

# Pleasanton Weekly

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# 2021

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BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

## Christmases I have known

After last year's cancellation, "The Nutcracker" is back. In 2016, my daughter Zoe, granddaughter Camille and I attended a performance of the ballet, and it became our special holiday tradition.

Then last year such live performances were but a memory and a hope for the future. This year I was reticent about going: We would have to wear masks, and Camille, 9, would have to be tested for COVID. But Zoe, who is normally quite virus-hesitant, was all for it so I thought, sure, maybe it is time to get out.

We went on opening night. The conductor stood tall and proud, beaming, in the orchestra pit, obviously thrilled beyond words to be back in action. Even Camille grasped the import of the evening and grabbed her mom's arm with a thrill at the opening notes.

The dancing — the whole performance — was magical. Was this because it was wonderful to be enjoying a live performance again or was it the choreography and charm of this particular production? Perhaps both.

With seven and a half decades behind me, I have experienced many types of Christmases.

We spent Christmas 1968 in Wichita Falls, Texas, where my husband was in U.S. Air Force secondary training, and it was our first Christmas away from our families. We went to midnight Mass, and I still recall the priest's sermon as he railed that there was no peace on earth as long as the Vietnam War raged. We were already feeling gloomy about our personal future, and we admired him for recognizing the upheaval in the world rather than automatically celebrating "peace on earth, goodwill to man." And the next day was fun. I cooked my first turkey and we invited some of Jim's friends from the base, who were quite appreciative of the homecooked meal and cigars and wine our families had sent from California.

When we lived in Jeddah, from 1975-'78, Santa came to a company party on a water tank pulled by a donkey. In Bangkok in the late '80s, he arrived on an elephant. But mostly we were in the States, and Santa came to our house Christmas Eve, presumably on a sleigh. We would

hear jingle bells in the distance and the children would rush upstairs and listen excitedly to the sounds of St. Nick clomping through the living room, saying hello to Mom and Dad as he quickly filled the stockings and placed toys by the tree.

With the children grown, the holidays turned into wonderful reunions as they "came home for Christmas." One year my son's flight from where he lived in Germany was canceled due to weather so my husband and I ended up eating our Christmas Day dinner at an Indian restaurant in downtown Walnut Creek — the only other customers were two Jewish couples discussing their trip to European synagogues. But that, too, was a Merry Christmas because we were happily anticipating the next-day arrival of my son as well as my daughter's family after their celebration with the in-laws in SoCal.

My loneliest Christmas Day was 2013, when my husband was dying of cancer and too sick for visitors or celebration. But the severity of his illness was not yet diagnosed so it was a Christmas of hope after a wonderful Thanksgiving for extended family and I don't remember it being unhappy; it is only sad in retrospect.

Last year's COVID Christmas is also a contender for the loneliest, although I did go to my daughter's yard for a brief outside present exchange. But I'm not complaining. I've enjoyed many holidays that could have inspired Norman Rockwell. Why, some years we actually gathered around the piano to sing carols.

This year my daughter is planning a family party for 12, including four children, on Christmas Day. God willing and the creek (and COVID) don't rise, that is where I will be. But no matter how the holiday unfolds, somehow it is always special for me, perhaps because the enchantment of the season was instilled in me as a child.

In conclusion, and I know I am jumping from Tchaikovsky to Dickens, I would like to say: "Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"

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

### About the Cover

2021 has been too action-packed to squeeze our annual Year in Review into just one issue, so we've split it in two. Read through Year in Review: Part I inside from Pages 12-18. File photos. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.



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**COMPASS**

**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who helped to make our 27th Annual Food Drive a big success! We collected over 3,000 lbs. of food. This will help feed approx. 1,000 families in the Tri Valley.

*We want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*



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## What are your Christmas plans this year?



**Zulma Chaviano**  
*Office Manager*

I will be spending Christmas in my beautiful 190 year-old farmhouse in Saratoga Springs (upstate New York) with my husband Will and our sweet, darling little Puggle girl Darla. We will be sipping egg nog by the fire. That is, my husband Will and I. Darla doesn't like egg nog!



**Doris LaBarca**  
*Legal Assistant*

We'll be spending Christmas Eve at my brother-in-law's house, and then Christmas Day at my house in Holmdel, NJ with my entire rowdy, crazy Italian family. Can't wait!



**Marva Richards**  
*Legal Assistant*

I'll be with my family in Brooklyn. We're all planning to wear matching pajamas and enjoy a very big Christmas breakfast with all of the fixings, including pasteles that I just brought home from my vacation in Trinidad.



**Laura Gagliotti**  
*Paralegal*

I'll be spending Christmas at home with my favorite siblings. We will cook, eat, drink, be very merry, and talk about our plans for the New Year.



**Jac Daphnis**  
*Facilities Management*

I'm spending Christmas with the people who mean the most to me. These people are my family at home and my work family. They are everything to me. I could never have survived this apocalyptic pandemic without them.

—Compiled by Nancy Lewis

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

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The 2020 Christmas is now a Christmas Past!  
We had so much hope for Christmas 2021  
and Livermore and surrounding community  
consumers exceeded our hopes for a Christmas comeback!  
Thank you for believing in loving local! Cheers to 2022  
and all the great things to come!

Liz Roberts    The Livermore Downtown Inc. Board of Directors and Staff    Neal Pann  
Crystal Burke    Mike Allen    Rachael Snedecor  
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## DIGEST

### West Coast Jamboree returns

The West Coast Jamboree is returning for three days of competition across Alameda and Contra Costa counties from Dec. 28 to 30, following a one-year hiatus.

Visit Tri-Valley is a new sponsor of the 21st tournament, which the organization said it is “extremely excited to be partnered with such a prestigious event” and “equally excited to be able to showcase our region to all the great teams traveling here.”

Brackets for all 15 divisions will be available once they are finalized through a link on Maxpreps. Admission is \$10 ages 13 and up, seniors \$5 (65+), and both children (5-12) and students (with valid student ID) are \$5. Wristbands are good at all sites for each day purchased.

All brackets for the 15 divisions will be made available once they are finalized through a link on Maxpreps, one of West Coast Jamboree’s major sponsors.

For more information, visit [WestCoastJamboree.org](http://WestCoastJamboree.org).

### Adoption fees waived

Now through Dec. 30, Valley Humane Society is waiving all adoption fees to help some of the animals find a home for the holidays.

Adoptions are conducted by appointment; people are encouraged to view available pets at [valleyhumane.org](http://valleyhumane.org) and fill out an application online. All applicants are contacted by telephone and scheduled to meet their desired pet.

Valley Humane Society will be closed Friday, Dec. 31 and Saturday, Jan. 1 to observe the new year, so potential adopters should act quickly.

### Curbside textiles recycling

Amador Valley Industries (AVI) will be collecting textiles for recycling from Dublin residents during the first week of the year (Jan. 3 to 7).

Residents must notify AVI about textiles to be collected at least seven days before their trash pick-up date. Textiles must be placed curbside in a clear plastic bag before 6 a.m. on their regular garbage collection day. Multifamily complexes must request a textile pickup through their property management.

To learn about acceptable materials or schedule a pickup, visit [amadorvalleyindustries.com](http://amadorvalleyindustries.com) or call 479-9545. ■

## County adopts final supervisorial map that splits Pleasanton into two districts

Supervisors Miley, Haubert address ‘misleading’ comments about process

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors adopted the final county supervisorial redistricting map last week, which divides Pleasanton into two separate districts.

Pleasanton’s boundary has been redrawn on the south side of the city, moving a portion from District 4 into District 1, which includes Sunol and parts of Fremont as well as neighboring cities, Dublin and Livermore.

The map — which determines which communities and cities are represented by which elected supervisor — is part of the redistricting process that occurs every 10 years in conjunction with the census to ensure that each supervisor represents the same number of constituents.

According to the Alameda County Coalition for Fair Redistricting, the county has legal requirements to meet, including: Keeping district populations balanced within

5% deviations; not segregating minority populations into isolated districts; contiguity, not unreasonably splitting voting boundaries; keeping community of interests in a single area; and keeping city and census-designated places united.

Over the last six months, the board engaged the public and accepted community input in multiple formats, including online comments, “Community of Interest” (COI) drawings, emails, letters and maps proposed by the public,

county officials said.

Some Tri-Valley residents who submitted input and advocated for Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore to be included together in the same district have expressed discontentment in the Board of Supervisors’ decision to adopt a map that only moves a small portion of Pleasanton into District 1.

“We are disappointed that Pleasanton is still in District 4 and split

See **REDISTRICTING** on Page 6

## Housing site inventory approved

Proposed list of sites is now headed to City Council for final approval

By JULIA BAUM

Following on the heels of an online community meeting earlier this month, the Pleasanton Planning Commission unanimously adopted a proposed housing site inventory list for council recommendation last Wednesday.

As required by state law, Pleasanton city officials have been working over the past year to identify land sites for accommodating nearly 5,000 units of new housing. Though the city must plan for their assigned Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) during the 2023-31 sixth housing cycle, no actual building is required.

A total of 24 sites were approved during the Dec. 15 Planning Commission meeting including Hacienda Park, Stoneridge Mall, Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare and the Pleasanton Unified School District administration office. Other locations on the inventory include the Muslim Community Center, Signature Center, Laborer Council and a parcel on Vineyard Avenue owned by PUSD.

Some of the extensive discussion that evening concerned several key sites including both Mission and Valley Plaza shopping centers, which were not recommended by the Planning Commission or city staff.



PAM SILLIMAN

### Gift of giving

Suzanne Anderson of the Castlelettes helps Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley prepare presents for seniors. The Castlelettes — a golf group from the Club at Castlewood — assist senior support every year with the project. “This year Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, along with multiple community supporters, were able to provide over 220 seniors with Christmas gifts,” said Pam Silliman, coordinator of the Friendly Visitor program. For more information, visit [www.ssptv.org](http://www.ssptv.org) or call 931-5379.

## Pleasanton Unified and APT prepare for more negotiations

Also: Board approves MOU with classified employees

By JULIA BAUM

The Pleasanton school board marked their final meeting of 2021 by holding two public hearings on upcoming negotiations with both of Pleasanton Unified School District’s collective bargaining units last week.

An initial bargaining proposal from the Association of Pleasanton

Teachers for the 2022-23 school year was unanimously sunshined at a Board of Trustees special meeting on Dec. 16. The district said that APT “has an interest in exploring and modifying” sections of the agreement for the term July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025.

The seven articles to be negotiated

include automatic re-openers such as calendar and salaries, as well as class size, hours of employment, leave of absence and payroll deductions.

Referring to tense negotiations between PUSD and APT over the past year that culminated in the teachers

See **PUSD** on Page 9

See **HOUSING** on Page 9

# Amador Valley program wins statewide Golden Bell Award

Girls Who Code program helps spark interest in STEM careers

By JULIA BAUM

Committed to lessening the gap in tech education, Amador Valley High School's Girls Who Code program was honored with the 2021 California School Board Association (CSBA) Golden Bell Award in the area of Equity and Access during a ceremony on Dec. 2.

Celebrating their 42nd year, the Golden Bell Awards recognize "outstanding programs and governance practices" in public education, as well as "the depth and breadth of education programs and governance decisions supporting these programs that are necessary to address

students' changing needs, according to a statement from the Pleasanton Unified School District.

Intended to spark interest in computer science and STEM careers among girls in grades 3 to 8, Girls Who Code has expanded its offerings since forming in 2016 to include career education, mentoring events and volunteer opportunities for Amador students. Grade school students are taught by members of the Girls Who Code program who have completed higher-level computer science courses, creating a supportive and empowering environment for young learners.

Amador senior and Girls Who Code President Anusha Maheshwari said she became interested in coding early because her father was a software engineer. "I created motion sensors with my dad using coding that turned on sprinklers whenever dogs or other unwanted animals walk onto the lawn," Maheshwari said.

After learning "there weren't more girls who are interested in computer science," Maheshwari found the club and its advisor, teacher Kevin Kiyoi during her freshman year.

The club held its first annual one-day Girls Who Code Summit in

March 2020, just before the COVID-19 lockdown. This year members faced social distancing restrictions and were unable to present in person, but were able to host a virtual event via Zoom with support from PUSD. In total, the summit hosted more than 130 students from Pleasanton and other Bay Area communities, as well as students from the East Coast.

"We believe the Summit is a very unique project that can be easily blueprinted and replicated across the Country. We're moving in the right direction, but we can do better," Kiyoi said.

Featuring a Microsoft cloud advocate as their keynote speaker, students and mentors worked in breakout groups and learned how to build a website using HTML, CSS and JavaScript, culminating in the creation of a webpage supporting one of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

The district said that "by creatively finding new and innovative ways to teach programming through different coding languages and environments, students will be able to attend a new summit where they will learn different skills, up to six different times (grades 3 - 8) over the years." ■

## Newsom announces proposal of more than \$300M to combat retail theft, violent crime

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced a proposal Friday to allocate upwards of \$300 million over the next three years to curtail organized retail theft and violent crime across the state.

Speaking at the California Highway Patrol's Dublin office, Newsom pledged to infuse local law enforcement agencies and district attorney's offices with funding to crack down on retail, gun and drug crime.

The plan would make \$255 million in grants available to law enforcement agencies over three years, enabling them to expand the number of officers they station at retail locations and hone in on organized retail theft.

"We recognize this moment

requires us to do more and to broaden and deepen our efforts throughout the state of California," Newsom said, referencing the retail theft operations in recent months in the Bay Area.

Newsom's proposal would make permanent what is currently known as the Organized Retail Crime Task Force within the CHP. Since its inception in 2019, the task force has recovered nearly \$20 million in stolen goods.

The renamed Smash and Grab Enforcement Unit already operates in the Bay Area and Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties, and would expand to include Sacramento and the San Joaquin Valley

under Newsom's proposal.

It would also provide \$20 million in grants to small businesses that have been affected by smash-and-grab operations and organized theft.

State and local prosecutors and investigators would have access to nearly \$50 million in combined grants over three years to combat retail crime, with \$30 million allocated for district attorneys and \$18 million to support the creation of a dedicated investigative team within the state attorney general's office focusing on retail theft.

"The resources and funding announced today, they're a game changer," Attorney General Rob

Bonta said. The proposal "provides the (Department of Justice) with additional funding to bolster our existing efforts, taking down the perpetrators at the top of these crime rings and shutting down the pipeline of stolen merchandise, freezing out the illicit market and ensuring serious criminals face serious consequences."

As part of the funding proposal, Newsom also included plans to create a statewide gun buyback program, fund gun violence research at the University of California at Davis and allocate \$20 million to the National Guard to target drug smuggling, particularly internationally via the state's southern border.

"I've traveled across the state as attorney general ... to rural, to urban, coastal and inland communities," Bonta said. "I have yet to meet a single Californian who does not want to be protected from crime."

Newsom is expected to include the crime prevention funding in his 2022-2023 budget proposal to the state legislature, which he is set to fully unveil next month.

"I hope people will feel more confidence that the state is doing its part to help support local government and local agencies address this very, very serious issue of crime and retail theft here in the state of California," he said. ■

— *Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation*

## REDISTRICTING

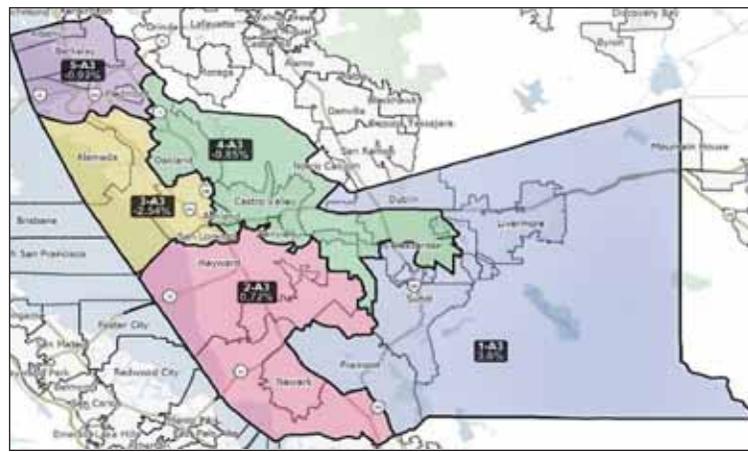
Continued from Page 5

without much consideration," said Kyoko Takayama of the Alameda County Coalition for Fair Redistricting.

Takayama told Livermore Vine that although Supervisor Nate Miley, who represents District 4, "acknowledged that Tri-Valley is a community of interest and should be kept together, it was clear that he had no intention of keeping us together."

"To split 15% of Pleasanton into District 1 is not a good faith gesture, in my opinion, especially when it includes the least vaccinated census tract in Pleasanton," she added.

During the Dec. 14 hearing where the finalized map was adopted, county staff said they received approximately 150 COI requests. Miley asked staff if it would have been possible to accommodate all of the requests that were received, to which staff replied that it would have been "very difficult, if not impossible" as a number of the COI requests



ALAMEDA COUNTY

The newly adopted district map divides Pleasanton among two supervisorial districts instead of keeping all of the city in the same district as it was previously.

were competing with each other.

Miley explained that the reason he asked staff to clarify that point was because of a reader submitted post in the Pleasanton Weekly's Town Square community forum, which accused the supervisors of gerrymandering and argued that Miley "refused" to give up Pleasanton from his district.

Miley said the Town Square post caused him "disappointment."

"I know I tried to do the best I

could to get Pleasanton in a Tri-Valley district," Miley said. "I did everything I thought reasonable to push to see if there was a way of getting Pleasanton in a Tri-Valley district and in order to do that would have meant Oakland maybe not having three supervisors, which I thought was really fundamentally important for Oakland to have three supervisors," he added.

Miley also said that getting Pleasanton in a Tri-Valley district

would have potentially meant that the unincorporated areas wouldn't have two supervisors, which he also believed to be "fundamentally important."

Ultimately, Miley said splitting Pleasanton was the best option but he asserted that he and Supervisor David Haubert, who represents District 1, would work together to fulfill the needs of the Tri-Valley.

"I've known Supervisor Haubert for many, many years and I know that he and my office will collaborate extremely well relative to the needs and the interests and concerns of the Tri-Valley as I did with (former) supervisor Scott Haggerty," Miley said.

Haubert echoed Miley's sentiments and called attention to an article that he said suggested that Pleasanton was being split from the Tri-Valley. He did not specify the publication that the article was from but he argued that the piece was misleading because Pleasanton was already in a separate district from Livermore and Dublin prior to this year's redistricting process.

He said that while the new map does split Pleasanton into two

districts, it does not "take Pleasanton out of the Tri-Valley but in fact helped bring part of Pleasanton into the rest of the Tri-Valley district" and as such, "the glass is maybe half full versus being half empty."

Haubert also said that although some people are not happy with the finalized map, the board of supervisors has received several positive responses from a number of Tri-Valley officials, including Livermore Mayor Bob Woerner.

"Nothing is perfect but we did the best that we could," Haubert said.

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown also expressed confidence in the collaboration between Miley and Haubert.

"Over the past 10 years, the city of Pleasanton has worked very well with County Supervisor Nate Miley," Brown said. "We have also worked very closely — since his election — with Supervisor David Haubert. I expect the two county supervisors will well represent our community going forward. They're both terrific professionals, experienced and will be excellent representing Pleasanton," she added. ■

# California to implement nation's first recycled content standards for plastic CRV bottles

California is making strides in reducing plastic pollution with the nation's first legislation on recycled content standards in plastic bottles. Effective Jan. 1, all plastic California Refund Value drink containers in the state must be made with at least 15% recycled materials.

Ultimately, California's goal is to require all plastic bottles to be made of 50% recycled materials by 2030, which would surpass the European Union's 30% mandate as the highest percentage requirement in the world.

Assemblymembers Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) and Jacqui Irwin (D-Thousand Oaks) authored Assembly

Bill 793, initially signed off by Gov. Gavin Newsom in September 2020.

"California has long led the way on bold solutions in the climate space, and the steps we take today bring us closer to our ambitious goals," Newsom said after signing the legislation. "I thank the Legislature for taking these important steps to protect the planet and public health."

All bottled water, sodas and sports drinks in plastic bottles sold in the state, regardless of their manufacturing origins, must meet recycled content standards, or manufacturers will face fines. Monetary penalties will

then be put into the state's Recycling Enhancement Penalty Account to support the collection and processing of plastic drink bottles.

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, also known as CalRecycle, said penalties will be issued annually and measured by \$0.20 per pound, based on how much manufacturers miss the mark.

CalRecycle also said the legislation will increase the demand of recycled plastic, which will increase the value of plastic material for recycling centers to partially relieve economic burdens.

The hope is to wane the state off its dependency on new plastics, which are made in part from oil and other fossil fuels, and get recycling back into the domestic sphere. With low U.S. demand for recycled plastic, private recycling centers are shuttering across California, leaving consumers with few places to drop off their cans and bottles.

In August 2019, California's biggest recycling company rePlanet closed 284 recycling centers across the state.

And since overseas markets like China are no longer buying California's recyclables, options for where

to store these plastics are diminishing. In 2017, China was responsible for processing 55% of the state's 14.6 million tons of recyclables, according to CalRecycle's latest data.

Ting calls on other states to join California in mandating the increased use of recycled plastic, rather than keeping it stored in warehouses and landfills.

"It's ridiculous that companies make new plastic every time a beverage container is needed. At the rate we were going, plastic waste will outnumber the fish in our oceans by 2050," Ting said in a statement. "With AB 793, California is taking a big step toward reversing this alarming trend and moving toward a more sustainable model." ■

— Olivia Wynkoop, BCN Foundation

## Craft beer foundation gives bikes to kids

By ISABELLA ELLGAS

Many underserved youth in Livermore will get a new bike this holiday season thanks to the efforts of the Livermore Bikes and Brews initiative, which raises funds for bikes for kids in need and gathers volunteers to assemble and distribute them.

The fundraising phase of the event, which was held in October, includes a nine-mile guided bike tour with three brewery stops, an

auction and raffle and live music, according to Livermore Valley Craft Beer Foundation (LVCBF), which helps organize the effort along with TAG Real Estate Team and Kids Bike Lane.

The event raised \$20,000, which was enough to provide 57 bikes to Livermore students in need, according to LVCBF marketing director Elana Arsondi.

The second and most recent phase of the initiative was the Big

Bike Build. Hundreds of volunteers came together on Dec. 4 to assemble bicycles at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

"Some kids struggle with means of transportation to get to school or their after school jobs. We have come together for one primary goal, which is to help kids get bikes," Arsondi said.

The volunteers worked from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The team was tasked with unloading boxes of bike parts,

assembling the bikes, adding decals for decoration and putting cushy seats on the bikes. The materials were labeled and organized by the volunteers in groups, according to organizers.

The initiative also provides helmets and locks with each bike. Organizers said they work directly with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District to identify the students in need of these resources.

Bikes, helmets and locks were also donated to a number of charitable organizations around the Bay Area including, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Livermore, Good Tidings Foundation, Catholic Charities of the East Bay, Agape Villages Foster Family Agency and the Hayward Police Department.

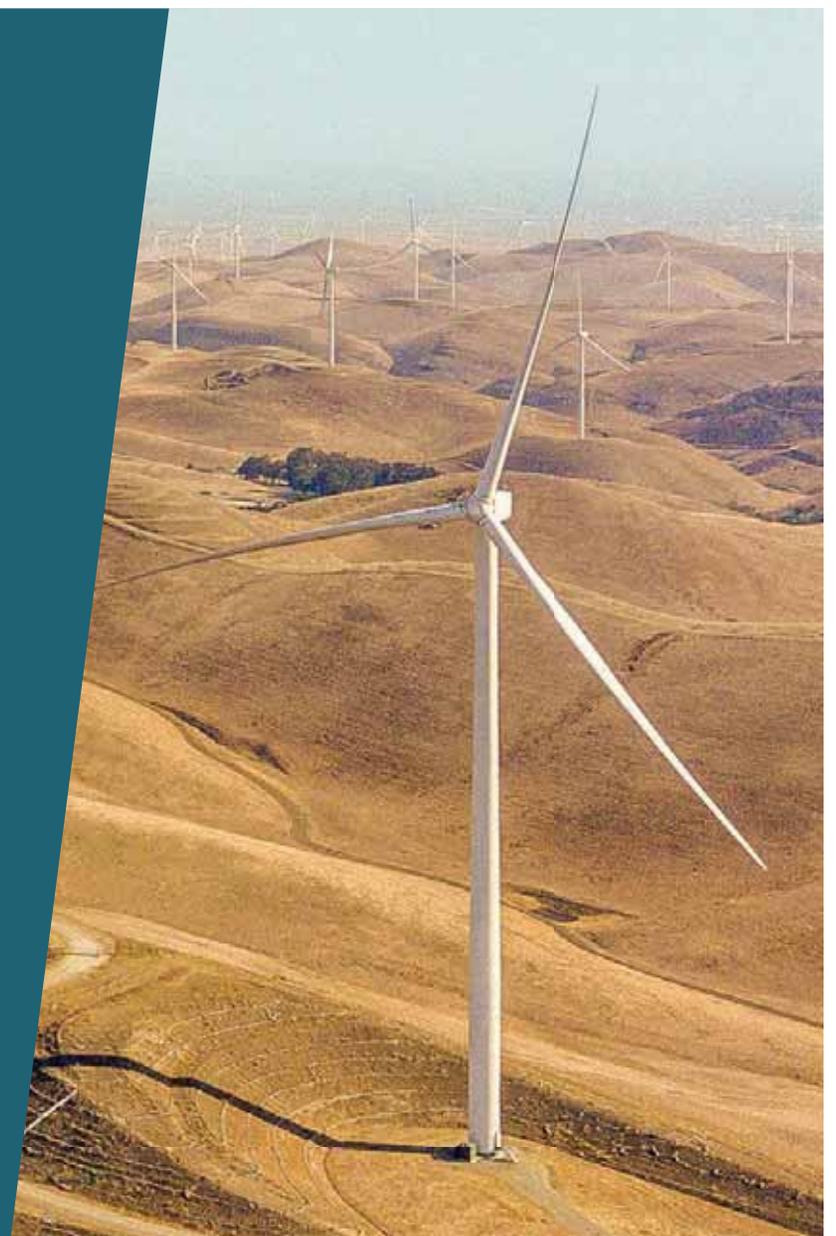
"Bikes help us get the kids the independence that they need and they can be outside and live a healthy life," Arsondi said.

More information about the organizations is available at LVCBF.com. ■

# Congratulations Pleasanton!

Together with the cities of Albany, Dublin, and Hayward, you're making the exciting transition to **100% solar and wind energy in January 2022**

[READ ABOUT THE TRANSITION AT EBCE.ORG/PLEASANTON](http://EBCE.ORG/PLEASANTON)



# Holiday Fund

Each year, the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund raises money to support programs and services that care for local families and children in our community. The Holiday Fund partners with the Three Valleys Community Foundation, which handles all finances, so every dollar of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to local nonprofits with no administrative expenses.

## This year's Holiday Fund recipients that will share in fund contributions are:

- **Axis Community Health**
- **REACH**
- **CityServe of the Tri-Valley**
- **Sunflower Hill**
- **Hope Hospice**
- **Valley Humane Society**
- **Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE)**
- **Open Heart Kitchen**

## As of Dec. 19, 2021 240 donors have contributed \$61,740 to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

37 Anonymous .....	\$8,125	Barry & Carole Jollette .....	200
Robert & Janice Hermann.....	200	Jan & Jeb Bing .....	100
Chuck & Debby Uhler .....	125	The Morgenstern Family .....	250
Pete & Julie Mason.....	**	Curt & Dana Hansen .....	**
Herbert Chang.....	**	The Murtagh Team .....	1,000
Steve & Gina (Channell) Wilcox....	5,000	Steve & Kay King .....	200
The Cohen Family .....	500	Sharon Piekarski.....	250
Alice Desrosiers.....	100	Art & Joan Tenbrink .....	50
Donna Johnson.....	100	Mary Claire Sites .....	100
Carmen Merritt.....	**	Richard & Gloria Fredette .....	**
Frank & Muriel Capilla.....	**	Tim & Sharyn Henshaw .....	**
Tim & Teri Bush.....	**	Don & Noel Anger .....	**
Cindy & Bob Gee .....	300	Judith Del Tredici.....	**
Kathy & Jeff Narum.....	100	Steve & Ellen Shirmizu.....	**
Ann & Don Rathjen.....	**	Helmuth Meissner.....	**
Sean Chase.....	**	Joe & Sue Silva.....	**
Charles R. & Mary E. Shoemaker.....	**	Ajay & Sonal Shah.....	**
Donna & Jim Zarrillo.....	**	David Clausen.....	250
Norm & Joyce Pacheco.....	**	Linda Todd.....	**
Sue Compton .....	**	Eric Kreiger .....	500
Kathy & Bob Russman.....	**	Marjorie York.....	100
Susan & Tom Fox.....	**	Diane Davidson.....	100
Julia & Alan Casamajor .....	100	Kelly Montes.....	200
Jim & Elaine Keysor.....	300	John Celeste .....	500
Bruce & Cindy Yamamoto .....	150	Michael Martin .....	250
Robert & Marianne Eisberg .....	**	D+D+D+D Bodemann.....	100
John & Barbara Severini .....	250	Lori James Rice.....	**
Barbara W. Daniels.....	**	Janie Dobbs .....	50
The Banahan Family.....	**	Kevin & Cindy Powers.....	**
Susan Houghton .....	100	Alan & Jean Purves.....	250
Christina Nystrom .....	30	Don & Judy Person.....	**
Jason Stinebaugh.....	100	Bill & Pat Ruvalcaba.....	1000
Marilyn Duman.....	300	Margie & Randy Schmidt.....	200
Margaret Mahon .....	50	Rick & Dawn Marie Barraza.....	250
Victor S Wheatman.....	100	Greg Landrum .....	500
Shake Sulikyan & James Curtis .....	**	The VerKuielen Family.....	100
Todd & Mindy Miller.....	500	Steven Ethier.....	**
John & Noel Wilson .....	100	The Berry Boys .....	100
Eleanor Tandowsky .....	**	Kerton Family.....	250
Pat & Randy Davis.....	100	Deborah Grossman .....	**
James Brice & Carole Peterson .....	**	The Fugate Family.....	100
Csencsits-Kundmann Family.....	200	Xiaopei and Andrew Gelb .....	**
Nancy & Marvin Rensink .....	**	Sarah Ciccarello .....	4,410
Gary & Mary Lazarotti .....	**	Vineetha Kuchibhatla.....	24
Tim & Val McGuire.....	1,000	Ruth Van Art.....	100
Carol Guarnaccia .....	100	Stacey Ristow.....	1,000
Harold & Rozann Densmore .....	100	Al & Lola Malatesta .....	100
Joyce & Robert Shapiro .....	100	Mark & LaRene Kidd .....	200
Ronny & Lonny Shaw.....	**	Jon & Rhonda Elliott.....	**
Peter & Kathleen MacDonald .....	100	Diane Wardin.....	50
A&A Lipski.....	**	Jim & Barbara Hollingsworth .....	100
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Sue & Greg Evans .....	100	Roger & Laura Miller .....	50
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5960 Inglewood Dr., Suite 201  
Pleasanton, CA 94588

## HOUSING

Continued from Page 5

During public comment, some residents said Valley Plaza could be “a great spot” for mixed use development, while others wanted the area to remain as is. However, a staff report cited a “number of community comments in opposition to including these sites” at a Dec. 1 community meeting and other factors for not including either shopping center on the housing site inventory.

Both sites “are filled with small businesses, many of which have served the city for many years,” according to staff, and “are also more centrally located within the city where local services and amenities within the center are needed.”

Representing the owners of Valley Plaza, Ralph Martin said staff’s recommendation to remove the sites “is premature and should be reconsidered as a mixed use project.” According to Martin, the owners envision a mixed use site with 10 to 20 units per acre that “would fit the neighborhood better and be more buildable.”

“The way it’s laid out now, we feel that the three out-parcels would remain, that being the Kentucky Fried Chicken, Hunan Chef and Jack in the Box,” Martin said.

“Then we’d do a mixed use where some of the original tenants would be able to be relocated or new tenants would be part of the mixed commercial development which would serve the neighborhood.”

Vice Chair Nancy Allen said including Mission and Valley plazas on the inventory “may make sense in the future ... but right now it’s a vital business center that’s serving thousands of community members.”

Commissioners Ken Morgan and Matt Gaidos agreed, with Morgan stating that Pleasanton needs “all the services that are provided by sites like Mission Plaza and Valley Plaza.”

“The biggest priority for me right now is to make sure we don’t remove services and buildings that are useful to the community, and that’s even more important as the community grows,” Morgan said.

Originally a proponent for inclusion of the SteelWave site, Gaidos ultimately voted with the rest of the commission to remove it but said “it’s going to be inevitable that that’s developed.”

“It’s at the edge of the entire city line and at the edge of our community, and that’s an asset in development, that it’s not going to upset a tremendous amount of what Pleasanton truly is,” Gaidos

said. “The number of units that could represent towards our RHNA number allows us to be more flexible with other areas,” he added.

Former East Bay Regional Park District board member Jocelyn Combs suggested combining both plazas with the Tri-Valley Inn site so that “you have a long line of properties there that you could do a specific plan on for mixed use.”

Combs also supported staff’s recommendation to remove the SteelWave site.

“It was a contentious, large, complicated project and bringing it forward with the Housing Element feels really awkward ... like almost circumventing any traditional process,” Combs said.

Allen said she “felt strongly we should remove” the SteelWave site as well.

“By us putting it on there, we could divide the community and usurp the planning process,” Allen said.

“I just value that what needs to be done in this area needs strong public feedback or we could have a community so divided that I can’t even imagine it,” Allen added.

The City Council is scheduled for a final vote on the Housing Element site inventory next month. ■

## PUSD

Continued from Page 5

union voting to authorize a strike, Trustee Mark Miller said both parties need to admit fault “before healing can begin.”

“As such, I would like to publicly and humbly offer my sincere apologies to our teachers for not being as effective a listener as I could be, for maybe not displaying the level of respect that perhaps is expected, and for taking actions that harmed rather than helped build trust,” Miller said.

Adding that he is committed “to being a better partner in 2022,” Miller said, “I would also like to ask APT to acknowledge their part in these relationship challenges and await an apology to that effect, so that we can begin the process of constructively and congenially helping ensure that our students who do deserve the best, get the best.”

APT President Michelle VerKuilen said during public comment that union members “look forward to hearing from management soon regarding the bargaining dates we have

proposed for January and February, and are eager to negotiate in a positive, collaborative environment.”

VerKuillen added, “We are committed to working cooperatively and efficiently to conclude our bargain before the school year’s end, a resolution that will benefit all.”

A memorandum of understanding with the California School Employees Association, which represents PUSD’s classified bargaining unit, was also unanimously approved by the trustees Dec. 16. The MOU concerns reorganization and revised job descriptions of classified employees within the district’s fiscal services department, and includes several reclassified positions.

Assistant superintendent of human resources Julio Hernandez said the district looked at divisions within their departments “to see if there’s an opportunity to reorganize and become more effective and more efficient.”

CSEA accepted the district’s proposal, and “we did negotiate and work out the job descriptions to be able to reorganize again the purchasing and fiscal departments within the division,” Hernandez said.

Trustee Mary Jo Carreon asked about the job description for a purchasing specialist, and whether there is “any way to cut out the middleman” and let teachers order materials directly from supplies like Amazon.

Assistant superintendent of business services Ahmad Sheikholeslami said the option is being currently piloted at Donlon Elementary and Foothill High, “and will soon, once we work out the kinks, be coming to all the school sites.”

The fiscal impact of the agreement with CSEA is estimated to be \$65,000 to \$70,000.

Another MOU between the district and CSEA was also approved as part of the consent agenda that evening. According to the MOU, “health services assistants are being assigned additional duties and are working out of class due to COVID-19,” and will be paid at a higher out-of-class temporary rate “or five percent (5%) above the unit member’s regular rate of pay, whichever is greater.”

The agreement is effective Dec. 1 through June 3, 2022, and will cost approximately \$2,000 funded by a grant. ■

Fred & Jacki Martin	100
Richard & Poy Chew	100
Kay Fogarty	200
Carl & Sharrell Michelotti	100
Leela Kapai	**
Patricia Bacon	100
Rebecca Saupe	**
Randy & Emily Yim	250
Christensen Family	500
Kent & Marilyn Muhlker	200
The Ristow Family	1,000
Gum, Greg & Laura	100
Hilary & Kristie Gross	100
Garrett Holmes & Angels Rameriz Holmes	100
Jeff & Jeri Oh	**
Bill & Ellie Haynes	**
Jordy & Hilary Strain	**
John & Kay Stewart	**
Gerald & Judy Gagne	100
Mrs. Lada Kosarikova	25
Mike Herman	200
Mark & Chris Miller	1,500
Donna Pulvermacher	2,000
Laurie & Brian Pearce	100

### IN MEMORY OF

Xiaofan Han, from Xiaojun Mo’s Family	**
Charles Sebahar Sr. & Charles Sebahar Jr., from Karen L. Sebahar	100
My husband, Billy L. Haraughty, from Anita Haraughty	30
Betty Patrick, from Charles & Joan Brown	100
Gam & Papa Abbott, from the Casey Family	**
Terry Scavone, from Judith Scavone	50
Bill & Emily Hirst, from Bill Hirst	100
Carl W. Pretzel, from Marilyn Pretzel	**
Jerry Lemm, from Marilyn Lemm, Mark & Michele	**
James & Frederika Traini, from Matt Traini & Wendy Wong	**
Edythe L. Shewfelt, from Frank & Muriel Capilla	**
Karl K. Witze	500
Bob Griffiths, from Sharon Morrison	50
Joe & Doris Antonini, from John & Carolyn Cardinalli	100
Elizabeth Dawson, from Daniel Dawson	**
Doris R. Sanchez, from Virginia Snodgrass	**
Erik Lemoine, from the Lemoine Family	**
Michael Corbett & Ed Clements, from Dave Cryer	100
Lee B. Young, from Marsha Young	200
Frank Thompson, from Steve McCoy-Thompson	30
Curtis Lum	100
Tracy, from Vern Cink	**
George Dunphy, from Barbara Jackson	**
Bert Brook, from Dee Brook	200
Coach Tony Costello, from Michael Costello	**
Richard L. Parr, from Denise Parr	100
Cecelia Anderson, from Art S. Tenbrink, MFT	25
Jerry Severin, from Charlotte Severin	100

Rick Aguiar & George Fargis, Jr., from Nancy Aguiar Fargis	**
Richard Brierly, from Stephanie & Haley England	100
James Kohnen & Cleve Beck, from Patricia Kohnen	300
Frank & Mabel Rich and Joe & Audrey Kramm	**
Steve DeCoite, from Jane DeCoite	100
Dr. Richard Roman, from Jane DeCoite	100
Jim Mahern & Bob Lemos, from Dr. & Mrs. Pennisi	**
Hank Gomez, Bob & Donna Williams, from Frank Gomez & Maureen Nokes	200
Margaret Lewis Stevens, from Mark & MaryAnne Lewis	**
Robert C. Bush, from Arlene Bush	**
David DeBernardi & Amber Harris, from Mom & Dad	200
Jose & Venus	**
Our parents, from Harold & Gena Gatlin	**
Frances Fatta, from Mark Campbell	100
Charles Soule, from Dorothy Soule	50
Peggy Karn, from Richard W. Karn	**
Warren L. Straight, from Vivian Straight	**
Bob Williams	**
James & Phillip, from Harris Chin	50
Shuhua & Flora, from the Fu Family	**
Elizabeth Ng	**
Bob Butler, from Kathleen Glancy	50
Hathily P. Johnson & Marcus E. Peterson, from Hathily Winston & Jerry Prettyman	200
Bob & Dorie Bonnel, from Jeff & Laura Bonnel	100
Earnestine Schneider, from Charles Schneider	50
Kathleen Gilmore, from Charles Schneider	50
Karen Miller, from Charles Schneider	50
Bob Molinari, from Kathy Molinari	200
Chris Beratlis, from Ron Morrow	400
Gene Wilson & Tom Wilson, from Mary Lou Wilson	100
Richard Shotwell, from Beverl Shotwell	100
Howard, Virginia, and Hans Hansen	**

### IN HONOR OF

SMMCB, you bring us such joy, pride and laughter, GMA & GPA Spicka	**
Hongkongers, from A & K Wong	100
Roland von Metzsch	**
Our 6 Grandchildren	**
My granddaughter Rylan & grandsons Drew, Kyle, Brett, Brennan, Jack, Cole, Noah & Tripp, from Jane DeCoite	100
Our beloved parents Jan and Jeb Bing, from Kerry, Chris & Jenny	200
Trudy Fabian, from Lisa Marie Fabian	200
Uncles Clark and Ron, from Ellie Miller	30

### AS A GIFT FOR

Ken & Carole Moy’s 70th Wedding Anniversary	**
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### BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

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Charles Huff Architect, A.I.A.	**
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Pleasanton Newcombers Club	500
Rita CPA	251

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Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues at Town Square at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com)



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From the in-depth coverage that held local government and schools accountable to the events that brought us all back together, we want to celebrate the milestones that defined our year with you.



# OUR PATH TO 2022

See our entire 2021 journey, visit: [pleasantonweekly.com/emdesign/year-in-review-2021](https://pleasantonweekly.com/emdesign/year-in-review-2021)

## Pleasanton Weekly



# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Teen dies in I-580 crash

A 16-year-old boy died after the vehicle he was riding in, which had stalled on Interstate 580 in Pleasanton after an initial collision, was struck from behind at freeway speed by another vehicle whose driver didn't see the prior crash early Sunday morning, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The teenage passenger, whose name has not been released to date, sustained fatal injuries after the vehicle burst into flames immediately after the second collision, according to Officer Tyler Hahn of the CHP-Dublin office.

The call came into the CHP at about 2:35 a.m. Sunday about a three-vehicle collision on eastbound I-580 at the Hopyard Road interchange, Hahn said.

Subsequent investigation revealed there had actually been two separate crashes in quick succession. The initial two vehicles became disabled

in the No. 2 and No. 4 lanes, respectively, after a non-injury crash, according to Hahn.

"The driver of a third vehicle failed to observe the vehicle blocking the two-lane and crashed into it at freeway speeds," Hahn said. "The previously disabled vehicle immediately became engulfed in flames, causing fatal injuries to a 16-year-old male passenger."

Hahn said the investigation thus far indicated that DUI was not a factor in the fatal collision. No other information was available about the identities or conditions of the other parties involved in the two crashes.

The CHP investigation remains ongoing, according to Hahn.

Officers had to close all lanes of eastbound I-580 in the area for about two hours for the investigation and cleanup, but the impact on traffic was minimal because vehicles were able to exit at Hopyard Road and re-enter the freeway where the closure was in place, the officer added.

—Jeremy Walsh

### In other news

- A two and a half month investigation by Livermore police concluded in the arrest of a local man on multiple burglary and firearms charges last week.

Detectives from the Livermore Police Department recently concluded the investigation, which they said connected 33-year-old Matthew Scott Swanson of Livermore to three commercial burglaries in the city. Swanson is a

convicted felon and prohibited from possessing a firearm.

Authorities said more than \$20,000 in stolen property, as well as a firearm and "large amount of ammunition" were recovered after several search warrants were served on Dec. 9. Prior to serving both search and arrest warrants that day, detectives said Swanson was located "inside a vehicle driving in Livermore."

According to LPD, officers "attempted to stop the car" to apprehend Swanson on outstanding warrants, but "the vehicle fled at a high rate of speed, causing the pursuit to be terminated due to risk to public safety."

The search warrants were eventually served in multiple locations, leading to the recovered stolen property. Swanson was found hiding in the city of Burlingame, where he was ultimately apprehended before being booked into Santa Rita Jail on burglary and firearms charges.

Detectives said they "are continuing their investigation and so far have connected Swanson to other burglaries outside the city of Livermore."

—Cierra Bailey

- An officer for Dublin Police Services suffered minor injuries when his car was hit by a driver under the influence last week.

DPS said the officer "was parked on the side of the road when he was struck from behind by an 18 (year old) driver who was under the influence" at around 3:30 a.m. on Dec. 14. A photo posted by

DPS on social media showed the crushed back of a black patrol SUV with two broken rear windows.

"Luckily our officer only had minor injuries and the driver went to jail. Just another example of the dangers of driving impaired," officials said.

—Julia Baum

- Three new officers including one Pleasanton native and Foothill High alumna joined the ranks of the Pleasanton Police Department this week.

Chief David Swing welcomed Officers Rebecca Rodriguez, Scott Faure, and Matt Castillo to the force in a statement on Friday, and said, "These officers embody our vision of excellence, and their diverse experience will be of tremendous value to our community."

A graduate of Foothill High, Rodriguez grew up in Pleasanton and

previously served as a community service specialist for the Livermore Police Department before joining PPD. Rodriguez earned a bachelor's degree in history from California State University, Chico.

Castillo is another Bay Area native joining PPD, having graduated from Benicia High School and Cal State University East Bay, where he earned a bachelor's degree in sociology. Previously, Castillo worked for police departments in Menlo Park and Martinez.

A lateral officer from Ceres Police Department, Faure graduated from Ripon Christian High School and has a bachelor's degree in plant science from California State University Fresno.

PPD is currently recruiting for new members. To learn more about employment opportunities, call 925-931-5210. ■

—Julia Baum

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## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available

### Dec. 16

#### Fraud

■ 12:19 p.m. on the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane

■ 2:07 p.m. on the 4900 block of Forest Hill Drive

#### Theft

■ 1:35 p.m. on the 4700 block of Willow Road; theft from auto

#### Domestic battery

■ 10:14 p.m. on Vineyard Avenue

### Dec. 15

#### Burglary

■ 9:49 a.m. on the 000 block of Vintage Circle

■ 8:40 p.m. on the 6000 block of Laurel Creek

#### Alcohol violation

■ 3:52 p.m. on the 5300 block of Sunol Boulevard

### Dec. 14

#### Theft

■ 8:16 a.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from auto

■ 9:27 a.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road; theft from auto

■ 12:40 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 3:51 p.m. on the 4800 block of Willow Road; theft from auto

■ 5:03 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 7:56 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Vandalism

■ 10:52 a.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue

#### Domestic battery

■ 10:08 p.m. on First Street

#### DUI

■ 10:56 p.m. on the 4200 block of First Street

### Dec. 13

#### Theft

■ 8:48 a.m. on the 800 block of Fox Circle; theft from auto

■ 1:47 p.m. on the 4100 block of Georgis Place; catalytic converter theft

■ 3:50 p.m. on the 3100 block of Arbor Drive; theft from auto

■ 6:24 p.m. on the 3100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

#### Robbery

■ 5:48 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### DUI

■ 7:25 p.m. on Vineyard Avenue/Ray Street

# Employment

### Sr. Software Developer

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seek Sr. Software Developer in Pleasanton, CA to Design and build scalable services and applications and optimize code for optimal performance. Telecommuting Permitted. Apply at [jobpostingtoday.com](http://jobpostingtoday.com) Ref: 82986

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

## Aileen Cicely Kapp

December 6, 1929 – December 10, 2021

Aileen Kapp passed away of natural causes surrounded by her six granddaughters and family by her side. Aileen was born and raised in Oakland, CA. She attended Oakland Tech High School and worked at Kaiser Industries as a graphic artist. She lived in Pleasanton for the past 49 years. Aileen was an avid artist and enjoyed volunteering at the Pleasanton Senior Center where she taught watercolor classes in her later years. Aileen's claim to fame was being called "Nonnee," a nickname given by her six granddaughters. Aileen never complained a day in her life and will be remembered by her gentle, kind heart. Aileen is survived by Michael Kapp (Lise), Diane Lund (Jess), Ross Kapp (Sheri), and granddaughters Ally Haviland, Melissa Lund, Katrina Lund, Julia Lund, Emilie Kapp, Rachael Kapp, and 2 great-grandchildren. Per Aileen's request, there will be no services held. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Hope Hospice or a charity of your choice in Aileen's name.



PAID OBITUARY

# 2021

## Year in Review: January to June

Everyone makes adjustments as pandemic continues

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI



Clockwise at top, Rainbow shines in Pleasanton as new COVID-19 vaccination center prepares to open at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in February (Photo courtesy of Cynthia Arambulo/SHC-VC.). Dublin High School Junior Elizabeth Tan spoke of her personal experiences with discrimination in Dublin (Photo: Ryan J. Degan). The Tri-Valley's first all-abilities playground opened last winter in Dublin. (Photo courtesy of Jacqui Hatzikokolakis).

**G**oodbye, 2021 — the strange year when we tentatively rejoined the world, cautiously stepping out from our quarantining and still wearing masks.

From the national trauma of Jan. 6 as the U.S. Capitol was invaded by rioters, causing Tri-Valley legislators to flee the House floor along with their compatriots, to the local relief of schools finally reopening, the first six months showed Pleasanton and its neighbor cities maintaining its equilibrium while coping with larger events.

In February, Pleasanton City Council members voted to

enhance public messaging about wearing masks to encourage their use in public instead of issuing citations. The next month, they approved a legislative framework for 2021 that focuses on COVID-19 response and recovery, housing, fostering economic prosperity and mental health, as well as the city's infrastructure.

As COVID-19 vaccinations rolled out, and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority provided free rides for many in need, many people resumed activities they hadn't done in more than a year, like dining out at restaurants and gathering with family and friends.

Tri-Valley residents were able to celebrate Easter with their congregations in person after Alameda County allowed places of worship to open at 50% capacity.

By June, Pleasanton was offering more camps and summer programs than last year, virtual and in-person, mostly outdoors, following every county and state guideline.

There was plenty of news not directly related to the pandemic during the first half of the year too.

Hopefully as we look back at January to June 2021, we see progress made in our city, in our lives — and in adapting to the continuing pandemic.

### JANUARY

- As 2021 begins, Tri-Valley nursing homes grapple with new cases of COVID-19, as does the women's Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin. Nearly 90 cases of coronavirus remain active at Santa Rita Jail among the inmates and staff members.

- U.S. Reps. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) and Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) are among hundreds of legislators forced to flee the House floor on Jan. 6 as thousands of rioters

supporting President Donald Trump storm the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., as both houses of Congress meet to certify the Electoral College votes.

- The Public Storage facility on Stanley Boulevard is on its way to getting a major overhaul after the Pleasanton City Council approved the final redesign plans following an at times testy public debate that proved an intriguing test case for the new council post-election.

- Former Dublin mayor David

Haubert steps into his new role as Alameda County District 1 supervisor while District 4 Supervisor Nate Miley is sworn in for a sixth term.

- Appeal hearing originally scheduled for this month over the county's approval of the 410-acre Aramis solar project in the Livermore Valley is postponed into February.

- Robert Doyle, general manager of East Bay Regional Park District for the past 10 years and a fixture at the district for more than four decades, retires. Doyle was instrumental in

preserving tens of thousands of acres in urban areas; opening 200 miles of new regional trails; and expansion of parks in urban areas.

- Livermore community continues to mourn the loss of former police chief Ron Scott, who died late last month after battling a long-term illness. He was 73.

- Deadline to submit applications for the first round of Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program funding is extended to Jan. 13.

- Alameda County's first countywide reading program kicks off with "Eat Joy: Stories & Comfort Food from 31 Celebrated Writers."

- Recently extended agreement between BART and U.S. Geological Survey allows the transit agency to continue monitoring local seismic activity and alert the public with real-time information when an earthquake takes place nearby, using ShakeAlert.

- COVID-Safe Art Expo that began mid-December runs through Jan. 14, with 38 artists' works inside the storefront windows at Livermore's Republic Square, which is not yet open.

- Museum on Main and Cantabella Children's Chorus are among the 157 arts and cultural organizations awarded grants from Alameda County, totaling \$900,000, through its Arts Relief Grant Program.

- Alameda County Fairgrounds "Classics From Your Car" series of outdoor movies continues with "Frozen" on Jan. 8, and "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" on Jan. 9.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Alameda County District 4 Supervisor Nate Miley is sworn in for a sixth term at the Jan. 5 board meeting.



JOHN HOUSTON

Amador Valley and Monte Vista runners prepare for their girls cross-country race Feb. 13.



COURTESY OF CITY OF PLEASANTON

10x Genomics is expected to complete the first phase of building its new campus in Pleasanton by 2023.

- Timothy Paul Young, 26, of Livermore faces a murder charge after authorities allege he stabbed his father Edward Tsung Yung Young to death at home following several days in which both parents were concerned for their safety due to their son's erratic behavior.

- Lease negotiations for a piece of land related to the planned 410-acre Aramis solar power plant north of Livermore fall through after the energy company is served with a cease-and-desist order.

- Phase 1 of the COVID-19 vaccine distribution begins in the Tri-Valley, given to front-line health care workers, first responders and vulnerable individuals.

- Livermore City Council decides to interview all of the almost two dozen applicants for its fifth member, rather than selecting a smaller number to move forward to the interview process.

- After briefly reopening for outdoor dining one weekend, downtown Pleasanton restaurant Side-Track Bar + Grill switches back to takeout-only with the owner saying he'd received a tip that the health department would be coming to shut it down as opening was in violation of the county's shelter-in-place orders.

- Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) board adopts a temporary grading policy at a special online meeting, allowing secondary students to receive "Credit" or "No Credit" marks instead of low letter grades on their first-semester report card.

- Zone 7 Water Agency's annual report on homeless encampments says approximately 10 miles of local flood control channels were used for shelter by unhoused individuals last year.

- COVID-19 case rates seem to stabilize after rising following the holidays. The number of new cases in the county drops in the middle of the month from a high 1,296 on Jan. 7 to 413 on Jan 11.

- Las Positas College begins to offer tuition-free, noncredit business

certificates for those who take online courses in customer service and small business management.

- A group of residents launch petition effort to initiate a recall of San Ramon Valley school board President Susanna Wong Ordway, and board members Rachel Hurd and Ken Mintz over the board majority's decision not to reopen schools for in-person learning to date.

- Annual Make A Difference for Pleasanton Festival goes online, using its website to list volunteer opportunities with nonprofit groups for those seeking to "Get Connected and Stay Connected" in the community.

- Mark Armstrong is appointed to the San Ramon City Council, to fill the District 2 seat vacated after city voters elevated Dave Hudson to mayor.

- Rep. Swalwell is selected by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to serve as an impeachment manager for the Senate trial of former president Trump after he was impeached Jan. 13 on one article of incitement of insurrection in the wake of a mob of his supporters breaching the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 while attempting to prevent congressional certification of the Nov. 3 presidential election.

- Livermore National Laboratory announces a collaboration with a United Kingdom company, ConserV Bioscience Limited, to develop a broad-spectrum or "universal"

coronavirus vaccine.

- Save Mount Diablo announces its 2021 Discover Diablo hike series, which has added hikes, rock climbing and mountain biking activities in response to growing demand, for a total of 36 excursions in 2021.

- Livermore Arts starts a series of interviews, "Beyond the Stage," conducted by Executive Director Chris Carter with members of the arts community. The first interview features former Alameda County supervisor Scott Haggerty, who is generally credited with the building of the Bankhead Theater.

- Teachers from Dublin's Murray Elementary School are featured on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" for their efforts to educate students during the pandemic.

- Details are out on the appeal a San Ramon resident group filed over the Planning Commission's decision to approve a 32-pump Costco gas station located within the San Ramon city limits and affiliated with the Danville Costco store across the street.

- California Department of Public Health announces Jan. 25 that it is ending regional stay-at-home orders, returning the state to the previous county-by-county colored tiered system under its Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

- Pleasanton residents get the



KANDISS HEWING

Jojo Powers of Livermore creates Black Lives Matter art at home in honor of Black History Month.

option of receiving carbon-free electricity in their homes after the City Council unanimously adopts several service levels from East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), the not-for-profit public agency that provides clean and renewable electricity to residents in Alameda and San Joaquin counties.

- Annual organizational workshop gives PUSD's two new trustees a more in-depth understanding of the various protocols, roles and responsibilities involved in representing and interacting with the community-at-large.

- Amador Valley and Foothill families combine for a "Let Them Play" rally at Amador, while almost every school in the East Bay Athletic League took part in their own rallies. Altogether there were at least 200 rallies taking place in California urging school and public health officials to bring back school sports amid the pandemic.

- Niles Canyon Railway volunteers, with the help of neighbors, rescue a cow that slid down a hill and got stuck at the base of the slope, mere feet from the historic railroad tracks.

- Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department moves out of Fire Station No. 3 on Santa Rita Road and West Las Positas Boulevard, relocating to a temporary facility blocks away for most of the year while the old station is torn down and rebuilt.

- After nearly 50 years, BART retires all of its legacy train cars and seeks ideas from the public on finding new uses for some of them. Most are to be recycled and used for parts as they are replaced by 775 new Fleet of the Future cars.

- Pleasanton Police Department bids farewell to longtime Capt. Craig Eicher when he retires after a career that lasted more than three decades.

- Planning Commissioner Gina Bonanno is appointed to the Livermore City Council, filling the seat vacated after Bob Woner's election as mayor.



**Gina Bonanno**

- Pleasanton Weekly.com makes changes to its popular reader forum, Town Square, in an effort to reduce disrespectful commentary and encourage broader, more diverse community participation.

- Pleasanton Weekly editor Jeremy Walsh launches a new biweekly column, "What a Week".

- PUSD Superintendent David Haglund gives the second annual State of the School District address, hosted virtually by the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation, saying 2020 was one "of challenges, of conflict, and of change. Yet, I have never believed more in the shared mission and vision statements that guide our collective work."

- Tri-Valley community members are recognized for supporting racial equity and justice through their work, at the 21st annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship Breakfast, which is held virtually while participants eat bagged breakfasts delivered the night before.

## FEBRUARY

- Museum on Main holds its 14th annual Wines and Valentines fundraiser virtually instead of gathering for the traditional heart-strewn event at the Club at Castlewood.

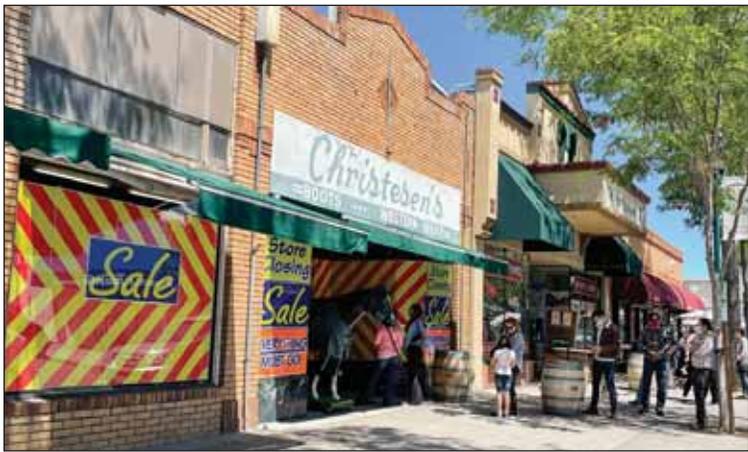
- City Council votes 3-2 to stop studying potable reuse as a water



RYAN J. DEGAN

First-grader Brandon Pedersen was among the first students in Pleasanton to return to hybrid in-person instruction in March after months of remote education due to the coronavirus pandemic.

See 2021 on Page 14



JEREMY WALSH

Christesen's Western Wear owners announced the store's pending closure in May after 92 years in downtown Pleasanton.

## 2021

Continued from Page 13

supply alternative, ending Pleasanton's participation in evaluating a regional potable reuse project with the Zone 7 Water Agency, Dublin San Ramon Services District and city of Livermore, among others.

- Former Dublin councilman Arun Goel is appointed to the DSRSD Board of Directors, filling a seat left vacant when no candidates ran for the Division 5 position in the regular election last fall.

- As case rates of COVID-19 continue to slow in Alameda County, PUSD Board of Trustees votes to have K-12 students return for in-person learning once the county is in the red tier for two weeks.

- Pleasanton Citizens for Responsible Growth appeals an Alameda County Superior Court judge's rejection of their lawsuit against the city of Pleasanton over environmental approvals for the proposed Costco store.

- Campo di Bocce of Livermore owners announce it has closed permanently due to financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Kim Budil, a scientist with more than 30 years of experience in management and leadership, is named the new director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

- Amador Valley Quilters turn 40, with many members remembering the first meeting Feb. 14, 1981, in Mission Plaza. The group's 400 members have spent much of the last year making masks from their stashes of material.

- Family of 19-year-old Sydney "Syd" West, a former Foothill High student who went missing in San Francisco last fall, offers a \$10,000 reward for information that will lead to her being reunited with her family.

- After a year of postponements and cancellations, Museum on Main schedules the 2021 Ed Kinney Speaker Series to be held virtually, to include a prerecorded monologue,

then using the Zoom chat feature for a live Q&A with the character.

- Alameda County officials again postpone an appeal hearing for the Aramis project, a large-scale solar power plant proposed for roughly two miles north of the city limits and Interstate 580 in unincorporated Livermore.

- Alameda County Fair earns nine awards from the Western Fairs Association and eight from the International Association of Fairs and Expositions for innovation and excellence in competitive exhibits, agricultural programs and marketing in 2020 — a year in which no fair was held due to the pandemic.

- Amador Valley High student Hiya Shah wins the Congressional App Challenge for California's 15th Congressional District for her smartphone app that provides real-time information on the quality of local tap water.

- Three people are injured in an early morning house fire on Driftwood Way in Pleasanton. An early estimate of damage to the home and contents is \$850,000.

- Rotary Club of Pleasanton announces a new scholarship in honor of late Rotarian "Señor Bob" Athour, a retired Amador Valley High foreign language teacher who later worked as a travel agent and co-founded Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association.

- Pleasanton Rides, the city service now provided by Pleasanton-based Black Tie Transportation, launches operations with revamped vans for senior's short-distance transportation.

- Tina Hand of Legacy Real and Associations of Pleasanton begins to serve a second straight year as president of the Bay East Association of Realtors.

- Pleasanton City Council votes 4-1 to enhance public messaging instead of issuing citations to encourage more people to wear face masks in public.

- Las Positas College students,

employees and the greater community partake in a free food distribution program on campus.

- One phase of a safety improvement project on Highway 84 from Mission Boulevard in Fremont to Interstate 680 in Niles Canyon nears completion.

- Alameda County Fairgrounds is designated a COVID-19 vaccination site allowing local residents who qualify based on age or employment to sign up.

- After reaching a stalemate on reopening Pleasanton schools for in-person learning as the county remains in the purple tier but case data trends downward, the Board of Trustees is scheduled to revisit the matter at a special online meeting.

- Tri-Valley state legislators propose a state law to require local fire districts be notified by electrical utility companies about any fire safety-related activities in areas with high fire risk.

- San Ramon City Council denies a resident appeal and approves proposed Costco gas station on Fostoria Way.

- Livermore Airport Commission OKs a plan that would relocate the corporate offices of Oakland-based charter airliner KaiserAir to the Livermore Municipal Airport, which would include the development of air facilities that could accommodate Boeing 737s.

- Black History Month celebrations take shape virtually to disburse educational material and pay tribute to the contributions of Black culture on society.

- East Bay Athletic League athletes begin to compete against each other again, including cross-country, golf, tennis and swimming.

- Nearly one year after the COVID-19 pandemic forced its closure, the Board of Trustees votes unanimously to have students return to PUSD for in-person instruction.

- The developer behind the proposed Aramis solar energy plant currently under appeal with the county government announces plans to seek

voluntary state and federal permits as part of a new conservation strategy to address potential wildlife impacts of the project in northern Livermore.

- Dublin Unified School District parents, teachers and students rally to urge the Board of Trustees to continue with facilities upgrades on Murray and Dublin elementary schools, in the face of a \$184 million budget shortfall.

- In a repeat of an initial decision last month, Pleasanton council votes 3-2 to support a citywide prohibition on the construction of new two-story accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

- Newly formed East Bay Holocaust Education Center (EBHEC) in Pleasanton uses creative programs to teach residents lessons from the Holocaust as well as honor its victims, including an upcoming art exhibition, a multimedia contest for students and plans for a virtual play this summer.

- Tri-Valley restaurants come together to encourage residents to participate in the region's first "Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week."

- Livermore will again have a mid-size hardware store in town as a new Ace Hardware location is set to open this spring, replacing the Orchard Supply that closed in 2018 and has remained empty until now.

- Tri-Valley nonprofit Culinary Angels, which supplies nutritious meals to patients facing cancer or other serious medical conditions, expands from focusing on Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton to include San Ramon and Danville.

- The results are in: The 2020-21 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund raised \$88,215 through community donations to support six safety-net nonprofits in the Tri-Valley.

## MARCH

- Sabrina Landreth, former city administrator for Oakland, becomes East Bay Regional Park District's next general manager, the 10th in the district's 87-year history and the first woman.

- City Council unanimously approves using city funds for a regional

mental health pilot program providing urgent care services to Tri-Valley residents experiencing a crisis.

- Recognizing the impact of isolation on students during the pandemic, PUSD temporarily expands the grading scale range for D and F grades for the second semester.

- PUSD board approves an additional \$1.1 million for the independent study program.

- BART budget officials say they do not expect the agency's operating revenue to return to pre-pandemic levels until 2024 at the earliest, with growth not expected until late in the 2020s.

- Alameda County Fairgrounds showcases popular foods synonymous with the annual summer fair at a special event called the "Grab-n-Stay Fair Food Feast," which offers the chance to sample fair food favorites while supporting food vendors impacted by pandemic-related closures and cancellations.

- LAVTA launches a program that will provide free rides to and from any COVID-19 vaccination site in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

- Amador Valley Scholarships Inc., which helps students graduating from Amador Valley, Foothill and Village high schools, adds two more scholarships: The Richard and Freida Greville Memorial Scholarship; and the Zachary Scanlan Memorial Scholarship.

- County Board of Supervisors unanimously approves the contentious Aramis solar energy project planned for north Livermore after nearly 10 hours of presentations, discussion and deliberations.

- Biotech company 10x Genomics announces new details about expanding its footprint in Pleasanton by leasing a second building in the complex shared by its current headquarters and paying \$29.4 million to buy the nearby Pleasanton Plaza site just south of Stoneridge Shopping Center at 1701 Springdale Ave.

- Tri-Valley's first all-abilities public playground opens at the Dublin Sports Grounds.

- Pleasanton City Council unanimously approves the city's legislative framework for 2021, to focus on COVID-19 response and recovery, housing, fostering economic prosperity, mental health, and the city's infrastructure including streets, water, sewage and telecommunications.

- Rep. Swalwell sues former president Trump, his son and two allies in federal court, alleging their words and actions before the 2020 election certification make them liable for the rioting at the U.S. Capitol in January.



NATALIE WALSH

Families rally outside Amador Valley High School in support of the "Let Them Play" movement on Jan. 15.



Above, Pleasanton native Jevon Holland (center) celebrates with his family at their NFL Draft party. The safety out of Oregon was picked 36th overall by the Miami Dolphins. (Contributed photo). Left, Pleasanton's Joanne Livingston receives a COVID-19 vaccine from May Lazen at Stoneridge Creek in January 2020. (Photo: Ryan J. Degan).

- PUSD schools reopen after almost exactly one year to eager students and families, many of whom have reported struggling with the virtual curriculum. Dublin and Livermore public schools are scheduled to reopen later in the month.

- Museum on Main reopens March 23 with a traveling exhibit, "The Newest Americans: New Citizens Reflect on What America Means to Them." The museum also announces its 2021 season for the Ed Kinney Speaker Series.

- Former Pleasanton police chief David Spiller, who stepped down from the city in retirement in 2019, is back on duty full time after being hired as the permanent chief of the San Rafael Police Department.

- City leaders consider an appeal of Pleasanton's currently estimated regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) following a lengthy discussion during which staff said an adjustment to the number of housing units ultimately assigned for the city is possible, but not to expect significant changes.

- For St. Patrick's Day, Dublin presents a chance to don the green and venture out — or to enjoy everything Irish at home — in a weeklong celebration.

- Pleasanton Planning Commission discusses redeveloping the site where the closed Barone's Restaurant currently stands on St. John Street with a single-family residential project or an office building.

- Pleasanton actor Parker Queenan stars in new season of "Are You Afraid of the Dark?" on Nickelodeon.

- PUSD staff presentation to the board says enrollment has shrunk by 410 students and is expected to remain flat for a while but eventually recover.

- Pleasanton Public Library opens its doors for a new "Grab and Go" service, allowing patrons entrance to the building for the first time all

year, coinciding with the library's new "Take-Home Laptop Lending" service.

- California's counties and large cities can expect to receive money from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 in two parts with the first coming in 60 days, according to preliminary information provided by U.S. Rep. Ro Khanna's office.

- First-term Mayor Karla Brown, in Pleasanton's annual State of the City address, reflects mostly on the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic rather than the usual, looking back on development projects, highlighting the work of city leadership, and giving residents a peek into the year ahead.



Mayor Karla Brown

- UC Master Gardener Program of Alameda County holds its Incredible Edible Plant Sale, with orders placed online and curbside pickup at Alviso Adobe Community Park.

- With dry weather impacting local water supplies, Zone 7 Water Agency asks Tri-Valley residents and businesses to voluntarily reduce their water usage.

- A series of lawsuits and claims filed after the triple-fatal crash on Foothill Road on Christmas night 2019 paint the picture of a preventable

accident with plenty of culpability to go around, targeting the city, county and state governments, family members of the teen driver who died and even one of the surviving passengers.

- Council votes 3-2 to set contribution limits for candidates running for office in Pleasanton after Mayor Brown declares it "time to get big money out of Pleasanton's government offices."

- Tri-Valley residents hold a small protest in downtown Pleasanton and a second, larger rally in Livermore protesting anti-Asian violence seen throughout the country, after the killing of eight people — six of whom were Asian women — at spas around Atlanta.

- Pleasanton native Lt. Col. Adam Darrow, an Air Force career man and current commander of 58th Operations Group Detachment 1, is awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his part in rescuing 194 special operations forces during a January 2020 Iranian ballistic missile attack on al-Asad Air Base in Iraq.

- Citizens' group Save North Livermore Valley launches a GoFundMe campaign for a lawsuit to overturn Alameda County's approval of the Aramis industrial solar power plant.

- Stratford School announces plans to open the first standalone private middle school campus in the Tri-Valley on Stoneridge Drive in the fall.

- For the fourth year running,



Rendering shows design concept for the Costco gas station set to be built on Fostoria Way in San Ramon, across the street from the Costco Wholesale store in the Danville town limits.

Foothill High School's competitive civics team is headed to the We the People national finals, after both Foothill and Amador Valley teams participated in this year's state finals, held online due to the pandemic.

- Brian Zachary Jones of Livermore, who had an earlier double-murder conviction in the case overturned on appeal, accepts a plea deal late last year for lesser charges of gross vehicular manslaughter and a 20-year prison sentence for an alcohol- and speed-fueled crash that killed a mother and her toddler in 2015.

- Interest in pet adoptions has skyrocketed over the past year, say local pet adoption centers, as East Bay residents turn to finding four-legged companions to help see them through the dark days of the COVID-19 world.

- Ambrose D. Regalia Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298 celebrates its 75th anniversary. It was established March 24, 1946, as several dozen World War II veterans gathered at Veterans Memorial Hall on Main Street and was named after the war's first Pleasanton casualty.

- PUSD explores ways to increase instructional minutes at all elementary sites after an audit finds wide variances in the amount of instruction time and elementary student-to-teacher contact minutes.

- Dozens of protesters march through Danville to condemn the death of 32-year-old Tyrell Wilson, who died after he was shot by a Danville police officer March 11. Wilson, a Black man living unhoused near the freeway in Danville, was shot at the intersection of Sycamore Valley Road and Camino Ramon by Officer Andrew Hall, who was responding to a report that Wilson was throwing rocks from an overpass onto Interstate 680. Hall is the same officer who pulled the trigger in a 2018 fatal police shooting in Danville.

- Pleasanton Planning Commission tells the owners of Barone's Restaurant that plans to redevelop

the downtown site must include commercial space and cannot be entirely residential.

- Dublin Unified School District's Trustee Catherine Kuo, 48, is killed after being pinned between two vehicles while loading a box into the trunk of a parked sedan when she was volunteering at Fallon Middle School. Four days later, several hundred people gather at Emerald Glen Park to honor Kuo, support her family and grieve together.



Catherine Kuo

- Stephen Kalthoff, a former four-term director for the Zone 7 Water Agency and a third-generation vintner in the Livermore Valley, dies of a heart attack at the age of 80.

## APRIL

- Tri-Valley residents are able to celebrate Easter with their congregations in person as coronavirus vaccines continue to be administered and Alameda County allows places of worship to open at 50% capacity.

- Jeff Peters retires from LPFD after a 31-year career with his hometown fire department, including the past 15 months as its permanent fire chief.

- PPIE holds its second annual PPIE Virtual Run for Education after the first year raised about \$75,000.

- Elizabeth Correia, 41, a first-grade teacher at Lydiksen Elementary School who grew up in Pleasanton and graduated from Foothill High School, and her mother, Maria Teixeira, 64, who was a school custodian in San Ramon, are killed after their car plunges down a cliff in a Bodega Bay parking lot.

- PUSD trustees approve a \$248,000

2021

Continued from Page 15

contract with Nicole Anderson and Associates Consulting to work with district leadership to identify and address equity gaps among students, including policies and practices that contribute to systemic racism, microaggressions and student marginalization.

• As COVID-19 vaccinations roll out, people resume activities they haven't done in more than a year, like dining at restaurants, returning to classrooms, and gathering with family and friends.

• Hope Hospice revives its annual Hike for Hope program after canceling the event last year due to the coronavirus crisis, which resulted in shorting the organization more than \$100,000 in anticipated revenue.

• A new Community Advisory Committee is being formed by the city of Dublin to give residents the opportunity to weigh in on future land-use and preferred development of the so-called "SCS Property," site of the At Dublin project that was rejected last summer.

• For the fourth year in a row, the town of Danville is recognized as the safest community in California, according to an annual study conducted by national security company Safewise.

• Tri-Valley holds activities and programs during Earth Week 2021 to highlight positive ways to support the Bay Area environment.

• Bankhead Theater in Livermore kicks off a series of early concerts for 44 patrons at distanced tables in its courtyard with Bay Area comedian Brian Maggi followed by guitarist James Robinson. Masks are required, and concessions are individually served.

• Pleasanton couple are robbed at gunpoint in broad daylight outside of their house seconds after they pull into their driveway on a Saturday. They question whether they were targeted because they are Asian American, and they praise police for a "job well done" in quickly arresting the suspects.



RYAN J. DEGAN

Madeline Burchard and husband Charlie Hunts pose during the "Pride Prom-ish" photoshoot in Livermore. Hunts said the event felt "even more special than if I went my senior year in high school, as an out trans man with my wife and the pictures were really fun."



RYAN J. DEGAN

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

• Amador Valley High senior Mia Reeve earns a high finish in the Spirit of the Flame meet despite competing with an injured wrist in what would be the final event of her gymnastics career.

• Group of residents file a lawsuit against the city of San Ramon over its approval of a 32-pump Costco gas station near the Danville border, arguing that the project needs to be more thoroughly reviewed for environmental impacts.

• Pleasanton Downtown Association Executive Director Tiffany Cadrette is stepping down after accepting a marketing position with the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

• City Council members unanimously agree to set a voluntary \$1,000 per individual contribution maximum for city office candidates but are split when it comes to limits for campaign expenditures.

• Alameda County Fair announces it is coming back in 2021 but rescheduled for the fall due to COVID-19 vaccine and food distribution efforts currently at the Pleasanton fairgrounds.

• Pleasanton Planning Commission unanimously approves the new contemporary design of the Chabad Center for Jewish Life, 3370 Hopyard Road, after the building was damaged by fire two years ago.

• Truck driver Ivenet Frederic, of Orlando, Fla., is charged with three felony counts of gross vehicular manslaughter in connection with

the crash in Livermore that killed three teenagers days before Christmas 2020.

• Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare permanently shuts down its LifeStyleRx fitness center in Livermore after 17 years, citing financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the health care provider says it plans to use the space to expand other services.

• Tri-Valley residents may one day be able to travel on foot or bike through Niles Canyon on a nearly six-mile proposed trail that would link the eastern end of Fremont and the unincorporated community of Sunol — which Alameda County officials also said would "preserve the historic water and rail infrastructure within Niles Canyon."

• Pleasanton grocery market Apna Bazar pleads guilty to two misdemeanor counts of price gouging for significant markups of dry goods and produce last year during the early days of the state's COVID-19 emergency,

• PUSD moves forward with plans to change enrollment boundaries for elementary school sites after the Board of Trustees unanimously approves a strategy for the public review process.

• ValleyCare Charitable Foundation dissolves, with mission and funds transitioning to the Stanford University Office of Medical Center Development and a team to be dedicated to Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare hospital priorities. The move comes five years after the ValleyCare health system merger with Stanford Health.

• Dublin High School ceremonially opens the doors to its new engineering and science building, marking completion of one of DUSD's marquee construction projects in recent years.

• Save North Livermore Valley files lawsuit against Alameda County after the Board of Supervisors' decision to approve Intersect Power's 410-acre Aramis solar energy project planned for North Livermore saying the development violates

Measure D, which protects agricultural land and open space in eastern Alameda County, as well as violating the California Environmental Quality Act and the Alameda County General Plan.

• Contra Costa County Sheriff's Deputy Andrew Hall turns himself in to the Martinez Detention Facility after being criminally charged for fatally shooting an unarmed driver during a police response in downtown Danville in November 2018. Hall faces felony counts of voluntary manslaughter and assault with a semiautomatic weapon in connection with the death of Laudemer Arboleda.

• Pleasanton resident Justin Michael McDaniels is taken into custody just after 10 p.m. on a Friday night after police allege he fired around 100 rifle rounds inside his home on Arroyo Court, with some of the bullets entering nearby condos. No neighbors were injured.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The record-setting Amador Valley distance medley relay boys team of John Lester, Robert Sitter, Tim Lester and Euan Houston.

• Amador Valley High School boys track team breaks the 20-year school record for the distance medley relay, which consists of legs of 1,200 meters, 400 meters, 800 meters and 1,600 meters, at a meet at the Campolindo track.

• Club at Castlewood in Pleasanton celebrates the groundbreaking of its multimillion-dollar renovation and modernization project, which will cost approximately \$16 million project and is estimated for completion by June 2022.

• Main Street weekend closures return at the end of April to run until Labor Day to give downtown restaurants and shops more space to expand operations outdoors.

MAY

• Firehouse Arts Center reopens its doors to the public along with the facility's Harrington Art Gallery and its 10th "Fresh Works" exhibit.

• Bankhead Theater reopens, screening films with a restricted audience size, beginning with "Fiddler on the Roof" on May 19.

• City Council votes to levy

transportation fees on new development in Pleasanton's Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone (JDEDZ) by the I-580/I-680 interchange. With a Costco, two hotels and other businesses planned to anchor the commercial development, city staff said revenue collected from the fees would mitigate the impact of new development.

• Susan Guinee, a longtime PE teacher who lived in San Ramon, died in a three-car crash at the intersection of Crow Canyon and Bolinger Canyon roads on Wednesday afternoon when her car was struck by a truck that police say appeared to have run a red light.

• A new group on NextDoor called "Improving Pleasanton's Internet" has more than 50 members and continues to grow after a Comcast outage leaves several hundred homes in Pleasanton without internet service for much of a day.

• Livermore City Council decides John Stein can remain on the Planning Commission after he referred to a proposed affordable housing development as a "ghetto" at a meeting April 20, but he must attend training webinars and meet with city human services staff.

• A local couple are arrested in connection with the shooting death of rapper Lil Yase (Mark Antonyyo Alexander Jr.) in Dublin in November, but they are released after Alameda County prosecutors decline to file formal charges against the pair for evidentiary reasons.

• Hart Middle School holds groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of work for its new science building, one of many projects in Pleasanton schools using Measure 11 bond money.

• Foothill High and Amador Valley High receive the designation of California Distinguished School, about a month after Harvest Park and Pleasanton middle schools were announced winners, along with Fallon Middle in Dublin and Mendenhall Middle in Livermore.

• Pleasanton Weekly's winners in



JEREMY WALSH

Amador Valley golfer Jaclyn LaHa stands over a birdie attempt on the 18th green during the first round of the U.S. Women's Open at Olympic Club on June 3.

the 2021 Mother-Daughter Look-alike Contest this year are Varupi Gupta and her daughter Pareena, 12.

Embarcadero Media — publisher of three newspapers and six community websites in the Bay Area, including the Pleasanton Weekly — is one of 30 organizations across the U.S. and Canada chosen for the Facebook Journalism Project.

Pleasanton native and actress Michelle Hinsberg opens up about her career and new indie film "It's What's on the Inside".

Las Positas College holds its first all-day Literary Arts Festival, a free virtual Saturday event featuring national and internationally recognized authors, a Hollywood screenwriter, poet laureates and more.

On the second day of the National Football League Draft, Jevon Holland, who was raised in Pleasanton, goes to the Miami Dolphins at 36th overall, and Aaron Banks, a former Pleasanton Junior Football League player, goes to the San Francisco 49ers at No. 48.

Council wraps up the city of Pleasanton's draft work plan, a 27-page document to guide the council and city officials in decision-making for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 fiscal years, as well as how to allocate funds and staffing toward realizing those goals.

Pleasanton resident Mark Fiala, 66, is killed and his pet dog injured when they are hit by a vehicle while trying to cross Stoneridge Drive from a neighborhood east of Santa Rita Road just after 6 a.m. on a Monday.

Dublin Unified hires San Jose schools administrator Chris Funk as the district's new superintendent.



Chris Funk

PUSD agrees to align instructional minutes to fix inconsistencies in learning time and teacher-to-student contact at its nine elementary schools, although the Board of Trustees agrees that each site should have the flexibility to decide its own bell schedule.

Starting this month, the Alameda County Fire Department, which serves unincorporated areas along with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the cities of San Leandro, Emeryville, Dublin, Union City and Newark, is hoisting Red Flag Warnings to alert residents when they should refrain from activities that could inadvertently ignite fires.

Livermore Valley wineries begin to welcome visitors back for tastings, special events and live music after lying mostly dormant for over a year shifting to virtual events and curbside pickup.

Two men from Livermore (Phe N. Phan, 27, and Ronnie Ray Martinez Jr., 29) face first-degree murder and gun charges, as well as potential enhancements for prior convictions, in the wake of the May 8 shooting death of 24-year-old Emilio Molina at the Motel 6 in town in what police said appears to have been a gang-related killing.

Amador Valley and Foothill high schools, for their annual joint performance, produce a musical revue movie of "On Broadway" on YouTube, with 19 students in the cast and 17 in the orchestra.

Pleasanton Weekly earns 12 awards in the California News Publishers Association's 2020 Journalism Awards, including first place for Public Service Journalism (Digital) for its 2020 Tri-Valley candidate forum series, which included eight forums for 12 Tri-Valley local election races.

Some downtown business owners say they are adversely affected by Main Street closures on weekends to

accommodate outdoor dining, called a godsend by restaurant owners. The "Weekend on Main" is scheduled to run Friday afternoon through Sunday evening until Labor Day.

Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees unanimously appoints William Kuo to succeed his late wife Catherine Kuo as the Trustee Area 3 representative, after she died in a traffic collision at Fallon Middle School on March 24.

Pleasanton Police Department seeks at least 12 community members to voice their thoughts about issues affecting the department and serve two years on a new advisory board.

After years of development and months of construction, a new-concept Lucky California grocery store opens its doors in Pleasanton, serving as the flagship location for the company's reimagined shopping experience.

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley announces she will not seek re-election to a fourth term when her current term ends at the beginning of 2023.

Village High School educator Russell Sato is named PUSD's 2021 Teacher of the Year.

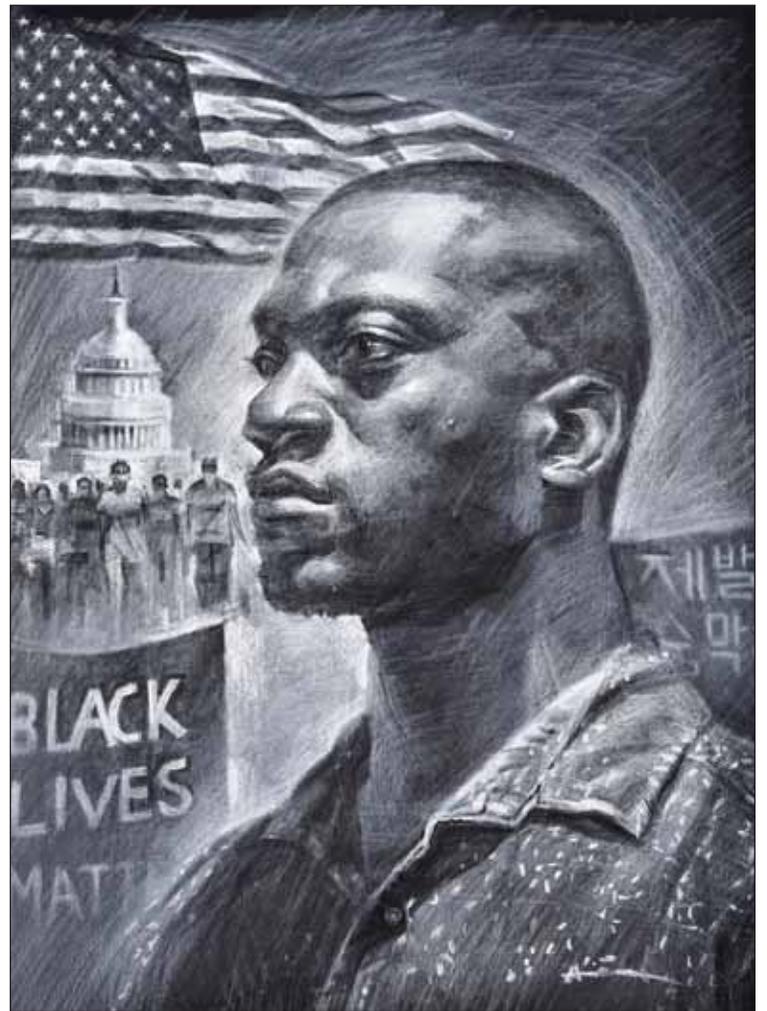
The final environmental impact report for the proposed Valley Link commuter light rail system is unanimously approved by the Tri-Valley/San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority Board of Directors, bringing the project another step closer to fruition.

Prosecutors decide the driver whose vehicle fatally struck Dublin Unified School District trustee Catherine Kuo during a volunteer event at Fallon Middle School in March will not face criminal charges because, although she failed to properly put her SUV into the park gear while stopped in the queue at the food distribution event, her actions did not rise to criminal negligence.

Tri-Valley fire departments ramp up for expected big blazes after an early wildfire season that saw Cal Fire responding to 1,300 wildland fire incidents combined with a statewide drought and temperatures above normal.

Livermore City Council signs off on the 130-unit affordable housing community proposed for downtown by Eden Housing following a public meeting that spanned two days.

Montana Parkinson-Lubold of Amador Valley High takes the girls singles title at an event held in lieu of an official East Bay Athletic League official tennis tournament. Amador's doubles team of Sonali Carumbaya and Parna Praveen finishes third. The JV doubles team



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

"Black Lives Matter" by Pleasanton teen Anica Xie won the Congressional Art Competition for Rep. Eric Swalwell's 15th District.

Maryam Suratwala-Neha Reddy earns first, and Hannah You-Megha Reddy takes third. On the boys' side, Brett Miller beats teammate Bryan Park in the finals as the Dons finish first and second.

Sunwalker Energy withdraws application with Alameda County for a conditional use permit to develop a solar energy project in northern Livermore. The project's prior approval was under appeal.

Pleasanton high schools hold in-person graduation ceremonies, also livestreamed, at Amador Valley and Foothill stadiums with students walking across the stage but no handshakes and picking up their diplomas from a table. Village High holds its graduation at the district's upper Bernal fields near campus.

Christesen's Western Wear permanently closes its doors in downtown Pleasanton after nearly a century of

serving the East Bay's agricultural and equestrian community amid changing local demographics.

The community's first designated cricket pitch opens at Alisal Elementary School, created in partnership between PUSD and youth group Cricket for Cubs.

Foothill's Vivian Lee completes compelling freshman baseball season.

Dublin resident Jose Dejesus Hernandez III, 35, a substation master mechanic with Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, is one of nine men killed after a "disgruntled" co-worker opens gunfire at the rail yard in San Jose.

## JUNE

Pleasanton offers more camps and summer programs than last year,

See 2021 on Page 18



DUSD

William Kuo, widower of late DUSD Area 3 trustee Catherine Kuo, is appointed to serve in her place until the next regular election in November 2022.

## 2021

Continued from Page 17

virtual and in-person, mostly outdoors, following every county and state guideline.

- Tri-Valley water providers launch a joint initiative to urge residents and businesses throughout the entire region to reduce their consumption by 10% after Gov. Newsom includes Alameda County in his emergency drought declaration in May.

- Pleasanton's Fourth of July event at Lions Wayside Park downtown is canceled again for this year since the Pleasanton Community Band members have not been able to gather to practice, organizers say, plus it is doubtful whether crowds would be acceptable by July 4.

- Anica Xie, a sophomore at Amador Valley High School, is winner of the 2021 Congressional Art Competition for the 15th District for her work, "Black Lives Matter."

- PUSD budget analyst Kay Dorp is celebrated as the district's 2021 Classified Employee of the Year.

- Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, including a series of spotlights and reflections from business and community leaders.

- Las Positas College plans to reopen campus for the fall 2021 semester with in-person, online and hybrid schedules to offer more flexibility for students.

- San Ramon Valley historian Beverly Lane spotlights her new book, "Historic Tales of Alamo, California", written with Sharon Burke.

- One year after its initial launch, the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Fund for Covid Relief (TVNF) completes its third round of funding, thanks in part to support from the Rotary Club of Livermore and Workday, bringing its total amount of contributions up to \$183,000.

- Pleasanton city officials unveil their new "Gift Pleasanton" to incentivize residents to patronize local businesses by offering them a digital gift card after they spend money locally.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Niles Canyon Railway volunteers and neighbors used a backhoe to rescue a cow stuck in a ravine in January.

- Health officers from Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz and Sonoma counties and the city of Berkeley call for California schools to open for full-time, in-person learning for all grades in fall 2021.

- Foothill girls softball team clinches another East Bay Athletic League title, going 8-1 in league play and 17-2 overall. The season also ended the 40th year of coaching for Matt Sweeney, who has coached football, baseball and softball for the Falcons.

- Actor Bryan Mazzeo, who hails from Pleasanton, describes being transformed into the late artist Bob Ross for a Mountain Dew commercial, using prosthetics that included eyebags, crow's feet, chin and ear lobe extensions, and forehead, brow and nose pieces — and more.

- City Council re-examines policy that prohibits non-active ground-floor uses along Main Street after an application from Iron Horse Real Estate to open for business in a ground-floor space at 550 Main St. was denied in December.

- Del Valle Regional Park celebrates the completion of its newly renovated visitor center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, featuring guest speakers and small group tours of the new space in Livermore.

- 19-year-old Elian Delacerda, who had ties to Pleasanton, dies after being stabbed in a late-night confrontation in Hawaii.

- Alameda County moves into the yellow tier of the pandemic reopening system one week before the state lifts the tier system completely.

- The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee includes \$20 million for the Valley Link commuter light rail system connecting BART to ACE in the upcoming transportation spending bill upon the request of Rep. Swalwell.

- Multiple gunshots are fired in a Stoneridge Shopping Center parking lot on a Tuesday afternoon, with apparently nobody injured and those involved escaping.



JOHN LOLL

Scenes and songs from "Les Misérables" are part of the "On Broadway" joint high school production, which is a movie this year instead of a stage show.

- Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council installs two colorful temporary signposts that point the way to the city's works of public art to celebrate the lively role the arts play in the downtown's awakening as the pandemic subsides.

- Bankhead Theater opens ticket sales for its 2021-22 season, to launch Sept. 11 with its annual fundraising gala, "Brilliance at the Bankhead," and offering a diverse range of entertainment.

- Live horse racing returns to the Alameda County Fairgrounds from June 18-July 18 although the fair itself is scheduled for late October.

- Former mayor Jerry Thorne and his wife Kalee move to Marana, Ariz., after he has lived in and served for 50 years in Pleasanton.

- California Department of Public Health's "Beyond the Blueprint" framework allows most businesses like restaurants, theaters, wineries, breweries and shopping malls to resume regular operations without requiring masks for people who are vaccinated, physical distancing or capacity limitations.

- City Council approves the site of the former Pleasanton Plaza retail complex to become the new campus for biotech company 10x Genomics to conduct a variety of research, development and laboratory work.

- Construction of the new Legacy at Livermore downtown housing and retail development comes to a temporary halt after contractor files for bankruptcy.

- Each of the four Tri-Valley cities and the town of Danville raise the LGBTQ+ Pride flag on municipal flagpoles, and Livermore Pride hosts its first-ever Pride-Promish festivities.

- Jaclyn LaHa, an incoming junior and star golfer for the Amador Valley Dons, plays in the U.S. Women's Open at the Olympic Club in San Francisco.

- Livermore earns national recognition by being named one of this

year's All-America City Award winners along with nine other cities across the country honored by the National Civic League.

- At a City Council meeting, a presentation on the next steps needed to clean up Pleasanton's contaminated groundwater wells to the tune of \$46 million morphs into a broader discussion about finding regional alternatives and maintaining local control over water resources. Officials have been working to address the problem after per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) were found in the city's groundwater supply facilities in recent years.

- Aimee and Bryan Wingen open their Wingen Bakery in downtown Livermore. They first launched the business from their home last year so they could be full-time caretakers to their infant daughter, Waylynn, who had been diagnosed with a terminal genetic disorder called Zellweger syndrome. Waylynn Wingen died in August 2020 at 8 months old.

- PUSD cabinet members welcome two new principals: Gerardo Guzman-Rico at Valley View Elementary School and Russell Campisi at Harvest Park Middle School.

- Pleasanton Weekly's popular Readers' Choice contest returns

after one-year hiatus.

- Pleasanton names Amador Valley High senior Nikita Jayaprakash to be the city's 2021-22 teen poet laureate.

- U.S. Army formally dedicated the SPC. Jameson L. Lindskog Army Reserve Center at Camp Parks Reserve Forces Training Area in Dublin, in honor of the Pleasanton native and combat medic who was killed in action on March 29, 2011, at age 23 while deployed in Afghanistan.

- Livermore resident Simon W. Meyer, 52, who works as a firefighter in San Mateo County, faces criminal charges after police allege he secretly video-recorded two teenage girls while they were trying to change into swimsuits in his bathroom.

- Amid negotiations with both collective bargaining groups at PUSD — and heavy criticism from some union members — the Board of Trustees unanimously approves prescheduled compensation increases for the district administrative cabinet.

- Community group Save Livermore Downtown files lawsuit against the city of Livermore, challenging the City Council's approval of the 130-unit Eden Housing affordable housing development planned for downtown. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pleasanton Weekly's 2021 Mother's Day Lookalike Contest winners were Varupi Gupta (right) and her daughter Pareena.

Pleasanton Preps sponsored by



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## PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

### 'We Are Pleasanton' finishes first project for a Pleasanton school

Christmas comes this Saturday, and when it comes to this time of year, the theme always falls on giving.

One such group locally that has been working on giving to the Pleasanton schools is the "We Are Pleasanton" group.

I have talked and written about the group spearheaded by Todd Utikal, so it gives me great pleasure to announce the final completion of the first project — the Amador Valley High shade structure for the Dons lunch area.

The funds for the project were raised amazingly quickly — \$225,000 in three months — but thanks in large part to supply chain issues, the project was not officially wrapped until November 30.

The initial outpouring of financial support was hard to fathom. The Amador student leadership class kicked it off with a donation

of \$27,500, a figure that was then matched three times.

The Pleasanton Unified School District, the Walker Family Trust-Laurie Walker-Whiteland, and the City of Pleasanton all came through with matching donations and the project was off and running.

Before his retirement, Pleasanton City Manager Nelson Fialho spearheaded the Pleasanton donation, using money from a city discretionary fund.

Utikal was pleased that the project came in \$15,000 under budget, leaving the surplus going toward the next project — and it is a big one.

The athletic fields at Pleasanton Middle School are a disaster. Well, disaster may be too kind. They are an embarrassment, falling victim to (ground animals) being forced into the

area following the construction of the Bernal Sports complex.

In a day and age where virtually every school needs help in some capacity, seeing the PMS fields and how in turn the students suffer, made it an easy choice for We Are Pleasanton.

"The students are not able to have any PE classes on the field," said Utikal, who has daughters at Harvest Park middle school. "The school can't even offer a full PE class — that has to be fixed."

The project is a big step up for We Are Pleasanton, carrying a price tag of over \$1 million just for the track and the field inside the track. Utikal has his usual "can-do" attitude.

"I think we can rally people around this," said Utikal. "I think the right people will come together. This will benefit not just the students, but all the youth sports programs in the city."

For more information or to get involved with We Are Pleasanton, please visit [www.wearepleasanton.com](http://www.wearepleasanton.com)

#### Amador boys' basketball

The Dons got balanced scoring to take a 47-35 win over College Park on Friday, Dec. 17.

Ethan Daley had a big game inside, leading the Dons in rebounding and chipping in 10 points.

Tyler Cheng led the team in scoring with 14, while Colton Cash added 10.

The Dons were scheduled to meet Arroyo the next night, but the game was canceled due to COVID issues with Arroyo.

#### Foothill girls' soccer

The Falcons opened EBAL play by going 1-0-1, as the defense went both games without allowing a goal.

In the opener on Dec. 14, Foothill drew 0-0 with San Ramon Valley.

Early in the game, the Falcons had their best chance when Olivia Walinski had a great shot from 10-yards out, but the SRV goalie was able to deflect it over the bar.

The defense was stellar, led by senior captains Makenna Meyers and Samantha Lim to



TODD UTIKAL

Several individuals and groups donated to the 'We Are Pleasanton' shade structure at Amador Valley High School. The Amador student leadership class kicked off the fundraising with a donation of \$27,500, a figure that was then matched three times.

record the shutout. Senior goalie Sadie Brown had six saves.

Two days later Foothill went into Dublin and came away with a big 2-0 win.

The physical match saw Foothill get the first goal when Samantha Lin rolled a pass across the top of the box to a Mackenzie Tierney, who in turn first-timed it home.

Freshman Rafaella Sapiz finished when she took an errant clear by the Dublin goalie and sailed it right back over the keepers' head for the 2-0 lead.

Foothill also got solid midfield play from captain Sophia Minnite and Kiana Tahmassebi, as the duo helped the Falcons control possession.

#### Results needed

I want to thank those that reached out last week about getting the results for their respective teams into the Weekly.

The process is simple — just send me your results for each week by 12 noon on Sunday. Send all results to [acesmag@aol.com](mailto:acesmag@aol.com) and I will take care of the rest. ■

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



TODD UTIKAL

The 'We Are Pleasanton' group raised \$225,000 in three months for its first project — the Amador Valley High School shade structure for the lunch area.

## Final environmental impact report released for possible new A's stadium in Oakland

Oakland officials on Friday morning released a final environmental impact report for the A's proposed new stadium and development at Howard Terminal.

The report is required by the California Environmental Quality Act and analyzes potential effects of the project on the environment near it.

The final report does not include any significant changes to the draft version, which means the report will not have to be recirculated. More than 400 comments were made on the draft version, and city staff responded to each one.

"Releasing the final Environmental Impact Report is a major milestone on our path to build a new waterfront ballpark district that will create up to 18 acres of beautiful public parks, more affordable housing, and good jobs for Oaklanders," Mayor Libby Schaaf said in a statement.

"The 3,500-page document is

thorough and exhaustive, and it ensures that the project is environmentally safe and sustainable," Schaaf said.

"The completion of the EIR also keeps us on track to bring the project for a final vote to the City Council in 2022 — and brings us one step closer to keeping our beloved A's rooted in Oakland," the mayor said.

A's president Dave Kaval also called the release of the report a milestone, one that is three years in the making. But the team needs a decision from the elected officials in Oakland ASAP, he said.

The A's are also considering moving the team to Las Vegas, paving paths for the team in both cities. He said there is momentum on both paths.

Kaval said the A's are in the final stages of selecting a potential site in Las Vegas, which he thinks will be announced in the next month or so.

He said the A's want to be where they can get a new home most quickly.

"We don't have another year or two to wait," Kaval said. "We've been waiting a long time."

The A's lease at the Oakland Coliseum is up in 2024.

City officials will recommend to the Oakland Planning Commission that it certify the report and send it to the City Council for approval.

The Planning Commission will take up that recommendation on Jan. 19, and the City Council may approve the report in February.

Approving the entire project consists of an environmental review, project review and project agreements. The city and the A's are far along in the approval process.

Approval of the final environmental impact report would complete the environmental review process.

City officials are waiting for the

A's to revise and submit plans to the city as part of the project review process. The two are now drafting and negotiating the project agreements, which are financial in nature.

Separately, the Port of Oakland on Friday released a list of measures

to ensure the new ballpark does not affect port operations, including land and bay operations. Port officials are recommending that city officials include and adopt all 21 measures listed. ■

— Keith Burbank, BCN



BJARKE INGELS GROUP

The Oakland A's released renderings of their proposed new ballpark at Howard Terminal near Jack London Square in Oakland.

# Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

## For The Holidays

### PHOTOS WITH SANTA AT STONERIDGE

The ultimate holiday tradition is back: Photos with Santa at Stoneridge Shopping Center. Now through Dec. 24. For reservations visit [simon.com](http://simon.com).

### DEACON DAVE'S IN LIVERMORE

The 38th Annual "Deacon Dave's Christmas Display" is open until Jan. 1. Visit [casadelpomba.com](http://casadelpomba.com). 352 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore.

**WIDMER WORLD** Presented by the Widmer family in Pleasanton, organizers are creating new scenes and lighting for the display. The show at 3671 Chelsea Court, Pleasanton runs through Jan. 5. Visit [widmer-world.com](http://widmer-world.com).

### CALIFORNIA CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

California Christmas Lights is the largest and most comprehensive

collection of the best Christmas light displays from all of California. Visit [californiachristmaslights.com](http://californiachristmaslights.com).

### ELEVATION IN LIVERMORE NEW YEAR'S EVE

Elevation's New Year's Eve Masquerade Party featuring DJ Inez and a complimentary champagne toast for all guests. Tickets start at \$35 per person for general admission (standing room only). Visit: [visittrivalley.com](http://visittrivalley.com). 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Dec. 31.

### SHADOW PUPPET NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Beer-lovers and hop-heads won't want to miss Shadow Puppet Brewing Company's New Year's Eve party featuring live music by DJ Fly. Visit: [visittrivalley.com/events](http://visittrivalley.com/events). 8 p.m.-1 a.m., Dec. 31.

## Music

### NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH DIRTY CELLO

Blues meets bluegrass, at the Bankhead, with a faint twist

of classical as this energetic string band performs down home blues with a wailing cello to virtuosic stompin' bluegrass. 8 p.m., Dec. 31. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

### LEANN RIMES IN CONCERT

International multi-platinum selling acclaimed singer and ASCAP award-winning songwriter, Leann Rimes, launches the "Headliners" series at the Leshher Center for the Arts. 7:30 p.m., Jan. 7. Visit [lesherartscenter.showare.com](http://lesherartscenter.showare.com).

### THE "EARLY" ELVIS TRIBUTE SHOW

Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center kicks off a new year with the welcome return of Jim Anderson & The Rebels and their homage to Elvis Presley. 2 p.m., Jan. 9. Visit [firehousearts.org/events](http://firehousearts.org/events).

## Exhibits

### LEGO ARTISTS CELEBRATE

CALIFORNIA Brickmaking was one of Pleasanton's first industries,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Joan Osborne and the Weepies

Livermore Arts has two music acts coming together Jan. 20 as Joan Osborne and the Weepies take the stage at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. The Joan Osborne & the Weepies show begins at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 20. Tickets, \$20-\$75 (\$20 student/military personnel), are almost sold out. Go to [LivermoreArts.org](http://LivermoreArts.org).

so an exhibit of LEGO sculptures is a natural fit for Museum on Main. Builders from around the Bay Area show off original creations on subjects and themes related to California and the Tri-Valley area. Through Jan. 8. Visit [museumonmain.org](http://museumonmain.org).

### ITALIAN MOSAIC AT THE BANKHEAD

THEATER The Bankhead presents, The 50 Faces Collection Italian Mosaic. The public is invited to experience this free remarkable exhibit 1-5 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, through Jan 16. 2400 First St.

few words in Mandarin. Register by calling 925-373-5505 beginning Jan. 3.

**COMICS WORKSHOP** The Livermore Public Library hosts a virtual "How to Draw Comics Workshop" teaching students in grades 1-6 how to create their own comic book. Free supply kits available for pickup at all Livermore Public Library branches with registration starting on Dec. 27. Call 925-373-5500 or visit [livermorelibrary.net](http://livermorelibrary.net). 11 a.m., Jan. 8.

## Support

### TRI-VALLEY HAVEN FOOD PANTRY

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 1-5 p.m., Wednesdays, 1-7 p.m., Fridays & Saturdays, 12-4 p.m. 418 Junction Ave., Livermore.

### DRIVE-THRU GROCERIES MUSLIM COMMUNITY CENTER

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3-6 p.m. Muslim Community Center East Bay, 5724 W. Las Positas Blvd., #300, Pleasanton.

### OPEN HEART KITCHEN

Free groceries Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., provided by Tri-Valley Haven and Open Heart Kitchen. 6140 Stoneridge Mall Rd., behind the Workday building.

### INTERFAITH SHARING FOOD PANTRY

Thursdays & Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore.

### DRIVE-THRU GROCERY DISTRIBUTION

Saturdays (except holidays), 9-11 a.m., St Michael School, 4th St., Livermore entrance gate. Deliveries available for elderly, sick or homebound. Call 925-447-1585 or email [Office@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Office@StMichaelLivermore.com).

## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

Neighborhood Sports Bar & Kitchen FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 584367  
The following person doing business as: Neighborhood Sports Bar & Kitchen, 234 Main Street, Suite B, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner, Scott M. Larson, LLC, 3614 Carlsbad Way, Pleasanton, CA, 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Scott M. Larson, LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein November 1, 2021. Signature of Registrant: Scott M. Larson, LLC, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 15, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021.)

### Clean Sweep FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 584368

The following person doing business as: Clean Sweep, 4175 First Street, Livermore, CA 94551, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Scott Larson, 3614 Carlsbad Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Scott Larson, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Scott Larson, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 15, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021.)

### 997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: SAI MUI LEONG aka KWOK KEUNG WONG, WINKY WONG  
Case No.: RP21117751 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of SAI MUI LEONG also known as KWOK KEUNG WONG, WINKY WONG. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: KWOK KEUNG WONG in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that: KWOK KEUNG WONG be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests

authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on January 5, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. in Dept.: 201 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Kwok Keung Wong, 5228 Ferrera Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588 (925) 399-9225, Pro-Per. (Pleasanton Weekly, 10, 17, 24, 2021.)

SUMMONS Case No. 21CV000806 -----

-- NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: Laurel R. John, Donny E. Costa and Does 1-25, inclusive YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: Vijaylakshu M. Reddy NOTICE! YOU HAVE

BEEN SUED. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

The name and address of the court is: Superior Court, County of Alameda, 24405 Amador St., Hayward, CA 94544. The name, address and telephone number of the plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: Phillip Vermont, SBN 132035, Randick O'Dea Tooliatos Vermont & Sargent LLP, 5000 Hopyard Road, Ste. 225, Pleasanton, CA 94588 (925) 460-3700.

Date: Oct. 14, 2021 Chad Finke, Clerk, by Cheryl Clark, Deputy. Filed: Oct. 14, 2021. #R0711.011

## Students

### CALIFORNIA COASTAL ART & POETRY CONTEST

This contest is open to California residents in grades K-12 with five grade categories for awards in both art and poetry. Entries must have a California coastal or ocean theme. Deadline Jan. 31. Visit [coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry](http://coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry).

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The "Friends of The California State Fair Scholarship Program" is open to all current high school seniors and college students. Scholarships available include the areas of Agriculture, Art, Business, Education and more. Deadline March 1, 2022. Visit [calexpostatefair.com/participate/friends-of-the-ca-state-fair/scholarship](http://calexpostatefair.com/participate/friends-of-the-ca-state-fair/scholarship).

### LIBRARY HOSTS MANDARIN-ENGLISH STORYTIME

The Livermore Public Library will host a virtual Mandarin-English bilingual story time to celebrate the lunar new year. Attendees will have the chance to learn about Chinese culture and a

## PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

## Let's talk about Tatiana!

This 3.5-year-old feline is take-charge about twirling around your legs for your touch. Her temperament tolerates stimulation, and her treasured toy is a feather wand. She likes to spend time on her tower, trusting that tantalizing birds will appear. Learn more about Tatiana and other cats and dogs at [valleyhumane.org](http://valleyhumane.org). Email [info@valleyhumane.org](mailto:info@valleyhumane.org) to start the adoption application process.

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

E-mail: [gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com](mailto:gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com)

# Happy Holidays!



WISHING YOU AND YOURS

A PEACEFUL HOLIDAY SEASON.

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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS



We had such an amazing time celebrating our past, current, & future clients, friends, & family at our Holiday Party! Always thinking about community, we hired local business to support our biggest event of the year. It would not have been such a huge success without them. A HUGE thank you to Rubino Estates & Ruby Hill Winery for a beautiful location & wine, Two Board Sisters for tasty charcuterie, & Blush House Photography for capturing the joyful memories. Happy Holidays from our team to you!



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*Liz Venema*  
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## SPECIAL HOLIDAY LISTING OFFER!

Happy Holidays, we would like to gift you with a special Holiday Listing offer!

Inventory is low! While other Sellers wait to put their home on the market until Spring, listing your property now will ensure low competition. Beat the other Sellers to the market, call our Team for a limited time listing offer:

(925) 302-2626 | Info@Armariohomes.com



NEW! LUXURY LISTING

### LUXURY LISTING CASTLEWOOD \$2,249,000

- 44 Golf Rd, Pleasanton
- 3 Bedrooms
- 3 Bathrooms
- 3,553 Sqft



Rarely Available!! Spectacular golf course & valley views. The natural light & views the moment you walk through the door are breathtaking. The living room is warm and cozy with a fireplace and built-in cabinets. You will not want to miss this amazing home that was completely redesigned & rebuilt. This home offers a single story living w/primary bedroom on the main level that boasts his & hers closets, large bathroom with walk-in shower and jetted tub. Home office or guest room with hidden murphy bed. Open concept, kitchen with large island and custom glass doors, Laundry room with additional refrigerator. Upstairs Bonus room w/fireplace, full bathroom and bedroom as well as a deck with more amazing views. Two separate 2 car garages with extra storage. Expansive deck with room for a BBQ leads to a grassy area perfect for your future infinity pool or play area, plus stairs that lead down to the golf course.



NEW!

JUST LISTED \$949,000

1254 S LA SERA LANE, MOUNTAIN HOUSE



\$201K OVER ASK

SOLD \$1,700,000

4408 1ST STREET, PLEASANTON



MULTIPLE OFFERS

SOLD \$2,370,000

530 DOLORES PLACE, PLEASANTON

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