill's Cafe

BEST SUNDAY BRUNCH

With their classic breakfast and lunch specialties, Bill's Cafe in Hopyard Village creates a warm and friendly environment for their customers. Their hearty brunch includes sandwiches, salads, baked goods, homemade soups, fresh squeezed orange juice, and much more.

Sozo Sushi

BEST SUSHI/JAPANESE RESTAURANT

A repeat winner of Best Sushi/Japanese Restaurant, Sozo Sushi has consistently served Japanese favorites including a variety of sushi rolls, sashimi specials, bento boxes and udon. Check them out on Hopyard Road off Valley Avenue.

New Thai Bistro

BEST THAI RESTAURANT

Winning Readers' Choice as Best Thai Restaurant for the fourth straight time is New Thai Bistro. Its authentic Thai food with exquisite presentation, an abundance of options and fresh ingredients has impressed readers yet again.

Nonni's Bistro

BEST VEGETARIAN CUISINE

Nonni's Bistro wins its seventh award at Readers' Choice, being previously recognized as Best Main Street Restaurant and Best Sunday Brunch. Serving modern European cuisine, Nonni's is known for its made from scratch breakfast pot with potatoes, sauteed onions, spinach, cheddar cheese and eggs.

Just for Fun

Jazz N Taps Dance Studio

BEST DANCE SCHOOL

Over the past two decades, Jazz N Taps has grown to accommodate more than 300 students learning different styles including tap, jazz, ballet and modern. Their commitment to making dance a fun experience and a memorable part in children's development has inspired the community, earning them yet another Readers' Choice award.

Firehouse Arts Center

BEST KEPT SECRET TREASURE OF PLEASANTON

After being closed for more than a year due to the pandemic, the Firehouse Arts Center has reopened and will continue to accommodate performances in music, poetry, theater, comedy and film — live and in-person. The city-operated venue downtown includes a theater, fine arts gallery and classroom space to promote entertainment and recreational participation in the arts.

Wente Vineyards

BEST LOCAL WINERY

Founded in 1883, Wente Vineyards is the country's oldest continuously operated family-owned winery. With a combination of traditional and contemporary winemaking techniques, Wente is recognized as a premier wine destination in the Livermore Valley with their wine tasting, as well as dining, concerts and championship golf.

Pleasanton Ridge

BEST PLACE TO TAKE YOUR DOG

A three-time winner of Best Place to Take Your Dog, Pleasanton Ridge is a spectacular site for dog walking. Its oak covered ridge, miles of trail and canyon views are not only suitable for dog walking but for hikers and bicyclists alike.

Clover Creek

BEST PLACE TO BUY A GIFT

Downtown Pleasanton's own Clover Creek wins Best Place to Buy a Gift with its abundance of home decorations and specialty gifts. The Main Street shop (also recognized as Best Home Furnishings) continues to be a popular destination, especially during holiday seasons.

Meadowlark Dairy

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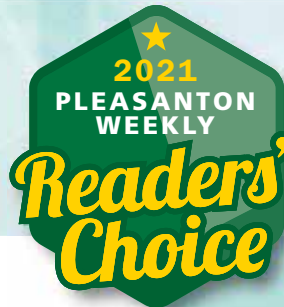
Liz Venema
VENEMA HOMES TEAM





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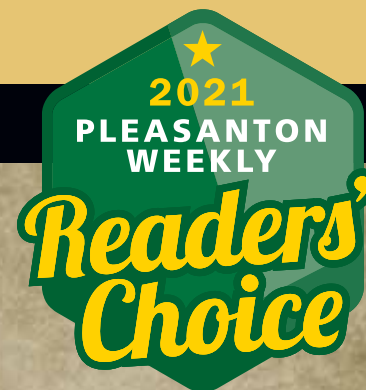
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The owner of Best Jewelry Store winner Kasaria Jewelers, George Ayad, in his downtown storefront.

Body Balance

BEST FITNESS CENTER/GYM

Body Balance provides personal fitness, nutrition and massage services suitable for anyone of any age looking to improve their overall wellness. With a passionate team delivering ongoing education, motivation and guidance in health and fitness, Body Balance on Ray Street is a new winner for Best Fitness Center/Gym.

Healthy Necessity Massage

BEST MASSAGE

Previously recognized Hall of Fame recipient Health Necessity Massage continues to dominate as Best Massage in Readers' Choice. With customized massages fit to specific needs, Healthy Necessity Massage aims to also engage patients to understand the underlying cause of problems and how massage therapy helps.

The Image Salon & Day Spa

BEST HAIR SALON FOR WOMEN

Winning Best Hair Salon for Women, Image Salon & Day Spa has impressed readers with their Aveda concept hair salon, with customized haircuts, corrective color, highlighting, lowlighting, hair extensions, permanent waves and more.

MD Spa

BEST MEDICAL SPA

Winning Best Medical Spa yet again is MD Spa, which provides a combination of services in plastic surgery with med spa. Their cosmetic surgery is exceptional and transformative with the skills and expertise of Dr. Robert Gray.

Bollinger Nail Salon

BEST NAIL CARE

A previous Hall of Fame inductee, Bollinger Nail Salon takes Best Nail Care once again. Recognized for their comfortable and relaxing atmosphere, the Pleasanton nail salon boasts a wide selection of manicure and pedicure services as well as a well-maintained and hygienic environment.

Valley Eyecare Center

BEST OPTOMETRIST

Providing professional eye care in Pleasanton for over 45 years, Valley Eyecare Center doctors are committed to diagnosing, treating and managing the health of patients' eyes with their state-of-the-art technology. Their services include cataract surgery, corneal surgery, laser vision correction, eyeglass prescriptions and contact lens services.

Hired Hands Homecare

BEST HOME HEALTHCARE

Dedicated to providing security and compassionate homecare services, Hired Hands Homecare wins Best Home Health Care for a third year overall. They offer services including accompaniment, companionship, medication reminders, daily personal hygiene, hospice support and care coordination.

Kasaria Jewelers

BEST JEWELRY STORE

Voted again as Best Jewelry Store is the downtown shop, Kasaria Jewelers. The family-owned business provides excellent craftsmanship with custom designs and repairs as well as a wide selection of loose diamonds and colored stones.

KicksUSA

BEST MARTIAL ARTS STUDIO

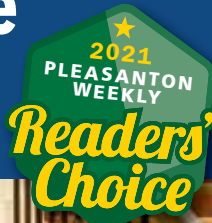
With increased challenges seen especially in the past year, KickUSA aims to not only teach students self defense and martial arts but also life skills to deal with these conflicts. The taekwondo martial arts school is adaptable in providing regular group classes or private instruction based on student needs.

Gary Stafford Orthodontics

BEST ORTHODONTIST

At Gary Stafford Orthodontics, Dr. Stafford and his team provide exceptional orthodontic care services with digital radiographs and photographs, braces, wires and aligners to create the most beautiful smiles possible. The team is committed to providing a friendly yet professional environment with clear communication, attention and education to patients.

Thank you for voting us the Best Painting Company!

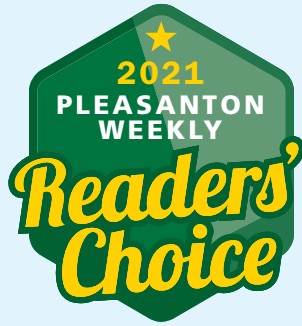


OUR PHILOSOPHY

Virtue Painting Company, a painting contractor that was developed with the mindset of exceptional customer service and the highest quality work. We keep a clear and precise vision of your desired outcome and pride ourselves on our repeat customers. Imagine changing your home into your sanctuary through colors.

Lisa A. Freitas (925) 918-1797
lisa@virtuepaintinginc.com virtuepaintinginc.com

Thank You for Voting Us Best Barbershop Again!



COSMO'S Custom Barber Shop



Specializing in haircuts & styles for men, women & children.

Hair straightening | Keratin treatments | Straight razor shaves

Haircuts: Men \$12, Senior Citizen Men \$10, Boys (under 12) \$10, Women \$15 & Up.

\$2 OFF
ANY HAIRCUT

Must bring in coupon for discount. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per customer, per visit. Exp. 7/31/21.

\$5 OFF
HAIR COLOR

Must bring in coupon for discount. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per customer, per visit. Exp. 7/31/21.

\$10 OFF
HIGHLIGHTS

Must bring in coupon for discount. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per customer, per visit. Exp. 7/31/21.

\$20 OFF
KERATIN TREATMENTS

Must bring in coupon for discount. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per customer, per visit. Exp. 7/31/21.

4275 First Street, Pleasanton | 925-462-2695

Monday - Friday 8am-7:30pm, Saturday - Sunday 8am-7pm. No appointment necessary.

Thank you for voting us "BEST THAI RESTAURANT"

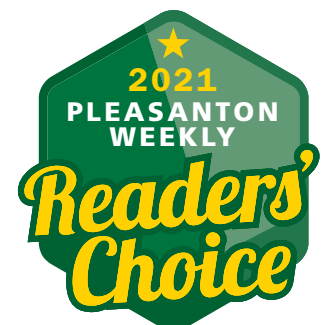


HUNGRY?

Visit **NEW THAI BISTRO** for authentic Thai comfort food made from fresh ingredients and influenced by our mother's recipes.

- Convenient location with plenty of free parking
- Beer and wine specials
- Large group friendly
- Catering

Dine-In | Takeout | Catering



We're open!

Monday - Thursday 11am - 2pm & 4:30pm - 8:30pm

Friday 11am - 2pm & 4pm - 8:30pm

Saturday & Sunday 12pm - 3pm & 4:30pm - 8:30pm

www.newthaibistro.com

4301-D Valley Ave.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
925.425.7333



Dr. Amanda Bloomberg and Hailey Duckworth examine little Lincoln at Paws of Pleasanton.

Gina Piper-Elation Real Estate

BEST REAL ESTATE AGENT

Her third consecutive year back as Best Real Estate Agent after being in Hall of Fame 2016 and 2017, Gina Piper continues to impress readers with her real estate work in the Tri-Valley region. With more than 26 years of experience, her knowledge has proven invaluable to readers in the real estate scene.

Elation Real Estate

BEST REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

Owner Gina Piper followed her dream of a boutique real estate firm in downtown Pleasanton by establishing Elation Real Estate. With Piper and her team's experience and expertise, Elation Real Estate has successfully

helped navigate homebuyers and sellers with their sales techniques and step-by-step guidance.

Venema Homes Team

BEST REAL ESTATE TEAM

Specializing in luxury home sales, Venema Homes Team has been recognized for their sales expertise and strategies as Best Real Estate Team this year. Founder Liz Venema and her team have consistently delivered successful results with their emphasis on positioning, marketing and negotiation.

Steps Tutoring and SAT/ACT Prep

BEST TUTORING SCHOOL

With their outstanding academic tutoring and college counseling services, Steps Tutoring and SAT/ACT Prep takes a back-to-back win as Best Tutoring School. Although their in-person classrooms were closed because of the pandemic, Steps Tutoring and SAT/ACT Prep adjusted to virtual tutoring to help students through difficult times.

Paws of Pleasanton

BEST VETERINARIAN

Paws of Pleasanton is a family-owned veterinary care committed to providing high-quality care in a fear free environment. Their dedication toward progressive care with cutting edge technology, sustainability and compassionate efforts have won them Best Veterinarian this year. ■

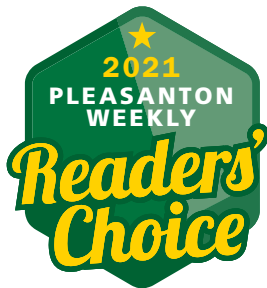


2 LARGE PATIOS!

Thank you for Voting Us

"Best American Food Restaurant"!

Serving burgers, sandwiches, salads and more, along with a full bar, wine and craft beer. *Home of the famous Skip's Scoozzi bread!*



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THE IMAGE

Hair · Skin · Body



Thank You For Voting Us

"Best Day Spa" And

"Best Hair Salon for Women"



Welcome to Pleasanton's premier salon and spa destination. We are an Aveda Lifestyles salon. We specialize in customized haircuts, corrective color, highlighting, Balayage and lowlighting, permanent waving, Brazilian blowouts, hair extensions, special occasion hair styles, makeup, blowout styles, full body waxing, facials and peels, FDA approved cellulite reduction and microdermabrasion.

New to The Image Salon?

Book your reservation today to receive **\$20 OFF** your first visit.*

*Valid with participating stylists. Service values must equal or exceed \$40. Not valid with other offers. No cash value.

HOURS: Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 am to 8:00 pm; Saturday: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm; Closed Sundays & Most Mondays. **Located in Hopyard Village Shopping Center.**

3037-D HOPYARD RD. PLEASANTON 925-484-3650 THEIMAGESALONSPA.COM



Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Movies

SUMMER MOVIES SERIES AT EMERALD GLEN PARK Join the city of Dublin for the annual Picnic Flix summer movie series at Emerald Glen Park which will follow all health guidelines set forth by Alameda County. Food vendors will be available beginning at 6:30 p.m., movies approximately 8:45 p.m. Starts with "Aladdin" on June 25.

Theater

STUDIO RETREAT AT TAO HOUSE Studio Retreat, a 10-day master class in acting and playwriting is back. Dates for the summer Acting and Playwriting Workshop are July 21-Aug 1. Organized by the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, in partnership with the National Park Service, the masterclass gives incoming, rising and current high school students a chance to learn from professional playwrights, actors, and stage directors. For more information visit eugeneoneill.org/studio-retreat. Deadline July 7.

Concerts

FIREHOUSE REOPENING FOR SHOWS In-person shows are returning to the Firehouse Arts Center with seating limited to 55 seats per show. Branden & James from "America's Got Talent" will perform their show "From Bach to Bieber". 2 and 7 p.m., June 26, tickets \$25. Visit firehouse.org.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES AT EMERALD PARK A free summer concert series at Emerald Glen Park Amphitheater at Dublin's Farmers' Market. The Summer Concert Series will have measures in place to ensure compliance with state and local health guidance and patron safety. 6 p.m., now through Aug. 5. Visit dublin.ca.gov/1917/Summer-Concert-Series. 4201 Central Pkwy.

FREE SHAKESPEARE CONCERT In celebration of the re-opening of California, Shakespeare's Associates, Inc. is producing concerts for all ages in Stockmen's Park. The headliner is Crawdad Republic with performances from local youth groups. Admission is free but reserved VIP tickets are available for purchase. Visit livermoreshakes.org/sparonthepark. 4 p.m., July 10.

LIFE IS A CABERNET, BINGO & THE BARD An interactive evening of Bingo and the Bard. Award winning wine and scenes and songs live at Darcie Kent Vineyards. Tickets on sale now. August 12-15, 19-22. Visit livermoreshakes.org.

Comedy

COMEDY UNCORKED Comedy Uncorked features great stand-up comedy with top headliners at an outdoor venue at Retzlaff Vineyards Winery. Marc Yaffee, Stephen B, Faith Alpher and Chree Powell. 7:30, June 26. Visit visitrivalley.com/events. 1356 S Livermore Ave.

Talks

RANGER TALK ON UNEXPECTEDLY DANGEROUS ANIMALS While everyone is afraid of rattlesnakes and mountain lions, all animals have the ability to defend themselves. Join Ranger Doug to learn about unexpectedly dangerous animals. Pre-Registration is required by calling the Ranger office at 960-2400. 2 p.m., June 27. Sycamore Grove Park, Reservable Picnic Area, 5035 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

LIBRARY TO HOST Q&A ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINES The Livermore Public Library, in partnership with Axis Community Health,

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Better in pairs

Hi there, my name is Bailey (left). Me and my bestie, Shadow, are a bonded pair of 6-year-olds, looking for either a temporary foster home or a permanent home together. Our adoption fees are waived! I'm a sweet American pit bull mix who weighs about 48 pounds and Shadow is a fun-loving Labrador-Shepherd mix weighing about 83 pounds. We'd love to find a home with patient people who can help us transition from shelter life to home life and where we can be your exclusive pets. Visit eastbayspca.org/adopt-me to learn more and apply to adopt us.

is hosting a Q&A session on the COVID-19 vaccines. The program will be held via Zoom. 6:30-7:30 p.m., June 28. Visit us02web.zoom.us/j/88417869467.

Fundraisers

SUNFLOWER SHOWCASE The Sunflower Showcase, a visual and performing arts fundraiser event at the Bankhead Theater, will provide vital funds to support the mission and vision of Sunflower Hill, a residential community for adults with developmental disabilities. The event will be emceed by local comedian, Regina Stoops, and feature a performance by "America's Got Talent" Season 14 winner Kodi Lee. Tickets on sale now for the July 23 event. Visit sunflowerhill.org. 2400 1st St., Livermore.

ICF BRANCH 285 FUNDRAISER AT STRIZZI'S The local Italian Catholic Federation Branch 285 is hosting a fundraiser at Strizzi's at 649 Main St. in Pleasanton on June 29 during which 20% of lunch and dinner sales (mentioning ICF Branch 285) will be donated back to the local organization to support student scholarships, Cooley's anemia research, Gifts of Love, Goodness Village-Home Community and Heritage Programs.

Museums & Exhibits

MUSEUM ON MAIN PRESENTS STITCHING CALIFORNIA "Stitching California: Fiber Artists Interpret the State's People, Life, and Land," a new traveling exhibition appearing at Pleasanton's Museum on Main showcases an exciting collection of art quilts that interpret the complexities of the Golden State. Visit museumonmain.org. June 23-Aug. 14, 603 Main St.

Library

SUMMER STEM CLASSES AT LIVERMORE LIBRARY The Livermore Public Library will offer children's STEM classes this summer with outdoor, socially-distanced sessions. School-aged children in grades 1-5 will enjoy activities, experiments, trivia and more. Classes are free of charge with no registration required. Visit livermorelibrary.net or call 373-5505. 6-7 p.m., now through Aug. 10, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during March 29-April 2 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol, and May 17-21 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

405 Amador Court S. & D. Dilaura to R. & V. Mudalagi for \$1,224,000

1469 Calle Enrique Schiager Trust to N. & G. Wong for \$825,000

8063 Canyon Creek Circle Rajasekar Family Trust to A. & P. Kunala for \$1,410,000

5552 Corte Sierra Miller Trust to P. & P. Srinivasan for \$1,700,000

4315 Denker Drive G. Wang to X. & J. He for \$1,250,000

826 Gray Fox Circle Guhasarkar Living Trust to J. & J. Zheng for \$2,775,000

5021 Hillcrest Way Granum Living Trust to G. & A. Sharma for \$1,580,000

2508 Jolene Court Levitin Trust to S. & C. Yeung for \$2,950,000

1109 Kottinger Drive Clauser Family Trust to Abboud Family Trust for \$1,165,000

1151 Kottinger Drive M. Srivastava to D. & S. Shanmugham for \$1,810,000

2383 Meadowlark Drive S. & P. Shah to K. & P. Patel for \$1,515,000

4903 Middleton Place G. & C. Thompson to Kaye Living Trust for \$1,550,000

3722 Newton Way Carnevale Living Trust to D. & R. Chhabra for \$2,850,000

3956 Promenade Way A. & G. Pannick to A. Gummadavally for \$1,060,000

7954 Raccoon Hollow Court S. & R. Merrill to A. & S. Karkare for \$2,290,000

5595 San Antonio Street Armknecht Family Trust to M. & K. Yan for \$1,420,000

5351 Springdale Avenue R. & P. Clark to S. & A. Gupta for \$955,000

Livermore

1416 4th Street Apodaca Family Trust to E. & T. Snyder for \$1,001,000

2343 5th Street R. & R. Smith to F. & J. Stucki for \$920,000

1129 Apache Street B. & J. Capener to W. & J. Besse for \$975,000

954 Bellflower Street T. Harrell to J. & D. Patel for \$1,020,000

5573 Berwind Avenue L. Paolini to S. & G. Ramanath for \$950,000

1430 Calvary Lane D. & N. Hawkins to H. Hanneken for \$2,250,000

1074 Carrara Way Mercer Trust to M. & J. Patwardhan for \$787,500

42 Chalmette Court Johnston Trust to M. Zika for \$932,000

792 Daisyfield Drive Seeley Family Trust to K. & S. Rajendiran for \$1,200,000

1564 De Leon Way Hannigan Family Trust to M. & M. Patenaude for \$1,210,000

2413 Decker Lane Mikkelsen Trust to Henry Family Trust for \$1,455,000

6471 Dove Court Schoennagel Living Trust to P. & S. Acharya for \$1,225,000

1064 Dublin Avenue K. & M. Allen to U. Ibe for \$1,025,000

Source: California REsource

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.

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INTERNATIONAL REALTY

RH

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Work with ME.



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925.890.4416 rhoffman@venturesir.com

HomesAboutTheBay.com

6324 Inspiration Terrace Pleasanton, CA 94566

· · ·
· · ·
· · ·

List price: \$4,998,000

Gorgeous, custom-built home with breathtaking views, situated on a cul-de-sac lot overlooking Callippe Golf Course. Tastefully designed with unique coved ceilings and fabulous finishes throughout, this 6 bedroom, 5.5 bathroom home is sure to amaze you as you enter each room.

6324 Inspiration Terrace exudes quality and grand style with spectacular views that can be enjoyed from all bedrooms and living areas! Tucked away in a peaceful neighborhood, but still within minutes to freeway access, shopping, schools, and downtown.



The Duarte Team

M: 925.519.4497 | O: 925.699.1969

duarteteam@compass.com

DRE 01938648

inspirationterrace.com



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1333 MONTROSE PLACE,
PLEASANTON

NEW LOOK AND PRICE IMPROVEMENT
COMING SOON!

PRIVATE VINEYARD ESTATE | 5 BEDROOMS | 6
BATHS | OVER 6,500 SF | 14 ACRES | RESORT-
INSPIRED GROUNDS



OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 6/27
FROM 1:00-4:00 PM



1377 PIEMONTE DRIVE, PLEASANTON



LISA STERLING-
SANCHEZ

REALTOR®
Managing Partner

925.980.9265
lsterling@venturesir.com
CA License #01012330

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SUMMER HAS OFFICIALLY ARRIVED!

2742 HOGAN PLACE | LIVERMORE



NEED TO GET YOUR HOME LISTED FAST?

We helped these sellers prepare and list their home in 7 days to help them secure their dream lakefront home. Now Pending with 4 offers, all over asking!

3037 LEGER COURT | PLEASANTON



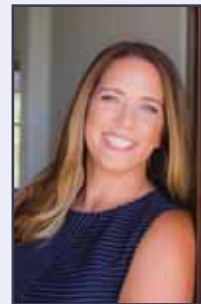
WAITING ON A BATHROOM REMODEL TO FINISH?

In just 3 weeks we completed home renovations and prepared the home for sale. You never get a second chance to make a first impression. The result was an over asking offer after only 3 days on the market!

ARE YOU THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME?

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR SITUATION, I'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

- Arrive Concierge Assistance to Help Your Home Sell Faster and For More Money
- Homelight Trade-In Partner to Help You Purchase Before You Sell
- Paid For Pre-Listing Prep Including Staging and Photography



KATIE MOE

FOUNDING PARTNER | REALTOR®

925.216.9083 • DRE #01507863
katie@arrivegroup.com



arriveREgroup.com



SYLVIA DESIN REALTOR®

925.413.1912
sylvia@venturesir.com
CA License #01280640

Venture

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INTERNATIONAL REALTY



692 Saint John Street, Pleasanton JUST SOLD \$4,100,000

Off Market | Buyer Represented
5 Bedroom | 7 Bath | 6,043 Square Feet

My lucky buyers just closed escrow on this iconic downtown Pleasanton home on an extra-large premium lot. This home was originally built in 1891 and completely renovated in 2008, with only the finest quality craftsmanship.

Take advantage of this current market and contact me today.



THE
BLAISE LOFLAND
REAL ESTATE GROUP
CONNECTING PEOPLE & PROPERTY



Blaise Lofland



Kelly McKaig



Amanda Bowen



Jacinda Lofland

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DRE 00882113

blaiselofland.com

blaise@blaiselofland.com

Equal Housing Opportunity



WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!

ROSE PARK

NEW LISTING



1558 POPPYBANK COURT, PLEASANTON
4 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,900 SF
OFFERED AT \$1,199,000

VINTAGE HILLS

COMING SOON



529 MALBEC COURT, PLEASANTON
4 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,050 SF
CALL FOR PRICING

PLEASANTON OAK PARK

COMING SOON



325 LONE OAK DRIVE PLEASANTON
3 BD | 2 BA | 1,600 SF
CALL FOR PRICING

LITTLE VALLEY

PENDING



3501 LITTLE VALLEY ROAD, SUNOL
3 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,020 SF
OFFERED AT \$2,195,000

STONERIDGE

JUST CLOSED



7498 HILLVIEW COURT, PLEASANTON
4 BD | 2.5 BA | 3,022 SF
SOLD FOR \$1,925,000

COUNTRY FAIR II

JUST CLOSED



6474 CALLE ESPERANZA, PLEASANTON
4 BD | 3 BA | 3,027 SF
SOLD FOR \$2,050,000

VINTAGE HILLS

JUST CLOSED



802 CRELLIN ROAD, PLEASANTON
4 BD | 3 BA | 1,942 SF
SOLD FOR \$1,675,000

STONERIDGE

JUST CLOSED



4825 DRYWOOD STREET, PLEASANTON
4 BD | 2 BA | 2,217 SF
SOLD FOR \$1,700,000

COUNTRY FAIR II

JUST CLOSED



6415 CALLE ESPERANZA, PLEASANTON
4 BD | 3 BA | 3,027 SF
SOLD FOR \$2,050,000

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

SERENO AIMS HIGHER.

Our philosophy prioritizes the best interests of our clients.

We are committed to maximum exposure for every one of our listings and do not undermine their value through self-interested “private” listing strategies.

We advise clients on the benefits of taking listings public to ensure maximum exposure and opportunity.

Our agents strive to counsel our clients against bias so all parties experience transparent and equitable property transactions.

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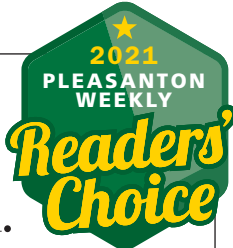
SF PENINSULA | SILICON VALLEY | SANTA CRUZ | EAST BAY | TAHOE | SIERRA FOOTHILLS



VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

Your #1 Luxury Real Estate Team!



2974 Sorano Court, Ruby Hill

Offered at \$3,695,000

Pending With Multiple Offers Way Over List Price

Client Testimonial Your Words. Our Work.

“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. The process was almost flawless. I recommend the Venema team to anyone considering selling their home.”

~Layne Marceau | Seller of 9472 Blessing Drive, Pleasanton



1034 Germano Way, Ruby Hill

Offered at \$4,195,000



9472 Blessing Drive, Pleasanton

Sold at \$4,850,000



7759 Country Lane, Pleasanton

Sold at \$2,850,000



Represented Buyer

5660 Selena Court, Pleasanton

Sold at \$2,800,000



Represented Buyer

1422 Briones Lane, Pleasanton

Sold at \$2,500,000

VENEMA HOMES TEAM

KELLERWILLIAMS

Luxury

INTERNATIONAL

Broker DRE #02065804