

# Pleasanton Weekly

Seniors  
Living Well

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

VOL. XXII, NUMBER 29 • AUGUST 13, 2021

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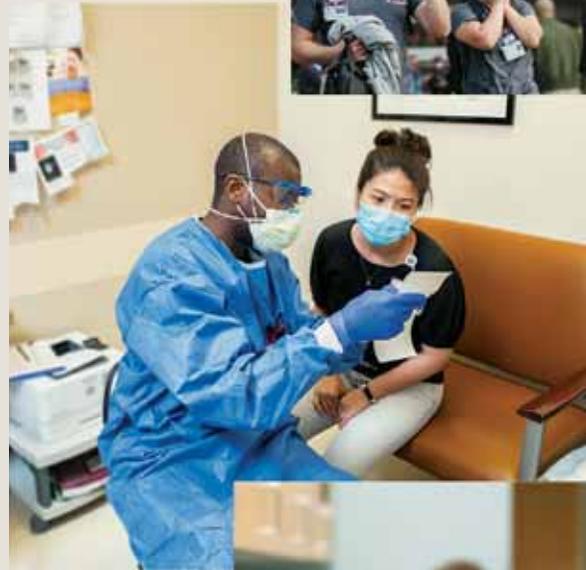


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# VALLEY VIEWS



By **DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

## Puzzled in Pleasanton

Sherline Montgomery is more than a jigsaw puzzle enthusiast. “It is an addiction — an obsession,” she told me with a laugh.

The 78-year-old Pleasanton resident began to connect the pieces only six years ago, and as of last week she’d reached her goal of 777 puzzles completed: some were 500, 750 and 1,500 pieces, but most were 1,000. One was 2,000.

“It used to take me a week to do one, then I did a couple a week, and now I have the challenge of doing one a day,” Sherline said. “I’ve done a few 500s — those I can do in 3-1/2 hours.”

“First I do the frame and sort categories by color, people’s faces or animals, and words. I put them together and go from there,” she explained.

Sherline taught school for 30 years, at Vintage Hills, Alisal and Walnut Grove elementaries, and Valley Christian.

“I’m an achiever, and I miss so much working with kids — this gives me a little bit of satisfaction that I’m completing something,” Sherline said. “They are supposed to help your brain but I see no evidence of that.”

A friend started her on puzzles when they were traveling in Europe, and she was hooked. Back home, at first she worked on the dining room table but soon moved into the kitchen for better light. And she only puzzles when it is daylight.

“If I hadn’t been a teacher I would’ve liked to have been a detective,” Sherline said. “I think of all these puzzles like detective work — looking for clues, putting things together, and it all ends up being OK.”

The picture is important to her, and she enjoyed a series of bedtime story puzzles. Her current favorites are by Charles Wysocki, an American painter who created scenes from the horse and buggy era.

“He always has a U.S. flag in them and horses,” Sherline said. “I’m an equestrian from way back, and I will do them twice.”

Friends have presented her with puzzles that are all-white or all-black.

“I say, ‘I thought you cared about me,’” she said. “I don’t want to do that kind. I did one — it was mostly all black with a little bit of blur of cat — and I’m surprised I finished it.”

Sherline’s daughter Melinda,



ROBERT MONTGOMERY

Sherline Montgomery and Lucy with a completed 1,000-piece puzzle.

who lives in Portland, sent her Van Gogh’s “Starry Night,” saying she needed a challenge. But she completed it quickly and sent back a photo. Her son Rob lives in Lafayette, and when he stops by she insists he fit together a couple of pieces before leaving.

Robert, her husband of 57 years, sometimes will linger by the table and make a few matches if she asks, but he is more interested in playing golf, Sherline said.

Her most faithful helper is Lucy, her little 3-month-old rescue dog, who is usually by her side, trying to sneak a piece to nibble.

Sherline shops for puzzles at Barnes & Noble, Target, Hallmark, on Amazon, plus people buy them for her.

“I get kind of panicked if I don’t have a puzzle ready to go,” she said. “But it’s hard to find puzzles I haven’t done already.”

Then she has to figure out what to do with her completed puzzles. She framed an especially difficult one — a tall brown bear with butterflies flitting about his head — but gave it away. Before she breaks them up, Robert takes photos, which she keeps in an album.

Sherline tries to find other enthusiasts to enjoy her puzzles, and she has dropped some off at the Senior Center. Unless Lucy has chewed on the pieces.

“I can’t give those away,” she said.

Oh, and just because Sherline has reached her goal of 777 doesn’t mean she’s stopped.

“It keeps me entertained,” she said, “and now everyone is saying, ‘Make it 1,000.’” ■

*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

Water exercise sessions, popular among local senior women, have been in full swing this summer despite a shortfall of instructors at Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center in Pleasanton. Photo by Leila Touati. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

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## Do you feel ready for in-person school to resume?



**Cindy Gravello**  
*Stay-at-home grandma*

Absolutely not. I don't think the schools are prepared to keep the environment clean and safe against coronavirus variants. It will be too stressful for the teachers to have to not only try to teach, but at the same time also try to maintain safe social distances and practices between and among their students while still having to worry that someone is going to get sick. It's just too much.



**Abra De La Torre**  
*Educator*

Heck yeah because as an educator I had the chance to see how different online vs. in-person learning is. A physical classroom involves so much more learning, not just in terms of academics and education, but in terms of interpersonal experiences and interactions, that just cannot be replicated remotely. As a mother of college-aged children, hearing their extreme dissatisfaction with remote learning really confirmed for me that our kids need to go to school.



**Nesto De La Torre**  
*Program manager*

I'm ready for it. I just hope that as many people as possible will get vaccinated because the kids and teachers need to be back in school safely. It is only through vaccinations that break-through illnesses can be minimized and perhaps even avoided entirely. Fingers crossed.



**Brianna Lorenzo**  
*Paralegal*

Oh yes. My daughter did a year of online kindergarten, and while she did really well, I'm still very eager for her to have and benefit from a real, in-person school experience.



**Summer McCarthy**  
*Middle school student*

I am so ready because last year we couldn't be in school. So going back to school almost feels like redoing the same level of school that I did last year, remotely. And I don't want to do that again.

— Compiled by Nancy Lewis

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

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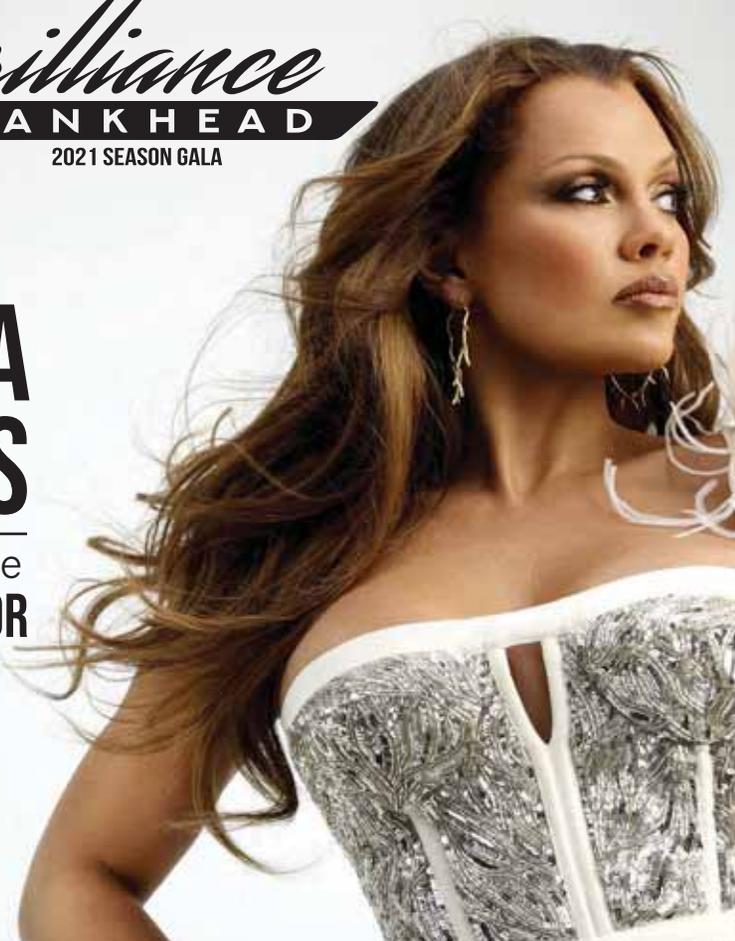
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## DIGEST

### New cases at Sunrise

Three new cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed at Sunrise of Pleasanton, forcing the senior living community to implement a series of strict protocols for at least two weeks to limit potential spread, including locking down to “essential” visitors only.

The positive tests were registered in two staff members who are not care providers and one resident at the Pleasant Hill Road complex, according to Sunrise external emails obtained by the Weekly.

It was unclear if additional cases developed since Friday or whether the three original cases were connected to each other. An email to Sunrise officials for comment was not returned as of press time Wednesday.

### AC Boost loans

Alameda County announced the opening of applications Monday for more than \$12 million in down payment assistance loans for residents seeking to buy their first home.

Applications for the AC Boost loan program, which will disburse loans of up to \$210,000 to chosen recipients, will be open through Aug. 30, according to the county.

As many as 70 households will receive loans and recipients must live in, work in or have been displaced from Alameda County in the last 10 years.

Applicants must also be qualified for a first-time mortgage and must not have owned a home in the previous three years. Approved loans will also not accrue interest or be subject to minimum monthly payments. Visit [ACBoost.org](http://ACBoost.org)

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

### No signs of foul play

The investigation continues into the death of Berkeley ultramarathon runner Philip Kreycik, whose body was discovered in a remote part of Pleasanton Ridge on Aug. 3 — 24 days after he was first reported missing when he didn't return home from a late-morning run.

Initial autopsy results found no signs of pre-death trauma nor foul play, and nothing suspicious was unearthed at the scene, Alameda County sheriff's Sgt. Ray Kelly told the Weekly on Monday.

The final coroner's bureau report is pending additional analysis, including toxicology testing results. A cause of death has not been confirmed, but Kelly cautioned that “likely we may not get a determination unfortunately.” Investigators are also working to determine when Kreycik died. ■

## Family, city reach \$5.9M settlement in lawsuit over Jacob Bauer's death

Deal also requires meeting between parents, PPD leadership on mental health response

By JEREMY WALSH

The city of Pleasanton and the parents of Jacob Bauer have agreed to settle the lawsuit brought over the local man's death in police custody for \$5.9 million and a private meeting with Pleasanton Police Department leadership to discuss policy changes around mental health response.

The agreement, which averts a potential jury trial, sees John and Rose Bauer dismiss their federal litigation while the city and the individual police officers listed as defendants admit no fault or liability for Jacob

Bauer's 2018 death and continue to deny the allegations.

“No parent should ever have to live with the visions of the violent death of their child,” Rose Bauer said in a statement released through the family's attorneys on Tuesday morning. “Jacob lost his life over a few broken bottles at a grocery store. I hope this settlement creates real changes to stop police from using excessive force against the mentally ill.”

“An important part of this settlement is our ability to meet directly with the Pleasanton Chief of Police to discuss and see implemented

critically needed policy changes which help support the mentally ill when they encounter PPD,” John Bauer added.

Pleasanton city attorney Dan Sodergren confirmed the settlement Tuesday and explained the decision was made by the city's insurance pool, the Bay Cities Joint Powers Insurance Authority (BCJPIA) and its excess insurance pool California Affiliated Risk Management Authorities (CARMA).

“Under the Memorandum of Coverage between the City and BCJPIA, BCJPIA (and CARMA), at its own

expense, has the right to assume control of the negotiation and settlement of any case which it determines, in its sole discretion, to have a reasonable probability of resulting in an ultimate net loss in excess of the City's retained limit (deductible) of \$250,000. Based on this provision, BCJPIA assumed control of this case. I do not have any additional comments,” Sodergren told the Weekly.

Jacob Bauer died at Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare hospital on Aug. 1, 2018, hours after being

See **BAUER** on Page 7



JEREMY WALSH

Some Pleasanton elected leaders want city staff to completely run the annual Leadership Pleasanton program, absorbing responsibilities currently assumed by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce.

## Leadership Pleasanton at the crossroads

Mayor Brown, other city electeds propose overhaul; chamber CEO defends program against 'elitism' claims

By JULIA BAUM

Several Pleasanton City Council members have proposed overhauling the long-running Leadership Pleasanton program by dissolving a partnership between the city and the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, which has helped organize and promote the program for 32 years, and having the city directly manage it instead, among other potential changes.

Mayor Karla Brown told the Weekly on Monday that she is “not anti-chamber at all” but said,

“I think the city government can do a city-focused (program), and we can do it better for free.”

“I want it to be available for everyone to learn about their own government,” Brown said. “I think it should be free, run by the city and available to any residents, whether they can afford it or not.”

Each year, 30 to 32 participants from local businesses, government, professional and social service organizations, and the Pleasanton community at-large,

are selected to participate in the leadership development program.

The program's goals “are very simple” and about “really getting people more engaged in our community,” chamber President/CEO Steve Van Dorn said in a recent interview.

“It's really to educate community members who want to learn more about how the city operates ... so they'll want to get more involved with being a part

See **LEADERSHIP** on Page 8

## VHS plans to open new surgery center

Nonprofit's veterinary project named in honor of late Phil Scholz

By CIERRA BAILEY

Valley Humane Society on Monday announced its plans to open a brand-new veterinary surgery center in early 2022, honoring Phil Scholz, a Pleasanton resident who died in 2014 while rescuing another man from an oncoming train.

The new Pleasanton facility — to be formally named the Phil Scholz Veterinary Surgery Center — will offer local pets non-emergency services regardless of their family's financial constraints, Valley Humane Society officials said in a statement.

“Our pets are part of the family, and addressing the lack of affordable, accessible veterinary care within the community is a key factor in creating healthy families,” Executive Director Melanie Sadek said.

The surgery center will be located downtown at 120 Spring St., approximately one mile from the nonprofit's shelter and headquarters at 3670 Nevada St.

Scholz and wife Emily were both animal lovers and had four rescue pets together. Emily started as a volunteer at Valley Humane Society and joined the staff as the adoption and foster manager in November

See **SURGERY** on Page 7

# Dying of thirst?

Residents ask for help for wildlife 'desperate for water' with creek dried up

By GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

Creeks in Pleasanton are dry and, according to residents of one neighborhood, animals are literally dying of thirst.

Early-morning walkers in Vintage Hills said two dead deer have been seen last week in the Bernal and Kottinger residential developments; one was a fawn.

"Wildlife are dying right within our city limits," resident Helen Mumler wrote in a letter sent to Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown and the members of the City Council on Aug. 5.

"The deer, wild turkeys, coyotes

and foxes are desperate for water right this moment," she said. "The creek at the bottom of Touriga (Drive) is dried up."

"As an animal lover, it breaks my heart to see the unprecedented hysteria of the wildlife scrambling past my house to a dry creek," Mumler also wrote, adding that as many as 40 neighbors have expressed concern.

However, according to Pleasanton Police Department's Lt. Brandon Stocking, its animal control department are not seeing wildlife deaths from dehydration.

After receiving Mumler's email

Aug. 5, Stocking contacted a game warden at the Department of Fish and Wildlife, who said "deer are very resilient and able to find what they need to survive."

"(The warden) said even if the creek bed is dry deer will find a spring, and they get a majority of their hydration through the vegetation they eat," Stocking relayed, adding that there are a number of springs in the Kottinger area.

Residents have tried to put kids' plastic pools and buckets filled with water to help the animals.

"One scientist from Livermore

Labs hand-carried a bucket down to a playground and keeps it filled," Mumler recalled. She said another neighbor brought a plastic swimming pool for toddlers and filled it up for the animals.

In an email last Friday morning to city officials, she expressed the urgency of the problem.

"This cannot wait for a council meeting," she wrote. "Several of your residents here in the hills, including me, cried when we saw the desperate does running on Touriga Drive, hunting hysterically for water near the creek."

"We need to do something quickly," Mumler said Friday morning. "This is an affluent community and we need to step up."

She offered city officials a number

of ideas that could be implemented almost immediately, including borrowing or renting the large stainless steel livestock troughs from Alameda County Fairgrounds and having city employees and volunteers place and fill the troughs with water.

Bringing water to the animals, though, might be detrimental instead of helpful, Stocking explained.

The game warden said that providing water will lead to deer congregating, which can spread disease. It can also draw them into areas with more humans and vehicles, which can lead to them being hit.

"If you see a dead deer that was obviously not hit by a vehicle, it's most likely from disease, not dehydration," Stocking said. ■

## Making strides for inclusivity

LLNL partnership supports name changes; Bauer-Kahan bill adds nonbinary to death certificates

By CIERRA BAILEY

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and Assembly-member Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) each recently announced different initiatives that aim to foster more inclusivity for transgender and nonbinary people.

LLNL is one of 17 U.S. national laboratories entering a partnership with prominent publishers, journals and other organizations in scientific publishing to support name-change

requests from researchers on past published papers, lab officials said in a statement last month.

Earlier in the same month, Bauer-Kahan's Assembly Bill 439, which adds a nonbinary gender option on death certificates, was signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Bauer-Kahan, whose district includes the Tri-Valley, cited the significance and value of a person's identity in a statement announcing the new law.

"I'm so thankful for the governor's signature and that this bill has become law. For far too long, nonbinary individuals have had their identities stolen from them upon their death. Forcing these individuals to be inaccurately identified, violates their right to equal treatment, and is simply unacceptable" Bauer-Kahan said in a statement.

"AB 439 ensures that nonbinary people will be respected and remembered as who they were," she added.

LLNL officials shared similar sentiments in their own statement detailing the new partnership.

"The importance of identity is a foundational element of any individual," said Tony Baylis, director of LLNL's diversity, equity and inclusion programs. "It provides a perspective of who you are and how others view you. This name change initiative

supports researchers and scientists who want to ensure their publications and research represents them in a way that contributes to their identity and well-being."

He added, "LLNL is a proud collaborator along with our 16 other national laboratories and the 13 publishers who have partnered to support this effort, our LGBTQ+ community and anyone else that wants to change their name in publications. This initiative demonstrates one example of our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion at LLNL."

Prior to this effort, researchers would have to initiate name-change requests with each publisher of their past papers. This new initiative aims to streamline the process by offering an official validation mechanism to all involved by enabling researchers to ask their respective institutions to

pursue name changes on their behalf directly with the publishers and journals.

"As a trans scientist, having publications under my birth name causes me to have mixed feelings about past work of which I'm otherwise proud," said Amalie Trewartha, research scientist at Toyota Research Institute and materials science research affiliate at Lawrence Berkeley Lab.

"I am faced with the dilemma of either hiding certain parts of it or outing myself. Having my name updated on my previous publications would be enormously meaningful. It would allow me to make a first impression on my peers primarily through my merits as a scientist and it would allow me to unreservedly embrace and be proud of research from all stages of my career," Trewartha added. ■

**THE CITY OF PLEASANTON**



**AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS**

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

**City Council**  
Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

- Receive status update regarding the Livermore Airport, including recent findings of Phase 1 Noise Studies
- Provide City Council policy direction regarding Weekend on Main Street Closure Program

**Human Services Commission**  
Monday, August 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

- Review of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER) for Fiscal Year 2020-2021

**Economic Vitality Committee**  
Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 7:30 a.m.

- Discussion regarding Tri-Valley Market, Industry Trends, and Strategizing for the Future

**Housing Commission**  
Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

- Review of Housing & Human Services Grant (HMSG) Program Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for Housing-Related Programs

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## BAUER

Continued from Page 5

restrained following a physical confrontation with Pleasanton police officers outdoors in the Oak Hills Shopping Center after the 38-year-old man was accused of breaking bottles inside Raley's.

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office cleared officers Brad Middleton and Jonathan Chin of criminal culpability for Bauer's death in 2020, concluding the use of force was reasonable given the circumstances and citing the county coroner's determination of methamphetamine toxicity as the primary cause of death.

Bauer's parents, who sued the city and police officials initially in June 2019 for wrongful death and violating Bauer's constitutional rights, disagreed with the official conclusions, including arguing their third-party autopsy determined their son died as a result of asphyxia during physical restraint by police.

The interaction between the two first-arriving officers and Bauer turned physical on the grass strip behind Jim's Country Style Kitchen along Mission Drive just before 3 p.m. on Aug. 1, 2018, with Bauer becoming combative after officers grabbed his arms and wrists to detain him, according to police bodycam footage and the DA's report.

Amid the five-minute struggle, which saw Bauer kick and scratch Chin and police officers, including backup arrivals, deliver blows with their hands, batons and several Taser stuns, Bauer was ultimately handcuffed with multiple sets of linked cuffs. No gunshots were fired during the exchange.

Police then restrained a resistant Bauer with a body-wrap device as well as a spit mask. A paramedic also administered a sedative at 3:19 p.m.

According to the DA's report, paramedics removed the spit mask nine minutes later inside the ambulance to find Bauer's face bluish in color and moments later they could not find a pulse. He was pronounced dead at 4:15 p.m.

The county coroner cited acute meth toxicity as Bauer's cause of death, with contributing factors (not resulting in the underlying cause) to include probable mechanical



BAUER FAMILY

Pleasanton native Jacob Bauer died in police custody in 2018.

asphyxia, cardiac hypertrophy and morbid obesity.

In addition to police actions depicted in the video footage and the conclusion on cause of death, among the aspects of the situation that drew the ire of Bauer's parents was that they said they called Pleasanton PD at least four times in the weeks before Aug. 1, 2018 to try to get their son remanded for a mental health evaluation while observing his emotional deterioration but were told there was nothing the police could do.

Pleasanton Police Chief David Swing responded on Tuesday to the settlement by "the city's insurance carrier," saying in part, "The Alameda County District Attorney's Office conducted an extensive investigation into the conduct of the officers and determined none of the involved officers committed a crime related to the level of force used.

"The Pleasanton Police Department values the sanctity of life and continues to extend its most sincere condolences to the Bauer family," added Swing, who was not police chief at the time Bauer's death occurred.

The settlement stipulates that all parties agree the deal "shall not constitute or be construed as an admission of liability or fault by (the) defendants or any of the employees of the city of Pleasanton," while also acknowledging that the defendants still "dispute plaintiffs' allegations and that this agreement is made by the parties to avoid the risk of litigation and trial."

The lawsuit is dismissed with prejudice, meaning the civil case is closed permanently and the parents

cannot reintroduce similar litigation in the future.

The main non-monetary term of the settlement, from the Bauers' perspective, is a requirement for a conference call via Zoom between themselves and Chief Swing and/or Capt. Larry Cox.

The "listening session" must include 10-20 minutes for the Bauers to "provide their input regarding policy changes at PPD with regard to PPD's responses to people who may be suffering from a mental health crisis."

"The Chief and/or Captain will then be able to respond to the Bauers' input, including what PPD has implemented in relation to dealing with people who may be suffering from a mental health crisis, including since Jacob Bauer's death, and what PPD is contemplating in the future in responding to calls involving people who may be suffering from a mental health crisis," the agreement reads.

The settlement does not mandate that any policy changes be implemented by Pleasanton PD.

The Bauer case marks the second time the city, via its insurance pool, settled a lawsuit over an in-custody death. In April 2018, Pleasanton agreed to terms to dismiss a federal civil case for \$285,000 and no admission of wrongdoing for the 2015 fatal police shooting of John Deming Jr.

The \$5.9 million figure reached in the Bauer case is among the largest financial settlements for a police custody death in the Bay Area.

The breakdown will include \$1,647,057.32 to John Bauer and \$1,650,643.82 to Rose Bauer for compensatory damages and the remaining \$2,602,298.86 to the Gwilliam law firm for attorney fees and costs, according to the terms. It was unclear whether or how the Cardozo Law Offices, also cited as an attorney for the plaintiffs, will receive a cut.

The Bauers signed the settlement agreement on July 23, but news of the deal was first publicized on Tuesday, by their attorneys. ■

*Editor's note: The signed settlement agreement, along with the police bodycam videos, DA's office investigative report and other documentation, can be viewed with the online version of this story as well as past coverage of the Bauer case.*

man on the ACE train tracks in Santa Clara.

An oncoming train struck both men. Scholz, 35, was killed while the other man — who had been attempting suicide on the tracks that day — was hospitalized but recovered.

Current Nvidia employees, along with family, friends and others who knew Scholz, raised \$634,000 for the new veterinary surgery center in Pleasanton that will bear his name.

Nvidia employees were challenged to a fundraising goal of \$500,000, which was exceeded thanks to matching grants of

eligible gifts from the company's giving foundation, significant participation from executive staff and a generous match of employee donations from founder Jensen Huang and his wife, Lori, according to Valley Humane Society. The organization still needs to raise an additional \$500,000 to satisfy the project budget.

Upon opening, Valley Humane Society's Phil Scholz Veterinary Surgery Center will offer one-time procedures, leaving wellness visits, routine veterinary care and emergency services to other providers, officials said. ■



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Four Vacancies

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[cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/clerk/boards/default.asp](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/clerk/boards/default.asp)

Applicants must reside within the Pleasanton city limits.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office  
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## SURGERY

Continued from Page 5

2014, which is the position she still holds with the nonprofit today.

"It's heartwarming to have so many people care for and contribute to Phil's legacy and, together, make such a meaningful impact to a cause that meant so much to him," Emily Scholz said.

Prior to his death, Phil Scholz worked for Santa Clara-based computer graphics company, Nvidia. It was during his commute home from work on Jan. 20, 2014, when Phil sprung into action to help a

**LEADERSHIP**

Continued from Page 5

of leading the city in the future, whether that's being on a commission or committee, or running for public office," Van Dorn said.

Brown said participation can be more difficult for some residents, though, because the annual program's all-day sessions are held on a weekday during daytime hours, once a month from September through May.

"They're during the day when most people are at work," Brown said, and called the program's \$950 participant fee "prohibitive to most people."

Brown also said it doesn't make sense to pay the chamber \$10,000 every year — per the city's most recent contract with them — when "a third of the group that helps run this program are city employees."

"This is a program that should be available at no charge, and if the chamber wants to do it at no charge and they're willing to do it in the evening, I'd sure like to talk to them," Brown said. "But I don't think the city should pay \$10,000 to them to do it."

According to Van Dorn, the chamber's \$10,000 annual payment from the city pays for four to five city employees to attend the program every year and "partial payment for chamber staff time, meals, rental fees and transportation."

Though the city manager is authorized to sign contracts up to \$10,000 on their own, Brown said, "This kind of contract should be approved by the City Council."

Vice Mayor Julie Testa "often thought I would like to take Leadership Pleasanton, but I had the sense it was cost-prohibitive and elitist," particularly when compared

to city-run programs that are free and held on weeknights, such as Citizen Police Academy, she said.

"From community discussions, I did not think I would be accepted and I could not justify the cost," Testa said. "I would like to make the program open, accessible and cost-free to any interested community member. Using the model of the Citizen Police Academy, a city-run program could do that."

Between nine to 15 scholarships which cover half of the \$950 program fee are issued by the chamber each year, with funding coming from outside donations including individuals, past graduating classes and businesses. Van Dorn said each program class fundraises for a needy cause and some have chosen to support future scholarships, with money going to the Pleasanton Chamber Community Foundation.

Testa said, "I would never feel it was appropriate for me to apply (for a scholarship). While I think most community members would be able to afford it, perhaps, that does not justify the expense. It isn't a program that should be exclusive, elitist or cost-prohibitive."

The most recent contract between the city and chamber — which expired in June 2020 and hasn't been renewed since — called for the chamber to "solicit attendee participation in the program," but Testa said past contracts that allowed the chamber to select participants have also left her with the impression that the program was not accessible for many people.

"Perhaps it's been more open in recent years, but my 30-year history in community discussions about it, was that it was very elitist, hand-selected by people whom the chamber courts," Testa said. "I wasn't one of the community members that the chamber courted and, therefore, I never applied."

Based on conversations with peers in other cities, Testa said, "This has not been the norm for the chamber to take the role they've taken in our community, and it's something that should be re-evaluated, perhaps."

Testa added, "When they're doing

Leadership Pleasanton, they're grooming their future candidates at taxpayer expense. They have such a defined political position that I question whether it is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars."

Van Dorn pushed back on the idea that the chamber is "indoctrinating graduates to the chamber policies — that our people are the ones getting elected," he paraphrased.

"There's only been three council members that have been elected that went through the program before they were elected," Van Dorn said, including former council members Arne Olson and Cindy McGovern and current Councilmember Valerie Arkin.

**'I wasn't one of the community members that the chamber courted and, therefore, I never applied.'**

**Julie Testa,**  
Pleasanton vice mayor

Housing Commissioner Kate Duggan, Human Services Commissioner Susan Hayes and City Manager Nelson Fialho are also program alumni.

As a participant in the 2014-15 Leadership Pleasanton program during her school board tenure, Arkin told the Weekly "there were many valuable aspects of the program." Now Arkin said she's "interested in learning more about how the city spends dollars on this program and in what capacity."

"Do they simply spend funds to send employees as participants or do they help fund the program in other ways?" Arkin said. "It's concerning if there are additional funds, outside of paying for employees to attend, and that is what I'd like to have more information on."

Arkin also agreed with Brown that "the council should be giving policy direction on the use of

such funds," adding, "perhaps there should be consideration given to having the city be more involved in such a program."

If Leadership Pleasanton is taken over by the city, Van Dorn said, "The concern that we would have would be that it would be city-focused, city-centric, and not more open with different viewpoints on different sessions that we have."

Van Dorn continued, "Our No. 1 concern would be perhaps that that would be lost, if the program were to become a city program. We think we have a great diversity of folks that are actually presenting at each different session that we have. We just think it would be missing something, if that were the case."

From a logistical perspective, Van Dorn said it would take "a lot of staff time" for the city to put together their own program, "and when you look at what they have on their plate, it doesn't make sense to recreate a program that's already working."

Councilmember Kathy Narum told the Weekly, "My understanding is staff just don't have the resources to put a program like this together, as it is today."

City staff do have involvement in coordinating the program but the planning, transportation logistics and other tasks normally handled by the chamber would add on too much extra work for them, Narum said. Van Dorn also said the chamber spends lots of time promoting Leadership Pleasanton, which is featured on their website.

"The application form is on our website, we manage the payments, we're promoting it all the time, most promotion by and large is our doing," Van Dorn said. "The city certainly helps but most of it is what we do."

Van Dorn added, "The (chamber) staff time that's used to make the program be successful is probably

far more than we get compensated from."

Brown and Testa both said the city could operate a community program similar to those run by Dublin or Livermore city staffers, but Van Dorn countered that Leadership Pleasanton is unique and "very, very different."

"Dublin's program is all specifically focused on city government. It doesn't talk about education and the other areas we focus on in our program," Van Dorn said. "Theirs is roughly 24, 30 hours total ... and ours is around 72 hours long. It's a much more robust program, and I think it's not fair to compare the programs when it's really apples to oranges."

Before making any changes to Leadership Pleasanton, Narum said the four council members — including herself — that have not participated in the program, "need to observe some sessions."

"We're talking about a program that four of us (council members) have never done, and that's a reason why I have some discomfort," Narum said. "People that think this needs to be overhauled, I've tried to figure out why."

Narum added that having Leadership Pleasanton run solely by the city "isn't something that's going to make the community better versus an all-abilities playground, or having a community farm on the Bernal property for master gardeners, or making sure we're in compliance with these state (housing) mandates so we don't get sued or fined."

The city's support for the Leadership Pleasanton program will be evaluated within the second year of the council's current two-year work plan, where it is listed as a "B" priority. According to deputy city manager Pamela Ott, the council "will be reviewing the city's participation in the program when this is scheduled for consideration." ■

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**In the Big Trees:** Pleasanton Weekly administrative associate Carolyn Chan and husband Kirk (left) brought the paper along for their hike with Dan and Sharon White of Martinez at Big Trees State Park in Arnold last month.

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

# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Man dies after crashing truck into pet store in Livermore

A driver was killed when his pickup truck crashed into the Pet Food Express building on First Street in Livermore early Saturday morning, according to city police.

The Alameda County Coroner's Bureau identified the man as 26-year-old Thomas Dean Lovett III, of Dublin.

The cause of the deadly crash remains under investigation, Livermore police Sgt. Steve Goard told the Weekly.

The initial investigation indicates the dark-colored pickup truck was traveling eastbound on East Stanley Boulevard at about 1 a.m. approaching the intersection where Stanley transitions into Railroad Avenue. But instead of continuing on the curving road, the truck drove off the street at the intersection, struck a streetlight and crashed into the Pet Food Express at 1436 First St., according to Goard.

The first officers on scene arrived to find a man dead in the driver's seat of the pickup, Goard said. Lovett was the only occupant of the vehicle.

The primary cause of the fatal crash, as well as any associated factors, were unknown and remained under investigation as of later Saturday morning. Goard said any witnesses to the crash are encouraged to call Livermore police at 925-371-4857.

The Pet Food Express store was reported to be closed during the weekend as a result of the damage.

Meanwhile, at almost the exact same moment early Saturday morning, a driver was hurt in nearby Dublin when their vehicle struck a house on Beechwood Loop.

The Alameda County Fire Department reported a blue midsize SUV crashed into the side of the house just after 1 a.m. Saturday, causing injuries to the driver that required hospital treatment.

The driver, whose identity was not released, was placed under arrest and taken into custody on suspicion of DUI after being discharged from the hospital, according to Dublin police Capt. Nate Schmidt.

The occupants inside the home were uninjured. ACFD crews had to construct a temporary structure to shore up and stabilize the Beechwood Loop house after the crash.

—Jeremy Walsh

### In other news

- The Alameda County District Attorney's Office last week charged a Union City man with misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter in connection with the collision that killed

a Pleasanton man walking his dog across Stoneridge Drive nearly three months ago.

Authorities allege that 73-year-old Parsu Ram Mudaliar was driving over the speed limit and still had plenty of time to notice Mark Fiala on the roadway at the Newton Way intersection, even though the pedestrian was crossing against a don't-walk signal, but did not realize it until fatally striking Fiala that morning.

"A reasonable driver would have been able to perceive and react to a hazard in the roadway, when observed from 400 feet," Pleasanton police Officer Joshua Christensen wrote in a probable cause declaration. "There has been no explanation of why Mudaliar did not see Fiala."

Mudaliar, who is out of custody on the misdemeanor charge, is scheduled to be arraigned in court later this month. It was not immediately clear whether he is yet represented by a defense attorney.

Police argued in Christensen's declaration that the case could have risen to the level of a felony, but prosecutors ultimately determined there was no gross negligence and charged one misdemeanor count when the criminal complaint was filed on Aug. 4.

The incident unfolded when 66-year-old Fiala was walking with his dog across Stoneridge Drive from

north to south around 6 a.m. May 10 in a neighborhood just east of Santa Rita Road. At that same time, Mudaliar was driving eastbound on Stoneridge at 47 mph in a 40 mph zone, according to Christensen.

Although Fiala crossed into the road against a pedestrian signal in violation of traffic laws, Mudaliar was still required to "exercise due care for the safety of any pedestrian upon a roadway," Christensen wrote, stating the driver had 400 feet to react to the pedestrian in the street in front of him but failed to do so.

The officer noted another driver traveling at 40-45 mph in the opposite direction on Stoneridge Drive at that moment told police he observed Fiala walking into the street about 540 feet away and was able to slow and avoid the pedestrian.

For unknown reasons, Mudaliar never saw Fiala crossing the road, hit him with the front of the car and didn't apply the brakes until the pedestrian landed on the ground, according to Christensen.

"Mudaliar denied being on his phone or being distracted in any other way inside his vehicle," Christensen wrote. "The landscaping, rising sun or weather did not play a role in this collision."

"Based on calculations, this collision would have never happened if

Mudaliar was traveling at the correct speed and if he had been aware of his surroundings," the officer added.

Fiala, a longtime local real estate professional and married father with two adult daughters, died at the scene from his injuries.

Police reported at the time that Fiala's dog was also hit and sustained minor injuries, but Christensen's declaration did not mention the pet.

The Pleasanton Police Department's investigation spanned nearly two months before its final report

was forwarded to the DA's office on July 9 for review and consideration of charges.

Though Christensen wrote that he thought the case demonstrated "gross negligence," prosecutors in the end determined the evidence supported misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter without gross negligence.

Mudaliar's first court appearance is scheduled for an arraignment on Aug. 31 at 9 a.m. in the East County Hall of Justice in Dublin. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

## Linda Marie Gill Spiegel

April 7, 1954 – July 28, 2021

Linda Marie Gill Spiegel passed away peacefully, surrounded by her daughters, on July 28, 2021 at the age of 67.

Linda was born the first of four children to Kenneth Paul Gill and Mary Margaret Stauder Gill on April 7, 1954 in St. Louis, Missouri. With a father in sales, she moved all over the country as a child before settling in Alamo, California, where she attended and graduated from Carondelet High School in Concord, California in 1972. She always spoke fondly of her years attending the prestigious all female Catholic school, which offered opportunities for strong women in a world not quite ready for female leadership.

She then attended and graduated from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California in 1976 with a Bachelor's of Science in Journalism. While at "Cal Poly," she made many lifelong friends and mastered her skills as a writer and editor.

Linda was an orator and scholar of the written word. She loved expressing herself in speech and writing, and was well known for her words of wisdom. She was also a professional editor and is likely upset that she is not able to edit this obituary!

Linda was the mother of two children, Kaitlin and Sarah Spiegel, who were the lights of her life. She spent her free time devoting her life to volunteerism with the Girl Scouts of America, Foothill High School Marching Band, and Foothill High School Choir. Many youth in these communities considered Linda "Roadrunner" a surrogate mother.

Linda is preceded in death by her father, Kenneth Paul Gill. She is survived by her daughters, Kaitlin Ann Spiegel of Newton, Massachusetts, and Sarah Elizabeth Spiegel of New York, New York. She is also survived by her mother, Mary Margaret Stauder Gill of Vancouver, Washington, sister Amy Gill Powell of Vancouver, Washington, brother Michael Gill of Vacaville, California, and brother Thomas Gill of Pioneer, California.

Linda was a devoted mother and daughter, always putting the needs of family before herself. She leaves behind a legacy of selflessness, and a void in the lives of her family and friends who loved her dearly.

A small private service will take place in the coming months. In lieu of flowers, please consider sending donations in honor of Linda Marie Gill Spiegel to the Girl Scouts of America.



## Josephine (Jaye) Olympia Maestas

May 24, 1928 – June 7, 2021

Josephine (Jaye) Maestas passed away on June 7 at her home in Pleasanton. She was born on May 24, 1928 in Garcia, Colorado to her parents Frank and Lucrecia DeHerrera. The town of Garcia was founded by her grandfather Ereneo Garcia in the 1860's. She moved to Paso Robles, California in 1943 with her brother Frank and sister-in-law Josephine.



Later, she reunited with family in Oakland, California where she attended beauty school and became a hairdresser.

Jaye married Tim Maestas on September 19, 1959 and they were married for 45 years. Their first son Steven was born in 1963 while they were stationed overseas in South Korea. Upon returning to California, the family moved to Oakland and their second son Stuart was born in 1965. The family moved to Pleasanton in 1968. Tim passed away in 2006.

Jaye was a very active member of the Pleasanton Presbyterian Church and was instrumental in painting all the doors when it moved to its new location on Mirador Drive. She loved feeding all the neighborhood kids and enjoyed socializing. Jaye was always "ready to go" at a moments notice. She never let the grass grow under her feet.

Jaye came from a family of 10 siblings. She is survived by her sons Steven Maestas and his wife Ronni; her son Stuart Maestas, his wife Holly and their four children Shelby, April, Nicholas, and Collin. The love of her life were her grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister Dorothy Maestas and her children Ileana Maestas-Selling and Alejandro Maestas.

A memorial service for Josephine (Jaye) Maestas will be held on September 11, 2021 at 2pm at Lynwood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue in Pleasanton.

PAID OBITUARY

PAID OBITUARY

# Seniors Living Well

## Inside:

- Friendly Visiting during pandemic Page 11
- The community of water exercise Page 12
- Tips for senior homebuyers Page 14

## Film icons come to life for calendar

Stoneridge Creek residents portray celebrities in fun project

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Cossette Sun, 83, had long been a fan of Audrey Hepburn, so when the call went out to Stoneridge Creek residents to portray Hollywood icons for a 2022 calendar, she was game.

"I've watched a lot of her movies and followed what she did when she retired from the movie industry," Sun said. "She did very nice, charitable work at the United Nations."

Susan Felice, life enrichment director at the senior residential community in Pleasanton who headed up the project, first took headshots of each resident selected and compared them to photos of the celebrities they might portray; Sun expressed her interest in Hepburn.

"So many of these residents were so easy to mold into the character we picked for them," Felice said. "We could see similarities in some folks that made them a great cast for a particular character."

She and her team gathered costumes, backgrounds, props and set designs, and arranged for professional hair and makeup stylists to be on hand for the two-day photo shoot.

"She told us to be at Ohlone Hall (performing arts center) and for me to dress up as closely as possible to be like Audrey Hepburn," Sun recalled.

Based on the photo provided of Hepburn lounging on her side, Sun dressed all in black.

She wore her own slacks for the photo shoot but they provided a different top as well as jewelry. Then she was directed to recline, duplicating the photo.

"Susan asked me, 'Are you able to do the pose?'" Sun remembered. "I said, 'Yeah, I do a lot of fitness classes.' I had to be a little flexible to do the pose."

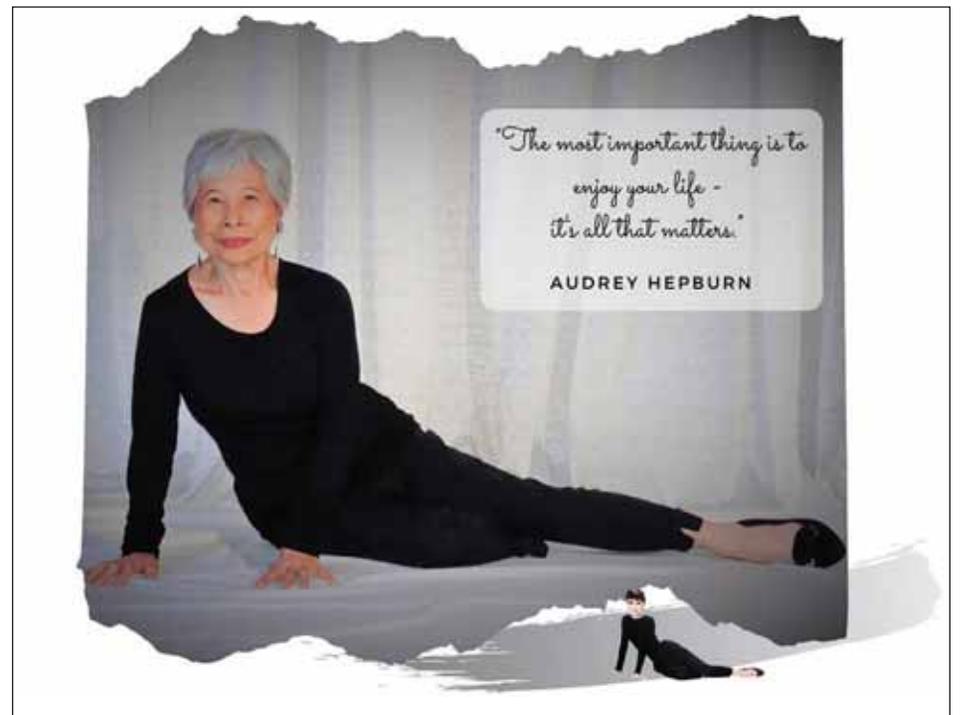
"My hobby is to exercise, to keep fit," Sun explained.

She also volunteers as head of the library committee at Stoneridge Creek, as she is a professional law librarian and for many years was director of the Alameda County Law Library.

Some 17 residents explored their theatrical side as they portrayed Debbie Reynolds and Gene Kelly, Fred Astaire, Elizabeth Taylor as Cleopatra, and others.

Participants in addition to Sun were Mary Lyons, Tom Addison, Linda Godbier, Kate Gong, Gail and Warren Shukis, Elizabeth Bliss, Joe Gourley, Renee Bauer, Ken Jensen, John Evans, Frank L'Engle, Peggy So, Hampton Lyons, Tom Combellick and Kathleen Addison. Three resident photographers — Arnold Joyal, Lois Levine and Frank Yee — volunteered for the photo shoot.

Next, the photographers edited their images and sent them to Felice, who designed



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cossette Sun lounges a la Audrey Hepburn for the month of October.

the 2022 calendar. They also had a celebration after the shoot was done, and Sun said her husband Stanley got to learn more about what she'd been up to.

"He had tennis buddies at the party, and he got to meet a few more people," she said.

The calendar will be given to each of the 565 resident homes in Stoneridge Creek, with the participants getting two.

"I will order some more for my kids and my friends," Sun said with a laugh.

Felice noted that shooting the calendar, months after everyone was vaccinated, was a great way to connect as events in the community were slowly reopening.

"This has been so much fun to put together," Felice said. "It's wonderful to be together again." ■

## LARPD aims to keep programs 'fun' and 'flexible' for Livermore seniors

Drive-thru lunch, fitness, tech tutoring among activities

By CIERRA BAILEY

Activities at the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) Senior Services Center are in full swing, including the Open Heart Kitchen "Good Thyme Cafe" lunch program, which offers curbside and walk-up meal service Monday through Friday from 12-1 p.m.

Seniors are invited to the Robert Livermore Community Center to pick up fresh meals to-go. Open Heart Kitchen offers the same service at the Pleasanton Senior Center from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and at the Dublin Senior Center from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on weekdays.

Each month, LARPD provides additional items for seniors to take home along with their food.

"We try to offer something a little bit different every month, today we have a snack and activity pack. We've also done crafts that they can take home, like (decorating) picture frames. But usually, we try to just do something

fun for them on a Friday once a month for the drive-thru program," said LARPD community outreach supervisor David Weisgerber.

While navigating the uncertainty of COVID-19, Weisgerber said that LARPD aims to do everything it can to serve seniors within the rules of the changing climate. Since spring 2020, the district has offered outdoor fitness classes at the community center for seniors as well as virtual programs, including technology tutoring led by teen volunteers and other enrichment courses.

"Our fitness classes are wildly popular, particularly outside," Weisgerber said.

"Of course, there's other challenges between wildfire smoke and weather — we've been doing this all year, so we've hit every season at this point with rain and heat — but I think our main theme for the whole thing is just being flexible," he added, noting that people have been very understanding and cooperative amid the constant changes.

"For the most part, those who want to

participate are out and about and for the folks who don't or aren't quite ready to, have plenty of virtual options," Weisgerber said.

More information about LARPD's senior programs and resources is available at [larpd.org/senior-services](http://larpd.org/senior-services). ■



CIERRA BAILEY

LARPD staff members and teen volunteers distribute activity and snack packs during drive-thru lunch for seniors. From left: Kathy Lake, Nathan Mann, Jaimisen Foster and David Weisgerber.

# Friendly Visiting kept up via telephone

Program looking for volunteers to become friends

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The Friendly Visiting Program in Pleasanton worked hard to carry on its services during the pandemic, shifting to phone calls to keep homebound seniors feeling connected.

“What we’ve been doing is our volunteers are calling their seniors each week,” program coordinator Pam Silliman said. “We would love to get back inside seniors’ homes, but for now we have to be careful about exposure with this new variant.”

Silliman is actively seeking new volunteers for the Friendly Visiting Program to be prepared when in-person visits resume.

In normal times, the program matches volunteers with seniors they visit to help with reading or shopping or to play games, as well as telephoning regularly to check on them. Some help with mail or shredding or online tasks.

During the pandemic, direct contact halted but volunteers kept in close touch with telephone calls, and occasionally leaving a card or gift on the doorstep.

“The student volunteers have been wonderful with their card making this past year,” Silliman said.

Garron Hahn, 21, a Livermore resident, said he volunteered for the last year with the Friendly Visiting Program as part of a service mission with his church while he attended Las Positas College.

“I had three people assigned to me,” Hahn said. “Everybody was super nice.”

After his training, he made introductory phone calls to his seniors — in their 90s,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Jordan, a nursing student, calls a senior with the Friendly Visiting Program.

70s and 60s — to let them know he was there for them.

“I was very nervous when I made that first call. I’ve always been pretty introverted,” Hahn said. “But the first guy I talked to, he just started talking, and he talked for probably an hour. I thought, that’s perfect. He put me at ease.”

“I could help them with programs if they needed anything but I also told them, ‘I want to be your friend,’” he continued. “I was pleasantly surprised at how warm and welcoming they were.”

“They were very respectful of me and the fact that I was a volunteer but at the same time I do feel they were comfortable enough to talk about what was going on in their lives. Some of them had things going on that were challenging and they were never hesitant to talk about those things. It was wonderful to offer support and consolation.”

“I learned so much and was able to see through their eyes. They gave me advice for life and college and my career. I didn’t expect this — it was beautiful and wonderful.”

Hahn is moving on but said he highly recommends the Friendly Visiting Program. And he found the program was well-structured.

“All around, it was well organized and a good place to work,” he said.

The Friendly Visiting Program is part of Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, located in the Pleasanton Senior Center on Sunol Boulevard and funded mainly by Alameda County and grants from the Tri-Valley cities. It also offers a transportation program, counseling, grief groups and caregiver support, among other services.

“We have a case management program that has been ongoing this entire year,” Silliman said. “They actually help seniors set up a program of wellness for their home.”

She is looking forward to resuming the Friendly Visiting in person when volunteers can take the seniors out for tea or grocery shopping.

“But we are looking for volunteers who are interested in reaching out by phone for now and getting to know the senior,” Silliman said. “Our Transportation and Friendly Visiting are always in need of new volunteers so we can provide more services to seniors.”

She also noted that the holidays are right around the corner, and last year they supported more than 200 seniors with gifts, including quilts donated by the Amador Valley Quilters.

“They can email or call me, and I can send them a brochure and application and information on how to get started,” she added.

For more information about volunteering, call Silliman at 931-5388 or email [psilliman@ssptv.org](mailto:psilliman@ssptv.org). ■

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# Senior women find community, well-being with water exercise

With pool classes, the connections are as important as fitness benefits

BY LEILA TOUATI

The water exercise program at Pleasanton's Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center offers a range of personal benefits for the senior participants who make up a majority of the classes.

Water exercise comes in a variety of forms, such as water yoga, water pilates and the ever-popular water aerobics, which provides a chance to work out with the support and resistance of the water in both the shallow and deep pools.

"This doesn't look like much of a workout, but because (ours) is in the deep water and it's forcing you to stand up straight, you're actually working your core. The water is supportive and it keeps them active to the point that they can stay active for the rest of their life and that's really important," participant Patricia Haller told the Weekly.

Different courses at the Pleasanton city pool are broken up between 6:15-9:40 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as an evening class from 5:30-6:25 p.m. from Mondays through Thursdays. These late afternoon classes are the only ones where an instructor is available, while participants in the morning must take these courses into their own hands.

"As an aquatics professional paying attention to what COVID-19 had done with the aquatics industry across board in the country, we're suffering from staff shortages, and

water aerobics is just one of those (programs) where because it's an emerging industry, it doesn't have any real permanence yet," senior recreation program specialist Dan Ngo said. "Us losing three instructors all at once was surprising, but was there anything we could do about it? Probably not."

While a lack of instructors for water exercise may seem daunting, frequent members of the program, majority being senior women, are taking the situation in stride by following specific movements and supporting one another throughout the entirety of the lesson.

Haller said having no instructor "is a real challenge because it helps to have someone who can tell you what you're doing, who can let you know if the movements you're doing are wrong and you can hurt yourself, and who can remind people to keep moving. I look forward to getting back to where we have instructors for at least two full morning classes."

The water aerobics program has always generated a supportive and social community, but now that restrictions have lessened at the aquatic center, the connections and friendships are vital, as is the exercise portion of the course.

"If anything, last year I think it really showed us how important our connections are. I can't imagine how difficult it was for this community, specifically this (senior) audience,



LEILA TOUATI

In the early-morning hours last week, senior women join the Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center for an hour-long session of water exercise.

for three or so months to have to self-isolate for their own safety," Ngo said. "The moment they were able to come back, they really relished it and missed this. Whether we were offering an instructor or not, they were just glad to be back here."

No matter what type of water exercise is done at the aquatic center, it is a chance for anyone to join a welcoming community that

works together to enhance their health.

"I love losing gravity for a little while because the water is so supportive and there's no pressure on your feet and all of those things," Haller said. "I love coming here and seeing these ladies. And I love the otter — a stretch move that we do where you move your feet in circles and it's a very playful move — the names of some of the moves are really cute." ■

## WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE'S DRIVING?

Driving skills can change. One of the most difficult decisions facing families today is how to deal with the driving issue when a loved one has a medical condition or is taking medications that may have affected the mental abilities necessary for driving.

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## Free support available for caregivers of dementia patients

BY JULIA BAUM

Free support is now available for Tri-Valley caregivers of patients living with dementia through a respite care program offered by the Dublin-based nonprofit organization Hope Hospice.

Providing temporary relief for low- and middle-income family caregivers, the recently launched Family Caregiver Respite Program gives recipients up to 16 hours of complimentary care in their home each month from a participating agency. Patients are not required to be receiving Hope's hospice service to qualify for the respite program.

Used to describe short-term relief in the form of a substitute caregiver, respite care can help lower stress levels for a family caregiver by allowing time for personal appointments and self-care, according to Gia Barsell, manager of dementia services and community education at Hope Hospice.

"The stress that family caregivers experience as their loved one declines can be staggering," Barsell said in a statement. "Whether you have help from other family members and friends, or you're forging alone, you likely feel overwhelmed and exhausted most of the time. It's imperative for your own well-being to carve out time for self-care."

Hope Hospice communications director Kendra Strey told the Weekly that the program "is created for people who fall between the cracks."

"A lot of families, even if they make a substantial income, they don't necessarily have extra money to pay for services like this," Strey

said. "We have such a high cost of living in the Bay Area and in California in general, so regardless of someone's high income, they may not have extra money for respite care."

Strey added, "We had some funds that somewhat fell into our lap through a new grant, so this is the way we decided to use the grant money to create this program."

The respite care program's initial funding came from the now-dissolved organization Tri-Valley Adult Care, which was seeking to redistribute its assets, and will carry the program through the next several years. It's also possible the program may expand at some point.

"When this first set of money runs out ... if we decide to continue the program and seek replenishment funds, we would broaden that to our entire service area," Strey said, including Concord, Hayward and San Leandro. "Our organization is deep-rooted in the Tri-Valley ... but over time our geographic imprint has grown, so certainly we'd want all our programs to serve our entire service area."

Families may reapply for the program every month, though new applicants will receive priority consideration.

In order to qualify, applicants must be a primary family caregiver for a loved one who has been diagnosed with dementia, reside in San Ramon, Dublin, Pleasanton or Livermore, and have an income not exceeding 400% of the current federal poverty guidelines for their household size.

For more information or to apply, visit [HopeHospice.com/respite](http://HopeHospice.com/respite). ■

## 50 states in 50 days

Tri-Valley group completes ambitious motorcycle trip

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

“The Great American Ride,” in which a group of local bikers journeyed through 50 states in 50 days, concluded July 10 when they returned from their last state, Hawaii.

Photos taken in the last two stops, where they rented Harley-Davidsons, show participants Gary Cose, Bud Early, Ralph Hughes and Mike Oliviera in Anchorage; and Wayland Wagner, Cose, Early, Hughes and Oliviera in Hawaii.

“After 48 actual travel days, we were able to visit every state in the United States,” reported Hughes. “From the constant cross winds in Nevada all the way to Texas, the

sandstorms in New Mexico, the tornadoes and rain in Kansas, and the heat in New Orleans and throughout the south, every moment was an experience to remember.

“There are many ways to travel, of course, but none better than sitting in the saddle of a motorcycle traversing the back roads and secondary highways of our beautiful country with your best friends,” he continued.

“A long, and at times exhausting ride, with early wake up calls, battling the long hours, and inhospitable weather conditions, it was a ride none of us will ever forget. Nor will we ever forget the great people we met along the way.” ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The group of local riders commemorate their final two stops on their “50 States in 50 Days” trip with photos in Hawaii (above) and Alaska (below).



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# Challenges and opportunities for senior homebuyers

With many factors at play, often comes down to right balance of needs and wants

BY DAVID STARK

The homebuying experience for seniors in the current Pleasanton real estate market is full of challenges and opportunities.

The process of purchasing a home in Pleasanton for a senior may be different than for other homebuyers. "It depends on so many factors, are they selling a house and downsizing, are they a first-time buyer, what exactly are they looking for," said Tina Hand, 2021 president of the Bay East Association of Realtors, who has recently worked with senior clients.

Hand said a real estate professional can narrow down the search for them based on their needs and wants. "Part of what a real estate professional may ask a senior homebuyer is if they have children nearby and are they part of the conversation," she said.

Hand explained that children of senior homebuyers should be part of the homebuying process, "so they know exactly what their parents want to do so they don't feel their parents are being taken advantage of. I can't reiterate enough the threat of fraud that seniors face during a real estate transaction. I want to make sure their kids are there every step of the way, so they know what we're talking about and what we're doing."

For seniors wanting to purchase a home in Pleasanton now, Hand said, "I think it's going to be a shock because of the home prices, however, with Proposition 19 they

may be able to keep their tax base." California voters approved Proposition 19 in November 2020. It allows homeowners aged 55 and older to transfer their property tax rate to another home anywhere in California.

Asked if a senior homebuyer should be prepared to purchase a condo or townhome, Hand said, "That's a tough one because they may not want to deal with stairs. In some of the older neighborhoods, there are still a lot of single-story homes in Pleasanton, and they are not all 2,000 square feet; you can find plenty of them that are 1,300 to 1,500 square feet and single story."

Seniors may need to check a few extra boxes compared with other homebuyers, when preparing to purchase a home. Hand said "having a will and a trust is so important and I recommend that they get one. If they do have a trust, they will need to have it updated."

While their homebuying to-do list may be a bit longer, Hand said seniors may have an advantage over other buyers if they have current real estate assets.

"I think they would be able to compete because it comes down to not just the purchase price, but the terms of the offer and a lot of seniors have lots of assets," she said. "They may or may not have a home to sell which could be cash they can use in purchasing another home. I think they can



BAY EAST

David Stark, of the Bay East Association of Realtors, shares thoughts on the Pleasanton real estate market for seniors.

compete pretty well with the techies."

For those seniors currently living in Pleasanton, Hand said there may not be many reasons to look elsewhere for their next homeownership experience.

"I don't see a lot of seniors moving out of Pleasanton," she added. "They might be downsizing going from a two-story to a one-story, but I don't hear about a lot of them

leaving Pleasanton. There's a lot of activities, parks, senior centers where they can be active, the weather, the transportation close to 580 and 680. The amenities are what's keeping them here." ■

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

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# Tri-Valley Senior Calendar

## Senior Center

**PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER** The Pleasanton Senior Center has added more in-person programs to the August schedule. Visit the Mature Adults section at [pleasantonfun.com](http://pleasantonfun.com) to see the complete list or call 931-5365.

## Talks & Lectures

### THE PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY GROUP (PTUG)

PTUG is for all computer enthusiasts and includes discussions, lectures, demonstrations and a questions/answer period. PTUG meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. The next meeting is Aug. 26. Email [pleaseniorg@gmail.com](mailto:pleaseniorg@gmail.com).

**A TASTE OF CHOCOLATE** September is National Senior Center Month so celebrate with chocolate. A free chocolate tasting event and a screening of a short video on the history of chocolate, along with raffle prizes. 1:30-3:30, Sept. 23. Pre-registration is required. Call 931-5365.

**VIRTUAL SMARTPHONE TRAINING** Attend free online training to make a smartphone worker better. Learn how to operate basic functions including sending text messages, making text larger and connecting Bluetooth devices. This two-part online training offered multiple times each month requires a computer and internet service. Call 510-207-8609.

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

## Legal Help

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS** Legal assistance for seniors remains open for free remote legal services. The Health 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.

## Housing

**KOTTINGER GARDENS** MidPen Housing is opening the wait list for one-bedroom below market rate units for Seniors 62+. For more information contact Kottinger Gardens Leasing Office at 574-1701 or visit [midpen-housing.org](http://midpen-housing.org).

## Exercise

**LINE DANCING-NEW CLASSES** Line Dancing instructor, Sue Kraft, teaches four classes at the Pleasanton Senior Center. To register visit [pleasantonfun.com](http://pleasantonfun.com).

**YOGA FLOW FOR SENIORS** This class includes basic foundational yoga postures that are practiced in a gentle, modified style to improve strength, balance alignment and flexibility. Beginners are welcome and bring a yoga mat, towel and water. Visit [pleasantonfun.com](http://pleasantonfun.com).

## Transportation

**PLEASANTON RIDES** Serving eligible Pleasanton seniors with transportation needs throughout Pleasanton to select destinations

in the Tri-Valley. Pleasanton Rides is a door-to-door, shared-ride transportation service for Pleasanton seniors. For reservations call 398-1045.

**SENIOR CLIPPER CARDS** A BART representative will be at the Pleasanton Senior Center to assist with processing applications to receive a discount clipper card. For more detailed information call 931-5385. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 20. 5353 Sunol Blvd.

## VA Outreach

**VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE MOBILE OUTREACH** The Pleasanton Library will host the VA Palo Alto Mobile Medical Outreach team to facilitate examinations, consultations and referrals for enrolled veterans. Veterans uncertain of their benefit eligibility are encouraged to visit as requirements have changed. Representatives will provide information to veterans, spouses, caregivers, family members and survivors to assist with veteran enrollment for VA care. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Aug. 16. 400 Old Bernal Ave.

## Art

**WATERCOLOR GROUP FOR SENIORS** The Watercolor Group meets virtually every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. to paint and grow as artists. Contact [j\\_robinvioletta@hotmail.com](mailto:j_robinvioletta@hotmail.com).

**HARRINGTON GALLERY NEW EXHIBIT** The new exhibit "Women Artists Show and Tell" is on display at the Harrington Gallery in the Firehouse Arts Center. The exhibit represents the work of women artists in the Bay Area and features work in a variety of media including oil painting, mosaic, photography and colored pencil and sculpture. Now through Aug. 28. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

## Festivals

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** The family-owned and operated Harvest Festival, original art & craft show provides a one-of-a-kind shopping experience. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Aug 13-15. Tickets \$7-\$9. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

## Games

**BINGO IS BACK** Bingo is back at the Pleasanton Senior Center every Wednesday and select Monday's, 1-2:30 p.m. Register at [pleasantonfun.com](http://pleasantonfun.com) or call 931-5365.

## Conversation

**TUESDAY TALKS WITH FRIENDS** Join for a weekly Zoom chat every Tuesday at 11 a.m. For more details on Tuesday Talks session, and to sign up to receive the zoom link call 931-5365.

## Meals

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

**MEALS ON WHEELS** Provides home delivered meals for 60+. Call 931-5385 for more information.

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## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

# Setting record straight on Leadership Pleasanton

**W**e welcome — even encourage — different voices and viewpoints on our Opinion page. You might have noticed a number of Guest Opinions published over the past several weeks in this space.

Our editorial board, though, owes you an apology in regard to the July 2 Guest Opinion written by resident David Pascualy concerning Leadership Pleasanton. It contained inaccurate factual information, and some pretty inflammatory statements were made based on that information.

Pascualy's motivation for the Guest Opinion is laudable.

"The goal of my Guest Opinion submission was to express my concerns about Leadership classes that are expensive, almost impossible to attend if you work during the day, and that the program is supported by my tax dollars," he wrote in a subsequent email.

That's a fair and logical opinion.

Where our editorial board failed was that we didn't

question a few assertions that were presented as fact in the Guest Opinion. After publication, we were alerted that some factual elements may have been incorrect, so we started seeking new information.

In addition to doing our own research, we reached out to Pascualy for a response as the author, and he became defensive and argumentative. This sent up red flags that should have gone up pre-publication.

We found the Guest Opinion relied on an outdated contract from 2018 signed by the former chamber CEO, Scott Raty. This led to one of Pascualy's main points about selection of program participants being left solely to the chamber being false. One of the other key inaccurate statements was that city employees do most of the work for the program and most meetings are held at city facilities.

As journalists, if we allow inaccurate, misleading or false information to be published as fact (even within an opinion piece), we need to acknowledge it and set the record

straight as soon as possible. The author said he stood by his statements, so we tried to arrange a meeting to discuss the points and counterpoints.

Unfortunately, after weeks of an email exchange, it became clear a timely meeting would not come to fruition. But this also allowed time for our reporter to research and write a comprehensive news story on the debate over Leadership Pleasanton oversight, which published this week. We apologize that it took us so long to bring this to your

attention, but we needed to do our due diligence.

Acknowledging mistakes takes maturity and humility, but it can teach valuable lessons to the people and news organizations who have the strength and professionalism to do so.

Going forward we commit to more thoroughly reviewing statements presented as fact in Guest Opinions. This means we will no longer accept a Guest Opinion submitted less than 10 days before publication to allow adequate time for such a review. ■

## 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.)

Muevete Chingona  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 580922

The following person(s) doing business as: Muevete Chingona, 39 California Ave., Suite 205, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owners: Nelia Soares, 1223 Marguerite St., Livermore, CA 94550; Rocio Sofia Ordonez, 8031 Arroyo Dr., Apt. 1, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Nelia Soares & Rocio Sofia Ordonez, a General Partnership. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein June 1, 2021. Signature of Registrant: Rocio Sofia Ordonez, General Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 22, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, July 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 2021.)

Renew & Restore  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 580845

The following person doing business as: Renew & Restore, 928 Kollin St., Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Leah Lyons, 928 Kollin St., Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Leah Lyons, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Leah Lyons, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 19, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, August 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021.)

436 Auto Group, LLC  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 581313

The following person doing business as: 436 Auto Group, LLC, 11844 Dublin Blvd., Suite C, Dublin, CA 94568, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: 436 Auto Group, LLC, 11844 Dublin Blvd., Suite C, Dublin, CA 94568, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by 436 Auto Group, LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Christopher Moore, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 6, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, August 13, 20, 27, September 3, 2021.)

## 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](mailto: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.

## PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

### Meet Annie

Annie is ready for new adventures! Her foster family says she has been a great companion and they enjoy taking her to Yosemite most every weekend. Annie likes to hike and walk, and she rides well in the car. An active and friendly girl who likes to play with toys, this Shepherd mix is completely house-trained, sleeps through the night, and is spayed and up-to-date on vaccines. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue at [tvar.org](http://tvar.org).

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



## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

# Pleasanton Cavaliers win girls title in national rugby tournament

Also: Cyrils star in racquetball tourney, Nakari takes gold with Aquamaids

Local underdog rugby team, Pleasanton Cavaliers, brought home the trophy after a successful run by its team of under-18 girls at the North American Invitational (NAI) 7's tournament last month in Salt Lake City.

The two-day event was a similar format to that recently seen at the Tokyo Olympics and was

well-represented by teams from all over the country eager to earn the reputation of being the best in their respective division.

The competition was extremely challenging; likewise were the Utah playing conditions for a traditionally winter-based sport being run during the height of summer, at altitude.

The Lady Cavaliers are part of Pleasanton Cavaliers Rugby Club and consist of a group of middle and high school girls from the Tri-Valley and greater East Bay.

Despite a challenging year full of disruption resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, some nagging injuries and some major coaching changes, the girls rallied when it counted, bringing their skills and determination to beat some fierce competition and taking the win in the U18 Girls' competition in Utah.



NICK BURSEY

The Pleasanton Cavaliers won the NAI 7's U18 girls championship at nationals in Utah last month.

### Cyrl twins perform at racquetball nationals

Arya Cyril and Esha Cyril, twin sisters, doubles partners and current seniors from the Quarry Lane School in Dublin, recently competed at the USA Racquetball 2021 National Junior Championships held in Iowa.

Esha won gold in mixed-doubles with her partner while her twin Arya took the silver medal. They played with Nikhil Prasad from Washington High in Fremont and Gatlin Sutherland from Great Falls High in Montana, respectively.

Arya also won the gold for singles Division A for girls 16, and Esha earned the silver for the same division. The twins also took silver in girls doubles for age 16 and are bringing home six medals together.

The twins have been playing racquetball since they were 11 years old. They train under Pablo Fajre from the Bay Club in Pleasanton.

### Amador junior in Junior Olympics

Selina Nakari, a 16-year-old junior at Amador Valley High School, won a gold medal at the 2021 Junior Olympics Championships in Colorado Springs, Colo., as a member of the Santa Clara Aquamaids on July 2.

As a member of the junior synchronized swimming team, Nakari earned gold in the team competition as her team beat out 14 other teams. Despite the pandemic and numerous canceled competitions, Nakari and the rest of the team worked tirelessly over this past year, leading the team to victory.

### Pleasanton FTC Track Club

Six athletes from the Pleasanton-based FTC Track Club competed at the U.S. Track and Field Association National Junior Olympics Track and Field Championships held over six days in late July in Jacksonville, Fla.

Over 2,000 youth athletes, aged 8-18 years, from across the country participated in this national championship.

"It was incredible to have so many of our FTC athletes competing on a national stage, and I'm immensely proud of all of them," FTC coach Jorge Quero said.

The girls 17-18 relay of Torre Anderson, Emma Lim, Nina Fillari and Kayla Galvez competed in the 4-by-100 relay.

Liam Swadley competed in the 15-16 high jump, and Chase Dinkel in the 400-meter hurdles and triple jump in the 17-18 division.

Anderson also competed in the 100-meter dash, high jump and long jump. Lim also competed in 100-meter hurdles and 400-meter hurdles. Fillari took part in the 100-meter and 200-meter runs, with Galvez running in the 200 and 400. ■

*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

### Enjoy a Career as a Black Tie Chauffeur

We train you to become a Professional. Full-Time positions available. Flexible schedule. Stay connected with your community and enjoy a career driving for our elite Chauffeur Team. Call 925.487.7741 or Email your Resume to hiring@blacktietrans.com

### Multiple Positions (FSE21, SEQT21, SEE21)

10x Genomics in Pleasanton, CA seeks multiple positions: Full-Stack Software Eng. (FSE21); Software Eng. in QA Testing (SEQT21); Software Eng., Embedded (SEE21). Qualified applicants must send resume to 10x Genomics, Attn: C. Pham, 6230 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588 quoting job #.

### Multiple Positions (SQA21, SRA21, SCI21)

10x Genomics in Pleasanton, CA seeks multiple positions: Sr. QC Associate (SQA21); Sr. Research Associate-Product Integration (SRA21); Scientist (SCI21); Test Eng. (TE2021). Qualified applicants must send resume to 10x Genomics, Attn: C. Pham, 6230 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588 quoting job #.

### Senior Engineer, Software

ICE Mortgage Technology Inc. seeks Senior Engineer, Software in Pleasanton, CA to prep, validate, improve, & re-engineer functions & processes. Telecommuting permitted. Applicants may apply <https://www.jobpostingtoday.com/> Ref # 76458.

### Software Application Engineer

Software Application Engineer. Workday, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, & modifies software enhancements &/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. To apply, please mail resume to ATTN: Jessica Thurston, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Please refer to Job #20637.300.

To place an ad or get a quote, contact **Kevin Legarda** at **650.223.6597** or email **digitalads@pawekly.com**.

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CYRIL FAMILY

Tri-Valley twins Arya and Esha Cyril took home top medals from the racquetball nationals in Iowa.

# Marketplace

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

If you wish to learn more about these advertising options, please call **650.223.6582** or email **digitalads@pawekly.com**.

# Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### LIVERMORE

**5452 Lenore Avenue** **\$755,888**  
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00 2BD/2BA  
Keller Williams 925-364-0327

### PALO ALTO

**2360 Middlefield Road** **\$3,200,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00 4BD/2BA  
Pam Barrall 408-202-5143

### PLEASANTON

**3504 Kamp Drive** **\$885,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00 2BD/2BA  
Serenio 925-858-4198

*Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).  
Agents: Submit open homes at  
PleasantonWeekly.com/real\_estate*

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (May 17-21)

**Total sales reported:** 41  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$525,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$4,300,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,640,000

### Livermore (May 17-21)

**Total sales reported:** 43  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$603,500  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,890,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,025,000

### Dublin (May 17-21)

**Total sales reported:** 32  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$720,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,276,500  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,197,500

### San Ramon (July 6-9)

**Total sales reported:** 32  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$475,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,265,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,350,000

Source: California REsource

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during May 17-21 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin and July 6-9 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

**830 Aramon Court** R. Alsukhon to Dayal Family Trust for \$1,790,000  
**8087 Arroyo Drive #1** M. Menon to A. Borg for \$525,000  
**131 Barias Place** Kontech Usa Inc to C. & G. Ng for \$1,340,000  
**138 Birch Creek Terrace** Y. Sun to Y. & H. Jia for \$1,155,000  
**5246 Blackbird Drive** Ravnik Trust to D. & P. Nair for \$1,900,000  
**4484 Bowen Street** Dekker Family Trust to N. & M. Zheng for \$925,000  
**831 Brizzo Court** Kim Family Trust to S. & Z. Agha for \$4,300,000  
**1300 Brookline Loop** C. & D. Floyd to A. & M. Vilayannur for \$1,600,000  
**6331 Calle Altamira** R. Yarlagadda to L. & M. Ganesan for \$1,810,000  
**6415 Calle Esperanza** Finley Trust to J. & H. Plooy for \$2,050,000  
**5439 Cameo Court** A. Feizi to V. & H. Seshagiri for \$1,062,000  
**4699 Carson Court** M. & J. Scalise to S. & J. Dubey for \$1,451,000  
**872 Chateau Heights Court** S. Chang to D. & H. Toor for \$2,975,000  
**4237 Churchill Drive** R. & L. Ahmed to U. & S. Arumugam for \$1,645,000  
**20 Deer Oaks Court** Banks Trust to M. Bhatia for \$2,785,000  
**281 Del Valle Court** Mukherjee Living Trust to R. & D. Jacobson for \$1,195,000  
**2234 Doccia Court** J. & B. Baer to Obla Family Trust for \$2,200,000  
**4825 Drywood Street** Gronlund Family Trust to Godbole Family Trust for \$1,700,000  
**7852 Foothill Knolls Drive** Tang Family Trust to K. & S. Nigade for \$2,405,500  
**7972 Foothill Knolls Drive** T. & R. Lamb to S. & S. Talwar for \$3,320,000  
**4841 Ganner Court** A. & S. Argiros to E. & A. Ramon for \$1,770,000  
**1038 Gray Fox Circle** Wallace Family Trust to D. & H. Murugan for \$3,400,000  
**4162 Hazelhurst Court** Combel Family Trust to S. & N. Velamati for \$1,571,000  
**7195 Hickorywood Lane** M. & W. Qureshi to M. & S. Vajha for \$2,260,000

**3690 Locke Court** K. Adams to S. & O. Dusek for \$2,775,000  
**418 Mission Drive** J. Yao to J. & J. Marcinkowski for \$1,757,000  
**590 Montori Court** W. He to Verma Family Trust for \$2,201,000  
**8185 Mountain View Drive #G** D. Fannin to N. Lam for \$600,000  
**6727 Paseo Catalina** S. & G. Bettencourt to S. & S. Somisetty for \$1,600,000  
**6439 Paseo Santa Cruz** Proctor Family Trust to C. & M. Vo for \$1,785,000  
**4463 Pleasanton Avenue** Litvinoff-Koo Trust to Davis Living Trust for \$1,500,000  
**4199 Rockingham Drive** Muser Trust to S. & V. Saun for \$1,640,000  
**5641 San Carlos Way #2** J. Zagajeski to M. & O. Lee for \$890,000  
**4219 School Street** S. Fisher to G. & S. Gupta for \$1,335,000  
**934 Sherman Way** Mcelhinney Living Trust to D. & A. Ramachandran for \$2,250,000  
**75 Shore Drive** Sanner Family Trust to C. & V. Gowdra for \$1,010,000  
**3468 Smoketree Commons Drive #174 A.** Navarini to K. Yu for \$575,000  
**180 Spring Street** Bird Trust to 180 Spring Street LLC for \$985,000  
**6776 Via San Blas** Torvik Living Trust to A. & A. Feizi for \$1,275,000  
**3903 Vine Street** Vanka Living Trust to A. Sohn for \$703,000  
**4089 Walnut Drive** R. Enciso to T. Xing for \$1,280,000

### Livermore

**2878 4th Street #1401** J. Lewis to Y. & A. Moe for \$795,000  
**1232 Anza Way** Koch Trust to G. Mancuso for \$925,000  
**1336 Arlington Road** Bodenhausen Family Trust to M. & S. McGourty for \$1,075,000  
**773 Barleta Lane** B. & L. George to Y. & E. Lin for \$1,830,000  
**1453 Calle De Las Granvas** Terezas Family Trust to J. & M. Dio for \$853,000  
**88 Cameo Drive** Mapes Family Trust to S. & A. Garg for \$1,220,000  
**1828 Cassiopia Street** C. Ward to T. & M. Kini for \$970,000  
**5120 Crocus Way** G. Mancuso to S. & T. Duran for \$650,000



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## Attention Sellers: It is time to sell!

It's no question that the local real estate market continues to favor sellers & houses are STILL in high demand, however with the slight recent slowdown, the time might be of the essence and hiring the right agent to sell your house is more important than ever. Our sellers benefit from shorter times on the market, more exposure, more offers, less time in escrow, and a higher net proceeds as a result of our next-level marketing strategy.

**\*\* Call us today at 925-400-7533 for a complimentary consultation and references of our past happy clients. \*\***



**3420 Finnian Way #402, Dublin**  
The Terraces 2BD 2.5BA, 1298sf townhome style penthouse unit \$749K, Call Steve @ 925.580.8011 for showings



**5246 Riverdale Court, Pleasanton**  
spacious 3BD, 2.5BA, 1928sf townhome \$1,149,000 - Call Farida @ 925.784.2524 for showings



**3465 Ashbourne Circle, San Ramon**  
Beautiful 4BD+Office. 4BA, 4,261sf of luxury living space, \$2,488,000  
www.3465Ashbourne.com  
Call Steve @ 925.580.8011 for details



**1262 Greenbrook Drive, Danville**  
4BD, 2.5BA, 2,278sf on 0.7 Acre Lot \$1,588,800, Sold with multiple offers at \$1,860,000. Call Steve @ 925.580.8011 for details



**3731 Whitworth Drive, Dublin**  
Desirable Dublin Ranch Townhome 3 BD, 3.5 Bath, 1,634sf. Listed at \$899,000 Call Farida at 925-784-2524 for more details



**6219 Augusta Way, Livermore**  
3 BD, 2 BA, 1,463sf, Listed at \$978,000 - Received multiple offers, Completely updated with no seller's out of pocket Call Farida @ 95.784.2524 for details



**932 Winsford Court, San Ramon**  
5BD+, 5.5BA, 5,125sf & Views. Listed at \$2.89M. Sold at \$3.3M. 42 Showings In 6 Days 12 Offers



**1087 Hawkshead Circle, San Ramon**  
Just Sold! 67 Showings In 5 Days 13 Offers Received, Closed in 27 Days! Sold For \$3,210,000

**COMPASS** 925.400.7533 | BayAreaHomeFinder.com  
support@bayareahomefinder.com | DRE 01267039

See HOME SALES on Page 20

## HOME SALES

Continued from Page 19

**3838 Dartmouth Way** Mellor Family Trust to D. & R. Pearson for \$840,000  
**2695 Decker Lane** Cederbom Family Trust to J. & E. Benson for \$1,637,000  
**913 Dolores Street** R. Hammer to C. & T. Newsom for \$850,000  
**199 Donner Avenue** Wilkins Family Trust to S. & R. Alomari for \$1,100,000  
**5860 Elder Circle** Davila Family Trust to A. Bains for \$1,525,000  
**1100 Flurry Drive** V. Sakhineti to Y. & W. Xu for \$839,000  
**2125 Harvest Place** J. Krueger to S. & M. Shahid for \$1,890,000  
**152 Heligan Lane #7** W. Offenbacher to B. Gonzales for \$785,000  
**1866 Helsinki Way** E. & S. Grossman to C. & S. McMahan for \$1,335,000  
**567 South L Street** Drummond Trust to Nigg Family Trust for \$1,225,000  
**1554 La Prada Court** S. & K. Wood to R. & Z. Greathouse for \$1,030,000  
**1861 Linden Street** Kyb Homes LLC to Foreverhome Properties LLC for \$640,000  
**126 Martin Avenue** A. & D. Dalby to R. Haro for \$920,000  
**1021 Montclair Court** H. & D. Aulakh to C. & D. Jaramillo for \$1,100,000  
**1955 Monterey Drive** Loomer 2021 Family Trust to J. & J. Vaught for \$650,000  
**598 Morgan Common** R. Brixen to E. Ruiz for \$626,000  
**5543 Oakmont Circle** B. & J. Zheng to L. & J. Asgari for \$910,000  
**883 Old Oak Road** Robinson Trust to D. Daniel for \$1,852,000  
**1853 Paseo Laguna Seco #51** Harris Living Trust to L. & A. Dio for \$603,500  
**3839 Pestana Way** A. & M. Wong to J. & D. Gaff for \$926,000  
**2195 Rhone Drive** K. & M. Emerson to L. & G. Caudle for \$1,875,000

**3088 Rivers Bend Circle** G. & T. Berman to Ginzburg Trust for \$1,470,000  
**509 Saddleback Circle** Mark Trust to N. & C. Chheda for \$970,000  
**607 Saddleback Circle** S. Roesbery to C. Dugan for \$982,000  
**759 Saddleback Circle** Mende Living Trust to J. Jirasevijinda for \$1,060,000  
**581 Saddleback Circle** M. & N. Austin to M. & R. Cowley for \$1,100,000  
**6129 Saint Andrews Way** H. Sposeto to S. & V. Mahabir for \$890,000  
**2937 San Minette Drive** Durian Trust to Desouza Trust for \$1,600,000  
**596 Sandalwood Drive** G. Hutchinson to S. & G. Chugh for \$1,065,000  
**554 Sonoma Avenue** A. Machado to F. & A. Assadi for \$1,025,000  
**1017 Spring Valley Common** J. & F. Cuellar to B. Bray for \$635,000  
**1036 Sunset Drive** Gouveia Trust to C. Lavassani for \$851,000  
**780 Vivian Drive** Spooner Family Trust to L. & B. Mathew for \$1,392,000  
**2052 Westbrook Lane** S. & C. Cameron to M. & B. Vanaski for \$1,500,000  
**1341 Wilton Road** H. & E. Solfvin to Patel Family Trust for \$1,155,000

### Dublin

**5515 Apex Drive** J. & J. Chow to S. & A. Carandang for \$800,000  
**7684 Arbor Creek Circle** Jordan Trust to P. & J. Pattathil for \$896,000  
**8533 Ardmore Place** M. & C. Baldwin to E. & A. Tse for \$1,420,000  
**6537 Bantry Bay Street** D. Elliott to L. Yang for \$910,000  
**4365 Belcarra Court** P. Appanna to M. & S. Jain for \$1,650,000  
**2099 Carbondale Circle** V. & M. Gaikwad to S. & S. Park for \$1,575,000  
**11591 Circle Way** B. & W. Hoffman to D. & J. Durairaj for \$1,340,000  
**4118 Clarinbridge Circle** Lichliter Trust to S. & B. Won for \$720,000  
**7399 Colton Hills Drive** Toll Ca Viii Lp to R. & A. Hussain for \$2,276,500  
**4031 Dobbins Loop** S. Sarnikar to P. & A. Bhattacharya for \$1,185,000  
**5775 Dublin Boulevard** Brookfield Wilshire LLC to N. & V. Zhao for \$885,000  
**5827 Dublin Boulevard** H. & H. Mehta to N. & S. Patibandla for \$1,375,000  
**5524 El Dorado Lane** K. & J. Chih to S. & D. Hor for \$957,500  
**4333 Fitzwilliam Street** M. Asghar to Y. & Z. Wang for \$875,000  
**2625 Forino Drive** X. Guan to M. & K. Colinjivadi for \$1,851,000  
**5437 Gracen Way** Brookfield Fillmore LLC to A. Faiz for \$1,030,000  
**11684 Harlan Road** Leahy Family Trust to Padmanabhan-Sukumar Trust for \$1,800,000  
**8076 Holanda Lane** X. Zeng to P. & D. Metta for \$1,130,000  
**5807 Huntley Avenue** D. Gibson to M. & K. Detert for \$1,250,000  
**4040 Knightstown Street** S. Kang to N. & V. Yadamakanti for \$1,612,000  
**2759 Lahontan Way** Toll Ca Viii Lp to M. & A. Talarides for \$2,086,500  
**6976 North Mariposa Lane** K. Ma to P. & H. Cheung for \$950,000  
**8853 Marwick Court** Anderson Family Trust to Anderson Trust for \$1,710,000  
**3322 Monaghan Street** R. & K. Puri to P. & P. Gopinathan for \$900,000  
**4685 Rimini Court** L. Han to S. Xie for \$1,000,000  
**4626 Sandyford Court** F. Adharsh to P. & K. Kaleeswaran for \$850,000  
**4603 Sandyford Court** A. Srinivasan to C. & P. Bade for \$1,000,000  
**9786 Sara Ann Court** S. & A. Pal to Bhat Family Trust for \$2,230,000  
**7873 Shady Creek Road** C. & J. Mullen to M. & F. Picerno for \$1,450,000

**11493 Silvergate Drive** Harold Trust to J. & D. Guzman for \$1,236,000  
**3969 Twain Harte Road** A. Raghatate to Goodrich Trust for \$1,089,000  
**4303 Westport Way** Theige Living Trust to L. Xi for \$1,210,000

### San Ramon

**9085 Alcosta Boulevard #399** F. Chan to S. & J. Montaner for \$550,000  
**4262 Astor Hollow Street** M. Thummala to M. & K. Prasad for \$1,545,000  
**138 Avalon Court** Kumar Trust to Subramanian Family Trust for \$2,100,000  
**5051 Barrenstar Way** M. Mani to V. & S. Malani for \$1,180,000  
**460 Bollinger Canyon Lane #187** L. & R. Foss to M. & C. Kim for \$650,000  
**5425 Canyon Crest Drive** Fitzpatrick Trust to Woodstone Properties LLC for \$1,825,000.00  
**226 Canyon Woods Way #B** Lee Trust to R. Estrada for \$700,000  
**5872 Cattleya Way** Monteith Trust to M. & X. Shi for \$2,000,000  
**240 Copper Ridge Road** E. Chew to Q. Yu for \$705,000  
**2752 Dos Rios Drive** Cobian Family Trust to C. & P. Gillespie for \$1,760,000  
**158 Eastridge Drive** M. Meneses to J. Xi for \$475,000  
**123 Enchanted Way** C. & J. Bautista to I. & S. Ahmed for \$1,190,000  
**1273 Halifax Way** S. & K. Bhaskar to S. & J. Nakano for \$1,600,000  
**12008 Harcourt Way** E. Paul to X. Meng for \$1,000,000  
**1 Juniper Drive** Limarta Family Trust to M. & R. Orpilla for \$1,350,000  
**11 Lakeridge Court** S. Saha to J. Taylor for \$1,350,000  
**5923 Lantana Way** S. Nomula to Singh Family Trust for \$1,950,000

Source: California REsource

## 1533 Trimmingham Drive, Pleasanton

Open Saturday 2-4 pm and Sunday 1-4 pm



### Danbury Park at its Best!

Don't miss out on this cozy Danbury Park duet. It features: Inviting family room, 3 spacious bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms and 3rd story loft with spiral staircase. Spacious kitchen with granite counters, fresh white cabinets, stainless steel appliances, tile flooring, wine refrigerator, laundry closet and pantry. Other features: Recessed lighting, ceiling fan, some fresh paint, lots of natural light, wood and laminate flooring, 2nd floor outdoor deck and 2 car garage with storage. It's situated on a 5213 sf+/- lot with entertaining backyard with inground pool, deck, patio and beautiful mature landscape with trees and artificial turf. Great location! Close to: Playground, Top Rated Pleasanton Schools, shopping, BART, Ace Train, freeways and so much more.

Offered at: \$1,235,000



**Joyce Jones**

REALTOR, CA Lic. #01348970

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joycejones4homes@gmail.com

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*If you are thinking of buying or selling, let me know. I'd love to help.*





# ARMARIO HOMES

TRI-VALLEY LUXURY REALTY

Who is #1 in Real Estate?  
Our Clients



## TRI-VALLEY SPECIALISTS



3266 NOVARA WAY, RUBY HILL | INQUIRE FOR PRICE



885 BRICCO COURT, RUBY HILL | OFFERED AT \$2,995,000



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530 DOLORES PLACE, PLEASANTON



COMING SOON | INQUIRE FOR PRICE  
1072 RIESLING DRIVE, PLEASANTON



JUST LISTED | \$985,000  
1248 S TIVOLI, MOUNTAIN HOUSE



JUST LISTED | \$1,999,998  
5210 DOOLAN ROAD, LIVERMORE



OFFERED AT \$995,000  
188 VALLEY GLEN LANE, MARTINEZ



OFFERED AT \$1,688,000  
75 TOURMALINE AVENUE, LIVERMORE

## THE ARMARIO HOMES ADVANTAGE

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# THE Murtagh TEAM

TRI-VALLEY REAL ESTATE

## 1080 FINLEY ROAD DANVILLE

6 Bedrooms  
4 Full Baths  
8,000+/- Sq. Ft.

Sold for \$5,140,000



JUST SOLD  
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JUST SOLD WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS



## 20274 FOREST AVE CASTRO VALLEY

3 Bedrooms  
2 Full Baths  
2,210+/- Sq. Ft.

Sold for \$942,000  
20274Forest.com

## 4358 HILLCREST WAY PLEASANTON

3 Bedrooms  
2.5 Bathrooms  
1,877+/- Sq. Ft.

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**WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!**

**RANCHO ARROYO**



**OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4**

**5452 LENORE AVENUE, LIVERMORE**  
2 BD | 2 BA | 967 SF  
OFFERED AT \$755,888

**PLEASANTON OAK PARK**



**PENDING**

**325 LONE OAK DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
3 BD | 2 BA | 1,600 SF  
OFFERED AT \$1,199,888

**VINTAGE HILLS**



**JUST CLOSED**

**529 MALBEC COURT, PLEASANTON**  
4 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,050 SF  
SOLD FOR \$1,560,000

**ROSE PARK**



**JUST CLOSED**

**1558 POPPYBANK COURT, PLEASANTON**  
4 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,900 SF  
SOLD FOR \$1,280,000

**LITTLE VALLEY**



**JUST CLOSED**

**3501 LITTLE VALLEY ROAD, SUNOL**  
3 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,020 SF  
SOLD FOR \$2,200,000

**STONERIDGE**



**JUST SOLD**

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

**COUNTRY FAIR II**



**JUST SOLD**

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

**VINTAGE HILLS**



**JUST SOLD**

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

**STONERIDGE**



**JUST SOLD**

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

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



# Beyond Full Service A Concierge Approach to Real Estate

If you're thinking about selling your home, now is the time. Call us today to learn how our proven strategies can get you the highest possible price for your home.



NEW LISTING

**3556 Madeira Way, Livermore**  
3bd/1.5ba | 1,120 sq.ft | 4,965 sq.ft lot  
OFFERED AT \$849,000



NEW LISTING

**2726 Curlew Court, Pleasanton**  
4bd/3ba | 2,128 sq.ft | 9,958 sq.ft lot  
OFFERED AT \$1,589,000



NEW LISTING

**4151 Munoz Court, Dublin**  
4bd/3ba | 2,127 sq.ft | 4,051 sq.ft lot  
OFFERED AT \$1,450,000



NEW LISTING

**11353 Bloomington Way, Dublin**  
5bd/3ba | 2,405 sq.ft | 11,761 sq.ft lot  
OFFERED AT \$1,649,900



NEW LISTING

**21555 Eden Canyon Road, Castro Valley**  
5bd/4ba | 4,131 sq.ft | 5.95 acre lot  
OFFERED AT \$2,188,000



NEW LISTING

**2261 Via Espada, Pleasanton**  
4bd/3ba | 2124sf | 7000sf lot  
OFFERED AT \$1,549,000



NEW LISTING

**2363 Norwood Rd, Livermore**  
3 bd/2ba | 1664 sf | 13,285 sf lot  
PRICE UPON REQUEST



PENDING

**2213 Via Espada, Pleasanton**  
5bd/2.5ba | 2,378 sq.ft | 6,700 sq.ft lot  
OFFERED AT \$1,689,000



SOLD FOR \$116K OVER ASKING

**1785 Harvest Road, Pleasanton**  
3bd/2ba | 1,520 sq.ft | 9,801 sq.ft lot  
SOLD AT \$1,425,000



"Tim helped us sell our Pleasanton home. His professionalism and experience stood out immediately and gave us total confidence in choosing him to represent us. Not only did he guide us thru the entire process, he actually found a buyer without even having to put the house on the market. The negotiation was stress-free and good for all parties. Could not have been a better experience. HIGHLY recommend Tim McGuire to anyone looking to buy or sell."

Karen Connolly, Pleasanton



Tim McGuire  
Broker  
DRE 01349446



Mark James  
Realtor®  
DRE 00697341



Eva Tia  
Realtor®  
DRE 02072764



Lori Olson  
Realtor®  
DRE 02004247



Karen Carmichael  
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