

# Pleasanton Weekly

Newcomers,  
old-timers

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VOL. XXII, NUMBER 26 · JULY 23, 2021

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## CALIFORNIA RUGGED

DIABLO RANGE RUNS 150 MILES  
DOWN THE STATE'S CENTER  
BUT IS STILL LITTLE ACKNOWLEDGED

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# VALLEY VIEWS



BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

## Newcomers, old-timers

Welcome! That's the message of the Pleasanton Newcomers Club, and it's not just for people who are new in town. About 20 years ago, the club, originally designed for folks who had recently found their way to our lovely burg, changed its rules to let members continue past the previously mandated three years, plus began to welcome everyone.

The club is still great for people who've just moved here, as well as for old-timers who are looking to make new friends — and have fun.

"I would say it's probably about a quarter of the members who are new to town," said Bettie Waggener, who just finished serving as president for three years. "We have a couple new ones that just joined — they actually met each other at the dog park and one of them had been in a newcomers club before."

They thought of changing the name, Bettie said, but decided that it sounded welcoming, whether people were new to Pleasanton or just new to the club.

Bettie joined about seven years ago. She wasn't new to Pleasanton, but her life situation had changed. She had grown kids and grandkids, then was widowed, and retired after 30 years as an administrator at Pine Valley Middle School in San Ramon. She wanted to meet people and explore new activities so she checked out one of the club's monthly coffees.

"I was so surprised — every single person there came up and talked to me," Bettie recalled. "I felt so welcome. It was so comfortable."

She became club secretary for a term of two years and then president, serving three years instead of the usual two when COVID put everything on hold. In-person activities were suspended during the shelter-at-home months although the board continued to meet outdoors, in Bettie's backyard.

"We pretty much did nothing that year," she said. "We had a lot of conversations, and various members wanted us to open."

But Bettie thought it was important to wait for the state's reopening date of June 15. Now all the activities are going again, except the bunco group, which never meets in the summer because that's when its players travel. The first coffee of the reopening was held July 7 outdoors at a home, and Bettie said five new

members have joined within the last month.

Bettie raved about how much the club has to offer, including a monthly lunch bunch, bocce, book club, bunco, ladies' groups, day trips, special outings, hiking and walking groups, a dinner group, stitch and chat, a wine group, bridge — and more! Whew. Dues are \$30 a year.

"Everyone doesn't go to everything, but we have something for everyone," Bettie said. "It's gotten much more social and more fun."

Generally the more than 100 members are retired although the ages are between 50 and some in their 80s, Bettie said. Mostly women attend the daytime activities, but a recent tour of the Amazon plant in Tracy drew a lot of men, who also like to play bocce and golf, she said.

The new president is Leitha Sangermano, and she has lived here forever and is even an Amador Valley High graduate.

"There are a variety of nationalities and beliefs," Bettie added. "It's a fun, nonjudgmental group."

For instance, she noted, anyone can feel free to wear a mask or not as they resume activities, and no one will care or judge.

Pleasanton Newcomers Club is in the process of creating a new flier to be printed and distributed at the library.

"We absolutely always welcome new members because we like new ideas," Bettie said. "The board meeting once a month is open to any member who wants to come. Anyone with a suggestion can bring it to the board. If you have a new idea, we want to try it."

Potential new members can go to two functions before joining, which gives them a chance to see what it is all about, and Bettie said most choose to attend one of the club's monthly coffees, which are held in homes.

But first, check out the photos on the club's website, [www.pleasantonnewcomers.com](http://www.pleasantonnewcomers.com), to see the friendly faces and to learn more.

"The welcoming-ness of the group makes it inviting," Bettie said. ■

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

### About the Cover

The Panoche Valley is "a land of big skies, wide-open space and lonely roads," according to naturalist Joseph Belli, author of "The Diablo Diary," which highlights the entire expansive Diablo Range. Photo by Al Johnson. Cover design by Doug Young.

Vol. XXII, Number 26



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*Server/student*

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**Daniella Lyng**  
*Clinical sales rep/server*

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**Dave Ott**  
*Digital marketing manager*

I like for people to think I'm friendly, warm and kind. Because human relationships are the essence of life, and I truly enjoy engaging with people.



**Sam Richards**  
*Hostess*

I want people to think of me as welcoming, and someone they can talk to in a way that feels comfortable and nonjudgmental. I also want them to know that I'm bright, competent and capable.



**Bob Barker**  
*Operations manager*

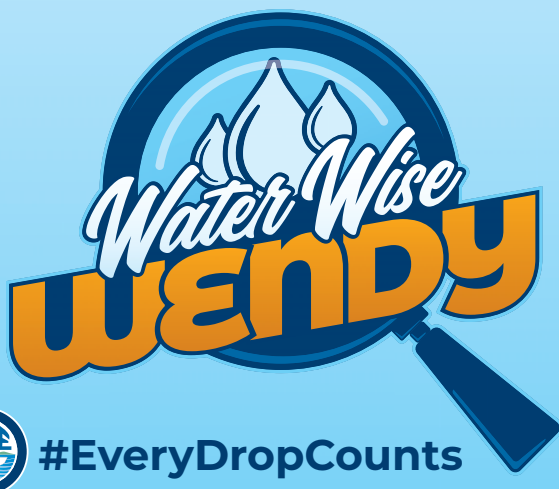
I like to be perceived as open and approachable, and willing to learn a lot about people because I'm genuinely curious about their lives and experiences.

— Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

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

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

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# Newsfront

## DIGEST

### Armistice anniversary

Next Tuesday will mark 68 years since the armistice agreement that ended major fighting in the Korean War.

To commemorate the anniversary, the Pleasanton VFW Post 6298, Pleasanton American Legion Post 237 and Asian American High School Alliance will honor and recognize the sacrifice of American forces during and after the Korean War during a special event, "The Unforgotten War for Peace," this Sunday (July 25) at 2 p.m. at the Vintage Hills Shopping Center at 3550 Bernal Ave. in Pleasanton.

Several Korean War veterans will be recognized, and there will be traditional games, crafts, dance performances and demonstrations.

### 'About the Tri-Valley'

On the new edition of TV30's "About the Tri-Valley" program, host Dr. Marshall Kamena speaks with Jim Brase, deputy associate director for data science at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to share more about how LLNL has been using computing and artificial intelligence to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

The timely and informative episode, the first of two installments, can be viewed now on Comcast Channel 30, AT&T Universe Channel 99 or at tv30.org.

In the episode, Brase explains how LLNL and the consortium of national lab partners aim to transform drug discovery by greatly accelerating the development of effective therapies for patients. "We want to be ready in weeks, not years, for the next pandemic," he said.

### Haven donations

Tri-Valley Haven is distributing items to help unhoused individuals facing the summer heat next Wednesday (July 28) from 12-2 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church in Livermore.

The nonprofit is collecting new, unopened and unused items such as Gatorade powder, sunscreen, reusable water bottles, hats, cooling towels, hand sanitizer, adult underwear, T-shirts and more. Contact [ralph@trivalleyhaven.org](mailto:ralph@trivalleyhaven.org), 925-449-5845 or 3663 Pacific Ave. in Livermore about contributing. ■

### Correction

Last week's cover story, "Preserving a piece of Pleasanton's heritage," included a photo caption that incorrectly stated Pleasanton Parks and Recreation Commissioner Joanie Fields lived in the Century House during her youth. Fields grew up in Pleasanton and knew people who lived in the house, but never resided there herself. The Weekly regrets the error.

## Pleasanton council allows pop-up parklets to remain downtown through December

City staff to draft plans for permanent parklet program; Weekend on Main still ends Labor Day

By RYAN J. DEGAN

The Pleasanton City Council voted to extend the city's outdoor parklet program through the end of the year during Tuesday's regular meeting, where they also directed staff to design plans for the private leasing of potentially permanent pop-up parklets in the downtown area.

Originally designed in response to the coronavirus pandemic as a temporary way to help businesses expand their space outdoors, city officials say that if done correctly, the parklet program — which

allowed outdoor tents, canopies and other structures called pop-ups to line parking spots or sidewalk space in downtown — offers opportunities to benefit businesses well past the COVID-era.

"You know, as I think about this, and I think one of the speakers alluded to it, in that the one benefit of COVID is that it forced us to do some things that some people had talked about but ... there was never the thrust to do it until COVID hit," Councilwoman Kathy Narum said during Tuesday's meeting.

"I would like to see the pop-ups

continue through the end of the year, and I would like that we direct staff to work with the (Pleasanton Downtown Association) and more specifically the restaurants in three areas: aesthetics, size and safety," she added.

Council members voted 4-1 to extend the temporary parklet program through Dec. 31, beyond its initial Labor Day expiration date. They then unanimously directed city staff to review regulations around parklets for future consideration, including issues surrounding the aforementioned areas listed by Narum.

Located in downtown Pleasanton, pop-ups can occupy up to three parking spaces and were initially granted temporary approval for free while indoor dining was prohibited or limited due to pandemic-related health restrictions.

The program was approved with minimal guidelines in order to expedite businesses' use while removing barriers and costs associated with expanding outdoors. However, city officials say that if the program is to continue on a more

See **PARKLETS** on Page 7



HARIKA MADDALA/BCN

Danville Police Officer Andrew Hall heads into his preliminary hearing at the A. F. Bray Courthouse in Martinez on Tuesday for the death of Laudemer Arboleda.

## Judge orders Danville PD officer to stand trial for manslaughter

Firearm charge dismissed for lack of proof at preliminary hearing on 2018 on-duty shooting

Danville Police Officer Andrew Hall will stand trial on voluntary manslaughter in the 2018 shooting death of Laudemer Arboleda, but a judge threw out the charge of assault with a semi-automatic weapon, saying at a preliminary hearing Tuesday the prosecutor didn't adequately prove the gun used was technically semi-automatic.

Contra Costa County Superior Court Judge Terri Mockler said there was not enough

evidence showing Hall's claim of self-defense in firing 10 bullets at Arboleda was legitimate to warrant dismissing the manslaughter charge before trial. Hall's defense team argued Arboleda was driving his car at Hall, and the shooting may have saved the officer's life.

Mockler said there wasn't enough evidence that Arboleda was committing a violent felony, nor had a violent history.

"The car itself was not aimed at

Deputy Hall," Mockler said.

Hall, who was working as a Contra Costa County Sheriff's deputy assigned to the Danville Police Department at the time under the town's contract for police services, will be formally arraigned in Contra Costa County Superior Court on Aug. 9.

Hall, who previously pleaded not guilty last month, is currently out of custody and on

See **OFFICER** on Page 9

## Tri-Valley projects earn fed funding

9 grants in all for 15th District; Valley Link request denied

By CIERRA BAILEY

Four local initiatives have been granted federal funding by House Appropriations subcommittees, including two Livermore-based projects, an Iron Horse Regional Trail pedestrian bridge in San Ramon and the mental health urgent care services pilot program collaboration between Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and Axis Community Health.

The projects were among nine community project funding requests made by U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) for initiatives in his East Bay district that received approval — to the tune of \$11,525,000 overall. His 10th recommended project, Valley Link, was not awarded funding in this round of grants.

The mental health urgent care services pilot program was granted \$450,000 to establish a Mental Health Urgent Care Center, providing Tri-Valley residents with a different option other than calling law enforcement to address a mental health crisis.

The pilot project aims to address substantial gaps in access to mental health by offering an urgent care-like option to provide assessment and timely connection to services

See **PROJECTS** on Page 10

# Amador Valley High breaks ground on new shade structure

Residents, businesses helped fund \$225,000 project spearheaded by We Are Pleasanton

By JULIA BAUM

Amador Valley High School broke ground last week on construction for a new shade structure that will provide students some much-needed relief from the Tri-Valley heat.

Principal Josh Butterfield thanked the community for their support at the groundbreaking ceremony at the school on July 14, which was also attended by Pleasanton Unified School District trustees, cabinet members and former trustee Valerie Arkin, a current City Council member.

"Everybody chipped in to make this moment possible," Butterfield said.

One of many improvements originally listed in the Measure M bond

initiative that failed to pass in the March 2020 election, the shade structure will consist of tall aluminum poles and extend over the quad area on campus, from the grassy knoll to the Senior Cafe. The design will cover approximately 8,000 square feet and allow for more space between tables and among students.

Dedicated to upgrading and improving local schools, the group called We Are Pleasanton has spearheaded the project over the past year. The recently formed community organization is largely made up of parents from Pleasanton including group founder and SideTrack Bar + Grill owner Todd Utikal.

After receiving more than 100

contributions from the Pleasanton community as well as local businesses and organizations, We Are Pleasanton raised a total of \$225,000 for the structure, which is the first project funded by the group.

"I think people donated to this, as it was very specific," Utikal said toward the end of the ceremony. "We made it very clear where your money is going, and so I think they'll see the results in a couple months."

Matching funds include \$27,500 each from PUSD, the Amador leadership class, and the Walker Family Trust, as well as \$3,000 from the Pleasanton Rotary Club. The shade structure is expected to be completed by the start of the school year. ■



PUSD Pleasanton Unified officials and other community members broke ground on a new shade structure at Amador Valley High School on July 14.

## StopWaste executive Sommer retires after 30 years with agency

Deputy Burroughs promoted to executive director

By JULIA BAUM

After three decades of public service, Pleasanton resident and StopWaste Executive Director Wendy Sommer stepped down from her longtime leadership role this month.

Joining as an assistant planner in 1991, Sommer worked for the past five years as executive director of StopWaste, which helps Bay Area residents, businesses and schools reduce waste, recycle more, and use resources more efficiently. The agency is overseen by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority, of which Sommer was the lead executive.

"Wendy is beloved and respected by StopWaste board and staff, and will be terribly missed," outgoing



Wendy Sommer



Timothy Burroughs

ACWMA board president Deborah Cox said in a statement. "But thanks to her incredible leadership, she is leaving the agency in very strong standing to serve the community."

In addition to playing a key role in developing policies and programs that established standard-setting programs for energy efficiency, resource

conservation and green building, Sommer's early work in construction and demolition debris recycling was "pivotal" in the passage of a county-wide ordinance, agency officials said.

StopWaste spokesperson Jeff Becerra said Sommer was "instrumental in getting a permanent conservation easement on 160 acres of land that StopWaste owns in the Tri-Valley area in the Altamont Hills."

Sommer also had a hand in supporting and developing the statewide organization Build It Green, which specializes in sustainable residential construction, along with leading the construction of StopWaste's headquarters in downtown Oakland — the first LEED Platinum renovation project in the country. Her efforts

to diversify the agency's funding resulted in doubling its operational budget and the formation of the Energy Council, a regional energy joint powers authority.

In a statement, former StopWaste board member and State Sen. Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley) reflected on Sommer's influence on expanding the agency's purview from solid waste to include the energy sector

"We always knew these things were connected — water, waste, energy — and you can't solve one without solving the others," Skinner said. "The fact that we now have a JPA dedicated to energy is significant, and Wendy was no doubt the vision behind much of this."

ACWMA deputy executive

director Timothy Burroughs was selected to replace Sommer as the agency's new executive director. Burroughs assumed his new position on July 12.

"Even during his relatively short tenure as deputy director, Timothy has proven his strong ability to lead and transform, driving a new set of aims and guiding principles that center equity and community in the Agency's mission to advance environmental sustainability," incoming ACWMA board president Shelia Young said in a statement.

"His experience, diplomacy and compassion for the communities he has served will be of great influence and impact to the agency and our jurisdictions," she added. ■

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## Police ready for National Night Out

Register block parties soon for Aug. 3 event

By LEILA TOUATI

Tri-Valley police departments are preparing for National Night Out, an annual community event promoting safety and unity, that will take place Aug. 3 from 5-8 p.m.

To celebrate the National Night Out this year, neighborhoods are recommended to throw COVID-conscious parties, such as block parties or barbecues outside. Police and fire departments' personnel and elected officials will visit and pass by events that are registered in their city.

Most local police departments started celebrating the event around 20 years ago. This year, police in the Tri-Valley are excited to participate in-person again.

"We're looking forward to getting out and meeting with the members of our community," Dublin Police

Chief Garrett Holmes said. "It's been a rough time during COVID-19 with all the restrictions, and we're looking forward to having some meaningful conversations and interactions with the members of our community."

Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, National Night Out is aimed to strengthen the ties between neighborhoods and police departments, and create support for anti-crime and anti-drug programs.

For information on throwing a safe party during this stage of the COVID-19 pandemic, go to <https://acphd.org>. To register your local block party for an official visit, go to the websites of your specific police department: Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon or Danville. ■

# Health officers urge masking indoors for all, but stop short of new mandate

‘Will help us curb the spread of this latest wave of infection’

A coalition of Bay Area health officials urged residents across the region last Friday to resume wearing a mask indoors regardless of vaccination status following an uptick in COVID-19 cases.

Officials in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Sonoma counties and the city of Berkeley issued the advisory “out of an abundance of caution” but have yet to issue a new masking mandate for shared indoor spaces like grocery and retail stores as of press time Wednesday. Napa, Santa Cruz and Monterey counties joined in a similar advisory with San Benito County earlier this week.

The health officials also stressed that fully vaccinated residents remain well-protected both from contracting the virus, including the currently observed variants, and from becoming seriously ill or dying.

Employees are encouraged to continue following the masking guidelines set by the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health and their employers. They are also encouraged to wear a mask indoors when their employers has not verified the vaccination status of their co-workers.

The recommendation comes on the heels of Los Angeles County issuing a new mask mandate for

indoor spaces last week amid an increase in COVID-19 cases, almost exclusively among the unvaccinated, and the proliferation of the more-transmissible delta variant.

“The delta variant is spreading quickly, and everyone should take action to protect themselves and others against this potentially deadly virus,” Alameda County Health Officer Dr. Nicholas Moss said in a statement.

While the Bay Area is one of the most vaccinated regions in the state and country, local health officials had recognized the potential for renewed mask requirements in recent weeks as the delta variant became more of a threat, particularly for unvaccinated people.

“The Bay Area is very, very diverse and there’s hot spots, within the Bay Area, of unvaccinated populations,” Marin County Deputy Health Officer Dr. Lisa Santora said earlier this month. “So we would expect to see, especially in more rural areas (and) consistent with other rural areas across the nation, that you’ll see increased rates of cases.”

The indoor masking recommendation, the county health officials said in a joint statement, is intended to help protect unvaccinated residents, who are orders of magnitude more likely right now to

contract the virus and be hospitalized with serious illness.

On Friday, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention director Dr. Rochelle Walensky went as far as to say the virus “is becoming a pandemic of the unvaccinated.”

In Contra Costa County, the seven-day average of new cases per 100,000 residents was 2.1 for fully vaccinated residents as of July 18 and 28.6 per 100,000 for unvaccinated residents.

“The highly infectious delta variant is now the predominant strain in Contra Costa County,” Contra Costa County Health Officer Dr. Chris Farnitano said. “While vaccines remain our best tool against COVID-19, masking in indoor and crowded outdoor settings will help us curb the spread of this latest wave of infection.”

The coalition of health officers is expected to revisit the recommendation in the coming weeks after monitoring local case and hospitalization data.

State officials have also been hesitant, for now, to re-issue mask and social distancing requirements statewide, instead deferring to local health agencies to do what they feel suits their constituents.

As of this Wednesday, California’s rate of new cases per 100,000 residents sits at 7.6. ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

## PARKLETS

Continued from Page 5

permanent basis, it will require additional regulations that address aesthetics and location.

While city staff say the program has generally been viewed favorably by residents, it has in some ways shown a divide between downtown businesses, with restaurants benefiting the most from the extra space while some retailers have criticized the loss of parking and street visibility for their shops.

“I think going to December is going to negatively impact the retailers and I’m really worried about that because you’ve pretty much taken away all of their holiday shopping unless you can do something with their parking — which I don’t think we will be able to do a lot by then either,” said Councilwoman Valerie Arkin, who offered the lone dissenting vote for extending the parklet program through December.

“The aesthetics aren’t going to improve as much, the weather is going to be bad ... I want our restaurants to succeed, by all means of course I do; I want our retailers to not shut down either though,” she said, adding that she’d rather have the

program extend through Oct. 31. “A lot of them are struggling down there, and I would hate to see that happen, especially going into the holiday season.”

Council members were in agreement on directing staff to develop a plan that would allow for permanent parklets to be located downtown in the future, which would allow staff to create additional guidelines and aesthetic requirements.

While the council stopped short of officially approving plans for permanent parklets, staff said options include creating parklets on

off-streets for private leasing as well as public areas.

City staff also reiterated that the parklet program is not officially a part of the separate Weekend on Main street closure program, which was also enacted as a way to help businesses operate outside during the pandemic by closing Main Street to vehicular traffic between Fridays and Sundays.

That program is currently slated to end on Labor Day (Sept. 6), but the council agreed to discuss potentially expanding that date sometime in the future. ■



RYAN J. DEGAN

Lokanta is among the downtown restaurants to set up a temporary parklet in parking spots along Main Street. The council on Tuesday agreed to extend the pop-up program through Dec. 31.

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# Tri-Valley Conservancy names Antrim as new executive director

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) has appointed Laura Antrim as its new executive director, following the recent retirement of Laura Mercier.

“Laura Antrim shares our vision of a Tri-Valley with distinct townships and communities protected and defined by vineyards, orchards and other forms of open space. We are excited to have her boots on the ground as we embark upon this next chapter for the Conservancy,”

TVC board chair David B. Kent said in a statement.

Antrim — who is slated to assume her new role on Monday — has a background in leadership, engineering and project management with more than 13 years of experience at The Wine Group in Livermore and Ripon and



Laura Antrim

most recently as a manager with BART according to TVC officials.

“I am excited that the Board of Directors were able to select my successor so quickly because TVC has a lot on its plate,” Mercier said. She retired at the end of June after 18 years with the nonprofit organization.

Among the many projects TVC has in the works that Antrim will play an integral role in, Mercier cited hosting the Livermore Valley Uncorked wine competition and

the Discovery: Youth-in-Nature program, which provides outdoor education and stewardship lessons to local fourth-graders in the Tri-Valley.

She added, “TVC is also focusing on the economic sustainability of South Livermore Valley Area Plan (SLVAP). TVC is leading efforts and collaborating with community stakeholders to support vineyards and local agriculture to be viable and flourish in the Tri-Valley. Success of agriculture is a key

component of fulfilling the SLVAP, which is a pillar of our organization’s mission.”

Since its founding in 1994, TVC has preserved over 5,000 acres of land — primarily farmland endangered by development — and taught more than 3,000 local students about the benefits of agricultural, habitat and open space land protection now and for future generations.

Antrim was not available for comment as of press time Wednesday. ■

## Residents clash over public access of shortcut to Mount Diablo

Pathway connects two roads, offering cyclists safer passage to mountain

By RYAN J. DEGAN

A 25-foot pathway in the community of Diablo has become the site of a legal battle over the public’s right to access it, with a collection of local residents pitted against each other and regional bike advocacy groups.

Nestled between Alameda Diablo and Mt. Diablo Scenic Boulevard, the pathway provides easy access to the trails and wilderness found on Mount Diablo to hundreds — if not thousands — of cyclists and pedestrians every year. Claiming that this access has created a nuisance for homes in the area, a collection of residents have been working to block public access to the pathway, a move that local cyclist advocacy groups say would create a significantly dangerous environment.

“We have spent over \$100,000 fighting the bullying tactics of the intervenors and protecting the public’s right to use Diablo streets and the pathway connector,” said Dave Hammond, spokesperson for the Open Space Advocacy Group, an

organization advocating for public use of the area.

“The perception that all Diablo residents are rich people trying to restrict safe passage to park roads and trails is incorrect. Most respect public safety and encourage responsible passage through Diablo,” he said. “But a handful of Diablo residents with too much time and money on their hands are challenging public access rights that go back over 100 years.”

The cut-through in question is an approximately 10-foot-wide path that sits on a portion of two properties on 2354 and 2328 Alameda Diablo, connecting Alameda Diablo to Mt. Diablo Scenic Boulevard, and is highly popular for cyclists who are on their way to Mount Diablo.

The Diablo Safety and Security Committee, a neighborhood group of Diablo residents seeking to remove public access, have claimed that the pathway has created a public nuisance due to the volume of cyclists that use the path on a section of land

that the group has not conceded is permitted for public use.

“The lawsuit is a frontal attack on Diablo’s private roads, safety, security and peaceful residential quality of life. If successful, the lawsuit will make Diablo the public shortcut for all to Mt. Diablo State Park and a way to circumvent traffic congestion at the Diablo Road/Mt. Diablo Scenic intersection. This is a result we cannot accept,” the group said in a letter to residents on June 17.

“The simple fact is that our roads are private and residential in nature, narrow and winding, and were never designed to be public thoroughfares accommodating substantial traffic. There have already been accidents and many near misses involving pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles,” added the letter-writers, who were seeking to raise funds for legal costs.

An issue that has been in discussion for several years, a complaint filed by a collection of Diablo residents opposed to public access of the pathway claims that no formal public

easement has been zoned at the cut-through, adding that the use of it by the public has created a nuisance due to the sheer volume of traffic from trail users.

The group further states in the complaint that, according to the subdivision approved by the Contra Costa County Planning Department, the easement is zoned only for “equestrian and pedestrian traffic,” not for cyclists or vehicles.

“The location of the ‘hiking and equestrian’ easement makes sense as it provides a safer route for pedestrians and horse riders to access Mt. Diablo State Park,” the complaint reads.

On behalf of cyclists groups throughout the East Bay who regularly use the pathway, Diablo resident Winston Cervantes has since filed a countersuit to protect cyclists’ access to the pathway connector. One of the main points of Cervantes and his supporters is that those who oppose public access have no standing to pursue an action to close the pathway because it is an easement on a specific parcel that none of the opponents owns.

“It is a well settled principle in California law that a remedy quieting title to real property only declares the legal or equitable rights, title or interests in a property as they exist, and does not create a new legal right to a property where none exists,” reads Cervantes’ legal brief — which was filed on Aug. 6, 2020.

“Therefore a claim for quiet title can only be brought by a person or entity who in fact has or claims a definite pre-existing legal right to the property,” it added.

If public access to cyclists and hikers to the cut-through is denied, those seeking to access Mount Diablo will be forced to find alternate routes, including the Diablo Road in Danville — which is notorious for its winding narrow lanes and fast moving traffic.

“Cyclist safety should be a universal priority and yet closing this connector would force thousands of hikers, bikers and trail runners onto Diablo Road and Mt. Diablo Scenic Boulevard where numerous collisions have occurred,”

Hammond said.

There’s a court-required settlement conference Sept. 9 and, according to Hammond, while his group would much prefer a settlement before going to any type of trial, they have struggled to get the other side to sit down at the table.

“We are having trouble getting the intervenors to respect the law and sit for their depositions,” he said. “To date, the intervenors have been unwilling or unable to comply with this simple request to provide us with some alternative dates for their depositions. We have a trial date in early September and yet cannot complete our trial prep without these depositions.”

Legal representatives from residents seeking to remove public access to the pathway did not respond to requests for comment.

Hammond added that the town of Danville has been working on plans to provide alternate routes bikers and runners can take off of Diablo Road, including “plans for a paved bike path from St. Timothy’s Episcopal church along Diablo Road to meet the Blackhawk Bike Path.”

“This will provide a safe alternative to the dangerous Diablo Road curves and help route cyclists away from Diablo streets,” he said. “I would respectfully ask that the intervenors consider this fact.”

While this specific legal issue and bicycle access on Mt. Diablo Scenic Boulevard lies in Diablo, and thus outside of Danville’s jurisdiction, the town has been working on a project to help improve safety in the Diablo Road corridor.

“Regarding projects and the Diablo Road corridor (which is Danville’s responsibility), the town’s current priority project is the Diablo Road Trail, which will provide an alternative for cyclists and pedestrians to access Mt. Diablo State Park,” Danville’s public information officer Nicola Shihab said. “The project is currently in design and environmental phases and is scheduled for construction sometime next year.”

Estimated to cost approximately \$4 million, the project details are available at [www.danville.ca.gov/853/Diablo-Road-Trail](http://www.danville.ca.gov/853/Diablo-Road-Trail). ■

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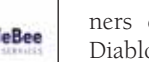
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# Swalwell's newest bills address pandemic response, homicide victims' families

Congressman cites COVID-19, experience as a prosecutor in reasoning for legislation

BY CIERRA BAILEY

U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) recently introduced three bills in Congress, two of which aim to better prepare the federal government to treat pandemics as national security threats and another to give more rights to the families of homicide victims in federal cases.

House Resolution 4491, dubbed the "National Security Council Modernization Act of 2021," and HR 4492, the "Biosecurity Information Optimization for Defense (BIO Defense) Act of 2021," were both introduced on July 16. Swalwell's office issued statements detailing the goals of each bill.

The National Security Council Modernization Act would give the U.S. secretary of health and human services — whose department oversees the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other disease surveillance agencies — a seat on the National Security Council (NSC).

According to Swalwell's office, the move would ensure that emerging

public health threats are evaluated as potential national security threats and would provide a readily available forum for the secretary to share information on such diseases with national security-oriented departments like the Department of Defense.

"COVID-19 must be seen as a wake-up call for the national security threats posed by major pandemics," Swalwell said in a statement.

"Infectious disease outbreaks bring not only human suffering but also massive economic losses and political instability — especially if outbreaks are serious enough to overwhelm our health care system, drain the workforce and interrupt supply chains, which clearly puts our national security at risk," he added.

The BIO Defense Act aims to improve the National Biodefense Strategy (NBS), a bipartisan plan enacted in 2016 as part of the National Defense Authorization Act, by formalizing a national biodefense directorate,

including the vice president and department secretaries. The entity would be required to meet regularly, hire staff and establish uniform data collection methods so it can continually update the NBS to address the national security risks posed by pandemics.

"The COVID-19 pandemic showed us that public health misinformation — particularly on social media — can jeopardize America's response to biological threats, unnecessarily putting people in harm's way," Swalwell said. "Knowledge is power during a pandemic, and government must actively promote fact-based information — while actively debunking and preventing the spread of lies, be they deliberate or panic-induced — to save lives."

HR 4491 has been referred to the Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, and Intelligence committees. The BIO Defense Act was referred to the Energy and Commerce, Armed Services, Homeland Security and Agriculture committees.

through so much — the closure they deserve," he added.

According to Swalwell's office, the Homicide Victims' Families Rights Act would give relatives of homicide victims, under federal law, the right to have their loved one's case file reviewed once the case has gone cold after three years.

If the federal investigator feels it would lead to probative leads, a full reinvestigation would then occur. The bill also would require the federal government to notify family members of their rights and to provide them with updates on any cold case review undertaken. It would also collect data on the problems with the cold cases.

The rationale behind the bill is that a new set of eyes can discover overlooked facts or new signs and using tests that were previously not available when the homicide was first investigated can lead to new information, Swalwell's office said.

The Homicide Victims' Families Rights Act has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. ■

## OFFICER

Continued from Page 5

paid administrative leave from the sheriff's office.

At the preliminary hearing Tuesday in Martinez, assistant district attorney Chris Walpole showed the court video footage from multiple police cameras during the Nov. 3, 2018, chase. Police responded to reports of a suspicious man knocking on doors.

Arboleda, 33, stopped, then drove away from police at least three times on the footage -- twice with at least one officer drawing his gun without firing. One of the officers was heard clearly saying not to shoot, before Arboleda drove away again. At one point, an officer was heard saying if the chase got near downtown, he would call it off.

The incident ended at the intersection of Diablo Road and Front Street, with two police units behind Arboleda's gray Honda Civic, and two in front, including Hall's. There was enough space to drive between the police cars, which Arboleda tried doing when Hall opened fire from the front driver's side of Arboleda's car, hitting the Newark man nine times out of the 10 shots.

Mockler said the footage showed Arboleda started maneuvering between the police cars while Hall was still behind his own car.

The videotape, shown in open court in front of members of Arboleda's family, appeared to show Hall not taking cover before shooting, but stepping back as the car got closer. An officer in the car on the other side of Arboleda was still in his vehicle.

After Arboleda was shot, his car proceeded through the intersection and struck at least one other westbound car before stopping against the Diablo Road curb. Officers broke the driver's side window to get to Arboleda, who was slumped against the seat.

Hall's lawyer Harry Stern said other officers at the scene told investigators they feared for Hall's safety as Arboleda drove away. Stern said the fact that the car didn't hit Hall may have proved the shooting was a necessary, split-second decision.

"Deputy Hall absolutely had the right to defend himself," Stern said, adding that officers made it clear throughout it was a serious situation and Arboleda needed to stop.

Walpole said it wasn't "a high-speed pursuit by any stretch of the imagination," but "a slow pursuit based on ringing some doorbells." He also played dispatch audio, which went long stretches without any talking, which he said indicated police did not consider the chase very dangerous.

Walpole said Hall "charged into the situation" and could've shot the officer on the other side of Arboleda's car.

"(Arboleda) didn't need to die," Walpole said. "This shouldn't have happened."

A sheriff's office investigation after the 2018 incident cleared Hall of any wrongdoing. Contra Costa County District Attorney Diana Becton announced it was pressing charges in the 2018 case after Hall was involved in a second shooting earlier this year.


On March 11, Hall responded

to reports of a man throwing rocks onto Interstate 680 from the Sycamore Valley Road overpass. The sheriff's office said 32-year-old Tyrell Wilson approached Hall near the overpass with a folding knife, arguing Hall shot Wilson in self-defense. The shooting is still being investigated.

The families of the deceased in both incidents said the men suffered from mental health issues. ■

—Tony Hicks, BCN Foundation

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Planning Commission**

Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Consistent with State and County Orders regarding the COVID-19 pandemic this will be a virtual meeting. Instructions on how to participate and offer comments will be available July 21, when the agenda is posted on the City's website at: [cityofpleasantonca.gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning\\_agenda.asp](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning_agenda.asp)

- P21-0636 and P21-0637, [Active Ground Floor Use Overlay](#)  
Consider amendments to the Downtown Specific Plan and Chapters 18.08 and 18.81 of the Pleasanton Municipal Code regarding the Active Ground Floor Use Overlay.

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# More than \$7B in rent, utility relief made available for Californians

‘The impacts are still being felt and they’re very real’, Newsom says

More than \$7 billion is now available for California residents behind on their rent and utility payments after state officials approved the funding last week.

The state will use \$5.2 billion of the funding to pay 100% of outstanding rent payments that residents still owe because of lost income during the pandemic.

The remaining \$2 billion will support residents who have unpaid water and utility bills. The state will also subsidize rent and utility payments for some low-income residents over the next two months.

“COVID is not taking the summer off,” Gov. Gavin Newsom said during a briefing July 14 in Southern California. “We still have a

lot of work to do, so the impacts are still being felt and they’re very real.”

Californians have already filed more than 100,000 applications requesting more than \$1 billion in rental assistance, according to state officials.

The state has also partnered with 110 local organizations to conduct outreach and ensure that all of the rent and utility relief funding is dispersed to landlords, property managers and utility providers.

Newsom proposed spending billions to fully pay off debt owed by the state’s renters as part of the revised state budget proposal he released in May.

Although the state and local governments have made rent relief

funds available throughout much of the pandemic, the new relief funding was included in a spending package Newsom signed on July 12 that also includes stimulus checks for most state residents and small business relief grants.

Newsom said the rent relief program will be especially critical for unemployed residents in the coming months, as state officials are unlikely to extend California’s moratorium on pandemic-related evictions past its current Sept. 30 deadline.

“We’re encouraging others that may not be aware of (the program) or may need a little bit of a push to take advantage of this program,” he said.

Both landlords and renters can



JANA KADAH/BCN

California Gov. Gavin Newsom announces rent relief expansions at an interim housing site in Mountain View on June 25.

apply directly to the state’s rent relief program and applicants will be considered regardless of immigration status.

Relief funding will be paid

directly to the person or organization to whom the debt is owed. The rent and utility relief application can be found at [housing.ca.gov](http://housing.ca.gov). ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

## EBRPD receives \$13.5M from state for forest management, wildfire prevention

Projects to include removing dead trees, buying replacement equipment

The East Bay Regional Park District received \$13.5 million from the state last week to improve its ability to fight wildfires and remove fuels like dead and dying trees, district officials said.

The district will use \$10 million of the direct appropriation to remove potential fuels from parks around the region while the remaining \$3.5 million will be used to buy and replace fire-combating equipment like the district’s aging helicopter.

According to the district, Sens.

Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley) and Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont) proposed the \$10 million in funding while Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) proposed the equipment funding.

The appropriation was made available after Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a \$100 billion funding package on July 12.

“EBRPD has more than 1,500 acres of dead or dying trees affected by drought and climate change conditions that need immediate

attention,” EBRPD Fire Chief Aileen Theile said in a statement, adding that the district is “shovel ready” to begin the necessary forest management projects.

Park district officials first noticed the sudden tree die-off in October 2020 and estimate that it will cost roughly \$30 million on top of the \$20.5 million the district has spent over the last decade to remove the dead and dying trees from all of the district’s parks.

According to the district, Anthony

Chabot and Reinhardt Redwood regional parks in Oakland, Miller Knox Regional Shoreline in Richmond and Tilden Regional Park in Berkeley and Orinda are most in need of forest management to reduce the risk of wildfires in the region.

“The East Bay Regional Park District is a wonderful local resource for all of us who love the outdoors. But it is not immune from these dangerous conditions,” Wieckowski said. “By removing dead trees and other sources that fuel wildfires, the

district is proactively working to reduce risks and improve safety, and these funds will help accelerate the process.”

To further reduce the risk of wildfires, the district has prohibited smoking in any district-operated park and also banned building fires outside of designated areas for the remainder of the fire season.

Information about fire safety at East Bay parks can be found at [www.ebparks.org](http://www.ebparks.org). ■

—Tony Hicks, BCN Foundation

## PROJECTS

Continued from Page 5

that are less costly than an emergency room.

There is \$2 million going toward the Crow Canyon Road-Iron Horse Trail bicycle/pedestrian overcrossing project, which will be used to finalize the blueprint for construction of a pedestrian bridge at a mid-block crossing over Crow Canyon to improve traffic safety through the area.

The new public Veterans Park planned for downtown Livermore in the center of the recently approved Eden Housing affordable development was granted \$1 million for design, engineering, entitlements and construction.

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District will receive \$375,000 to develop a Latinx support and access community engagement program. The initiative would aim to improve parent participation and student

performance in mathematics and English language arts for Latinx families, including curriculum development, teacher training and acquisition of computers.

Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner expressed gratitude for Swalwell’s efforts in securing the funding.

“The three Livermore-related projects will help create a stronger and healthier community and greatly benefit many of our most vulnerable residents,” Woerner said.

“In particular, Veterans Park will create a welcoming space for our community, adding to the vibrancy of our downtown,” Woerner added. “The collaboration between Livermore, Dublin, Pleasanton and Axis Community Health will address mental health in an innovative way. Our school district’s Latinx support and access program will provide the necessary support to the Latinx families in our city.”

While five of the granted

requests were for projects in other parts of the 15th Congressional District, \$5 million for the Valley Link commuter light rail system was the only request that wasn’t at least partially granted, according to Swalwell’s office.

Although Valley Link was denied funding this round, officials announced last month that the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has included \$20 million for Valley Link in the upcoming transportation spending bill.

“Connecting BART to ACE, in order to relieve traffic congestion on Interstate 580, has been a priority ever since I went to Congress. I’m glad I, and other members of Congress, have had the opportunity this year to make specific funding requests for priorities such as this,” Swalwell said.

Swalwell’s team submitted requests for federal funding for Valley Link both through community project funding and through

highway and transit member-designated projects in hopes of increasing the project’s chances of receiving funding, and they were pleased that the larger, \$20 million request was granted, according to a representative from Swalwell’s office.

Michael Tree, executive director of the Tri-Valley/San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority, said that Valley Link is currently in a “good position” despite not receiving the additional community project funding.

Swalwell’s other funding requests approved by House Appropriations subcommittees were:

- \$3.5 million for the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) project to update the Upper San Leandro Drinking Water Treatment Plant.

- \$1.7 million for the Alameda County Transportation Commission’s Safe Routes to Schools mini-grant program. The commission is partnering with local jurisdictions

by giving grants to support their efforts to implement bicycle and pedestrian safety and access improvements around school sites across Alameda County.

- \$1.5 million for Hayward’s Stack Center. This youth and family center at Tennyson and Ruus roads will provide wraparound services to address inequities in the South Hayward community, including health, education, recreational and career training services.

- \$750,000 for Covenant House to complete construction of a 30-bed emergency housing facility for youth aged 18 to 24 near the Hayward Unified School District’s Student Information and Assessment Center on Tyrrell Avenue.

- \$250,000 for a critical upgrade to Fremont’s emergency dispatch system, so that emergency responses are timely and coordinated among Fremont and Union City first responder jurisdictions. ■

***“The staff of the Pleasanton Weekly went above and beyond in their quest to fulfill their duties.”***

— CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AWARDS JUDGE’S COMMENTS



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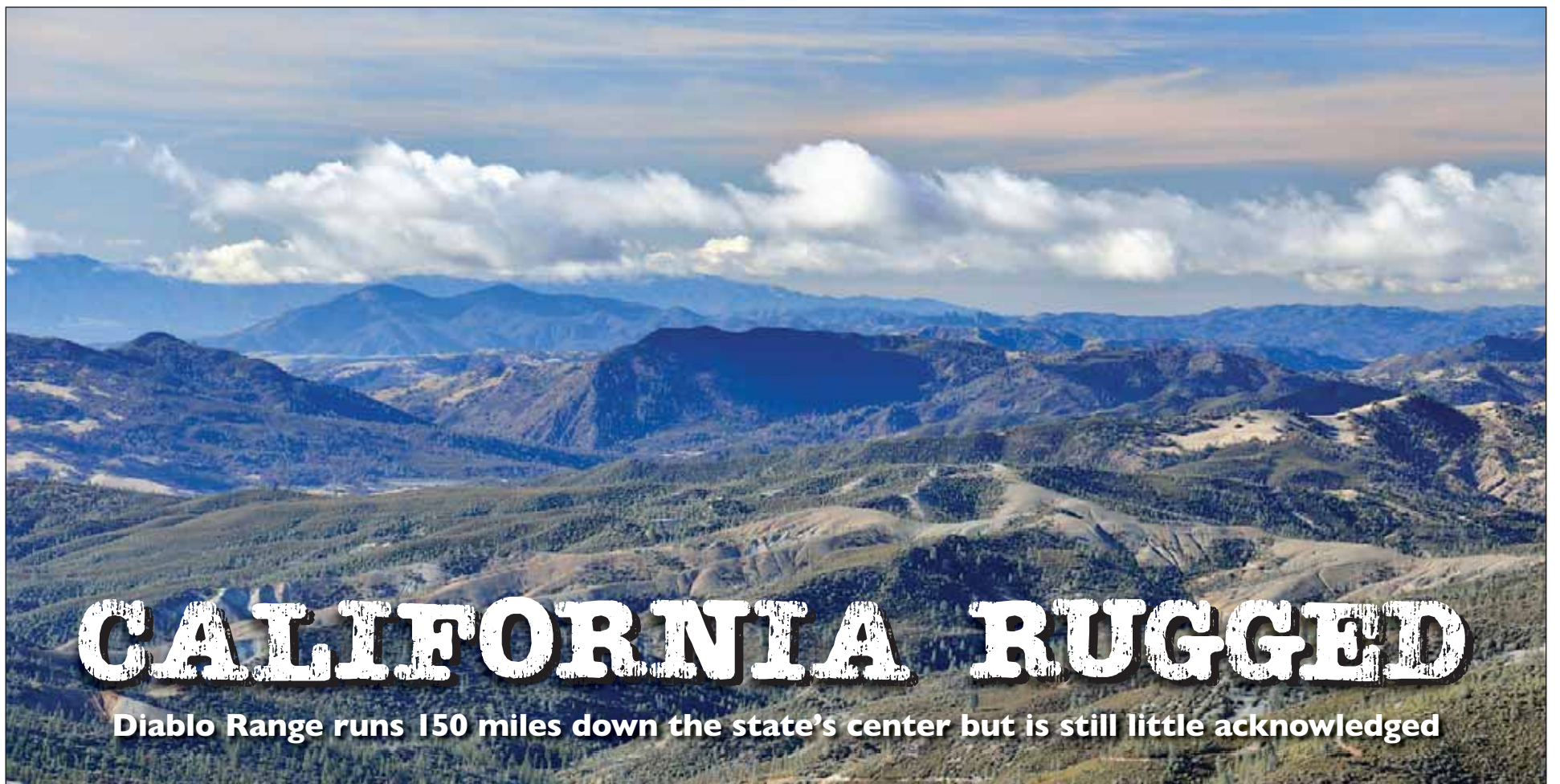
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Diablo Range runs 150 miles down the state's center but is still little acknowledged

AL JOHNSON

Views from San Benito Mountain, which rises to the highest point in the Diablo Range at 5,267 feet, illustrate the ruggedness of the terrain.

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Any mention of the Diablo Range in the Tri-Valley is likely to draw the response: “What range? Do you mean Mount Diablo?”

Mount Diablo is the northern peak of the Diablo Range, which begins at the Carquinez Strait, runs south to include the Altamont Pass near Livermore and Mount Hamilton east of San Jose, and continues through 12 counties for a total of 150 miles to the Antelope Valley. Its highest peak, San Benito Mountain, reaches 5,267 feet.

These vast mountains, hills and valleys are often not recognized as the Diablo Range even as residents traverse them via the Altamont Pass and Pacheco Pass en route to

Interstate 5, where the range serves as the backdrop in the West for motorists to Southern California.

“It is a rugged, remote, difficult realm, a biodiversity ark incised by the San Andreas Fault,” summed up Eric Simons in Bay Nature magazine, Spring 2020, in an article titled “The Spine of California.”

Outlaws such as Joaquin Murieta took to its ridges in the 1800s to escape lawmen, and now intrepid naturalists rely on 4-wheel vehicles and sturdy walking shoes to search for endangered species.

“Part of its biological wealth comes from its geology, specifically massive deposits of serpentine rock that 30 to 140 million years ago formed on the seafloor and were then lifted up to form the fractured

peaks and bandit-friendly fastnesses of the Diablo Range,” Simons wrote.

Seth Adams, land conservation director for Save Mount Diablo, now also focuses on other parts of the Diablo Range.

“The major difference is that north of the Altamont Pass, we’ve protected 75% of what’s important,” Adams said, “and in the rest only 25% has been protected.”

The Diablo Range comprises anywhere from 5,400 to 10,000 square miles, Adams said, depending on whether one defines it from where the land begins to rise quickly or by the rivers or streams on either side.

“Up here in the East Bay, for political reasons, we drew it based on

Mount Diablo and it starts at the Carquinez Strait,” he said. “All of the hills in the East Bay are part of the Diablo Range.”

Adams noted that the Diablo Range is intact biologically, with only two major highways crossing it — Altamont and Pacheco passes — and little cell phone coverage.

He and wildlife biologist Joseph Belli, author of “The Diablo Diary,” have begun to meet monthly to search for rare and endangered wildlife in the Diablo Range. Recently they visited the Panoche Valley to look for the blunt-nosed leopard lizard.

“He’s my guide to much of the Diablo Range,” Adams said. “In the Panoche Valley on a recent Friday, we had a search list of

five endangered species and found three. When you go out with him, you will find all sorts of cool stuff.”

Belli, 59, grew up next to open space in the foothills of Mount Hamilton, where his father ranched cattle. He moved to a 55-acre parcel along Pacheco Pass in 2005, and shortly afterward began to write essays related to his experiences in the Diablo Range.

“I started out in 2006 when I had this overwhelming urge to write about horned lizards,” Belli said with a laugh. “I am influenced by essay writers and saw myself writing it and sending it out to a couple of friends.”

The feedback was encouraging. “I started writing about other critters, with a different angle than



PAUL LLEWELLYN BASED ON MAP BY SAHOKO YUI/BAY NATURE, SPRING 2020

Map shows the breadth of the Diablo Range, which runs from the Carquinez Strait all the way south to the Antelope Valley.



AL JOHNSON

Mines Road in Livermore is a popular place for bikers among the back roads of the Diablo Range, which is mostly accessible only by foot.

you would get in a field guide,” Belli said. “I found myself going beyond writing about the animals, starting to talk about issues. In my later writing, I started to become a little more esoteric, writing on human nature and nature — the critters were foils for writing about life in general.”

“Years later, it turned out I’d written 25 of the essays,” he added. “The last writing was in 2013, and there have been several detours along the way.”

The detours included Belli earning his master’s degree in conservation biology from San Jose State University, and documenting breeding amphibians (California red-legged frogs, California tiger salamanders, western pond turtles and foothill yellow-legged frogs) in the ponds and streams from the five watersheds in Henry W. Coe State Park, a project that took seven years.

In 2017, he published the 25 essays as “The Diablo Diary.”

“I’m a big fan because I like good writing,” Adams said. “He does a good job in describing the wildlife and the science and weaving in his personal experiences. And he has a great sense of humor.”

“It has a wildlife focus but also a sense of place,” Adams added. “He is the best kind of passionate — an obsessed person who is going to spend hundreds of thousands of hours chasing down tule elk.”

“The Diablo Diary” inspires love for the wilderness that is the Diablo Range and traces threats to critters great and small, including mountain lions, California condors, tule elk, California tiger salamanders, San Joaquin kit foxes and horned lizards.

The essays also address environmental issues, including the controversy when the company Solargen proposed putting several million solar panels in the Panoche Valley in 2009. Three environmental groups charged the project would hurt native species; eventually it was cut by one-third and is now a 1,300-acre solar farm.

The range is endangered by suburban sprawl, energy development, proposed dams and reservoirs, plus the California High Speed Rail plans to cut across near Pacheco Pass, but the biggest threat, Belli says, is non-native species, some introduced on purpose by clueless individuals.

One essay includes the following:

**Pop quiz:** which of the following species currently inhabiting the Diablo Range are not native: opossum, red fox, wild pig, bullfrog, bluegill, largemouth bass, wild turkey, house sparrow, starling, eucalyptus, tree of heaven, yellow star thistle, field mustard, poison oak?

**Answer:** all but poison oak.

Perhaps the most poignant chapter is “Once There Were Bears,” four words that sum up the tragedy of a grizzly bear population, estimated to have been around 10,000 before the Gold Rush when grizzlies shared the land with the Native Americans as both sought salmon and acorns as their main diet. Now the grizzly only lives in California on the state flag.

“I love the Diablo Range with the kind of hard-earned emotion that can only come from decades of familiarity with the land,” Belli writes, in lamenting the extermination of the California grizzly. “I’ve seen its great creatures, from mountain lions to golden eagles; in recent years, I have marveled at the



JOSEPH BELLI

The blunt-nosed leopard lizard, native to the Diablo Range and now endangered, on the Carrizo Plain in 2016.



AL JOHNSON

When Solargen in 2009 planned to blanket Panoche Valley in San Benito County with several million solar panels, environmentalists fought the project saying this location would be disastrous since it was habitat for a number of rare and declining species.

return of elk, pronghorn, and condors. Yet there was always something lacking, some element of missing grandeur that would revive the glory that was once present.”

Belli’s next book is on the California condor, which has a wingspan of more than 9 feet, and is, as he says, “arguably the most spectacular bird in North America.” He volunteers with the condor conservation program at Pinnacles National Park; although condors were gone from Northern California by 1900, a captive breeding program has brought them back.

“It’s been a big part of my life the last 11 years,” Belli said.

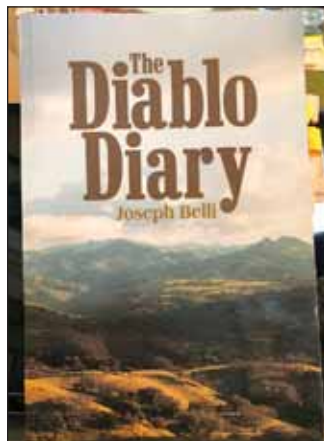
He is currently working with an illustrator to produce the new book, which will benefit the Pinnacles Condor Fund.

Early Spanish explorers were the first to write about their adventures

in the rugged Diablo Range. “Clyde Arbuckle’s History of San Jose” noted their confusion in 1776 as they traveled the range southwest of what is now the Altamont Pass, doubled back, and tried to find their way around water and marshes.

“But on traversing the high, rough country ... they felt that the range had played a joke on them, and their Spanish sense of humor persuaded them to name it ‘Sierra del Chasco’ — ‘Range of the Joke,’” Arbuckle wrote.

In his Bay Nature article, Simmons honored the past of the Diablo Range and predicted what is to come: “It is a historic mixing place, where Central Valley Yokuts and coastal Ohlones traded and danced, where California’s evermore-diverse future residents will seek escape and recreation.” ■



SETH ADAMS/SAVE MOUNT DIABLO

Left: Seth Adams, land conservation director for Save Mount Diablo, and naturalist/author Joseph Belli on a recent trip to Panoche Valley to look for blunt-nosed leopard lizards. Right: Belli, who lives on 55 acres in the Pacheco Pass and spends much of his time walking the Diablo Range, published 25 natural history essays he wrote about his experiences in “The Diablo Diary.”

### Explore the Diablo Range

- Visit Mt. Diablo State Park. Save Mount Diablo offers programs to help visitors appreciate what they are seeing; go to [www.savemountdiablo.org](http://www.savemountdiablo.org).
- Drive Mines Road off Tesla Road in Livermore, 30 miles of rugged scenic views.
- The highest peak is San Benito Mountain; the drive requires a 4-wheel drive vehicle and permits from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.
- Once a year, Henry W. Coe State Park opens the road into the Orestimba Wilderness. Learn more at [coepark.net/bcw](http://coepark.net/bcw).
- Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve in Santa Clara County lists events at [openspaceauthority.org](http://openspaceauthority.org).

—Information from Bay Nature magazine, Spring 2020

# George Dennis Dunphy

October 4, 1935 – July 6, 2021

George Dunphy passed away peacefully, with his family by his side, at Mt. Eden Hospital, in Castro Valley on July 6, 2021 at the age of 85. He lived in Pleasanton, Ca. for the past 40 years, where he provided for his wife and two sons.

He will be remembered as a loving husband, devoted father and grandfather, a passionate teacher and coach, and more than a friend to many.

George grew up in Emeryville, Ca. and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on his eighteenth birthday. While serving his country, he was fortunate enough to make the command baseball team, where he honed his skills for the next level. After being honorably discharged from the Marines, George continued to follow his passion, baseball, playing for San Francisco State, while completing his schoolwork to become a teacher and coach.

He began his teaching career in 1965 at Marina High School, home of the Titans. "Coach" Dunphy played an instrumental role in the development of a "big time" athletic program, that sent many student athletes on to successful endeavors. He was well respected by his peers, college and professional coaches and scouts, and was a pillar of the local community.

When Marina closed in 1982, George brought his unique brand of education to Arroyo High School in San Lorenzo, Ca. His blend of dry humor and subject knowledge was like no other. He quickly gained the trust of the faculty and administration and became the athletic director, the Dons thrived. He officially retired from Arroyo in 2006, but never forgot where he came from. He still attended games and events whenever he could and kept in close contact with his friends, colleagues and past students from both schools.

George's retirement from coaching did not last long. He was tapped to help build a resurging baseball program at Foothill High School, in Pleasanton, Ca. He coached for three more years and left a legacy that will last forever. During that time, he also worked with his sons at their medical supply company in Livermore, Ca., as a delivery driver. George was famous for only completing two deliveries per day, because he always knew someone at one of the stops and then had to tell the story to everyone in the warehouse when he returned. The audience was always willing to listen to another great story.

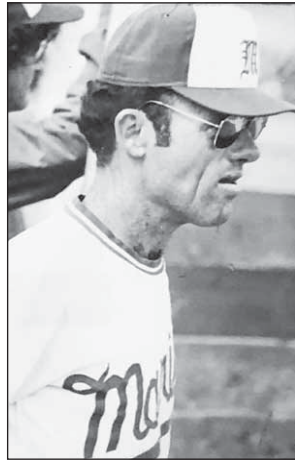
George passed as he lived, always thinking of others. He spoke of the lives he touched with such pride and thankfulness. He embodied the occupation of a teacher and lived the title of "Coach." As the saying goes "He will always be number 14 in our playbook, but number one in our hearts." We'll miss you Coach.

George is survived by; his wife, Gerrie, of 56 years; sons Jon and Jason; daughters-in-law, Christy and Brandi; grandchildren Evan, Gabriella, Marcus, Lilly, and Torin; sisters, Donella and Susan; sisters-in law Maddie and Laura; brother-in-law Tony; and many other close relatives and friends who will keep George's memories alive by continuing to tell his story, just as he would want them to.

A small, private gathering will be held for George, to be followed at a later date by a larger event to include all those whose lives he touched. In his honor, the George Dunphy Memorial Scholarship has been set up at:

[www.amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org](http://www.amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org)

An electronic version of the obituary is available at: [www.Neptune-Society.com](http://www.Neptune-Society.com)



# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### San Ramon: Cyclist hospitalized after crash ID'd as Jets coach

Family and police have confirmed the cyclist seriously injured in a collision with a vehicle on Dougherty Road over the weekend was Greg Knapp, a longtime assistant coach in the National Football League currently working for the New York Jets.

Knapp, 58, who reportedly has an offseason home in Danville, remained hospitalized as of Wednesday with major injuries after the crash four days earlier in San Ramon's Dougherty Valley.

"We are sincerely thankful to all those who have continued to reach out and provide support — it has meant the world to us. We ask that you continue to pray for Greg and our family during this time," the Knapp family said in a statement released through the Jets on Tuesday.

"Greg is an amazing father and husband whose passion for life can be felt in all his interactions with people," they added. "He is our rock and biggest supporter, pushing us to all strive to better ourselves each day with constant love and inspiration. While

many know him for his achievements as a coach, his impact as a father and husband are far greater. We are so fortunate to have him in our lives."

Knapp, who with wife Charlotte has three daughters, also had prior coaching stops with the San Francisco 49ers and the then-Oakland Raiders.

The cause of the Saturday afternoon collision remains under investigation, according to San Ramon police Lt. Tami Williams. She previously told the Weekly that the preliminary investigation indicated the cyclist was fully within the designated bike lane when the crash occurred.

Williams confirmed the driver of the vehicle was a 22-year-old man from Danville, but she withheld the driver's name at this stage of the investigation — a common policy for Tri-Valley law enforcement agencies unless and until criminal charges were to be filed in a traffic case.

According to the initial public report by police, the collision took place around 2:50 p.m. Saturday on Dougherty Road just north of North Monarch Road, causing a lengthy road closure.

The vehicle was driving northbound on Dougherty Road in the right-most lane at an unknown speed while the bicyclist — later identified

as Knapp — was also traveling northbound on Dougherty. It appears the collision occurred within the bike lane, according to Williams, who also confirmed Tuesday that Knapp was wearing a helmet while riding.

The driver of the vehicle cooperated with police, and neither drugs nor alcohol appeared to have been a factor based on the preliminary investigation, according to Williams.

The primary factors and cause of the collision are still being investigated by the San Ramon police traffic unit, according to Williams. Any potential witnesses can contact San Ramon PD at 925-973-2700.

Knapp, who played quarterback at Sacramento State where he also later coached, joined the NFL coaching ranks with the 49ers in 1995, rising to be their offensive coordinator from 2001 to 2003.

He has also worked as offensive coordinator for the then-Oakland Raiders (two stints), Atlanta Falcons and Seattle Seahawks. He was hired in January to be the pass game specialist for the New York Jets under new head coach Robert Saleh, a former 49ers' defensive coordinator.

"Greg is such an amazing individual it is hard to imagine the challenge facing him and his family. Greg's fun nature, kind disposition, and wealth

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### July 14

#### Burglary

■ 1:28 a.m. on the 4300 block of Clovewood Lane

#### Fraud

■ 11:35 a.m. on the 3800 block of Hopyard Road

#### Theft from auto

■ 1:19 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Sex offenses

■ 3:54 p.m. on West Las Positas Boulevard

#### Warrant arrest

■ 7:29 p.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Drug violation

■ 9:31 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

■ 11:47 p.m. on the 4400 block of Rosewood Drive

### July 13

#### Assault/battery

■ 3:59 a.m. on the 5700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

#### Missing person report

■ 1:13 p.m. on East Gate Way

#### Warrant arrest

■ 3:01 p.m. on the 2000 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Fraud

■ 5:35 p.m. on the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road

### July 12

#### Vandalism

■ 7:57 a.m. on the 3300 block of Stanley Boulevard

#### Theft

■ 8:50 a.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue

■ 10:29 a.m., 5700 block of Gibraltar Drive; theft from auto

■ 7:12 p.m., 5500 block Sunol Boulevard; bicycle theft

#### Fraud

■ 12:42 p.m. on the 3700 block of Nevada Street

■ 11:15 p.m. on the 6000 block of Stoneridge Drive

#### Drug violation

■ 4:17 p.m. on the 6000 block of Kolb Ranch Drive

#### Vehicle tampering

■ 7:17 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### July 11

#### Theft

■ 1:49 a.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

■ 9:02 a.m., 200 block of Neal Street; theft from auto

#### Assault/battery

■ 8:11 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

### July 10

#### Vandalism

■ 7:16 a.m. on the 5600 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Domestic battery

■ 5:52 p.m. on Vineyard Avenue

#### Theft from auto

■ 7:50 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### July 9

#### Domestic battery

■ 12:14 a.m. on Reflections Drive

#### Theft

■ 9:18 a.m., 3600 block of Old Santa Rita Road; theft from auto

■ 6:59 p.m., 1000 block of Division Street; auto theft

#### Warrant arrest

■ 5:22 p.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

#### Criminal threats

■ 10:52 p.m. on the 4700 block of Harrison Street

#### Drug violation

■ 11:43 p.m. on the 5200 block of Hopyard Road

### July 8

#### Vandalism

■ 12:01 a.m. on the 3900 block of Vineyard Road

#### Missing person report

■ 3:07 a.m. on Valley Avenue

#### Warrant arrest

■ 9:02 a.m. on the 5400 block of Greenfield Way

■ 11:13 a.m. at Bernal Avenue and Vintage Drive

■ 9:39 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Theft

■ 11:41 a.m., 3500 block of Nevada Street; auto theft

■ 4:13 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 4:26 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

#### Fraud

■ 3:22 p.m. on the 2200 block of Kamp Court

### July 7

#### Drug violation

■ 12:06 a.m. at Stoneridge Drive and I-680 southbound

■ 2:38 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### Theft

■ 8:35 a.m., 3500 block of Nevada Street; auto theft

■ 12:23 p.m. on the 6000 block of Stoneridge Drive

#### DUI

■ 12:37 p.m. on the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue

#### Vandalism

■ 7:53 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

PAID OBITUARY

of knowledge has allowed him to make genuine connections with all of our coaches, players and staff since he has been here," Saleh said in a statement. "I ask that you keep him in your prayers as we all pull for him to recover from this horrific accident."

—Jeremy Walsh

**In other news**

- The disappearance of runner Philip Kreycik, who was last seen in the area of Pleasanton Ridge on July 10, remained unsolved with no new leads toward his whereabouts as of press time Wednesday.

The 37-year-old Berkeley man's wife reported him missing that same afternoon after he failed to return home from a planned one-hour run in the hills near the Moller Ranch staging area of Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park, where he was last seen about 10:45 a.m., according to police.

Last Sunday, marking the eighth day of searching, authorities conducted a significant coordinated effort that yielded no new traces of Kreycik, according to Sgt. Ray Kelly of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

"Like the community, we are frustrated and perplexed that this massive effort has yielded no results," Kelly said. "We feel we should have found Philip by now."

Sunday's search involved the largest effort thus far, including 169 professional searchers and support staff following up on 72 hours' worth of tips and leads, Kelly said. The search included rechecking areas searched before that had limited access, such as deep ravines and steep terrain that searchers needed ropes to access.

Kelly said a separate search has been conducted by volunteers on a community search team. The combined efforts have invested thousands of search hours, he said.

"Philip is still missing and we want to find him," Kelly said. "If you know anything or have any information, please contact the Pleasanton Police Department."

Anybody with information about this case is asked to contact Pleasanton PD at 925-931-5100.

—Bay City News Service

- A Tri-Valley man was taken into custody early Saturday morning after allegedly leading Pleasanton police on a chase that ended when his van caught fire shortly after driving over a spike strip in San Ramon.

The arrestee — a 60-year-old man from Pleasanton — eventually surrendered with his vehicle engulfed in flames and a Pleasanton police K-9 unit on scene to help with the apprehension, according to San Ramon police Lt. Tami Williams.

The situation began unfolding around 1:30 a.m. Saturday when police in Pleasanton received a call from Stanford Health Care-Valley-Care about a van blocking the entrance to the hospital's emergency room, according to Capt. Kurt Schlehuber of the Pleasanton Police Department. Hospital security had asked the driver to move, and

noticed he seemed intoxicated.

Pleasanton police spotted the van stopped on southbound Santa Rita Road at the West Las Positas Boulevard intersection, Schlehuber said.

"His driver's door was open and he was sitting there idle while the signal light went through an entire cycle," Schlehuber said. "Officers attempted to contact him and he closed his door, made a U-turn and began to travel north on Santa Rita Road into Dublin. He failed to stop as he traveled through Dublin, back to Pleasanton and eventually ended in San Ramon."

The incident crossed into the San Ramon city limits just before 2 a.m. Saturday, with the Pleasanton police requesting assistance with the pursuit of the van entering San Ramon police's jurisdiction, according to Williams.

Police deployed a spike strip on Bollinger Canyon Road, which the suspect's van drove over and then continued moving westbound for about another quarter-mile before coming to rest near the North Gale Ridge Road intersection, Williams said.

"The suspect attempted to flee, however the vehicle was incapacitated and the vehicle began overheat, causing a fire to ignite," the lieutenant said. "Pleasanton PD was on scene with their K9 unit to assist with the apprehension. The vehicle quickly became engulfed in flames, forcing the driver to exit the vehicle."

The man was arrested on suspicion of felony evasion and resisting arrest.

The arrestee's name is being withheld in accordance with Embarcadero Media's policy on identifying suspects before prosecutors file formal charges for certain crimes.

—Jeremy Walsh

- A Livermore family has been on a journey for more than two years

trying to find out how mysterious burn marks ended up on their son's back in 2019.

Amanda Harrington and her husband, Corey, said that even after investigations were conducted by the Livermore Police Department, Alameda County Department of Social Services and the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, they still do not know the cause of their child's injuries.

Harrington recently told the Weekly that the now 9-year-old has autism and limited speech, making it difficult for him to verbally articulate the details of what happened to him two years ago but the family believes that he must have been hurt on campus at Lawrence Elementary School.

She said that on the morning of March 1, 2019, she helped her son Radley, then 6, get dressed for school and there were no marks or burns on his body. Later that day, she received a message from his teacher that he had been complaining about his back; however, Harrington said she didn't initially think the issue was serious as he was not taken to see the school nurse.

At home that evening as she was helping him dress for bed, Harrington said Radley refused to take off his shirt, which was alarming to her. When she was finally able to remove his shirt, she saw the unusual markings on his back.

She said that in the following days, she contacted the school to find out if there was an incident Radley was involved in. She also took him to his primary care doctor, who identified the marks as burns — possibly created by a cigarette.

The school staff members did not have answers for where the burns came from but they told her that there were about 15 minutes that day when Radley was in a "sensory room" with an aide and not with his primary

teacher, Harrington said.

Harrington said she took Radley to another doctor for a second opinion upon request after filing a report with police, and the second doctor also confirmed that the marks were burns.

Social workers questioned Harrington, her husband and their older son to determine if the injuries could have happened at home. In the report — a copy of which was provided to the Weekly — there were no definitive findings to determine whether the burns occurred at school or at home and investigators did not find that Radley was in immediate danger.

Harrington said that as of this

week, the other two entities that conducted investigations (LPD and LVJUSD) still had yet to provide their reports to the family.

LVJUSD officials told the Weekly that "when the police department steps in to do an investigation, the district steps to the side," adding that the police met with district officials and the family to share the results of their investigation, which did not find any district employees responsible for Radley's injuries.

LPD officials said they could not comment on cases involving juvenile investigations due to confidentiality laws. ■

—Cierra Bailey

## Jacklyn Morrison

October 7, 1931 – July 9, 2021

Jacklyn (Brown) Morrison died peacefully at home on July 9, 2021. She was 89 years old. Jackie was born in Livermore, CA to Raymond and Jessie Brown. She grew up on the family cattle ranch outside of Pleasanton. She maintained the friendships of many fellow students throughout her life from Pleasanton Grammar School and Amador High (1949 graduation). She met her future husband Collin Morrison at Heald's Business College where she graduated. Jackie was employed at California Research & Development Co in Livermore and then at Livermore Radiation Laboratory until she married in 1953.



They had four children: Doug from Utah, Rae from Chico, Jean from Santa Cruz and Don from Chico. Jackie spent many years while the children were young fundraising for the Heart Fund and the American Cancer Society. She was involved with local PTAs as well. She enjoyed and supported her children's activities from Brownies to baseball and basketball games. As the family became involved with competition water skiing, Jackie enjoyed many new friendships and became a respected tournament judge and boat driver.

When the children grew up, Jackie moved to Oakland and then Santa Cruz area and worked at LDS Trucking and then the County of Santa Cruz for many years. Jackie always became involved in town activities acting as admin, treasurer, a helping member of groups in the towns she lived. Traveling with friends and family and her friends' companionships enriched her life during this time. Retiring at 80 years old, Jackie spent her last years enjoying her community at Paloma Del Mar, a senior housing community in Freedom, CA, and keeping abreast of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, always taking a supporting role with their interests. Jackie loved flowers, the ocean, gardening, reading, art, history, sunsets, playing board games with the family and so much more.

Honorable mention goes to: Hospice of Santa Cruz County; Jackie's sister Donna Whitaker and her children Kimberly and Cheryl (Bruce), niece Robin (John) Kelly, and Jackie's loving grand and great grandchildren: Dougie (Clau), Skye (Jamie), Emma, Nick (Andrea), Samantha, Claire, Mateo, Mia, Cassidy, Magnolia, and so many loving and caring friends along the way who made her life complete.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jackie's name to Hospice of Santa Cruz County.

PAID OBITUARY

## Michael Chandler

January 11, 1961 – June 18, 2021

Michael passed away suddenly on Friday, June 18. Michael touched so many people throughout his life. He was a gentle giant with a positive outlook on life, loving his family and friends and giving back to his community. He was often called Mr. Pleasanton.



Michael was born in Los Angeles, California and graduated from Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton. Michael studied electronic engineering/circuit analysis and real estate law at Los Positas College. After college, Michael enjoyed a 34-year career in real estate working with many of the local Pleasanton and Tri-Valley real estate agencies, like Berkshire Hathaway, Hometown GMAC, Keller Williams, Contempo and Harris. Michael was a former award-winning realtor & ALC Board of Directors. Michael was also a basketball coach, helping teenagers and young adults master the art of the game.

Michael loved his family and friends. He enjoyed traveling, basketball, baseball, football and cooking.

Michael is survived by his loving mother, Carol Chandler, his brother Steven Chandler, and sisters Pam Price-Bergquist and Cindy Bower.

Friends and family are invited to join Michael's Celebration of Life ceremony on Sat. July 31 at 1:00 pm at Veterans Memorial Center in Pleasanton, California.

PAID OBITUARY

# Opinion

## LETTERS

### More on the Century House

Dear Editor,

The July 16 article on Century House — a great local asset — was very good but it did omit several important facts:

1. The land and building was acquired by the city in early 1970s as a park dedication by homebuilder Costanza-Wilson Investors who built the homes west, south and north of Century House. The idea of saving and restoring the old house was the idea of Dee Wilson. Mr. Wilson was a substantial local contributor who eventually became a planning commissioner and City Council member.

2. The restoration of the house began in 1976 as a project of the Pleasanton Committee for the Celebration of the American Bicentennial. Thus the name Bicentennial Park.

3. The vast majority of building

materials were contributed by local homebuilders.

4. The brick plaza was installed by the Pleasanton Jaycee over two weekends. Mayor Ken Mercer did assist in the bricklaying and did some of the exterior painting.

5. John McWilliams took on the very large task of completing the house interior.

6. There was a large community celebration on Sunday, July 4, 1976 that included speeches by Mayor Bob Philcox and the bicentennial chairperson (me).

7. There is a time capsule buried near the north side of porch to be opened in 2076. The time capsule contains items pertinent to our life in 1976. The chairperson for the time capsule was local resident/artist Charlotte Severin.

It was a good and informative

article. Hopefully the PW reporter will do more investigation on future articles.

—Brad Hirst

### Highly recommend Leadership Pleasanton

I am a proud graduate of the 2017 Leadership Pleasanton class, put on every year by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce. It was an experience I will forever be grateful to be a part of and one that I will never forget.

My class was comprised of people in their 20s-60s, people just starting their careers as well as those that are retired, and folks working in both blue collar and white collar jobs. Each month we learned about different areas of the city of Pleasanton, to get a deeper understanding of how our city works, what the needs and issues are, and the opportunity to discuss these areas with community leaders.

It was so well done and I commend the Pleasanton Chamber for doing such a stellar job!

After graduating, I was immediately inspired to get more involved in my city. I joined the Leadership Pleasanton Steering Committee, applied for and was appointed to the Human Services Commission, and then later became a board member for the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

The Pleasanton Chamber accepts all applicants that apply until a class is full, and they offer scholarships for those that need one.

As a matter of fact, I was granted a scholarship because I went as a representative from a nonprofit.

I am still in touch with most of my fellow graduates and am so grateful to this program for bringing us together. I highly recommend Leadership Pleasanton for anyone working or living in Pleasanton.

—Janeen Rubino-Brumm

### Special Olympics athletes will miss Greg Clark

Greg Clark, tight end for the San Francisco 49ers from 1997 to 2002, passed away at age 49 this month, apparently due to CTE symptoms. Greg was a resident of Dublin for many years and represented the 49ers at many events.

Six or seven years ago, we asked the 49ers for a guest speaker to represent the 49ers in the opening ceremonies of the regional track meet for Special Olympics held in Pleasanton, they sent Greg.

He not only gave a great talk, but stayed the whole day, passing out the awards to hundreds of special needs athletes, with humor, tenderness and love, taking time to individually take photos at every request. Each year, he would come and spend the entire day with these athletes. He will be greatly missed. It was a wonderful humanitarian service not many knew about.

—Ken Mano, via Town Square

### Continue masking for those who chose to not get vaccinated...What?!

After all the fuss about “I have a right not to wear a mask or choice of not to get a vaccine,” we are now being forced to wear a mask for them? What?!

No one can make you put your arm out to get vaccinated, so you need to live with your choice and the consequences which come from that choice.

I don't feel those of us who did make the choice to get vaccinated, who did mask early on in this pandemic, who did keep distant from friends/family and basically lived like shut-ins, should now be made to wear a mask for those that didn't.

In the news: CDC recommendations: “Out of an abundance of caution, people are recommended to wear masks indoors in settings like grocery or retail stores, theaters and family entertainment centers, even if they are fully vaccinated as an added layer of protection for unvaccinated residents.”

I've earned the right to not wear a mask after following all the rules and recommendations for the past year and a half.

—Claudette McDermott, via Town Square

## YOUR TURN

The Pleasanton Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or issues of local interest.

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

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

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

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

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## CARIBBEAN FAVORITES BREEZE IN FOR LIVE SHOW AT FIREHOUSE

Theater fully reopens after pandemic with Jeff Bordes jazz, steel pan player

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center is offering patrons a chance to beat the heat with a night of cool performances starring trumpeter Jeff Bordes & His Caribbean Jazz All-Stars at 8 p.m. this Saturday (July 24). Joining them is Duvone Dwayne Stewart, one of the hottest steel pan players from Trinidad and Tobago.

"We are so excited to return to the stage to perform for an audience," Bordes said. "And for me, there's no better place than the Firehouse Arts Center for this homecoming."

Bordes, who started playing trumpet when a teenager in Pleasanton, has been performing at the Firehouse Arts Center annually

for the last seven years to sold-out audiences. His holiday revues and tribute shows to jazz icons such as Dizzie, Louis, Miles and Ella have been reoccurring fan favorites.

"When thinking about the perfect soundtrack for a celebration of live music (including the rush and emotions we feel when performing for our audiences), I instantly start feeling like the first day of vacation and the first moment your feet touch the sand of a beach in the Caribbean," Bordes added.

"Just like going on vacation, performing live in front of our audiences is like an escape for me, an escape from our day-to-day, a 90-minute ride of passion and emotional release."

The Firehouse Arts Center

began hosting in-person shows to limited capacity audiences in June, but this concert will be the theater's first live show at full capacity since reopening its doors to the public.

For this show, Bordes shares the stage with Duvone Dwayne Stewart, a talented musician, pianist, composer and steel pan arranger. Born in 1976 on the island of Tobago, Stewart studied music at the early age of 6 and began performing for live audiences just two years later.

Stewart began touring other Caribbean islands in his teens, and at 18, he moved to Trinidad to master the art of steel pan, studying and performing with some of the greatest regional musicians. By

24, he was arranging and touring Europe and North America with his six-piece steel ensemble, NFM Fantasy.

"We have a very special evening planned for the Firehouse, with an amazing group of musicians," Bordes said. "We look forward to bringing our jazz version of the Caribbean to Pleasanton on the 24th."

Tickets are \$25, general admission, available at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org). ■



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

## Museum on Main ready for 2021 Family Days

'Toys and Games' theme this weekend

By LEILA TOUATI

After the Museum on Main temporarily paused Family Days due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the popular community education program is returning this weekend on the museum lawn in downtown Pleasanton.

Aiming to bring education and fun for local youth and their parents, Family Days offer free hands-on demonstrations and activities relative to each month's event theme. Held on select Saturdays of each summer month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., multiple stations are set up on the lawn that participants can visit, learn and create.

The first event occurs this Saturday (July 24), with the theme of "Toys and Games," from the

past to the present. Participants will make corn husk dolls, create propeller toys and play with retro toys.

"I really enjoy the retro toy station because there's a lot of memories being shared between generations," said Sarah Schaefer, director of education. "We really try to encompass all the ways that you can access toys and games and it's such a fun event. I see a lot of intergenerational play and sharing and memories."

For every Family Day, COVID-19 protocols are in place for unvaccinated members, where masks are required. Vaccinated volunteers and participants have the option of wearing a mask based on their comfort level.

"All this is contingent on what

is happening with state, city and county regulations; right now this is how we're functioning and how we're planning. It's all as of right now so I think the best thing is to check on our website and see what is required to participate in that program," Schaefer said.

Following program days are Aug. 14 with a theme of "Life in Early Pleasanton," and Sept. 18 is all about celebrating community and learning about Alviso Adobe Community Park. This is the second year that Alviso Adobe has partnered with Museum on Main on Family Days — Pleasanton North Rotary Club is also an event sponsor.

"I'm very excited this year to just be spotlighting that amazing park and all the work that

they do — the education work, the naturalist work that they do, I think it's going to be a really interesting and fun Family Day in September," Schaefer said.

While 2021 Family Days end

in September, Pleasanton residents can forward to Ghost Walk tickets being available starting Aug. 2, with the event planned to begin mid-October depending on COVID-19 regulations. ■



MUSEUM ON MAIN

Panorama shows the participants at a previous Museum on Main Family Day focusing on "Toys and Games." The popular theme returns this weekend.



MUSEUM ON MAIN

Museum volunteer Sarah Jane Hollister shows a participant how to use a Viewmaster.

# Harrington Gallery open with new exhibit

Reception next weekend for  
'Women Artists Show and Tell'



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"Climate Change," an acrylic painting by Rita Sklar, is part of the Harrington Gallery's current exhibit, "Women Artists Show and Tell."

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center is open for business with "Women Artists Show and Tell" now on display. An opening reception will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday (July 31).

This new exhibit represents the work of women artists who are in two established critique groups in the Bay Area. The women come from many different walks of life and have been meeting once a month for years to share and discuss their works in progress.

"Making art is something that is typically done alone, in the studio, and then presented to the public as a finished piece of work. Being in a critique group gives us a chance to get feedback from others while the work is in progress," said Rita Sklar, a critique group member.

"To see how others respond. To discuss common problems that occur

during the process of making art, and find out how other people have dealt with them," she continued.

"To exchange ideas and share solutions. Finding support and community is so important. Even more so in this day and age where people are so busy and disconnected from one another."

Other artists featured in the show are Rita Davies, Mariko Hibbett, Susan Sarti, Lauren Cotter, Karen Kramer, Denise Owen, Barbara Haber, Carol Jones Brown, Connie Ryan and Kay Athos.

The exhibit opened July 10 and runs through Aug. 28. It features works in a variety of media including oil painting, mosaic, photography, video, oil, colored pencil and sculpture.

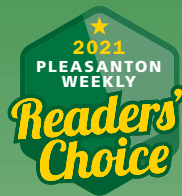
Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton. Call 931-4850 or visit [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org). ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Volunteers needed for Culinary Angels

Culinary Angels volunteers Michelle Bradley and Nafisa Lillie show off the colorful and healthy results of the kitchen skills they use to help prepare nutritious meals at no cost for those undergoing chemotherapy and facing serious illness. Culinary Angels is recruiting for a new volunteer class to help prepare, cook and package the mostly organic meals as well as wash dishes, and everyone 16 or older is invited to apply. The kitchen is located at 3701 Nevada St. To learn more about the organization and volunteering, or if interested in receiving meals, visit [www.culinaryangels.org](http://www.culinaryangels.org).



## SHOP, DINE AND EXPERIENCE WHY THESE MERCHANTS WERE VOTED #1

View a complete list of winners and their websites at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com)

<b>Bella Luna Studios</b> Pleasanton, 998-1171, <a href="http://christinagrays.com">christinagrays.com</a>	<b>Best Photographer</b>
<b>Bill Evans Farmers Insurance</b> 39 California Ave. #207, Pleasanton, 469-1111, <a href="http://BillEvansInsurance.com">BillEvansInsurance.com</a>	<b>Best Insurance Agent</b>
<b>Body Balance Fitness &amp; Massage</b> 164 Ray St., Pleasanton, 462-1614, <a href="http://bodybalancepleasanton.com">bodybalancepleasanton.com</a>	<b>Best Fitness Center / Gym</b>
<b>Clover Creek Gifts</b> 670 Main St., Pleasanton, 462-0814	<b>Best Home Furnishings &amp; Best Place to Buy a Gift</b>
<b>Cosmo's Barber Shop</b> 4275 1st St., Pleasanton, 462-2695, <a href="http://cosmosbarbershop.com">cosmosbarbershop.com</a>	<b>Best Barbershop</b>
<b>Diversified Mortgage Group</b> 5199 Johnson Dr., Ste. #110, 426-8383, <a href="http://divmg.com">divmg.com</a>	<b>Best Mortgage Company</b>
<b>Elation Real Estate</b> 127 Spring St. #230, Pleasanton, 200-0202, <a href="http://elationre.com">elationre.com</a>	<b>Best Real Estate Brokerage</b>
<b>Fabulous Properties</b> 509 Main St., Pleasanton, 519-8226, <a href="http://fabulousproperties.net">fabulousproperties.net</a>	<b>HALL OF FAME: Best Real Estate Team</b>
<b>Gay Nineties Pizza</b> 288 Main St., Pleasanton, 846-2520, <a href="http://gayninetiespizza.com">gayninetiespizza.com</a>	<b>Best Pizza</b>
<b>Gene's Fine Foods</b> 2803 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, 846-8220, <a href="http://genesfinefoods.net">genesfinefoods.net</a>	<b>Best Specialty Food Store</b>
<b>Gina Piper - Elation Real Estate</b> 127 Spring St. #230, Pleasanton, 200-0202, <a href="http://elationre.com">elationre.com</a>	<b>Best Real Estate Agent</b>
<b>Girlfriends Boutique</b> 549 Main St., Pleasanton, 484-9111, <a href="http://facebook.com/girlfriendsboutiquepleasanton">facebook.com/girlfriendsboutiquepleasanton</a>	<b>Best Clothing Store</b>
<b>Healthy Necessity Massage</b> 610 Main St., Ste. E, Pleasanton, 413-2629, <a href="http://healthynecessity.com">healthynecessity.com</a>	<b>Best Massage</b>
<b>Hired Hands Homecare</b> 240 Spring St., Pleasanton, 621-7650, <a href="http://hiredhandshomecare.com">hiredhandshomecare.com</a>	<b>Best Home Healthcare</b>
<b>Image Salon &amp; Day Spa</b> 3037 Hopyard Rd., Ste. D, Pleasanton, 484-3650, <a href="http://theimagesalonspa.com">theimagesalonspa.com</a>	<b>Best Day Spa &amp; Best Hair Salon for Women</b>
<b>MD Laser Spa</b> 531 Main St., Pleasanton, 846-2772, <a href="http://mdlaserspa.com">mdlaserspa.com</a>	<b>Best Medical Spa</b>
<b>Meadowlark Dairy</b> 57 W. Neal St., Pleasanton, 846-2261, <a href="http://meadowlarkdairy.com">meadowlarkdairy.com</a>	<b>Best Ice Cream / Frozen Yogurt</b>
<b>New Thai Bistro</b> 4301 D Valley Ave., Pleasanton, 425-7333, <a href="http://newthaibistro.com">newthaibistro.com</a>	<b>Best Thai Restaurant</b>
<b>Outer Visions Landscape Design</b> Pleasanton, 462-1484, <a href="http://outervisionsdesign.com">outervisionsdesign.com</a>	<b>HALL OF FAME: Best Landscaping Service</b>
<b>Paws of Pleasanton Animal Hospital</b> 3128 Santa Rita Rd., Ste. B, Pleasanton, 380-1888, <a href="http://pawsofpleasanton.com">pawsofpleasanton.com</a>	<b>Best Veterinarian</b>
<b>Porky's Pizza Palace</b> 2911 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, 417-1600, <a href="http://porkypizzapalace.com">porkypizzapalace.com</a>	<b>Best Sports Bar</b>
<b>Precision Auto Repair</b> 164 Wyoming St., Ste. A, Pleasanton, 462-7440, <a href="http://precisionautorepair.com">precisionautorepair.com</a>	<b>Best Auto Repair</b>
<b>Primrose Bakery</b> 350 Main St., Ste. D, Pleasanton, 249-1261, <a href="http://primrosebakery.com">primrosebakery.com</a>	<b>HALL OF FAME: Best Bakery / Dessert</b>
<b>Savior Plumbing</b> 5750 Sonoma Dr., Unit A, Pleasanton, 461-8549, <a href="http://saviorplumbing.com">saviorplumbing.com</a>	<b>Best Plumber</b>
<b>Sidetrack Bar &amp; Grill</b> 30 W. Angela St., Pleasanton, 399-6789, <a href="http://sidetrackeats.com">sidetrackeats.com</a>	<b>Best American Food Restaurant</b>
<b>Spinal Health Chiropractic</b> 2340 Santa Rita Rd., #3, Pleasanton, 484-2558, <a href="http://drspuller.com">drspuller.com</a>	<b>Best Chiropractic Office</b>
<b>Strizzi's</b> 649 Main St., Pleasanton, 484-9600, <a href="http://strizzis.com">strizzis.com</a>	<b>Best Seafood Restaurant</b>
<b>Valley EyeCare Center</b> 5575 W. Las Positas Blvd. #240, Pleasanton, 460-5000, <a href="http://valleyeyecarecenter.com">valleyeyecarecenter.com</a>	<b>Best Optometrist</b>
<b>Venema Homes Real Estate Team</b> 660 Main St., Pleasanton, 640-0401, <a href="http://venemahomes.com">venemahomes.com</a>	<b>Best Real Estate Team</b>
<b>Virtue Painting</b> 326 Lone Oak Dr., Pleasanton, 918-1797, <a href="http://virtuepaintinginc.com">virtuepaintinginc.com</a>	<b>Best House Painters</b>
<b>Window-ology</b> 4225 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton, 462-1207, <a href="http://window-ology.com">window-ology.com</a>	<b>Best Window Treatments</b>



**PORKY'S  
PIZZA PALACE**  
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PorkysPizzaPalace.com



**THE ROSE HOTEL**  
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RoseHotel.net



## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER



COURTESY OF FRIEDL FAMILY

Foothill High School alum T.J. Friedl is shining in the outfield in the Cincinnati Reds' organization, now with their Triple-A affiliate in Louisville.

## Foothill alum Friedl starring for Reds' Triple-A affiliate

### Readjusting mindset helps young outfielder overcome early-season adversity

Regardless of what the sport, there are many athletes who have the physical ability of a professional athlete, but making it comes down to more than just their prowess in their sport.

In almost every case, it is the mental strength that often determines the success of an athlete.

In a sport like baseball with an extensive minor league system, there is an emotional roller coaster the athlete faces daily. It is something that can breakdown even the most physically talented athlete.

For 2013 Foothill High graduate T.J. Friedl, he has faced his fair share of adversity and has persevered, now holding a spot and playing well for the Cincinnati Reds' Triple-A affiliate, the Louisville Bats.

This season in a nutshell has shown the mental resolve of Friedl, who along the way has suffered an ankle injury that needed surgery as well as the COVID-19 pandemic hitting right when he was getting a spring-training shot with the parent club.

After spending some time in the Reds' spring training camp this year, Friedl was assigned to the Bats, the highest level Friedl had achieved since signing in 2016.

Things did not begin well.

"The start was absolutely brutal," Friedl said. "I dropped below .100

in batting. I was pressing, trying to make things happen. It was 1,000% mental pressure on myself. It got to a point where I needed to take a look at everything."

At that point, Friedl made a call to a friend from the University of Nevada at Reno, where Friedl played his college ball. The buddy is involved in the vocation of working with people and their mental aspects of life.

"He really helped me realize that I am in a blessed place," Friedl said. "Basically, it was don't look at the stats. Think about that you have a great life, great wife and a baby on the way." His wife Andressa is due Oct. 24 with the couple's first child.

"All of that helped take the pressure off me," Friedl added.

It worked. As of July 18, Friedl was hitting .284 for the Bats, which is among the team leaders. He has added five home runs, 15 RBIs, and nine stolen bases — also among the leaders.

He is currently the 16th-ranked prospect in the entire Reds' organization and the No. 4 outfielder. He is blessed with incredible baseball instinct, be it at the plate, on the base paths or patrolling any one of the three outfield positions.

"It was all about enjoying every day and stop worrying about how I was playing," Friedl said.

The problem now — the depth of

the Reds' outfield. The team saw outfielders Nick Castellanos and Jesse Walker start for the National League in the recent All-Star Game.

It is another mental test that Friedl has met head on.

"The easiest way is to not pay attention to it," he said. "I can't control it. I do what I can control, showing the Reds what I can do. Just stay healthy and take advantage when the opportunity presents itself. It easy to get caught up in it — you just have to stay positive."

The mental strength has also played a big part in helping Friedl handle the level of statistical success in baseball.

"Baseball is such a heavy game of failure," Friedl explained. "You fail seven times out of 10 and you're a Hall of Famer. Any other sport where you fail 7-out-of-10, you are out of a job."

It is a valid statistic, but it also part of Friedl's mindset. When others may view pure numbers as failure, true athletes use them as motivation.

I look forward to the day when Friedl is roaming the Reds outfield and getting it done in the show. Trust me — it's coming. ■

*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.*

# Employment

### Sr. Regulatory Specialist

Sr. Regulatory Specialist sought by Roche Molecular Systems, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Req: Bachelor's in Clinical Lab. Sci, Chemistry, Bio or r/ltd & 7 yrs exp. Apply at <http://applyroche.com/202106-117416> (Job ID: 202106-117416).

### Engineer II, Software

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks Engineer II, Software in Pleasanton, CA for req analysis, design, implementation, testing & documentation of new features & APIs in identity services. Telecommuting permitted. Applicants may apply <https://www.jobpostingtoday.com/> Ref # 77994.

### Developer, Application

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks Developer, Application in Pleasanton, CA to collaborate w/ the IT Apps team to dev code to support changes/enhancements. Telecommuting permitted. Applicants may apply <https://www.jobpostingtoday.com/> Ref # 52904.

### Engineer II, Software

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks Engineer II, Software in Pleasanton, CA to do triaging and investigating API and Calc issues. Telecommuting Permitted. Apply at [jobpostingtoday.com](https://www.jobpostingtoday.com/) Ref: 40303

### Senior Software Engineer

Omron Robotics and Safety Technologies, Inc. has opening for Senior Software Engineer at Pleasanton, CA. Design, implement and maintain Robotics and Vision Application software for Omrons ACE product line. Mail resume to 4225 Hacienda Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588. Attn: Sally Nguyen, with job # 17.

### TECHNOLOGY

ServiceNow Inc is accepting resumes for the following positions in Pleasanton, CA: Principal Security Architect(ref #: 4915); Research security technologies and products in the marketplace. Telecommuting permitted. Mail resume to ServiceNow Inc, Attn: Global Mobility, 4810 Eastgate Mall, San Diego, CA 92121. Resume must include job title, job ref. #, full name, email & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

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

### People Systems Analyst

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks People Systems Analyst in Pleasanton, CA to serve primarily as Workday HCM go-to Business Analyst, responsible for the Scope, design & delivery of technology solutions that optimize and enable our People (HR) Organization. Telecommuting Permitted. Apply at [jobpostingtoday.com](https://www.jobpostingtoday.com) Ref: 22507

### CAREGIVER/HOUSE KEEPER URGENTLY NEEDED

This is a live-out position work, from Monday to Thursday. \$750 weekly. Childcare and Light housekeeping. Must be able to interact with children. Speak English, and non smoker MUST HAVE REFERENCES AND BE RESPONSIBLE, If interested you can reach Linda at [flowershop998@gmail.com](mailto:flowershop998@gmail.com).

### Part Time Sales Associate

Are you the person our team needs? The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in Pleasanton is seeking a paid part time sales associate to work 20+ hours per week: Saturday, Sunday, Monday and some Friday's. Must be able to lift 30 pounds. Excellent customer service skills, cashiering and retail experience desired. Experience working with volunteers (or being a volunteer yourself) are a plus! We are willing to train the right person. Please submit resume with the subject line "Part Time Sales Associate" to: [kelly.meno@cancer.org](mailto:kelly.meno@cancer.org)

## Festivals

**TASTE OUR TERROIR** Taste Our Terroir weekend, Livermore Valley's premier food and wine affair, returns for four delectable days as the historic region celebrates and educates wine lovers about its unique "taste of the land." Livermore Valley wineries will offer eleven events, including winemaker dinners, an electric bike tour, a winemaker concert, the ever-popular blind tasting seminar and two virtual tasting events. July 22-25. Visit [LVwine.org](http://LVwine.org).

## Theater

**LAS POSITAS COLLEGE THEATRE ARTS** Las Positas College Theatre Arts students will perform, "The First Time in Forever", at the outdoor amphitheater. Songs from popular musicals such as Waitress, Little Shop of Horrors, Next To Normal, and more, will be performed. 8 p.m.,

July 22-25. Tickets \$15-\$20. Visit [laspositascollege.edu/theater](http://laspositascollege.edu/theater).

## 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. Food vendors will be available beginning at 6:30 p.m., movies approximately 8:45pm. July 23, Secret Life of Pets 2; July 30, "Honey, I Shrunk the Kids." Visit [dublin.ca.gov/1327/Picnic-Flix](http://dublin.ca.gov/1327/Picnic-Flix). 4201 Central Parkway.

**BANKHEAD PRESENTS GREAT ART ON THE SCREEN** "Frida-Viva La Vida" is a cinematic documentary event film that highlights the two sides of Frida Kahlo's spirit: a revolutionary pioneering artist of contemporary feminism, and on the other, a human being tormented by agony and love. 3 p.m., July 25. Tickets \$15. Visit [visitrivalley.com](http://visitrivalley.com).

## Concerts

**SUMMER CONCERT SERIES AT EMERALD PARK** A free summer concert series at Emerald Glen Park Amphitheater at Dublin's Farmers' Market. 6 p.m., July 29, Pop Fiction. Visit [dublin.ca.gov/1917/Summer-Concert-Series](http://dublin.ca.gov/1917/Summer-Concert-Series). 4201 Central Pkwy.

**BANDA FEST - PLEASANTON FAIRGROUNDS** Performers: Banda La Adictiva; Pancho Barraza; Banda los Recoditos; Banda Cuisillos; Banda Limon and Rodeo. 12 p.m., Aug. 1. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

## Comedy

**COMEDY UNCORKED** Comedy Uncorked features great stand-up comedy with top headliners at an outdoor venue at Retzlaff Vineyards winery, Livermore. 7:30 p.m., July 25. Tickets \$40. Visit [comedyuncorked.com](http://comedyuncorked.com).

## Talks

**EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION BY STANFORD HEALTH CARE-VALLEYCARE** Join the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare for a virtual educational presentation with Stanford-ValleyCare President/CEO Rick Shumway for an overview on what is happening at the health system including new programs and services. 10 a.m., July 27. Visit [business.pleasanton.org/events/calendar](http://business.pleasanton.org/events/calendar).

**TEENS & MONEY: SETTING THE STAGE FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS** Learning how to become a financially independent adult is vital for success. This free interactive workshop will lay a foundation that will last a lifetime. Geared toward kids in grades 7-12. 3-4:30 p.m., Aug. 5. Visit [bit.ly/2SGAYeQ](http://bit.ly/2SGAYeQ). Inklings Coffee & Tea, 530 Main St., Pleasanton.

## Veterans

**LAS POSITAS COLLEGE VETERANS FIRST PROGRAM** Las Positas College Veterans First Program will be holding its annual Operation Gateway event, a two-day virtual seminar that helps connect student service members, veterans and their families with resources available at the college designed specifically for the military-affiliated community. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., July 29-30. Visit [laspositascollege.edu](http://laspositascollege.edu).

**HONORING US KOREAN WAR VETERANS** The Asian American High School Alliance will honor and recognize the sacrifice of American Forces during and after the Korean War with an event called "The Unforgotten War for Peace". There will be games and crafts along with traditional Korean dance, music, K-Pop and Taekwondo demonstrations. 2 p.m., July 25, 3550 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. For more information contact, [dougmillier94566@gmail.com](mailto:dougmillier94566@gmail.com).

**PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES SUMMER BBQ** Pleasanton Military Families BBQ is Back. If you have a loved one serving in the military,

## PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

### Meet Max

Max is even more adorable in person! A 6-month-old, Terrier/Spaniel mix who likes to play with other, active small dogs. Playing with toys and going for walks are favorite activities. He's a smarty and despite being deaf, he is easily learning hand commands and doing well with house- and crate-training. He's a nice, compact 10-pound cutie— already neutered, current on vaccines and microchipped. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue via [tvar.org](http://tvar.org).

Pleasanton Military Families is ready, willing and able to support you with friendship and food at their next meeting, Aug. 12. It's a Summertime BBQ and they are especially excited to welcome new members. 6 pm at the Amador Valley Community Park behind the Aquatic Center in Pleasanton. Please RSVP by August 2 for an accurate headcount to [pmfsg.ca@gmail.com](mailto:pmfsg.ca@gmail.com).

**MISSION READY: VETERANS LEARNING COMMUNITY** Veterans, active-duty service members and their families who attend Las Positas College can now meet, study, take classes together and offer support to one another, thanks to a brand new learning community established at the college to serve this population. Any military-affiliated student interested in learning more available resources can visit [laspositascollege.edu/veterans](http://laspositascollege.edu/veterans).

## Family

**HOT AUGUST NIGHT ON THE RAILS** Ride through the canyon on a beautiful summer night departing from the Sunol Depot. The snack bar will be open for hot dogs, cookies, chips, soda and water. 7:30 p.m., Aug. 21. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit [nryc.org/ride/hot-august-night](http://nryc.org/ride/hot-august-night).

## Museums & Exhibits

**PLEASANTON MUSEUM ON MAIN FAMILY FUN DAYS** Visitors are encouraged to set their worries aside and enjoy an afternoon playing with all types of toys and games including old time wooden toys, optical illusion toys, carnival games and retro toys. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., July 24. 603 Main St..

**ART EXHIBIT AT BLACKHAWK GALLERY** The Alamo Danville Artists' Society will host the opening of Blackhawk Gallery's new Exhibit 'Renaissance' which features thirty Blackhawk Gallery member artists. Now through Oct. 10. The Exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information contact 648-8023.

## Donations

**TRI-VALLEY HAVEN SUMMER OUTREACH** Tri-Valley Haven in

Livermore is collecting items to distribute to Tri-Valley men, women and children who are homeless. Drop off donations at Tri-Valley Haven's Community Building, 3663 Pacific Ave., Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm., now through July 26. Needed are new and unopened items such as Gatorade or electrolyte powder, power bars, reusable water bottles, bottles of water, sunscreen, hats such as baseball caps, cooling towels, deodorant, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, handheld spray bottles with battery powered fans and men's and women's underwear. For more information email [ralph@trivalleyhaven.org](mailto:ralph@trivalleyhaven.org).

## Bingo

**DRIVE-IN BINGO** Play Drive-In Bingo from the comfort of a car, truck or SUV in the Pleasanton OTB Parking Lot. Get the live game call over the radio and watch the ball camera live on Zoom with a smartphone or tablet. 6:30 p.m., July 24. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

## Seniors

**SENIOR LUNCH PROGRAM** The Senior Center Lunch Program offered through Open Heart Kitchen continues to provide curbside or walk-up lunch pickup Monday through Friday at the Senior Center roundabout from 11:45 a.m. - 1p.m. To sign up to pick up a lunch call Open Heart Kitchen at 500-8241. 5353 Sunol Blvd.

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS** Legal Assistance for Seniors remains open for free remote legal services. The Health Insurance Counseling (HICAP) and Advocacy Program also continues to provide free remote Medicare counseling. To schedule a phone counseling appointment with HICAP, call 510-839-0393.

**VIRTUAL SMARTPHONE TRAINING** Learn how to operate the basic functions of a smartphone, send text messages, make text larger, connect Bluetooth devices, make a smartphone louder and easier to hear and much more. This free, two-part online training is offered multiple times each month. Call 510-207-8609 or email: [clin@ddtp.org](mailto:clin@ddtp.org).

# Marketplace

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

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

## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

Commercial Brokers Alliance  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 580659  
The following person doing business as: Commercial Brokers Alliance, 7021 Koll Center Parkway, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Bay East Association of REALTORS, 7021 Koll Center Parkway, Pleasanton, CA 94566, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Bay East Association of REALTORS, a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Patricia Thomas, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 12, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2021.)

Commercial Brokers Association  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 580657  
The following person doing business as: Commercial Brokers Association, 7021 Koll Center Parkway, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Bay East Association of REALTORS, 7021 Koll Center Parkway,

Pleasanton, CA 94566, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Bay East Association of REALTORS, a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Patricia Thomas, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 12, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2021.)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
File No. 579208  
The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name. The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME: Commercial Brokers Association, 7021 Koll Center Parkway, Pleasanton, CA 94566, FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: May 17, 2021 UNDER FILE NUMBER 579208. REGISTRANT'S NAME: American Association of Real Estate Professionals, 7021 Koll Center Parkway, Pleasanton, CA 94566, CALIFORNIA. THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY Patricia Thomas, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on July 12, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2021.)

Call (925) 600-0840 for assistance with your legal advertising needs.

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during April 19-23 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol, and June 7-11 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

- 3557 Ballantyne Drive** K. & K. Karmaniolas to W. & C. Kao for \$1,705,000
- 6880 Calle Altamira** C. & R. Ways to Beckman Trust for \$1,710,000
- 1416 Calle Enrique** Battershell Trust to S. & S. Narla for \$750,000
- 7730 Canyon Meadow Circle #F** K. Silveira to S. Chen for \$512,000
- 70 Castlewood Drive** Zandi Trust to M. & A. Wahab for \$3,450,000
- 678 Concord Place** F. Arshad to L. & M. Filkov for \$640,000
- 2508 Corte Rivera** K. Fedak to M. & A. Perez-Barrios for \$1,351,500
- 4331 Diavila Avenue** C. Han to M. & S. Rathinakumar for \$1,350,000
- 789 Donata Court** J. & D. Kock to J. & Y. Zhu for \$3,800,500
- 3053 Ferndale Court** Jyothi Prakash Family Trust to T. & A. Somakumar for \$1,641,000
- 548 Gerard Court** Pr Family Trust to R. & S. Koshal for \$1,485,000
- 1462 Groth Circle** Wright Trust to Hoig Family Trust for \$950,000
- 1455 Groth Circle** W. Hu to S. & B. Praharaj for \$1,125,000
- 7261 Huntswood Court** L. & M. Moone to Y. & K. Chou for \$3,178,000
- 7294 Huntswood Court** Slater Family Trust to D. & V. Kaza for \$3,230,500
- 911 Kottinger Drive** M. & S. Brooks to S. & T. Chang for \$1,775,000
- 7873 Medinah Court** M. & W. Luke to O. & S. Palaniswamy for \$1,756,000
- 924 Mingoia Street** A. & E. Sezen to S. & R. Mosur for \$2,578,000
- 6884 Payne Court** Destasi Family Trust to S. & A. Sharma for \$1,250,000
- 125 Ray Street** M. & S. Nguyen to M. Firpo for \$710,000
- 159 Ray Street** A. & E. Keyser to E. Klein for \$1,625,000
- 2761 Sanderling Way** E. Mooney to Kalra Family Trust for \$1,640,000
- 1358 Santa Rita Road** C. Ko to F. & S. Jain for \$1,200,000

- 1090 Shadow Hills Court** W. Symons to D. & A. Sloane for \$2,815,000
- 2556 Tapestry Way** Dutta Family Trust to K. & T. Singh for \$1,540,000
- 1105 Via Di Salerno** Degroot Family Trust to L. & C. Coleman for \$3,525,000
- 3631 Vine Street** London Road LLC to Y. & L. Zhu for \$2,600,000
- 3839 Vineyard Avenue #A** S. Hallyard to Wong Living Trust for \$580,000

### Livermore

- 1404 Anza Way** Harris Trust to D. & T. Sanders for \$1,140,000
- 427 Bernal Avenue** P. Tapley to K. & J. Meyer for \$850,000
- 3051 Bertolli Drive** J. & C. Coatney to Ramez Living Trust for \$2,479,500
- 5659 Bridgeport Circle** J. Gordon to A. Roth-Hinton for \$850,000
- 2654 Calistoga Court** Strongone Living Trust to M. & R. Baldovino for \$1,950,000
- 886 Carmel Avenue** J. & K. Hill to R. & O. Herrera for \$900,000
- 985 Chaucer Way** Viriato Trust to L. & D. Floco for \$1,475,000
- 1771 Corte Glorietta** J. & S. Yearby to C. Gyulai for \$800,000
- 1290 Deep Creek Road** K. & G. Graziadei to R. & L. Dionisio for \$1,477,000
- 1274 Echo Summit Street** K. & S. Dutton to J. & M. Banks for \$1,325,000
- 910 El Rancho Drive** B. Gordon to Q. & S. Ahmed for \$745,000
- 974 Elaine Avenue** Patrick Trust to D. & G. Witzig for \$990,000
- 174 Elvira Street** Tompkins Family Trust to K. & C. Krome for \$1,140,500
- 6308 Half Dome Way** J. & R. Queen to Ameen Hsng Co-Operative Of Cal for \$1,100,000
- 957 Hanover Street** Cross Family Trust to J. Singh for \$965,000
- 485 Hanover Street** Lynch Living Trust to Molinaro Qtip Trust for \$1,013,000
- 887 Hanover Street** R. Robles to K. & K. Overton for \$1,050,000
- 931 Hanover Street** K. & A. Grgurevic to K. & Z. Hakim for \$1,050,000
- 2040 Hearst Street** E. & S. Roberts to L. & A. Desai for \$1,530,000
- 530 Humboldt Way** K. Jones to K. & H. Pham for \$1,025,000

- 436 Hummingbird Lane** A. & D. Piazza to G. & T. Young for \$990,000
- 556 South I Street** K. Johansson to T. & J. Thurston for \$805,000
- 2149 Kara Place** P. & D. Fairbanks to J. & J. Isakovic for \$2,367,000
- 5322 Lilac Avenue** W. Durlinger to A. & S. Challa for \$875,000
- 730 South Livermore Avenue** C. Orluck to I. & T. Hower for \$900,000
- 1235 Lomas Avenue** Huerta Family Trust to Tomczak Trust for \$1,575,000
- 3817 Madeira Way** L. & K. Yamagata to J. & R. Mosley for \$900,000
- 450 Malibu Court** Patterson Living Trust to Kister Family Trust for \$1,100,000
- 1218 Marigold Road** E. & J. Pettit to J. Tran for \$720,000
- 1087 Murrieta Boulevard #130** G. Alvarez to C. Lopata for \$425,000
- 733 North P Street** G. & L. Andersen to E. Torres for \$700,000
- 1666 Park Street** A. Martinez to S. & D. Robles for \$820,000
- 490 Persimmon Common #1** Mentesh Living Trust to K. & G. Lopez for \$820,000
- 5071 Pisces Avenue** Chappell Living Trust to H. & P. Nyholm for \$950,000
- 4814 Rhonda Lane** M. Christensen to Y. & A. Acaba for \$1,340,000
- 2113 Rivers Bend Circle** Craig Family Trust to S. & S. Bhaduri for \$1,977,000
- 1137 Riviera Court** R. & E. Fahimi to K. & C. Ellis for \$1,212,000
- 601 Sandalwood Drive #2** H. Shea to A. & R. Sakhamuri for \$920,000
- 601 Sandalwood Drive #4** H. Shea to P. & A. Patel for \$930,000

- 4015 Stanford Way** J. Holland to M. & J. Singh for \$679,000
- 2352 Stonebridge Road** Blake Family Trust to C. & D. Barcsa for \$1,310,000
- 1320 Ventura Avenue** S. Fox to B. Eastus for \$650,000
- 3077 Verdala Drive** C. & G. White to Mansfield Trust for \$2,403,500
- 517 Yorkshire Drive** E. Montgomery to R. Bradley for \$1,100,000

### Dublin

- 7644 Arbor Creek Circle** R. Elvidge to Knabe Family Trust for \$320,000
- 7152 Aubrey Way** G. & P. Pandher to K. & M. Sirdeshmukh for \$2,300,000
- 3657 Aviano Way** J. Pougnet to G. & J. Lillaney for \$1,161,000
- 3819 Camino Loop** Peers Trust to H. & J. Peng for \$850,000
- 4842 Central Parkway #80** L. Yuan to B. Fu for \$842,000
- 2209 Central Parkway** G. Bhutani to D. & D. Gaydorus for \$1,125,000
- 4283 Clarinbridge Circle** M. & J. Castillo to R. Spartz for \$790,000
- 10747 Craigtown Lane #104** S. Antony to A. & A. Risenmay for \$732,500
- 7124 Cross Creek Circle #D** Chan Family Trust to P. Grewal for \$667,000

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](http://PleasantonWeekly.com).

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (April 19-23)

**Total sales reported:** 28  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$512,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$3,800,500  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,632,500

### Livermore (April 19-23)

**Total sales reported:** 44  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$425,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,479,500  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,001,500

### Dublin (April 19-23)

**Total sales reported:** 24  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$320,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$2,300,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$892,750

### Sunol (April 19-23)

**Total sales reported:** 1  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$1,230,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,230,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,230,000

### San Ramon (June 7-11)

**Total sales reported:** 28  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$525,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,640,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,503,000

Source: California REsource

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### PALO ALTO

**147 Crescent Avenue** **\$2,988,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3.5BA  
 DELEON REALTY 650-900-7000

**1014 Windermere Avenue** **\$2,250,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/2.5BA  
 JLee Realty 650-857-1000

**3527 Alma Village Circle (T)** **\$2,288,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3.5BA  
 DELEON REALTY 650-459-3888

### PLEASANTON

**5165 Independence Drive** **\$1,950,000**  
 Sat 1:00-4:00 4BD/3.5BA  
 Sereno 925-323-5031

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).

Agents: Submit open homes at [PleasantonWeekly.com/real\\_estate](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate)

## JUST LISTED

OPEN SATURDAY  
1-4 P.M.



### 5165 Independence Dr., Pleasanton

NO REAR NEIGHBORS! Great opportunity to get into the highly coveted VENTANA HILLS neighborhood. This spacious 4 bdrm. 3.5 ba. (approx. 3000 s.f.) two story home with an expansive master suite downstairs, plus SECOND MASTER upstairs with private bath and walk in closet. Large family room with gorgeous french doors to the relaxing backyard, recently updated baths, beautiful wood floors and new paint and carpet.

**Offered at \$2,100,000**



### Claudia Colwell

REALTOR®  
**(925) 323-5031**  
[claudia@claudiacolwell.com](mailto:claudia@claudiacolwell.com)  
[claudiacolwell.com](http://claudiacolwell.com)  
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CELEBRATING

15  
YEARS  
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“Over these past 15 years, Sereno held firmly to the belief that a small group of people can change the world and that a for profit company can do good things and not lose its soul. This spirit is held in the hearts and minds of our people and we have great faith in what the next 15 years will bring.”

— CHRIS TRAPANI, CO-FOUNDER

“I have always maintained that Sereno’s greatest strength is its people and for the past 15 years, that belief has held true and allowed us to create a real estate practice with meaning. The fact we are here and thriving 15 years later speaks to the success of our brokerage. Today we honor the individuals, both inside and outside Sereno, who have supported our vision along the way.”

— RYAN IWANAGA, CO-FOUNDER

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# THE Murtagh TEAM

TRI-VALLEY REAL ESTATE

## 2709 CALLE DE LA LOMA ▶ PLEASANTON

4 Bedrooms  
2.5 Bathrooms  
2,489+/- Sq. Ft.

Listed at \$1,849,000  
2709CalleDeLaLoma.com



JUST LISTED



Welcome to this gorgeous upgraded home, the Solano II floor plan in the desirable Country Fair II neighborhood built by Ponderosa. Over the years the owners have upgraded the home, both exterior and interior. The new kitchen is a stunner in contemporary style with a large island, top of the line stainless steel appliances and a separate counter/bar area all looking out to the beautiful park-like backyard. The new construction windows provide larger window glazing and more natural light. The home boasts new stucco, new carpets, new large Master Bath en-suite, a remodeled laundry room, and many more upgrades throughout. Relax in the large peaceful Back Yard with a built-in gas BBQ island, ample fruit trees and enjoy balmy evenings dining outside. The side yard features a large storage shed, plumbed gas and 50A electric for future luxurious outdoor living amenities. The location of this home is amazing for all of the highlights of living in Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley. Minutes from the ACE Train, the tennis park, award-winning schools, shops, downtown, and great freeway access.

**\$57 M.**  
SOLD IN  
2021

**\$384 M.**  
IN TOTAL  
SALES

**\$7.5 M.**  
IN PENDING  
SALES

COMPASS

Julia Murtagh | 925.997.2411  
Amy Mayerson | 925.200.5022  
Kristy Heyne | 925.321.1253  
Veronica Peter | 510.304.8710  
MURTAGHREALESTATE.COM  
JULIA.MURTAGH@COMPASS.COM  
DRE # 01751854

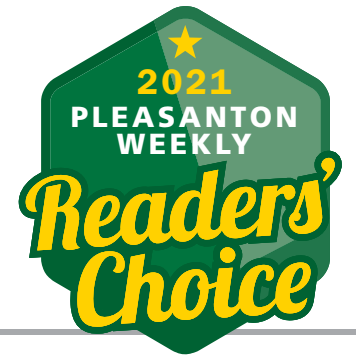


# VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE



EXCELLENCE



*Active*



## Pleasanton's BEST Real Estate Team



581 E Angela St, Pleasanton | Offered at \$1,829,000



1159 Blanc Court, Pleasanton | Offered at \$1,495,000



5120 Crocus Way, Livermore | Offered at \$779,000

*Pending*



1034 Germano Way, Pleasanton



3735 Grillo Ct, Pleasanton



6871 Calle Altamira, Pleasanton



810 Chateli Ct, Pleasanton



1515 Greenwood Rd, Pleasanton



**Representing Buyer**

3926 Fairlands Dr, Pleasanton



446 W Santa Inez Ct, Mountain House



3988 Stanley Blvd, Pleasanton



4125 Lucca Ct, Pleasanton



**Representing Buyer**

211 Donner Ave, Livermore



436 Persimmon Cmn #5, Livermore



3555 Norton Way, Pleasanton



*Liz Venema*

VENEMA HOMES TEAM

