

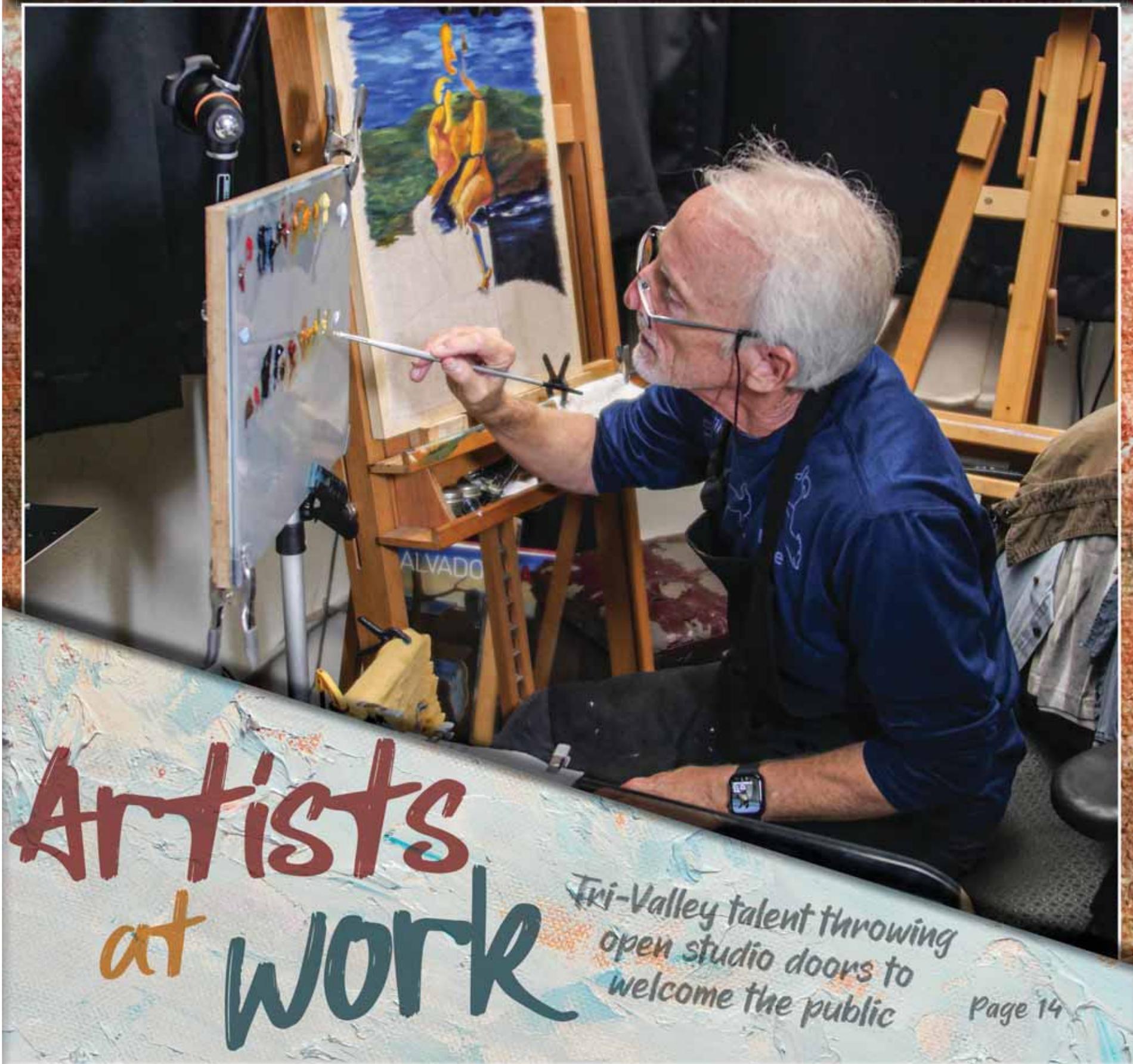
Pleasanton Weekly

**Passion
for acting**

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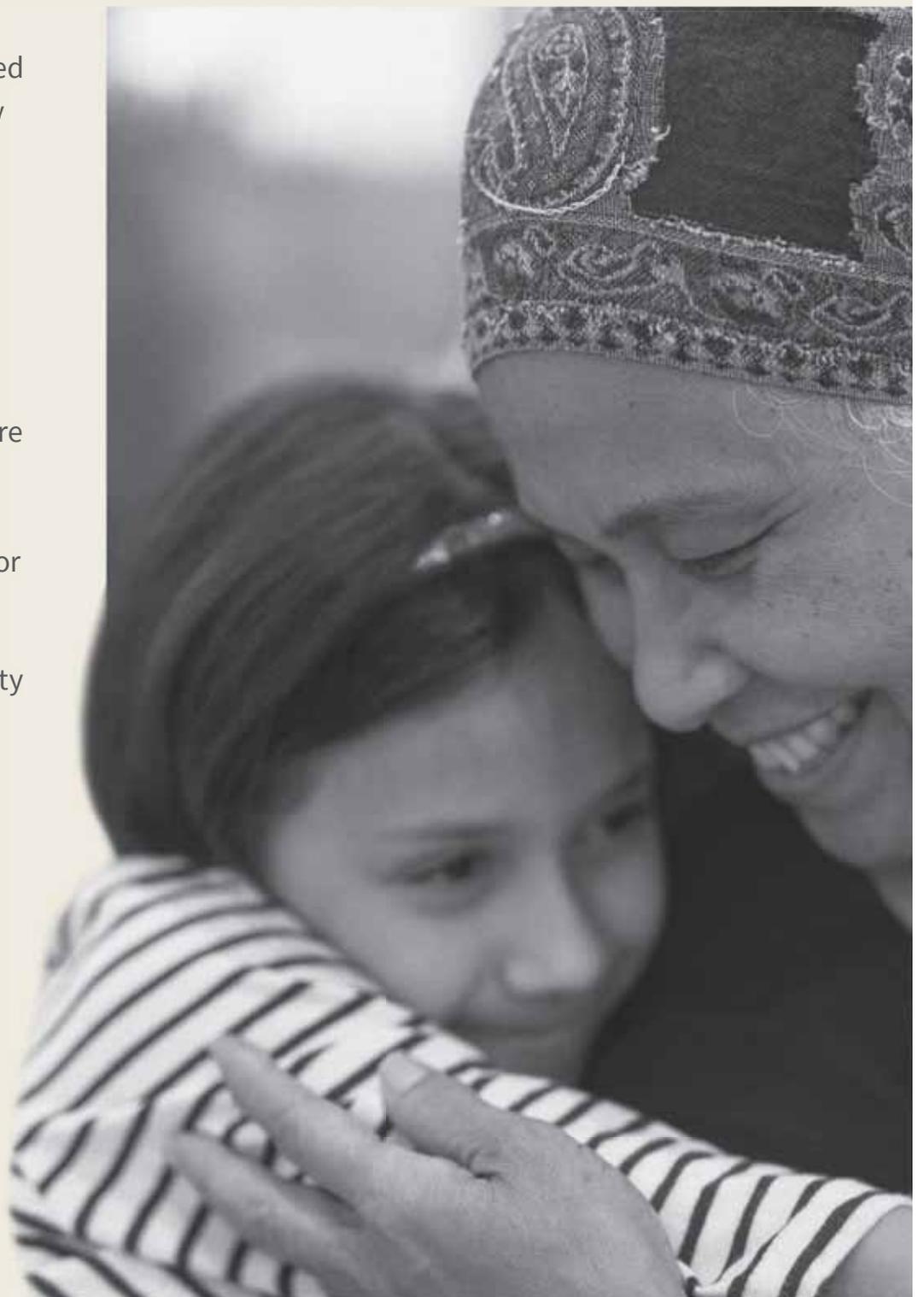


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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Hear from DA candidates



Pamela Price



Terry Wiley



Jimmie Wilson

The race for Alameda County district attorney is already heating up, seven months before the primary election next June.

In what will be one of the most important elections in 2022, with far-reaching impacts across the county, three candidates have already declared their intent to run: civil rights attorney Pamela Price, chief assistant district attorney Terry Wiley and deputy district attorney Jimmie Wilson.

It will be a totally wide-open DA contest for the first time in recent memory, as 12-year incumbent Nancy O'Malley announced in May that she would not seek re-election and step aside when her current term expires in early 2023.

To help voters in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol (and the rest of Alameda County) get to know the candidates so far, we are co-sponsoring a forum next weekend organized by community group Livermore Indivisible.

The online event — with Wilson, Wiley and Price all scheduled to participate — should act as a good primer early on for residents trying to educate themselves about this vital election.

"The idea behind this is to introduce voters to relatively unknown candidates rather informally and encourage support, financially or otherwise, for their choice before the midterm," Livermore Indivisible's Helen Machuga, who will serve as moderator, said of the Nov. 14 forum.

Of course, it's the voter education component that intrigues me and the Weekly about the event (as opposed to drumming up support), but I also understand and accept that the latter is always at play for candidates, often the main motivator for why they take part in public debates.

While Machuga is right that these three candidates are fairly "unknown" to the broader electorate, each appears to be anything but in criminal justice circles in Alameda County.

One of two internal candidates, Wiley has worked for the DA's office for almost as long as I've been alive. Earlier this year he was promoted to chief assistant DA, the first African American person to hold that

position in county history — that months after he was named director of the office's new Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Wilson joined the DA's office 16 years ago, transitioning to a legal career later in adulthood after working years as a union plumber. His past prosecutorial caseload in Alameda County runs the gamut, and no doubt that, along with his life experiences, influence his long list of goals for the department.

Price, a civil rights attorney in private practice, should be a bit more familiar to voters as she ran an unsuccessful bid to unseat O'Malley four years ago. She has doubled down and expanded on her progressive campaign agenda from 2018, now promoting "Pamela's 10-Point Platform" if elected next year.

It's worth noting this might not be the final candidate list. The nomination period in Alameda County for the June 7 primary doesn't even open until Feb. 14.

Price, Wiley and Wilson are the only prospective candidates to publicly come forward to this point — and the fact each has registered a campaign committee with state regulators is a clear sign they'll apply for the ballot.

It is refreshing to see such a diverse group of candidates so far. A variety of professional and personal perspectives is key for elections. Any of these three would be the first Black person ever elected as DA in Alameda County. (Heck, O'Malley's ascension in 2009 marked the first time the county's top prosecutor was not a white man.)

Remember that all candidates who qualify will appear on the primary ballot, and unless one wins an outright majority of all participating voters at that time (50% plus one), the top two finishers in June will advance to a runoff election in November.

So Tri-Valley voters, consider educating yourself early and often. Check out the online forum, which starts at 1:30 p.m. next Sunday (Nov. 14). Register at trivalleyrocks/ACDA2022.

If you'd like to suggest a question for the candidates, email moderator Machuga by 5 p.m. this Monday at livermoreindivisible@gmail.com. ■

About the Cover

Dennis Baker, who paints in oils and currently focuses on abstract figures, will welcome visitors to his studio in Livermore next weekend during the Tri Valley Artist Studio Tour, which is featuring 57 artists throughout the area. Photo by Cierra Bailey. Cover design by Doug Young.

Vol. XXII, Number 41

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What is the one quality that you most appreciate having in a co-worker/colleague?



Jordan Walker
Middle school student

There are actually a lot of qualities I would like in a co-worker. I would want them to be kind and cooperative, and to be able to work and communicate well with me. A great attitude and a desire for a positive environment are also qualities I'd appreciate in a co-worker.



Sammy Hurtado
Flight attendant

I really like it when my co-workers are very organized, as this means our flight will go smoothly, everything will be streamlined and there will be no clutter or uncleanliness aboard our flight. So important.



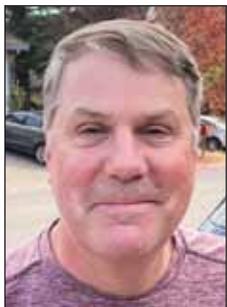
Melissa Perez
Receptionist

The quality I most admire in a co-worker is someone who is a true team player — someone who will pitch in and help out without thinking any job is beneath them. I also appreciate co-workers who are genuinely happy and bring a happy energy to work with them each day.



Rachel Wyatt
Flight attendant

I would have to say professionalism. Because when someone shows up on time and well-prepared, it really sets the tone for the upcoming flight. A professional demeanor in a co-worker gives me confidence that we'll work well together, and have a good, uneventful flight — which of course is our major goal these days.



Gregory Crofton
Financial adviser

To me, the most important quality in a co-worker is a "can-do" attitude. I want to work with someone who'll say "Yes we can!" and "We will get this done!" That's what I want to hear.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Veterans Day Parade

The Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony returns this Sunday (Nov. 7) with the procession down Main Street in Pleasanton starting at 1 p.m. in front of the Veterans Memorial Building followed by a post-parade ceremony at 2 p.m.

The annual parade, which is traditionally held one weekend before Veterans Day to allow local veterans to attend ceremonies elsewhere in the Tri-Valley or Bay Area on the actual holiday, will this year be dedicated to Pleasanton Military Families. Group founder Chris Miller, president Kim Beatty and past-president Patrice Frizzell will serve as parade grand marshals.

More than 50 entries are expected to be featured in this year's parade, including many military vehicles, the Foothill High School marching band, Scout troops, equestrian teams and a 47-foot speed boat called "Patriotic Duty" (on a trailer). The parade will be held rain or shine.

The 2 p.m. ceremony outside of the veterans hall will include an ice cream social and performance of patriotic music by the Pleasanton Community Concert Band under the direction of Bob Williams.

How to recycle

Pleasanton city officials are hosting "Recycling and Composting | A Waste Sorting Workshop" next week as part of its Community Education Series.

Focusing on climate change policy impacting the Pleasanton community, the workshop will include high school intern speakers from the Go Green Initiative who will help "teach proper waste sorting and how to address waste management using home recycling and composting bins," officials said.

The workshop, which will be free and held virtually, will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday (Nov. 9). Register only at pleasantonfun.com, with course code No. 4369.

Interim city manager

Pleasanton officials announced Wednesday that assistant city manager Brian Dolan is expected to be appointed as interim city manager, pending contract approval, to lead the city during the transition period after longtime City Manager Nelson Fialho retires on Nov. 30.

The move follows news that the council has selected Avery Associates as the executive search firm to oversee the recruitment process to find Fialho's permanent successor. City officials expect that process will take four to six months, with the goal of bringing an employment agreement forward with the top candidate by early 2022. ■

Board backs school police agreement; city leaders postpone consideration

Council also delays debate on mental health response pilot program

By JULIA BAUM

An originally packed agenda for the Pleasanton City Council meeting on Tuesday ended up being quieter than planned, after a couple of voting items concerning school resource officer (SRO) and mental health response pilot programs were continued to later this month.

Staff proposed continuing the formation of a mental health response pilot program to the Nov. 16 council meeting, while Vice Mayor Julie Testa asked to continue an update to a memorandum of understanding with Pleasanton Unified School District about the SRO program to the same date. It

was not explained why both items were postponed.

Changes to the program were brought up last year following the death of George Floyd, with residents including many youths telling city leaders that they thought the SRO program needed reforming, while others said they wanted to end the 19 year-old program entirely.

"Through this partnership, the city of Pleasanton has provided two full-time school resource officers throughout the school district to enhance school safety, strengthen the relationship between youth and law enforcement, and enhance educational opportunities centered on

positive interaction with youth in our community," staff said in a report.

The draft MOU was unanimously approved by the PUSD Board of Trustees at its Oct. 28 meeting. The trustees gave feedback for proposed amendments to the MOU, which was prepared after 2,256 parents, staff and parents in the district responded to a survey about the program earlier this year. The City Council, Youth Commission and city/PUSD liaison committee also weighed in during various stages of the process.

Survey respondents "showed a high level of support for the program and a general increased feel-

ing of safety when having SROs on campus," according to a city staff report, and also "indicated they would like to continue the SRO program as is."

Other respondents said they wanted to continue the program, but "with some changes." Almost 79% of parents/guardians and district staff, and 47.8% of students who took the survey said the SRO program "should continue as is or continue with changes."

According to city staff, the draft MOU was "amended to include specific language on access to student records and a definition of

See **COUNCIL** on Page 8



RON ESSEX

From left: Moderator Guy Marzorati, Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner, Danville Mayor Renee Morgan, Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez, Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown and San Ramon Mayor Dave Hudson at the Oct. 28 Tri-Valley Mayors' Summit.

Mayors highlight regional collaboration

Pandemic recovery, Valley Link, housing, redistricting among topics at Tri-Valley Mayors' Summit

By CIERRA BAILEY

The five mayors of the Tri-Valley came together last week for their annual Mayors' Summit where they discussed individual and collaborative projects going on within the region as well as their visions for the future.

Hosted by the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, the summit was held in person for the first time since the start of the pandemic.

More than 300 guests representing all five communities filled

the amphitheater lawn at Wente Vineyards on Oct. 28 to hear the mayors speak, including other city officials and staff, county officials, chamber representatives, business leaders, law enforcement officials and residents.

The event was the first for the five current mayors together as Livermore's Bob Woerner, Dublin's Melissa Hernandez and Pleasanton's Karla Brown are all new to the role, having been elected in 2020, while San Ramon's Dave Hudson and Danville's Renee

Morgan have served as mayors for their respective communities in previous years.

The conversation — moderated by KQED's Guy Marzorati — covered various topics, including pandemic recovery, housing, employment and redistricting, among other issues.

Morgan was the first to answer one of the leading questions about the economic impact of the pandemic. In her response, she

See **MAYORS** on Page 6

Tri-Valley unsuccessful in RHNA appeals

Housing reductions denied for Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville

By JULIA BAUM

Appeals from four Tri-Valley cities to reduce their Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) assignments were recently denied, affirming that each jurisdiction will be required to plan for — but not necessarily build — more than 17,000 new housing units combined.

The cities of Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon, as well as the town of Danville, all argued during recent hearings for the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) that their proposed new housing allotments during the 2023-31 sixth housing cycle presented too many challenges. Under the RHNA process, Bay Area cities are required to identify sites to accommodate their share of assigned housing units.

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown told the Weekly, "There is a shortage of housing, and it is difficult for some folks that want to live in Pleasanton to find a home," but said "an allocation of 5,965 dwelling units is excessive for a town of about 80,000 residents."

City staff asked to lower Pleasanton's RHNA allocation by 20%, or 1,193 units, to a new total of 4,473

See **RHNA APPEALS** on Page 10

Pearl Harbor survivor to speak at LPC's Veterans Day event

Ganitch to share stories from his time in Navy during webinar Thursday

By CIERRA BAILEY

U.S. Navy veteran and Pearl Harbor survivor Michael "Mickey" Ganitch is set to take the virtual stage to speak at Las Positas College's (LPC) Veterans Day webinar.

Presented by the college's Veterans First program and Student Veterans organization, the event is scheduled for next Thursday (Nov. 11) at 11 a.m.

"It's an opportunity to hear firsthand from a hero who served our country," Veterans First supervisor Todd Steffan said of the annual event, which was previously



Mickey Ganitch

held in person on the LPC campus before the pandemic.

Each year, the college's veteran groups invite a different keynote speaker to share their stories, according to Steffan.

"This is an opportunity to honor our veterans and military personnel and to learn of the sacrifices these individuals have made for our country," Steffan said, adding that as the years pass there are less chances for people to get firsthand accounts of history from senior veterans like Ganitch.

Ganitch, 101, was on the USS Pennsylvania (BB-38) at Pearl Harbor naval base near Honolulu, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941, when Japanese forces carried out a surprise airstrike against U.S. ships.

Ganitch — who said he was just

22 years old at the time — was a member of his ship's football team and prior to the attack had been getting ready to play a scrimmage match against another ship's team.

"I didn't have time to change clothes or nothing," Ganitch said, adding that he was well protected with all of his football padding on during the attack.

Ganitch said that his ship was dry docked that morning because it needed some maintenance work on the propellers, which meant they were not at their usual post at the base.

"The first attack did not hit us because they knew where all the ships were at, they knew the names of the ships, they knew everything but we were not in our normal place," Ganitch said.

Ganitch said his ship was eventually spotted and hit with a 500-pound bomb in the second attack that exploded two decks below him and shook him but didn't hurt him. "If it had exploded on contact, I wouldn't be here," Ganitch said.

As one of the oldest and last living survivors of Pearl Harbor, Ganitch said he's often sought for speaking engagements at schools and veteran organizations. Prior to the pandemic, he said he was averaging between 30 to 35 speaking engagements per year.

"I talk to anyone who wants to listen to me but mainly schools because kids are the future of our country, so I like to talk to the kids. They're paying attention and they're listening," Ganitch said.

Ganitch said that although shift-

ing from in person events to virtual was an adjustment for him, he doesn't mind as long as he has a way to get his message out to people.

To his knowledge, Ganitch said there are about 40 Pearl Harbor survivors still living and the youngest he knows of is 97 years old. However, he said that he found over the years that not all of the survivors joined veteran associations, so there could be more survivors that he doesn't know about.

During LPC's event, Ganitch is set to share the full story of his experience at Pearl Harbor as well as his time in the Navy before and after the historical moment.

The event is free but registration is required. Visit laspositascollege.edu. ■

MAYORS

Continued from Page 5

highlighted the fact that the shift to conducting business and town meetings virtually pushed Danville "into the future."

"With Zoom, I was able to be more productive, attending so many meetings online with less miles traveled on the road, less greenhouse gas emissions and so many other things," Morgan said.

She also said that overall, the town saw an uptick in the community's civic engagement, and that as a result, the town plans to shift their meetings to a hybrid model of in person and virtual beyond the pandemic.

In response to the same question, Hernandez highlighted that Dublin

is in "great financial shape" as a city, which she attributed to "so many years of being fiscally conservative" as well as having "great leadership" on the councils of the past and present.

The mayors also addressed the initiatives they launched to help businesses recover in their respective communities and the region as a whole, including their work with Visit Tri-Valley to encourage shopping small and local across all five communities.

"I'll speak for all five cities; we are here, we're easy to get a hold of," Brown said, addressing the business owners and residents in the audience. "If you're struggling, call us and we're here to help."

Hudson echoed Brown's comments, also noting that he is most

proud of San Ramon's improved Meals on Wheels program that has helped support seniors throughout the pandemic. "We went from a Meals on Wheels program that was virtually non-existent to providing 43,000 meals to seniors," he said.

"When we talk about your job as a leader, it isn't just for the people that have, it's the people that have not. And I think we did a tremendous job on that," Hudson added.

Woerner's response spoke to the resilience of Livermore's business community. "In downtown, we lost 11 businesses but gained 13, we lost a certain number of jobs but gained more," Woerner said, adding that sales tax has also recovered after taking a substantial hit earlier in the pandemic.

Woerner said that housing would

be the area where the city will see the most changes, with prices increasing, particularly as suburban areas with more open space and larger homes have become more attractive to families who have transitioned to working from home.

"Prices have gone up in Livermore, now the average is over \$1 million and that's a 25% increase," Woerner said. He also noted that the ongoing housing crisis has prompted more emphasis on affordable housing.

When asked about their collaborative efforts as a region, all five mayors agreed that the Valley Link commuter light rail system is a priority to move forward.

"The five of us came together and said the priority is Valley Link, and we're going back to Washington D.C. to get money," Hudson said, adding improvements to Interstate 680 as another example.

Valley Link proposes to add seven new passenger light rail service stations along a 42-mile corridor between the eastern Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station and the planned Altamont Corridor Express North Lathrop Station. Once in service, Valley Link would provide 74 daily round trips and is expected to carry more than 33,000 daily riders by 2040.

"Valley Link has to get going; it can't be on the backburner. It has to be the priority in this decade," Hudson said, followed by applause.

The collaboration between the five communities came up again during a discussion about redistricting, a once-in-a-decade process in which local, state and federal governments use new data from the 2020 census to redraw their district lines to reflect how local populations have changed.

"We are stronger in numbers, we're stronger when we're together," Morgan said. "Our greatest gift is the partnership that we share as Alameda County and Contra Costa

County."

In reference to recent draft maps from the California Citizens Redistricting Commission that indicate parts of the Tri-Valley could be divided into different districts, Morgan said that she does not want the region to be separated.

"I would hate to see all of us as a collaborative group — from the Tri-Valley mayors and the Tri-Valley region — to be split apart and not have this partnership," she said.

Hudson, Woerner, Brown and Hernandez all echoed similar sentiments, expressing a desire to keep the Tri-Valley together.

The mayors closed out the approximately hour-long conversation with a discussion looking ahead to their long-term visions, including the Innovation Tri-Valley 2040 Vision Plan, which is a proposed plan for expanding and accelerating economic growth in the region.

While there is no formal action on the vision plan yet, Hudson cited climate change as one of the key areas of focus for the region. He also said that he wants to hold a retreat in San Ramon dedicated to reimagining the community.

Woerner mentioned Livermore's ongoing General Plan update process, Morgan reiterated Danville's efforts to prioritize more virtual and digital options to engage the community and Hernandez highlighted reinvesting in Dublin's existing facilities and infrastructure and moving in the direction of becoming more green.

Brown spoke of expanding broadband throughout the city of Pleasanton to improve telecommunications and continuing to support the collaboration with the city's hospitals, Sutter Health and Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare. She cited the thousands of COVID-19 vaccinations that were distributed at the Alameda County Fairgrounds as a successful example of the partnership. ■

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Alameda County eases mask requirements in some settings

Health department cites declining COVID-19 hospitalizations and cases

Residents of Alameda County were allowed to lower not just their Halloween mask on Monday but their COVID-19 one too in certain situations, county health officials announced.

Residents can lower their masks in some indoor settings when everyone is fully vaccinated, thanks to declining coronavirus cases and hospitalizations in the county.

Eligible settings include controlled spaces closed to the public such as offices, gyms, employee commuter vehicles, and other places, such as churches, where groups gather on a regular basis.

“Allowing vaccinated people to remove their masks in these limited, controlled settings carries lower risk,” Alameda County health officer Dr. Nicholas Moss said in a statement. “If vaccinated people choose to continue wearing masks, they should feel comfortable doing so.”

No more than 100 people can gather without masks, everyone must be free of COVID-19 symptoms and the host organization, such as the church or business, must verify that everyone attending is fully vaccinated.

Proof of vaccination can be a vaccination card issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or a foreign government that includes the person’s name, type of vaccine given, and the date or dates of the dose or doses.

Proof also can be a photo or copy of a vaccination card either on paper or stored on an electronic device,

documentation from a health care provider, or a state of California personal digital vaccine record or similar record from another state, local or foreign government.

Hosts must also confirm each person’s identity using a government-issued photo ID.

Mask requirements are still in effect for public settings such as bars, restaurants, and retail stores as well as at K-12 schools. Also, California still requires masks for all unvaccinated people in indoor public places, and everyone must wear a mask in health care facilities, adult and senior care facilities and on public transit.

Employers can check with the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health for requirements for work-related activities.

The city of Berkeley eased masking requirements too Monday in a similar way as Alameda County. Contra Costa, San Francisco, Marin and Sonoma counties have relaxed masking requirements in similar ways recently.

“We’re looking forward to the day when we can safely remove all masking requirements,” Moss said. “To help us get there, we strongly encourage every eligible, unvaccinated person to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

“If you are 65 and older or have increased risk of severe illness due to other health or risk factors or are otherwise eligible, get your booster dose,” he said. ■

—Bay City News Service



FIREHOUSE ARTS

Tom Petty tribute band at Firehouse

The Big Jangle Band, a Bay Area group dedicated to playing songs made famous by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers (plus a few other cover hits), are taking to the Firehouse Arts Center stage later this month. Tickets range from \$17 to \$27 for the show at 8 p.m. Nov. 28. Visit www.firehousearts.org.



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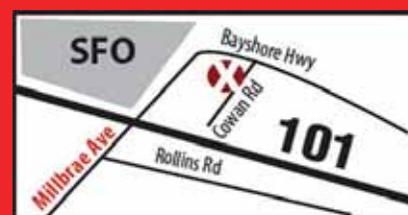
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New 3VCF aims to connect those in need with local donors

Leaders launch Three Valleys Community Foundation

A new community foundation backed by some significant local names in the Tri-Valley launched this week, with a goal of connecting those in need with those with means as fast and as directly as possible.

The Three Valley Community Foundation is named after the Amador, Livermore and San Ramon valleys, which is the area encompassing Livermore, Pleasanton, Sunol, Dublin, San Ramon, Danville, and Alamo.

“Our goal is to broaden local philanthropic support, benefiting not only our local nonprofits

as they build capacity and serve with strength, but also local donors by connecting them with the most immediate and pressing community needs,” said John Sensiba, chair of the 3VCF board of directors, in a statement.

“Three Valleys will do this via donor advised funds (DAF’s), direct gifts and endowment opportunities,” Sensiba said. “We will also work to support local nonprofits via agency funds and grantmaking.”

Local community and business leaders have been working to establish the foundation for more

than a year. The group said it received expedited approval by the IRS as a 501c3 tax exempt nonprofit.

“Over the past year we’ve sought the advice of more than 50 local, state and national community foundation experts,” 3VCF founder and board member Susan Houghton said. “We are committed to incorporating their best practices, as well as the accreditation requirements outlined by the Council on Foundations, a leadership association of grantmaking foundations and corporations.”

Among the local philanthropic

organizations initially partnering with 3VCF are Community Foundation of San Joaquin, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Community Initiatives, Northern California Grantmakers and the East Bay Community Foundation.

Fremont Bank will provide banking services, and among the group’s “Founding Champions” include Alameda County supervisors David Haubert and Nate Miley and several local corporations. Other Founding Champions include Bishop Ranch, Wente Family Estates, Sensiba San Filippo, and The Livermore

Independent.

“The annual GDP of our area is more than \$42 billion,” Sensiba said. “Yet less than half of a percent comes back to support the more than 350 local nonprofits serving our communities. Three Valleys Community Foundation desires to increase this proportion of local giving to create a region where every single person has the opportunity to live a full and rewarding life.”

For more information, visit the foundation website at www.3vcf.org. ■

—Tony Hicks, BCN Foundation

Livermore council to take final vote on proposed wine heritage district

2% assessment on sales would fund entity focusing on Tri-Valley wineries, vineyards

BY CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore City Council is set to cast its deciding vote on the proposed Livermore Valley Wine Heritage District (LVWHD) at its regular meeting next week.

If approved by the council on Monday, the 56-winery benefit assessment district is projected to generate \$693,000 in its first year, according to city staff.

“With the increased budget that the (LVWHD) will generate, our winery and vineyard owners will have a greater ability to increase visibility, draw traffic to the valley, increase sales and positively impact the long-term financial health of our winery and hospitality community in Livermore,” said Steven Mirassou, board president of

the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association and member of the LVWHD steering committee.

The formation of the LVWHD is sponsored by the winegrowers association and will include all wineries located within the boundaries of Alameda and Contra Costa counties and the cities of Livermore and Dublin, and the town of Danville.

The city of Livermore will act as the lead agency for the district, collecting an annual assessment of 2% of winery sales made in the state of California over a five-year term that would begin retroactively on July 1, 2021, according to a presentation by Adam Van de Water, director of the city’s Office of Innovation

and Economic Development. However, the collection of assessments wouldn’t start until Jan. 1, 2022.

“The district is designed to provide specific benefits to payors by increasing winery sales in the Livermore Valley, marketing and brand awareness, community and industry advocacy, quality enhancement and education, and sales promotion,” Van de Water said in his report during the Sept. 13 City Council meeting.

Following the staff presentation at the Sept. 13 meeting, the council unanimously approved a resolution of intent to form the wine heritage district. At its Oct. 11 meeting, the council held a public hearing to receive testimony on the proposal.



BARRY ZUPAN/COURTESY OF LWVA

City officials are set to debate the proposed Livermore Valley Wine Heritage District, which would encompass local vineyards like this one.

According to city staff, this process is in accordance with the Property and Business Improvement District Law of 1994, which requires the city to hold a public meeting at least 10 days after adopting the resolution of intent to form and at least seven days before a final public hearing and adoption of a resolution of formation.

The process also requires obtaining consent from the two counties and other cities within the affected area.

Mirassou was among the three speakers who shared public comment at the Oct. 11 hearing, all expressing support for the formation of the LVWHD. The final public hearing and council vote is set for Monday (Nov. 8). ■

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 5

de-escalation strategies.” On Oct. 28, the PUSD trustees also unanimously supported adding minor language to the SRO program goals to include building relationships between the police and students.

Amended language under a description of representative duties on Page 2 of the MOU states, “SROs will have access to student educational records as allowable by the California Education Code and PUSD board policies and administrative regulations on student records,” and that “PUSD will not release student information or student records to non-educational organizations or to non-school officials or employees, without parent consent, except by court order, receipt of lawfully issued subpoena, or when otherwise allowed by law.”

One page in the MOU receiving

more attention is Page 8, which states that SROs “will, when appropriate, engage in de-escalation tactics to resolve conflict.” District officials proposed expanding the definition of deescalation to being “the process of using strategies and techniques intended to decrease the intensity of a situation including, but not limited to, using restorative practices, verbal and non-verbal communication techniques and non-confrontational practices to gain control.”

City staff said they are “supportive” of amending the program goals but “changing the definition of de-escalation to include restorative practices is problematic as restoration of a relationship occurs between the involved parties after the incident has resolved and not in the throes of crisis — which is when de-escalation practices are employed.”

Instead, staff recommended de-

leting the reference to restorative practices and “inserting the words, ‘when possible’ prior to non-confrontational practices.”

“Staff understands and supports the continued use of verbal and non-verbal communication techniques and currently employs non-confrontational strategies, when possible, in all aspects of its service to the community,” they said.

Though the draft MOU was delayed, members of the community including several Amador Valley High students were still able to speak about the document’s most recently proposed amendments during public comment before the council on Tuesday.

Holly Fletcher, a senior at Amador and vice president of the Grassroots Law Project local chapter, said “there are still changes that must be made in the MOU” including “language clearly stating parental notification” take place

before students are interrogated by an SRO.

“We have heard from our allies, parents and students that there’s a concern that interrogation of minors could occur without parental notification,” Fletcher said. “Isn’t this a violation of due process?”

The group also asked for clarification on an item concerning a multidisciplinary mental health response and “notification of parents or caregivers when determining it is safe to do so.”

“In this scenario, what does ‘after determining it is safe to do so’ mean? We ask that you clarify what ‘safe to do so’ means in the context of this item,” Fletcher added.

Several other students who phoned in also said “the lack of language around parental notification before a criminal interrogation is particularly concerning,” and asked “what criteria will be used to evaluate the lasting effectiveness

of the MOU.” In addition, students also wanted “a concrete number or percentage reduction be stated to know what we are aiming for.”

Resident John Bauer said, “People believe that the role of the SRO is to keep students, teachers and administrators safe. But the current MOU doesn’t say that; it dances around this subject.”

“Why does the MOU not specifically and explicitly state that the purpose of the MOU or the responsibility of the SRO is to keep students safe?” Bauer said. “It’s very simple; people believe from the survey that the police are on campus to keep students safe. It’s very simple; the MOU should state the police are there to keep students, teachers and administrators safe.”

If adopted, the MOU will expire on June 30, 2024. Costs for running the \$417,094 program, including two full-time officers, will be funded by the city. ■



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BART could exhaust federal relief funds, face 9-figure deficits by 2024

Ridership only one-quarter of 2019 levels amid slow return to office for workers

BART could face nine-figure budget deficits as soon as the 2023-24 fiscal year without a significant increase in its operating revenue, the transit agency's budget officials said last week.

The concern, BART financial planning director Michael Eiseman told the agency's Board of Directors on Oct. 28, is that while ridership is currently ahead of projected totals through September, the Bay Area's slow return to offices could trickle down to a long-term loss of fare revenue for BART.

According to data from the Bay Area Council, office occupancy as of mid-October is only at roughly one-quarter of 2019 levels in both the San Francisco and San Jose metro areas.

Both totals trail Los Angeles, which sits at 33.1% and the Houston, Austin and Dallas metro areas, all of which hover around 50%.

Eiseman noted that BART's weekday ridership recovery has been closely aligned with Bay Area residents returning to their offices, as the agency is hovering between 25% and 30% of its pre-pandemic weekday ridership.

"The two stats have tracked very closely throughout the pandemic," he said, "which just underscores how important return-to-work timelines and extent is to our ridership future."

BART's current budget includes a widespread projected return to the office over the next six months, with a baseline expectation of 50 percent of pre-pandemic weekday ridership returning to the system by March.

Eiseman also shared data from the Bay Area Council showing that most employers in the region expect their employees to be in the office only three days per week once the pandemic subsides.

While BART still has hundreds

of millions of dollars in federal pandemic relief funding available, Eiseman told the board that that funding is expected to be depleted by fiscal year 2023 or 2024, depending on the deficits the agency needs to cover over the next two years.

Fare revenue is also not expected to account for two-thirds of BART's operating revenue as it did before the pandemic, leaving BART facing the task of creating an entirely new operating revenue stream as well as maximizing non-fare revenue like advertising and parking or exploring additional regional, state or federal subsidies.

Eiseman also noted that the agency's looming financial shortfalls are also unlikely to be assuaged by reducing service hours as the agency did during much of 2020.

"Because of the relatively high fixed costs and low marginal cost of operating rail service, combined with

the importance of ridership recovery for our revenue, we don't believe that service cuts would improve our fiscal position in this environment," he said.

BART budget director Chris Simi acknowledged the same, saying that BART cannot "cut our way out of this."

"Without significant additional revenues, BART cannot continue to operate as it does now," Simi told the board.

Earlier this year, BART's budget officials suggested that ridership wouldn't even return to 80% of pre-pandemic levels until the end of the 2020s.

At the meeting, Simi said the agency's worst-case projections include the recovery of 65% of pre-pandemic ridership by 2026.

"This is a very sobering discussion," Board Director Liz Ames said. "I had a feeling this was going to hap-

pen last year."

Budget officials said in the coming fiscal years, they will work with the board to expand their budgetary planning window from one year to two.

While the board will still adopt an annual budget, Simi said the two-year financial planning window will make it easier for the transit agency to plan for the exhaustion of its federal relief funds.

The first such two-year planning window will be for the 2024 and 2025 fiscal years, according to BART budget officials.

"It is particularly relevant right now as a two-year expenditure planning window includes, in our (worst-case) scenario, the date we may be expending our final federal dollars," Simi said. "This approach allows us to mitigate the risk by addressing it earlier." ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

Tri-Valley schools make inaugural Best K-8 Schools rankings

Sites in Pleasanton, Dublin, Sunol, San Ramon among state's top 100

By JULIA BAUM

Eight Tri-Valley elementary and middle schools, including three each in Dublin and San Ramon, made the state's top 100 in several categories for U.S. News & World Report's recently released inaugural Best K-8 Schools rankings.

Among California's 5,534

ranked public elementary schools — the most of any state, according to the report — Amador and Cottonwood Elementary in Dublin were No. 59 and No. 91, respectively, followed by Baldwin in San Ramon (No. 83) and Mohr in Pleasanton (No. 95).

Using 2018-19 state assessment data from the U.S. Depart-

ment of Education, the rankings only include public schools and focus on both proficiency and performance for math and reading. More than 80,000 public elementary and middle schools around the U.S. were ranked at the state and district level, and separate categories were also created for Best Charter School and

Best Magnet School.

California also has the most ranked middle schools (2,319), with four sites in Dublin, San Ramon and Sunol all earning spots in the top 100 this year.

Gale Ranch and Windemere Ranch middle schools in San Ramon made the list at No. 55 and No. 21, and Fallon Middle in

Dublin was ranked No. 50 while Sunol Glen School in unincorporated Sunol was ranked No. 31 in the state.

Earlier this year, both Foothill and Amador Valley high schools in Pleasanton were ranked No. 61 and No. 62 in the state, along with Dougherty Valley High (No. 23) in San Ramon. ■

RHNA APPEALS

Continued from Page 5

units, according to Brown, "based on many vital local factors" and other "issues of concern" including "limited clean water supplies, and limited land available for more housing, which may require the removal and conversion of business buildings currently used for local jobs."

In the appeal, the city also highlighted its "super commuters" that are known for driving long distances to jobs in the Bay Area and Silicon Valley.

"As the city works hard to control our greenhouse gas emissions, it is counter intuitive to require residents to endure excessive vehicle commute routes," Brown said.

Dublin's appeal was also denied, a decision that Mayor Melissa Hernandez said in a statement "is discouraging in light of the work that we have already done, and what we are planning to provide, in terms of a variety of housing options for many different income levels in our community."

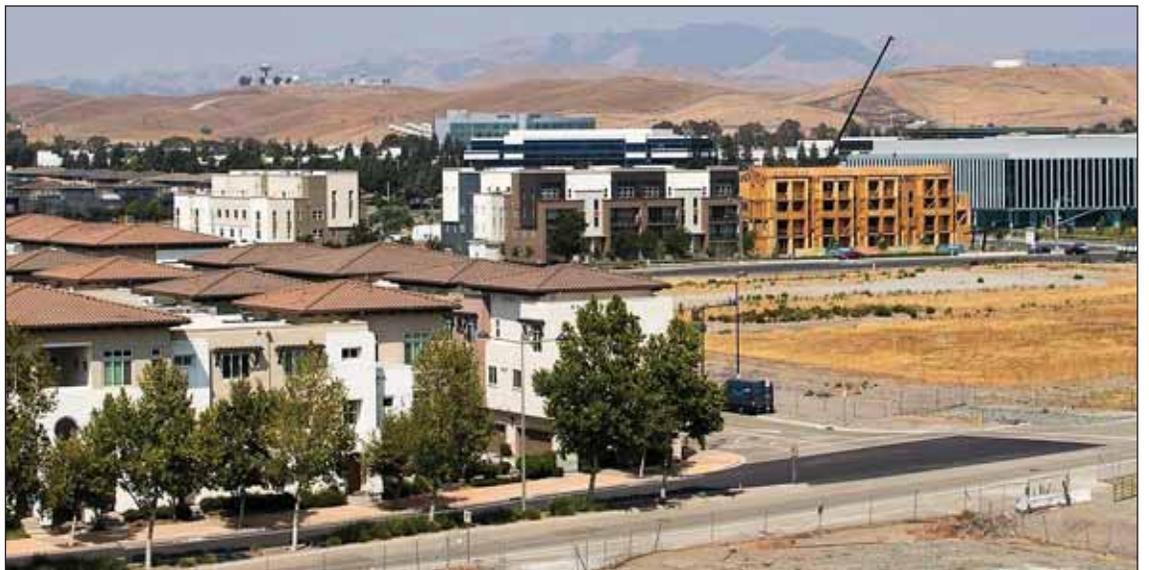
Representatives for Dublin argued unsuccessfully that 2,267 of 3,719

assigned units — 1,449 above-moderate units and 818 very-low, low and moderate income units — should be reallocated to other parts of the Bay Area, in light of the city's 44% population increase from 2010 to 2019.

"We will continue to move forward, preparing our Housing Element to accommodate the RHNA as required by state law," Hernandez said.

Danville also sought to reduce its RHNA share of 2,241 units by 600 to 800, citing limited public transportation and other factors. Officials said, "The likelihood of success for any RHNA appeal is very low due to two main factors: the narrowly defined legal grounds for an appeal and because any reduction in one city's RHNA means it must be offset with increases to other cities."

"Although the town of Danville is not required to build housing, it is the responsibility of local governments to plan for housing by ensuring that there are sufficient lands to accommodate the housing assignment," officials said. "This is accomplished by updating the Housing Element to identify the parcels where



FILE PHOTO/MIKE SEDLAK

Photo from this summer shows construction underway on new multi-unit housing not far from other recently opened apartment complexes in Dublin. The city of Dublin -- like its three counterparts in the Tri-Valley -- fully lost its appeal asking for revised RHNA assignments.

housing could be built.

Officials plan to solicit input from residents on housing sites via the DanvilleTownTalks.org platform during the next phase of community outreach.

San Ramon also disagreed with its draft allocation of 5,111 units

but instead focused their appeal on perceived "flaws in the RHNA process and data utilization that has resulted in a disproportionate housing numbers," instead of requesting to reduce their allocation by any specific amount, and cited its "jobs-rich community."

However, deputy city manager Steven Spedowski told the Weekly. "I believe the decision is pretty much finalized at this point. We don't have any additional comments. I have not heard anything about a challenge, at this point I do not expect any additional actions from San Ramon." ■

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Warren Shukis
Martha Siebert
Harvey Siegel
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Daniel Simone
Barbara Simons
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Mary Claire Sites
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Artists at work

Tri-Valley talent throwing open studio doors to welcome the public

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Swati Rastogi, a mixed media artist, will be at the F.Co. Gallery for the Tri Valley Artist Studio Tour. Fifty-seven artists will open their own studios or show their works and techniques at Firehouse Arts Center in Livermore, and Art Process and F.Co. Gallery in Dublin.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Wei-Ting Chuang of Pleasanton, who specializes in watercolor, Asian bush and oil pastels, will be at the Firehouse Arts Center studios.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Emelie Rogers, who works in fused glass, jewelry, textiles and metals, will welcome visitors to her home studio in Pleasanton.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lynda Briggs, who works in acrylics and mixed media, says her paintings "are born from a place of free spirit, celebrating vitality and uniqueness." She will be at the Bothwell Arts Center.

The Tri Valley Artist Studio Tour next weekend is offering a variety of venues to glimpse the creative process.

Fifty-seven artists will welcome visitors into their homes, studios and collectives from Danville to Dublin to Pleasanton to Livermore to view demonstrations, see art for sale, and talk about their techniques and inspiration.

The free tour has been a year in the making, as organizers Anne Giancola and Dennis Baker have brainstormed with area artists on the best way to host longtime art lovers as well as the newly curious in enjoyable and informative formats.

"We are excited to show off the beauty of Tri-Valley art," said Giancola, president of the Alliance for the Visual Arts. "People definitely like to see artists working. They are always curious about the process."

"It's a combination of 'Here is what I have done' and 'Here is my studio,'" Baker said.

A studio tour is a great way to expose children to art, he noted, as he has seen at previous events.

"When parents would bring children, they would see the space and the kids' eyes would light up, looking at all these brushes, acrylics and oils," Baker said.

He also wants to help parents connect with artists as teachers, and he is working to welcome school and college students into the arts community and to take part in exhibiting.

Art forms on the tour run the gamut — from paintings, ceramics, sculpture, glass, mixed media, photography and collage, to jewelry and wearable art.

"It's interesting to see all these artists doing all kinds of mediums and to talk about what the process is, and to see the finished products," Giancola said.

Baker, who works mostly in oils, has been painting for about 21 years, first while a pilot for Southwest Airlines. He and his wife raised their daughters in Pleasanton then moved to a larger place in Livermore where he could have a studio. When he retired in September 2020, he began to pursue his art full time.

"And it gave me time to dedicate



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Karen Barry, a fine art printmaker, will have works on display at the home of Dennis Baker in Livermore. "My art is influenced by my travels, education, life experiences, love of the outdoors, and sense of humor," she says.

to starting an open studio tour," Baker said. "In years past I joined organizations on the other side of the hill but we decided to do it organically."

"There are just a wealth of opportunities in the Bay Area, and in Sacramento," he added. "I've spent a lot of time both working with professional teachers and joining that with art history."

East Bay Open Studios has been taking place for years, he noted, but focuses on the west side of the hills. He said he talked to its organizer, who included a weekend for the east side of the hills in 2019.

"A tremendous number of people were coming out," Baker recalled, and 16 local artists participated.

So he is confident that this year's Tri Valley Artist Studio Tour will be a success.

The response from artists has been tremendous, he said. Some are coming together in collectives to present their art rather than in their own homes. The Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore will have 17 artists; Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton will have nine upstairs in its studios.

"We have 19 venues, five are

collectives and the rest are people's houses," Baker said.

He will be in his studio, with another three artists in the main house.

"I'll actually be working on something," he said.

TVASTart.com has an interactive map of the venues that lists the artists and their mediums and also provides driving directions. And it has bike routes, with choices from 4 to 55 miles and varying degrees of incline.

A state-of-the-art online virtual gallery enables people to "visit" the studios.

"It will let the public see and speak with the artists in real time while seeing their works and those of all the artists," Baker explained. "The virtual gallery is working now and will be utilized by most of the artists the days of the event to interact with those who can't make it to their venue."

Baker said they decided last year to include a virtual element in case people were hesitant to visit in person due to the lingering pandemic. He contacted software engineers at PLUTO, who created a five-minute training video for folks interested in virtual visits to

the studios.

"You can pull up the virtual site, find the individual you're looking for, click on their name, and be teleported with your avatar standing right in front of them," Baker said.

The website also has a complete catalog of artists with a QR code linking to websites and photos.

Baker and Giancola hope this year's open studio tour will be the first of many.

"The first year is the hardest," Baker said. "I'm hoping after awhile people will know it is happening every fall. I hope the public will engage and get an appreciation of the amount and variety of artistic creativity that is right here in our backyard."

Giancola, who paints interiors



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Usha Shukla of Pleasanton, inspired by the feeling of an outdoor breath of fresh air, invented a process for applying oil paint to canvas using a blower. She will be at the Firehouse Arts Center studios.

including murals, faux wood grain and marble, grew up in California and, after 30 years in Boston, moved to Pleasanton in 2013. She is manager of the Bothwell Arts Center and said the arts scene in the Tri-Valley is similar to that in the Boston area.

"The struggles are exactly the same — affordable studio space, and trying to sell their work," Giancola said. "We had all ages and skill levels of artists, from the emerging young to people who came to art as their second career. I always had this passion for trying to help artists make sales."

"The comradeship of an arts collective is important, shows or open studios, to meet and collaborate," she continued. "We have open studios at the Bothwell several times

most years, and they are pretty popular. We always make them family friendly."

Visitors ask questions about the creative process and the meaning of various paintings, Baker said.

He is currently working on abstract figures and with the theme of music. He uses art to express how people interact with the world and is exploring the concept of personal identity.

"My belief is that we are not just ourselves but many things outside our bodies," he said.

The Tri Valley Artist Studio Tour kicks off with a preview exhibit hosted by artist Darcie Kent from 5-8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 11, at her Almost Famous Wine Lounge on Vasco Road.

"It's a chance for artists to meet and greet each other as well as the public," Giancola said. "It's a good way to get a taste of the weekend."

The tour hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and guests can begin at any point, visiting as many venues as they choose from the catalog.

"We encourage people to see the quality of art available out here in the Tri-Valley," Giancola said, "and unique and local is good way to get your feet into purchasing artwork."

"But," she added, "we welcome anybody who is just curious about what this is all about." ■

Weekend of art

What: Tri Valley Artist Studio Tour — 57 artists in home studios and collectives

Who: Alliance for the Visual Arts

When: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 13-14

Where: 19 locations throughout the Tri-Valley

Cost: Free

Details and catalog: TVASTart.com

Preview show: 5-8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 11; Almost Famous Wine Lounge, 2271 S. Vasco Road, Livermore



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marc Casad of Livermore returned to still life painting after years of experimenting with large abstract, landscape painting and Fauvist painting. He will be at the Bothwell Arts Center.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Peggy Frank, who paints landscapes and abstractions in oils and acrylics, will open her home studio in Livermore for the tour. "Each painting captures a place dear to my heart," she says.

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

With help from Twitter, CHP returns veteran flag found on freeway

The speedy travel of news on social media helped the Dublin branch of California Highway Patrol locate a family to return a lost veteran flag that had been found on the highway in Livermore.

On Oct. 28, CHP-Dublin — which serves the Tri-Valley area — tweeted photos of a display case with a folded American flag and photo of a military veteran inside, calling for help in finding its rightful owner.

The case was originally discovered wrapped in a blanket among other debris by CHP officers on eastbound Interstate 580, west of the Isabel Avenue exit in Livermore on Oct. 20.

“We found it on the 20th and we



CHP-DUBLIN

The display case with a folded U.S. flag and veteran’s photo inside was found by CHP officers on Oct. 20.

waited a while to give the family a chance to know that it was missing and since there were a couple of cars that were on the scene trying to retrieve some of the lost goods, we thought that those people that were out there would know that they lost something and they would call,” Officer Tyler Hahn said, explaining why the department waited eight days before posting the tweet.

Hahn said that after several days passed, no one had called to claim the case, which prompted his office to seek the help of social media to find the family that the heirloom belonged to.

Hahn said that after the post was shared, Bay Area news outlets started reaching out to him and reporting about the story to help spread the word further.

By the next day, the family of the late veteran had been identified and CHP-Dublin tweeted an update.

“What a great ending to this story! After seeing media posts and broadcast on TV, this family has been reunited with their father’s veteran memorial flag and case. We can’t thank the television media outlets and those who spread the story on social media enough. THANK YOU!,” the tweet read, accompanied by a photo of two officers with the family.

According to Hahn, the family told him that their phones had been “blowing up” on the evening of Oct. 28 with friends and family who rec-

ognized the case calling and texting to tell them that it was on the news.

Hahn said the display case was initially being transported on the back of a pickup truck in the midst of a family member’s move from Castro Valley to Manteca and at some point during the drive, the case fell off the truck along with some other items.

CHP ultimately returned the case to some of the relatives in the family who live in Livermore. “It was good to see the community come together,” Hahn said of the collective effort to find the family.

“The media can be used in so many different ways. There’s a lot of negative things that can be put in the media and spread but then there’s also a lot of good things too. So, this is a great way to show how the media can be used for good,” he added.

Hahn said he did not know the name of the veteran whose photo was inside the case or which branch of the military he served in.

—Cierra Bailey

In other news

- Police arrested a San Francisco man hospitalized after allegedly crashing a stolen motorhome while trying to elude officers in San Ramon last week.

Eric Games, 42, faces charges of recklessly evading police, vehicle theft and possessing stolen property

in connection with the San Ramon incident, as well as a no-bail warrant for alleged violations of the terms of his supervised release one day earlier from San Francisco County Sheriff’s Office custody in two other pending criminal cases, according to police.

The wreck, which saw the Fleetwood RV flipped onto its side across multiple lanes of Bollinger Canyon Road, closed a stretch of the major San Ramon thoroughfare for nearly nine hours.

The situation began unfolding at 7:42 p.m. Oct. 27 when San Ramon’s automated license plate reader program alerted city police to a motorhome that confirmed to have been reported stolen out of San Francisco, according to San Ramon police Capt. Denton Carlson.

Within five minutes, San Ramon police officers located the motorhome on Bollinger Canyon Road and soon conducted a traffic stop in the area of Camassia Way and North Wedgewood Road, according to Carlson.

“The driver of the motorhome initially complied and stopped the motorhome. However, as officers were making initial contact, the driver fled,” Carlson said. The officers pursued the RV for roughly two miles with lights and sirens blaring.

The motorhome, traveling west on Bollinger Canyon Road down the hill toward Alcosta Boulevard at 7:54 p.m., was swerving rapidly to try to avoid other vehicles while also entering the major intersection against a red light, according to Carlson.

The RV struck a car that was attempting to turn left onto eastbound Bollinger Canyon Road. “The motorhome and the suspect inside flipped onto its side and slid down Bollinger Canyon Road, coming to rest near Market Place,” the captain said. The other driver was only minorly hurt.

Officers approached the motorhome but couldn’t see the driver inside and were unsure if he had run away or was still in the wrecked RV. Police brought in an armored vehicle for public and officer safety during

the search, and a Danville police drone team was called in to assist, according to Carlson.

“Officers flew a small drone inside the motorhome and saw someone inside, unresponsive and underneath a sofa,” Carlson said. Police entered the RV and located the injured person, and San Ramon Valley Fire personnel extricated the man and transported him to John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek for treatment.

Investigators determined the injured person was the sole occupant and driver during the police chase, later identifying him as Games, according to Carlson.

Games had been released from police custody in San Francisco on Oct. 26 in that county’s supervised release program, Carlson said. Games had two pending criminal cases with a slew of charges including stolen property, drug possession with intent to sell, transporting a dangerous drug, vehicle theft, giving false identification to police and misdemeanor driving violations.

As a result of the San Ramon incident, San Francisco sheriff’s officials have issued a no-bail warrant for Games’ arrest.

After getting released from the hospital, Games was booked into the Martinez Detention Facility on the San Francisco warrant as well as suspicion of felony reckless evasion of police, vehicle theft, hit-and-run causing injury and possession of stolen property for the San Ramon incident, according to Carlson.

“Detectives from the San Ramon Police Department continue investigating this incident, and additional charges may be forthcoming pending an interior search of the motorhome,” Carlson said. “The investigation surrounding the collision is being conducted by the Walnut Creek Police Department’s Traffic Collision Investigation Unit.”

Portions of Bollinger Canyon Road through the area were closed to traffic until just before 5 a.m. Oct. 28 amid the investigation and wreckage cleanup, police said. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

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POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Oct. 31

DUI

- 1:08 a.m. on the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road
- 7:40 p.m. at Walnut Drive and Ray Street

Catalytic converter theft

- 6:49 a.m. on the 3600 block of Dunsmuir Circle

Vandalism

- 9:07 a.m. at Canyon Way and Stoneridge Mall Road

Oct. 30

Warrant arrest

- 3:09 a.m. at Santa Rita Road and Pimlico Drive
- 10:02 a.m. on Mirador Drive

Catalytic converter theft

- 10:24 a.m. on the 3700 block of Crofters Court

Drug violation

- 11:58 a.m. at Owens and Hacienda drives
- 3:53 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

DUI

- 2:19 p.m. at Hopyard Road and Coronado Lane

Domestic battery

- 2:19 p.m. on Black Avenue

Oct. 29

Fraud

- 8:26 a.m. on the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road
- 4:10 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Shoplifting

- 3:16 p.m. on the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

Assault/battery

- 9:41 p.m. on Hopyard Road/Black Avenue

DUI

- 10:50 p.m. at Stoneridge Drive and Springdale Avenue

Oct. 28

Fire

- 2:22 a.m. on the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Warrant arrest

- 3:02 a.m. on the 6600 block of Owens Drive

Theft

- 7:21 a.m. on the 1200 block of Quarry Lane

The future matters: Membership drive underway to support local journalism, nonprofits

Local news organizations and the journalists who provide their communities with reliable and thoughtful news coverage were endangered long before the COVID-19 crisis hit last year.

The pandemic and the economic devastation it wrought just made the funding crisis more dire.

Even as the work they do has never been more urgent and essential, news organizations across the country are struggling to survive. We, unfortunately, are among them.

But since we are betting our future on you — loyal readers who understand the importance of an independent press to our democra-

cy — we remain optimistic.

For the first time ever, we are holding a Fall Membership Drive. Between Nov. 1 and 11, we are asking at least 200 readers to join the thousands of their neighbors who are already members of the Pleasanton Weekly and become a Basic Annual Member at \$120.

For every new annual membership started before Nov. 11, 10% of the membership will go toward the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, which has provided unrestricted funding to local nonprofits for 20 years.

The loss of a credible local news source can devastate a community and its residents. The obvi-



ous dearth of information means people are less informed about what is happening and they tend to vote less, but there is also nobody to hold the public agencies and elected officials accountable.

Over the past 15 years in the U.S., in excess of \$37 billion in annual newspaper revenue alone has disappeared, according to a 2020 report, "News Deserts and Ghost Newspapers: Will Local News Survive?" by the Hussman School of Journalism and Media at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"As advertisers followed consumers and moved online ... the nation has lost a fourth of its local newspapers and more than half of the journalists employed by newspapers, leaving residents in entire communities without access to credible and comprehensive news

coverage of their everyday lives, as well as historic events," the report stated.

Since 2018, another 300 U.S. newspapers have closed and 6,000 journalists have been laid off, according to the University of North Carolina report.

Locally, there's been a steady decade-long decline in advertising brought on by the disruption of independent local retail by online shopping. Seeing this trend, we had already begun to shift our busi-

ness model over the last three years to one built on reader support rather than on advertising.

Our fate as an essential source of local news and information and the future of local nonprofit organizations are vital to the health of the community. By helping us reach our goal of 200 new members between now and Nov. 11, you can support both.

The future matters. Together we can keep local journalism alive. Become a member today. ■

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THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

On March 3, 2020 Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency due to COVID-19 and has issued Executive Order N-29-20 and approved AB 361 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 meetings will be streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton>

Youth Commission

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

- Review and Discuss Several Pleasantonians Locally Against Tobacco (SPLAT) Anti-Vaping Marketing Materials
- Approve Funding Criteria for Fiscal Year 2022/23 Community Grant Program – Youth Category
- Review and Comment on Library and Recreation Quarterly Report

Planning Commission

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Consistent with State and County Orders regarding the COVID-19 pandemic this will be a virtual meeting. Instructions on how to participate and offer comments will be available after November 3, when the agenda is posted on the City's website at: cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning_agenda.asp

• **PX17-0904, Stoneridge Properties, LLC (Simon Property Group), 1008-1700 Stoneridge Mall Road**

Application to amend and extend the Stoneridge Shopping Center Development Agreement (DA), governing an approximately 362,790-square-foot shopping center expansion, for one year. Zoning is C-R(m) (Regional Commercial (Mall)) District

• **PUD-137, Donna Gudaitis, 375 Sycamore Road**

Work session to review and receive comments on an application for Planned Unit Development (PUD) development plan to an existing approximately 62,571-square-foot (1.44 acres) site into a total of four lots (three new; one existing) and for the construction of three new homes and on-and off-site improvements. Zoning is PUD-MDR (Planned Unit Development – Medium Density Residential) District

• **Housing Element Update**

Review a list of potential sites under consideration for future rezoning for residential development and inclusion in the CEQA analysis as part of the 6th Cycle (2023-2031) Housing Element Update Sites Inventory

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

PASSION FOR ACTING

Amador grad in Los Angeles to follow his dream

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Evan Hoopes grew up in Pleasanton but his memories are driving out of town for rehearsals and auditions.

"I've been acting since I was a little kid," Hoopes, 19, said. "My mom got me into it, she got me an agent. I'm really grateful for that — I have an all-time passion for acting, and I was doing it at such a young age."

Hoopes attended Valley View Elementary, but mom Christine pulled him out every few weeks for acting jobs.

"We would drive to San Francisco in the middle of the day," he recalled. "I would have my script in the car, reading it while we drove there."

He remembers one filming before he was even 8 in which he was the son in a commercial for a birth control product.

"We drove out and I met the fake family — it was the first time I had a fake family," Hoopes said. "Everyone was really nice. Then we went out and played soccer and ran around with the ball and they filmed it."

Around the same time he had a main role in a film called, "The Big Sleaze," in

which a man manipulates his little kid character. It is still available on YouTube.

At Pleasanton Middle School he joined the Panther Players for one production, but it was at Amador Valley High that he was hooked.

"In my sophomore year I was doing every show that I could," he said.

And he discovered Pleasanton's teen improv troupe, Creatures of Impulse.

"Creatures of Impulse was the love of my life back then," Hoopes remembered. "I consider improv to be my specialty because of that."

He called improv a compassionate form of entertainment.

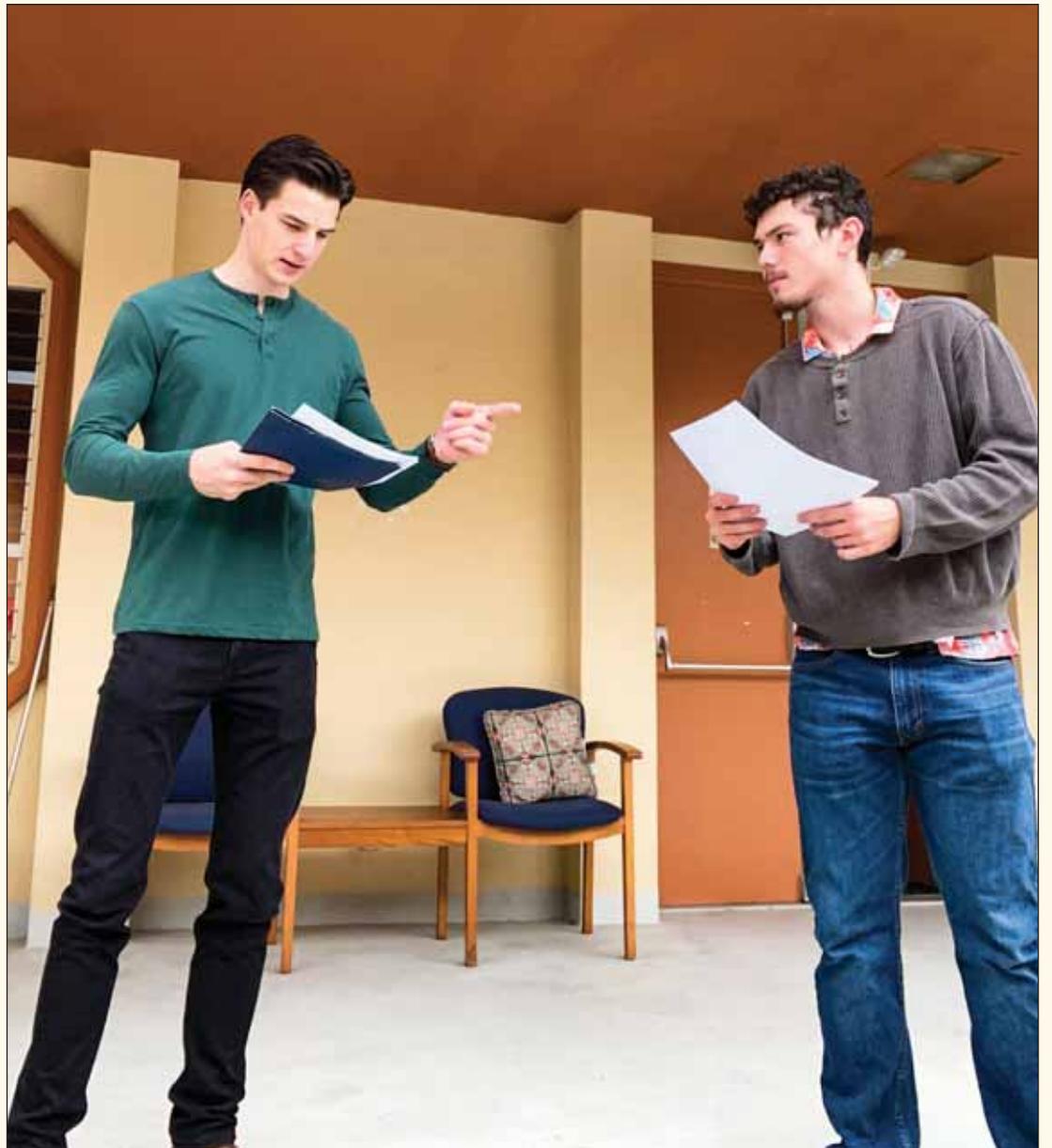
"When you're doing something by the book, there is a lot of opportunity to act for yourself — you do your lines and you know them," he explained. "But with improv I have to be listening to everyone on stage, listening and helping the other people."

Hoopes was a member of the 2020 class that graduated mid-pandemic, and his shows at Amador and with Creatures of Impulse were canceled.

"It was pretty heartbreaking at first but I got over it," he said. "I figured there was nothing I could do about it."

He attended Santa Monica College with online classes for a year, knowing it was a good community college for transferring in Los Angeles. Two months ago he left for Loyola Marymount University to major in theater arts.

"Right now I'm in an acting class, and that's where I'm meeting mostly people who are like-minded," Hoopes said. "I have another class in theater history but acting class is where the passion comes out."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Evan Hoopes (right) and Nick Wittcoff run lines for a scene in their scene study class at Loyola Marymount University where Hoopes, a 2020 Amador Valley High grad, is majoring in theater arts.

He is also learning writing and directing.

"I know if I'm going to be in the business I want to have multiple skill sets that correspond with it," he said.

'I seized every opportunity presented to me in my hometown; now that I'm in L.A. I plan on doing the same.'

He is looking for an agent, to earn money acting while in school. But meanwhile he works as a host at a Mexican restaurant where he is able to use his Spanish, learned in the dual immersion program at Valley View.

"I wanted it to be part of my personal culture even though I have no Spanish blood in me," he said.

Hoopes noted that the film industry has been doing pretty well because on

movie sets everyone is vaccinated and tested and only interacting with one another.

"I did a film last winter during COVID, and it was just us the whole time," he said. "I flew out to Kentucky, and played a brother. One of my good friends got me the role — we were brothers who were homeless, abandoned, and we find out our mom is living not too far away."

"It was shot in a car that was absolutely filthy," he added with a laugh. "The movie was actually fully improvised with a rough script. ... It was super fun and great to be in character."

The joke among theater students, he noted, is the best scenario would be if they could drop out of college — because they've landed some massive role with Marvel or Disney.

But, with another year and a half to go to earn his degree, Hoopes plans to stick it out, looking forward to finishing his general requirements and focusing on acting, directing and production classes.

"I lived in Pleasanton my whole life until only a few weeks ago," he commented. "I seized every opportunity presented to me in my hometown; now that I'm in L.A. I plan on doing the same." ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A younger Evan Hoopes in his professional portfolio photograph.

Bankhead Theater receives \$1.28 million

Grants part of American Rescue Plan to recover from pandemic losses

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Livermore Arts has been named a recipient of the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) and its supplemental grant award in support of the Bankhead Theater for a total of \$1.285 million.

“This is a defining moment for Livermore Arts and will be instrumental in ensuring the future of our long-term sustainability,” said Chris Carter, who was appointed executive director just prior to the pandemic closure in 2020.

When the Bankhead shuttered its doors in March 2020, the organization was forced to reduce staff by 80%, and the remaining staff took a 40% pay cut. The American Rescue Plan of 2021 signed into law by President Biden in March included \$1.25 billion in covid relief for the SVOG, and the award amount is roughly equal to 45% of a venue’s earned revenue in the year prior to the COVID pandemic closures.

The SVOG was supported heavily by the National Independent Venue Association (NIVA), of which Livermore Arts is a member. The organization applied for the grant through the Small Business Administration and was awarded \$857,060, with \$327,500 of the total coming from the forgivable Paycheck Protection (PPP) loan program.

The grant award was approved

in August and arrived in September. Then a second supplemental round of funding became available, Livermore Arts applied once again, and was awarded an additional \$428,520 for a total of \$1,285,580.

These grants helped Livermore Arts to reschedule more than 60 performances and artists that were cancelled due to the pandemic; book artists for the 2022-23 season; and cover earned revenue lost from March 2020 to present day.

Denise Watkins, a Pleasanton resident who recently served as the chair for the UC Merced Foundation Board of Trustees, is the new chair of Livermore Arts board of directors.

“I’m proud to be leading the organization with Executive Director Chris Carter at such a pivotal time,” Watkins said. “The last 18 months have been some of the most challenging of our lifetimes and the return of live performances on stable ground has helped lift us all.”

The SVOG and its supplemental grant award also allow for other minor infrastructure changes such as upgrading computers and software, fully financing Bankhead Theater’s new sound system, and allowing the crucial upgrade to the Bankhead’s filtration system to use Merv-13



CIERRA BAILEY

The Bankhead Theater welcomes artists from diverse musical genres, as well as theater, dance, comedy and other entertainment for all ages.

filters, as well as other essential PPE for employees and patrons as Livermore Arts returns to live performances.

On average, Livermore Arts raises about \$1.8 million in contributions annually and exceeded that in the first quarter for this year. Additionally, there are a record 950 members in its patron base.

Charitable donors to Livermore

arts have been remarkably generous throughout the entirety of the shutdown and the staff at Livermore Arts are unendingly grateful for them, management said. A number of sizable donations have come in during the last 18 months, including an estate gift valued at \$670,000, and this year’s annual fundraising gala, Brilliance at the Bankhead, raised \$475,000.

The grant awards also will be used to support staff and operations, along with performances, programming at both the Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center, as well as the organization’s broad educational and cultural arts outreach activities.

To learn more about Livermore Arts, the Bankhead Theater and Bothwell Arts Center, visit www.livermorearts.org. ■

Art is ‘Above It All’

Pleasanton Art League show opening at Harrington Gallery

The Pleasanton Art League’s annual art show opens tomorrow at the Harrington Gallery, PAL’s first live show since 2019.

The theme for this year’s 14th annual PAL Members’ Art Show is “Above It All,” and 55 artists are exhibiting styles of work from realism to abstraction.

A reception will be held 3-5 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 13, with the presentation of awards for merit, theme and

honorable mention at 4 p.m.

The Harrington Gallery is located in the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Its hours are 10 a.m.-noon Thursdays; 3-5 p.m. Fridays; and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



“Smile!” by Linda Garbarino.



“Wisconsin Barn”, black-and-white photograph by George Garbarino.

Gardeners to learn about planting from seeds

Guest speaker is founder of Renee’s Garden seed company

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club members and guests will learn about the advantages of planting from seeds at the Nov. 11 meeting, which will be held via Zoom.

Guest speaker Renee Shepherd, president of the Home Garden Seed Association, will talk on “Garden to Table from Seeds.”

Shepherd earned her Ph.D. from UC-Santa Cruz and taught in its environmental studies program. She founded the mail order company Shepherd’s Garden Seed in 1985, which she ran until 1996.

Then in 1998 she founded Renee’s Garden to do what she likes best: offer high quality seeds through garden centers and directly online, including heirloom gourmet vegetables, culinary herbs, and fragrant and cutting flowers.

Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club meets on the second Thursday of the month from September to June, currently online. Visitors wishing to participate in the Zoom meeting may contact club president Jeri Stark at jstark-home@comcast.net. The meetings begin with a business agenda at 6:30 p.m., followed by the guest speaker’s slide presentation at 7 p.m.

In addition to the monthly meetings, garden club members participate in a variety of activities, including volunteering their maintenance skills at Hansen Park in Livermore and the Sensory Garden at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Other interest groups focus on edible gardening, floral design and seed sharing.

For more information, visit www.lavgc.org. ■

Pleasanton Preps sponsored by



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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

What a teacher strike could mean for sports

On-campus coaches might not cross the line to lead their teams

Currently, much of the discussion in Pleasanton centers around the contract issues between the Pleasanton Unified School District and the Association of Pleasanton Teachers.

It appears a strike by the teachers may be a realistic possibility, which is the worst-case scenario. Lost in the rhetoric going back and forth is the effect it could have on the local coaches, and as a result, the local student-athletes.

If there is a strike, it seems like it would prohibit on-campus coaches from coaching their respective teams. In talking with a couple of on-campus coaches, they are under the belief

that if there is a strike, they will indeed not be able to cross the line to coach their teams.

It could also apply to coaches that teach at schools in other districts. If say, the teachers in San Ramon Valley Unified School District decide to honor a Pleasanton teachers strike, those coaches may not cross as well.

After all our students and student-athletes have been through since the onset of COVID, a strike is the absolute last thing any of the students need.

I have seen how students have been hurt in a developmental sense thanks to the lockdown, and another

blow to their psyche could be devastating.

Sports is vital in the maturation of the student-athletes, but also for the schools overall. Getting together to root for your team is a bonding experience, and both Amador and Foothill have exciting fan bases. I have witnessed first-hand how cathartic sporting events have been not just for the students, but the community as well.

A strike puts a big dent in that.

Working in the district and having the chance to talk with many teachers, either at my school or through friendships, most people I have talked with want nothing to do with a strike as they realize the damage it will do.

I am not a teacher but have really gotten to know many teachers after working with them. There are some wonderful teachers in Pleasanton, ones that put the kids first and foremost.

To them teaching is a life choice, not a job. But there are others for which it is a job and looking out for No. 1 is the end game. Those are the dangerous ones.

As for the district's side, PUSD has certainly made some questionable



COURTESY OF CTA

Pleasanton teachers union members rally outside district headquarters last week on the evening of the school board meeting.

decisions, not just this year, but over the last few years. Recent decisions regarding rate of pay and benefits for people in the district office are head-scratching.

Both sides need to get together and find an agreement and do so quickly. If you both are interested in the best interests of the students, then step up and prove it.

Talk is cheap and slogans are a dime a dozen. Action speaks volumes.

Winter sports season underway!

This Monday started official practices for the East Bay Athletic League winter season.

It is an exciting time for me, as being the Foothill basketball announcer for both the boys' and girls' teams it will be nice to see the gyms full of students again after the COVID season of just family members.

While it was great to see any

games being played after the lockdown, there was very little atmosphere in the games last spring.

Soccer and wrestling will also benefit from the return of fans.

As the practices are underway, so too will be the organizational meetings for the parents and their volunteer responsibilities. Here's your chance to help your athlete to get their just due for the effort they are putting in!

Just collect the results from your team each week and send them to me by noon on Sundays, and we will get the information into the paper.

Also, it would be fantastic if the team parent could send me a roster to help with the correct spelling of names.

The contact information remains the same — acesmag@aol.com.

Good luck to all the winter teams, and I look forward to keeping track of all our winter sports teams! ■



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PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Meet Scooter

This handsome Shih-Tzu/Border Terrier mix will steal your heart. Scooter is an outstanding companion dog and his foster family just adores him. He's active, loves to play, walks well on leash and then settles in nicely for lots of snuggles. At 2 years old and 22 pounds, Scooter is house-trained, neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. A bit shy, he would prefer a home with adults or possibly older teens. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue or visit tvar.org.

Society presents Exploring Irish Townland with Cath Madden Trindle. Historically life in rural Ireland centered around the townland. Investigating the lay of the land, either with a visit or by using map sites, helps build an understanding of our ancestors' lives. Visit l-ags.org/. 7-8:30 p.m., Nov. 8.

NOVEMBER RELIGION CHAT In this special Thanksgiving Zoom chat attendees are welcome to participate by sharing a personal experience, song, poem, etc., which means Thanksgiving to

them. 5-6:15 p.m., Nov. 10. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86122322478>.

SYCAMORE AFTER HOURS Wonder what Sycamore Grove is like at night? Join Ranger Dawn to find out while traveling to the center of Sycamore Grove for an hour or so of peace and quiet. This program is best for ages 13 and up. Bring a chair or blanket. RSVP to 960-2400 or email dsoles@larpd.org. 5:30 p.m., Nov. 11. 1051 Wetmore Rd.

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS HOST LOCAL HISTORIAN Dublin historian Steve Minniear and Las Positas professor and Tedx presenter Dr. Jim Ott focus on the powerful experiences of local veterans to demonstrate how getting personal emotions on the page can be a conduit for healing while framing the rich historical landscape of our time. RSVP by Nov. 17. Visit trivalleywriters.org. Event 2 p.m., Nov. 20, Four Points by Sheraton, Pleasanton.

See **CALENDAR** on Page 22

Concerts

HANK AND MY HONKY TONK

HEROES Jason Petty's Obie Award-winning performance brings Hank Williams' timeless music to life in "Hank and My Honky Tonk Heroes". Petty gives audiences a personal look at Williams growing up, how he became famous and who influenced the legendary singer/songwriter. 8 p.m., Nov. 5. Bankhead Theater. Visit livermorearts.org.

ALL THAT JAZZ The Firehouse Arts Center presents two-time Grammy award winner Mads Tolling, saxophonist Greg Johnson and multiple platinum record winner Frank Martin coming together to perform new arrangements to classic favorites as well some of their own works and creations. 8 p.m., Nov. 6. Visit firehousearts.org.

DAVID VICTOR'S SUPERGROUP SF David Victor's Supergroup SF features the greatest hits of the iconic San Francisco Bay Area music scene with music weaving multiple genres and eras together into one cohesive, powerhouse performance. Proceeds from this show at the Bankhead Theater benefit Harmony & Healing, a live music charity, which serves recovering patients and families. 8 p.m., Nov. 6. Visit livermorearts.org.

JASON VIEAUX Del Valle Fine Arts presents Grammy award winning classical guitarist, Jason Vieaux. Vieaux has been a local favorite since his first appearance with DVFA in 2004, performing with leading orchestras at festivals worldwide. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 20. Tickets \$16-\$52. Visit livermorearts.org.

Theater

LAS POSITAS PRESENTS "PETER AND THE STARCATCHER"

Las Positas College Theater Arts Department presents the Tony Award-winning play "Peter and the Starcatcher", the story of a miserable orphan boy who becomes Peter Pan. Nov. 5-7. Tickets \$10-\$20. Visit laspositascollege.edu/theater/events.php.

MAMMA MIA! AT THE BANKHEAD

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre presents "Mamma Mia!", the ultimate feel-good show filled with ABBA's familiar and beloved music. Nov. 12-14; and 19-21. Tickets \$21-\$39. Visit livermorearts.org.

READING SERIES EXPLORING THE

MYSTERY OF SCIENCE SPARC presents Sapience by Diana Burbano, the story of Elsa, a highly accomplished, neurodiverse primatologist. The play explores the many ways we communicate as humans, and how that translates to Elsa's life's work attempting to communicate with an orangutan named "Wookiee." 7 p.m., Nov. 5-7. Tickets \$25. Visit livermoreshakes.org/tickets.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

AT TAO HOUSE Tao House fellowships are given to persons focused on the performing arts for whom a space of time to work without distraction would be beneficial. Fellows benefit from working in the solitude and quiet of Tao House, the same creative atmosphere in which Eugene O'Neill produced his masterpieces. Applications due Nov. 15. Visit eugeneoneill.org.

Comedy

THE SECOND CITY 2021 The Second City is here to break all the comedy rules they made famous in this all-new, all-hilarious revue. Starring the next generation of comedy superstars. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 15. Tickets \$20-\$65. Visit livermorearts.org.

Films

CLASSIC FILM MUSICALS AT THE BANKHEAD "Anchors Aweigh" is the next classic film musical at the Bankhead Theater, starring Gene Kelly and Frank Sinatra as two young Navy sailors on leave in glitzy Los Angeles. 7 p.m., Nov. 17. Tickets \$5. Visit livermorearts.org.

Talks

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY The Livermore-Amador Genealogical

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Nurture Kids Pleasanton
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583019
The following person doing business as: Nurture Kids Pleasanton, 4460 Black Ave., Ste. A, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Nurturing Minds LLC, 11971 Glaskin Place, Dublin, CA 94568, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Archana Reddy Nukalapati, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 28, 2021 (Pleasanton Weekly, October 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 2021.)

LPMS; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOL; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583369

The following person doing business as: LPMS; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOL; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS, 35699 Niles Boulevard, Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Learn and Play Montessori Centerville, Inc., 35699 Niles Boulevard, Fremont, CA 94536, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Learn and Play Montessori Centerville, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Harpreet Grewal, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 13, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, October 29, November 5, 12, 19, 2021.)

Petopia Grooming
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583354

The following person doing business as: Petopia Grooming, 3990 Redwood Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Petopia Grooming, 3990 Redwood Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Petopia Grooming, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein December 8, 2020. Signature of Registrant: Richard Bixler, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 12, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, October 29, November 5, 12, 19, 2021.)

Wishful Office
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583353. The following person(s) doing business as: Wishful Office, 3990 Redwood Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Melanie Bixler, 3990 Redwood Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, CALIFORNIA; Richard Bixler, 3990 Redwood Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Melanie Bixler; Richard Bixler, a Limited Liability Partnership. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein February 15, 2021. Signature of Registrant: Melanie Bixler, General Partner. This statement

was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 12, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, October 29, November 5, 12, 19, 2021.)

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583930
The following person(s) doing business as: LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS, 37220 Maple Street, Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI MAPLE, INC., 37220 Maple Street, Fremont, CA 94536, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Learn and Play Montessori Maple, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein July 17, 2015. Signature of Registrant: Harpreet Grewal, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021.)

LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583932
The following person(s) doing business as: LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS, 35699 Niles Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Learn and Play Montessori School, LLC, 35699 Niles Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Learn and Play Montessori School, LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein August 7, 2015. Signature of Registrant: Harpreet Grewal, Managing Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021.)

LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583933
The following person(s) doing business as: LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS, 4511 Peralta Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Learn and Play Montessori Peralta, Inc., 4511 Peralta Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Learn and Play Montessori Peralta, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein July 17, 2015. Signature of Registrant: Harpreet Grewal, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021.)

LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN

AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOL; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583935

The following person(s) doing business as: LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS, 40803 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Learn and Play Montessori Irvington, Inc., 40803 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Learn and Play Montessori Irvington, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein July 17, 2015. Signature of Registrant: Harpreet Grewal, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021.)

LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583938

The following person(s) doing business as: LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS, 11900 Silvergate Drive, Dublin, CA 94568, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Learn and Play Montessori Silvergate, Inc., 11900 Silvergate Drive, Dublin, CA 94568, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Learn and Play Montessori Silvergate, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein July 17, 2015. Signature of Registrant: Harpreet Grewal, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021.)

LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 583939

The following person(s) doing business as: LPMS; LAPMS; LEARN & PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS; LEARN AND PLAY MONTESSORI SCHOOLS, 35699 Niles Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Learn and Play Montessori Niles, Inc., 35699 Niles Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Learn and Play Montessori Niles, Inc., a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein July 17, 2015. Signature of Registrant: Harpreet Grewal, Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 25, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021.)

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 21

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB Members and guests of the Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club will learn about the advantages of planting from seeds from guest speaker Renee Shephard at the next meeting, held via Zoom. 6:30 p.m., Nov. 11. Visit lavgc.org.

POETRY READING Q & A Film director Jeff M. Giordano and star of the documentary, *The God Given Talent: The Creative Life of Charles Curtis Blackwell*, will be in-person for a poetry reading, discussion and Q & A at the Livermore Public Library. This event will be held outside 2-3 p.m., Nov. 13. 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

Exhibits

ITALIAN MOSAIC AT THE BANKHEAD THEATER The Bankhead presents, "The 50 Faces Collection Italian Mosaic", an exhibit of contemporary mosaic artwork from the Scuola Mosaicisti del Friuli in Italy. The public is invited to experience this free remarkable exhibit 1-5 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, Nov. 11- Jan 6.

Goodguys

GOODGUYS AUTUMN GET TOGETHER AT THE FAIRGROUNDS Celebrate Veteran's Day Weekend with the Goodguys. Explore over 2,500 American made or powered hot rods, customs, classics, muscle cars and trucks of all makes and models, including a Vette's for Vets parade. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Nov. 13-14. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Seniors

MEDICARE'S ANNUAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD VIRTUAL PRESENTATION Join for a free virtual presentation by the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) of Legal Assistance for Seniors. 11 a.m., Nov. 9. RSVP by calling 925-931-5365.

SENIOR CENTER FALL CENTERPIECES CRAFT Join the Friends of the Pleasanton Senior Center for an in-person Craft Social the second Friday of the month. This month the craft is Fall Centerpieces. 1:30 p.m., Nov. 12. Fee \$5. Register at pleasantonfun.com.

DUBLIN SENIOR CENTER HOLIDAY CRAFT BOUTIQUE Start holiday shopping with a visit to the Holiday Craft Boutique at the Dublin Senior Center. Choose from a wide selection of handcrafted items and gifts. 10 a.m.- 3 p.m., Nov. 13. 7600 Amador Valley Blvd.

Veterans

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE TO HONOR VETERANS Las Positas College invites the community to its annual Veterans Day Observance from 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Nov. 11. This virtual event will open with the ROTC Honor Guard and singing of the National Anthem, followed by keynote speaker, US Navy Veteran, Mickey Ganitch sharing his experience of the attack of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Visit laspositascollege.edu/veterans. **VA MOBILE MEDICAL TEAM** The Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Healthcare System's Mobile Medical Team will provide examinations, consultations, referrals and flu shots for registered veterans. Drop-in, no appointments needed. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Nov. 22. Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES- PACK OUT Care package items are needed for the next Pleasanton Military Families Pack-Out. If interested in volunteering, the Pack-Out event is 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Nov. 20 at the Veterans Hall. For more information visit pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org.

Support Groups

FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS Are you looking for support and information to cope with your adult



Arlie Alford

'Scary Larry' a winner

Arlie Alford won Best of Show (Adult Class) in the pumpkin-carving contest at the 2021 Alameda County Fair last week for his original work, "Scary Larry". Alford told the Weekly, "I began exhibiting at the fair in 1961 when I was 10. I love our unique, exciting fair. Every year I learn something new. It's the best in the USA."

loved one's mental illness? NAMI Tri-Valley offers a twice-monthly Family Support Group that is free with no registration required. Contact marsham@nami-trivalley.org or call 980-5331. Visit nami-trivalley.org. 7-8:30, Nov. 8.

HOPE HOSPICE-HANDLING THE HOLIDAYS For those grieving the death of a loved one, the winter holiday season can be painful. Via Zoom, the Hope Hospice Handling the Holidays Workshop will discuss healthy coping strategies. Register by calling 925-829-8770. 2-3:30 p.m., Nov. 10.

the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. The next teleconference meeting is 7 p.m., Nov. 10. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Nov. 8. For more information, visit cityoflivermore.net.

Family

SCIENCE AND MAGIC SHOW The Livermore Public Library is hosting a Science and Magic show where attendees experience a live, in-person show that explores the science behind the tricks. This is a free outdoor event, 1 p.m., Nov. 6. Visit livermorelibrary.net.

Volunteers

TRAIL BUILDING AT SYCAMORE GROVE Join LARPD Rangers to prep the brand new 2 mile trail on the Patterson Ranch property. Must be at least 18 years old (14 -17 are OK with accompanying adult). Nov. 20, 27, 28. Visit larpd.org.

Business

FREE "COFFEE BREAK" HIRING EVENT Tri-Valley Career Center is bring back monthly in-person "Coffee Break" hiring events at their brand new Career Center in Pleasanton. This is an opportunity to talk with hiring employers in person. 4-6 p.m., Nov. 9. Visit trivalleycareercenter.org.

Government

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION The Planning Commission meets

Employment

Senior Software Engineer

Safeway Inc. is hiring Senior Software Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Subj. to bckgrnd check. Email resume to Herrick. Macasieb@albertsons.com, Attn: H. Macasieb

Sr. Staff Engineer, UI

Ice Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks Sr. Staff Engineer, UI in Pleasanton, CA to Oversee the technical direction of multiple product lines simultaneously & the high touch cross-team foundational initiatives. Telecommuting Permitted. Applicants may apply <https://www.jobpostingtoday.com/Ref # 16898>.

Manager

Manager - Bregante & Company LLP. Job Site: Pleasanton, CA. Manage client relationships and work closely with partners in providing tax and accounting services. Send resume by mail only to ATTN: HR, Bregante & Company LLP 4309 Hacienda Drive, Suite 400, Pleasanton, CA 94588

Quality Assurance / Automation Engineer

Workday Inc. is accepting resumes for the following positions at various levels in Pleasanton, CA: **Quality Assurance / Automation Engineer (QAAE-005/006-J01-07)** - Debugs software products through the use of systematic tests to develop, apply, and maintain quality standards for company products. Submit resume by mail to: Workday, Inc., Attn: Human Resources/Immigration, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference job title and job code.

Licensed Stylists

Looking for Hairstylists to rent a station at Salon 645 in downtown Pleasanton. FULL and PART time stations available. Must be experienced and have a current license. Text/call Christi at 925-413-1775 for more info.

- Established and beautiful salon to impress your clients
- Ideal location for those looking to build their clientele
- Product sale commission offered
- No-drama, fun and friendly team
- Discounted rent pricing (in comparison to many surrounding salons)

Or, please share with anyone you think might be interested

Advertising deadline is Friday at noon.

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

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

NorCal MLS collaborative expands, launches new system features

Added data sharing includes 'Coming Soon' function, ADU lists, disclosure packages

By JEREMY WALSH

The Northern California Multiple Listing Service Alliance recently announced four new counties joining their membership, along with expanded system features becoming active for the real estate collaborative.

Launched in January as a one-stop, single-login access point for real estate brokers, agents and appraisers in the Bay Area and beyond, the NORCAL MLS Alliance has now added Butte, Colusa, Sutter and Yuba counties to its partnership, bringing the total to 26 counties.

Calling the alliance "ground-breaking," MLSListings Inc. CEO Dave Wetzel said, "Our Northern California group of MLSs has spent years doing a deep dive into the features which are most valuable to real estate professionals."

"We didn't look at merely moving data back and forth between our MLS systems, we identified what agents really need from the exchanged data in order to serve their clients at the highest level and then we ensured these features are live on our platform," Wetzel added.

Among key new features for the alliance's shared system are a "Coming Soon" tool for properties that are not yet ready for the "Fully On Market" status, disclosure package links, property showing schedules, a "Broker Tour Data Sharing" function, combined MLS data via several statistical platforms common in industry and the inclusion of

accessory dwelling unit (ADU) information.

"With housing the way it is in California, ADU information is of growing importance and now fully exchanged in the NORCAL MLS Alliance," said Tricia Thomas, CEO of the Bay East Association of Realtors. "We are proud to be empowering agents from across Northern California to help their clients wherever they are looking to buy and for whatever type of real estate they seek."

Sheiren Diaz, CEO of the Contra Costa Association of Realtors, added, "Ensuring that our robust data from 26 Northern California counties amplifies the effectiveness of our third-party application partnerships has been another priority. We look forward to expanding these integrations and adding new third-party partnerships across the NORCAL MLS Alliance in the months ahead."

The other regional real estate organizations participating in the partnership are bridgeMLS, MetroList Services Inc., BAREIS MLS and San Francisco Association of Realtors.

With the four new counties on board, the alliance covers Alameda, Amador, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Marin, Mendocino, Merced, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Benito, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Aug. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 26

Lowest sale reported: \$505,000

Highest sale reported: 4,350,000

Average sales reported: \$1,560,000

Livermore (Aug. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 30

Lowest sale reported: \$332,000

Highest sale reported: \$1,928,000

Average sales reported: \$1,051,500

Dublin (Aug. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 30

Lowest sale reported: \$711,000

Highest sale reported: \$2,827,000

Average sales reported: \$1,330,000

Sunol (Aug. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 1

Lowest sale reported: \$1,330,000

Highest sale reported: \$1,330,000

Average sales reported: \$1,330,000

San Ramon (Sept.

27-Oct. 1)

Total sales reported: 30

Lowest sale reported: \$391,000

Highest sale reported: \$2,693,000

Average sales reported: \$1,602,500

Source: California REsource



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925.463.0436

Sue @SoldInAFlash.com

SoldInAFlash.com

COMPASS

PONDEROSA ESTATES ~ REVIEWING OFFERS

26 OFFERS ~ SALE PENDING



3648 TERRAZZO COURT

Gorgeous 3,182 square foot single-story home in upscale Ponderosa Estates. Gated courtyard and grand foyer, gourmet kitchen complete with stone countertops, wood floors, solar system and so much more. 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths.

Offered at \$2,698,000



6202 ALVORD WAY, PLEASANTON

Even a historic storm couldn't stop us from selling this home at top dollar! Over 100 showings and 26 offers netted the seller top dollar! Let us share with you our extensive marketing plan that will net you top dollar too!

SALE PENDING OVER ASKING!

SOLD IN A FLASH ~ \$402,000 OVER ASKING!



1848 VIA BUENA VISTA, SAN LORENZO

Beautiful landscaped front and back yard, hardwood floors, dual-pane windows, recessed lighting, and kitchen with stone counters. Expanded primary suite with beautiful primary bath jetted tub. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

OFFERED AT \$878,000



945 GRAY FOX CIRCLE

Charming custom home in Foxbrough Estates with 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and over 3,600 sq ft. Gorgeous 1/3 acre parcel, swimming pool and three-car garage.

SOLD FOR \$3,100,000

COMING SOON IN RUBY HILL!

JUST SOLD FOR \$125,000 OVER ASKING!



Stunning 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath estate on an one-acre parcel. Timeless elegance with rich hardwood floors, expansive limestone kitchen, sunlit family room with French doors. Backyard oasis with cabana, kitchen, stone fireplace and pool.

Priced in the high \$3,000,000's



4751 MCHENRY GATE WAY, PLEASANTON

Stunning single-story home with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths and new quartz kitchen. Beautiful floor to ceiling fireplace, remodeled bathrooms, new windows, flooring, landscaping and more.

SOLD AT \$1,753,000

YOUR HOME DESERVES AN EXPERT

We can help you sell your home for the best price possible. Contact us to review our comprehensive home - selling services and complete marketing plan.

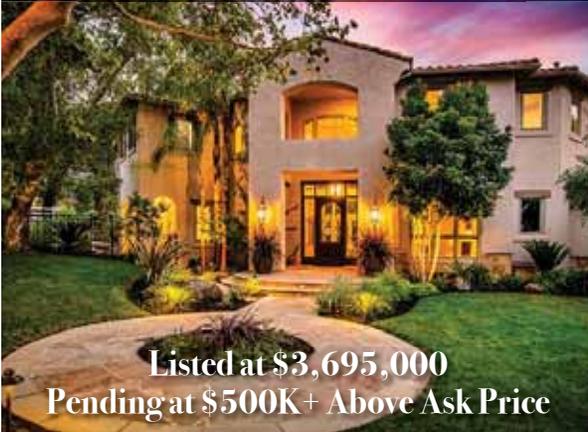


VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

We've Been Busy!

337 Yearling Court, Pleasanton



Listed at \$3,695,000
Pending at \$500K+ Above Ask Price

5253 Meadowood Court, Pleasanton



Listed at \$1,599,000
Pending With Multiple Offers

5226 Crestline Way, Pleasanton



Listed at \$1,499,000
Pending With Multiple Offers

3643 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton



Sold for \$1,830,000

810 Chateli Court, Pleasanton



Sold for \$1,710,000
Neighborhood Record

7801 Flagstone Drive, Pleasanton



Sold for \$1,750,000



LISA DESMOND
925.352.5065
Lisa@VenemaHomes.com

Our Listing Manager's Magic

Real estate expert, Lisa Desmond, joined the Venema Homes Team five years ago. As the team Listing Manager, Lisa ensures your home sale runs smoothly by scheduling inspections, staging, repairs, and other related activities. Lisa is a team player, detail oriented, with excellent communication and interactive skills. She has the ability to adapt and respond to changing situations before, during, and after the sale of your home. The Listing Manager role is one of the many resources dedicated to delivering a quality **EXPERIENCE** to all our clients.

Talk, Text, or Zoom - Lets Connect!



Liz Venema



VENEMA HOMES TEAM

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